



# Simla Chandigarh Diocese

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## To All the Clergy, Religious and Lay Faithful of Simla-Chandigarh Diocese

Dear Fathers, Sisters and my dear People,

Greetings to You!

I welcome all of you after the summer break. Hopefully you have spent time in relaxing your body, mind and refreshed your inner spirit and also quality time with your near and dear ones.

Now here are informations and Programmes for you in the coming months July to December 2017:

1. We welcome our **NEW PRIESTS**: Rev.Fr. Benedict Lawrence, Rev.Fr.Wilfred Masih and Rev.Fr.Bibin T.Varghese to our Diocese. Fr.Benedict Lawrence is completing his MTH Studies in St.Albert's College, Ranchi, Fr.Wilfred Masih is the Assistant Priest appointed in St.Paul's Church, Ajrawar, Punjab and Fr.Bibin T.Varghese is the Assistant Priest appointed in Our Lady of Fatima Church, Patiala. We wish them all God's blessings.
2. **BLESSING AND INAUGURATION** of the New Church-**GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH** at Kotla Nihang, Ropar on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at 5.00 p.m followed by the Holy Eucharist. Rev.Fr.Jose Kuriakose S.J. has sent the invitations, hope you have received them. "Do Come"
3. Both **ST.JOSEPH'S MINOR SEMINARY, KAULI AND KRISTU JYOTI GURUKUL** (Regional Propaedeutic Seminary), Kauli have begun their academic year in July with the Holy Eucharist and Staff meetings. I welcome the new seminarians as well as seniors and wish the Staff and students of the seminaries all blessings and wishes.
4. We are happy to welcome **BRO.BRINESH V.RAYEN FSC AND BRO.JESURAJ FSC** [-De la Salle Brothers] in our Diocese and at present they are teaching at St.Michael's Convent School, Devigarh. They are specialized in Science. {Brothers of the Christian Schools, also known as, De La Salle Brothers, was started by St. John Baptist De La Salle in 17<sup>th</sup> century in France. This congregation is exclusively dedicated for education ministry. Their founder St. John Baptist De La Salle was declared the 'Patron saint for the Christian teachers'}.
5. We are glad to welcome **SRS.VALSA MATHEW** and **PROBITHA** of MSMHC [-Mission Sisters of Mary Help of Christians, Guwahati] and **SRS.CAROLA** and **PAVANA** of CTC [-Congregation of Teresian Carmelites, Jhansi] to our diocese. These sisters are now serving in Yesu Daya Sagar Prarthana Bhawan at Kauli. They are engaged in the spiritual activities undertaken by Yesu Daya Sagar Prarthana Bhawan, Kauli and also to help in the Evangelization apostolate. I am also happy to present Fr.John Mary Vianney, the Assistant Director of Evangelization. He will be assisting Fr.Justin Diraviam in all the programmes in Yesu Daya Sagar Prarthana Bhawan, Kauli and also in the following ministries:
  - visiting the parishes to proclaim the Word of God.
  - help the parish priests to organize charismatic prayers, on a regular basis for the faithful in their **SPIRITUAL (PARISH) RENEWAL PROGRAMMES**.
  - form **SATSANGHS** in the parishes and encourage them to attend programmes to Prarthana Bhawan, Kauli.
  - Form a team to coordinate this ministry at the parish, Deanery and Diocesan level.
  - coordinate and conduct the Charismatic convention held on every first and third Fridays and other programmes held in Yesu Daya Sagar Prarthana Bhawan, Kauli.
  - make programmes on Sundays having consulted with the Parish priests to guide, encourage and foster the growth of the faithful in all the parishes of our diocese.
6. Yesu Daya Sagar Prarthana Bhawan at Kauli(Patiala, Punjab) is available for Prayer, Retreats, Recollections, Spiritual Activities. At least 15-20 people can be accommodated. The Centre is available from January 2017. For more information please contact the Director: Rev.Fr.Justin Diraviam, Yesu Daya Sagar Prarthana Bhawan, St.Joseph's College, Kauli Post, Patiala Dist, Punjab-140701, Mobile Number:9872879407, Email: diraviam\_justin@yahoo.co.in



7. There will be an ongoing programme for the CATECHISTS FROM 16-21 JULY 2017 at Diocesan Pastoral Centre. All the catechists and the sisters who are working in the village ministry in the parishes and mission stations are exhorted to attend the same. The programme begins on 16<sup>th</sup> July at 6.00 p.m. The National Evangelization Team will be animating.
8. There will be a SEMINAR ON PASTORAL ORIENTATION for all the priests and religious brothers working in the Diocese from 7-9 August 2017 at Diocesan Pastoral Centre, Chandigarh. The well known barefoot Theologian, Pastor and advocate Rev. Jerry Rosario S.J. of Madurai Province will be conducting this seminar.
9. Bible Sunday is to be celebrated on 27<sup>th</sup> August 2017. All the Parish Priests are exhorted to plan some activities on Bible related themes, viz. competitions like skits, singing, kawali etc based on biblical themes at least in your own parishes and to catechize the faithful on the importance of Word of God in their day-to-day life. All the families should have a Bible each in their houses.
10. The ANNUAL CLERGY RETREAT will be held from 10-15 September 2017 at Clergy Home, Amloh. This is exclusively for the Diocesan Clergy and if any Religious Fathers wish to attend, please contact the Bishop. Rev.Fr.Wilson Sunder OFM Cap., Director, Anugraha Centre in Dindigul will be the Preacher.
11. The NEXT DIOCESAN PASTORAL COUNCIL will be held at 10.30 a.m. on Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at Diocesan Pastoral Centre, Chandigarh. Please elect the new Parish Council and Parish Council representative to the Diocesan Pastoral Council.
12. An ONGOING REFRESHERS COURSE will be held for the clergy ordained in 2013, 2014 & 2015 at Clergy Home, Amloh on 5-6 September 2017. The programme has been suggested by the Clergy Commission of the North Regional Dioceses. It begins on 5<sup>th</sup> evening with Tea at Kristu Jyoti Gurukul, Kauli, their Alma Mater and then they proceed to the Clergy Home, Amloh for the course. For further details, please contact Rev.Fr.Angelus Antony, President of CDPI North, Ph: 9417925236 or Rev.Fr.Kurien Emparayil S.J. Rector of Propaedeutic Seminary, Kauli, Ph.9831204447.
13. The Charismatic Service Team (National NST) is organizing a North India Charismatic Regional Convention in Hindi at Yesu Daya Sagar Prarthana Bhawan, Kauli from 3-5 November 2017. The convention begins on 3<sup>rd</sup> morning at 9 a.m. and concludes on 5<sup>th</sup> evening at 4 p.m. Rev.Fr.Anil Dev IMS and team from Varanasi will animate this convention.  
Please do announce about the Night Vigils on the First and Third Fridays of the month at Yesu Daya Sagar Prarthana Bhawan, Kauli.
14. VIANNEY HOME (DIOCESAN CLERGY HOME) situated at Badalthua, Near Amloh in Fategarh Sahib Dist is a home for priests and religious men and women, where one can have the Recollections, Retreats, Seminars, Conference, spiritual exercises etc. This home can accommodate 30-35 people in a self-contained room with two participants in each room. It has all the facilities for these programmes. The Centre is available from July 2017. Fr.Sunil Varghese is the Parish priest and for more information, please contact him: St. Francis Xavier Church, Badalthua Village, Amloh Post, Fategarh Sahib Dist, Punjab-147203, ph:01765-230724, mobile-8872757787, email: [sunilkv1977@gmail.com](mailto:sunilkv1977@gmail.com)

*I conclude with a quote of John Wesley who said "Do all the good you can by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as you ever can."*

May Mary our Mother enfold us all in her motherly love.

Given on 08<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at the Bishop's House, Chandigarh.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

+Ignatius L. Mascarenhas  
Bishop of Simla Chandigarh

