



# DIocese OF SULTANPET

## NEWS BULLETIN



September 2024

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No. 127

### Bishop Speaks...

Dear Rev. Fathers, Brothers, Sisters and Lay faithful,



## The Fourth *Fiat!*

The universal Church celebrates in this month of September the birth of our Blessed Mother, the Virgin Mary. Remarkably, this is observed all over India and elsewhere as the feast of our Lady of Good Health. Interestingly, the birth of Virgin Mary is closely linked to the grace of health we get from God. By health we generally understand the absence of disease or infirmity; but, in fact, it is a state of complete physical, mental and spiritual well-being. True, our Blessed Mother grants not only physical health, but also mental and spiritual well-being as we see in her three miracles done at Vailankanni, Tamilnadu, in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. She, in fact, embodies in herself a total well-being. Curiously, all those extraordinary events took place on September 8, the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. She is the incarnation of health itself. This was possible because of her total surrender to God, by proclaiming '*fiat*' to the Almighty. The Bible speaks of significant instances of great '*Fiat*' (*let it be done*) in three places.

### The First Great *Fiat!*

When God started creating the universe His first command was: '*Fiat Lux*' (*let there be light*- Gen 1:3). It is a divine command underlining His power and plan of action. This *fiat* brought the universe into existence because the creation of light provides the framework of the seven days. This '*fiat*' brings light to drive out darkness (*chaos*) and thus brings order and a healthy environment. Here the priority is given to light because light represents life and salvation to humankind, while darkness is allied to evil and death. Hence this first '*fiat*,' abolishing darkness, pain, and suffering, brings a healthy life to the whole creation.

### The Second *Fiat!*

The second '*fiat*' comes from Jesus, the Son of Man, in the garden of Gethsemane: "*non mea voluntas sed tua fiat*" [*not my will, but yours be done*] (Lk 22:42). The Greek term *thelema* which Luke uses here for the 'will' refers to the Father's plan of salvation for humanity (cf. Acts 21:14). This '*fiat*' of Jesus expresses his basic filial orientation and submission to the Father's plan of salvation. Joseph Fitzmyer rightly notes, as Son, Jesus submits what his filial dedication to his Father demands of him (*Luke, X-XXIV, 1440*). Although this dedication brings an enormous challenge of demanding his human existence itself, Jesus expresses his readiness to fulfil the Father's will. This '*fiat*' brings a new and a healthy life to humankind destroying the burden of Sin which causes all types of calamities and sickness.

### The Third *Fiat!*

It is jokingly said that when Mary of Nazareth left for Ein Kerem, near Jerusalem, to visit Elizabeth she travelled not on a donkey, but on the vehicle '*Fiat*' (*Fabbrica Italiana Automobili Torino*, a Turin-based company founded in 1899). However, the truth is that the '*Fiat*' which Mary courageously pronounced to God [*Fiat mihi secundum verbum tuum*- "*let it be done unto me according to*



*your word*” (Lk 1:38)] lead her to render a helping hand to the needy Elizabeth. In fact, Mary's '*Fiat*' brought tremendous changes to the whole world. It has dramatically changed the lives of humans and society in general by bringing Christ into the world, fetching a new life for us, and causing outstanding health to the whole creation (Cf. Rom 8:22-23). Her '*Fiat*,' of course, caused her to be the *Mater of Doloros*, having her heart pierced, witnessing the crucifixion of her Son. But by that '*Fiat*,' she has become the Mother of the Saviour by whose grace we conquer 'distress, persecution, famine, nakedness, peril, sword and even death' (cf. Rom 8:36-37). Mary's '*Fiat*' is a free act; a total surrender to God; hence she is made the Mother of Good Health.

### The Fourth '*Fiat*'!

The fourth '*Fiat*' is that which occurs to us every day. In the corporate world “Yes, Boss” is the common term used. Also, we are ready to say 'Yes' to ourself, but not to God's plan which sometimes would hurt us. When meeting various challenges, hurdles, fear, and sickness we are unable to say that Marian '*Fiat*' to God. True, the command of Yahweh for Abraham to sacrifice his only son (Gen 22:2), the betrayal of his uncle Laban for Jacob (Gen 29), the treachery of his own brothers for Joseph (Gen 37) were not easy to accept. Yet, with full trust in God, they all said '*Fiat*' to God. Some moments of our life are filled with many setbacks and tortures, and yet we should learn to see the hand of God in them. Pope Francis says that he was 'exiled' to Cordoba (Argentina) in 1990 as a punishment; yet he took this crisis as a period of test (*Life: My Story through History*, 128). If we could learn to say '*Fiat*' to God in all circumstances as in the case of St. Paul (cf. 2 Cor 4), we shall see the mighty hand of God who grants a healthy mind and body.

Yours fraternally in Christ,



+ Antony Samy Peter Abir  
Bishop of Sultanpet

## Bishop's Appointments

Date	Time	Programme	Place
1	08.30 am	Confirmation	Manalkkad
3	10.30 am	Investiture ceremony	St Mary's School, Kanjikode
7		Bible Program	NBCLC
8	08.00 am	Feast Mass	Villooni
	11.00 am	Feast Mass	Kovilpalayam
	05.30 pm	Feast Mass	Vadackencherry
9	10.00 am	Priests' Recollection	Bishop's House 1
4	8.30 am	Feast Mass	Menonpara
15		Feast Mass	Ariyankuppam
16		Marriage Mass	Pondicherry
22	09.00 am	Grotto and Chapel Blessing	Ganeshagiri, Shornur
	11.00 am	Feast Mass	Pattambi
30 - 4 Oct		Diocesan Priests' Annual Retreat	Vailankanni

## Other News

### Priests' Monthly recollection

This is to inform you that the Priests' Monthly Recollection will be held on Monday, 9 September. As usual, the meeting will begin at 10:00 AM with coffee.

**Rev. Fr Vijeesh P. Dennis**  
Secretary to the Bishop

## From the Procurator's Desk

**Medical Help :** Athikode - 5000/-  
**Education Fund :** Eruthenpathy – 5000/-

Manalkadu - 5000/-

Vadakkencherry - 5000/-

### Flood Relief to Vadakkencherry



Our diocese extended a helping hand to the people of Vadakkencherry affected by the devastating floods on August 2. In a show of solidarity and compassion, our Bishop personally visited the homes of those affected, offering support and comfort in their time of need.

### Relief to Wayanad



The Diocese of Sultanpet has come forward to assist the people affected by the recent landslides in Wayanad. On August 7, 2024, the diocese distributed essential items to the victims,



helping them meet their daily needs. Fr. Sagaya Vendan and Fr. Prabin accompanied the team.

### Wayanad Relief Fund Contribution from the Parishes

1. Chittur	- 15300/-	15. Sorappara	-14000/-
2. Malampuzha	-13000/-	16. Kanakkankalam	-20000/-
3. Athikode	-10000/-	17. Pampupara	-2000/-
4. Olavakode	-26210/-	18. Cathedral	-2360/-
5. Nellipathy	-2500/-	19. Eruthenpathy	-20000/-
6. Athupathy	-2952/-	20. Attappallam	-27180/-
7. Pattambi	-6060/-	21. Nenmara	-50000/-
8. Shornur	- 23565/-	22. Palaniyarpalayam	-34402/-
9. Ottappalam	-51300/-	23. Manalkkad	-36738/-
10. Kanjikode	-27000/-	24. Missionaries of Faith	-100000/-
11. Mukkali	-5100/-	(St. Paul Provincialate)	
12. Kunnukadu (KCYM)	-6000/-		
13. Kovilpalayam	-5000/-		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>- 513167</b>

*Rev. Fr Antony Xavier Pious*  
*Procurator*

## SMSSS News

### KOLPING:

- SMSSS organized two reorientation programs for existing Kolping members on the 5th and 6th of August 2024 at Munichifchalla and Kanakkankalam. Around 20 members participated in each program.
- A skill training session on networking, lobbying, and advocacy on ecological issues was organized for SHG leaders on the 9th of August 2024 at Walayar. Around 35 members participated..
- An awareness program about ecological degradation and its effects was conducted for targeted communities on the 8th,



11th, 16th, and 25th of August 2024 at Kullarayanpalayam, Nallur, Sayathurai, and Palaniyarpalayam. Around 25 members participated in each program



4. A training session on situational analysis of villages for Kolping members was organized to form Village Development Councils (VDC) on the 18th of August 2024 at Palaniyarpalayam. Around 40 members participated.

Moses KF and Thiru Irudhayam KF celebrated their 4th Kolping anniversary on the 3rd and 4th of August 2024 at the Holy Family Church Hall in Kanjikode

The Kolping coordinator of SMSSS visited the landslide occurred areas of Wayanad region along with the national Kolping staff.



### Capacity Building Training:

SMSSS, in collaboration with AADI, AKADS, and ISI Bangalore, organized a capacity-building training program for the youngsters of the Attappadi region on the 26th of August 2024 at Mattathukad, Attappadi. Around 50 members participated.

*Rev. Fr Sahaya Raj Vendan*  
Director, SMSSS

## Youth Commission News

1. **KCYM Diocese of Sultanpet Youth members** conducted a youth meeting on the 4th at Holy Family Church, Koyyamarakkad, Kanjikode, and elected new executives for the youth group. Thanks to Rev. Fr. Bipin Varghese, the parish priest, for all the arrangements.
2. **KCYM Diocese of Sultanpet Youth executives** held a meeting on the 4th afternoon at Holy Family Church, Koyyamarakkad. They discussed forthcoming events and prayed for the people of Wayanad.
3. **New diocesan executives** for the KCYM Diocese of Sultanpet were selected for this year.
4. **KCYM Diocese of Sultanpet Youth members** from St. Sebastian's Cathedral Church visited the Paduva Rehabilitation Centre (for differently-abled youth) at Govindapuram on July 28 and provided groceries to the residents. We appreciate Rev. Fr. Maria Joseph, Cathedral Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Thadeus, Assistant Parish Priest, all the youth members, and the parishioners for their efforts.
5. **A one-day youth animation and retreat** were conducted for the KCYM Walayar Youth on the 11th by Rev. Fr. Antony SJ at St. Stanislaus Church, Chandrapuram, Walayar. Thanks to Rev. Fr. Amal Charles, Parish Priest, for all the arrangements.
6. **KCYM Diocese of Sultanpet Youth members** from St. Antony's Church, Nellipathy, visited Dhayasraya Rehabilitation





Centre, Attapadi, on the 11th and provided food to the residents. We appreciate Rev. Fr. Vibindas, Parish Priest, and all the youth members for their good work.

7. **KCYM Diocese of Sultanpet Youth members** conducted a youth meeting on the 11th at St. James Church, Sayathurai, and elected new executives for the youth group. Thanks to Rev. Fr. Ceasar, Parish Priest, for all the arrangements.



8. **KCYM Diocese of Sultanpet Youth members** held a youth meeting on the 11th at Holy Cross Church, Menonpara, and elected new executives for the youth group. Thanks to Rev. Fr. Jesudass, Parish Priest, for all the arrangements.



9. **KCYM Diocese of Sultanpet Youth members** conducted a youth meeting on the 11th at St. Antony's Church, Chittur, and elected new executives for the youth group. Thanks to Rev. Fr. Lazar, Parish Priest, for all the arrangements.



10. **The 46th KCYM Kerala Catholic Youth Movement State Senate meeting** was held on the 16th, 17th, and 18th at Niveditha Center for Religious Formation and Fellowship, Chunangamvely, Aluva. Along with Fr. Prabin Soosadimai SDB (Youth Director), 5 members from our diocese participated and presented the report on our youth activities.

11. **The Conference of Catholic Bishops of India (CCBI) National Youth Directors' Meet** was held from the 22nd to the 24th at the Social Development Centre (SDC), Ranchi, Jharkhand. Fr. Prabin Soosadimai SDB, our diocesan Youth Director, attended this meeting and highlighted the needs of young people in India.

*Rev. Fr. Prabin Soosadimai SDB  
Secretary, Youth Commission*

## Catechetical Commission

### Catechetical Bible Fest : Off-Stage Competitions

On August 26, 365 children from 32 Catechetical Centres participated with enthusiasm in various off-stage competitions for the Bible Fest. Rev. Fr. Antony Xavier Pious inaugurated the event, and Rev. Fr. Maria Joseph felicitated the gathering. Seventy-two teachers accompanied the students, and the day concluded with lunch. The coordinators also discussed upcoming events and teacher training programs, ensuring continued growth. The success of the event is a testament to the dedication of the Catechetical Centres.

## Logos Quiz

We are pleased to announce that the Logos Quiz Exam 2024 will take place on 29 September 2024. We urge all parish priests to encourage participants to prepare thoroughly for the exam and ensure their presence on the day of the event.

*Rev. Fr Benzigar Silvadasan OdeM.,  
Secretary, Catechetical Commission*

## BCC Commission

1. The Sultanpet Diocesan Central Team for BCC had a meeting on the 12th of August 2024 at the Bishop's House, where Fr. Benzigar Ode.M conducted a PowerPoint presentation on the 24 Commissions and 6 Ministries according to KRLCC guidelines.



2. The Sultanpet Diocesan Central Team for BCC was formed on the 5th of August 2024 at the Bishop's House to strengthen the BCCs in all the parishes of the Diocese.

*Rev. Fr. Muthappan Silvadasan CP  
Secretary, BCC Commission*

## Family Commission

The next Marriage Preparation Classes will be held on the 12th and 13th October at Holy Cross Church, Menonpara.

*Rev. Fr A Jesudass  
Secretary, Family Commission (Tamil)*

## Justice and Peace Commission

KRLCC organized an Advocate Forum meeting on the 20th of August at Ashirbhavan, Ernakulam. All dioceses were encouraged to form their own Diocesan Advocate Forums. During this meeting, Fr. Mejo was appointed as a member of the KRLCC Advocate Forum.



*Rev. Fr. Jose Mejo Nedumparambil C.P.  
Secretary, Justice and Peace Commission*

### BIRTH DAY

5th Fr Antony Maniyenkerykalam MC  
24th Fr. Amal Charles  
24th Fr Francis Xavier OdeM.

*SNL wishes you a  
Happy Birth Day*

### ORDINATION DAY

9th Fr. Madalaimuthu

*SNL wishes you a Happy  
Ordination Day*

### FEAST DAY

8th Fr. Prabin SDB  
8th Fr. Vimal Arokiaraj

*SNL wishes you  
a Happy Feast Day*