



BISHOP'S CIRCULAR

**Bishop's House
Post Box No. 519, Kohima**



September 01, 2012

BPKOH/CIR/06/12

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

Greetings from Bishop's House, Kohima. In my last circular I had shared my experience of visiting some of our friends, agencies and benefactors in Italy and Germany. Then as per my programme, I had gone to USA to visit and make contacts with some friends to help us in our work. I thank all of you for your prayers that kept me safe and secure throughout the trip although the trip itself began on a sad note since both my uncle and aunt (siblings of my mother) and my own mother were all admitted to in different hospitals for different ailments and I had to postpone my trip by a day in order to visit them before I left for US. Only my mother survived while both my uncle and aunt expired within a gap of ten days while I was in US. My uncle was like a father to me and missing his funeral was a great sacrifice I had to make in my life. I thank you all for the prayers said for my uncle, aunt and mother.

During my trip to US, I visited Chicago, New York, Newark, Atlanta, Detroit, Indianapolis, San Francisco, Dallas, Houston and Orlando. In all these places I tried to meet with the mission office of the different dioceses and with the Indian communities settled there. I hope to continue our relationship with these dioceses by joining the Missionary Co-Operative plan of the dioceses. During the visit I also met with our Fathers, Fr. George N. K. in New York, Fr. C. Peter in Dallas and Fr. Abraham O.M in New Jersey.

I also visited my ailing mother from the 10th to 21st August. My mother is 90 years old. She is quite feeble physically although she is very alert mentally. I thank you all for the prayers said for her and I request you to continue to pray for her.

Now I am leaving for Rome to attend the course for the new bishops that lasts for 15 days. After that I hope to visit Austria and Switzerland to meet some friends and agencies. I will be back to the diocese on 1st October, 2012. Kindly, continue to pray for me and for the mission. In my absence Fr. Carolus Neisalhou, the Vicar General of the Diocese, will be the in-charge of the ordinary matters of the diocese as per the canon law.

UFC Post Centenary Silver Jubilee Celebrations

On 2nd August the Northeast Province of Ursuline Franciscan Congregation celebrated the post-centenary silver jubilee in their provincial house in Dimapur. Many priest, sisters, lay associates and lay faithful were present for the celebration that was concluded with a colourful cultural program and grand supper. I take this opportunity to thank all the Sisters for the great apostolate they carry out in our diocese and assure them of our prayers and collaboration. Congrats and prayers dear Sisters!

The Feast of St. John Mary Vianney

The feast of St. John Mary Vianney, the patron of the pastoral priests, was celebrated with much joy and gaiety at the Cathedral Church, Kohima on 3rd August. During the solemn Eucharistic celebration, the Silver Jubilarians, viz., Frs. John S. Kavas, James Mlakuzhyil and Abraham Nirappel were congratulated. The people of the Cathedral Parish and children from the Little Flower School wished and entertained all the priests gathered for the celebration. It was also an occasion for the diocesan priests to gather and to discuss about their ministry and to plan for the future. I thank all those who had come and participated in the celebrations.

FMA Profession

Six novices from Little Flower Novitiate House, Kohima made their first profession in the institute of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians (FMA) on 5th August 2012 in the presence of the Provincial Superior and the family members. We congratulate them and wish them all the best in their apostolate.

Fr. Issac P.J. Returns to Oriens Theological College, Shillong

Rev. Fr. Isaac P.J., the former principal of St. Joseph's College, Jakhama, returned from Germany, where he had a yearlong sabbatical break and is appointed in Oriens Theological College, Shillong as resident Professor. He had been of great help for me when I visited Germany, accompanying me and making all the necessary appointments there. I thank him for his work and wish him a successful ministry of forming and preparing candidates to priesthood.

Congratulation and Welcome to Fr. S. Charles

Rev. Fr. S. Charles has returned to the diocese after successfully completing his Masters in Social Work (MSW) from Loyola College, Chennai. We congratulate him and welcome him back to the diocese and wish him all the best in his ministry.

Installation of Fr. Nestor Guria, the new Salesian Provincial of Dimapur Province

On 7th August 2012, Fr. Nestor Guria was installed as the new salesian provincial of Dimapur province by Rev. Fr. Maria Arokiam Kanaga, the Regional Councilor, during the grand Eucharistic con-celebration, presided over by Most Rev. Joseph Aind, SDB, the bishop of Dibrugarh. Fr. James Poonthuruthil, SDB, was also given farewell during the gathering. We wish Fr. Nestor a successful leadership of the province and thank Fr. James for his great service to the Church in Nagaland during the last six years. Congrats dear Fr. Nestor, and thanks dear Fr. James!

Forthcoming Events:

Regional Pastoral Conference

The annual regional pastoral conference would be held in the Diocesan Social Forum from 10th September (arrival and inauguration at 6.00 pm) to 12th September 2011, on the Theme: “New Evangelization in the context of NE India”. Frs. Carolus, Sojan, Jaison, Mathew Mhambemo and Mrs. Marina would be participating from our diocese.

Regional Animators and Senate meetings cum Recollection

Next meeting of the Priests’ Senate is scheduled for 2nd October at 4.00 am in the Bishop’s House, Dimapur. Consulters meeting will be at 9.00 am on 3rd October at the Bishop’s House, Dimapur. Regional Animators meeting will also be held on the same day and same place at 2.00 pm, which will be followed by Recollection for priests at Holy Cross Church at 5.00 pm. I request all the Regional Animators to hold their regional meeting prior to 3rd October and come with some concrete proposal for the celebration of the “Year of Faith” beginning on 11th October, 2012.

Retreat

Fr. Vijay Shantiraj, Executive Secretary, Commission for Proclamation (CCBI) will animate the next retreat to be held at Mt. Tabor from 22nd to 26th October 2012 for both priests and sisters with a thrust on evangelization and proclamation.

Day of Girl Child

8th September is the International Girl Child Day. Let us pray that every girl is loved, cared and given the due respect they deserve.

Vocation Camp

Next diocesan Vocation Camp for boys would be held from the 20th to 26th October 2012 at St. Joseph Parish, Chumukudima. More details will be given out by Fr. Thomas Toretkiu, the diocesan Vocation Director.

Steve Ray Convention

The diocese is preparing seriously for the forth coming Convention with Steve Ray on 21-22 November. A Coordination Committee under the Chairmanship of Fr. Carolus Neisalhou, with Mr. Gerard Mayase as its Secretary, is spearheading the preparation with various other subcommittees. I request all the parish priests and In-charges to mobilize the leaders from each parish/centre to come and take part in the convention. It would be a great boost to faith and time of great learning about Catholic faith. More details will be given later.

New Appointments:

Rev. Fr. Isaac P. J.	Resident Professor, OTC, Shillong
Rev. Fr. S. Charles	Priest-in-charge, Anganba
Rev. Fr. Sunil Churuseril	Assistant Priest, Holy Cross Church, Dimapur
Rev. Fr. C. Joseph	Studies in India
Rev. Fr. George Keduolhou	Studies in Rome
Rev. Fr. James Thsipongkiu	Studies in India

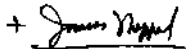
Bishop's Programme – September to December 2012

September 2012	1-16	Rome: Course for the New Bishops
	17-30	Visits to Austria, Switzerland, Doha
October 2012	1	Return from Europe,
	2	Senate meeting at 4.00 pm (Bishop's House, Dimapur)
	3	Consulters meeting at 9.00 am (B.H. Dimapur)
		Regional Animators meeting at 2.00 pm (B.H. Dimapur)
		Recollection for Priests at 5.00 pm (Holy Cross Church, Dimapur)
	4	Kohima
	5	Kohima, Steve Ray Convention Committee meeting (5.00 pm)
	6	Kohima: Blessing of the Catholic Centre at Kohima (10.00 am)
	7	Cathedral, Sacerdotal Silver Jubilee of Fr. John Kavas
	8-10	Kohima
	11	Inauguration of the Year of Faith , to Mokokchung via Akaito, Atoizu, Akuluto
	12-16	Visit to Mokokchung - Silver Jubilee of Kensa & Fr. James M.D.
	17	Visit of German Consulate General, Kolkata
	17-20	DFNEI Convention in Guwahati
	21	Parish Feast at Bhandari
	22-26	Retreat for Priests and Sisters
	22-24	Jesus Youth Convention – Kohima Cathedral
	23	Conclusion of Vocation Camp
	27	Longsa
	28	Zadima Village
	29-31	Montfort School Jubilee at Baghty
November 2012	1	Kohima, All Saints Day
	2	To Kiphire, All Souls Day
	3-7	Pastoral Visit to Kiphire Parish
	8	Kohima, Confirmation at St. Joseph College, Jakhama (5.00 pm)
	9	Dimapur
	10-11	Kohima, Christ King Parish Youth Jubilee
	12	Kohima

- 13-16 Darjeeling – Golden Jubilee of the diocese
- 17 Kohima, Governing Board Meeting of St. Joseph College, Jakhama (2.00 pm)
- 18 Death Anniversary of Bp. Abraham, Jalukie Seminary
- 19 Kohima
- 20-23 Kohima. Steve Ray Convention
- 24 Kohima
- 25 Confirmation at SFS Parish, Kohima (9.00 am)
- 26-27 Kohima
- 28-30 Pastoral visit to Tening

December 2012

- 1 Tening
- 2 Confirmation at Jotsoma
- 3-6 Kohima
- 7 Dimapur, HRHC Governing Board Meeting (3.00 pm)
- 8 Jalukie, St. Xavier College Governing Board Meeting (10.00 am)
- 10-13 Dimapur, Annual Priests meeting, Recollection
- 12 Blessing of the Parish Church at Chumukedima
- 14 Dimapur
- 15-18 Pastoral visit to Mon
- 19-20 Kohima
- 21-23 Pastoral visit to Atoizu
- 24 Kohima
- 25 Dimapur
- 26-31 To Kerala for Jubilees and Ordinations

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Most Rev. Dr. James Thoppil
Bishop of Kohima



Corrections made: Only a few

1st para 3rd line : I had gone to visit USA to visit : changed to : I had gone to USA to visit

1st para 6th line : illness to ailments

3rd para 2nd line : I thank all : I thank you all

4th para 2nd line : hope visit : hope to visit

4th para 3rd line : diocese of 1st : diocese on 1st

UFC: congration : congregation; colourful : colourful; sisters : sisters!

JMV : Feast of the st. : Feast of St. : ; on the 3rd : on 3rd; the silver : silver

Namely : viz., (viz sounds better for namely)

People of cathedral school : Cathedral Parish

FMA six novices from the : six novices from

SDB : grand con-celebrated Eucharistic presided : grand Eucharistic con-celebration, presided :

Congrats dear Fr. Nestor, and thanks Fr. James. : Congrats dear Fr. Nestor, and thanks dear Fr. James!

Reg. Past. Council : from the 10th : from 10th

Next Retreat : Retreat

And few more minor corrections.