



DIOCESE OF CALICUT



CIRCULAR NO 04/2019 APRIL

“don't take advantage of God's patience”

(From the Angelus of Pope Francis on 24, March 2019, taken from <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2019-03/pope-francis-angelus-catechesis-lent.html>, accessed on 27/03/2019)

Pope Francis on Sunday addressed the faithful urging them to move out from their comfort zones and open their eyes and their hearts to those in need. Reflecting on the Gospel reading on the third Sunday of Lent, the Pope explained it speaks to us of God's mercy and of our conversion.

The parable narrated by Luke, he said, tells of a barren fig tree which the master of the orchard decided to cut down. He called the gardener in the orchard, the Pope said, expressing his dissatisfaction for the tree that did not bear fruit and asked him to eradicate it so that it would not exhaust the soil. However, Francis continued, the gardener asked the master to be patient and pleaded for an extra year, during which he promised to cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it to stimulate the tree's productivity. The barren fig tree is a symbol of an indifferent and arid humanity. The Pope explained that the master represents God the Father and the gardener represents Jesus, while the fig tree is the symbol of an indifferent and arid humanity.

He said Jesus intercedes with the Father on behalf of humanity and begs Him to wait and give humanity more time, so that it may bear the fruits of love and justice.

The fig tree, the Pope continued, represents a sterile existence, incapable of giving, of doing good: it is the symbol of a person who lives only for himself or herself, satiated and satisfied, happy with his or her own comfort, incapable of opening his or her eyes and heart to those brothers and sisters who live in suffering, poverty, discomfort. This attitude of selfishness and spiritual sterility is contrasted by the great love of the gardener for the fig tree: he has patience, he knows how to wait, and he devotes his time and his work to it. He promises his master he will take special care of that unhappy tree.

This story tells of **God's mercy, despite the sterility that sometimes marks our existence**. “God has patience and offers us the possibility of changing and making progress on the path to good” he said.

But, he said, this does not mean there is no urgency for conversion.

“**The possibility of conversion is not unlimited**. That's why it is necessary to seize it immediately; otherwise it may be lost forever” he said. Rely on God's mercy but do not abuse it. Pope Francis said “**we can rely greatly on God's mercy, but we must not abuse it**”.

We must not justify spiritual laziness, he added, but increase our commitment to respond promptly to this mercy with sincerity of heart. Pope Francis concluded his catechesis saying that during the time of Lent, the Lord invites us to conversion. “Each of us”, he said, “must feel challenged by this call, correcting something in our lives, in our way of thinking, acting and living our relationships with our brothers and sisters”.

At the same time, he added, **we must imitate the patience of God who has confidence in the ability of all to “rise up” and resume their journey**. He does not extinguish the weak flame, but accompanies and cares for those who are weak so that they may strengthen themselves and bring their contribution of love to the community.

Anniversary of my Priestly Ordination

The Anniversary of my priestly Ordination is on **02 April, 2019**. Thank you very much for keeping me in your prayers. My feast day falls on **23 April, 2019** (the feast of St George). Please remember me in your prayers.

Unum Presbyterium and Chrism Mass

In preparation for the celebration of the Paschal Triduum, we will have a day of recollection and Chrism Mass on **15 April 2019 at 10:00am** in Navajyothis Renewal Centre, Eranhipalam. The **Chrism Mass** will be at **4pm** in the Cathedral. I invite ALL the priests both Diocesan and Religious in the diocese to take part in the recollection and Chrism Mass. Kindly inform our lay faithful about the Chrism Mass and ensure the participation of as many people as possible.

Seminarians' Villa 2019

The Major Seminarians of our diocese will have the Villa holidays at Vythiri from **01 May 2019 to 15 May 2019**. I welcome all the priests to Villa. Your presence will be a greater joy to our Brothers.

Ordination to Priesthood

Deacons Clarkeson Xavier and Rijoy will be ordained to the order of priesthood on **Wednesday 24th April 2019 at 10:30am in Mother of God Cathedral, Calicut**. I cordially invite all the priests and Religious to participate in the ordination ceremony and pray for our deacons.

Collections - Season of Lent

You are requested to make the following Church Collections during lent

Lenten Campaign	Two Sundays in Lent	Against Hunger and Disease
Good Friday	19 April 2019	Towards Holy Land

Some important points to be noted during the Lenten Season

Let me put forward certain instructions for the meaningful celebration of Liturgy in this holy season. Just as the week has its beginning and climax in the celebration of Sunday, which always has a paschal character, so the summit of the whole liturgical year is in the sacred Easter *Triduum* of the passion and resurrection of the Lord, which is prepared for by the period of Lent and prolonged for fifty days.

The practice of covering the crosses and images in the church may be observed on the Saturday before the fifth Sunday of Lent. Lamps should not be lit before the images of Saints. The crosses are to be covered until the end of the celebration of the Lord's passion on Good Friday. Images are to remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil.

During Holy Week

- Ritual Masses are prohibited.
- Baptisms and confirmations should be reserved to the Easter Vigil.
- Celebrations of the Sacrament of Penance, either communal or individual, may not be held immediately before the Mass of the Lord's Supper.
- Funeral Masses may be celebrated on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday only.

Passion/Palm Sunday

- The memorial of the Lord's entrance into Jerusalem is celebrated at all Masses
- With the procession or the solemn entrance at the principal Mass.
- The simple entrance may take place before all other Masses.
- After the procession or the solemn entrance, the collect is prayed. After the simple entrance, the opening greeting precedes the Mass collect.
- Vestments are red. A cope may be used for the procession and the chasuble used for the remainder.
- The passion is read without incense or candles, and without the greeting, signing, or kissing of the book.

The Sacred Triduum

- The Sacred *Triduum* extends from the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday until Evening Prayer on Easter Sunday, inclusive.
- Funeral Masses are prohibited, also during the day on Holy Thursday.
- Funeral rites may be celebrated with a Liturgy of the Word, closing with the Rite of Farewell.
- Ritual Masses are prohibited.

Holy Thursday

- On Holy Thursday at the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Liturgy begins with the Introductory Rites as usual.
- During the singing of the hymn "*Gloria in excelsis*," in accordance with the local custom, the bells may be rung but should thereafter remain silent until the "*Gloria in excelsis*" of the Easter Vigil.
- Only the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper may be celebrated. Before Mass begins, the tabernacle should be completely empty.
- Bells may be rung during the *Gloria*. There should be a sufficient amount of bread consecrated at this Mass for the communion of the clergy and laity on Good Friday.

Good Friday

- Only the Celebration of the Lord's Passion may be celebrated.
- All are bound to observe a universal day of fast and abstinence. This is the paschal fast in anticipation of the Resurrection rather than the Lenten penitential fast.

Easter Vigil

- The entire celebration of the Easter Vigil takes place at night. It should not begin before nightfall; it should end before daybreak on Sunday.
- Nine readings are assigned to the Easter Vigil: seven from the Old Testament and two from the New Testament. If necessary, the number of readings may be reduced. But three selections from the Old Testament should be read before the Epistle and Gospel, although, when necessary, only two may be read.
- In any case, the reading from Exodus should always be used.
- Those parts unique to the Vigil which should always be sung are the acclamations during the procession with the paschal candle and the Easter proclamation, the responsorial "Alleluia," the Litany of the Saints, and the acclamation after the blessing of water.

Birthdays

April	07	: Fr Nithin Antony Baruva
	08	: Fr Tony Gracious Nevez
	14	: Fr Simon Peter
	15	: Fr William Rajan
	16	: Fr Thomas Panakkal
	18	: Fr Francis Cheramanthuruthil
	23	: Fr Jaison Kalathiparambil
	24	: Fr Paul Andrews
	25	: Fr Jenson Puthenveetil
	30	: Fr Joseph K.S.

We join you dear fathers in thanking the Lord for the gift of life and wish you a very happy Birthday and God's blessings. "*Ad Multos Annos*"

Deepalayam - School for the Visually Impaired, Perinthalmanna	
St Joseph's Church, Calicut	Rs 5000.00
Mrs Molly, St Joseph's Church, Moothedam	Rs 1000.00
Total	Rs 6000.00

Seminarians Formation Fund	
Mrs Tessy Roland, Mother of God Cathedral	Rs 50,000.00
St Joseph's Church, Malappuram	Rs 10,000.00
St Joseph's Church, Calicut	Rs 5,000.00
Total	Rs 65,000.00

BISHOP'S DIARY APRIL 2019

April 1, Monday		Marriage
April 2, Tuesday		My Ordination day
April 3, Wednesday		Recording – Shalom T.V.
April 4, Thursday		Bishop's House, meeting the Catechism students of St Xavier's Church, Peruvayal
April 5, Friday	11.00am	Bible Convention, Zion Retreat Centre, Dwaraka, Mananthavady
April 6, Saturday		40 hours Adoration, St Joseph's Church, Calicut
April 7, Sunday	4.30pm	Annual Day, Water Authority Recreation Club, Malaparamba
	6.30pm	40 hours Adoration, St Joseph's Church, Calicut
April 8, Monday	6.30pm	Talk, Christeen Retreat, Navajyothis Renewal Centre, Eranhipalam
April 9, Tuesday	9.30am	Vocation Camp, St Pauls's Minor Seminary, Marikkunnu
April 10, Wednesday		Vocation Camp
April 11, Thursday		Bishop's House
April 12, Friday		Bishop's House
April 13, Saturday		Engaged
April 14, Sunday	7.30am	Palm Sunday, Holy Mass, Mother of God Cathedral, Calicut
April 15, Monday	10.30am	Clergy meeting- <i>Unum Presbyterium</i> , Navajyothis, Eranhipalam
	4.pm	Chrism Mass, Mother of God Cathedral, Calicut
April 16, Tuesday		Bishop's House
April 18, Thursday	6.pm	Maundy Thursday, Holy Mass, Mother of God Cathedral, Calicut
April 19, Friday	7.00am	Way of the Cross, Mother of God Cathedral, Calicut
	3.30pm	Good Friday Service, Mother of God Cathedral, Calicut
April 20, Saturday	10.30pm	Easter Vigil Mass, Mother of God Cathedral, Calicut
April 21, Sunday		Easter
April 22, Monday	4.00pm	Marriage, Mala
April 23, Tuesday		Engaged
April 24, Wednesday	10.00am	Ordination of our Deacons, Cathedral Calicut
April 25, Thursday	11.00am	Installation of the New Provincial, AC Provincial House, Malaparamba
April 26, Friday		Visit to Tudi with KCYM, Eachome, Pallikkunnu
April 27, Saturday	10.00am	Final Profession, Bethany Provincial House, Chevayur
April 28, Sunday	9.30am	Feast Mass, Fathima Matha Church, Easthill
	4.30pm	Feast Mass, Holy Redeemer Church, Marikkunnu
April 29, Monday	10.00am	Leadership Camp, Navajyothis, Eranhipalam
April 30, Tuesday		Bishop's house