FRATERNITY



Roman Catholic Diocese of Kurunegala

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His Lordship the Most Rev.
Dr. Harold Anthony Perera

Ad Multos Annos
Vivat!

Birthday 09th June
Patronal Feast 13th June











May Feast 2024
St Anne's Cathedral
Kurunegala

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Annual Feast of Risen Christ at Gomugomuwa



His Lordship the Most Rev. Dr. Harold Anthony Perera, the Bishop of Kurunegala, presided over the Festive High Mass of Risen Christ church, Gomugomuwa on 12th May 2024. His Lordship blessed the newly built statue of the Lord for the public workshop. Rev. Fr. Himishika Roshan Secretary to the Bishop also took part at the feast. Rev. Fr. Christy Leonard, the Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Gayan Hirantha, the Asst. Parish Priest of Kadawalagedara and the Church Pastoral Council of Gomugomuwa had made all the arrangements for a successful celebration. Rev. Sisters of Holy Angels and Perpetual Help supported the event immensely.

Monthly Recollection and the Presbyteral Meeting - May



Monthly Recollection and the Presbyteral Meeting were held on 13th May at Pope Francis Integral Formation Centre, Dikkele. At the beginning, His Lordship, the Most Rev. Dr. Harold Anthony Perera, the Bishop of Kurunegala, blessed the newly built statue of Our Lady at the entrance of PFIFC. Since it was the anniversary of His Lordship as the Bishop of Kurunegala as well as the diocese on 15th May, the presbyterium prayed in a special way both for the Bishop and the diocese. Rev. Fr. Rufus Thalis, the Parish Priest of Galgamuwa delivered the day's reflection based on Marian Spirituality.

May Feast and Farewell to Fr. Christy Leonard



The Catholic Students Society of Wayamba University organized a Holy Mass to celebrate the May Feast and to bid farewell to Rev. Fr. Christy Leonard, the outgoing Chaplain for University Apostolate on 18th May 2024 at Our Lady of Fatima church, Malkaduwawa. His Lordship, the Most Rev. Dr. Harold Anthony Perera, the Bishop of Kurunegala, Rev. Fr. Himishka Roshan, the secretary to the Bishop and Rev. Fr. Niroshan Jayakody, the Parish Priest of Malkaduwawa participated.

Annual Feast of Our Lady of Tears at Hendiyagala



His Lordship, the Most Rev. Dr. Harold Anthony Perera, the Bishop of Kurunegala, presided over the Festive High Mass of Our Lady of Tears at Hendiyagala on 19th May 2024. Very Rev. Fr. Nihal Obris, the Parish Priest of Nalawalana, the Church Pastoral Council at Hindiyalaga and the Sisters of the Association of Divine Mercy at Nalawalana organized the feast meaningfully. Rev. Fr. Himishka Roshan, the Secretary to the Bishop, Rev. Fr. Nalinda Lanka, the Asst. Procurator and Rev. Fr. Damitha Sri Lal concelebrated at the Eucharistic.

Diocesan Holy Sprit Rally



Prayer union of Kithudana Pubuduwa of Kurunegala organized a rally on 25th May 2024 at Sacred Heart Chruch, Hettipola. His Lordship the Most Rev. Dr. Harold Anthony Perera, the Bishop of Kurunegala addressed the gathering and reflected the aspects of Holy Spirit in our lives. Rev. Fr. Patrick Jayakody, the Parish Priest of Hettipola, the Diocesan Spiritual Director of Kithudana Pubuduwa and his team organized the day's proceedings meaningfully.

Confirmation and the Blessing of the Newly Build Church at Henegedara



His Lordship, the Most Rev. Dr. Harold Anthony Perera, the Bishop of Kurunegala, blessed and declared open the newly built church at Henegedara and celebrated the annual feast of Queen of Peace. Fifty-nine candidates from the parish of Kattimahana received the Sacrament of Confirmation during the Eucharist. Rev. Fr. Sydney Roshan, the Administrator of St. Anne's Shrine, Rev. Fr. Ramesh Lasantha, the Asst. Parish Priest of Kattimahana, the Parish Pastoral Council and the Holy Angels Sisters organized the day meaningfully.

Queen of Peace Church at Henegedara







My dear Fathers, Sisters & Brothers,

The month of June begins with the Solemnity of the Most Precious Body and Blood of Christ. (Corpus Christi) The Holy Eucharist is the source and summit of Christian life. The Eucharist is the greatest gift that we have received from Jesus, His own Body and Blood. Wherever and whenever, the priests celebrate mass, they will always be close to Christ. It is same with the faithful, when they participate at mass. Without the Eucharist there is no priesthood. We must always remember that the daily celebration of the Eucharist is also the place of our promise to be faithful, to be loyal to Christ and to His Church.

In the same week of June, the Church celebrates the solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, the fountain of life. This is the Heart that reveals to the humanity, the outpouring love of Jesus. The feast invites us to transform our hearts unto His, so that we may "comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length, height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses all knowledge." (Ephesians 3:18)

The diocesan Sacred Heart Confraternity annual gathering with the Eucharistic celebration will be held on Saturday, 08th June at Our Lady of Fatima church, Malkaduwawa in Kurunegala. It will be organized by Rev. Fr. Jude Lasantha, the Chaplain together with the members of the confraternity.

Sunday, 23rd June is the Popes' Day. Let us pray in a special way for the intentions of the Holy Father, as well as for good health so that Pope Francis may guide the Universal Church according to the teachings of Jesus Christ, the Eternal Shepherd. We also pledge our continuous loyalty to him. The collections during this mass will have to be given either to the Diocesan Director of PMS to be sent to the National office-PMS.

Sr. Maria Goretti, the Principal of Holy Angels Balika at Kuliyapitiya retires on 07th June. The diocese of Kurunegala appreciates her services in the school, as well as her active involvement in our pastoral work. We wish her God's blessings. The new Principal is Sr. Magaret Mary of the same Congregation of Holy Angels. We extend the same prayerful wishes to her also.

A Relic of St. Anthony of Padua will be enshrined at 4.00 p.m., on Sunday 09th June at St. Anthony's church, Maholawa in the parish of Pannala.

I wish to inform you that the Centenary Jubilee of the coronation of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary (Our Lady of Madhu) in the diocese of Mannar will be on 02nd July 2024. You may announce this news to the faithful during the Sunday notices.

The plenary session of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Sri Lanka will be held from 04-06 June at the National Seminary, Ampitiya. Your prayers are solicited, in order that Holy Spirit may guide the Bishops in their deliberations.

The Eucharistic Adoration and the monthly presbyteral meeting will be held on Monday, 10th June at Bishop's House, Kurunegala. Kindly be on time to begin the Eucharistic adoration at 9.00 a.m., in the Bishop's House chapel.

May God bless you!

+ Harold Perera

+ Harold Anthony Perera,
Catholic Bishop of Kurunegala

Address of His Holiness Pope Francis To Participants in the International Congress on Youth Ministry Of The Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life

Clementine Hall - Saturday, 25 May 2024

Your Eminence, brothers and sisters,



Before all else, I want to express my gratitude to all those who contributed to the success of World Youth Day in Lisbon. It was a great deal of work, but it was well worth the effort. Following the pandemic, and amid so many international tensions, young people needed an injection of hope. Those days in Lisbon were a true celebration of the joy of being alive and being Christian. They were a celebration of the hope that continues to dwell in the hearts of young people, because God himself fosters and strengthens it, despite all adversities.

Dear friends, encouraged by that experience, you are now called to work in preparing for the forthcoming international events, but also, and above all, to continue accompanying youth ministry in "ordinary times".

As I think about the Jubilee for Youth next year and WYD in Seoul three years from now, my "dream" is that these events will help many of the young, including those who are not ordinarily churchgoers, to encounter Jesus, and to hear the Gospel's message of hope. I think of those young people who are downcast, who no longer lift their eyes to the horizon, who have put aside their great dreams and are now trapped in disillusionment and overwhelmed by the problems of life. Asia is a young continent, full of life, yet many young people, especially in the large cities, are suffering from a loss of hope and withdrawing into themselves, with few relationships, few interests. The same thing is happening all over the world. The events in Rome and Seoul are God-given opportunities for us to say to young people throughout the world that Jesus is hope, for you, for us, and for everyone!

As you prepare for these two great events, you must not neglect the ordinary paths, that is, the journey of young people in their everyday lives. I mean the kind of pastoral care made up of small steps, small numbers, simple words and actions, everyday decisions and moments of celebration and prayer in community. These may be less spectacular experiences, but they are the ones that touch hearts and bear lasting fruit over time. This is the holiness in daily life that I spoke about in *Gaudete et Exsultate*. Not to advertise my own writings, but read *Gaudete et Exsultate*, it is a hymn to joy. Joy should be the Christian's sustenance, the true expression of a Christian, and if you don't know what joy is, go in front of the mirror and you'll start laughing after a little bit!

In this regard, I would like to mention several things that should never be lacking in the day-to-day work of youth ministry. First, young people need to be helped to arrive at certain basic certainties in life, truths of the heart: "God is love," "Christ saves you", "He lives", and "the Spirit gives life." These are the certainties but there is also another: Our Lady loves you because she is a mother. We must never tire of proclaiming these four or five simple truths (cf. *Christus Vivit*, 112-133). Young people may be concerned about the bad news that bombards us daily, yet that should not obscure their certainty that the risen Christ is with them and is more powerful than any evil. I'm not saying the news, or publicizing the wars, but we think about them because young people are sensitive to this. Christ is alive! Everything that lives is in his hands. He alone knows the future of our world and of our individual lives. It



is important to offer young people opportunities to experience the living Christ through prayer, the celebration of the Eucharist and Reconciliation, community gatherings, service to the poor and the testimony of the lives of the saints. Young people who have had this experience become convincing witnesses of the message of the Gospel.

Another essential element is spiritual discernment (cf. *Christus Vivit*, 278-298). Discernment is an art that pastoral ministers must be the first to learn: priests and religious, catechists and adult guides, and young people who accompany other young people. It is a skill that cannot be improvised, but has to be cultivated, experienced and lived. For a young person, to find someone capable of discernment is to find a treasure. In the journey of faith and the discovery of one's vocation, a wise guide helps avoid many mistakes, much naiveté, many moments of bewilderment and "paralysis". A guide does not take away freedom but accompanies. I devoted a series of Wednesday Audience talks to discernment; you can go and look them up because they explain how discernment is conducted. Here I would like to highlight only three aspects of discernment: it is synodal, it is personal and it is directed to the truth.

Synodal. In these days of rampant individualism, everyone goes their own way, everyone determines what is meaningful in life, everyone establishes their own values, their own truths. We can see this in the categorization of "like" and "dislike". It is an ugly individualism. On the other hand, in the practice of discernment, the Church sets our brothers and sisters in the faith alongside us, to journey together, not alone, and thus our interior growth is greatly enriched. In this sense, discernment is synodal.

At the same time, discernment is personal. In our world, everything has become mass-produced and standardized. Young people, instead, need to be accompanied personally, as individuals. Each one of them is unique, and each deserves to be listened to, understood and given advice suited to his or her age as well as human and spiritual maturity. Discernment must necessarily be personal. The other day, I had a meeting in a parish with about sixty teenagers, I was pleased with the questions they were asking, seeking questions of opening up to the Lord and of doubt. It is about listening and helping to move forward.

Finally, discernment is also truth-oriented. We live in a society that is poisoned by fake news, where personal profiles are often tailored or falsified, where people create alternative identities, discernment represents for young people a path to authenticity: a way of emerging from artificial identities and discovering their true identity. Discernment is about being "real": before oneself, before others, and before God. We sometimes laugh when we see that women wear make-up, they have to look good, that's why they wear makeup. But how often do we all apply make-up on the soul to appear what we are not. Be careful about this. Stay true before others, before God, and before ourselves.

Let me conclude on the importance of continuing to listen to young people. A real listening, not one that is "half-hearted" or merely "window dressing". Young people should not be pushed into promoting ideas and activities already decided by others, or that do not really meet their needs. Young people should be empowered, involved in dialogue, in planning activities, in decisions. They should be made to feel that they are an active and full part of the life of the Church; and above all that they are called to be the first to bring the Gospel message to their peers.

Dear brothers and sisters, I thank you once more for your commitment with young people and for young people! Carry on with courage, bringing to everyone the good news that Jesus is alive and that He is Lord. This is the message of joy, consolation and hope that so many people in our world are waiting for. I bless all of you from the heart, and I ask you to pray for me. Thank you.

https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/speeches/2024/may/documents/20240525-pastorale-giovanile-congresso.html

Bulletin Announcements in the month of June

June 01
Vespers (May Feast) - Kurunegala

June 02
May Feast - Kurunegala

June 07
Priests' Day of Sanctification

June 08
Sacred Heart Rally - Malkaduwawa Church

June 09
Birthday of His Lordship

June 10
Monthly Recollection & Presbyteral Meeting

June 23
Pope's Day

June 30
St. Anthony's church Feast - Hiripitiya

Anecdotes & Scripture Notes for All Occasions

RED LIGHT – *Eucharist*

A young boy was sitting through a long and very tedious homily at Mass. Suddenly the flame from the red sanctuary lamp caught his eye. Tugging on his father's sleeve, he said. "Daddy, when the red light turns green, can we go?"

Reflection



We associate red and green lights with traffic signals. Like a red traffic light, a red sanctuary lamp should give us reason to stop and reflect on the awesome gift of the Eucharist. It is a great treasure Our Lord gave the Church, the community of faithful disciples. Just as with our faith and the gift of life itself, if we take the Eucharist for granted, just going through the motions - ignoring it, not participating in its celebration, not seeking to learn more about it - we risk losing it. On the night he was betrayed Jesus took Peter, James and John to the garden of Gethsemane and asked them to "remain here, and stay awake with me" (Matthew 26:38). Our Eucharistic Lord invites us to do

Sent by — His Lordship Most Rev. Dr. Harold Anthony Perera

Church Feasts in the month of June

Kuliyapitiya Deanery

Parish	Church	Saint	Date
Hettipola	Hettipola	Sacred Heart	09.06.2024
Mandakondana	Hettiyankotuwa	St. Anthony	09.06.2024
Dunakadeniya	Dunakadeniya	St. Anthony	16.06.2024
Pannala	Maholawa	St. Anthony	16.06.2024
Kadawalagedara	Kabalewa	St. Anthony	23.06.2024
Kuliyapitiya	Barigoda	St. Anthony	30.06.2024
Hiripokuna	Boraluwewa	St. Anthony	30.06.2024

Kurunegala Deanery

Parish	Church	Saint	Date
Kurunegala	Kurunegala	May Feast	02.06.2024
Mawathagama	Jakaduwa	St. John the Baptist De La Salle	09.06.2024
Millawa	Rideegama	St. Anthony	09.06.2024
Malsiripura	Dodamgaslanda	St. Anthony	09.06.2024
Yakadapotha	Avulegama	Sacred Heart	09.06.2024
Pellandeniya	Pellandeinya	St. Anthony	23.06.2024
Galgamuwa	Mahagalgamuwa	St. Anthony	23.06.2024
Hiripitiya	Hiripitiya	St. Anthony	30.06.2024

OUR PRAERFUL WISHES TO OUR LOVING SHEPHERD



Most Rev. Dr. Harold Anthony Perera
Bishop of Kurunegala



09th June
Birthday

13th June
Patronal Feast Day

Fr. Joseph Tissera



I met him in my teenage
in Hiripokuna, a village
where he used to come
to the church of St. Helen

By riding a small Bajaj scooter
along the holey roads poorer
and it was journey really harder
accepted hardships with laughter

He came from Thalgahapitiya
Situated in the town of Bingiriya...

A simple life lived with dedication
gentle words but no lamentation
the sincere smile humanitarian
healed the catholic population

A life with comforts, the least
lived simply and dedicated
but in him I saw Jesus Christ
with loving words from his heart

When I lost my mother untimely
he was very close to our family
comforting us affectionately
humanly, gently, and friendly

Oh, dearest Rev. Fr. Joseph Tissera
I dedicate this poem with love
I appreciate your words of kindness
And the beautiful smiles of friendship

(in Italian Language)
O carissimo reverendo Joseph Tissera
Io dedico con amore questa poema
Apprezzo i suoi parole di gentilezza
Ed i bellissimi sorrisi di amicizia!

By Mark Antony Kumarage

The Diocese of Kurunegala extends
prayerful best wishes to
His Lordship

Most Rev. Dr. Anton Wyman Croos

Bishop of the Diocese of Ratnapura
for the new mission entrusted him.



*"Come you who are blessed by My Father;
take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared
for you since the creation of the world."
(Mt. 25: 34)*

Rest In Peace!



His Lordship
Most Rev. Dr. Marius Peiris
Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of the Archdiocese
of Colombo

Birthdays - Rev. Fathers

07th of June - Rev. Fr. Robert Jayatilake
09th of June - Most Rev. Dr. Harold Anthony Perera
25th of June - Rev. Fr. Thusitha Priyanga

Ordination Anniversary

13th of June - Rev. Fr. Sanjaya Pradeep

Birthdays - Rev. Sisters and Brothers

27th of June - Rev. Sr. Pearl Coonghe (Sisters of Divine Saviour - Ambanpola)
28th of June - Rev. Sr. Paustina Culas (Sisters of Divine Saviour - Bamunawala)
10th of June - Rev. Bro. Tharindu Dulaj

Death Anniversaries

02nd of June - Rev. Fr. Terrance Fernando
15th of June - Rev. Fr. Alfred Lobo
25th of June - Rev. Fr. Kenneth Perera

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