FRATERNITY



Catholic Diocese of Kurunegala

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Annual Feast of Our Lady of Fatima - Malkaduwawa



His Lordship, the Most Rev. Dr. Harold Anthony Perera, the Bishop of Kurunegala presided over the Eucharistic Celebration at the Annual Feast of Our Lady of Fatima, Malkaduwawa on 6th October 2024. Very Rev. Fr. Piyal Janaka Fernando, the Vicar General officiated at the Vespers. Rev. Fr. Himishka Roshan, Secretary to the Bishop and Rev. Fr. Kevin Mundakkal from USA concelebrated at the festive Mass. Rev. Fr. Niroshan Jayakody, the Parish Priest and the Parish Pastoral Council of Malkaduwawa organized the feast meaningfully.

Visit of the Newly Appointed Governor of NWP



Mr. Tissa Kumarasiri Warnasuriya, the Newly Appointed Governor of North Western Province called on His Lordship, the Most Rev. Dr. Harold Anthony Perera, the Bishop of Kurunegala on 7th October 2024 at the Bishop's House, Kurunegala. Very Rev. Fr. Piyal Janaka Fernando, the Vicar General also joined the occasion.

Annual Feast of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary at Walpitagama



The Festive High Mass at the Annual Feast of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary church at Walpitagama was presided over by His Lordship the Most Rev. Dr. Harold Anthony Perera, the Bishop of Kurunegala on 13th October. The 125th Jubilee year was also declared by His Lordship at the conclusion of the mass. Rev. Fr. Himishka Roshan, Secretary to the Bishop also joined the event. Rev. Fr. Jude Liyanage, the Parish Priest and the Parish Pastoral Council of Walpitagama had made all the arrangements for a meaningful celebration.

Confirmation at Kuliyapitiya



Eighty nine candidates form the Parish of Kuliyapitiya received the Sacrament of Confirmation from His Lordship the Most Rev. Dr. Harold Anthony Perera, the Bishop of Kurunegala on 20th October 2024 at St. Joseph's church, Kuliyapitiya. Rev. Fr. Hmishka Roshan, Secretary to the Bishop also joined the celebration. Rev. Fr. Terrence Kannangara, the Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Kasun Madhusanka, the Asst. Parish Priest and the Parish Pastoral Council of Kuliyapitiya organized the event.

Annual Retreat 2024



Annual Retreat for the Priests was held form 21st October to 25th October 2024 at St. Anne's Shrine, Thalawila Rev. Fr. Albert Marianetti of Opus Dei preached the retreat. Special thanks to the preacher and all those behind the success of the annual retreat.

Annual Feast of Raphael the Archangel Church, Daraluwa



His Lordship the Most Rev. Dr. Harold Anthony Perera, the Bishop of Kurunegala presided over festive high mass of Raphael the Archangel church, Daraluwa on 27th October 2024. Also His Lordship blessed the newly build Altar at Ganankete and the Grotto at Daraluwa too. Rev. Fr. Himishka Roshan, Secretary to the Bishop and Rev. Fr. Roshan Vaz OMI were joined the celebration. Rev. Fr. Bruno Gamini, the Parish Priest and the Parish Pastoral Council of Daraluwa organized the events meaningfully.

Annual Feast of the Claretian House, Gepallawa



Annual Feast of St. Anthony Mary Claret was celebrated at the claretian House, Gepallawa on 28th October 2024. His Lordship, the Most Rev. Dr. Harold Anthony Perera, the Bishop of Kurunegala was the chief celebrant of the feast. Many priests and the members of the religious congregation took part at the celebration. Rev. Fr. Maria Arul, CMF, the Superior of the House and Rev. Fr. Jude Shylan, CMF, the Bursar and the community at Gepallawa organized the celebration meaningfully.



The feast of All Saints invites every baptized, irrespective of their status in life to imitate them, so that they may be able to be in the communion with the saints one day. In simple words, our call to holiness is to be a saint and enjoy eternal life. This feast is immediately followed by the commemoration of the faithful departed. Death cannot be avoided by anyone. Everyone is afraid of death. The wish of every human being is to live in this world as long as he or she could. The fear of death leaves only when we understand and believe firmly in faith, that there is no longer veil between us and God. We shall then be able to cross over from this earth to the Father with Jesus and enjoy the company of saints from eternity to eternity.

The annual retreat is over. It was a time of grace for our presbyteral family. The diocese thanks Rev. Fr. Albert Marianetti (Opus Dei) for accompanying us with his inspiring reflections. He was also happy to see you all taking part actively during the retreat. I also thank the main organizers Very Rev. Fr. Vicar General, Procurator General, Assistant Procurator General, Secretary to the Bishop, who made all the prior arrangements for the retreat. I also thank all the office bearers who acted responsibly to make this important encounter with the Lord a success.

The Parliamentary election is close at hand. It is necessary once again to remind the faithful about their sacred duty to vote and elect their representatives in the parliament. Let us pray for a peaceful election.

The Holy Angel Sisters celebrated the 25th anniversary of St. Joseph's elderly home at Karagahagedara in the parish of Kadawelagedara. They have done a great service during these last twenty-five years. I thank the sisters for their commitment. I also wish to record our appreciation to Mr. and Mrs. Raymond, who generously gifted this prime land to the diocese for our mission to the elders.

The Diocesan Laity Council will be held on Saturday, 23 November in the Bishop's house conference hall. The last meeting of the year is held at Bishop's House is to appreciate their participation in the synodal journey. The program for the Jubilee Year 2025 will also be discussed.

As already informed, the year planning (Jubilee year 2025) presbyteral meeting will be held at Bishop's house, Kurunegala. I have already sent you the day's program. Kindly be on time.

The plenary session of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Sri Lanka will be held at the CBCSL Secretariat in Colombo from 27-29 November 2024. Your prayers are solicited for a successful outcome.

Thank you & may God bless you!

✠ Harold Perera

✠ Harold Anthony Perera
Catholic Bishop of Kurunegala

SECOND SESSION OF THE XVI GENERAL ORDINARY ASSEMBLY OF THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS
(2-27 OCTOBER 2024)

17th GENERAL CONGREGATION

FINAL GREETING OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS

Audience Hall - Saturday, 26 October 2024

Dear Brothers and Sisters



With this Final Document, we have gathered the fruits of at least three years in which we have been listening to the People of God in order better to understand how to be a "synodal Church" – it is by listening to the Holy Spirit – at this time. The biblical citations at the beginning of each chapter indicate the content by linking it to the gestures and words of the Risen Lord, who calls us to be witnesses of his Gospel, first with our lives and then using words.

The Document we have voted on is a threefold gift:

Firstly, for me, as Bishop of Rome, in convening the Church of God in Synod, I was aware that I needed all of you: Bishops and witnesses of the synodal journey. Thank you! The Bishop of Rome, I frequently remind myself and each of you, also needs to practice listening, or rather he wishes to practice listening, in order to be able to respond to the Word that each day says to him, "Affirm your brothers and sisters...Feed my sheep".

My task, as you well know, is to guard and promote – as Saint Basil teaches – the harmony that the Spirit continues to spread in the Church of God, in the relations between the Churches. Notwithstanding all the efforts, tensions and divisions that mark her journey toward the full manifestation of the Kingdom of God, which the Prophet Isaiah invites us to imagine as a banquet prepared by God for all peoples. All, in the hope that no one will miss out. All peoples, and nobody missing out! The key word is harmony. That is what the Spirit does. The first powerful manifestation of the Holy Spirit was on the morning of Pentecost, harmonizing all those different languages. That is what the Second Vatican Council teaches when it says that the Church is "like a sacrament". She is a sign and instrument of our expectant God, who has already prepared the table and is now waiting. His grace, through his Spirit, whispers words of love into the heart of each person. It is up to us to amplify the voice of this whisper, without hindering it; by opening doors instead of erecting walls. It is harmful when women and men of the Church erect walls. Everyone is invited in! We must not behave as "dispensers of grace" who appropriate the treasure by tying the hands of our merciful God. Remember that we began this Synod Assembly by asking for forgiveness, experiencing shame and recognizing that we are all in need of mercy.

There is a poem by Madeleine Delbrêl, a mystic of the peripheries who exhorted, "Above all, do not be rigid" – rigidity is a sin that sometimes creeps into the lives of the clergy or of consecrated persons. I will read some Madeleine Delbrêl's lines that are a prayer, she wrote:

For I think that you may have had enough
of people who, always, speak of serving you with the look of a leader,
of encountering you with the air of a professor,
of approaching you with sporting regulations,
of loving you as one loves in an aged marriage.
...
Let us live our life,
not as a game of chess where everything is calculated, not as a game where everything is difficult,
not as a theorem that breaks our minds,
but like an endless party where your meeting is renewed,
like a ball,
like a dance,
in the arms of your grace,
in the music that fills the universe with love.



These verses can become the background music for welcoming the Final Document. In light of what has emerged from the synodal journey, there are and there will be decisions to be made.

In our time marked by wars, we must be witnesses of peace, even by learning how to live out our differences in conviviality.

For this reason, I do not intend to publish an Apostolic Exhortation, what we have approved is sufficient. There are already highly concrete indications in the Document that can be a guide for the mission of the Churches, in their specific continents and contexts. This is why I am making it immediately available to everyone, it is the reason I said that it should be published. In this way, I wish to recognize the value of the synodal journey accomplished, which by means of this Document I hand over to the holy faithful people of God.

On certain aspects of the life of the Church pointed out in the Document, as well as on the themes entrusted to the ten "Study Groups", who work with freedom, to offer me proposals, more time is needed in order to arrive at decisions that involve the whole Church. I will continue to listen to the Bishops and the Churches entrusted to them.

This is not the classic way of postponing decisions indefinitely. It is the way that corresponds to the synodal style with which even the Petrine ministry is to be exercised: by listening, convening, discerning, deciding and evaluating. On this path we need pauses, silences and prayer. It is a style that we are still learning together, little by little. The Holy Spirit calls and supports us in this learning, which we need to understand as a process of conversion.

The General Secretariat of the Synod and all the Dicasteries of the Curia will help me in this task.

The Document is a gift to all the faithful people of God, by the variety of its expressions. It is obvious that not everyone will set out to read it. It will largely fall to you, together with many others, to make what it contains accessible in the local Churches. The text, without the witness of lived experience, would lose much of its value.

Dear brothers and sisters, what we have experienced is a gift that we cannot keep to ourselves. The impetus that comes from this experience, of which the Document is a reflection, gives us the courage to witness that it is possible to walk together in diversity, without condemning each other.

We come from all parts of the world, some marked by violence, poverty, indifference. Together, with the hope that does not disappoint, united in the love of God in our hearts, we should not only dream of peace but also commit ourselves with all our strength so that, perhaps without talking so much about synodality, peace will be realized through the processes of listening, dialogue and reconciliation. To set out on mission, the synodal Church now needs its shared words to be accompanied by actions. This is our journey.



All this is the gift of the Holy Spirit: *it is he who makes harmony because it is he who is harmony*. Saint Basil has a very beautiful theology on this, if you can read his treatise on the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is harmony. Brothers and sisters, may harmony continue even as we leave this hall, and may the Breath of the Risen One help us to share the gifts that we have received.

Remember – in Madeleine Delbrêl's words – that "there are places in which the Spirit breathes, but there is only one Spirit who breathes in all places".

I would like to thank all of you, and let us thank each other. I thank Cardinal Grech and Cardinal Hollerich for the work they have done, the two Secretaries, Nathalie and San Martín – you have done a good job! –, Don Batocchio and Father Costa who helped us so much! I thank all those who worked behind the scenes and without them this wouldn't have been possible. Thank you very much! May the Lord bless you. Let us pray for each other. Thank you!

(https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/speeches/2024/october/documents/20241026-sinodo-vescovi.html)



Bulletin Announcements

November- 01
All Saints Day

November- 02
All Souls Day

November- 09
Requiem Holy Mass - Legion of Mary

November- 09
Requiem Holy Mass - SSVP

November– 11
Presbyteral meeting for year planning 2025

November– 04, 05, 06,07 & 08
Requiem Holy Mass in 05 Zones—Sacred Heart Confraternity

November– 23
Diocesan Pastoral Council - Bishop's House

Church Feasts in the Month of November

Kuliyapitiya Deanery

Parish	*Church*	*Saint*	*Date*
Kadawalagedara	Yaya Nindawela	Christ the King	17.11.2024
Karawwewa	Bingiriya	Christ the King	24.11.2024

Kurunegala Deanery

Parish	*Church*	*Saint*	*Date*
Millawa	Hindagolla	Christ the King	17.11.2024
Bulupitiya	Narammala	Christ the King	24.11.2024
Nikaweratiya	Nikaweratiya	St. Andrew	24.11.2024

ANECDOTES & SCRIPTURE NOTES FOR ALL OCCASIONS

WATCH OUT – *Death*

At the end of the funeral service for a woman, the pallbearers carried the casket out and accidentally bumped into a wall, jarring the casket. Suddenly they heard a faint moan. Opening the casket, they found the woman was still alive. She lived for ten more years and then died. A funeral was again held at the same church, and at the end of the ceremony, the pallbearers again carried the casket out. As they were walking, the husband told them, "This time, watch out for the wall."

REFLECTION



In the Gospels there are accounts where one who has died, is given a new opportunity to live: Lazarus (John 11:44), as well as the daughter of Jairus (Mark 5:41-42) and the son of the widow from Nain (Luke 7: 14-15). We won't have a similar opportunity. We still experience only one death and we have our whole life to prepare for it. It will be our passage to the fullness of life with God. The liturgy for the Order of Christian Funerals reminds us that "at death, life is changed, not taken away."

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

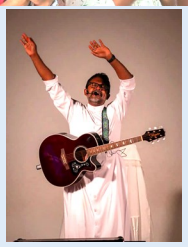
Youth Retreat -2024



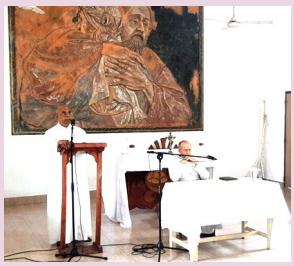
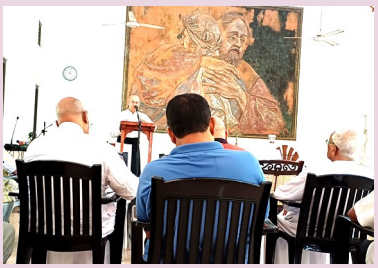








Annual Retreat for the Priests -2024











Silver Jubilee Celebration - "Daya Nivasa" - Karagahagedara












Meeting of Catholic Principals, Teachers and Head Catechists' Meeting






In The Month Of November....

Birthdays - Rev. Fathers

05th of November—	Rev. Fr. Andrew Fonseka
09th of November—	Very Rev. Fr. Prasantha Amarasekara
13th of November—	Rev. Fr. Himishka Roshan Fernando
16th of November—	Rev. Fr. Chamika Pushpamal
17th of November—	Rev. Fr. Niroshan Jayakody
29th of November—	Rev. Fr. Eymard Colin Fernando

Birthdays - Rev. Sisters and Brothers

03th of November—	Rev. Sr. Monica (Sisters of Holy Angels — Kattimahana)
06th of November—	Rev. Sr. Helen Fernando (Sisters of Holy Family — Nikaweratiya)
06th of November—	Rev. Sr. Lalani Nirmala (Sisters of Holy Family—Nikaweratiya)
08th of November—	Rev. Sr. Nilani (Sisters of Holy Family—Malkaduwawa)
09th of November—	Rev. Sr. Grace Malar Sosai SDS (Divine Saviour — Bamunawala)
20th of November—	Rev. Bro. Himasha Nanayakkara (National Seminary—Ampitiya)
27th of November—	Rev. Sr. Mary Angeline (Holy Angels — Kuliyapitiya)

Death Anniversaries of Our Beloved Priests

07.08.1990	Rev. Fr. Anthonty Thissera
15.07.1998	Rev. Fr. Don Julian
12.01.1999	Rev. Fr. Leonard Costa
02.06.1999	Rev. Fr. Terrence Fernando
14.12.1999	Rev. Fr. Hector Fernando
15.06.2005	Rev. Fr. Alfred Lobo
27.06.2005	Rev. Fr. Kenneth Perera
09.11.2013	Rev. Fr. Lucian Fernando
24.03.2014	Rev. Fr. Sugath Jayamaha
06.05.2016	Rev. Fr. Marshel Fernando
01.05.2017	Rev. Fr. Norbert Fernando
28.02.2018	Rev. Fr. Roger Christopher
05.08.2023	Rev. Fr. Linus Kurukula Aratchi
21.12.2023	Rev. Fr. Quentin Perera



29.09.2017 **Most Rev. Dr. Raymond Peiris (The First Bishop of Kurunegala)**

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