



Message of the Chaplain

Prayerful greetings to every member of the Indian Catholic Community. Hearty welcome to every liturgical, pastoral and social event of the ICC. With a spirit of solitude, prayer and fasting, we go through this gracious season of Lent, a time of recollection, reconciliation and re-orientation to the Lord Jesus Christ. Let us listen to him closely and intensively during this Lenten season, which is a privileged time to be filled with the Holy Spirit and with the Divine Word of the Lord. Let us welcome him, the Lord and the Master of our life, into our heart, our family relationships and into the Communion of our Malayalee Catholic Community.

Let us try to overcome, as the Holy Father Pope Francis reminds, the growing trends of indifference and lethargy to the timely call of the Lord Jesus and of his message to us, to the Church and to the world. We shall not turn our backs to him, when he stays and knocks at the door of our hearts, especially during this phase of the Lent, of the Annual Retreat and of the Holy Week. Let us be personally filled with the joy and peace of the Holy Spirit and be ready to motivate our dear and near ones, our friends and colleagues to the great event of meeting the Lord in His Spirit during these days of the paschal events of Jesus Christ.

We welcome with great joy and enthusiasm the entire team of the Annual Retreat 2015: the team Leader: Rev. Fr. Jacob Kuruppinakathu; the Preacher: Rev. Fr. Rejimon Muttathil and the Musician: Mr. Jomy Thomas. The Lord will bless our Malayalee Community through these persons and their ministries. Let us open our hearts and minds and our entire domain of existence to the Word of the Lord in and through these Persons and the events of the Annual Retreat.

Kindly note the following Requests and Guidelines

1. Prayer Request of the Holy Father, Pope Francis: We shall pray: a) for those of the Consecrated Life in the Church, for Religious and Priestly vocations; b) for the global peace and reconciliation; c). for the welfare, integrity and sacramental bond of the Families.
2. Prayer Request of HE Cardinal Christoph Schönborn: We shall pray for the success of implementing his Master Plan for the Archdiocese of Vienna, which emphasizes three aspects of awareness and action: Mission First, Learning the Discipleship of Jesus Christ and Process of Re-organization of the Archdiocese.
3. Prayer Request of the ICC: We shall pray intensively during these days for the UNITY and Spiritual Welfare of the Malayalee Community in Vienna: for the sick members of our Community, for the broken families, for our Youth and Children, for the handicapped and elderly members of our Families, for the Leadership of the ICC at different areas of service and participation.
4. Please note that the greatest value of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus is the reality of Unity and Communion. We shall therefore give priority to this aspect of our Discipleship to the Lord and of our Christian Spirituality. We shall avoid everything which divides and separates us from this concept of Unity and Communion of the ICC. For that, we have to make great sacrifices and be open to the Word of the Lord and to the Guidance of the Leadership of his Church, in order to discern the true Spirit of Jesus Christ, which may be quite distinct from the personal and private inspirations in our minds and hearts. Remember that this internal openness to the Lord is the glaring

sign of obedience which is more valuable than even Adoration and Sacrifice. Let us keep this spirit of the Gospel in our hearts and minds and do everything accordingly.

5. We bring to your attention two important points of the ICC discipline which we mentioned in the previous ICC Bulletin: a). Inform the ICC Chaplain/Assistant Chaplain if you need any sacramental service... Only afterwards, you may contact any other Malayalee priest to conduct the required sacramental services intended for any of the 2445 Malayalee Catholic members of the ICC. b). Kindly inform the ICC Chaplain if you want to organize a Prayer, Family, Night Vigil Unit, which is to be a recognized unit of the Indian Catholic Community Vienna. Only after getting the approval, you may begin the first service event of your new Unit. There will not be regular Holy Mass in our Prayer and Night Vigil Units every month.

6. If any member or unit of the ICC wants to celebrate Holy Mass in Malayalam in any Rite, kindly get the prior permission of the Chaplain/Assistant Chaplain of the ICC. Please note the general canonical teaching of the Catholic Church: the celebration of the Sacraments without “*Proper Delegation*” from the “*Proper Authority*” is a clear *MISUSE* of the Sacraments. Let us avoid such violations in our Malayalee Catholic Community.

7. Please remember: the ICC leadership is ready to attend to every simple or great sign or signal of the Holy Spirit both in individuals and Groups of the ICC and to motivate, promote and support their spiritual, pastoral and liturgical initiatives in a spirit of Communion and Unity. Kindly contact the Chaplain/Assistant Chaplain for your spiritual, pastoral, liturgical needs. We are also ready to visit your Families, especially every sick and handicapped member of the ICC. Kindly open the door of your hearts and houses for this pastoral care and concern.

Please note the forthcoming Main Events of the ICC

1. **Annual Retreat:** on March 25, 26, 27, 28th: Wednesday (from 9.00 to 16.00hrs), Thursday (from 9.00 to 19.30hrs), Friday (from 9.00 to 19.30 hrs), Saturday (from 9.00 to 15. 30hrs). Registration Fee: €10,- per person; Free for the Youth and Children; Noon meals with a moderate price will be served; tea/coffee and water will be given free.
2. **Holy Week Services:** Palm Sunday Liturgy on 29th March at 15.00hrs in Maria Lourdes.
 - Syro Malabar Liturgy on Maundy Thursday at 2. 00 PM in Maria Lourdes; Syro Malankara Liturgy at 9.00AM in Breitenfeld.
 - Syro Malabar Liturgy on Good Friday at 9. 30 Am in Maria Lourdes; Syro Malankara Liturgy at 9.00 AM in Breitenfeld.
 - Easter Sunday Solemn Liturgy at 15.00hrs in Maria Lourdes; Liturgy in Syro Malankara Rite at 19.00hrs in Breitenfeld on Holy Saturday
 - Holy Saturday Liturgy in Syro Malabar Rite at 8. 00AM in the Krypta of Maria Lourdes ; in Syro Malankara Rite at 9. 00Am. No Malayalam Mass in Stadlau Kapelle on Holy Saturday.
3. ICC First Communion on 17th May at 11. 30Am in Maria Lourdes
4. ICC Confirmation (FIRMUNG) on 24th May at 11. 30 in Maria Lourdes.
5. ICC Youth Festival –Dances on 2nd May in Haus der Begegnung Floridsdorf.
6. Fronleichnamfest on 4th June: Procession begins at 9.00Am in Maria Lourdes.
7. ICC Community Day Celebrations: Feast of St. Thomas, St. Alphonsa, St. Chavara Kuriakose Elias and St. Euprasyamma on 21st June at 15.00hrs in Maria Lourdes.
8. Next First Friday Holy Mass and Adoration and Special Blessing for all the ICC Youth who appear for their Matura Exams this year at 19.00 hrs on 1st May in Stadlau Kapelle
9. Catechism Exams on 7th June.

May God bless us all und fill our hearts with the joy of the Risen Lord.

ICC Chaplain: P. Thomas Thandappilly CST ICC Assistant Chaplain: P. Joy Plathottathil SVD
Verleger : Steephen Chevookaran, Media & Communications for the Indian Catholic Community