



Simla Chandigarh Diocese

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Ref. DSC/Cir. 02/2019

12th March 2019

DIAMOND JUBILEE OF THE DIOCESE

Dear Fathers, Sisters and Brothers,

Greetings!

The core committee for the Diamond Jubilee Celebration of the Diocese has envisaged some plans for the celebration of the same and they are given below:

1. **INAUGURATION** of the Diamond Jubilee will be on the Solemnity of Divine Mercy Sunday, on 28th April 2019, at Kauli. The programme for the day is: Hoisting of the Jubilee Flag and releasing of the Jubilee Balloons and Adoration at 10.00 am, followed by Mass at 11.30 am and thereafter langar for all. The People who are far away and wish to come on 27th April 2019 can contact and inform Fr. Antony Rufus, the Assistant Director of Prarthana Bhawan by 08th April 2019 for the accommodation. Your coopeation will help to arrange for the accommodation and other service. **All the Parish Priests are also kindly inform Fr. Rufus as to how many will be coming for the Inauguration from your parishes latest by 22nd April 2019 and since it is a Diocesan Event, kindly encourage your faithful to come for the same.**
2. **THEME:** After discussing on the various themes, the committee decided to have '**CELEBRATING TRANSFORMING MARCHING**' as the theme for the Diamond Jubilee.
3. **LOGO:** It is decided to have a logo competition on the theme and it has to be submitted to Fr. Sahayaraj by 8th April 2019. The best will be awarded and the logo will be used for the Diamond Jubilee.
4. **PRAYER CARD:** A prayer card will be distributed on 28th April 2019 at Prarthana Bhawan and also will be given to all the Parish Priests. Please encourage the faithful to pray this prayer daily after Mass during the Diamond Jubilee year.
5. **COMPETITIONS BY VARIOUS COMMISSIONS:** The following commissions will organise competitions during the Diamond Jubilee Year on the theme.
 - a) The Commission for Catechetics will organize *Essay Writing* Competitions in the Parish & Deanery levels for Children, Youth and Adults in English, Hindi and Punjabi languages.
 - b) The commission for Children will organize *Drawing/colouring* competitions for children.
 - c) The Commission for Family will organize *Biblical Skit* Competition in the Deanery and Diocesan level.
 - d) The Commission for Bible will organize *Bible Quiz* in Parish, Deanery, and Diocese level. The core committee suggested to take St. John's letters, St. Peter's letters for the same.
 - e) The Commission for Youth will organize *speech* competition for youth in the Parish & Deanery levels in English, Hindi and Punjabi.
 - f) The Commission for women will organize *Skit* Competition on social issues for women.The commissions will send the details (venue, dates) of the competitions to be held.
6. **A SPECIAL DIAMOND JUBILEE SOUVENIR:** All present in the meeting agreed to bring out a special Souvenir during the Diamond Jubilee of the Diocese. Frs. Robert Fernandez and Rhymon will be the in charges and they will form a team to collaborate with them. It was suggested to get the estimate / cost from various people and then to decide. There were suggestions to include the history & activities/progress of the Diocese, contribution of the CRI to the Diocese, reports/ awardees/special events held during the Diamond Jubilee Year. It was also suggested to include more people (laity) in the team.
7. **DOCUMENTARY FILM:** Every one present agreed to the idea of having a documentary film and Fr. Rhymon Henry, the Director of Media Commission will be the In charge. It was also suggested to take help from experts and especially Mr. Dilip's name was mentioned.
8. To mark the Diamond Jubilee of the Diocese there were different suggestions, from among the discussions the following were seen as possible:
 - a) **PHARMACEUTICAL SKILLS LAB.**
 - b) **COMPUTER TRAINING & PRINTING**
 - c) **HOSTEL:** There were felt need to have more hostels for our children and some suggested instead of having more hostel buildings if we could add to the existing structures to have more children. There was also a suggestion to upgrade the hostel to +2.

There was a strong suggestion to have the evaluation of the Diocese to know where we are and that will help us to march forward. A team will be made comprised of Fathers, Religious and laity and will be communicated later.



9. CLOSING OF THE DIAMOND JUBILEE: ON DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY, 19TH APRIL 2020.

10. The following points from all the commission meetings were discussed:

10.1 Education

- a. It was suggested to create a corpus fund to award the outstanding students in the Diocesan level of all the schools in the Diocese 1st, 2nd & 3rd prizes. There were suggestions to separate CBSE, ICSE, Punjab Board, Himachal Board, Haryana Board and Chandigarh Board.
- b. Suggestions to have the Annual Programs of the schools with the theme of the Diamond Jubilee of the Diocese: **'CELEBRATING TRANSFORMING MARCHING'**
- c. Suggestions to display the theme of the Diamond Jubilee in the schools.

10.2 Catechism & Liturgy

- a. To prepare proper syllabus for the Parish/school and conduct examinations.
- b. Proposals to collaborate with Catechism Commission to promote the Catechism in the schools & Parishes (Students **please pay attention to the Marks and attendance in Catechism class**).

10.3 Prison Ministry

- a. Revamp the Prison Ministry.
- b. Prison ministry to collaborate with schools for programs in the Jails.

10.4 Children Commission

- a. To form Holy Childhood (Baal Sabha) for Pre Communicants.
- b. To form Cruz Veer for Post Communicants.

10.5 Media Commission:

- a. To make a Documentary film of the Diocese.

10.6 Laity Commission

- a. Formation and strengthening of Laity commission in the Parishes.
- b. To Organise Pilgrimages to Velankanni and close by pilgrim centres and within the diocese (In Collaboration with Pastoral Work Director).

10.7 Family Commission

- a. Strengthening the existing Family Cells.
- b. To organise Retreats for Families in the Deanery levels.
- c. To Celebrate the 40/50/60 years of couple's Married life.

10.8 Religious Harmony/Inter-Religious Dialogue:

- a. Deanery level one program.

10.9 Bible & SCC

- a. To strengthen the existing Units.
- b. To form units wherever SCCs are not present.
- c. Annual SCC convention in the Diocesan level.

10.10 Evangelisation & Catechists

- a. Evaluation of evangelisation in the Deanery level.
- b. To have more Catechists.
- c. The team to visit the Parishes.

10.11 Youth: To conduct seminars/programs on the Diamond Jubilee theme.

10.12 Women:

- a. Seminar for Women in Deanery level on the 'Theme'.
- b. General Body meeting of the Women Commission.

10.13 Social Work:

- a. To work on Registration for Minority students to get scholarships.
- b. To have 'Job Placement' office in the Diocese level.

Given at Bishop's House, Chandigarh on Wednesday 13th March 2019, the Feast of St. Leander of Seville, a Doctor of the Church.

Yours Sincerely in Christ,

+Ignatius L. Mascarenhas
Bishop of Simla Chandigarh

