



# Simla Chandigarh Diocese

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Ref. DSC/Cir. 09/2024

04.10.2024

## A DAY OF PRAYER AND FASTING ON OCTOBER 07

To All the Lay Faithful, Clergy and Religious of Simla-Chandigarh Diocese,

Dear People of God,

Greetings of Peace!

The second session of the 16th Ordinary Synod of Bishops, running from October 02-27, 2024 marks an important phase in the Church's global synodal process that began three years ago on 9-10 October 2021. Pope Francis opened the second assembly of the Synod on Synodality on October 02, Wednesday on the feast of Holy Guardian Angels with a Solemn Holy Mass in St. Peter's Square. Pope Francis in his homily spoke that the ecclesial journey should promote the joy of the Gospel in this hour of war and violence.

Hence, Pope Francis has called for **'A DAY OF PRAYER AND FASTING ON OCTOBER 07', on the Feast of Our Lady of Rosary**, for peace in the Holy Land. May I also urge you to adhere to the clarion call of Pope Francis in our Diocese in spending a day of Prayer and Fasting on Monday, October 07, 2024 for Peace and Harmony in the world.

In the words of Pope Francis, "Let us walk together..., our Diocese began the preparation for the celebration of the Jubilee 2025 on October 02, 2024 with a large gathering of priests, religious and laity (254 participants) at the Diocesan Pastoral Centre, Chandigarh. The theme for the Diocesan Pastoral Council Meeting was, "Jubilee Year 2025: Pastoral and Canonical Initiatives for Family Renewal." I trust that the inputs by Fr. Kejus R. and Fr. Anil Sequeira on the Four Major Constitutions of the Vatican II and on the Family will pave a way to establish a community of joy and hope in our families and in the society. Let us not forget that the family is the first cell of a society and the Church. I appreciate your good will and eagerness to collaborate and cooperate in the proclamation of the Gospel of the Lord.

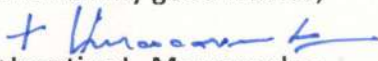
I wish and pray that you keep updating yourselves with the resource materials that are sent to you through Whatsapp, emails, and the Diocesan website: [www.simlachandigarhdiocese.com](http://www.simlachandigarhdiocese.com) and You Tube Channel: [simlachandigarhdiocese](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...).

May I request you to kindly pray for all the Diocesan Priests who will be attending the **Annual Retreat from Oct 20-25 at Clergy Home, Amloh** and also the **Annual Charismatic Convention at Yesu Daya Sagar Prarthana Bhawan, Kauli, Punjab from November 15-17, 2024.**

Once again, I offer my prayers for you and for your families and may God bless you!

I wish all of you a very happy Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Given on October 04, 2024 on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi at Bishop's House, Chandigarh and *this Circular is to be read out or its contents to be explained in Hindi in all Churches on 06.10.2024 or 13.10.2024.*

With all my good wishes,

  
+Ignatius L. Mascarenhas  
Bishop of Simla-Chandigarh

