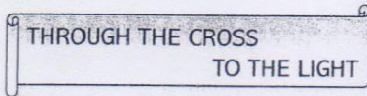


Bishop Cletus Chandrasiri Perera O.S.B.
Bishop of Ratnapura



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3rd July 2014. CL/PRES/RN 66

TO THE CLERGY OF THE DIOCESE OF RATNAOURA

Dear Revd Fathers

God's Blessings and Fraternal Greetings

I sincerely hope that this letter finds you all in good health and spirit, both spiritually and physically.

1. The next meeting of the Presbyterium will be held on Monday and Tuesday the 14th and 15th July 2014. The presbyteral meeting will begin as usual at 4.30 p.m. on Monday and will be followed by the rest of the evening programme. We shall have an informative seminar on Tuesday morning on the nature and working of the Legion of Mary, conducted by the Sri Lankan Senatus of the LOM. I would request all of you to be present for these exercises on both days without fail at the Bishop's House.
2. The Sri Lankan Pilgrimage of the Holy Father, Pope Francis is scheduled to take place from the 13th to the 15th of January 2015. I have appointed Very Revd Fr Damian Fernando, Vicar General, as the Diocesan Coordinator for all activities in connection with the Papal visit. He will also function as a member of the National Central Organizing Committee, along with myself. Fr Damian will be assisted by Revd Fr Ranjanmal Moraes, covering the Ratnapura Deanery, and Revd Fr Jeewantha Peiris, covering the Kegalle Deanery in coordinating the activities of their respective deaneries, especially the participation of our people in the Papal Mass. They may co-opt others, clergy, religious and laity to help them if needed.
3. Revd Fr Tony Happuarachchi is appointed as the Diocesan Coordinator for Blessed Joseph Vaz Activities and Lay Missionaries, in addition to his present duties.
4. I am happy to inform you, with many thanks for your prayers and good wishes, that I have been able to raise Rs. 4.2 Million during my mission appeal in the Diocese of Austin, Texas. All these funds are for the needs of the Diocese. Please pray for the Bishop and people of the Diocese of Austin who have been very generous to our Diocese over the past four years. Please pray also for Revd Fr Oliver Weerakkody who coordinated my mission appeals and did his best to bring them to a success.
5. I am happy and grateful to inform you that Revd Fr Sidath Willegoda, USA, sent Rs. 500,000/= from his savings to the Diocese. I am also happy and grateful to inform you that Revd Fr Hari Haran who is serving in a parish and studying for his Licetiate in Italy promoted a collection of Rs. 267,000/= during last Advent in his parish. He gave it to me when I met him in Italy last May. These funds are specifically for childrens' programmes. They are kept with me. Small contributions can be made on request by Parish Priests for childrens' programmes.

With much love and the assurance of prayers, Yours fraternally

Rev. Fr. Anushka Nishan Fernando
Secretary to the Bishop of Ratnapura.
(Diocese of Ratnapura)
Madola,
Avissawella.