

20th April 2017; CL/PRES / RN 97

TO THE CLERGY OF THE DIOCESE OF RATNAPURA

Dear Rev Fathers

Jesus Christ is Risen indeed Alleluia. May His Power and Blessing be with you all.

First of all I wish you the abundant Blessings and Graces of the Risen Lord during the Holy Season of Easter and forever. As we rejoice over the triumphant victory of our Loving Saviour, may He also lead us to an experience of His Resurrection in our vocation and mission.

1. The ordination of Rev Deacon Shane Wickranasinghe to the Sacred Priesthood will take place on Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 9.30 a.m. at St Mary's Church, Kegalle. This is an important Diocesan event. I earnestly request you all to be present. I would appreciate very much if you all come at least 15 minutes before time, and join in the Concelebrated Mass. It will not look good if some concelebrants walk in late, once the Holy Mass is started.

2. The next Presbyteral meeting is scheduled to take place on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of May. Since the preceding weekend is a busy one with the Ordination and the First Mass, the Presbyteral meeting is **postponed for Monday and Tuesday the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> May 2017**. We shall make this an occasion for us to commemorate our deceased loved ones, and to have our Easter fellowship Get-together. The programme of the two days will be as follows:

**Monday the 15<sup>th</sup> May:** 4.30 p.m. : Presbyteral Meeting

6.30 p.m. : Holy Rosary, Eucharistic Adoration, Evening Prayer, and Benediction

7.30 p.m. : Easter Fellowship Get-together, followed by supper.

**Tuesday the 16<sup>th</sup> May** 6.30 a.m. : Rising

7.00 a.m. : Liturgy of the Hours,

7.45 a.m. : Holy Mass for our deceased parents, family members, clergy,  
religious and benefactors.

8.30 a.m. : Breakfast, followed by the rest of the programme of the day.

9.30 a.m. : Evaluation of the Pastoral Plan ~~in~~  
in two groups

11.00 a.m. Tea Break

11.30 a.m. Common discussion, followed by lunch



3. We wish to thank Very Rev Fr Damian Fernando for the services he rendered to the Diocese as the Procurator General. The work of the P.G. is an uphill task and a thankless job. Fr Damian has fulfilled his duties to the best of his ability in the interest of the Diocese.

We are thankful to Rev Fr Sidath Wilegoda for having agreed to take up this important and difficult apostolate for the Diocese.

We also thank Rev Fr Chaminda Fernando SSS for his three-year ministry at the parish of Mahena, and for the assistance he has been rendering to the rest of the Diocese too on request. We welcome Rev Fr Jude Gregory Fernando SSS, who will replace him at Mahena.

We also thank Rev Fr Reginald CR for his silent services at the Shrine of Tanjantenna. We are also happy to welcome back Rev Fr Balendram CR, who will replace him at Tanjantenna.

4. I will be leaving for Rome on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of this month on invitation to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Laurentina. This feast is organized by the Sri Lankan migrant community in Rome. I will return to the Diocese on the 29<sup>th</sup> of this month. Very Rev Fr Damian Fernando, Vicar General, will administer the Diocese during my absence.

5. The existing Building Committee is hereby abolished, and a new committee is appointed. The names of the members of the new committee will be as follows:

1. Bishop

11. Very Rev Fr Damian Fernando, Vicar General

111. Rev Fr Milton Wickramasinghe, Chancellor

1V. Rev Fr Roland Rodrigo, Priest in charge of archives and land issues.

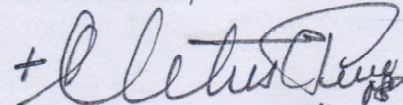
V. Rev Fr Sidath Wilegoda, Procurator General.

V1. Rev Fr Sanjeewa Peiris, Projects Coordinator

V11. Rev Fr Sriyan Fernando, Director, Caritas- Ratnapura

With love and assurance of my prayers

Yours fraternally



+ Cletus C. Perera OSB

Bishop of Ratnapura