

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



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20th May 2015

CL/PRES/RN 75

TO THE CLERGY OF THE DIOCESE OF RATNAPURA

Dear Rev Fathers

God's Blessings and Fraternal Greetings

Renewed and rejuvenated by the power of the Resurrection of the Lord and the subsequent event of Pentecost, let us go ahead with our priestly ministry with greater zeal and dedication.

1. Sunday the 7th June this year is the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ. We have been requested by Holy Father Pope Francis to spend this day as a day of penance, fasting and Eucharistic adoration with the people, in solidarity with the Christians, brutally persecuted and massacred by the Islamic extremists in certain countries. Let us respond positively to this request of the Holy Father.

I will be celebrating a Holy Mass of Reparation at Rabukkana where the Sacred Species of the Holy Eucharist had been desecrated and thrown outside the church by an unscrupulous person.

2 The next Presbyteral meeting and Recollection will be held on Monday and Tuesday the 8th and 9th of June, beginning with the Presbyteral meeting at 4.30 p.m. on Monday. We have invited Rev Fr Peter Soosairaj OCD, a Carmelite priest from India to preach at the Recollection, followed by confessions.

All of you, unless prevented by legitimate reasons which have to be personally intimated to me, are obliged to attend the programmes of the two days. You are very earnestly requested to bring your Breviaries along with you. It is an opportunity for us to come together, discuss together, pray together and worship together as a family of priests.

3. Rev Fr Shervyn Clifford Fernando is back in the Diocese after his five-year mission in Canada. He has been financially helping the Diocese during his mission for which we are grateful to him. We are happy to welcome him back to the Diocese. Rev Fr Neville Jansze has made a further contribution of Rs 220,000.00 to the Diocese from his savings. We are grateful to him for his concern towards the Diocese.

Let us pray for one another, appreciate one another's work, and thus help one another to grow.

With prayers and all best wishes,

Yours fraternally

Bishop of Ratnapura

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

BISHOP'S DIARY FROM MAY 20 TO JUNE 30, 2015

May 23: Holy Spirit Rally (Pubudhu) at Walpola, Ragama.

May 24: Conferring of the of Ministries at the National Seminary.

May 25: Diocesan Steering Committee Meeting.

May 28: Meeting and Discussion with the Planters at the Bishop's House.

May 29: May Feast at Loyola College, Bopitiya.

May 31: Holy Mass at Dehigahapitiya.

June 1: Diamond Jubilee Celebration at "The Finance Co. PLC", Ratnapura

June 2: Granting of Poland Scholarships at Sethmini.

June 6: Blessing of the New Church at Hemingford, Dehigahapitiya Parish.

June 7: Holy Mass of Reparation at Rambukkana.

June 8: Meeting of the College Consultants in the morning at Bishop's House.

June 8 and 9: Presbyteral Meeting and Recollection.

June 10: Peace-building and Reconciliation Seminar at the BMICH.

June 13: Holy Communion Service in the morning at Ave Maria Convent, Negombo.

June 13: 125th Anniversary Vespers in the evening at St Anthony's Church, Dunakadeniya.

June 20 and 21: Annual Feast at St Anthony's Shrine, Wahakotte.

June 27: Feast of the Minor Seminary and the Promulgation of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan and Statutes.

June 28: Annual Feast of Sts Peter and Paul's Cathedral, Ratnapura

June 30: School Prize-giving, St Mary's Convent, Matara.