



# Simla Chandigarh Diocese

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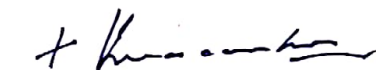
## Circular

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Risen Lord,

- I extend my deep sorrow and respect at the passing of our beloved Holy Father Pope Francis on Easter Monday, April 21, 2025, at the age of 88 at his residence in the Vatican's Casa Santa Marta. His passing away is not only a great loss for the Catholic Church, but also to the people of all good will who admired him. The corresponding Indian time of the Funeral will be at 1.30pm. His funeral Mass is scheduled for Saturday, 26.04.2025 at 10am (Italian time) at St. Peter's Basilica and thereafter his mortal remains will be carried for burial to the Basilica of Mary Major outside the Vatican. As a sign of solidarity and respect to the Pope Francis' demise, all the catholic schools in Simla Chandigarh Diocese will remain closed on Saturday, 26.04.2025.
- On Sunday, 27.04.2025 we will be celebrating the Feast of Divine Mercy Sunday. Earlier we communicated to all of you that the prayer and convention will begin on Saturday, 26.04.2025 but due to the sudden demise of our Holy Father, we will now gather only on Sunday, 27.04.2025 to celebrate the Feast of Divine Mercy at 9am at Yesu Daya Sagar Prarthana Bhawan, Kauli, Patiala Dist, Punjab.
- The Consecration and Installation of the Bishop-Elect Msgr. Sahaya Thatheus Thomas is to be held on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at Yesu Daya Sagar Prarthana Bhawan, Kauli, Patiala Dist, Punjab at 5pm followed by a short felicitation and Langar. I exhort all the parish priests to bring the faithful to participate in this event.
- A Core Committee meeting for the Episcopal Consecration was held on Monday, 21.04.2025 in the Bishop's House and in the meeting, many sub committees were formed for the smooth functioning of the program. I request all the priests, religious and laity who are part of this program to coordinate well and work for the success of the event.
- The next meeting of all the committees involved in the Episcopal Consecration will be held on Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at Yusuf Sadan, Kauli at 10.30am. The members involved in the program are requested to be part of it.
- A decision was taken on 09.04.2025 both in Priests Senate and College of Consultors that two independent mission stations will be erected in our diocese.  
**1. Shadipur Mission** will be bifurcated from St. Michael's Parish, Julkan, Devigarh comprising of the following villages: BHUNERHERI, JHODIYAN, MOURNPUR, ULTPUR, PAROUR AND SHADIPUR. The Priest In charge will continue to stay in the presbytery of Devigarh Parish till an alternative arrangement is made.  
**2. Nayagaon Mission** will be bifurcated from Christ the King Cathedral, sector 19A, Chandigarh comprising of the following areas: Chotti Karor, Badi Karor, Nada, Parch, Singa Devi, Gobind nagar, Adarsh Nagar, Dashmesh Nagar, Janta Colony, Safeda Colony, Shivalik Vihar, Kuda Ali Sher etc. The Priest in charge will continue to stay in the Bishop's House, Sector 19A, Chandigarh.

Wishing you God's manifold blessings through the Risen Lord in the Holy Spirit.

Yours sincerely in Christ



+ Ignatius Mascarenhas  
Apostolic Administrator

