



KRCBC – YOUTH COMMISSION

KARNATAKA REGIONAL YOUTH COMMISSION

Circular No. 18/2024

Date: 28.02.2024

Dear Archbishop/Bishops, Directors, Coordinators, and Youth Leaders,

Greetings from the KRCBC Youth Commission, Bangalore!

1. Season of LENT:

We have begun the season of Lent. It's a time to rejuvenate our spiritual renewal. We mark the start of Lent by smearing ashes to our foreheads as a reminder that we are insignificant and will eventually return to the



dust. Inspired by the passage from the Book of Exodus, "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of the slavery" (Ex 20:1-17), our Holy Father Pope Francis said in

his Lenten message, "Through the desert God leads us to freedom." The season of Lent is another Exodus experience that helps us to free ourselves from the slavery of sin. Additionally, Pope Francis emphasizes that 'it is time to act, and in Lent to act also means to pause. To pause in prayer.'

It's a season to pause in the presence of God in prayer. Let this season of Lent bring us openness of our mind and self-emptying ourselves for true conversion.

2. The Year of Youth:

The year 2024 was declared to be the Diocese of Shimoga's Year of Youth. On December 29, 2023, the inauguration was held in New Town, Bhadravathi. There were 80 youth attended the inauguration. Rt. Rev Dr. Francis Serrao Bishop of Shimoga challenged the attendees to stay anchored in Christ in order to inspire other young people. The



Year of Youth is a blessing to the diocesan youth, giving them more opportunities in different sectors. The diocesan youth election was conducted during the programme and elected new DEXCO team for the diocese.

3. MIJARC:

From January 12 to 15, 2024, the Karnataka Regional Youth Commission, in partnership with MIJARC Asia, hosted a regional training on UNDROP and MIJARC coordination at St. Francis Assisi Church in the Chikmagalur diocese. 25 delegates from India, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, and Nepal took part in the training



course on agro-ecological farming practices. The KRCBC-Youth Commission chairman bishop Rt. Rev Dr. Henry D'souza welcomed the delegates to the Karnataka region and emphasized the importance of the environment and its protection. The delegates were taken to the village as an exposure to witness the farming of the local agricultural system. Rev Fr. Paul Machado, the parish priest of the local church was generous enough to set up all the accommodations

for the delegates. Ms. Deepthi and Ms Viola the regional coordinator of MIJARC facilitated the whole programme.

4. National Council:

The 7th National Youth Council as well as the election was hosted by Bareilly Diocese, at Suchethana Centre, Kathgodam from 22-24



January 2024. It was a three-day national programme in which council and youth election took place. The chairman bishop Rt. Rev Dr. Ignatius D'souza Bishop of Bareilly emphasized the importance as well as the mammoth contribution that youth

need to give to the church and society as well. Considering the present situation he urged the youth to voice out for justice. The various agenda items were debated and amendments were suggested

in the council. The annual calendar and yearly programs underwent a thorough review. National Director Fr. Chethan Machado provided guidelines and a memorandum, offering a clear explanation of the election norms ahead of Election Day. The RYDs



introduced the regional representatives to the council, Ms. Supriya Varghese from the Karnataka region was elected to the post of General Secretary of ICYM India.

5. Live-In Programme:

Nestled in the scenic district of Vythri, Wayanad in Kerala, the ICYM Karnataka region organised a live-in program for REXCO & RT-EXCO 2023–25, at St. Joseph church, from 2–4, February 2024. In his introductory talk, Fr. Lourd Raj, inspired the young, citing the movie



“12th Fail” and the example of a student’s resilience, self-discovery, and the importance of perseverance despite setbacks, to find value in his unique path to success, and gave a good start to restart the regions work anew, while Sr. Molly appealed to the psychological aspects of

the young through her stress management class touching the untouched areas of their life, emphasizing the importance of handling the stress, with coping mechanisms to maintain renewed health of body and mind, and better performance, for a positive effect on effective relationships, enhanced self-esteem, and overall level of

happiness. The activities and games conducted on both days, in an immersive environment, providing constant interaction with each other enabled them to identify the issues faced by them, as they learned to participate and collaborate on projects, solve problems and build



relationships, fostering teamwork, communication skills, mutual support, for effectively working together, with a deeper appreciation for each other’s perspective and backgrounds promoting inclusivity and co-operation.

6. YCS/YSM Convention:

The KRCBC-Youth Commission is all set to organise the 2nd YCS/YSM regional Convention on the theme “Gen-Z for a self-sustaining world” from 19-21 April 2024 in Bangalore. The Archdiocese of Bangalore under the leadership of Fr Vivian Richard Director, ICYM & YCS/YSM Bangalore has willingly accepted to host the convention. This is the second YCS/YSM regional convention which will be organized after eight long years in the region.

**YOUNG CATHOLIC STUDENTS (YCS)
YOUNG STUDENTS MOVEMENT (YSM)
KARNATAKA REGION**



7. The Convention LOGO Launch:

The YCS/YSM Karnataka regional council organized a logo launch event for their upcoming regional convention on 11th February 2024 at Sandesha Foundation for Culture and Education, Mangaluru during the Sandesha Awards 2024. Most Rev Dr Peter Machado the Archbishop of Bangalore Archdiocese, Most Rev Dr Henry D'souza the chairman bishop of KRCBC Youth Commission Karnataka, Most Rev Dr Peter Paul Saldanha the Bishop of Mangalore Diocese, Mr U.T. Khader Honourable Speaker of the Karnataka Legislative Assembly



Launched the logo. The regional executive Rev Fr Lourd Raj the Regional Chaplain of YCS/YSM Karnataka, Sr Molly Illyckal the Regional Lady Animator of YCS/YSM

Karnataka, Fr Sudeep Paul MSFS Secretary of the Commission of Communication, Rev Fr Steven Fernandes the Diocesan Chaplain of

YCS/YSM Udupi, Mr Anson Nazareth the National President of YCS/YSM India, Mr Briston Rodrigues the Regional President of YCS/YSM Karnataka along with Regional Executive Committee members and National Executive committee member Amica Frank, Mr Sanjay D'souza the Regional President of ICYM Karnataka and Ms Ashley D'souza the Regional Secretary of ICYM Karnataka, Mr Ranil D'souza Diocesan President and Diocesan Executive Committee of Mangalore joined the guests in the logo unveiling ceremony. The 2nd YCS YSM Regional Convention 2024 will be held from the 19th to 21st of April 2024 in the Archdiocese Bangalore hosted by the Archdiocese of Bangalore. The theme being chosen is "GEN-Z for a self-sustaining world" with the thrust of Healthy living, sustenance and the voice of the voiceless. Youth from 10 Dioceses of Karnataka will be taking part in the convention. The Young students and the Chaplains are eagerly waiting for the upcoming convention to celebrate youthfulness and unity.

8. Congratulation to Ms. Supriya:

The Karnataka Regional Youth Commission is glad to inform that Ms. Supriya Varguese, who belongs to the diocese of Shimoga and was



elected as regional representative to the national in the regional election that took place on 10th December 2023, has been elected as general secretary of the Indian Catholic Youth Commission (ICYM), India, in the recent National Council & Election

which took place on 23rd January 2024 in Kathgodam, Uttarkhand. Ms. Supriya was a vibrant member of the Shimoga diocese, who served as president and organized numerous youth programmes. Her wealth of expertise has been a blessing to the Karnataka region. The KRCBC-Youth Commission congratulates her on her recent appointment as general secretary of ICYM India and wishes her continued success in her new role.

9. Anil John Sequeira the youngest Judge:

The Karnataka Regional Youth Commission applauds Mr. Anil John Sequeira who belongs to the diocese of Mangalore and headed the ICYM Mangalore diocese as diocesan youth president 2022-23 has cleared the Karnataka Civil Judge Examination 2023 recently. He is a vibrant leader who organized multiple programmes in the diocese in his tenure and is very supportive of the Karnataka region as well. His achievement has made him one of the youngest judges in Karnataka. The KRCBC-Youth Commission wishes him many more success in his future endeavours.



10. KRYC Council

The KRYC Council is scheduled to hold on **Sunday, 17th March 2024** at **Subodhana (KROSS), Bangalore**. It is an important council in which all other movements take part. The KRYC Election will take place in the Council, I request Movement directors/animators to send two representatives from each movement to the council.



Participants:-

Regional:	ICYM & YCS/YSM REXCO Team
Diocese:	Director, Lady Animator, President and Secretary
Movement:	Director/Coordinator, President and two Representatives

11. New Directors:



The Karnataka Region is pleased to announce the appointment of Rev Fr. Libin Chakinimanthara, the new director of the diocese of Bhadravathi and Mr. Victor Anup Joe, the new coordinator of Jesus Youth Karnataka. On behalf of the Chairman, Rt. Rev Dr Henry D'souza, the Bishop of Bellary, and the ICYM & KRYC Council, we gladly welcome them to the KRCBC-Youth Commission.

At the same time, we sincerely acknowledge the support and cooperation of Fr. Nikil and Mr. Jerald towards the KRCBC-Youth Commission. We wish them lots of luck in their new endeavour.

Fr. Lourd Raj

Secretary, KRCBC Youth Commission

