

Press note
THE ANNUAL FEAST OF INFANT JESUS 2017
BIKARNAKATTE MANGALORE

The silent Carmel Hill in the heart of the busy Mangalore City, houses one of the most beautiful shrine of Infant Jesus, which provides peace and solace to all the devotees. The chapel was built in 1947 and it is under the care of Carmelite fathers. Though the devotion to Infant Jesus began 150 years ago, but took a definite form in



Mangalore after the Belgian Carmelites took over. Especially, after those staffing the erstwhile Quilon Seminary, decided on founding a house of monastic observance in the port city. For this purpose, two Belgian priests Marcel and Hyacinth were sent to Mangalore in 1947. They explored the city in search of a suitable site until they came across Carmel Hill, where the construction work of the Chapel commenced. At first, the devotional service to the Infant Jesus consisted of a mere prayer which was recited on Thursdays after the Mass in the morning. Later, for the convenience of the people, the Mass with its subsequent devotion in an elaborate form was shifted to Thursdays in the evening. By the year 1980, Carmel Hill was so much frequented on Thursday evening by people even from afar, that it came to be a center for this devotion. The growing crowd brought the need of a bigger place. Hence, the beautiful shrine was constructed and was inaugurated by former Bishop of Mangalore Rev. Fr. Basil D'Souza on May 11, 1996.

Please know this

Nine days of novena starts on 5th of Jan in preparation of the feast. After the novena mass at 10.30AM all the devotees will be provided with lunch. There will be nine masses every day of the novena days. The annual feast of Infant Jesus will be celebrated on 14th Jan with a solemn mass at 6.00PM. There will be masses whole through the day too. The mass will be presided by Bishop V. Rev. Fr. Henry D'Souza along with Rev. Fr. Charles Serrao (Provincial OCD) and other priests. The feast masses will be held on 15th January. The feast mass will be celebrated on 15th Jan with a solemn mass at 10.30AM by Bishop V. Rev. Fr. Francis Serrao. The votive offering procession will be held on 4th January 2017 at 5:30PM from Kulshekar Church grounds to Infant Jesus Shrine followed by flag hoisting.

Press meet by Rev.Fr. Joe Tauro OCD superior, Rev. Fr. Elias D'Souza director of the shrine, Mr. Elias Fernandes (Fourwinds), Mr. Stanly Bantwal, committee member.



