

## **ST. ALOYSIUS FEAST, TEMPORARY PROFESSION AND SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATION**

The triple celebration of the Feast of our heavenly Patron, St. Aloysius Gonzaga, the Temporary Religious Profession, and the Silver Jubilee of our sisters was celebrated on 21 June 2026. The day was marked by a solemn Eucharistic Celebration presided over by Most Rev. Dr. Thelagathoti Joseph Raja Rao, SMM, Bishop of Vijayawada, along with concelebrating priests, and witnessed by religious sisters and brothers from various congregations, parents, benefactors, and well-wishers.

It was a grace-filled day for the Aloysian family as six **novices** — ***Teresa Kachhap, Suchita Tirkey, Elizabeth Dang, Karishma Tirkey, Goreti Dung Dung, and Ann Mariya Thomas*** — professed their *Temporary* vows. Through their generous “Yes,” they surrendered themselves to follow Jesus unconditionally and to live their vowed life according to the inspiration and charism of our Founder, Ven. Don Giovanni Batista Rubino.

The celebration became even more meaningful as the congregation also honoured the **Silver Jubilarians: Sr. Latha K., Sr. Valsamma Sebastian, Sr. Shanti Runda, Sr. Princy Thomas, and Sr. Soniya Joseph**, who renewed their commitment to God and His mission. The congregation thanked God for their steadfast vocation and prayed for abundant blessings upon them in the years ahead.

*In his inspiring homily, Most Rev. Dr. Thelagathoti Joseph Raja Rao* reflected on God’s unfailing faithfulness throughout our lives and reminded everyone that religious life is a call to holiness, lived with joy, enthusiasm, and missionary zeal. He encouraged the newly professed sisters to remain faithful to their vocation by embracing a life of prayer, sacrifice, and joyful service. He also beautifully explained the profound meaning of the evangelical counsels, emphasizing that through the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, religious men and women are invited to conform themselves more closely to Christ. He highlighted that the practice of these counsels is not merely an external observance of vows but a deeper participation in the life and mission of Jesus: poverty as complete dependence on God and detachment from worldly possessions; chastity as a total and undivided gift of oneself in love for God and humanity; and obedience as a willing surrender to God’s will in a spirit of faith and communion. He reminded the newly professed sisters that by faithfully living these counsels, they become visible signs of God’s Kingdom and witnesses of the Gospel in the world. The Bishop further emphasized that religious men and women are called to radiate the joy of the Gospel and spread Christ’s love through a simple smile. Inspired by the example of St. Aloysius Gonzaga, he urged all present to become joyful disciples who bring hope, love, and the presence of Christ to the world.

The day concluded with a fellowship meal, providing an opportunity for everyone to share in the joy and blessings of the occasion.

