

Most Rev. Joseph Kallarackal
Bishop of Jaipur



BISHOP'S HOUSE
Ghat Gate, Jaipur - 302 004
Rajasthan
Ph: 0141 - 2600743
bpjosephkallarackal@gmail.com
cathdiocesejaipur@yahoo.in

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To,
The Clergy, Religious and Laity,
Catholic Diocese of Jaipur.

Subject: Association of Catholic Mental Health Ministries in Jaipur Diocese

Dear Fathers, Sisters and Lay Faithful,

Mental health constitutes an important and indispensable aspect of our life. As human existence becomes more and more complex and various physical needs are always at the top of the priority list, one hardly pays attention to the mental health. In order to pay much attention to the growing need of mental health, Catholic Bishops' Conference of India (CBCI) has established The Association of Catholic Mental Health Ministers of India (CMHM) which works under the guidance and direction of the CBCI Commission for Health Care. Members of the CMHM work to make mental health ministry available in every diocese, parish and institution. Hence, in order to contribute significantly to the overall welfare of our diocese and especially those who suffer from mental illness and their families, I hereby establish the Association of Catholic Mental Health Ministries of Jaipur Diocese (CMHMJ). I am appointing the following as office Bearers, forming the Executive Committee of the above association:

Most Rev. Joseph Kallarackal	Ecclesiastical Advisor
Rev. Sr. Rani Augustine MSA	Chief Coordinator (Agra Regional Director)
Rev. Fr. Jaypal Singh	Executive Director
Rev. Fr. Melwin D'Souza	Associate Director
Rev. Sr. Aruna Peter MSA	Secretary
Mr. Joseph Maliyil	Member
Mrs. Neelam Chopra	Member
Mrs. Veena Michael	Member

Mental health ministry would provide vital spiritual accompaniment for people experiencing mental health challenges and mental illness as well as those who care for them. Through education, advocacy and compassionate outreach, mental health ministry would enhance mental health literacy and breakdown the stigmas surrounding the mental health, enabling individuals to seek assistance without reservation or fear or scrutiny.

It is also required to establish a unit of CMHMJ in all the parishes of our diocese in consultation with and under the guidance of Fr. Jaypal Singh and Fr. Melwin D'Souza. The main aim of such units will be to address any difficult situation concerning individuals and families in the parishes with an empathetic approach. Therefore, I hereby request all the parish priests to approach Fr. Jaypal Singh and Fr. Melwin D'Souza in order to establish units of CMHMJ at your respective parishes by 30th August 2024.

Thanking you all and United in Prayers.

Yours in Christ,


(+ Joseph Kallarackal)

MOST REV. JOSEPH KALLARACKAL
BISHOP OF JAIPUR
Bishop's House, Ghat Gate, Jaipur
Rajasthan-302 004