

1<sup>st</sup> January 2024

## **Mary, Mother of Goa – Solemnity**

Theme: *Experience the peace of baby Jesus in the New Year through the intercession of Mary, the Mother of God*

### **INTRODUCTION:**

Beloved brothers and sisters, today the Holy Church joyfully celebrates three significant events. Firstly, the entire Church rejoices in the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. Mary, the Mother of God – this is the core truth of our Christian faith. It is imperative that we comprehend this faithful truth, accept it, and proclaim it to others. Secondly, the Holy Church observes the World Day of Peace worldwide. On this day, let us fervently pray for global peace and strive to become apostles of peace. Thirdly, we step into the new year of 2024. With these three occasions in mind, we have chosen the theme: "Experience the peace of Baby Jesus in the New Year through the intercession of Mary, the Mother of God." Mary, Mother of God, enables us to grasp the truth of faith and deepen our love for her. In a similar vein, may we encounter the peace of Baby Jesus in our families and society. Finally, as we seek God's blessings for every member of our family, let us unite in prayer during this Eucharistic celebration.

### **PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**

**1. Let us pray for the leaders of the Holy Church.**

May our church leaders deeply understand the truth of the faith and effectively communicate it to the people entrusted to them. May they also strive to bring back those brothers and sisters who have drifted away from the Holy Church, we pray to the Lord. /R

**2. Let us pray for our political leaders.**

May our political leaders, especially Christian leaders, embody the teachings of Jesus Christ and serve as exemplary models for other political leaders. We pray to the Lord. /R

**3. Let us pray for peace in the world.**

All country leaders should strive to avoid conflicts and make decisions that promote peace. We pray to the Lord. /R

**4. Let us pray for ourselves.**

As we embark on this new year, let us maintain faith in God, mirroring the steadfast belief exhibited by Mother Mary. May the blessings of the new year shower upon our families. We pray to the Lord./R

### **OFFERTORY**

In recognition of the dawning of 2024, we offer this calendar symbolizing the passing of time, a gift from you, the Author of all moments. May each day be a testament to our commitment to live in accordance with your will, and may the pages of this calendar bear witness to our journey of faith and love. We remember the ultimate sacrifice of your Son, Jesus Christ. May this offering represent our desire to be nourished by the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation, experiencing the peace that only your Son can provide. Through the intercession of Mary, may the peace of Baby Jesus radiate in our families and extend its embrace to our society.

