

Minutes of the Visit of His Excellency Archbishop Carlo Maria POLVANI, the Secretary of Dicastery for Culture and Education, and Fr. Arogya Hrudaya Raju PUDHOTA SCJ, Official of the Dicastery for Culture and Education for Asia and Oceania to South India between 5 - 10 January 2026.

Pontifical Athenaeum Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram

Date: 05 January 2026

Place: Bengaluru

Arrival and Reception

His Grace Archbishop Carlo Maria Polvani arrived at **Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru**, on 05 January 2026, accompanied by **Fr. Hrudaya**. Upon arrival, His Excellency was formally received by **Fr. Mathew Attumkal, President of the Pontifical Athenaeum Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram**. From the airport, the Archbishop was escorted to the **DVK Annexe**, where he was accorded a warm and respectful welcome. In the morning, **Fr. Thomas Chathampambil, Prior General of the CMI Congregation and Vice Chancellor of the Pontifical Athenaeum Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram**, accompanied His Excellency for breakfast at Dharmaram College, marking the beginning of the Archbishop's official engagements for the day.

Visit to the Pontifical Athenaeum Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram

At around **10:00 a.m.**, His Excellency arrived at the **Administrative Block of the Pontifical Athenaeum Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram**. There, he was introduced to the institutional vision and the motto "*Guru Eesho – Ishbhakti Parajñānam*." Shortly thereafter, His Excellency proceeded to the **Theology Faculty block**.

The Archbishop visited the classrooms of the **Theology Faculty**. Students had the special privilege of meeting him in person. Addressing the students, His Excellency offered words of spiritual wisdom, highlighting the importance of fidelity, interior discipline, and commitment to the vocation they are called to cherish in their theological and priestly formation.

Following this interaction, His Excellency entered the **Philosophy Faculty Block**, where he met the **Philosophy** students. Through his reflections, the Archbishop encouraged the students to cultivate intellectual depth rooted in faith. A brief interaction followed, during which students raised questions that were thoughtfully and graciously addressed by His Excellency.

Library, Research Centre, and Academic Interactions

At around **11:00 a.m.**, His Grace was warmly welcomed to the **Central Library of the Pontifical Athenaeum Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram**. where he was given a guided tour of the facilities and introduced to its academic resources and scholarly collections, he then proceeded to the **DVK Research Centre**, where the scope and nature of ongoing academic research were presented.

The Archbishop was subsequently received by the **Incorporated Institute** called **Vinayasadhana Formative Spirituality and Counseling students** (Students of Licentiate and Doctorate), with whom he held an interactive session marked by attentive listening and

meaningful exchange. Thereafter, His Excellency visited the **Institute of Oriental Canon Law (Licentiate)** batch, where he was welcomed by the professors of the **Oriental Canon Law**, and interacted briefly with the students.

Jubilee Stone Unveiling – Faculty of Theology

His Excellency proceeded to the **Theology Faculty Block** for the unveiling of the **Jubilee Stone of the Faculty of Theology of the Pontifical Athenaeum Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram**. This Jubilee commemorated the Faculty's erection as an independent ecclesiastical institute by the **Congregation for Catholic Education** on **6 January 1976**, with the authority to confer ecclesiastical degrees in Theology.

An official programme was held, beginning with a short **prayer service presided over by His Excellency**. An introduction to the significance of the Jubilee was given by **Fr. Paulachan Kochappilly, Dean of the Faculty of Theology**, in the presence of all the Professors and Students, and other members of the DVK academic and religious community.

The Jubilee Stone, located at the centre of the Theology Faculty Block, was formally blessed and unveiled by His Excellency. As a gesture of deep respect and reverence for Indian ecclesial heritage and tradition, the Archbishop kissed the **Stone Cross**. Photographs were taken to mark the occasion, and a **DVK souvenir** was presented to His Excellency as a token of remembrance.

Faculty Interaction and Lunch

Immediately following the unveiling ceremony, His Excellency proceeded to the **Senate Hall of the Pontifical Athenaeum Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram**, where he met with the permanent faculty professors, who are 40 of them present. The interaction provided an opportunity for cordial exchange and mutual encouragement in the academic and ecclesial mission of the institution.

Visit to Christ University

In the afternoon, His Excellency was given a guided tour of **Christ University (40 thousand students)** by **Fr. Jose Chennattuserry, Vice Chancellor of Christ University**, along with two members of the university staff. The visit included an introduction to the university's academic environment and institutional vision. Tea was later arranged in the **Office Section**, during which fathers from Christ University joined the Archbishop for informal interaction.

Cultural Programme and Conclusion

At around **6:00 p.m.**, a cultural programme was held, beginning with a **parade organized by the students of the Christ Group of Schools**, followed by cultural performances. The programme was organized by **Pontifical Athenaeum Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram**, with the assistance of **Christ University** and the **Christ Group of Schools**.

During the event, **His Excellency Archbishop Carlo Maria Polvani** addressed the gathering with a message reflecting on faith, culture, and the mission of education. As a mark of honour, His Excellency was presented with a **memento** and a **token of Indian cultural appreciation**. The programme was further graced by the presence of **His Grace Rev. Peter Machado**,

Archbishop of Bangalore, and His Grace Rev. Elias Gonsalves, Archbishop of Nagpur, who is responsible for the part of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India (CBCI), the office of the Education and Culture.

Following the cultural programme, **dinner was arranged for all the fathers at Christ University**, bringing the day's official engagements to a close.

Minutes of the Visit of

His Grace Archbishop Carlo Maria Polvani

Day Two of the Visit

Date: 06 January 2026

Place: Bengaluru

Celebration of the Holy Eucharist

On the morning of **06 January 2026**, His Excellency Archbishop Carlo Maria Polvani vested for the celebration of the **Holy Eucharist**. The Holy Mass was solemnly presided over by His Grace. In his homily, the Archbishop reflected on the Christian call to **keep alive the light that believers shine in the name of the Lord**, encouraging the faithful to remain steadfast witnesses of hope and faith in their personal and communal lives.

His Grace Carlo Maria Polvani stressed three movements of Epiphany as the light of Christ that gathers, guides, and gives. In particular, focused on theology from the eyes of *Veritatis Gaudium* (The Joy of Truth) of Pope Francis, which offers a way of doing theology that gathers, guides, and gives—a theology rooted in encounter, discernment, and mission.

His Grace Rev. Elias Gonsalves, Archbishop of Nagpur, was present for the Eucharistic celebration. The Holy Mass concluded with a group photograph with those present, marking the solemn beginning of the day's engagements.

Visit to the Christ Group of Schools

Following the Holy Mass, His Excellency was invited to visit the **Christ Group of Schools**. The first visit was to the **Christ ICSE School**, where the Archbishop was warmly welcomed by the school authorities and students. His Excellency blessed the children and interacted briefly with them before proceeding to the auditorium.

A formal programme had been organized in honour of His Excellency. During the programme, the Archbishop addressed the students, exhorting them to remain **radiant, energetic, disciplined, and committed** in their pursuit of knowledge and values. As a mark of respect and gratitude, His Excellency was honoured with a **shawl, garland, Mysore peta, and a memento**. On the same occasion, **His Grace Rev. Elias Gonsalves, Archbishop of Nagpur, and Fr. Hrudaya** were also honoured with shawls and mementos.

Visit to Christ Special School

In the afternoon, His Grace visited the **Christ Special School**, where he met and interacted with the differently-abled children. He observed the dedicated efforts of the institution in nurturing, educating, and empowering the students. The visit deeply touched the Archbishop, who expressed appreciation for the compassionate and committed service rendered by the school community.

Meeting under the Auspices of CCBI

Later in the evening, a meeting convened by **His Grace Rev. Elias Gonsalves, Archbishop of Nagpur**, was held under the aegis of the **Catholic Bishops' Conference of India (CCBI), the office of the Education and Culture**. Representatives associated with Catholic institutions, Colleges, and universities from across the Karnataka region and other parts of India gathered for an interaction with **His Excellency Archbishop Carlo Maria Polvani**.

His Excellency was formally received and honoured with **shawls, garlands, and a Mysore peta**. During the session, the Archbishop addressed the gathering, reflecting on the mission of Catholic institutions and expressing his deep appreciation for the service rendered by those engaged in the fields of education, formation, and social outreach.

Visit to St. John's Medical College Hospital

In the evening, His Excellency visited the St. John's Medical College Hospital, which is run by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India. It is in the middle of the city of Bangalore, which is giving care to people of all religions. His Excellency had a time of interaction with all the people who are responsible.

Conclusion of the Day

Visit to His Excellency Peter Machado,

Following the visit to St. John's Medical College Hospital, His Excellency travelled to visit and have a meeting with His Excellency Peter Machado, Archbishop of Bangalore and Chancellor of St. Peter's Pontifical Institute, and Moderator of Centre of Canon Law Studies. There was a time of exchange and interaction, listening to each other about the growth and development of the ecclesiastical Faculties in India.

Minutes of the Visit of His Grace Archbishop Carlo Maria Polvani

Date: 07 January 2026

Place: Bengaluru

Visit to St. Peter's Pontifical Institute, Centre of Canon Law Studies

His Grace Archbishop Carlo Maria Polvani visited **St. Peter's Pontifical Institute**, where he was warmly welcomed by the President and the Professors of the institution. The visit was marked by cordial interaction. His Excellency Carlo Maria Polvani, who was the main celebrant for the Holy Eucharist celebration, along with concelebrants His Excellency Peter Machado, the Chancellor, and His Excellency Lawrence Pius, the Vice Chancellor. During the celebration, St. Peter's Pontifical Institute remembered 50 golden years of its establishment. His Excellency had time to meet all the Faculty professors and students.

Meeting with Directors of Affiliated Institutes

In the afternoon, a meeting was held at the **Pontifical Athenaeum *Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram Annex***, with the Directors of the **Affiliated, Aggregated, and Incorporated Institutes in India**, around **60 participants**, including those associated with the **Higher Institutes of Religious Studies (ISSR)**. During the meeting, various queries raised by the participants were addressed by **His Excellency Carlo Maria Polvani** and **Fr. Hrudaya**, with reference to the *Veritatis gaudium* and Regulations for the Affiliations, Aggregations and Incorporations, and norms and laws governing education and culture as provided by the competent Dicastery.

Minutes of the Visit of His Excellency Archbishop Carlo Maria Polvani

Date: 08 January 2026

Place: Bengaluru – Kochi

Morning Visit to *Kristu Jyoti* College

On the morning of 08 January 2026, His Excellency Archbishop Carlo Maria Polvani, accompanied by Fr. Hrudaya, visited **Kristu Jyoti College aggregated to the Pontifical Salesian University, Rome**. His Grace was warmly received by the members of the institute. Celebrated the Holy Eucharist and interacted with the Students and professors for about 30 minutes. His Excellency took the theme of light in his reflections for this ***Kristu Jyoti* College**, where he spoke “light as encounter, light as engagement, and light as empowerment.”

Visit to Kristu Jayanti University

Thereafter, His Grace proceeded to ***Kristu Jayanti* University**, Bangalore, in the month of December 2025 granted university status by the government of India. This was started 25 years ago with 9 students, and today it has 16 thousand students. His Excellency was received by the Vice Chancellor, Fr. Augustine George. A brief reception programme was organized in honour of His Excellency with a title ‘*Vichaarmanthan*.’ There were about a thousand students in this program. He had very good interaction with the Professors about a thousand students.

Departure for Kochi

As per the planned itinerary, His Grace Archbishop Carlo Maria Polvani, accompanied by Fr. Hrudaya and Fr. Mathew Attumkal, President of Pontifical Athenaeum *Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram*, departure to Cochin. After the customary preparations and packing, the delegation left for the airport in the afternoon. Due to an expected delay of approximately two hours, they arrived at Cochin International Airport at around 6:30 p.m.

Upon arrival, **Fr. Josey Thamarassery, Vicar General**, received His Grace and Fr. Hrudaya with bouquets. The delegation then proceeded to the **Prior General’s House**, Kochi.

Reception at the Prior General’s House and Visit to the Archeepiscopal Curia

At the Prior General's House, His Grace was warmly received by **Fr. Thomas Chathampambil, Prior General of the CMI Congregation**, along with the fathers present. Shortly thereafter, accompanied by the Prior General, His Grace Archbishop Carlo Maria Polvani, and Fr. Hrudaya, proceeded to the **Archeepiscopal Curia of the Syro-Malabar Church**.

At the Curia, His Grace met the **Major Archbishop** Mar Raphael THATTIL and other bishops who were present in connection with the ongoing **Synod of Bishops**. After a brief exchange of greetings and personal meeting, the Archbishop returned to the Prior General's House.

Minutes of the Visit of His Grace Archbishop Carlo Maria Polvani

Date: 09 January 2026

Place: Kakkad – Kurianad – Mannanam – Vadavathoor – Changanacherry

Morning Departure and Visit to St. Anne's Monastery, Kurianad

On the morning of 09 January 2026, **His Grace Archbishop Carlo Maria Polvani**, accompanied by **Fr. Hrudaya**, departed from the **Prior General's House, Kakkad**, after breakfast. The Archbishop was accompanied by **Fr. Josey Thamarassery, Vicar General**, and **Fr. Mathew Attumkal, President of Pontifical Athenaeum Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram**.

Upon arrival at **St. Anne's Monastery, Kurianad**, His Grace was received by **Fr. Stanley Chelliyl, Prior of the Monastery**, with a shawl and a bouquet of flowers. The Archbishop visited the tomb of the **Servant of God, Fr. Bruno Kaniarakath**, where prayers were offered through his intercession. Following a short tea break, the postulants of the monastery rendered a welcome song. Thereafter, the delegation proceeded to the next destination.

Visit to St. Joseph's Monastery, Mannanam

The delegation then visited **St. Joseph's Monastery, Mannanam**, the Mother House of the **CMI Congregation**. His Grace Archbishop Carlo Maria Polvani and Fr. Hrudaya were warmly welcomed by **Fr. Kurian Chalangady, Prior of the Monastery**, with a shawl and a bouquet.

The Archbishop visited the tomb of **St. Kuriakose Elias Chavara**, the pioneer of the CMI Congregation. At the altar, His Grace celebrated the **Holy Eucharist**, dedicating the work and missionary zeal of the CMI Congregation. After a short tea break, the group departed for Vadavathoor.

Visit to Pontifical Oriental Institute of Religious Studies and St. Thomas Apostolic Seminary, Vadavathoor

At **St. Thomas Apostolic Seminary, Vadavathoor**, His Grace was received by **Mar Thomas Tharayil**, Archbishop. A bouquet was presented to His Grace by **Fr. Dominic Vecko**, and the Archbishop was garlanded by **Fr. Pauly Maniyaattu**. **Fr. Thomas Kuzhupill** presented a bouquet to Fr. Hrudaya.

A meeting was held with His Grace and Fr. Hrudaya in the **Senate Hall**, with the Professors of the Pontifical Oriental Institute of Religious Studies, Eastern Institute of Canon Law. Following the meeting, a reception was arranged in the **Auditorium**, during which gratitude was expressed for the Archbishop's visit. A sumptuous lunch was served in the refectory.

Visit to Assumption Autonomous College, Changanacherry

In the Afternoon, the Archbishop visited **Assumption Autonomous College, Changanacherry**, as part of the **75th Anniversary Celebrations** of the institution. His Grace was accorded a **Guard of Honour** by the NCC students of the college.

The reception was presided over by **Mar Thomas Tharayil**, Patron and Metropolitan Archbishop of the Syro-Malabar Archeparchy of Changanacherry, in the presence of **Fr. Antony Ethackad**, Manager and Vicar General of the Archeparchy, **Dr. Rani Maria Thomas**, Principal, along with College Union Teachers-in-Charge and PTA Executive Members.

A programme was organized in honour of the visit, during which students presented cultural performances showcasing Indian heritage through various art forms. His Excellency Carlo Maria Polvani talked with the students regarding AI and its pros and cons.

Visits to Saint Berchmans College and St. John Paul II Institute of Marriage and Counseling, “CANA”

Thereafter, His Grace visited **Saint Berchmans**, Changanacherry, where a brief meeting was held with the Professors of the Autonomous College, who were in charge of the institution. The delegation then proceeded to **CANA**, the Institute for Family Life Promotion, where a short meeting was arranged by the institute's in-charges and Professors.

Conclusion of the Day

In the evening, the delegation returned to the **Prior General's House, Kakkad**, where **Fr. Thomas Chathamparambil, Prior General of the CMI Congregation**, awaited their arrival. Bishops and Major Superiors of the CMI Provinces gathered to meet His Grace.

A brief reception was held, during which the Archbishop addressed the gathering on **CMI solidarity and the extensive missionary works of the Congregation**, a reflection that moved him deeply. An **agape** was arranged in honour of the guest. Following supper, His Grace retired for the day.

Minutes of the Visit of His Grace Archbishop Carlo Maria Polvani

Date: 10 January 2026

Place: Mangalapuzha – Carmelgiri – Kakkad – Nedumbassery

Visit to the Pontifical Institute of Theology, Alwaye

On the morning of 10 January 2026, His Grace Archbishop Carlo Maria Polvani, accompanied by **Fr. Hrudaya**, visited **the Pontifical Institute of Theology and St. Joseph's Pontifical Major Seminary, Mangalapuzha**. His Grace was warmly received by **Fr. Stanley Pulprayi, Rector of the Seminary**, in the presence of the fathers, professors, and brothers of the institute.

Several religious institutes situated in and around **the Pontifical Institute of Theology** gathered for the occasion. His Grace presided over a **Solemn Holy Mass**; in his talk, he indicated to the Students and professors present three important points. They are 1. A special call to become persons rooted in prayer, 2. radiating with God's presence in community, and 3.

embodying the Gospel praxis in concrete action. At the end of the Celebration, the participating institutes were presented with **Papal Blessings** by the Archbishop. Following the Eucharistic celebration, a brief meeting was held with the fathers of the seminary, after which tea was served in the dining hall.

The following Ecclesiastical Institutes were present during the visit of His Excellency Carlo Maria Polvani on January 10, 2026, in Alwaye. Pontifical Institute of Theology (Faculty of Theology), St. Joseph's Institute of Philosophy (Aggregated), Sacred Heart Philosophy College, *Jnana Niketan* Institute of Philosophy and Religion, *Jyothir Bhavan* Institute of Theology (Affiliated Institutes) in Alwaye, India

Visit to Pontifical Institute of Theology, Alwaye, St. Joseph's Pontifical Seminary, Carmelgiri

Thereafter, the delegation proceeded to the **Pontifical Institute of Theology, Alwaye; St. Joseph's Pontifical Seminary, Carmelgiri**. His Grace and Fr. Hrudaya were received by **Dr. Francis Marottikaparambil, Rector of the Seminary**, along with the professors and members of the institute. His Excellency had the opportunity to meet the Chancellor of the **Pontifical Institute of Theology, Alwaye** His Excellency **Dr. Varghese Chakkalakal**, Archbishop of Kozhikode.

A short meeting was held with the Professors of the **Pontifical Institute of Theology** and **St. Joseph's Institute of Philosophy**, following which lunch was arranged in the dining hall. After lunch, His Grace Carlo Maria Polvani, Fr. Hrudaya, visited Dehon Vidya Sadhan, Alwaye, where Fr. Hrudaya had previously served as a formator and Professor.

The Archbishop Carlo Maria Polvani and Fr. Hrudaya were warmly welcomed by the fathers and brothers of the house with garlands and bouquets. The brothers rendered a melodious welcome song, which added to the warmth of the occasion. The gathering then assembled in the recreation hall, where the fathers of the institute were introduced to His Grace.

Return to the Prior General's House and Departure Preparations

Subsequently, the delegation returned to the **Prior General's House, Kakkanad**, where a short meeting was held reviewing the schedule and receptions of the previous days. A brief video presentation highlighting the ecclesial tour of His Grace in India was screened. On this occasion, the Archbishop once again expressed his appreciation for the dedication, perseverance, and missionary zeal of the Indian Churches.

As the time for departure approached, His Grace retired to prepare for his journey. In the evening, **Fr. Mathew Attumkal, Fr. Biju Vadakkel, Fr. Shaji, and Fr. Hrudaya** accompanied the Archbishop to **Cochin International Airport, Nedumbassery**, to bid him farewell. His Grace was scheduled to depart at around 8:20 p.m. Fr. Hrudaya continued his journey on the following day to Rome.