

Baruipur News

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May 2019

Value of Witnessing in Evangelization

"Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshipped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said, to them, "All authority in heaven and earth has been given to me. Go therefore, and make disciples of nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And, behold I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Mtt 28:18-20)

Fr. Joseph Vaz, a Goan by birth, and founder-Superior of the Institute of the Oratory of St. Philip Neri in Goa, was a shining witness to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ in Ceylon (now Sri Lanka). In 1686, disguised as a coolie (porter), Fr. Vaz took a boat from Tutucorin, and learnt Tamil on the voyage. On arrival in Ceylon dressed as a beggar, he roamed in the island in search of surviving Catholics. Admiring the courage of the priest, the Catholics rallied around him, hiding him in their homes and holding secret gatherings at the dead of night. For ten years Fr. Vaz was only priest there. He was able to build 15 churches and 400 chapels with schools, dispensaries and hospitals throughout the island. He died in 1711 and was beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1995 and canonized by Pope Francis in January 2015. His witness for the Gospel is a legend even today in Sri Lanka and in India!

St. Maximillian Kolbe St. of Auschwitz gave a different type of witness. Power of witnessing in his life is very powerful. Story of his sacrificial death has close resemblance to that of the story of Jesus Christ himself. Jesus had said, "Greater love than this no man has that he lay down his life for his friend." Maximillian Kolbe gave his life so that a prisoner, a man with family,

could live. His life giving death has inspired many people of our time.

On September 5, 1997, Mother Teresa passed away at the age of 87. Jacques Chirac, then French Prime Minister, declared when she died, "Tonight there is less love, less compassion, less light in the world." Her popularity was seen at her death and on September 13, 1997, her funeral day. She was given a state funeral and many dignitaries of the world were present to pay her respects. Hindustan Times dated September 14, 1997 reported, "The world was literally at her feet as the August assemblage of Queens, Presidents, Prime Ministers and Ambassadors of at least 42 countries including the USA, UK, France, Germany Spain, Italy, Australia" Late Pope John Paul II said, "Mother has lit a flame of love which must now be carried forward. Do not stop where she left off. The poor are still with us." Her life was a fitting response for the call of Jesus she had received on September 10, 1946 on the way to Darjeeling. No wonder many call her as the best missionary of the millennium.

One cannot be a witness unless one has the power from within himself or herself. Jesus "appointed the twelve to be with him and to be sent out." You get the power to witness from the Word of God, prayer and celebration of sacraments, union with God docility to the Holy Spirit and communion with the church. Moses was weak in every way, when he went back to Egypt with the power drawn from his encounter with God on Mount Sinai, he was able to stand before the Pharaoh and all his people. To be an effective witness we need to be united with the Lord like vine and branches. Weak human beings became powerful witnesses only with the power of the Lord. Gird yourself with the power

of the Lord, you shall be a powerful witness like any of the saints! Evangelization has been the flagship of Christianity for a century. Growth and expansion, vitality and credibility of the church in our region, especially in twentieth century, have been linked to the way we have been evangelizing.

To renew ard our and passion, the spiritual motor of the apostolic action of countless missionary saints and martyrs, Pope Francis had had very favourably received the proposal, formulated together with Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, to announce an extraordinary time for prayer and reflection on the Missio Ad Gentes. He has asked all the Church to dedicate the month of October of the year 2019 to this aim, as in that year to celebrate the centenary of the Apostolic Letter Maximum Illud, of Pope Benedict XV. In this very important document of his Magisterium on the mission, the Pope recalls how necessary the holiness of life is to the efficacy of the apostolate, he recommends, therefore, an ever stronger union with Christ and a more convinced and joyful involvement in his divine passion for announcing the Gospel to all, loving and employing mercy towards everyone. Men and women, distinguished by zeal and holiness, are increasingly necessary to the Church and to the mission. May he who preaches God be a man of God, exhorted Benedict XV (cf. Apostolic Letter Maximum Illud, 30 November 1919).

The extraordinary month of prayer and reflection on the mission as first evangelization will serve for this renewal of ecclesial faith, so that the Easter of Jesus Christ, the only Saviour, Lord and bridegroom of His Church, always be and remain in her heart.

+ Salvadore Lobo

News from Paribar Jyoti

Parish Family Cell Formed in Sonarpur

Fr. Charles Montu Kanji organized a meeting of parish leaders on March 17 to discuss the need of strengthening the family bond to prevent breakdown of families in light of "Amoris Laetitia", the apostolic exhortation of Pope Francis. Fr. Pradeep Roy and a team member of diocesan family commission facilitated the meeting. The participants showed great interest and as a result ten persons volunteered to be included in the family cell. They decided to meet once a month to discuss the family situation in the parish and do whatever is possible to keep the families together. The cell will function under the guidance of the parish priest, assisted by the catechist. Fr. Pradeep said that Paribar Jyoti team will be happy to help as and when needed.

Parish Family Cell Reorganised in Baidyapur

15 persons of Baidyapur parish volunteered to be included in the parish family cell in response to discussion on the "Amoris Laetitia", the apostolic exhortation of Pope Francis and responsibility of the Christian community to safeguard the marriage and prevent breakdown. The programme was organized by Fr. Surajit Mitra who has taken a keen interest and will guide the family cell which will meet once every month.

Seminar for Youth

On 31st March 2019, Sunday, a seminar for the youth was held at Thakurpukur Sacred Heart Church on the topic, "Theology of the Body". The seminar began after the Holy Mass. It was conducted by a team called TOB group, coming from Calcutta under the guidance of Rev. Fr. Mark M.C. It was



possible for us to organise this seminar with the support and encouragement of the Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Himangshu Poti. The programme was sponsored by Sr. Sharlina M.C., the Superior of Missionaries of Charity, Behala. There were about 50 youth who had come from substations Rajarampur and Rushpunji. The seminar was very interesting for the young people and they have learnt a lot about the "Theology of the Body" which was till then unknown to them.

.- Purnendu Sooth

Spiritual Renewal in Ranigarh Parish

Ranigarh Parish had organized a three-day Charismatic Prayer and Healing Service from 22nd April to 24th April, 2019 in the parish ground, in which the people underwent a fruitful spiritual rejuvenation under the guidance of Rev. Fr. George V. Attacks, a famous Vincentian preacher from Chopra, Siliguri and the team. More than 500 people irrespective of religion were present each day to reveal their faith and love for Jesus and the thirst for the Word of God. Many received the healing touch of Christ. Many priests namely Fr. Jonas Singha, Fr. Ujjwal Mondal, Fr. Prolay Boidya and sisters from DSA and MC convents were present for the programme with their helping hands. The spiritually nourished parishioners were indeed grateful to Fr. Sirnus Topno and the council for their tireless effort in conducting such a beautiful programme.



- Bro. Sarojit Mandal

In View of Missionary Month October 2019



On the occasion of the centenary of *Maximum Illud*, Pope Francis has declared October 2019 as a Missionary Month and has asked the leaders of the church to promote initiatives and offer prayers for the missionary activities.

As a worthy preparation for the same the diocese of Baruipur had organized a two days seminar for all the priests working in the diocese from 9th - 10th April, 2019 at Dhyana Ashram. A total of 35 priests attended the seminar. Rev. Fr. Jose Chunkapura SDB, the Parish Priest of Diamond Harbour, was the resource person to animate the seminar.

He enabled the priests to contribute concretely for the growth of the mission in the diocese by way of having group discussions on various relevant points pertaining to the diocese. The fruit of all those deliberations resulted in having threefold action plans for the diocese: Planned family visit, systematic catechesis for children, youth and adult and promotion of SCC with the involvement of priests and religious.

The Seminar has enthused the conscience of priests and motivated them to take up greater interest in finding out the possibilities for more creative missionary initiatives in their respective places of ministry.

It was followed by the Annual meeting of the Diocesan Priests where various subject matters concerning the priests were discussed.

- Fr. Jonas Singha

Dishari at a Glance

From 4th March to 24th April - 2019 Dishari organized 30 days of an intensive spoken English Class with Basic computer knowledge for the students of class X who wrote Madhyamic board Examination. Altogether 30 students (20 boys and 10 girls) from different parishes, namely Baidyapur, Khari, Cathedral Church, Mariapally, Rishi Bankim Nagar, Kalyanpur, Morapai, Thakurpukur, Basanti, and Ranigarh attended.



Within one month all the students could pick up

English very well. They could speak and introduce themselves. All of them understood the value of speaking English to have better carrier in future. The course was ended by thanks giving Eucharist Presided by Most Rev. Salvadore Lobo. Soon after the Eucharistic celebration students performed their hidden talents through cultural program. Each student was awarded by the participation certificate as encouragement by the Most Rev. Salvador Lobo. It was a great day of joy for all of them.

Dishari organized a Youth retreat from 5th to 7th April - 2019 as a preparation for fruitful Easter celebration. Altogether 45 youth came from different Parishes. The theme of the retreat was 'WHO AM I?' Empty tomb of Jesus, accompaniment with Jesus and Sacrament of reconciliation. All the youth actively participated in the retreat.

From 12th to 14th, April - 2019 Dishari organized a retreat for the catechumen. Altogether 77 people attended the retreat from Sagar I land, Patharprotima, Gangadharpur, Kamarpole, Diamond Harbour. The preachers for the retreat were Fr. Ramen Pailan, Fr. Gautam Naskar, Fr. Saumen Malik. During healing prayer (Holy Spirit) many were healed from there sickness. They could experience mighty power of resurrected Jesus. All of them went from Dishari with full of peace and love in their heart.

- Fr. Saumen Malik

Sacred Heart Church, Thakurpukur installs the Stations of the Cross

A momentous and memorable event that left an indelible mark in the history of Sacred Heart Church of Thakurpukur was the "Installation of the Stations of the Cross" as a rightful gesture before Easter celebrations this year.

On April 07, 2019 at 06:00 p.m. the Day's celebrations began with the inaugural Holy Eucharist presided over by his Lordship Salvadore Lobo, Bishop of Baruipur. He was



assisted by Fr. Himangshu Poti, the parish priest, Fr. Pradip Dari, the assistant and priests from neighbouring parishes which added to the solemnity and splendor of the ceremony. The meaningful message and the omnipotence of the cross in the life of a Christian were effectively and aptly highlighted by the Bishop in his homily. "The Cross is a place where we can see all the sorrows of the world, past, present and future gathered together into the one sorrow." He went on to say " the passion of Jesus is both a historical event rooted in the past and living dynamic memory that gives meaning to the present." The celebration was made more impressive by zestful participation and fervour of the congregation. The surrounding resounded with the melodious strains by the church choir.

The unfailing support and committed cooperation for the Lord's glory by those people who worked behind the scene was clearly indent. The tireless effort and innovative ideas of the parish priest needs to be acknowledged for it is an enriching reminder that proclaims the very essence of crucifixion. This installation is undoubtedly a spiritual pilgrimage that will generate awareness and ignite the piety and compassion in all visitors. It is majestic depiction of Christ's unfathomable love and sacrifice for the mankind.

This was followed by the blessing and inauguration of the Stations of the Cross. The Bishop and the Chief Guest, Mr. Shane Calvert, Member, West Bengal Legislative Assembly were felicitated by the parishioners. The Stations of the Cross has been designed and created by the church Art of Kolkata. Mr. Subrata Ganguly, Church Art, who created the Stations of the Cross said, " the sculptures detailing body features had been given a bronze finish and created for outdoor installation for protection of weather condition."

This was a spiritual pilgrimage that generated great awareness of the reciprocal identities among the parishioners. The parish priest then thanked all present and said, " as we prepare for Easter celebration this year supreme sacrifice of Jesus conveys the message of mercy and compassion, repentance and remembrance to the visitors and humanity at large."

- Mrs. Teresa Tobias

News from Hogalkuria

There is Joy all around, as we see the church slowly filling with more and more faithful. There are good many catechetical programmes arranged in the parish to improve the faith aspects of the parishioners. Every month begins with Eucharistic adoration on First Friday before the evening mass. In preparation for the season of lent, Fr. Augustine from Baruipur was invited for the Ash Wednesday service, his reflection on lent was very helpful for the faithful to enter into the holy season of lent. Fr. Saumen Malik from Dishari added more spiritual taste in the lives of the faithful by conducting way of the cross on the first Friday of the season. On 10th of March, Fr. Ramen Pailan, the youth director of the Diocese voluntarily came forward to offer the holy Eucharist and had a meaningful interaction with the youth of the parish. Medical camps organised at the Parish for the people of the area including other religion by Asha Deep Trust on every alternative Saturday. The medical team consisting of 8 members (doctors, nurse and helpers) treated sixty-four patients on the first day itself. Patients are given medicine freely. Each patient pays a minimum of Rs. 30/- for their treatment. Rt. Rev. Bishop Salvador Lobo gave us a surprise visit on 18th March, along with Rt. Rev. Bishop Gabriel Kujur S.J., Bishop Emeritus of Daltonganj Diocese. The parishioners celebrated the feast of St. Joseph, the patron saint of Fr. Joseph K.C., CM and prayed for him during the Eucharistic celebration. On 23rd March, C.L.C mothers were energised with a day of recollection at Anandapalli. On 24th March, Sunday, Fr. Saumen with his team organised an S.C.C animation programme for the Parishioners; two leaders were selected for the continuity of the animation and the timely implementation of it. We are indebted to Fr. Saumen and team for inspiring and instilling in the faithful the need to read, understand and personalise the word of God in their lives.

During the holy season of lent, Fr. Julian S.J; spiritually prepared the parishioners through three days of retreat, sessions of breaking of the word of God, Eucharistic adoration and celebration of the holy Eucharist touched the heart of many. The parishioners were happy to have different priests administering the service during the Holy week. Rt. Rev. Bishop Salvadore Lobo was the main celebrant on the Maundy Thursday. Let the new life that Jesus offers us through His resurrection be the continuous source of sharing and caring for one another. Happy Easter to All.

- Sr. Prasanna Jose, SCC



MAY 2019

| | |
|----|---------------------------|
| 01 | Fr. Christu Raja J., CMF |
| 02 | Br. Kishor Naiya |
| 04 | Fr. Saju George, SJ |
| 06 | Fr. Rajesh Bag |
| 08 | Fr. Panneer Selvam |
| 08 | Fr. Shyamal Kumar Das, CM |
| 17 | Fr. Biju M., CM |
| 19 | Br. Sanjay Minj |
| 21 | Fr. Parimal Kanji |
| 24 | Br. Sourav Kayal |

Ordination Anniversary

MAY 2019

| | |
|----|-------------------------|
| 03 | Fr. Silvester Xavier |
| 04 | Fr. Subrata Kanji |
| 04 | Fr. J. R. Dejus |
| 05 | Fr. Shyamal Bose |
| 07 | Fr. J. Pathinathan |
| 10 | Fr. Sisir Khan |
| 12 | Fr. Saju George, SJ |
| 15 | Fr. Saumen Malik |
| 18 | Fr. Meghnas Singha |
| 19 | Fr. Abonindro Das |
| 19 | Fr. Charles Montu Kanji |
| 19 | Fr. Kanauj Roy |
| 20 | Fr. Augustine E. |
| 21 | Fr. Ramen Pailan |
| 22 | Fr. Rajesh Bag |
| 24 | Fr. Alope Anthony Kanji |
| 25 | Fr. Molloy Mondal |
| 25 | Fr. Soosaippan Y. |
| 26 | Fr. Panneer Selvam |
| 28 | Fr. Francis Makhal |

Intentions for the Apostleship of Prayer, Month of May 2019

The Mode of Life of Priests:

That priests, through the modesty and humility of their lives, commit themselves actively to a solidarity with those who are most poor.



Chrism Mass

16th April 2019 was dedicated for the Chrism Mass in Cathedral Church Baruiapur. It was a memorable day for the faithful of Baruiapur Diocese. As every year this year also there was a recollection for the priests working in Baruiapur Diocese and the talk was on Priestly call and responsibility, given by Dr. Fr. Felix Raj S.J. Chrism Mass was concelebrated by Bishop Salvadore Lobo with his priests. There were 56 priests, many sisters of different congregations and faithful from different parishes and institutions were present for the Holy Eucharist. It was well organized by Fr. Faustine Brank the Pro-Vicar of Cathedral church and his committee members and the liturgy was looked after by Fr. John Britto. The choir added a prayerful atmosphere to the liturgy.

Notice Board

Process of Diocesan Pastoral Planning:

The meeting with Commission Secretaries on pastoral planning will be held on May 30, 2019 at 10.00 a.m at Dishari Pastoral Centre, Baruiapur.

Dishari Pastoral Centre is organizing a programme for Mission in Communion SCCs in

Kalyanpur on 31st May 2019 at 04.00 p.m. to 2nd June 2019 till lunch.

Programmes in Paribar Jyoti:

May 03-04: Marriage Preparation Course.

May 24-25: Young Couples seminar (Also meant for regularising the marriage).

May 27-29: Personality Development for students of XI-XII.

Transfers & New Arrivals of Religious in the Diocese

| Place | Arrival | Outgoing |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| Thakurpukur (D. Park) | Sr. John Mary SABS Sr. Ann Maria Cheruvil SABS | Sr. Alphonsa Thekkanath SABS Sr. Elgia Kaplikunnel SABS |

R.I.P. - Mrs. Salomi Topno

Mrs. Salomi Topno, the elder sister of Fr. Sirnus Topno has breathed her last due to sickness on 29th March 2019 around 7.30 a.m. Her funeral Mass was on 29th March 2019 in the parish church. May God give her eternal rest.

R.I.P. - Mr. Sudarson Bagh

Mr. Sudarson Bagh a part time catechist of Salepur Mogra a substation of Baruiapur Parish and the elder brother of Late Fr. Aboni Bagh has gone to his eternal abode at the age of 71 years on 15th April 2019, leaving behind wife, son, daughter and grand children. His funeral Mass was conducted by Fr. Durov Bar on 16th April 2019 and laid to rest in Bonmogra cemetery. May God grant him eternal peace.

Bishop Lobo's Programme for May 2019

| Date | Day | Time | Place | Programme |
|-------|---------|--------------------------|-----------------|---|
| 03 | Fri | 12.25 p.m. | | Returns to Baruiapur |
| 05 | Sun | 07.00 a.m. 05.15 p.m. | Cathedral | Mass & Confirmations Goes to Bangalore |
| 06-10 | Mon-Fri | | Bangalore | CBCI Standing Committee meeting |
| 11 | Sat | 11.00 a.m. 04.00 p.m. | | Returns to Baruiapur Goes to Baidyapur |
| 12 | Sun | 06.30 a.m. | Baidyapur | Mass & Confirmations |
| 13 | Mon | 10.30 a.m. | Samarpan | Mass for the Diocesan Vocational Camp |
| 14 | Tue | 04.00 p.m. | Abp. H. Kolkata | G.B. Meeting of Boys Town |
| 15 | Wed | 10.30 a.m. | Kirtonkhola | Diamond Jubilee of Sr. Mechtild M.C. |
| 16 | Thu | 10.00 a.m. | Dishari | G.B. Meeting of Dishari |
| 18 | Sat | 10.00 a.m. | Baruiapur | Meets Parish Council of Keorapur |
| 19 | Sun | | Baruiapur | Parliament Election |
| 21 | Tue | | Gangarampur | Golden Jubilee of Sr. Lillian M.C. |
| 30 | Thu | 10.00 a.m. | Dishari | Meeting of the Secretaries of the Commissions for the Diocese |
| 31 | Fri | 04.00 p.m. | Kalyanpur | Mission in Communion SCCs |