



St. John Chrysostom - The Golden Voice of the Church

The month of September invites us to reflect on the life and witness of one of the most beloved saints of the Catholic Church – St. John Chrysostom (c. 349 - 407 AD). He served as Archbishop of Constantinople and is remembered as one of the greatest preachers and teachers in the history of the Church. His name, Chrysostom, meaning “Golden Mouth,” was not self-given but bestowed by the faithful who were profoundly moved by the power and fire of his preaching on the Word of God. St. John's life and works remain a lasting witness to the power of the Gospel, courage in the face of persecution, and the Church's mission to stand for truth, even before emperors.

John was born in Antioch, one of the major centres of early Christianity. His father, a high-ranking military officer, died when John was still a child, leaving him in the care of his devout mother, Anthusa, who raised him in the Christian faith. John was educated under Libanius, a famous pagan orator who trained him in Greek classical literature in which he had already attained considerable proficiency. Libanius hoped John would succeed him as an orator, but John's heart was drawn to Christ and the monastic life.

At the age of 23, inspired by St. Basil, the Bishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia and St. Meletius, the Bishop of Antioch, John turned his attention to the Holy Scriptures. He later withdrew to the desert, where he lived as an ascetic, dedicating himself to prayer, fasting, and biblical study. Unfortunately, his health broke under these severe disciplines, forcing his return to Antioch, where he was ordained a Deacon in 381 AD and later a Priest in 386 AD.

After 12 years of ministry, John was summoned to Constantinople by Emperor Arcadius and consecrated as Bishop of the great Eastern Metropolis. Soon after, he initiated reforms correcting abuses and promoting simplicity and integrity in both ecclesiastical and public life. He tried to reduce the expenses of the episcopal household; lived in simplicity and personal austerity; purged the clergy of unworthy elements and promoted monastic discipline and charitable works. He preached fearlessly against corruption, immorality, and luxury, challenging both clergy and laity to live with humility, charity, and devotion. He was not merely condemning but he called his listeners to conversion, showing them that the Gospel was not a burden but a path to freedom and joy.

His sermons were so powerful that thousands gathered to hear him, many moved to tears and applause, even during Mass. But on the other hand, his popularity has also made enemies. In the fifth year of his episcopate, his enemies – led by Patriarch Theophilus of Alexandria – accused him under various pretexts. With the support of Emperor Arcadius, John was deposed

and exiled. Due to his immense popularity, the exile was delayed – but after two failed assassination attempts and as the political tides shifted, he was again banished, this time to the remote regions near Armenia and the Black Sea. Exposed to harsh marches and extreme conditions, John Chrysostom died in exile on 14 September 407 AD, with the words: "Glory be to God for all things."

Shortly after his death, John was venerated as a saint. Though not canonized through the formal process we know today (which began in the 13th century), his popular veneration among the faithful was immediate and widespread. The Church later recognized his sainthood as part of the pre-congregational process.

Even after so many centuries his teachings are very relevant and applicable to our Christian life. Few of the subjects are mentioned below.

- Primacy of Scripture: John emphasized that Scripture is the foundation of Christian life. He urged not only the clergy but the laity to read and meditate on the Bible daily.
- Centrality of the Eucharist: He taught that the Eucharist is the heart of Christian worship. He stressed frequent and reverent reception of Holy Communion, insisting that it unites believers to Christ and to each other. He warned against receiving Communion unworthily, calling for repentance, love, and charity as proper preparation.
- The Church as the Body of Christ: John taught that the Church is not merely an institution, but a living Body with Christ as its Head. Therefore, every believer has a role, dignity, and responsibility within this Body.
- The Moral Life & Christian Witness: Chrysostom preached strongly against sins such as greed, pride, and vanity. He promoted virtues of humility, patience, chastity, forgiveness, and almsgiving.
- Repentance and God's Mercy: Chrysostom gave hope to sinners, teaching that repentance is always possible. He emphasized confession, penance, and conversion of heart.

In a world marked by confusion, division, and spiritual indifference, St. John Chrysostom remains a powerful example of courage, integrity, and faith. His love for Scripture, devotion to the Eucharist, and fearless preaching remind us that the Gospel must be lived and proclaimed with both truth and love.

Today, we are called to be witnesses like him – living with humility, speaking with conviction, and serving with compassion. May his example inspire us to bring Christ into our daily lives and be a voice of hope in the world.

+ Shyamal Bose

Women Commission

The Women's Commission meeting was held on August 03, 2025 at Dishari, commencing with a Holy Eucharistic Celebration presided over by Most Rev. Shyamal Bose. The event brought together 67 women from various parishes, fostering a sense of unity and purpose. This was followed by a formal program, where Fr. Deepak Ekka, Fr. Goutam Naskar and Fr. Tushar Augustine Gomes offered heartfelt encouragement to the women present. The meeting was filled with purpose, as the Secretary, Ms. Babli Das, outlined the Commission's duties and future plans. Parish secretaries shared their reports and plans, showcasing the Commission's impactful work. The day concluded with a joyful cultural program, highlighting the women's talents and leaving a lasting impression.



- Ms. Babli Das

National Youth Sunday 2025 Celebration



National Youth Sunday 2025 was celebrated on August 10, 2025 at Divine Mercy Church, Kochpukur and in various parishes of the Catholic Diocese of Baruipur. The theme for this year was "You are also my witness, because you have been with me" (John 15:27).

The day's program included various sessions and engaging games for the youth, aimed at fostering spiritual growth, fellowship and community spirit. The celebration concluded with a fellowship meal, strengthening bonds among the young people of the Diocese.

- Br. Kenedi Ghughu

Gleanings from Sacred Heart Church, Thakurpukur

National Youth Sunday Celebration



The National Youth Sunday Celebration on August 10, 2025, was a truly uplifting experience. It was heart-warming to see the 67-youth gathered for a day of prayer, reflection and creativity. The celebration began with a Solemn Holy Eucharist, presided over by Fr. Benjamin Roy, MC, which set the tone for a day of spiritual growth and connection. The spiritual seminar that followed was a highlight of the event, with Fr. Massilamanni, SJ, sharing valuable insights on the importance of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The youth were deeply moved by the inspiring talks delivered by Fr. Massilamanni and Fr. Roy, which encouraged them to live a faith-filled life. The Sit and Draw Competition that followed was a wonderful way to engage the youth in a creative expression of their

faith. Overall, the celebration fostered a sense of unity and community among the youth.

- Soumyadeep Lobwo

Jubilee of Parents Celebration



The Jubilee of Parents on August 24, 2025, honoured the vocation of parenthood, recognizing the vital role parents play in nurturing their children. Furthermore, the Holy Eucharist was solemnly celebrated by Fr. Tushar Augustine Gomes, who reflected on the beauty of family life and the responsibilities of parents. Moreover, the ceremony included a heartfelt gesture where husbands and wives exchanged roses and expressed gratitude to each other. This symbolic act strengthened the bond of love between them. The celebration concluded with a light refreshment, creating a joyful atmosphere of fellowship. The event was beautifully organized by the Family Cell members, making the Jubilee meaningful and memorable.

- Ms. Sumita Lobwo

Monica Divas Celebration

Monica Divas on August 31, 2025 radiated joy and warmth. With great enthusiasm, around 80 members gathered to honour the life and faith of St. Monica. The celebration began with Holy Eucharist, where Fr. Alexius Kindo, SFX, delivered a heartfelt homily that touched the hearts of all present. The cultural gathering that followed was a vibrant celebration of motherhood, filled with soulful songs, energetic dances and heartfelt speeches. Mothers were showered with love and appreciation and the symbolic handwashing ceremony was a poignant tribute to their selfless dedication. The event was made even more special by the presence of Fr. Tushar Augustine Gomes, the Parish Priest, who offered words of encouragement and blessings.

- Mr. Jyothi Kujur





Receiving of the Regional Convention Cross

On August 15, 2025, the *Regional Convention Cross* was received by Most Rev. Shyamal Bose, Bishop of Baruipur, from the Archdiocese of Kolkata. The Cross was solemnly placed in the Cathedral Church, Baruipur. During its stay in the Diocese, the Cross was taken on pilgrimage to different parishes, namely Keorapukur Parish, Sajnerberia Parish and Thakurpukur Parish, where the faithful gathered in prayer and devotion. On August 30, 2025, the *Regional Convention Cross* was reverently handed over to the Diocese of Krishnagar to continue its spiritual journey.

- Miss Polina Gomes, DYLA

The Marriage Preparation Course and Workshop

The marriage preparation course and workshop at Dishari Pastoral Centre were truly enriching experiences for the young couples. Through a combination of interactive discussions, case studies, and group activities, the participants gained valuable insights into building a strong and healthy marital relationship. Notably, the trainers' expertise and engaging approach made the sessions both informative and enjoyable.

Furthermore, the participants' enthusiasm and willingness to learn were evident throughout the program. Their active participation in discussions and activities demonstrated a deep commitment to nurturing their relationships. Consequently, the training provided them with practical tools and knowledge to navigate the challenges of married life. The program's impact was palpable, with 56 participants (28 males and 28 females) benefiting from the training. Ultimately, the session concluded with a heartfelt prayer, underscoring the importance of faith and spirituality in marital relationships.



- Fr. Uttam Naskar

Palli Unnayan Samiti Baruipur



Palli Unnayan Samiti Baruipur observed India's 79th Independence Day on August 15, 2025, at PUS Baruipur and its 14 Education Centers. The event commenced with the ceremonial hoisting of the National Flag, followed by the rendition of the National Anthem. Subsequently, a cultural program was presented by the children, showcasing their artistic talents.

In a parallel initiative, SAD Langanberia Evening Learning Centres continued to provide educational support to 319 students from Class I to XII in 9 villages. The program encompasses a range of activities, including free evening tuition, provision of educational materials and distribution of toiletries. Notably, community teachers conduct regular home visits to monitor student progress, particularly for those who are absent or struggling academically. Furthermore, parents' meetings are convened to review student performance and children's

cabinet meetings are organized to foster leadership skills among the students. In addition to academic pursuits, students participate in co-curricular activities, sports and cultural events. The project team, comprising 28 community teachers, 4 special teachers and 3 extracurricular teachers, is led by the Project Coordinator and Associates. Their dedicated efforts have contributed significantly to the educational betterment of the students, resulting in increased parental awareness and enthusiasm for education.

- Fr. Saumen Malik

Glimpse of Dishari Diocesan Pastoral Centre

On August 02, 2025, the Core Team of Basic Ecclesial Communities (BEC) met at the Dishari Diocesan Pastoral Centre to reflect on and strengthen the mission of BEC within the Diocese. The gathering was well attended, with 24 core team members actively participating in meaningful discussions and sharing valuable insights.

The meeting aimed to promote BEC as a vital instrument of faith formation, community building and pastoral outreach. Through prayer, reflection and dialogue, participants assessed the current state of BEC, identified challenges and proposed steps to make it more effective at the grassroots level, with particular emphasis on communion, participation and mission in the spirit of a synodal Church. Alongside this core team meeting, three BEC unit meetings were also held in Bibirchak, Cathedral and Kumrokhali parishes, offering local communities the chance to gather, deepen their faith, and strengthen their BEC units.



- Fr. Goutam Naskar

Happy Birthday!

September

01	Fr. Bablu Sardar
05	Br. Rohit Sharma
05	Br. Uday Mondal
22	Fr. Alope Anthony Kanji
23	Fr. Pradeep Roy
26	Fr. Augustine E.

Happy Birthday Dear Fathers and Brothers



29th September
Fr. John Britto

Memorable & Admirable

Month of September

15	Fr. Joseph Mani, S.J.
20	Fr. Fallon Pierre, S.J.
27	Fr. Alphonse Crasta, S. J.
28	Fr. Anil Mitra, S.J.

NOTICE BOARD

Annual Retreat of Priests 2025

This year the Annual Retreat of the Diocesan Priests will be held from the Evening of September 14, 2025 to the Morning of September 20, 2025 at Dhyan Ashram Retreat Centre. This annual retreat is mandatory for all the diocesan priests of our diocese. We are looking forward to your esteemed presence for the annual retreat.

Intentions for the Apostleship of Prayer - Month of Sept. 2025

For our relationship with all of creation: Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

Community Celebrations, Gosaba

The Church of Our Lady of Fatima, Gosaba, shone brightly in August with two remarkable events. Firstly, the Grandparents Day and Vianney Day celebration on August 03 was a heart-warming tribute to the invaluable contributions of grandparents and priests. The Holy Eucharist, presided over by Fr. Pradeep Dari, was a beautiful expression of gratitude and appreciation.

Moreover, the National Youth Sunday Celebration on August 10 was an electrifying experience, filled with energy and enthusiasm. The youths were welcomed and participated in a Holy Eucharist, where Fr. Pradeep Dari inspired them to take an active role in the faith journey of the Church. The celebration was a resounding success, leaving a lasting impression on all.



- Br. Pritam Mondal

Transfers and Appointments of the Priests 2025-26 (Circular No: 05/2025)

Sl.	Name	Place From	Former Designation	To Place	New Designation
1	Fr. Meghnad Singh	Asha		Kalyanpur	Curate
2	Fr. J. Pathinathan	Samarpan	Confessor of MC Sisters, Kirtankhola	Kumrokhali	Curate

The above transfers for the Priests will take place by September 30, 2025

Bishop Shyamal Bose's Programme: September 2025

Date	Day	Time	Place	Programme
05	Fri	06.30 p.m.	Dr. Sundari Mohan Avenue, Kolkata -14	Mass at Jisu Bhavan, M.C. Fathers
07	Sun	07.00 a.m.	Baruipur Cathedral	Novena Mass of Our Lady of Vellankanni and First Holy Communion
08	Mon	10.00 a.m.	MSC, Barrackpore	Feast of Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary and Conferring of Ministries
10	Wed	09.00 a.m.		Office of the Registration of Land
11	Thu	10.00 a.m.	Dishari, Baruipur	Meeting of All Commissions
13	Sat	11.45 a.m.	Holy Cross Con., Baruipur	Mass in the Holy Cross Convent, Baruipur
14-19	Sun-Fri		Dhyan Ashram	Annual Retreat for the Priests
22	Mon	11.00 a.m. 03.00 p.m.	Dishari, Baruipur PUS Baruipur	GB Meeting of Paribar Jyoti GB and AGM of PUS Baruipur
23	Tue	10.00 a.m.	Archbishop's House, Kol	GB and AGM of the Boys' Town of W.B.
24	Wed	03.30 p.m.	Bishop's House, Baruipur	Meeting of the Finance Committee of CDB
25	Thu	10.00 a.m.	Bishop's House, Baruipur	Meeting of the Board of Consultors
27	Sat	10.00 a.m.	Don Bosco School, Park Circus, Kolkata	AGM of WBA Christian Schools
		05.00 p.m.	Archbishop's House, Kol	Apostolic Nuncio meets the BRBC Bishops
28	Sun	10.00 a.m.	Kolkata	Holy Eucharist in the Cathedral of Most Holy Rosary, Kolkata
30	Tue	04.00 p.m.	Archbishop's House, Kol	Meeting of the Morning Star Educational Trust

Bishop Salvadore Lobo's Programme : September 2025

Date	Day	Time	Place	Programme
05	Fri	05.00 p.m.	Rajarampur	Mass for the Feast Day of St. Teresa of Calcutta
08	Mon	06.00 a.m.	Panchamkhanda	Mass for the Feast of Our Lady Vellankanni
14-19	Sun-Fri		Dhyan Ashram	Makes Annual Retreat with the Diocese Priests
27	Sat	05.00 p.m.	Archbishop's House, Kolkata	Apostolic Nuncio meets the BRBC Bishops
Sept 28 - Oct 08	Sun - Wed		Shillong	Preaches a retreat for Holy Cross Fathers