



Laudate Deum

The following is the Prayer inspired by Laudate Deum, Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation on care for creation in follow-up to Laudato Si'.

We praise you, O God, Creator of all things, whose mystery unfolds in "a leaf, in a mountain trail, in a dewdrop, in a poor person's face."

Jesus, your Son, taught us to wonder as he made his way throughout the land, contemplating the beauty of creation.

We pray, O God, that you may stir in us a reverent awareness of our invisible link with the entire created world.

We pray for humility to remember that we, too, are created and are not creation's masters.

We pray for compassion for open eyes and hearts to welcome those forced to flee from their homes due to rising sea levels and drought.

We pray for repentance so that our thirst for power and domination may be transformed into service.

We pray for simplicity and the will to turn from our greed which impacts vulnerable people everywhere.

We pray for cultural conversion that we may simplify our lifestyles, reduce pollution and waste, and exercise prudence in our decision making.

We pray for policy changes that as a nation and world we may work together to reverse the course of climate change.

Our hearts ache as we ponder: "The world sings of an infinite Love: how can we fail to care for it?"

We praise you, O God, confident that you work in our hearts and through our actions, so that we may better care for our common home. Amen.

Laudate Deum, the new Apostolic Exhortation by Pope Francis, on the climate crisis was released on October 4, 2023, as a follow up to *Laudato Si*, to tackle one of the senseless wars on nature and our failure to address the human tools of the social and ecological crisis. Pope Francis states specifically that the title of this letter is "Praise God" (the meaning of *Laudate Deum*) because "when human beings claim to take God's place, they become their own worst enemies" (#7). By this he means that when we seek power for its own sake, we damage both ourselves and the planet. Power should be used to create a better world for us. *Laudate Deum* is an urgent call to tackle the climate crisis, recognizing that time is running out. An irreversible damage has already been done. In this letter Pope Francis states that the climate crisis is real and cannot be denied. It is caused by human activity.

The Pope says that the world in which we live is collapsing and may be near breaking point. Time is running out and "Climate change is one of the principal challenges facing society and the global community" (#3). *Laudate Deum* is therefore an urgent plea for us all to take action before it is too late. He cautions against seeking only technological solutions, noting that although we have more and more tools to manipulate the world, we are still failing to protect the environment from destruction. The more we seek to increase power for its own sake, the less we use our power to protect life. As he states, "Not every increase in power represents progress for humanity" (#24).

At the same time, he says, economic powers are not interested in solving the problem, because they want "the greatest profit possible at minimum cost". This pursuit of the greatest profit possible at minimum cost makes caring for our common home impossible.

We need political change on a national and international level. While Pope Francis states that individual actions and efforts to minimize waste are important. He also recognizes that they are not enough. We are called to continue to transform the society through our individual, family and

community actions, but also to call on those in power to take urgent action.

As Christians our motivation to respond is hope-filled, because of the conviction that the risen Christ reconciles all creatures to himself. As Pope Francis says, "The world sings of an infinite Love: how can we fail to care for it" (#65)?

He asks us not to shy away from the reality that we are facing but to "accompany this pilgrimage of reconciliation with the world that is our home and help to make it more beautiful" (#69).

We all have a role to play in creating processes of transformation and continuing to care for our common home, while also putting pressure on those with the power to make changes.

There is a growing concern that groups coming up from below are stepping in where political leadership is failing, and yet they are often negatively portrayed as "radicalized" (#58). In light of Pope Francis' exhortation, Christians could instead see in this "radicalization" the very "ecological conversion" we are called to.

Can parishes and faith groups join more closely with those who are derided for seeing, like St. Francis of Assisi, fellow creatures as "companions along the way" (#15)? Can we grow deeper in our conviction that "everything is connected" and "no one is saved alone" (#19). Are we ready to turn the world upside down, moving away from an obsession with power and wealth, and towards a greater care for our common home?

The challenge is undeniably urgent, we cannot hide or turn away from it. The lives of our children and their children depend on our actions now. We do not need to be afraid, because we have faith and hope. It is time to join together with all people of good will to demand change from those with economic and political power.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus, today we are called to individual and collective action to save the creation of God and hence make this earth a better place to live. Shall we respond?

+ Shyamal Bose

ORDINARY JUBILEE 2025



As the Church concludes, the First Phase of the Synod for a Synodal Church began in 2021; there comes the Jubilee 2025 marking the 2025 years of the Birth of our Lord Jesus. The theme for the celebration of this ordinary Jubilee 2025 is 'Pilgrims of Hope'. It has threefold purposes: to celebrate Jesus, to celebrate the Church and to celebrate our Faith. There are two years of preparation for the Jubilee: (i) 2023, the Year of the Council (year of Learning); (ii) 2024, the Year of Prayer. It is the wish of Holy Father that the four constitutions of the Second Vatican Council be studied by all members of the People of God during this preparatory period so as to draw inspiration and guidance for day-to-day life.

In compliance with the discussion held in the 92nd CCBI Executive Committee Meeting, the inauguration of the preparation for the Ordinary Jubilee 2025 will be held during the Mass at 1.30 p.m in the Cathedral of the Diocese on November 26, 2023, on the occasion of the Solemnity of Christ the king. All are invited to participate in the preparation and celebration of the Ordinary Jubilee 2025.

- Fr. Deepak Ekka

PALLI UNNAYAN SAMITI BARUIPUR

With the focus to promote first and foremost the development of all, giving special attention to the more distressed rural sector and to women in particular, Palli Unnayan Samiti organized school sensitization program on a very relevant issue on women and children against their abuse and violence on October 6 & 10, 2023 in Janapriyanagar Janapriya Vidyalaya & Gopalkanta Jelepura High School under Basanti & Gosaba Block. There were a total of 251 adolescent Girls and Boys who were sensitized about the awful effect of different social violence like gender discrimination, trafficking, underage marriage, domestic violence, child labour and adolescent health and hygiene. The students were also stimulated about inculcating moral values & respect to senior citizen.

In pursuit of having healthy environment a packet of twelve varieties of vegetable seeds such as Coconut, Mango and Lemon saplings were distributed among 700 marginal farmers in Ranigarh, Basanti, Gosaba and Satjelia villages in the District of South 24 Parganas on October 18 & 19, 2023. It's aim is to promote nutrition garden towards accessing the vegetable and fruits by their own and also surplus could be sold so as to add some earning for their better survival.

It collaborates with other non-government organizations to address the local DRR related issues and DRR resilience model in the field of agriculture, housing, safe drinking water during disasters like flood and cyclone in Sundarban.

It is essential to be educated before educating. A workshop for the teachers of SAD Education Langalberia and Sundarban comprising of 37 teachers from nine study centres was conducted. It was facilitated by Mr. Biplab Chakraborty and four Volunteers from FADV Italy, namely Mr. Giacomo, Ms. Sara, Ms. Gaia and Mr. Christian. The emphasis was on development of skill, knowledge of adolescent sexual and reproductive health and the use of social media.

- Fr. Saumen Malik



NOVENA, BASANTI

Catholic Church, Basanti celebrated its Feast Day on October 1, 2023 on the occasion of the feast day of the patroness of the parish St. Therese of Child Jesus. The novena preceded the celebration as an apt preparation wherein different fathers came and offered Mass. Most Rev. Shyamal Bose was the main celebrant on the feast day. The joyous occasion was as expression of humble and sincere gratitude of the parishioners to their patroness for her mediation in favour of receiving bountiful blessings throughout the year. To mark the occasion parish has organized a traditional knockout football match which was inaugurated by the Bishop. Everything was meticulously planned and well executed under the guidance of Fr. Surojit Mitra, the Parish Priest.

- Br. Hrittick Hazra



PARIBAR JYOTI

In the month of October 2023 various meetings, orientations, seminars, training and counselling pertaining to family related issues were conducted in many parishes, sub-stations, institutions, government and non-government centers. A few of the many programs conducted with outstanding effects were the orientation and construction of the family cell at Pakhirala (Gosaba) and the family cell orientation for all the family cell members of different parishes and sub-stations at Paribar Jyoti. The participants were enriched with the simple yet valuable personality traits that are essential for a healthy family life. Overall, with the support and cooperation of the parish priests, sisters, families and family cell members, all the endeavours were fruitful in strengthening family tie.

- Fr. Uttam Naskar



ANNUAL RETREAT OF PRIESTS

Most Rev. Shyamal Bose and the diocesan clergy of the diocese of Baruipur spent a week in prayer, personal introspection and contemplation during the annual retreat held in two groups consecutively at Sanjvani, the pastoral centre, Krishnagar. The first batch of retreat commenced in the evening of October 1 and ended on October 7, 2023, while the second batch was from October 8-13, 2023.

Rev. Fr. Thumma Mariadas Reddy, MSFS guided the retreat for both the batches. He is well known for his biblical, theological and philosophical expertise. His coherent and edifying reflections like rhymes coupled with personal experience and conviction were soothing to ears but at the same time very challenging, pricking the conscience of all to listen to their inner voice and discern their spiritual journey. It has enabled them to spiritually rejuvenate and reinvent themselves in their own pastoral life so as to translate the doing of the retreat into the living of the retreat in their respective places of ministry.

The diocese is grateful to Rev. Fr. Thumma Mariadas Reddy, MSFS for preaching retreat in two batches and accompanying the diocesan clergy through this spiritual journey.

- Fr. Deepak Ekka

VI DIOCESAN YOUTH CONVENTION



The Diocesan Youth Commission of Baruipur had organised the VI Diocesan Youth Convention from October 20-23, 2023, in Basanti on the theme - "Mary Arose and went with Haste" (Luke 1:39). Throughout the diocese over 350 youth from 21 parishes participated in the great event.

The program commenced with the inaugural Mass celebrated by Most Rev. Shyamal Bose, Bishop of Baruipur followed by flag hoisting ceremony wherein three flags were unfurled. The Vatican Flag was hoisted by Bishop Shyamal Bose, the Chairman; the ICYM Flag was hoisted by Rev. Fr. Surajit Mitra, Parish Priest of Catholic Church Basanti and the Diocesan Flag was hoisted by Rev. Fr. Rajen Singh, Diocesan Youth Director. Rev. Fr. Surojit Mitra handed over the Diocesan Cross to the Chairman, Most Rev. Shyamal Bose, who declared the VI Diocesan Youth Convention open.

After the DEXCO members welcomed each and every participant for the inaugural ceremony Bishop through his powerful words encouraged the youth to build a healthy relationship with Christ Jesus who is ever ready to embrace and accompany each and every youth. A few of the many events hosted during the mega event were portrayal of Mary as the model and example of youth by eminent resource persons such as Rev. Fr. Kanauj Roy, Rev. Fr. Tushar Augustine, Rev. Fr. Ramen Pailan, Rev. Fr. Roshan Turkey SJ and Mr. Richard. The sessions were lively and fruitful. In the panel discussion the opinion and queries of youth were addressed by the panelists. They were also led into Taize prayer, adoration and confession.

It was spectacular to see the talents and creativity of the youth while taking part in various competitions such as quiz, skit, model exhibition and portraying different forms of Mother Mary. In the award ceremony, the contributions of individual youth were recognized and appreciated with the presentation of a memento. The former DEXCO members too were felicitated during the award ceremony. Besides, the youth were entertained and amused with the cultural program and food festival.

Before concluding, Most Rev. Shyamal Bose lowered the flags and officially declared the closure of the Convention.

- Mr. Raj Bag

YOUTH CAMP AT KALYANPUR

The youth of St. Stephen's Church, Kalyanpur had two days of workshop on October 26 and 27, 2023. The programme was organized by Fr. John Britto and animated by Fr. John Rogers, SJ, the LTS man of the region. Measures for building self-confidence, developing leadership qualities and promoting feelings of oneness for common causes of society were some of the topics that were dealt. Since play way and workshop methods were used the youth learned while enjoying the whole programme. The boys and girls who came from Hotar, Salika, Jalasi and Kalyanpur proper attended the programme eagerly from 9.00AM to 4.00 PM. Fr. Rajen Singh, the diocesan youth director celebrated the Holy Mass for them on the second day and took an enlightening session for them. The youth who had attended the diocesan convention shared their experience with the others. They were very happy and expressed their gratitude to Fr. John Britto and Fr. Himangshu Poti who organized the two days programme.

- Annie Gomes

NATIONAL BEC CONVENTION AT DUMKA

"Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes" (Isaiah 54: 2).

In the national BEC convention held in Dumka Diocese from October 12-16, 2023 some BEC members of our diocese including Most Rev. Salvatore Lobo, Bishop Emeritus and Fr. Goutam Naskar took part. The title of the convention "*Enlarge the place of your tent*" was indeed manifested with the participation of many people numbering around 7000. The participants drew the inspiration from the convention that God's people or the people of Basic Ecclesial Community cannot be self-centered or even family-centered. Its imperative call is to open one's heart to the people around who need Jesus. Furthermore, the convention motivated them to step forward to build a family of brotherhood where each person can experience the fullness of love and life that the Lord has won for all through His cross and resurrection.

- Mr. Sourav Naskar

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

NOVEMBER

04	Fr. Francis Makhal
16	Fr. Amrit Ekka
20	Fr. Sushad Baidya
22	Fr. Kuruvilla Thottam, S.J.
27	Fr. Sylvester Xavier

Happy Birthday Dear Fathers

Ordination

04 November	Fr. Himangshu Poti
09 November	Fr. Durlav Bar
19 November	Fr. Sirnus Topno
24 November	Fr. Ujjwal Mondal
26 November	Fr. Bablu Sardar

Congratulations Dear Fathers

Memorable & Admirable

Month of November

08	Fr. Abani Luis Das
11	Fr. Nicaise Edouard, S.J.
11	Fr. Chandan Gupta, S.J.
21	Fr. Bruylants Andre, S.J.
30	His Eminence Cardinal Lawrence T. Picachy, S.J.

NOTICE BOARD

Paribar Jyoti

- # Marriage Preparation Course from 3rd November to 4th November 2023
- # Young Couples Programme from 24th November to 25th November 2023

Intentions for the Apostleship of Prayer - Month of Nov. 2023

For the Pope : We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

DISHARI

Dishari, the pastoral centre of the diocese, organized several programmes in different parishes for different groups of people. Three BEC meetings were held in a series from October 8-15, 2023 in Panchamkhanda, Mograhat and Dasnumber. All together 379 BEC members actively participated in the meetings. They were strengthened by the grace of God and the inspiring preaching of Fr. Goutam Naskar. People are enthused to spread the love of God by sharing and being sympathetic to others. Further, there was altar server's animation at Canning on October 23 followed by catechesis for the catechism children on October 25, 2023 at Morapai. Around 320 children took part in the programmes. Fr. Goutam Naskar, Fr. Sarojit Mandal and Mr. Sourav Naskar were the resource persons. Children were very enthusiastic to learn the catechism, action song, games and altar server's role at the altar.



- Fr. Goutam Naskar

RIP



Mrs. Sima Poti, the beloved mother of Rev. Fr. Himangshu Poti, passed away on October 20, 2023 at the age of 76. She left behind her husband and five children. Before her death she had a fall and her hip bone was fractured. She was admitted in Purnam Medicare Nursing Home for treatment. However, after battling for seven days she breathed her last due to heart attack. On the next day after the funeral Mass her mortal remains were laid buried in the cemetery of St. Joseph's Church, Raghobpur. While expressing our condolences to the greaved family members let us continue to pray for the repose of her soul. May God bless her with eternal peace.

- Fr. Deepak Ekka

Bishop Shyamal Bose's Programme for the Month of November 2023

Date	Day	Time	Place	Programme
02	Thu	07.00 a.m. 06.00 p.m.	Baruipur Thakurpukur	Mass at Cathedral and Blessing of the Cemetery Mass and Blessing of the Cemetery
09	Thu	09.00 a.m.	ABCD, Kolkata	Regional Meeting of the Diocesan Secretaries of the Labour Commission
12	Sun	08.00 a.m.	Thakurpukur	Mass and Confirmation
13	Mon	11.30 a.m.	Shankharipota	Mass for the Silver Jubilee of Adoration Convent
14	Tue	09.00 a.m.	Krishnagar	Annual Joint Meeting of BRBC-CRI(WBS)-CDPI(BSR)
15	Wed		Krishnagar	Annual Joint meeting of BRBC-CRI(WBS)-CDPI(BSR)
16	Thu		Krishnagar	Annual Joint Meeting of BRBC-CRI(WBS)-CDPI(BSR)
18	Sat	10.00 a.m.	Dishari, Baruipur	Meeting of the Management Board of West Bengal Association of Christian Schools
19	Sun	07.00 a.m.	Kalipur	Mass and Confirmation
20	Mon	10.00 a.m.	Dishari, Baruipur	Meeting of Laity Commission
22	Wed		Dishari, Baruipur	Mass and Inauguration of Regional Family Commission
24	Fri	06.30 a.m.	Progyalaya	Mass for Talitha Koum
26	Sun	01.30 p.m.	Baruipur	The Solemnity of the Christ the King and Inauguration of Jubilee Year 2025
29	Wed	09.00 a.m.	Progyalaya	Mass for BEC meeting

Bishop Salvadore Lobo's Programme for the Month of November 2023

Date	Day	Time	Place	Programme
01-02	Wed-Thu		Delhi	
03	Fri			Returns to Keorapukur
05-10	Sun - Fri		Bandel	Preaches a retreat to Redemptorist Fathers
14-16	Tue - Thu		Krishnagar	Attends a meeting of BRBC-CRI(WBS)-CDPI(BSR)
21	Tue			A seminar for Holy Cross Sisters
23-29	Thu-Wed			Mangalore and Shirva