



Solemnity of the Birth of John the Baptist

A couple of days ago, the Christian kingdom celebrated the Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary on May 31, 2023. Our Holy Father Pope Francis has declared it a Day of Marian Prayer for the Synod.

After having known from the Angel Gabriel that her cousin, Elizabeth is pregnant, Mary goes to visit her at a distance of 130 km (81 miles) away at Hebron city. Mary's visit to Elizabeth with the purpose to help her in her household work, carried along with it divine grace and presence to both Elizabeth and her unborn child John. John, although in the womb of her mother, became aware of the presence of Christ and leapt for joy in the process of cleansing from original sin.

Every year the church celebrates the Solemnity of the Birth of John the Baptist on the 24th of June. John, who had a miraculous birth in the old age of barren Elizabeth, is a decisive figure in the New Testament. He is regarded as a prophet by three religions, namely Christianity, Islam and Mandaeism. He is the forerunner or precursor of Christ because John came as a prophet to prepare the way before Jesus and forms a link between the Old and New Testament prophets and the first of the saints of the New Testament age.

As a witness to Jesus, John is more than a Prophet; a messenger who precedes the Lord. He inaugurated the Gospel. Until John the Word of God was called the 'Law and the Prophets'. John was the prophet who preached the coming of Christ as the Messiah. It is he who identified Christ as the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. It is Baptist himself who testified to see the Spirit come down from heaven like a dove and rest on him. He has explicitly announced that Jesus is the one who baptises with the Holy Spirit and professed that Jesus is the Son of God and the Lamb of God (Jn 1:29-34). The fourth evangelist describes John as "a man

sent from God who was not the light" but came as a witness, to bear witness to the light so that through him everyone might believe.

According to the New Testament, John was sentenced to death and subsequently beheaded by Herod Antipas around 30 AD after John rebuked him for divorcing his wife Phasailis and then unlawfully marrying Herodias, the wife of his brother Herod Philip I.

The life of John is a Sacramental presence to us in our daily life. It is a store house of Christian revelation which aids in proper Christian living. Some of the valuable lessons we can draw from this God-given vocation are given as follows.

1. A Source of Courage

John had the courage to call 'a spade a spade'. He didn't shy away from speaking his mind, even to the Pharisees and the Sadducees, whom he courageously called 'brood of vipers'. As a forerunner of Christ, he took courage to call the people to conversion in order to initiate them into the Kingdom of God which would become a reality for them through the incarnation in the person of Jesus Christ. He abided in the truth of God, even at the cost of accepting martyrdom through beheading.

2. A Symbol of Humility

John was a man who displayed humility in all that he spoke and did. The motto of his life is found in the statement, "He must increase; I must decrease" (John 3:30). Denying himself through an ascetic life, he was busy at pointing out to the 'Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world'. John has one and only job: to prepare the way for Jesus. He doesn't allow himself to get bogged down in building his own kingdom or making sure that he stays at the centre of attention. He's happy for his disciples to graduate to following Jesus. He was happy to initiate disciples who followed him in following Jesus.

3. Lifelong Commitment and Trust in God

In the Hebrew Bible, Nazirites were particularly holy people who had to abide by certain rules, such as abstaining from wine or beverages made from grapes, avoiding cutting one's hair, and keeping away from any corpses or graves. These vows were kept for a minimum of 30 days, but some possibly including John the Baptist were Nazirites for life. This lifelong dedication to holiness, as well as John's desert wanderings and unique lifestyle, can be a powerful reminder to us to prioritise our spiritual needs above our earthly desires; to put God first in everything.

4. Dare to be Different for the Kingdom

From wandering in the desert, to wearing clothes of camel hair, and living off locusts and honey, John the Baptist's lifestyle was different from many other people of his time. He is a great example of the fact that he doesn't belong to the world, but the Lord has chosen him out of the world, to be unique eschatological signs of the Kingdom. Does our faith call us to be different for the glory of God?

5. Following a Call

Each of us has a role to play in building up the Kingdom of God. Whether we're called to Holy Orders, or to be a parent or spouse, a teacher, a healer, an artist; we've all been blessed with gifts to give praise to God and share with each other. The life of John calls us to remain true to the calling we have in life. To live for it and die for it.

John the Baptist is actually a shining example of humility, simplicity, truthfulness, courage, conviction and commitment. We all need to adopt this type of attitude. Albeit challenges, that we may face by being true to the way of life we might have chosen. Strength of union and clarity of purpose in one's life provides with the strength that John had in living his calling.

+ Shyamal Bose

Vocation Camp



A three days diocesan vocation camp was held from May 14 -16, 2023 in Dishari Pasroal Centre, Baruiapur. The camp organized for the students of class IX and above was attended by 27 young boys belonging to different parishes of our diocese. Rev. Fr. Ramen Pailan, the vocation promoter, cordially welcomed the young campers. Thereafter a series of talks began. Fr. Tushar Augustine Gomes enlightened them to set goal in their lives. Mr. Sarbeswar Chakraborty explored the unique challenges and opportunities faced by young individuals in discerning their vocation, emphasizing the

importance of seeking guidance from experienced mentors. Fr. Rajen Singh reiterated Jeremiah's call in the Old Testament so as to evoke in them God's call. In his session Fr. Deepak Ekka spoke on the calling of apostles in the New Testament drawing to their minds the experiences of the apostles, the challenges they faced and the dedication they showed in living God's call. The session on the life of saints by Fr. Pradeep Roy provided insights into the lives of saints, their personal journey and the virtues they exemplified as an inspiration in vocational discernment. Fr. Kanauj Roy took a session on the Current Scenario of the Catholic Church. The session aimed to provide a broader understanding of the Church's contemporary challenges and opportunities, enabling participants to contextualize their vocational discernment within the larger ecclesiastical landscape. Fr. Goutam Naskar conducted a session on Priesthood. It gave insights about the vocation of priesthood, its significance within the Church and the qualities required to serve in this sacred calling. The concluding session of the camp was conducted by Fr. Ramen Pailan on '**Discerning the Call of My Life**'. This session encouraged to reflect on the experiences during the camp, integrate the teachings and insights received and discern the individual calls with a renewed sense of purpose. Overall, the camp played a vital role in fostering spiritual growth and discernment among the participants, equipping them with the tools to discern and answer God's call in one's own life.

- Mr. Raj Bagh

Installation of Fr. Sandip Mondal

On May 28, 2023 Rev. Fr. Sandip Mondal was installed as the Parish Priest of Holy Cross Church, Sonarpur during the Eucharistic Celebration concelebrated by Most Rev. Shyamal Bose with Fr. Sandip Mondal, Fr. Faustine Bank and Fr. Charles M. Kanji in a beautifully decorated church. After the homily the installation took place. A series of rituals like opening and closing the main door of the church, ringing the church bell, sitting at the confessional, unlocking the tabernacle symbolizing the spiritual life of the faithful were performed by the new Parish Priest. The liturgy was well organized by the faithful. After the Mass the parishioners welcomed Fr. Sandip Mondal and thanked the outgoing priest Fr. Charles M. Kanji.



Intentions for the Apostleship of Prayer - Month of June 2023

For the abolition of torture: We pray that the international community may commit in a concrete way to ensuring the abolition of torture and guarantee support to victims and their families.

Palli Unnayan Samiti Baruipur

Mass Awareness Campaigns

On May 5, 2023 a mass awareness campaign, "Dharmaraj Babar Mela" was held at Charavidya village under Basanti Block in the District of South 24 Parganas. Following this on May 18, 2023 rallies and street plays were conducted in the same place. The aim was to mitigate the social violence issues against adolescent girls, women and children. Besides posters and banners, informative leaflets were distributed as means of Mass Campaign. The project personnel replied to the queries raised by the visitors and highlighted the significance of collective efforts towards mitigating the above-mentioned social issues. Around 900 people including students, adolescent boys and girls came to know about the social abuse and issues like Underage Marriage, Anti-human Trafficking, Child labour and its mitigation.

Inauguration of Beautician Course



Beautician Course was inaugurated in a series on May 5, 6 & 31, 2023 at Bamanpukur under Minakhan Block in the District of North 24 Parganas, Panchamkhanda under Mathurapur Block II and PUS Baruipur office premises. Fr. Saumen Malik, the Director of Palli Unnayan Samiti Baruipur briefed the objective of conducting beautician-training course for 3 months. It is an opportunity for girls and young women to develop skills as makeup artists to earn their livelihood and become self-reliant. A total of 77 candidates enrolled their names who will be awarded a certificate at the successful completion of the course.

Training of Trainers on Health & Hygiene to Kishori Suraksha Bahini

On May 9-10, 2023 there was a Training of Trainers on Health & Hygiene for 44



members of Kishori Suraksha Bahini (KSB) under the project Protection of Girls from Underage Marriage at PUS Baruipur. Mr. Sanjib Mondal highlighted the role of Kishori Suraksha Bahini (KSB) in empowering adolescent girls, safeguarding them from harmful practices, advancing gender equality, enhancing health outcomes and upholding their rights. Furthermore on May 17 & 18, 2023 Capacity Building Training on Children Parliament was conducted. Fr. Saumen Malik introduced the Objective of the Program and its potential impact in the community. Altogether 44 selected adolescent boys and girls from the project operational area participated in the Program. Mr. Pralay Bayen and Mr. Rajesh Shaw facilitated the training as Resource Persons.

NGO Coordination Meeting

Block wise NGO Coordination Meeting was held in Namkhana and Kakdwip Block on May 10 & 17, 2023. The aim of the meeting was to exchange the idea and share working experience on DRR resilience model in Sundarban region. The 51 representatives from 18 NGOs actively participated in the coordination Meetings. The participants collaborated to address local DRR issues and reduce the Risks of Disaster through adopting resilience model in Agriculture, Housing and Safe drinking water during disaster like Flood and Cyclone. The NGO representatives prepared a three-month Action plan, including repairing the multi purpose cyclone centre (MPCS) through an application to the local BDMO. They also developed a DRR plan to present in Sundarban Development Authority and established an NGO Forum in each Block to enhance collaboration and work Jointly.

Inauguration of Electrician Course



With the support of Caritas India the Electrician Course for Skill Enhancement of Migrant Workers towards Self-Reliant Work Force was launched on May 18, 2023. That the course will enhance the skills in the prospects of job market that create better earning opportunity to add some income to their families towards better livelihood.

There are 34 youth who have enrolled themselves for the course. They will be awarded with certificate at the completion of the program.

Civil Society Networking Meeting with the Participation of District IAG



Civil Society Networking Meeting with the active participation of District IAG on DRR Issues in Sundarban was conducted on May 17, 2023. Fr. Saumen Malik while explaining the purpose of the gathering drew the attention of all by highlighting the activities carried out by PUS Baruipur which was appreciated by all.

Mr. Debjyoti Chakraborty, the State Coordinator of IAG, Mr. Ashis Mandal, the IAG District Coordinator and all the participants shared their views on strengthening Civil Society Network on DRR resilience issues in Sundarban through the IAG platform.

Capacity Building Training of Task Force Team (TFT)

Under Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) project a capacity building training for the Task Force Team (TFT) was hosted on May 29 and 30, 2023, at PUS. Fr. Saumen Malik

emphasized the objective of empowering team Spirit. Expert facilitators, Mr. Pralay Bayen and Mr. Rajesh Shaw, shared the aim of the formation of Task Force Team to enhance disaster preparedness, technical skills and resilience in responding to

emergencies like Flood and Cyclone. Their focus was on saving lives and mitigating the impact of the Disaster to the affected communities.

PARIBAR JYOTI NEWS

Marriage Preparation: Normally the participants who come for Marriage



Preparation Course have no other alternative other than attending the training. But it is not the same always as happened on May 5-6, 2023. Sometimes we get batches who really take an interest in trying to learn the course of life through the two days of training. This particular batch was an example as they showed their keen interest in trying to know and understand the different aspects of life and marriage.

Orientation Programme on Child Mental Health: A program was organized



on May 12, 2023 for the parents of Basanti, Kalidanga village on Child Mental Health. The program was conducted by looking at the interest of the parents. The parents shared that parenting has become one of the most difficult and at the same time important task that needs to be handled with much care.

Orientation on Parenting-Adolescent: Parenting adolescent children is indeed a tough task at least in this present generation where so many modern



gadgets are available to the children. They become so engrossed and addicted that when they are forbidden by their parents there is great chaos. Many times parents are in a dilemma about what to do and what not to do. Attending this program on May 15, 2023 at Belegachi the parents understood their way of present's approach and shared that they need to have more patience and change their way of approaching and disciplining their children.

An Orientation Program for the In-Laws: An orientation program was held at



Madhusudanchak and Balrampur on the roles and responsibilities of in-laws. Parents of married children report that elderly



parents are neglected in many families because they feel they have become a burden to their children. Very often there are conflicts that are unbearable. Through group discussions and programs, the parents realized that they had a great responsibility to hold the family united together.

Orientation on Husband-Wife Relationship: At the beginning of the programme held at Haripur, Morapai,



Darirchak & Tambuldaha the participants were a bit shy and nervous but after going through the topics and discussions they spontaneously answered and shared their experiences. The couples shared that they did not have any idea about such relationship enrichment programmes. They are expecting such types of programmes in future.

Young Couples Workshop: The young couples participating in the two-days workshop on May 26 and 27, 2023 were very open and cooperative from the start. They participated spontaneously in all group discussions and answered every question asked. They were brave enough to answer the bitter experiences of their lives. After attending a two-days workshop and understanding the different stages of marriage, they promised to help each other through their difficulties. They also promised to build a peaceful and happy married life in the future.

Joy of Embracing the Call to Love and Serve

Perpetual profession signifies a lifelong commitment to Jesus, the bridegroom. This joyful event of perpetual profession took place on May 27, 2023 at St. Vincent's Home Chapel Kidderpore. It marked a significant milestone in the lives of our seven sisters who completed their period of initial formation and discernment in the congregation of the Daughters of the Cross.

The ceremony commenced with a solemn procession of the seven sisters Mina Barwa, Jyotsna Barla, Rose Anjalina Barla, Pratima Hemrom, Meera Kujur, Aruna Tirky and Sampa Dhara accompanied by their parents, clergy and His Lordship Most Rev. Bishop Shyamal Bose. The atmosphere was filled with a sense of reverence and anticipation as the sisters prepared themselves to make their lifelong commitment to God and the congregation in the service of the Church.

During the homily, Bishop highlighted the importance of remaining closely united to Christ, drawing sustenance and life from Him. He said that it is crucial for religious, as their commitment involves dedicating their lives to Christ and living in close communion with Him. For religious, bearing fruit can be understood as manifesting the virtues and values of their chosen vocation. We must know that our actions should reflect our commitment to Christ and bring about positive impact in the world. The Holy Mass was made meaningful with the angelic choir.

There was a felicitation program for the newly perpetually professed sisters, where the entire congregation greeted them with a congratulatory song. Thereafter, the event concluded with a sumptuous meal.



ICSE & CBSE Results (Class-X) : 2023

Name of the School	Board	Appeared	Passed	Distinction	1st Division		
Holy Cross School, Baruiipur	ICSE	174	174				
Carmel School, Budge Budge	ICSE	93	93	70	23		
	Board	Appeared	Passed	A+	A	B+	B
St. Monfort's Sr. Secondary School, Baruiipur	CBSE	68	68	19	22	23	4

ISC Results (Class-XII) : 2023

Name of the School	Board	Appeared	Passed
Holy Cross School, Baruiipur	ISC	67	67

Madhyamik Results (Class - X) : 2023

Name of the School	Appeared	Passed	AA	A+	A	B+	B	C	Comp.	Unsuccessful
Raghabpur St. Paul's H.S	WBBSE	147	143	0	2	8	12	48	73	13
Carmel High Sch. for Girls, Keorapukur	WBBSE	72	72	0	0	10	22	27	13	0
Morapai Loreto Girls High School	WBBSE	30	25	0	0	0	0	8	17	05
Basanti St. Xavier's H. S	WBBSE	43	41	0	0	1	04	08	28	01 - C.C & 01 - Regular
Basanti St. Theresa's H. S.	WBBSE	67	67	0	0	10	23	0	34	0

Higher Secondary Results (Class - XII) : 2023

Name of the School - Arts	Appeared	Passed	AA	A+	A	B+	B	C	Unsuccessful
St. Paul's H. School, Raghabpur	66	66	0	0	3	19	35	9	0
Name of the School - Commerce	Appeared	Passed	AA	A+	A	B+	B	C	Unsuccessful
St. Paul's H. School, Raghabpur	58	58	0	8	11	13	17	9	0

Congratulations to: The Principal, Headmaster, Headmistress, Secretary, Teaching & Non-Teaching Staff of all the Schools.

Transfers and New Arrivals of Religious in the Diocese

Name & Place	Arrival	Outgoing
St. Paul's Church, Canning		Fr. Rajeeb Singh, CM
De Paul School, Canning	Fr. Ephrem Bading, CM - Bursar Fr. Laxman Lima, CM - Principal	
St. Joseph's Church, Raghabpur	Fr. N. Jinesh Sebastian, SJ	Fr. James Vivekananda, SJ
Women Welfare Centre, Anandapally	Sr. Shanthi D'Souza AC - Superior	Sr. Maria Rajni AC



JUNE

02	Fr. Himangshu Poti
02	Fr. Sandip Mondal
10	Fr. N. Jinesh Sebastian, SJ
11	Fr. Charles M. Kanji
14	Fr. Henry Crasta
15	Fr. Peter Pradhan, CM
20	Fr. Saumen Malik
21	Fr. Sunil Ray
25	Fr. Jaswant Nayak, CMF

Happy Birthday Dear Fathers

Priestly Ordination



9th June

Fr. Jansingh Sobhapat, C.M.

Congratulations Dear Father

Episcopal Ordination

24th June

Rt. Rev. Shyamal Bose

Congratulations to His Lordship
Rt. Rev. Shyamal Bose

Memorable & Admirable Month of June

02	Fr. S. Joseph Maliyekal S.J.
20	Most Rev. Alan de Lastic
21	Fr. Panamthottam Steven, S.J.

Seminarians : Catholic Diocese of Baruipur

Sl. No.	Name		Place
01	Br. Uday Mondal	1st Yr Theology	Oriens Theological College, Shillong
02	Br. Satyajit Naskar	1st Yr Theology	Oriens Theological College, Shillong
03	Br. Hritick Hazra	1st yr Regency	Catholic Church, Basanti
04	Br. Soumik Mondal	3rd Year Philosophy	St. Charles' M S, Nagpur
05	Br. Pritam Mondal	3rd Year Philosophy	St. Charles' M S, Nagpur
06	Br. Rajesh Naskar	3rd Year Philosophy	St. Charles' M S, Nagpur
07	Br. David Panja	3rd Year Philosophy	MSRS, Barrackpore
08	Br. Nayan Bar	3rd Year Philosophy	MSRS, Barrackpore
09	Br. Rohit Sharma	3rd Year Philosophy	MSRS, Barrackpore
10	Br. Kenedi Kabi Ghughu	2nd Year Philosophy	MSRS, Barrackpore
11	Br. Subilash Bar	2nd Year Philosophy	St. Charles' M S, Nagpur
12	Br. Soumen Kanji	1st Yr Philosophy	St. Charles' M S, Nagpur
13	Br. Sudip Chakraborty	1st Yr Philosophy	St. Charles' M S, Nagpur
14	Br. Anshu Ghoroi	1st Yr Philosophy	St. Charles' M S, Nagpur
15	Br. Rittik Kanji	1st Yr Philosophy	MSRS, Barrackpore
16	Br. Pabitra Sardar	1st Yr Philosophy	MSRS, Barrackpore

NOTICE BOARD

Paribar Jyoti : Marriage Preparation Course from 9th June to 10th June 2023
Young Couples Programme from 23rd June to 24th June 2023

Bishop S. Bose's Programme for the Month of June 2023

Date	Day	Time	Place	Programme
03	Saturday	09.00 a.m.	Dishari- Baruipur	Meeting with Seminarians
		11.30 a.m.	Bishop's Chapel	Mass at Bishop's Chapel
04	Sunday	09.30 a.m.	Budge Budge	Mass and Confirmation
06	Tuesday	09.00 a.m.	Bishop's Off., Baruipur	Interview of candidates for Minor Seminary
07	Wednesday	10.30 a.m.	Dishari - Baruipur	Proclamation Commission
11	Sunday	06.00 a.m.	Basanti	Mass and Installation of Fr. Surojit Mitra as Parish Priest of Basanti Parish.
13	Tuesday	11.00 a.m.	Bishop's House, Baruipur	Visit of Very Rev. Fr. Vernon D'Cunha, S.J. the Regional Assistant of Society of Jesus in Rome.
15	Thursday	10.00 a.m.	Morapai	Mass and Silver Jubilee of Sr. Salome DSA
18	Sunday	08.00 a.m.	Sonarpur	Mass and Inauguration of Silver Jubilee Year of Holy Cross Church, Sonarpur
19	Monday	03.00 p.m.	PUS, Baruipur	G. B. Meeting of PUS
20	Tuesday	10.30 a.m.	Paribar Jyoti	G. B. Meeting of Paribar Jyoti
		11.30 a.m.	Paribar Jyoti	A.G. M. of Paribar Jyoti
21	Wednesday	03.30 p.m.	Bishop's House Conference Hall	Meeting of the Finance Committee of CDB
22	Thursday	10.00 a.m.	Bishop's House Conference Hall	Meeting of the Board of Consultors
23	Friday	10.30 a.m.	Dishari - Baruipur	G. B. Meeting of Dishari Pastoral Commission
25	Sunday	09.00 a.m.	Thakurpukur	Mass and Celebration of Golden Jubilee of Thakurpukur Parish
26-28	Mon- Wed		Bangaluru	Meeting of NBCLC - Social Communication
29	Thursday	09.00 a.m.	Abp's House, Kolkata	Meeting of ABCD & BRBC
30	Friday	09.00 a.m.	MSRS, Barrackpore	G. B. Meeting BRBC & MSRS

Bishop Lobo's Programme for the Month of June 2023

Date	Day	Time	Place	Programme
04	Sunday	08.00 a.m.	Keorapukur	Mass for the feast of Holy Trinity
11	Sunday	08.00 a.m.	Budge Budge	Mass and installation of Fr. Simus Toppo
13	Tuesday			Goes to Darjeeling
17	Saturday			Returns to Keorapukur
25	Sunday	09.00 a.m.	Thakurpukur	Mass and Celebration of Golden Jubilee of Thakurpukur Parish
26	Monday			Goes to Mangalore