



St. Paul: Suffering for the Sake of the Gospel

Among all the figures in the New Testament, perhaps none embraced suffering with such clarity, purpose and joy as the Apostle Paul. From the moment of his conversion, Paul understood that following Christ would cost him dearly. In fact, Jesus Himself told Ananias that Paul would be shown how much he must suffer for His name (Acts 9:16). That statement set the tone for Paul's entire ministry.

What stands out about Paul is not just that he suffered it's how he responded to it. His sufferings were not hidden or occasional. They were public, repeated and intense. Yet Paul never allowed his hardships to derail his mission. On the contrary, he seemed to draw strength from them.

Throughout his letters, Paul recounts his trials: lashes, beatings, imprisonments, stoning, shipwrecks and constant danger (2 Corinthians 11). These weren't exaggerations. The Book of Acts shows how Paul was attacked by angry mobs, falsely accused, thrown into prison and left for dead. Most of these wounds came not from strangers, but from his own people – his fellow Jews – who rejected his message and turned against him.

But Paul never stopped preaching. Even when chained, he reminded the Church that the word of God is not chained (2 Timothy 2:9). He saw suffering as something to be expected in the Christian life. More than that, he saw it as something meaningful – something that advanced the Gospel and deepened his union with Christ.

One of his boldest reflections on suffering is in Colossians 1, where he says he rejoices in his sufferings and sees them as a way to participate in Christ's afflictions for the sake of the Church. Paul understood that Christ's work on the cross was complete, but the mission of making that work known to the world was ongoing. Paul willingly offered his own body, his own pain, to help carry that mission forward.

This wasn't just a theological idea – it was deeply personal. Paul lived with what he called a "thorn in the flesh" (2 Corinthians 12). We don't know what it was – whether a physical illness, a persistent temptation, or emotional distress – but it was painful and humbling. He pleaded with God to take it away, but the answer he received was that God's grace was enough and that His power is made perfect in weakness. Rather than resist this reality, Paul embraced it. He found peace in knowing that his weakness became a platform for God's strength.

What's striking is Paul's mind set. He didn't see himself as a victim. He saw suffering as part of his discipleship, even as a gift. In Philippians 3, he writes about how he considered all his former accomplishments as loss compared to the value of knowing Christ. He even desired to share in Christ's sufferings, becoming like Him in death, so that he might also share in His resurrection.

This radical perspective didn't come from a love for pain – it came from a deep love for Christ. Paul wasn't focused on his own comfort or reputation. His goal was to know Christ and to make Him known. Everything else was secondary.

In Philippians 4, Paul says he learned to be content in all circumstances – whether in plenty or in want. He had discovered the secret to true endurance: strength that comes from Christ alone. His often-quoted line that he can do all things through Christ is not about personal achievement, but about his ability to persevere in suffering because Christ sustains him.

Paul didn't just endure suffering – he saw it as necessary for the growth of the Church. His hardships became a source of encouragement for others. When he wrote to the believers, his words carried weight because they were backed by a life that had been tested and proven faithful. His letters, many written from prison, are filled with joy, hope, and a call to stay strong, no matter the cost.

So what does Paul's life teach us today?

1. Suffering can be part of our calling: Like Paul, we may be called to endure hardship as part of our faith. That doesn't mean we've done something wrong – it may mean God is using us in a deeper way.
2. Weakness is not a barrier: Paul's "thorn" reminds us that God's power is not limited by our weakness. In fact, it often shines brightest there. We don't need to be perfect. We need to be surrendered.
3. Joy is possible, even in trials: Paul was often in pain, yet his letters are filled with joy. This wasn't because of his circumstances, but because of his deep connection to Christ. True joy comes from knowing Him.
4. Our suffering can help others: Paul's trials strengthened the Church. When we bear our hardships with faith, we become a witness and encouragement to others. Our pain can become someone else's hope.
5. Keep your eyes on eternity: Paul always looked beyond the moment. He called his trials "light and momentary" because he was comparing them to eternal glory (2 Corinthians 4:17). This eternal mindset gave him the strength to endure.

St. Paul's life is not just an example of endurance – it's a call to faithfulness. His suffering was real, but so was his joy, his peace, and his unwavering trust in Christ. He lived what he preached. His scars were his testimony.

Today, we may not face the same kind of persecution Paul did, but we all encounter suffering in one form or another. Paul's life challenges us to ask: how do we respond when things get hard? Do we give up, or do we press on? May we, like Paul, learn to rejoice in our sufferings, to find strength in Christ, and to never stop proclaiming the Gospel – no matter the cost.

+ Shyamal Bose

VOCATION CAMP 2025

A 3-day Diocesan Vocation Camp was held from May 10-12, 2025, at Dishari Pastoral Centre, Baruiapur. The camp brought together 48 young boys from across the diocese to explore their potential calling to the priesthood. Through a mix of spiritual activities and meaningful interactive sessions by experienced priests, the participants were guided to discern God's plan for their lives. In the interview, many of them testified to the deep impact, the camp had, on their understanding of vocation and their relationship with God.

- Fr. Sarojit Mandal



CONFERRAL OF THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY CONFIRMATION

The Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Rishi Bankim Nagar, Baruiapur parish, witnessed a special milestone in the faith journey of their children as 41 youngsters on May 04, 2025, received the Sacrament of Holy Confirmation, with Most Rev. Shyamal Bose presiding over the ceremony. The children were showered with love and appreciation, receiving souvenirs and certificates to commemorate this special moment. Kudos to the young confirmands and heartfelt thanks to the catechists and teachers who guided them on their faith journey.

- Fr. J. Pathinathan



INFANT JESUS PARISH CELEBRATES SACRAMENTS

On May 11, 2025, Infant Jesus Parish, Gangarampur, celebrated a significant spiritual milestone. 7 children received their First Holy Communion and 5 children received the Sacrament of Holy Confirmation. Most Rev. Shyamal Bose presided over the solemn Mass. Special thanks to the catechism teachers, the parish choir, the Sisters of the Missionaries of Charity and the entire parish community for their contributions, time and prayers that made this day memorable.

- Mr. Rakesh Saha



EMPOWERING YOUTH FOR A PURPOSEFUL LIFE

The Basanti Zone's Zonal Youth Orientation Program was held at Kumrokhali Parish on May 25, 2025. This impactful event brought together 122 enthusiastic youth for a day of spiritual reflection, personal growth and meaningful connections. Fr. Rajen Singh and Mr. Swarbersar Chakraborti led insightful sessions on "Goal of My Life and Relationships," guiding the youth to discover their life's purpose, set goals and cultivate healthy relationships. The program empowered the youth to take charge of their spiritual and personal journeys with renewed clarity and commitment.

- Mr. Mirtunjoy Mondal



PILGRIMAGE OF HOPE – ST. STEPHEN'S PARISH KALYANPUR

To commemorate the ordinary Jubilee 2025 of Jesus Christ, St. Stephen's Parish in Kalyanpur has organized two significant programs for the Parishioners: a pilgrimage to the Our Lady of Voyage Basilica in Bandel with 54 members on April 27, 2025, and a visit to the Tomb of St. Teresa of Calcutta with 125 members on May 18, 2025, all under the inspiring spiritual leadership and guidance of the former Parish Priest. The Eucharist during both pilgrimages was a vital aspect of the union with Jesus Christ and prayers were offered for the well-being of all believers and for peace across the globe.

- Mr. Joachim Ashim Campoo



GLIMPSE OF DISHARI DIOCESAN PASTORAL CENTRE



Dishari Pastoral Centre recently organized two impactful programs aimed at deepening the faith of the community. From May 13-14, 2025, a Regional DST (Diocesan Resource Team) Orientation for Basic Ecclesial Communities (BEC) was held, bringing together 46 DST members from various dioceses across the region. The seminar was meticulously planned and executed by Fr. I. P. Sarto, ensuring a well-structured and meaningful experience for all participants. The presence of Most Rev. Shyamal Bose and Most Rev. Salvatore Lobo added grace and significance to the event. It was truly a learning and enriching experience for everyone involved.

On May 22, 2025 the Centre hosted a Faith Formation Program for Children, with 83 young participants enthusiastically attending the session. The program was animated by Bro. Rajesh Naskar and Bro. Subilash Bar, who led the day with creativity, energy and spiritual insight. Their engaging approach left a lasting impact on

the children, fostering a deeper understanding of their faith. These initiatives reflect Dishari Pastoral Centre's continued commitment to nurturing faith across all age groups in the community.

- Fr. Goutam Naskar

A JOYOUS CELEBRATION OF FAITH AND COMMUNITY



Sambhu Nagar substation of Kumrokhali Parish was filled with jubilation on May 16, 2025, as the community came together to celebrate a special occasion. The Holy Mass, presided over by Fr. Subrata Kanji, was a meaningful expression of devotion and community spirit. The highlight of the event was the blessing of the newly constructed grotto, a sacred moment that brought together Christians and people of other faiths in a heart-warming display of interfaith harmony. The sense of unity and togetherness was palpable as around 300 people gathered for a fellowship meal, sharing laughter, stories and moments of joy.

- Br. Saumen Kanji

Installations of Parish Priests

On May 18, 2025, Fr. Panner Selvam was installed as the new Parish Priest of the Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Rishi Bankim Nagar, Baruiapur. As delegated by the Bishop due to ill health, Fr. Tushar Augustine Gomes, Chancellor and Treasurer of the Diocese, presided over the installation ceremony. While installing he highlighted the priest's commitment to the church and the parish community.

A week later, on May 25, 2025, two more installations were held. At Ascension Church, Khari, Rev. Fr. Kanauj Roy, the Vicar General, installed Fr. Ujjwal Mondal as the new parish priest. During the ceremony, the Vicar General, emphasized the crucial role of a parish priest as a pastoral leader.

On the same day, Fr. Soosaiappan Y. was installed as the parish priest of St. Stephen's Church, Kalyanpur. The installation ceremony was conducted by Fr. Himangshu Poti, the Bishop's Delegate and outgoing parish priest, ensuring a seamless transition of pastoral leadership.

Each installation was a formal and public event, signifying the start of the new parish priest's ministry in their respective parishes.

- Fr. Deepak Ekka

SEMINARIANS : CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BARUIPUR

Academic Year 2025 - 2026

Sl. No.	Name		Place
01	Br. Uday Mondal	3rd Yr Theology	Oriens Theological College, Shillong
02	Br. Satyajit Naskar	3rd Yr Theology	Oriens Theological College, Shillong
03	Br. Hrittick Hazra	Licentiate in Philosophy 2nd Year	Papal Seminary, Pune
04	Br. Pritam Mondal	2nd Yr. Regency	Catholic Church, Gosaba
05	Br. David Panja	2nd Yr. Regency	Catholic Church, Kumrakhali
06	Br. Nayan Bor	2nd Yr. Regency	Sacred Heart Church, Morapai
07	Br. Rohit Sharma	2nd Yr. Regency	Catholic Church, Baidyapur
08	Br. Kenedi Kabi Ghughu	1st Yr. Regency	Cathedral Baruiapur
09	Br. Subilash Bar	1st Yr. Regency	Dishari Pastoral Centre
10	Br. Soumen Kanji	3rd Yr. Philosophy	St. Charles' M S, Nagpur
11	Br. Sudip Chakraborty	3rd Yr. Philosophy	St. Charles' M S, Nagpur
12	Br. Anshu Ghoroi	3rd Yr. Philosophy	St. Charles' M S, Nagpur
13	Br. Pabitra Sardar	3rd Yr. Philosophy	MSRS, Barrackpore
14	Br. Jit Sardar	2nd Yr. Minor Seminary	Vianney Home Seminary, Krishnagar

Leave of Absence or Discontinued

1. **Br. Rajesh Naskar** - Leave of absence
2. **Br. Soumik Mondal** - Discontinued
3. **Br. Akash Das** - Discontinued

APPOINTMENTS:

1. **Fr. Sarojit Mandal** – Studies Biblical Theology, St. Peter's Pontifical Institute, Bangalore.
2. **Fr. Rajen Singh** – Vocation Director of Catholic Diocese of Baruiapur.
3. **Fr. Sanjay Minj** – Director of Social Communication and In-Charge of Baruiapur Website.

Transfers and New Arrivals of Religious in the Diocese

Place	Arrival	Outgoing
St. Mary's Adoration Convent, Diamond Park	Sr. Tresa Pullanivalappan (Superior)	Sr. Rose Poovathany
	Sr. Elsit Champapally	Sr. Ninet Kadaparambil
Maria Sadhan Adoration Convent, Sankharipota	Sr. Roselin Kidangen (Superior)	Sr. Stemy Agnes Kurunthodath
	Sr. Michael Maria Kerketta	
	Sr. Pushpa Therese Tigga	
St. Joseph's Church, Raghbapur	Fr. K. K. Devasy, S.J.	
St. Claret Catholic Church, Nazat	Fr. Sahanaya Rajan Michael, CMF	Fr. Robert R., CMF

ICSE & CBSE Results (Class-X) : 2025

Name of the School	Board	Appeared	Passed	90%-100%	80%-89%	60%-79%	35%-59%	Highest
Carmel School, Sarangabad	ICSE	110	110	27	29	31	23	99%
De Paul School, Canning	ICSE	37	37	06	12	16	03	94.4%
Holy Cross School, Baruiapur	ICSE	167	167	71	59	37	00	98.40%
De Paul School, Jayanpur	ICSE	28	28	03	08	09	08	97.85
St. Montfort 's Sr. Sec. Sch., Balarampur	CBSE	77	77	25	24	29	00	99.6%

ISC Results (Class-XII) : 2025

Name of the School	Board	Appeared	Passed	90% - 100%	80% - 89%	60% - 79%	35% - 59%	Highest
Carmel School, Sarangabad	ISC	85	85	13	26	40	06	95%
Holy Cross School, Baruiapur	ISC	101	101	39	30	32	00	98.50%
St. Montfort 's Sr. Sec. Sch., Balarampur	CBSE	80	80	9	31	36	04	98%

WBSE - Madhyamik Results (Class-X) : 2025

Name of the school	Board	Appeared	Passed	AA	A+	A	B+	B	C	Unsuccessful	Highest
Basanti St. Xavier's High School	WBSE	54	48	1	2	2	0	0	43	6	
Basanti St. Teresa's Girl's High School	WBSE	75	74	00	01	05	15	28	25	01	84%
Raghbapur St. Paul's High School	WBSE	150	146	00	01	06	21	55	63	04	87.71%
Carmel High School for Girls, Keorapukur	WBSE	84	82	00	01	10	25	29	17	02	80%
Morapai Loreto Girls' High School	WBSE	24	24	00	00	01	06	08	09	00	

WBCHSE - Higher Secondary Results (Class-XII): 2025

Name of the school	Board	Appeared	Passed	AA	A+	A	B+	B	C	Unsuccessful
Basanti St. Teresa's Girl's High School	WBCHSE	Arts	75	74	-	01	05	15	28	25
Raghbapur St. Paul's High School	WBCHSE	Arts	69	69	00	04	06	09	38	12
		Com	48	48	00	02	09	16	18	03

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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 Anniversary

JUNE

09 Fr. Jansingh Sobhapat, C.M.

**Congratulations Dear Father
Episcopal Ordination**

24 Most Rev. Shyamal Bose

Heartfelt congratulations to Most Rev. Shyamal Bose on the anniversary of his episcopal ordination! May this special day be filled with joy, gratitude and blessings. Wishing him many more years of dedicated service to the Lord and His people. Ad multos annos!

Memorable & Admirable Month of June

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

Intentions for the Apostleship of Prayer - June 2025

That the world might grow in compassion:
Let us pray that each one of us might find consolation in a personal relationship with Jesus, and from his Heart, learn to have compassion on the world.

Transition in Financial Leadership

A handing-over ceremony of the treasurer of the Diocese took place on May 28, 2025, in the presence of Most Rev. Shyamal Bose, the Bishop of the Diocese, marking a significant transition in the financial leadership. The outgoing treasurer, Fr. Tushar Augustine Gomes, formally relinquished his responsibilities to the newly appointed treasurer, Fr. Goutam Naskar who had served as Asst. Treasurer for last 1 year. This formal transfer of responsibilities ensures continuity and stability in the Diocese's financial management.

As Fr. Tushar Augustine Gomes gets transferred after his commendable 5-year tenure as treasurer, we extend our heartfelt gratitude for his dedicated service. We warmly welcome Fr. Goutam Naskar as the new treasurer and wish him all the best in his new role, entrusting him with the financial stewardship of the Diocese.

- Fr. Deepak Ekka

Palli Unnayan Samiti Baruipur's Vibrant Celebrations and Proactive Initiatives

May 01, 2025, marked a special day as Palli Unnayan Samiti Baruipur celebrated May Day with enthusiasm! 120 trainees and staff came together to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of every individual, resonating with the theme "Honouring the labours and recognizing their contributions to society."

On May 09, 2025, the organisation paid tribute to the legendary Rabindranath Tagore on his birth anniversary. 120 office staff, students and children from the Day Care Centre participated in captivating performances of dance, song and recitation of his compositions.

When Cyclone "Shakti" loomed large, the institution sprang into action! On May 26, 2025, 90 student volunteers and office staff participated in a meeting to strategize and prepare for the disaster, ensuring the safety of vulnerable families.

- Fr. Saumen Malik

Strengthening Marital Bonds

A group of 18 couples explored the dynamics of married life, comparing relationships 10 years ago to those today. Through discussion, they identified key challenges and initiatives, emphasizing the sanctity of conjugal relationships and their impact on family and children. The couples made a commitment to mutual respect, joint decision-making and supporting one another. They found the experience invaluable, recognizing its importance in nurturing healthy relationships. Overall, the course provided a valuable platform for couples to grow together.

- Fr. Uttam Naskar

Bishop Shyamal Bose's Programme for the Month of June 2025

Date	Day	Time	Place	Programme
01	Sun	07.00 a.m.	Thakurpukur	Mass and Installation of Fr. Tushar Augustine Gomes
07	Sat	11.00 a.m.	Bishop's House, Baruipur	Meeting with Rev. Sr. Anita Nolis RJM
08	Sun	07.00 a.m.	Hogalkuria	Mass and Confirmation
09	Mon	11.00 a.m.	Bishop's House, Baruipur	Meeting with Rev. Fr. Mathew Kallammakal, CM - Provincial
12	Thu	05.00 p.m.	Canning	Blessing of Rented House of Sisters of CSA
13	Fri	05.30 p.m.	Keorapukur	Mass of Feast Day of St. Anthony and Blessing of the Renovated Church
16	Mon	03.30 p.m.		G.B. Meeting of PUS Baruipur
17	Tue	10.00 a.m.	Dishari, Baruipur	G.B. Meeting of Paribar Jyoti
		04.00 p.m.	Bishop's House, Baruipur	G.B. Meeting of Boys' Town
18	Wed	03.30 p.m.	Bishop's House, Baruipur	Meeting of the Finance Committee
19	Thu	10.30 a.m.	Dishari, Baruipur	Meeting of the Council of Priests
		03.30 p.m.	Bishop's House, Baruipur	Meeting of the Board of Consultors
22	Sun	07.00 a.m.	Basanti	Mass and Confirmation
26	Thu	11.00 a.m.	Dishari, Baruipur	G.B. Meeting of Dishari
27	Fri	10.30 a.m.	Diamond Harbour	Mass of Feast of Sacred Heart and Confirmation
28	Sat	10.30 a.m.	Archbishop's House, Kolkata	Meeting of Morning Star Educational Trust
29	Sun	11.00 a.m.	Archbishop's House, Kolkata	A.G.M. of ABCD
		03.30 p.m.	Archbishop's House, Kolkata	Meeting of BRBC
30	Mon	09.00 a.m.	Barrackpore	G.B. & Staff Joint Meeting of MSRS, Barrackpore

Bishop Salvadore Lobo's Programme for the Month of June 2025

Date	Day	Time	Place	Programme
02	Mon	07.30 a.m.	Midnapore	Visits Fr. Henry Crasta
16	Mon		Croatia	Fr. Ante Gabric's Beatification work
30	Mon			Returns back to Keorapukur

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