

Baruipur News

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Sacramental Reconciliation and Forgiveness in the Year of Ordinary Jubilee 2025

In 2025, the Church celebrates the Year of Ordinary Jubilee, a time that calls all Catholics to renew their faith and grow spiritually. Though jubilees often include special events and celebrations, this year's focus highlights something foundational to our Christian lives: sacramental reconciliation and the power of forgiveness.

Reconciliation is not only an opportunity to say "sorry" for our mistakes; it's an invitation to restore our relationship with God and with others. The sacrament of reconciliation gives us the chance to heal, rebuild trust, and experience God's mercy in a real way. In a world full of conflict, hurt and division, reconciliation offers a path to peace and healing. It calls us to forgive one another, heal broken relationships, and grow in faith.

The Heart of Reconciliation

Sacramental reconciliation allows us to experience God's mercy deeply. It's a chance to reconnect with God by turning away from sin. The word "repentance" comes from Greek "*metanoia*" meaning a complete change of heart.

This sacrament is a great gift, where God offers forgiveness through the priest and restores our relationship with Him. The Catechism (CCC 1446) explains that reconciliation involves actions from both the penitent and the priest, bringing healing and strength through God's mercy.

For Catholics, the confessional isn't just about guilt; it's about healing and renewal. It's where God invites us to return to Him, transforming our hearts and relationships.

Reconciliation and the Call for Peace

The Year of Ordinary Jubilee invites us to deepen our understanding of reconciliation.

Reconciliation is about receiving forgiveness and sharing it with those around us.

Forgiveness is essential to healing. Holding onto anger only keeps us tied to past hurts. Though forgiving others can be difficult, it is necessary for peace. The Lord's Prayer reminds us that we ask God to forgive us as we forgive others - we cannot fully receive God's forgiveness if we are unwilling to forgive.

Forgiving others doesn't just free them, it frees us too. In this Jubilee year, we are called to reflect on our relationships and ask ourselves who we need to forgive. Forgiveness has the power to heal, restore peace, and transform our relationships.

Practical Ways to Embrace Reconciliation in 2025

The Year of Ordinary Jubilee is a time to embrace reconciliation in practical ways. It's not just a spiritual goal but a concrete action in our daily lives. Here are several ways we can actively live out this call to reconciliation and forgiveness:

Going to Confession Regularly: The sacrament of reconciliation is a gift that we should use regularly. Let us make it a habit to visit the confessional at least once a month. Regular confession helps us stay spiritually healthy and aware of areas in our lives that need healing. It reminds us of God's endless mercy and gives us the grace to grow.

Examine our Conscience: Let us take time each day to reflect on our actions, thoughts, and feelings. What areas of our life need reconciliation? Are there people we need to forgive or ask forgiveness from? An honest examination of conscience is key to understanding where God's mercy is most needed in our hearts.

Forgive Others: Forgiveness is one of the hardest yet most rewarding things we can do. In the Year of Ordinary Jubilee, it is time to challenge ourselves to forgive. This may mean letting go of past hurts, mending broken relationships, or offering peace to someone who has wronged us. Remember, forgiveness doesn't mean forgetting or excusing the hurt - it means releasing the power that the offense holds over oneself.

Seeking Spiritual Guidance: If we are struggling with forgiveness or unsure of how to approach reconciliation, we need to seek guidance from a priest or a spiritual director. They can help us navigate difficult situations and offer advice on how to heal spiritually and emotionally.

Reconcile Beyond the Confessional: While confession is a powerful tool for spiritual healing, reconciliation extends beyond the walls of the Church. We need to look for opportunities to reconcile in our relationships with others whether it's a family member, a co-worker, or even a friend with whom we've had a falling out. Reconciliation in everyday life has the potential to bring healing and peace to the world around us.

The Jubilee Call to Mercy

This Jubilee year is a reminder of God's mercy, not just for us as individuals, but for the entire world. We are called to experience that mercy in our hearts and then extend it to others. Reconciliation isn't only about asking for forgiveness from God; it's about letting His forgiveness transform our relationships with others. Through sacramental reconciliation, we experience healing that strengthens us to forgive and build peace in the world.

+ Shyamal Bose

Veneration of the Jubilee Cross at Khari Parish

The Parish of Ascension Church, Khari, welcomed the Jubilee Cross on February 06, 2025. A team of representatives, including the parish priest, a religious sister, a lay man and woman and two youth, brought the cross from Baidyapur Parish.

The 14-day veneration period began on February 07 with a solemn adoration and an hour-long prayer service. Special veneration services were held on Tuesdays and Fridays, featuring hymns, Rosary recitations and reflections on the Sorrowful Mysteries.

On February 09, the Jubilee Cross was taken to Mahamaya, a substation of the parish, for veneration and procession. A large crowd participated, singing hymns and praying the Rosary.

A Way of the Cross was held on February 14, where parishioners carried the cross, adding their personal prayers and intentions. A final procession was held on February 16, traversing the villages of Bamunerchak,



Nischintapur and Saheb Bari. The event concluded with the parishioners gathering to pay their respects to the Jubilee Cross.

The presence of the Jubilee Cross in Khari parish drew large crowds and provided a deeply spiritual experience for many, who were enriched by carrying and touching the cross.

- Fr. Panneer Selvam

Foundation Blessing and Conferring of the Holy Sacrament of Confirmation



February 08, 2025, marked a momentous day for the Catholic community in Mograhat as Fr. Durlav Bar, the parish Priest, laid the foundation stone for a new church. The ceremony was a beautiful blend of prayer, tradition and community spirit.

The following day, February 09, 2025, was a day of joy and celebration at Sacred Heart Church, Morapai as 58 young souls received the Holy Sacrament of Confirmation. Most Rev. Shyamal Bose, Bishop of Baruiipur Diocese, led the ceremony, emphasizing the significance of faith, vocation and the gifts of the Holy Spirit. The event was a testament to the unwavering commitment to faith.

- Br. Soumik Mondal

Zonal Youth Orientation Program: Khari Zone

The Khari Zone Youth Orientation Program was held at Morapai Parish on February 23, 2025. The event aimed to educate and empower 100 participants, including youth leaders, students and parish members, on pressing global issues.

Resource Person, Fr. Saumen Malik, presented thought-provoking sessions on three critical global issues such as Climate change's impact on the environment and human lives, Migration's causes and consequences, particularly among youth, Child labour's harsh realities and ways to combat it.

Interactive sessions, lively group discussions and real-life case studies encouraged participants to share ideas, develop action plans and pledge to take impactful steps to make a difference in their communities.

The program culminated in a spiritual celebration, featuring a Holy Hour and Holy Eucharistic celebration led by Fr. Kanauj Roy, VG. The event also marked a special milestone – the Priestly Ordination Anniversary of Fr. Rajen Singh. Fun indoor games added a lighthearted touch to the proceedings.

In his closing remarks, Diocesan Youth Director, Fr. Rajen Singh, expressed heartfelt gratitude to all contributors, hailing the event as a resounding success in inspiring young people to become responsible global citizens.



- Mr. Debasish Baidya



The Jubilee Cross in Morapai Parish

On February 19, 2025, the Jubilee Cross was brought to Sacred Heart Church, Morapai, where a procession and veneration ceremony were held with a large congregation. The cross was then taken to different mission stations and villages, attracting large numbers of devotees who flocked to venerate and receive blessings from the cross.

- Fr. Durlav Bor

Paribar Jyoti



Paribar Jyoti initiatives focused on empowering Family Cell members and promoting family well-being across the Diocese through orientation and training. The Members shared experiences, challenges and triumphs, fostering a sense of community. It resulted in requests poured in for seminars and workshops tailored to specific community needs.

Programs included Family Cell Orientation, Marriage Preparation and Young Couples Workshop. A total of 357 participants engaged, including 269 women and 88 men.

Paribar Jyoti reflected on the progress made to be proud of its growing momentum. It witnessed the power of empowerment, as Family Cell members and participants became catalysts for positive change in their families and communities. As the organization looks to the future, it remains committed to nurturing this momentum, inspiring a new generation of leaders to build stronger and more loving families.

- Fr. UttamNaskar

Palli Unnayan Samiti Baruipur

PalliUnnayan Samiti Baruipur implemented several initiatives to enhance climate resilience and promote sustainable agriculture among marginal farmers.

Lime Powder Distribution and Green Net Provision

On February 04 & 05, 2025, 19,600 kg of lime powder was distributed among 700 marginal farmers in Namkhana and Patharpratima Blocks to combat soil salinity. Additionally, 80 poor and marginalized betel vine farmers received green nets for repairing their betel vines.



Exposure Visit and Demonstration

On February 13 & 14, 2025, 46 selected farmers from Namkhana and Patharpratima Blocks participated in an exposure visit to Ramkrishna Ashram Krishi Vigyan



Kendra, Nimpith. The two experts, Dr. Somnath Sardar and Dr. Tapas Sahana demonstrated climate-resilient agricultural practices, including vermin compost production, azola production and saline-tolerant crop cultivation.

Workshop on DRR and Climate Change Adoptive Agriculture

On February 17&18, 2025, a workshop was conducted for 42 selected farmers from Basanti and Gosaba Blocks. Resource persons, Mr. Sukdeb Samanta and Mr. Ashim Barman, discussed climate change impacts, adaptation methods and sustainable agriculture practices. Farmers learned about vermin compost production, saline-tolerant crop cultivation and economic resilience through off-farm activities.



These initiatives aim to promote climate resilience, sustainable agriculture and economic empowerment among marginal farmers in the Sundarbans region.

- Fr. Saumen Malik

Faith Formation Programmes - Dishari

Dishari Pastoral Centre organized a series of enriching faith formation programmes throughout the month of February 2025. The events aimed to strengthen the spiritual lives of the faithful and foster a deeper understanding of Basic Ecclesial Communities (BEC).

The month began with a seminar on Basic Ecclesial Communities held in Sajnaberia Parish on February 02, 2025. Fr. Pradeep Roy and Fr. Montu Kanji served as resource persons, sharing their insights on BEC. The seminar was well-received by the attendees, who engaged in meaningful discussions.

On February 14, 2025, another seminar on BEC took place in Mithani. This seminar continued the exploration of BEC concepts and allowed participants to deepen their knowledge and understanding of community building within the Church.

A significant event followed on February 23, 2025, when a whole-day faith formation programme was held for 256 faithful at Kalipur. Fr. Indrajit Sardar, with his extensive knowledge and experience, enriched the gathering, providing valuable insights that were greatly appreciated by the attendees.



In addition to these larger events, several BEC unit meetings were held at various locations within the Diocese, further promoting the principles of community and faith formation. Fr. Goutam Naskar and Mr. Dipankar Sardar played crucial roles in overseeing and coordinating the success of all these events, ensuring their smooth execution and effective participation.

These faith formation programmes were a testament to the commitment of Dishari Pastoral Centre in nurturing the spiritual lives of the faithful and fostering unity within the Diocese.

- Fr. Goutam Naskar

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

MARCH

- 05 Br. Anshu Ghoroi
- 08 Fr. Rajen Simon Singh
- 24 Rt. Rev. Shyamal Bose
- 25 Fr. Kanauj Roy

Priestly Ordination Anniversary

MARCH

- 22 Fr. Kuruvilla Thottam, SJ
- 31 Fr. Uttam Naskar

Priestly Ord. of Bishop

- 19 Rt. Rev. Salvadore Lobo

Memorable & Admirable Month of March

- 01 Fr. Le Jeune Jean Pierre S.J.
- 05 Fr. Van Hove Joseph S.J.
- 15 Fr. Ernst Albert S.J.

NOTICE BOARD

Paribar Jyoti: Programme for the Month of March 2025

- # Marriage Preparation Course from 7th March to 8th March 2025
- # Personality Development for Class IX & X from 17th to 18th March 2025
- # Young Couples Programme from 28th March to 29th March 2025

Intentions for the Apostleship of Prayer - Month of March 2025

For families in crisis: Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

Priests' Recollection

Nestled in the serene surroundings of Dishari Pastoral Centre, Baruipur, the priests of the Diocese gathered on February 19 & 20, 2025 for a two-day recollection, a sacred pause from their ministerial duties.

Fr. Kanauj Roy, VG, extended a warm welcome and introduction to Fr. Benjamin Roy, MC, a renowned international preacher. Through his thought-provoking talks and professional facilitation, he led the participants in meaningful moments of prayer and reflection, exploring the theme of Discernment with depth and insight.

The recollection besides talk encompassed Eucharistic adoration, the sacrament of reconciliation and concluded with the celebration of Holy Eucharist. Most Rev. Shyamal Bose joined the priests, lending his support and presence to the spiritual gathering.

While proposing vote of thanks Fr. Rajen Singh gratefully acknowledged that the discernment-based spiritual exercise provided a vital opportunity for priests to rejuvenate their spirits, reflect on their ministry and deepen their commitment to their vocation.

- Fr. Deepak Ekka

Commemorating Fr. Ante Gabric's 110th Birthday



A delegation led by Fr. Mirko Nikolić, Vice-Postulator and founding members of Fr. Ante Gabric foundation, visited the Sundarbans region to commemorate the 110th birthday of Fr. Ante Gabric SJ.

The team met with locals, gathering insights for the cause of beatification and canonization. They visited islands like Tushkhali and Daknamari, finding

people having great reverence for him and praying through Fr. Gabric's intercession.

On February 28, 2025, a concelebrated Mass was held at Mariapalli, presided over by Most Rev. Shyamal Bose along with Most Rev. Salvadore Lobo, Fr. Mirko Nikolić, Fr. Irudhaya Jothi, Fr. Indrajit Sardar, parish priests and other clergy. Nearly 800 parishioners attended, with some traveling from distant places. During the mass the prayer for beatification was recited.

Bishop Shyamal Bose released a book, "The Apostle of Sundarban: The Life and Mission of the Servant of God Fr. Ante Gabric SJ," and the first copy was presented to Bishop Salvadore Lobo, as well as to guests from Croatia and local dignitaries.

- Fr. Pradip Dari

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

Date	Day	Time	Place	Programme
05	Wed	07:00 a.m.	Baruipur Cathedral	Mass - Ash Wednesday
06	Thu	10:30 a.m.	Dishari - Baruipur	Core Committee Meeting
		04:00 p.m.	Archbishop's House, Kol.	G. B. Meeting of the Boys' Town
10	Mon	03:30 p.m.	Ananda Palli, Keorapukur	G. B. Meeting of PUS Baruipur
11	Tue	10:30 a.m.	Paribar Jyoti	G. B. Meeting of Paribar Jyoti
12	Wed	03:30 p.m.	Bishop's House, Baruipur	Meeting of the Finance Committee
13	Thu	10:00 a.m.	Bishop's House, Baruipur	Meeting of the Board of Consultors
15	Sat	08:00 a.m.	MSRS, Barrackpore	Morning Star - Symposium
20	Thu	11:00 a.m.	Dishari - Baruipur	G. B. Meeting of Dishari
27	Thu	10:30 a.m.	Dishari - Baruipur	Meeting of All commissions
30	Sun	10:30 a.m.	Kalyanpur	Blessing of the Renovated Church of St. Stephen's Church, Kalyanpur

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

Date	Day	Time	Place	Programme
1-8	Sat-Sat		Green Park, Kolkata	Retreat for Missionary Sisters of Charity