



## St. Alphonsus de Liguori, C.Ss.R.: The Saint of Every Age

The Catholic Church has many Saints, but some stand out across all ages. St. Alphonsus Maria de Liguori, founder of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (C.Ss.R.), is one such Saint. He was a Priest, Bishop, preacher, teacher and a man deeply committed to the poor and spiritually forgotten. Though he lived in the 18th-century in Italy, his message still speaks to us today. He teaches us how to show mercy, pray faithfully and serve others with compassion.

Alphonsus was born in 1696 in Naples, Italy, into a noble and educated family. He was a brilliant student, earning degrees in law by the age of 16. He became a well-known lawyer in Naples, but he began to feel empty and unsettled inside. After losing an important case, he realized that worldly success was not enough. He said, "World, I know you now. I leave you forever." At 27, he gave up law and chose to become a priest. He was ordained in 1726 and began his work among the poor and sick.

He chose to serve in the countryside, preaching to people who had little access to the Church. His words were simple, clear and full of love. Many who felt forgotten were moved by his message of God's mercy. As he preached in rural areas, Alphonsus saw how many people had no spiritual guidance. They didn't understand their faith and were often ignored by both society and the Church. He wanted to help.

In 1732, Alphonsus founded the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer the Redemptorists. Their mission was to preach the Gospel, especially to the poor and abandoned. He trained his missionaries to speak in ways ordinary people could understand and to

preach not just with words, but with compassion. Today, Redemptorists serve in over 80 countries, continuing Alphonsus' work of reaching those most in need.

Alphonsus wasn't only a missionary – he was also one of the Church's great teachers. At that time, some Church leaders were very strict, making people fear God rather than love Him. Alphonsus showed a different way. He taught that God is merciful and patient, and that priests must guide people gently.

His best-known book, Moral Theology (Theologia Moralis), became a guide for priests in the confessional. He helped the Church see that morality should not be cold or harsh, but full of mercy and understanding.

In 1871, Alphonsus was declared a Doctor of the Church. In 1997, Pope John Paul II named him the Patron Saint of Confessors and Moral Theologians.

Although Alphonsus lived more than 250 years ago, his life still teaches us valuable lessons today:

### 1. **Mercy, Not Harshness**

Alphonsus believed that the Church should teach the truth, but always with kindness. He helped people see that no matter how sinful or weak they were, God's mercy was greater. He encouraged confessors to be gentle and to understand people's struggles.

### 2. **Prayer Is the Key to Salvation**

One of his most famous sayings is: "He who prays is saved; he who does not pray is lost." He believed that prayer is essential – not just for priests or religious, but for everyone. He encouraged simple daily prayer and trust in God. He also had deep

love for the Eucharist and for Mary. His spiritual writings, like "The Glories of Mary" and "Visits to the Blessed Sacrament", continue to inspire people today.

### 3. **Go to the Margins**

Alphonsus didn't wait for people to come to the Church – he went to them. He walked to small villages, preached in the streets and comforted the sick. He cared deeply about the poor and the spiritually abandoned. His life reminds us that the Church's mission is not just inside church buildings, but also in homes, streets, prisons and places where people feel forgotten.

St. Alphonsus died in 1787 at the age of 90. He had suffered illness, physical pain and misunderstandings, but he never gave up. He trusted completely in God's love.

His feast is celebrated on August 1st, but his example speaks to every day of the year. His teachings still help priests, missionaries and laypeople bring the Good News to the world.

St. Alphonsus de Liguori shows us how to live a faithful Christian life: pray deeply, show mercy, serve the poor and never give up on others. He reminds us that holiness is not about being perfect, but about loving God and others with all our heart.

In our world today, where many people feel distant from the Church, unsure about faith, or burdened by life's challenges, Alphonsus points the way back to Jesus. He teaches us that no one is too lost to be saved and that God's love is always waiting for us.

May we follow his example by praying daily, sharing mercy with others and bringing hope to those most in need.

+ Shyamal Bose

## Sensitization of Lay Leaders



The Diocese of Baruipur, led by Most Rev. Shyamal Bose, hosted a vibrant sensitization program for Lay Leaders from 23 parishes at Dishari Pastoral Centre on July 12, 2025. The event, brought together 122 participants, including lay organization members, sisters and parish priests. The program featured spiritual reflections, discussions on the role of laity and interactive sessions. The Commission for Laity's Diocesan Core Committee expressed gratitude to contributors, especially Fr. Gautam Naskar, for his support. The program concluded with appreciation and renewed commitment to lay empowerment.

- Mr. Ashim Joachim Campoo

## Carmel Day Celebration



Carmel Day Celebration on July 16, 2025, was truly blessed for the CMC sisters in Budge Budge as we commemorated the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, our patroness. The Holy Mass, offered by Most Rev. Shyamal Bose and concelebrated by a few priests, was spiritually enriching. The Bishop's homily highlighted the Carmelite heritage, the story of Mother Mary appearing to Simon Stock and giving him the scapular, which symbolizes protection from harm for those who

wear it. It was a joyous day spent with our Bishop and beloved brother-priests.

- Sr. Namita CMC

## 5th World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly Celebration



The 5th World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly was celebrated on July 27, 2025, at St. Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Church, Hogalkuria, marked by a special visit from Most Rev. Shyamal Bose. The Bishop was warmly welcomed by the parishioners and the celebration continued

with a Eucharistic Celebration honouring grandparents and the elderly. During the homily, Bishop emphasized the theme "Blessed are those who have not lost hope" (Sir 14:2), aligning with the Jubilee of Hope 2025 context. He encouraged grandparents and the elderly to be beacons of hope despite challenges and motivated grandchildren to care for their elderly family members with love and compassion. Following the Mass, the Bishop and parishioners felicitated the grandparents and the Bishop gave gifts to each of them. The parishioners expressed their heartfelt gratitude for Bishop's visit, cherishing the experience as a treasured blessing.

- Fr. Junesh Gamang CM

## Youth Orientation and Career Counselling



participants benefiting from the sessions. Both programs, led by resource persons Fr. Rajen Singh, Mr. Sarbeswar Chakrabarty and Mr. Bablu Sarkar, contributed to the holistic development of the youth, aligning with the goals of youth ministry to strengthen their relationship with Christ and prepare them for responsible roles in society.

- Mr. Mrinmay Sardar

## Dishari Pastoral Centre



In July 2025, Dishari Pastoral Centre successfully organized six impactful programs. These initiatives focused on spiritual growth and community building. Key highlights included:

**Catechism and Altar Servers' Training:** Three programs were held in Dishari, Kalipur and Panchamkhanda, targeting children to deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith and enhance their liturgical participation.

**Basic Ecclesial Community (BEC) Meetings:** Three BEC unit meetings took place in Hotor, Bibirchak and Cathedral

Parish, fostering prayer, faith-sharing and community reflection among members to strengthen the Church at the grassroots level.

- Fr. Goutam Naskar

## Palli Unnayan Samiti Baruipur

Palli Unnayan Samiti Baruipur launched several initiatives in July 2025 to empower local communities:

1. Tailoring Training Course: The 6th batch of the 6-month course began on July 01, 2025, with 30 poor women enrolled. The program aims to provide vocational skills for better earning opportunities.
2. Basic & Advance Beautician Course: The 39th batch of this 6-month course started on July 03, 2025, with 31 young women participating. Upon completion, participants receive a certificate and a beautician kit.
3. Climate Change Resilience Agriculture Workshop: Held from July 07-09, 2025, this workshop trained 40 marginal farmers on adopting climate-resilient agricultural practices to reduce disaster risks.
4. Career Counselling for Youth: From July 17-19, 2025, 40 marginalized youth participated in a career counselling meeting, focusing on analyzing strengths, weaknesses and job market demands, as well as creating effective CVs.

These initiatives aim to enhance livelihoods, promote sustainable agriculture and support youth in their career pursuits.

- Fr. Saumen Malik



## A Grand Day for Grand Hearts: Grandparents' Day Celebration at Sacred Heart Church, Thakurpukur



On the morning of July 27, 2025, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Thakurpukur, joyfully welcomed nearly 200 grandparents and elderly members for a heartfelt celebration of the Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. Held as part of the parish's ordinary jubilee, the event was a touching tribute to the wisdom and presence of our elders. The solemn Eucharistic celebration began at 8:00 a.m., led by Parish Priest, Fr. Tushar Augustine Gomes, with Fr. Amrit Ekka concelebrating. In his homily, Fr. Tushar highlighted the power of prayer in the lives of grandparents, calling their quiet strength and sacrifices the "cornerstones of our families." The presence of altar boys and girls added youthful charm to the service.

A special farewell was given to Sr. Beatrice IBVM, a beloved Loreto nun, as she prepares to begin a new mission. Her years of dedicated service were remembered with deep gratitude. Following the Mass, each grandparent received a picture of Sts. Joachim and Anne, a blessed scapular and a packet of snacks simple yet heartfelt tokens of appreciation. A joyful photo session rounded off the

day, capturing the warmth, smiles and shared memories. The celebration reminded all that the wisdom of our elders is a treasure to cherish. At Sacred Heart Church, grandparents are honoured as golden threads, binding generations in love and faith.

- Fr. Amrit Ekka

## Recollection cum Vianney Day Celebration



The clergy of the Diocese of Baruipur got together for a recollection on July 29, 2025 in Dishari. It commenced with a reflective talk by Fr. Satish Makhal C.Ss. R, getting the priests hyped about their mission. It was followed by adoration and individual confession. The next day, Fr. Faustine Brank raised awareness about the POCSO Act among the priests, ensuring they understood its implications and the importance of adherence to legal standards. It was a significant step in promoting legal awareness and social responsibility within the parish community. The recollection wrapped up with celebrating the feast of St. John Marie Vianney, the patron saint of priests with a concelebrated Mass led by Most Rev. Shyamal Bose and a felicitation program where Most Rev. Salvadore Lobo talked about how the saints' qualities can inspire the priests, strengthening the bond of priestly fraternity among the 47 attending clergy.

- Fr. Goutam Naskar



August

03	Br. Kenedi Kabi Ghughu
14	Br. David Panja
19	Fr. Pradip Dari
21	Fr. Soosaiappan Y.
25	Fr. Alexcius Kindo, S.F.X
27	Fr. Joseph Toppo, S.J.



## Installation of Parish Priest

On July 20, 2025, Rev. Fr. Kanauj Roy, Vicar General of the Diocese of Baruipur, installed Fr. Sanjit Lakra CM as the new parish priest of St. Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Church, Hogalkuria. During the ceremony, Fr. Kanauj Roy highlighted the significance of the formal transfer of leadership, emphasizing the community's role in supporting their new pastor in his ministry. The installation rite, within the Holy Mass, involved handing over the keys of the church and tabernacle to Fr. Sanjit, formally entrusting him with the leadership of the parish. The ceremony was attended by parishioners, clergy and religious, marking the beginning of Fr. Sanjit's ministry in the parish.

- Fr. Junesh Gamang CM

## Transfers and New Arrivals of Religious in the Diocese

PLACE	ARRIVAL
Dhyan Ashram, Konchowki	Fr. Sebastian Xalxo, S.J.
	Fr. Francis David Raj, S.J.
Hridaynibas, Don Bosco, Diamond Harbour	Fr. Xess Amit, S.D.B.
	Fr. Pathiyamoola Thomas, S.D.B
De Paul School, Canning	Fr. Shriakus Ekka, C.M. (Principal)
St. Joseph's Church, Raghappur	Dn. Stefan Kisku SJ
	Fr. K. K. Devasy SJ
Kalahridaya, Bakeshwar	Br. Kuriakose V.G.
Fr. Agnel's Minor Seminary, Gangarampur	Fr. Leonray C. A. D'Melo, sfx

## Memorable & Admirable Month of August

05	Fr. S. Chinnappan
29	Fr. Jean Henrichs, S.J.

## NOTICE BOARD

### Paribar Jyoti

- # Marriage Preparation Course: August 01-02, 2025.
- # Young Couples Workshop: August 22-23, 2025.

## Intentions for the Apostleship of Prayer - Month of Aug. 2025

**For mutual coexistence :** Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons.

## Bishop Shyamal Bose's Programme for the Month of August 2025

Date	Day	Time	Place	Programme
02	Sat	10.30 a.m.	Christ Church Girls' High School, Dum Dum	Meeting of WBA Christian Schools
03	Sun	10.30 a.m.	Dishari, Baruipur	Mass for Women day celebration
11	Mon	10.00 a.m.	Dishari, Baruipur	G. B. and A.G.M. of Paribar Jyoti
12	Tue	10.00 a.m.	Bishop's House, Baruipur	Meets Provincial of the Daughters of the Cross

## Bishop Salvadore Lobo's Programme for the Month of August 2025

Date	Day	Time	Place	Programme
01	Sat	11.45 a.m.		Goes to Mangalore
03	Sun	07.00 a.m.	Bondel	Mass at St. Lawrence Church, Bondel
04	Mon			Health Check up at Fr. Muller's Hospital
05-07	Tue-Thu			Family Program
08	Fri	12.45 p.m.		Returns to Keorapukur
10	Sun	07.00 p.m.	Ballygunge, Kolkata	Attends Feast of St. Lawrence
18-20	Mon-Wed		Prem Dan, Park Circus	Triduum for M.C. at Prem Dan, Park Circus
22	Fri			Mass for the Feast of the Society, Prem Dan