



## DIVINE MERCY: A CALL TO TRUST AND RETURN

There are times when God speaks to the world in a quiet yet powerful way. The message of Divine Mercy is one such gift a reminder that no matter how far we may feel, God's love and forgiveness are always close to us. This message was given through Saint St. Faustina Kowalska of the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy, a simple nun whose hidden life became a witness to the mercy of Christ.

St. Faustina lived a simple life, often marked by sickness and misunderstanding. She was not a theologian or a public figure, yet Jesus chose her to share His message with the world. In 1931, while she was in her convent cell, she saw Jesus dressed in white, one hand raised in blessing and the other touching His chest. From His Heart came two rays one pale and one red. As she looked at Him, her soul was filled with peace.

Jesus then said, "Paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the signature: Jesus, I trust in You." St. Faustina felt unworthy and unable to do this. She did not know how such a task could be fulfilled. In obedience, she told her confessor, and later an artist painted the image under her guidance. St. Faustina carefully explained every detail so that it would reflect what she had seen. Though she felt no painting could show the true beauty of Christ, Jesus assured her that the grace attached to the image would touch many souls.

Jesus also asked St. Faustina to write down her experiences. In simple obedience, she began to keep a diary. In it, she recorded her conversations with Him and her own journey of trust. These writings, though simple, reveal a powerful truth: God's mercy is greater than any sin.

In her diary, we hear the loving voice of Jesus. "My Heart overflows with great mercy for souls," He told her, "especially for poor sinners." He does

not wait for us to be perfect. He asks us to come as we are. The greatest sorrow for Him is not our sin, but when we refuse to trust in His mercy.

To help us receive this mercy, Jesus gave us simple ways to pray the Chaplet, the Novena, and the Feast of Divine Mercy. The Chaplet of Divine Mercy is a short and powerful prayer. Using rosary beads, we offer to the Father the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus, asking mercy for ourselves and for the whole world through the prayer, "For the sake of His sorrowful passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world". Jesus told St. Faustina that this chaplet is especially powerful at the hour of death. It brings peace and opens hearts to His mercy. It is a prayer we can say at any time, especially at three o'clock, the hour of His death.

The Divine Mercy Novena is a special gift of grace. Jesus asked that it begin on Good Friday and continue for nine days, ending on Divine Mercy Sunday. Each day, we bring different groups of souls to His Heart—sinners, priests, the faithful, those who do not know Him, and those who have grown distant. No one is left out.

Jesus made a beautiful promise about this novena. He said that He would grant many graces to those who pray it with trust. The novena is not just a prayer, but a journey. As we pray day by day, our hearts begin to change. We grow in compassion, patience, and love.

Therefore, as Good Friday approaches, we are invited to begin this novena. Let us walk with Jesus from the Cross to the joy of Mercy Sunday. Let us place our lives, our families, and the needs of the world into His Heart. Even a simple prayer said with trust can bring great grace.

The novena leads us to the Feast of Divine

Mercy, celebrated on the Sunday after Easter. Jesus promised that those who go to Confession, receive Holy Communion, and trust in Him will receive complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. "The floodgates of My mercy are opened," He said. It is a day of renewal and new beginnings.

St. Faustina's life shows us how to live this message. She went through suffering and darkness, yet she never stopped trusting. She wrote, "When I trust in Your mercy, I am at peace." Her life reminds us that trust is not always easy, but it leads us closer to God.

Divine Mercy is not only about prayer; it is about how we live. Jesus taught Saint St. Faustina Kowalska the simple "ABC of mercy": Ask for mercy, Be merciful, and Completely trust in Him. When we live this through kind actions, gentle words, and prayer we become signs of God's mercy in the world.

Today, our world needs this message more than ever. Many people feel burdened by guilt, pain, and fear. Through Divine Mercy, Jesus reminds us that no one is beyond His love. His mercy is greater than any sin and stronger than any weakness.

In the end, Divine Mercy is an invitation we cannot ignore. It meets us where we are and gently leads us to where we are meant to be. If we open our hearts, even in a small way, we will discover that His mercy is already waiting for us ready to heal, to restore, and to renew. And as we receive it, we are quietly transformed, becoming bearers of that same mercy in a world that longs for hope.

May the prayer given to St. Faustina become the prayer of our hearts: "Jesus, we trust in You."

+ Shyamal Bose

## The Sacrament of Confirmation – Kumrakhali Parish



On March 01, 2026 Most Rev. Shyamal Bose administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to 96 candidates of Kumrakhali Parish in a solemn and grace-filled Eucharistic celebration. The Holy Eucharist was concelebrated by Fr. Indrajit Sardar, Fr. Subrata Kanji and Fr. Pathinathan, with the active participation of catechists and faithful from all substations. In his homily, the Bishop encouraged the confirmands to deepen their faith in Jesus Christ and live as committed witnesses of the Gospel. The church was filled with joy as the faithful gathered in large numbers to witness this important milestone in the spiritual journey of the young candidates and to receive the Episcopal Blessing. The Bishop's fatherly presence and pastoral care added warmth and significance to the occasion, making it a truly memorable experience for the confirmands and the parish community.

- Fr. Indrajit Sardar

## International Women's Day Celebration

The Women's Commission of Baruipur Diocese marked International Women's Day on March 08, 2026 with a meaningful and vibrant celebration. The day commenced with the Holy Eucharist, presided over by Most Rev. Shyamal Bose, along with Fr. Deepak Ekka. In his reflection, the Bishop invoked God's blessings



upon all women, highlighting their strength, faith and essential role in family and society. After the liturgy, participants assembled at Palli Unnayan Samiti, Baruipur, where they shared refreshments and extended Women's Day greetings. The formal program commenced with a warm welcome by the Women's Commission Secretary, Miss Babli Das, who greeted the dignitaries and participants from various parishes.

The Bishop addressed the gathering, appreciating the vital role, dignity and contributions of women in both Church and society and encouraging them to continue serving with faith and courage. The celebration featured a variety of cultural expressions, including songs, dances and a skit, creating a lively and engaging atmosphere. The program fostered a sense of unity and shared appreciation among all present. Tokens of gratitude were distributed as a gesture of thanks.

- Ms. Babli Das

## CLC Day at Kalipur



The Solemnity of the Annunciation of Our Lord, March 25, 2026, was meaningfully celebrated as CLC Day at St. Peter's Church, Kalipur, with the active participation of 57 CLC mothers. The program began with a brief and

practical input Session that encouraged the members to reflect on their role in family and parish life. This was followed by a presentation outlining the present activities of the CLC and realistic steps planned for the future.

The Holy Eucharist, celebrated by Fr. Deepak Ekka, Parish Priest, became the heart of the day, inviting everyone to renew their commitment to live their vocation with faith and service. During the Mass, 09 members were recognized and received the CLC Ribbon from Sr. Priya Rose, MC, as a sign of their dedication and involvement. The celebration helped strengthen a spirit of unity and responsibility, encouraging all to continue their journey with renewed faith, practical commitment and service in their daily lives.

- Mrs. Baby Majhi

## RIP



Mrs. Ashalata Bose was called to her eternal rest in the early hours of April 11, 2026, at the age of 64. She was the beloved wife of Mr. Parimal Bose, brother of the Bishop and sister-in-law of the Most Rev. Shyamal Bose. Her Funeral Mass was held at

the Church of Our Lady of Fatima, Gosaba and was presided over by the Bishop. Family, friends and members of the faithful gathered to commend her soul to God and to bid her a prayerful farewell. We continue to extend our heartfelt condolences to the Bishop and the bereaved family members. May our prayers bring them comfort and strength in this time of loss. Let us remember her in our prayers: Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul rest in peace.

- Fr. Deepak Ekka

## Chrism Mass-Sacred Heart Church, Thakurpukur



The Chrism Mass was solemnly celebrated at Sacred Heart Church, Thakurpukur, on March 31, 2026, bringing together clergy and faithful from across the diocese. Prior to the Eucharistic celebration, Most Rev. Shyamal Bose introduced Fr. J. A. Santhanam, who led a recollection for the priests. He highlighted the value of spiritual sharing in strengthening priestly fraternity, overcoming isolation and deepening communion with God, the Bishop, fellow priests and the faithful. The recollection concluded with adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The Mass was presided over by Most Rev. Shyamal Bose, in the presence of Most Rev. Salvatore Lobo, Bishop Emeritus, along with all the priests working in the diocese and a large gathering of the faithful from across the parishes. In his homily, the Bishop reflected on the role of priests as dispensers of the sacraments and authentic teachers of the Church's Magisterium, while also inviting the faithful to support them through constant prayer. During the liturgy, the priests renewed their

priestly promises. The Bishop then solemnly blessed the Oil of Catechumens, the Oil of the Sick and consecrated the Sacred Chrism-signifying unity and spiritual renewal within the diocesan Church. The celebration stood as a powerful expression of communion, priestly unity and shared faith, leaving all present spiritually enriched. The event's success was attributed to the efforts of Fr. Tushar Augustine Gomes, Fr. Amrit Ekka and the Parish Chrism Committee.

- Fr. Deepak Ekka

## Dishari at a Glance

A Parish-level BEC seminar was organized on March 08, 2026 at Khari Parish, beginning at 10:00 a.m. with a solemn Bible procession and veneration of the Holy Bible. The session was conducted by Fr. Abonindra Das and Mr. Dipankar Sardar, who emphasized the importance of Basic Ecclesial Communities (BEC) and highlighted ways to spread the Word of God among the people. The program was informative and spiritually enriching for all participants.

On March 09 & 10, 2026 a Lenten recollection was organized for all the catechists working in the Diocese. The recollection was preached by Emeritus Bishop, Salvador Lobo. It focused on the importance of silence and how to enter into a prayerful mood. The theme of the recollection was "Faith and the Final Destiny." A total of 46 catechists participated in the program. They returned with a renewed spirit to continue their mission in the vineyard of the Lord. Following this a faith formation program for adults and spouses was held on March 13, 2026. The program commenced with an enriching session led by Fr. Abonindra Das, who reflected on the core meaning and purpose of the Lenten season. A total of 64 participants attended the program. The day concluded with the Way of the Cross and the celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

- Br. Subilash Bar



## Palli Unnayan Samiti Baruipur

On March 31, 2026, a Medical Check-up Camp was conducted for children of the Day Care Centre (DCC) under the initiative of FADV Italy, in collaboration with Neotia Healthcare Unit. Doctors examined the children and provided necessary medicines. Representatives from FADV Italy were present and supported the smooth implementation of the camp. The initiative aimed to improve the health and well-being of the children.

The SAD Partners Meet 2026 was held from March 16-20, 2026 at Hotel Garden Reach, Kalimpong, West Bengal. Representatives from PUS Baruipur, including the Director, staff members and the accountant, attended the meet. The program focused on reviewing progress, sharing experiences and planning future strategies. An exposure visit was also organized, offering practical insights and field-level learning.

Palli Unnayan Samiti Baruipur welcomed Fr. Kanauj Roy as the new Director on March 01, 2026. His appointment marks a new phase for the organization. The staff has expressed positive support for the new leadership. The organization also extends its sincere gratitude to the outgoing Director, Fr. Saumen Malik, for his dedicated service and contributions during his tenure.

- Fr. Kanauj Roy



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## APRIL

02	Fr. Deepak Ekka
05	Fr. Goutam Naskar
09	Fr. J. R. Dejus
13	Fr. Bijendra Raita, CM
15	Fr. Sarajit Das
17	Fr. Tushar A.Gomes
29	Fr. Daniel Makhal
30	Rt. Rev. Salvadore Lobo

## Priestly Ordination Anniversary

### APRIL

13	Fr. Sushad Baidya
15	Fr. Faustine Brank
16	Fr. Jaswant Nayak, CMF
22	Fr. J. A. Santhanam
26	Fr. Sunil Ray
26	Fr. Surojit Mitra
27	Fr. Daniel Makhal
27	Fr. Jonas Singha
29	Fr. Prolay Boidya
29	Fr. Anuj Hemrom CMF

### Memorable & Admirable

13th April : Fr. Abani Sardar

### Intentions for the Apostleship of Prayer - Month of April 2026

**For priests in crisis :** Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

## Empowering Individuals, Strengthening Families



The month of March was marked by meaningful engagement and impactful outreach as Poribar Jyoti connected with individuals across diverse age groups from adolescents to the elderly through a wide range of initiatives. These included training programs, seminars, orientation sessions, workshops and meetings, all designed to

address the evolving needs of families and communities. Through these multifaceted efforts, adolescents and youth were supported in their journey of personality development, gaining essential life skills and confidence. Couples benefited from sessions that encouraged the nurturing of healthy and positive relationships, while elderly participants found renewed strength in programs focused on reinforcing family bonds and emotional well-being.

Special emphasis was placed on empowering family members, particularly those associated with the Family Cell, by enhancing their understanding of individual roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and strengthening the family unit. In total, 602 participants took part in these initiatives, including 174 men and 428 women. This encouraging level of participation reflects the growing trust in and impact of Poribar Jyoti's mission to build resilient individuals and harmonious families.

- Fr. Uttam Naskar

## NOTICE BOARD

ParibarJyoti: # Marriage Preparation Course from April 10-11, 2026  
# Young Couples Workshop from April 24-25, 2026

## He is Risen



### Easter and Bengali New Year wish

Rt. Rev. Shyamal Bose, Bishop of Baruipur,  
Rt. Rev. Salvadore Lobo, Bishop Emeritus of Baruipur and all the Fathers  
at Bishop's House  
wish all the readers

A very joyous and hope filled Easter and  
May the blessings of the Risen Lord be  
with you always and protect you.

### Happy Easter

&

### A Happy and Prosperous Bengali New Year - 1433.

শুভ বাংলা নববর্ষের  
আন্তরিক প্রীতি ও শুভেচ্ছা