

# Baruipur News

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Bishop's House, Baruipur P.O., Kolkata - 700 144, India

July 2024

## GRATITUDE TO THE DSA CALCUTTA ON THE FEAST OF STS. JOACHIM AND ANNE

We celebrate the feast of St. Joachim and Anne on the 26<sup>th</sup> of July every year. Regardless of the authenticity of the legends about Saints Joachim and Anne, we know for certain that the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Immaculate Conception, had parents. They loved her, raised her, and offered her to God. Today they are saints under the names of Joachim and Anne, and the faithful continue to seek their intercession.

The strong character of Mary in making decisions, her continuous practice of prayer, her devotion to the laws of her faith, her steadiness at moments of crisis, and her devotion to her relatives all indicate a close-knit, loving family that formed the Immaculate Heart of Mary, to be the Tabernacle of God and make Him incarnate and Immanuel.

Devotion to St Anne in the Eastern church dates from at least the 4th century. In the West, there was devotion to her as early as the 8th century, but she was honored by a feast day, July 26, only after the 13th century. Devotion to St Joachim did not really develop until the 15th century. He was only assigned a feast day, 16 September, in 1913. Following the Second Vatican Council, their feasts were combined and are now celebrated together.

I take the privilege to remember and thank the Congregation of the Daughters of St. Anne (Calcutta), which took its root in the home soil of the Catholic Diocese of Baruipur. Founded by His Grace Archbishop Brice Meuleman, S.J., often called the 'missionary Bishop'; in 1903, Fr. Alphonse Dela Croix S.J., laid the foundation stone of the first convent in the village named Morapai, on the feast of Pentecost in May 13, 1903. Known to be a man of foresight and vision, His Grace understood the impossibility of

the continuity of serving the growing number of Catholics through merely the foreign missionaries. Only a local congregation would fill in the need. Therefore, he went ahead with a clear plan by officially opening the novitiate of the Daughters of St. Anne's in Morapai, on Feb 29, 1904, with Sr. Barbara Doran, IBVM, as the first novice mistress of the four Bengali girls from Morapai, namely Sr. A. Regina, Sr. Veronica, Sr. Agatha, and Sr. Magdalen.. He is the inspiration behind the conception and initial growth of the Congregation, who keenly followed its systematic development in Bengal. Novice Agnes received her first profession on October 24, 1904 on her death bed.

The tiny sapling planted in the remote village of Morapai, has spread its shoot and grown to a giant tree with many branches in India and abroad. Slowly but steadily the missionary works spread in other parts of 24 Parganas and beyond. The sisters are involved in the Archdioceses of Calcutta and Bhubaneswar; dioceses of Asansol, Baruipur, Jalpaiguri, Dumka, Ambikapur, Krishnagar and Bhagalpur. The Congregation is also offering its service in Italy. In the year 1996, the Holy Father, John Paul II, granted the congregation its Pontifical status. Hence the prophetic statement of Pope Leo XII, "Oh India your sons and daughters will become the instrument salvation", is fulfilled among the Daughters of St. Anne.

The Charism of the DSA is to be at the service of the church through the apostolic activities of Christian instruction, education and formation, especially of girls and women and of social and charitable work among the poor (like dispensaries and *Grihini* school for drop out and uneducated; orphanages and handloom centers) with sole aim of upliftment and empowerment. Their main thrust in the rural

areas is among the poor children and villagers, who would otherwise be denied the privilege of education which is so central to life. Thus, they run Government recognized and Government aided schools in the vernacular medium, with two High Schools and a Primary Teachers Training College in towns and all other institutions in the villages.

The vision of the DSA is "To live more fully the baptismal grace by a more intimate consecration to God and to help the church in implanting and strengthening the Kingdom of Christ", and their mission is "To be at the service of the church through the apostolic activities of Christian instruction, education and formation, especially of girls and women and of social and charitable work among the poor".

The Congregation takes its inspiration from the Ignatian spirituality, mainly "*Ad maiorem Dei gloriam*", which means, "For the Greater Glory of God". In the Catholic Diocese of Baruipur, the Congregation has six Convents in Raghobpur, Morapai, Khari, Gobrachak, Kalikanan and Ranigarh. There is one High School in Morapai and four Primary Schools in Khari, Raghobpur, Morapai and Ranigarh. Besides, they run three hostels in Raghobpur, Gobrachak and Morapai. At this outset, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to them for the magnanimous heart for the mission of the universal Church. The Sisters act as the leaven in the dough in all the parishes they work in. Their valuable contribution in the pastoral work among the poorest of the poor is praiseworthy. On the feast of Sts. Joachim and Anne, we pray that the intercession of these saints continue to enable them to grow in strength and grace and spread the love of God for His greater glory and the good of mankind.

+ Shyamal Bose

## BLESSING AND INAUGURATION OF CHURCH AT BHASA

On June 02, 2024, the renovated church of Bhasa (Madhya Gurguria), a substation of Khari parish was solemnly inaugurated and blessed by Most Rev. Shyamal Bose along with 10 celebrants with a great multitude of Christian faithful from various substations of the parish. The Bishop cut the ribbon at the entrance of the church and through the entrance dance by the parish youth the Bishop and celebrants were led to the altar. Then Bishop Shyamal Bose pronounced the prayer for the dedication of the church and sprinkled the Holy water on the church and the new statues.

The Parish priest and Mrs. Mridula Midya, the village catechist, took the initiative to renovate the church as it was in a bad shape and without window's panes. The village people contributed as much as they could for this noble cause. Many villagers contributed through their hard works.

The people are extremely happy and thankful to God for the gift of the beautiful Church. It remains as a symbol of faith and unity in the area where most of them belong to other faith.

- Fr. Panneer Selvam



## PALLI UNNAYAN SAMITI BARUIPUR

Palli Unnayan Samity Baruipur has been dedicated to assisting the marginalized poor for the past four decades. To combat issues such as *child marriage, trafficking of children and women, and family violence*, it has been implementing both preventive and remedial measures by empowering village women and youth with increased livelihood opportunities. As part of this effort, the organization has offered an Integrated Beautician Course for 3 months in 3 villages of 24 Parganas South District, specifically in Gosaba, Basanti and Baruiapur, benefiting 60 women. It has provided computer literacy and Basic Spoken English training to 27 youths.

The World Environment Day with the slogan "our Land is Our Future" was observed in 8 different projects operational areas on June 05, 2024. Street rally with 297 children and transplanted 27 saplings were as part of mass awareness against environmental pollution



and global warming. Besides, there was a day of workshop on Climate change Adoptive agriculture in its campus for the 65 Field Staff on June 21, 2024.

The 380 families of Gosaba and Basanti who had been adversely affected by the "Cyclone Remal" were reached out with Shelter Kit consisting of Tarpaulin 1, Ground sheet 1, Mat 2 and Rope as emergency humanitarian response on June 10 & 11, 2024 with the support of Caritas India. It was followed up with 5 kg Saline Tolerant Paddy (Santoshi) seed distribution to 134 marginal farmers in Gosaba, Basanti and Mathurapur II Blocks on June 25&26, 2024 for sustainability of their agriculture based livelihood.

The campaign, "We Ring the Bell", with the aim of drawing the attention of the school authority towards having Disable Friendly Infrastructure in the schools was held from June 15-25, 2024 in 6 schools and 6 ICDS in Baruiapur for 993 children, teachers, guardians and PRI members.

The Capacity Building Training on Children Parliament was conducted at PUS under the projects WCP and DRR III from June 24-27, 2024 for 85 selected adolescent boys and girls. Children Parliament members meet regularly to discuss social issues, child rights violations and other problems they face.

- Fr. Saumen Malik

## PARIBAR JYOTI

With the effort and hard work of the staff and animators, Paribar Jyoti has successfully brought about awareness to sustain healthy relationship in the families. Following with multiple volunteers; meetings, orientations, seminars and workshops were held in different parishes and sub-stations of the Diocese. To mention a few: Parenting Programme for the Parents of Adolescents of Pakhirala, Personality Development Orientation Programme for the Youth of Gostomath, Husband-Wife Relationship Seminar for the Couples of Baidyapur and Laxmikantapur. The total numbers of participants were 748 of which 587 were women and 161 were men.

- Fr. Uttam Naskar



## LAITY SUNDAY



This year, in compliance with Laity Commission of the Conference of Catholic Bishops of India, on Sunday, June 23, 2024 Laity Sunday was observed with great respect to lay leaders in all churches throughout the Diocese of Baruiapur. The dedication of the lay faithful and the support of the clergy and religious made this significant event possible.

It should be noted that St. Teresa of Child Jesus Church, Basanti, Cathedral of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and St. Teresa of Calcutta, Baruiapur, St. Joseph's Church, Raghobpur and Sajnaberia, St. Anthony's Church, Keorapurkur, Sacred Heart Church, Morapai, St. Stephen's Church, Kalyanpur and other Parishes and Substations have all offered the Eucharist in accordance with the guidelines established by the Laity Commission of CCBI. The lay leaders

were happy that their service is acknowledged and applauded by the clergy, religious and the laity in general.

- Mr. Joachim Ashim Campoo

## INSTALLATION OF PARISH PRIEST AND PRIEST IN-CHARGE



Fr. Sisir Khan



Fr. Sarajit Das

The induction of Fr. Sarajit Das as Priest In-Charge of the Church of Blessed Virgin Mary, Panchamkhanda, took place on June 16, 2024 during the Mass presided over by Rev. Fr. Kanauj Roy. The next Sunday, June 23, 2024, Most Rev. Shyamal Bose installed Fr. Sisir Khan as a new Parish Priest of St. Theresa of Child Jesus Church, Basanti.

The essential moments characterizing the induction were: profession of Faith, opening and closing of the church door, sitting at the confessional, ringing the church bell, presentation of the key of the tabernacle etc. The Holy Mass was attended by many parishioners and members of the clergy and religious. At the conclusion of the Holy Eucharist, the new Parish Priest and Priest In-Charge were greeted with congratulations and best wishes for their ministry to the Parish assigned to each of them.

- Br. Saumik Mondal

## DISHARI AT A GLANCE

The Diocesan Pastoral Centre conducted two BEC seminars cum meetings. It started from a village 10 Number, one of the substations of Kumrokhali Parish on June 13, 2024 followed by Canning Parish on June 15, 2024. With the impetus given by the team of resource persons, Fr. Goutam Naskar, Mr. Saurav Naskar, Mr. Ajay Naskar, Mrs. Rupa Samadar and Mr. Dipankar Sardar a sense of earnestness prevailed among the 121 participants to form and strengthen BEC in their respective places. They felt that it would be the best platform for deepening one's faith and love for the Word of God and replicating it by a worthy way of life as testimony of faith to the people of all faith.

Catechism teachers play a vital role in the faith formation of the children. Thus, a day was spared for the training of catechism teachers of the Diocese on June 23, 2024. A total of 67 catechism teachers were present for the training. Rev. Fr. Kanauj Roy through his sessions enlightened them to make catechism classes more creative and attractive so as to captivate children's interest and attention. The teachers went benefited as they drew some skills and techniques for catechism classes.



- Mr. Dipankar Sardar

## SEMINAR ON CATECHESIS AND PARISH MINISTRY



The three days seminar on Catechesis and Parish Ministry for the priests working in the Diocese of Baruiipur was held at Dishari, Baruiipur Diocesan Pastoral Centre from June 24-26, 2024. As many as 44 priests, both diocesan and religious, serving in the Diocese of Baruiipur, took part in the seminar along with the Bishop. Most Rev. Shyamal Bose while introducing and welcoming Rev. Dr. Fr. Gilbert Choondal, SDB, Bangalore Province, the resource person, expressed his happiness to see so many priests taking time out to take part in the seminar. He invited the members to take active part in the three days deliberation.

The resource person dealt with some of the relevant challenges faced in our catechetical and parish ministry. He put emphasis on the importance of ongoing training, recognition and sustenance of personnel with appropriate means and resources to promote and enhance catechesis in every area and for all age groups: children, adolescents, young people and adults. Over the course of three days, attendees delved into a range of catechetical and

pastoral matters, culminating in group discussion with concrete catechetical action plan for the diocese.

On the evening of June 24, 2024, the first day of the seminar, Most Rev. Shyamal Bose who celebrated his 5th Episcopal anniversary was felicitated by the priests.

- Fr. Goutam Naskar

## PASTORAL VISIT AND CONFIRMATION

Bishop Shyamal Bose paid his official Pastoral Visit to the Parish Priest and the faithful of the Church of Our Lady of Fatima, Gosaba from June 07-09, 2024. During his visit he had meeting with the various commissions and pious associations of the parish so as to have an assessment of the parish. Bishop visited the substations, Pakhirala, Sabnamaskar and Birajnagar, of the parish. He also visited many families of the parish and substations.

It was a fitting occasion for a group of 96 boys and girls who received the Sacrament of Holy Confirmation on June 09, 2024. They were all elegantly dressed and well prepared for the reception of the Sacrament. At the end of the Mass Bishop presented them a souvenir of Divine Mercy and Rosary.



- Br. David Panja

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## JULY

10	Fr. J. Pathinathan
12	Br. Soumen Kanji
14	Fr. Sisir Khan
23	Br. Subilash Bar
23	Fr. Meghnad Singha
23	Fr. J. A. Santhanam
28	Fr. Sirnus Topno
31	Br. Rajesh Naskar

**Happy Birthday  
Dear Fathers and Brothers**

*Priestly*  
**Ordination**  
*Anniversary*

## JULY

10	Fr. Tushar Augustine Gomes
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**Congratulations Dear Father**

## NOTICE BOARD

### Paribar Jyoti

- # Month of July 2024 no Marriage Preparation and Young Couples Programme.
- # Marriage Preparation Course from August 09-10, 2024
- # Young Couples Programme from August 30-31, 2024

## Memorable & Admirable Month of July

12	Fr. Watteyne Jackues, S.J.
27	Most Rev. Henry D'Souza
28	Fr. De Steenhault Yves, S.J.

## FOR A SYNODAL YOUTH MINISTRY: NEW STYLES AND LEADERSHIP STRATEGIES

It was a moment of pride for the diocese that one of our youth Mr. Raj Bagh, currently the National Youth President of India, represented the Episcopal Catholic Bishops Conference of India at the International Youth Ministry Congress, organized by the Dicastery for Laity, Family, and Life from May 22 to 26, 2024, at Il Carmello Hospitality & Spirituality House, Sassone, Rome. Approximately 300 delegates from Episcopal Conferences across 110 countries, along with various youth organizations from around the globe, participated in the conference.



The meeting was a pivotal moment directly linked to the preparation for the next World Youth Day in Seoul in 2027 and the celebration of the fifth anniversary of the publication of the post-synodal Apostolic Exhortation *Christus Vivit*. It was indeed a great moment for him to meet the Holy Father, His Holiness, Pope Francis, personally and be blessed.

- Mr. Sarbeswar Bapi Chakrabarti

## Intentions for the Apostleship of Prayer - Month of July 2024

**For the pastoral care of the sick:** We pray that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick confer to those who receive it and their loved ones the power of the Lord and become ever more a visible sign of compassion and hope for all.

## Bishop Shyamal Bose's Programme for the Month of July 2024

Date	Day	Time	Place	Programme
01	Mon		MSC, Barrackpore	Mass and Inauguration of the Academic Year 2024 -2025, Morning Star Regional Seminary
03	Wed	11.00 a.m.	Basanti	Meeting on demolition of old building of Basanti St. Xavier's School
04	Thu	10.00 a.m.	Dishari - Baruipur	Meeting of the Council of Priests
06	Sat		Bishop's House, Baruipur	Rev. Fr. Thomson Aerathedathu MSFS – Major Superior for MSFS at MSRS
07	Sun	07.00 a.m.	Baruipur Cathedral	Mass at Cathedral - Vow of CLC Mothers
09-10	Tue-Wed		Dishari - Baruipur	Priests' Recollection
12	Fri	10.00 a.m.	Bishop's House, Baruipur	Meeting with Rev. Fr. George Arackal, Mission Superior and Rev. Fr. Vincent George, Asst. Provincial
13	Sat	10.30 a.m.	Dum Dum - St. Stephen's School	Meeting of WBA of Christian Schools
14	Sun	07.00 a.m.	Gangarampur	Mass and Installation of New Parish Priest
16	Tue	07.00 a.m.	Budge Budge	Feast Day of CMC Sisters
19	Fri		Bishop's House, Baruipur	Meeting with the visitors from Bangladesh
25-26	Thu -Fri		Dishari - Baruipur	Seminar on Synodal Synthesis Report and Ordinary Jubilee 2025
28	Sun			Mass for Grandparents' Day

## Bishop Salvadore Lobo's Programme for the Month of July 2024

Date	Day	Time	Place	Programme
01	Mon	06.30 a.m.	Barrackpore	Inaugural Mass and inaugural Session of Morning Star Regional Seminary
07	Sun	08.00 a.m.	Dum Dum	Mass and Confirmation at. Mother Teresa Church, Dum Dum
17-20	Wed - Sat		Raigunj	BEC Regional Council Meeting in Raigunj