

Waves

JULY 2023

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Provincial Speaks



Dear Confreres and Readers,

I am happy to greet you with another issue of WAVES. As in the past, this issue is also filled with happenings in our province. Our parishes and institutions are engaging in various activities for the people. My most profound appreciation to my confreres who are involved in furthering God's Kingdom in their ministry places and surroundings.

In the past months, all of us have been anguished to see the happenings in Manipur. Fierce clashes erupted in the northeastern state between various ethnic groups resulting in the death of more than 150 people, thousands injured, hundreds of churches belonging to different denominations burned to ashes and thousands of houses and properties destroyed, and a significant number of people displaced. And the situation is far from normal even to this day.

We have been praying for peace and brotherhood since the violence began, and we need to continue to be in solidarity with all the suffering people of Manipur through our constant prayer. Through his July prayer intention, our Superior General has asked us to pray to end the violence in Manipur and construct a lasting, just peace.

I earnestly request you to incessantly pray for this intention that peace will be returned and the situation will be normalised at the earliest. Let us continue to be agents of peace in our places of ministry and work to create a just society based on the values our Lord has taught us.

Wishing you a pleasant reading of our Province Newsletter - WAVES-July Volume IV Issue.

Fraternally yours in Holy Cross,

Fr. Simon Fernandis, CSC
Provincial Superior

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EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,



We live in a rapidly changing world where new technologies, skills and knowledge constantly emerge and evolve. To keep up with these changes, we need to adopt a mindset of lifelong learning: the continuous pursuit of personal and ministerial growth. Lifelong learning is about more than just formal education or training. It is also about exploring new interests, hobbies, and passions, expanding our horizons and perspectives, and challenging ourselves to learn something new daily.

For us priests and religious, lifelong learning can enrich our lives in many ways, such as:

1. Enhancing our ministry. We can stay relevant and effective in our ministry by updating our skills and knowledge. 
2. Boosting our creativity and innovation. Exposing ourselves to diverse ideas and experiences can stimulate our imagination, generate new insights and solutions, and unleash our creative potential.
3. Improving our health and well-being. Engaging our brains and bodies in meaningful activities can reduce stress, increase happiness, prevent cognitive decline, and maintain our physical and mental health. 

As you go through the pages of this newsletter, you will come across numerous programmes organised

in our parishes and institutions in pursuit of the personal growth of all our stakeholders. We hope this will enhance the effectiveness of their ministry and work. Lifelong learning is not a destination but a journey. It is not a requirement but a choice. It is not a burden but a joy. Let us embrace lifelong learning as a way of life that can make us happier, more innovative, more effective, and better.



George Jacob, CSC

HOLY CROSS PARISH KOLORIANG

Send-off and Welcome

Holy Cross Parish, Koloriang, bid farewell to Fr. Gabriel Darlong, CSC, on the 14th of May, with a



solemn Eucharist and a cultural programme. The church leaders acknowledged Fr. Gabriel's contribution to the church's growth in the Kurung Kumey region and thanked him for his significant contributions to their lives. We wish him the best for his new ministry at Holy Cross Novitiate, Yercaud.

Fr. Prasanta Basumatary CSC, the new Parish Priest, was accorded a warm welcome on the 28th of May. On the 04th of June, Rev. Fr. Thomas Lakra, the Dean of Sangram Deanery, installed Fr. Prasanta, CSC, as the new Parish Priest of Holy Cross Parish, Koloriang,



during a concelebrated Eucharist. Catechists, church leaders, religious and faithful witnessed the installation ceremony and wished the new parish priest God's blessings.



Stephen Langsianmunga, CSC

ST. ANDRE PARISH, NYAPIN

Youth Meet at Sangram

Parish youth of St. Andre Parish, together with the parish priest, Fr.



Stephen, CSC, attended the 'Youth Meet' of the Sangram deanery at Sangram from the 18th to 21st of May. Youth from six deanery parishes came together to attend this three-day event focusing on the theme 'Christus Vivit' - Christ is alive, the Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation to young people by Holy Father Pope Francis. Many competitions were conducted along with cultural programmes.

Marian Procession

Parishioners of St. Andre Parish walked in procession around the village with the statue of Mother Mary, beautifully decorated and with

children dressed as angels to honour the Virgin Mary. The procession held on the 28th of May saw



many people faithfully and devotionally reciting the rosary and singing Marian hymns despite the hot and humid weather. The procession culminated with the Eucharist celebrated by Rev. Fr. Stephen, the Parish priest. After the Eucharist, the faithful treated themselves to a sumptuous meal.

Training for the Catechists and Church Leaders

St. Andre parish organised a three-day training program for the Catechists and Church leaders from the 6th to the 8th of June. Fr. Joseph, VC, Director of



Divine Retreat Centre, Gumto, animated the sessions. The wonderfully animated sessions helped the leaders actively participate in it enthusiastically and committed.



Stephen Lohrii, CSC



ST. JUDE SCHOOL, NYAPIN

Talent Hunt

St. Jude's School, Nyapin, witnessed a variety of talents when it organised a "Talent Hunt" program



on the 23rd of June. It was endless entertainment and awe to see students coming onto the stage to perform their items, including dances, singing, mimicry, and poem recital. The programme, which lasted two hours, saw some incredible performances by the students. Fr. Lawrence Wanniang, CSC, the principal, distributed the prizes to the winners.



Stephen Lohrii, CSC

HOLY CROSS PARISH, UMKIANG

The Catholic Youth Convention held at Umkiang Parish on the 10th and 11th of June was a resounding success. The event saw the participation of 160 enthusiastic young individuals from various villages within the parish. The convention commenced with Holy Eucharist offered by Fr. Sijo Joseph, CSC, followed by a session by the catechist. The resource person for the convention, Fr. Bilingshar Syiemlieh, CSC, focused on the significance of youth's engagement in liturgical and para-liturgical

celebrations and the vital role that young people play in the church's worship. During the convention days, a cultural evening showcasing the rich diversity of talents and cultural heritage and a



football match won by the Umkiang youth was organised. The highlight of the convention was a heart-warming programme organised by the parents dedicated to their children. The Catholic Youth Convention in Umkiang Parish was a remarkable gathering, providing spiritual enrichment, cultural celebration, and a platform for intergenerational connection. The event successfully reinforced the importance of youth involvement in religious activities and promoted a sense of belonging among the participants.



Sijo Joseph, CSC

GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH, JONGKSHA

Farewell and welcome



A day of gratitude and greetings was celebrated



at Good Shepherd Parish Jongksha on the 11th of June. On this day, Fr. Suresh Kagoo, CSC, was installed as the parish priest of Good Shepherd Parish during a concelebrated Eucharist and in the presence of the religious and faithful. The outgoing parish priest, Fr. Valerian Serrao, CSC and the newly installed parish priest Rev. Fr. Suresh Kagoo, CSC, were honoured, thanked, and welcomed by the Parish community. During the seven years of ministry, Fr. Valerian saw accomplishing great things and taking the faithful to a more profound faith experience. The newly built parish church is a towering testimony to his commitment and dedication. The parish community thanked Fr. Valerian for the great work he has accomplished and welcomed Fr. Suresh as their new shepherd.



 **Antony Jose, CSC**

Serrao, CSC, as the new Parish Priest of Holy Cross Parish, Mawpat. Most Rev. Wilbert Marwein, Bishop of Nongstoin Diocese, presided over the concelebrated mass. This was the first visit of the bishop to the parish. The faithful welcomed him with a shawl and assured him of their prayerful support. After the mass, a short felicitation programme was organised to welcome the new parish priest. The outgoing parish priest, Fr. Suresh Kagoo, CSC, was thanked by the people for leading the parish since 2018.



Marbilus Kharakor, CSC

ST. JOHN THE APOSTLE PARISH, KHAWZAWL

Marian Procession



The month of May concluded with a Marian procession at Ngaizawl village. The solemn Marian procession was followed

by the veneration of the statue of Mother Mary in front of the grotto. There were about 200 faithful, including the children. The procession concluded with the sharing of refreshments for all.

Sunday School Day



Diocese of Aizawl celebrates the feast of the Most Holy Trinity as Sunday School Day. With the diocese, St John's the Apostle Church,

HOLY CROSS PARISH, MAWPAT

Installation of New Parish Priest

Amidst the inclement weather, many people gathered to witness the installation of Fr. Valerian





Khawzawl celebrated the day meaningfully with various programmes. All the Sunday school students participated in the Holy Eucharist and received a special blessing from the new parish priest.

Marriages

Under the initiative of the Catechist Pu Joseph Zira, three couples received the Sacrament of Marriage



at Chawngtlai village. They were prepared well through proper catechism and classes on the Sacrament of marriage. Another couple also received the Sacrament of Marriage in Ngaizawl village on the 25th of June.

Installation of the Parish Priest

On the 18th of June, Fr John Pau Khaw Chin, CSC, was installed as the Parish Priest of St John's the Apostle



Parish at Khawzawl by Most Rev. Stephen Rotluanga, CSC, DD, in the presence of priests, religious and faithful. On the same day, Fr. Ishongkun Kurbah, CSC, was welcomed to the parish as asst. parish priest and was congratulated on his ordination



John PKC, CSC

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL, KHAWZAWL

Farewell and Welcome

St. Joseph School, Khawzawl, organised a special program to bid farewell to Fr. Parsanto Basumatary, CSC, the outgoing principal and to welcome Fr. John PKC, CSC as the new principal on the 15th of June. The students, teachers and parents gathered for the occasion thanked Fr. Prasanto for his services to the school and promised their wholehearted cooperation to the incoming principal.



World Environment Day

The World Environment Day was celebrated in the school by organising a drawing competition on the theme "Save the World". Many students participated in the contest and came out with innovative ideas and creative drawings for a better future.





Parents-Teachers Meeting

The meeting organised on the 19th of June was a big success as most of the parents turned up despite the inclement weather. After welcoming the parents, the principal presented the school plan for this year. Many parents expressed happiness and satisfaction about the school's running and the teaching staff's performance. Few of them shared their personal views and suggestions for the betterment of the school. The enriching sharing and interactions were beneficial for the school's administration.



John PKC, CSC

their roles and responsibilities, the qualities of a village leader, the importance of the Holy Eucharist, animating a prayer session, the nitty gritty of preaching, and preparing prayers and so on. Fr. Lancy D'Souza, CSC, Fr. Ivan D'Silva, SVD, Mr. Subia Debbarma, Catechist, Mr. Lala Darlong, and Mr. Roitua Darlong animated the sessions and it was appreciated by all.

Lancy D'Souza, CSC

Training of Catechism Teachers

Training for catechism teachers was organised on the 03rd of June at St. Paul Parish, Kumarghat.



Thirty-six teachers from thirteen

villages attended the workshop, for which Fr. Lancy D'Souza, CSC, was the resource person. He explained the importance of developing the children's faith and enlightened them about their responsibilities as catechism teachers. Sr. Vero Antony, MC, taught them action songs that would be useful to them to make the classes enjoyable. The day concluded with teachers drawing up action plans for three months.

Vero Antony, MC

ST. PAUL'S PARISH, KUMARGHAT

Training for Village Leaders

A deanery-level village leaders training was organised at the parish on the 20th and 21st of May. Sixty leaders from three parishes spend these days interacting with one another and learning about



Youth Seminar

St. Paul's Parish, Kumarghat, organised a youth seminar on the 18th of June on the theme - Youth and the Eucharist. One hundred and ninety youth from the parish took part in it with enthusiasm. The resource persons – Fr. Lancy D'Souza, CSC, Sr. Vero



Antony, MC and Mr. Paul Sangma, spoke on Holy Eucharist, the role of the youth in the church, youth



leadership, and prayer. At the end of the seminar, an action plan was drawn up, and an evaluation was conducted by Mr. Roitua Darlong and Mr. Francis Darlong.



attended the newly formed School Management Committee meeting.

Laying of the Foundation Stone

On the 06th of May, Fr. Simon Fernandis, CSC, Provincial Superior, laid the foundation stone for the school extension building.



He was given a warm welcome during the school assembly.

Meeting of Guardians-Teachers-Management

In view of bringing awareness among the parents/guardians about the paradigm shift in education and its impact on the school, a Guardian-Teachers-Management meeting was held for all the classes (KG I to Class XII) spreading across thirteen days. Most of the guardians expressed their greater appreciation for the efforts of the school administration in creating awareness among the



HOLY CROSS SCHOOL KATHALCHERRA

Visit of HCEF Secretary

A warm and affectionate welcome was accorded to Fr. George Jacob, Secretary, Holy Cross Educational Foundation, who visited the school on the 03rd of



May. In his address to the school assembly, he insisted on the legacy and heritage of Holy Cross. He was impressed with the discipline and performance of the students. After meeting with the principal, he visited all the classrooms, met the school staff and



guardians regarding the emerging trends in the educational sector.

Farewell and Welcome

In May, Holy Cross School, Kathalcherra, witnessed



many welcomes and sent off to teaching faculty and headmistress. It bid farewell to Sr. Christine, BS, who served the school for six years as the headmistress. Sr. Mariam, BS and Sr. Judith, BS, who served the institution for the past three years, were also given a befitting send-off from the school community. Mr. Chandan Kumar Roy, after serving the school for twenty-three years, retired and was given a befitting farewell during the same cultural programme organised in honour of the outgoing staff of the school. Sr. Cicilia Kuzur, BS, who replaces Sr. Christine, was warmly welcomed upon her arrival at the school. Sr. Emelia, B. and Sr. Martha BS, too, were welcomed to the school during assembly on different days.



 **Davis Konuran, CSC**

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH
MOHARPARA**

Rosary procession

Parish-level rosary procession was held on the 28th of May to mark the conclusion of the month of Rosary of the Bl.

Virgin Mary.

More than four hundred faithful from different

'mondolis'

under the



Moharpara parish gathered at Khasiamangal. Fr. Joe Paul, CSC, was the principal celebrant for the Eucharistic celebration, which was followed by procession and adoration. During the procession from Khasiamangal to the BSF camp, people recited the rosary and sang Marian hymns in faith and devotion. Refreshment was served to all at the end of the programme.

Parish Sabha

The annual 'parish sabha' was held from the 2nd to the 4th of June at Moharpara, with over 400 people attending the sessions. It began with hoisting the parish flag and holy adoration. Fr. Ivan D'Silva, SVD,





the resource person, spoke on the theme “Give, and it will be given to you.” ‘Mondoli’ reports highlighted the activities organised in the villages. Most Rev. Lumen Monteiro, CSC, was present for the occasion and was given a warm welcome by the faithful. He thanked Fr. Arbok, CSC, the parish priest, for organising a well-planned programme and spoke to the people about the richness and significance of the Eucharist. On the last day, the bishop presided over the holy Eucharist. Cultural programmes were organised over two days depicting the diverse culture of the parish people.

Blessing of Chapel at Sontang



The faithful from Sontang and Tuidu under Moharpara parish are blessed with a new chapel, and it was inaugurated and blessed by Most Rev. Lumen Monteiro on the 17th of June. The presence of Fr. Alfred D’Souza, CSC, province administrator, Fr. Arbok , CSC, the Parish Priest, Fr. Roby, CSC, Principal of Notre Dame School, brothers, sisters and faithful from the neighbouring ‘mondolis’ added joy to the celebration. Bishop thanked the parish priest for his effort and commitment to complete the construction in three months and ten days. He joyfully blessed and inaugurated the new chapel dedicated to St. James, the apostle and presided over the Holy Eucharist. During his homily, the bishop encouraged the faithful to be prayerful and

grow in God's grace. Soon after the Holy Mass, a short felicitation program was followed by a fellowship meal.



Arbok Lyngdoh, CSC

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, PANISAGAR

Honouring our Helpers

The 1st of May is celebrated as 'May Day' by the international community honouring the workers.



On the 03rd of May, Holy Cross School, Panisagar, celebrated 'May Day' with all the assisting staff of the school. The school thanked them and appreciated their efforts in the smooth running of the school. The students presented songs, dances, and gifts in honour of the staff.

Drawing Competitions

Children are gifted with varieties of talents, and those talents must be brought out through competitions and collective efforts. A drawing





competition was organised on the 06th of May, a day of joy for children to use and play with colours. It was a day of bringing out the best in our students, and most of them participated actively and brought out the good in them.

Mother's Day

The purpose of the Mother's Day celebration is to acknowledge the love and dedication of all mothers who sacrifice greatly in raising their children and contributing to their families and communities.



It is a time to recognise mothers' vital role in shaping our lives and express our appreciation for their unwavering support and encouragement. So, on the 14th of May, students honoured the staff who attained physical motherhood with sweets and flowers.

Peace Club Meet



On the 20th of May, Peace Club coordinator Ms. Moumita Reang organised a meeting

with the students of Classes VIII and IX. It was an awareness programme in which students participated well and promised to live in peace and spread the message of peace in their families and society.



Welcome to Bro. Wantei

After the summer vacation, the school reopened on the 21st of June. On this day school community welcomed Bro. Wantei, CSC to school fraternity. He is appointed here for a year of all-



round experience after his novitiate in Tamil Nadu. Students welcomed him with flowers and wished best of luck for his experience.

International Yoga Day



One of the meanings of the word yoga is union, derived from the Sanskrit word 'yuj', which means 'to yoke'. The 21st of June is celebrated as the International Yoga Day. In commemoration of this day, our students performed yoga in the assembly and presented the benefits of this ancient practice.



Kanikkai Jeyaraj, CSC



ST. ANDRE SCHOOL, BODHJUNGNAGAR

Industrial Visit

The class XII students went for an industrial visit to Bodhjungle Industrial Area. It was part of their fieldwork in Economics.

Cleanliness Drive

World environment day is celebrated on the 05th of June. On this day, the school organised a cleanliness drive awareness rally. The Eco Club students took the initiative and spread awareness in the Gamchagopara market area. They also cleaned the surrounding of the market.



Orientation

The orientation program was conducted for the newly joined class XI students. The week-long orientation was filled with fun learning and familiarising with the school environment.

Peace Club

The peace club is an integral part of the school. The animators from JUST Agartala organised a day of orientation for the peace club members. The

students from classes IV to X participated in the orientation programme.

Yoga Day

International yoga day was observed on the 21st of June. All the students and teachers participated in the yoga session along with the entire nation.



Various 'asanas' with their benefits were demonstrated during the assembly. Students were made aware of the importance of yoga practices in one's life.

National Award

The proud moment came for the school when two of our students, Juwel Debbarma of class VIII and Hriday Ghosh from class XI, won gold and bronze medals, respectively, at the Muaythai National Championship. They were also awarded as best fighters from Tripura.





Freshers' Day

The school celebrated freshers' day on the 28th of June to welcome all the class XI students. It was celebrated with a lot of enthusiasm, joy and fun-filled activities. Fr. George Jacob, CSC, the secretary of the Holy Cross Educational Foundation, was the day's chief guest, and he encouraged the students



to focus on their goals and prepare for the future. We congratulate the winners of the Mr. & Miss. freshers 2023-24 competition Banpyntngen Khongjoh and Alvia Debbarma.

 **Iswar Happa, CSC**

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, AGARTALA

Awards for Academic Excellence

“The reward for work well done is the opportunity to do more,” says Jonas Salk. An award ceremony



was organised by Holy Cross School on the 23rd of June to acknowledge the achievements of our brilliant students who have made both the school and the parents proud. These awards are given to recognise the young talents for their academic excellence in ICSE and ISC (arts and science stream) board exam 2023. We congratulated the achievers who set an admirable benchmark for future board aspirants. We had different categories of awards, which included the top ten rank holders in the ICSE exam, top ten rank holders of the ISC (arts and science) exam, 100 marks achievers, and the 'Shantanu Kar Memorial Award' for class toppers. All the winners received a beautiful memento and a cash award.

- Reshmi Paul

Inaugural Celebration of Class XI



It was a proud and pleasant moment for the students and staff of Holy Cross School on the 23rd of June to celebrate the inauguration of the Class XI batch of students for the session 2023-24. Shri. Mithun Das Chowdhury TCS, Dy. Director of Secondary Education was the chief guest of this eventful day. The occasion was also graced by Fr. George Jacob, CSC, Secretary of Holy Cross Educational Foundation; Fr. Jilson Tom, CSC, Principal of Holy Cross School; Fr. Agi Paul, CSC, Vice-principal and some of the parents of the freshers.



The program began with the lighting up of the ceremonial lamp, followed by a welcome dance and a welcome speech by Fr. Jilson, CSC. In his remarks, the chief guest encouraged the students with his words of wisdom and years of experience. Fr. George Jacob, the guest of honour, addressed the students emphasising on holistic development of each student who enters the portals of this institution. The program ended with an ethnic, cultural dance prepared by students of class XII and a vote of thanks by a student representative.



- **Ashmini Jena**

Brahmos, the famous missiles of India. The programme had a formal inaugural program with Fr.



Simon Fernandis, CSC, Provincial Superior as chief guest and Fr. George Jacob, CSC, Secretary of HCEF guest of honour. The programme included a dance performance and songs by our former students. This year first three winning teams received a cash prize worth Rs.50000/-, Rs 30000/- and Rs.20000/- respectively. This endeavour will continue for years to come and carry on this legacy which started in 2013.

- **Jilson Tom, CSC**

QUIZASTER-'A quest for unknown to known'

KUOMU



Like the previous years, the mega quiz show 'Quizaster' was held at Rabindra Satabarshiki Bhawan on the 25th of June. This year it was organised by ISC 2023 batch with the help of our principal, vice principal, headmistress, and teachers. The theme for this year's show was 'India - Epitome of Trend and Tradition - a Drive through our own Country', and the teams were named Akash, Prithvi Agni, Trishul, Dhanush and

FORMATION HOUSES

ST. ANDRE MINOR SEMINARY, BODHJUNGNAGAR

On the 13th of June, the Sacred Heart Study House, Lembucherra, was bubbling with the twin celebrations of bidding farewell to Fr. Maria Raj CSC,





who had been working as a Formator and Superior for the past five years, and welcoming Fr. Kitbok Khongrymmaj, CSC as the new Director and Superior. There was a short prayer service to grace this occasion in the evening. Many religious people in and around the Agartala region witnessed this significant event. The presence of Bro. Santhosh PJ CSC, the Provincial Superior of St. Andre Province, and Fr. Simon Fernandes CSC, the Provincial Superior of the Province of Northeast India, added more joy and happiness. And most importantly, the presence of our own Junior Holy Cross sisters doubled the joy.



After the prayer service, the candidates expressed their love for Fr. Maria Raj through various cultural programs and speeches, in which they highlighted the true image and virtues of Fr. Maria Raj. Most predominantly, the community thanked him for inspiring them with his zeal for Christ's mission, his accompaniment, and his generous heart. Both the



Provincials appreciated him for imparting formative values and virtues to the candidates and wished him well as he took a renewal program. At the same time, Fr. Simon, the provincial, handed over the seminary files to Fr. Kitbok to mark the beginning of his ministry in this house and wished him well. After the short felicitation program, the fellowship meals were served to all. We express our sincere thanks to Fr. Maria Raj CSC for all the services to this house since the beginning of its inception. We also wish Fr. Kitbok CSC success in forming young men towards holiness.



Kitbok Khongrymmaj, CSC

ST. ANDRE MINOR SEMINARY,
BODHJUNGNAGAR

Farewell and Welcome

On the 08th of May, the SAMS community gratefully bid farewell to Fr. John PKC, who served as the



director and superior for over one and half years. The candidates expressed gratitude and love through lively participation at the morning farewell mass and evening cultural program. On the same day, Fr. Bilingshar Syiemlieh, CSC, the new director of the seminary, was officially welcomed. Fr. Simon Fernandis, CSC, provincial superior, who was



present during the evening programme, expressed his profound gratitude to Fr. John for his selfless service in forming and motivating the young candidates during his tenure and gave his best wishes for his new mission. He also expressed his trust that the new director will do his best in forming the future religious of Holy Cross. Apart from Fr. Simon, many confreres from St. Andre and Moreau regions, and Holy Cross and SABS sisters were present to express their love and gratitude to Fr. John and support and encouragement to Fr. Bilingshar.



bishop stressed the call of each one to bear witness to Christ and how the young candidates needed to prepare themselves to respond to this call. After the holy Eucharist, there was a short cultural program to felicitate and welcome the bishop and the eight new candidates who had just arrived from Sumer the previous day. The program was followed by a fellowship meal.



Bilingshar Syiemlieh, CSC

Inauguration of the New Academic Year

The new academic year 2023-24 was inaugurated on the evening of the 19th of June. SAMS was blessed to mark the beginning of the new academic year with the gracious presence of Most Rev. Lumen Monteiro, CSC, Bishop of Agartala, who presided



over the Holy Eucharist. The presence of Fr. Simon Fernandis, the Provincial confreres from St. Andre and Moreau regions and four other Holy Cross sisters added joy to the celebration. The theme chosen for reflection this academic year is "Witnessing to the Light". During the homily, the

HOLY CROSS PINE VIEW STUDY HOUSE

The green campus of Holy Cross Pine View Study House is buzzing with life once again. This year's new students hail from Jharkhand, Assam, Tripura, and Meghalaya. The new academic year was inaugurated on the 30th of June. Fr. Roy Thalackan, CSC, the Director of Holy Cross Family Ministries, Northeast India, was the main celebrant for the Eucharist, concelebrated by Fr. Pius Shadap, the Parish Priest of Umsning, Fr. John Valanarassu, CSC, Parish Priest of Mawkynrew, Fr. Eric of the Pillar Society from Mawlein Mawkhan, and the three staff members: Fr. Jowelson, Fr. Aneesh, and Fr. Theo. The church leader and representatives from the Catholic youth of Sumer were also present. Fr. Roy, in his homily, encouraged the new students to persevere in following the Lord who has called them, "Come follow me." He also presented a Bible





and a crucifix to each of the nine students. Fr. Pius, in his speech, highlighted the importance of having a goal that gives us a direction we want to reach and achieve.

The new boys and four old boys enthralled the audience with their dances and songs. Much appreciation goes to the senior boys of last year's batch who guided the new ones 24x7 in all the house activities.

At the end of the program, Fr. Theophilus Sohtun, CSC, who joined the community recently, proposed a vote of thanks on behalf of Fr. Jowelson, Director, and Fr. Aneesh, Administrator, the staff and students of Holy Cross Sumer.

 **Theophilus Sohtun, CSC**

**ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIAL AND HUMAN
 ADVANCEMENT (ASHA)**

As part of the International Day (the 26th of June) against Drug Addiction & Illicit Trafficking, ASHA organised awareness programs in various



educational institutions on Substance Abuse, Disorder and its impact on the lives of youth and students. The weeklong programme consisted of visiting different educational institutions, and they are:

- Montfort School Hostels Champaknagar (26th)
- SMO trainees at ASHA, Damdamia, Lembucherra Agartala (26th June)
- Parents and Teachers of Holy Cross School Tuikarmaw, Shantir Bazar (the 27th of June)
- Class IX & X students & their parents of Montfort School, Dukli, Agartala (the 28th of June)
- Class IX & X Students and the teachers at Olive Hill Holy Cross School Twithampui (the 29th of June)
- Teachers & staff of Auxilium Girls School, Nandan Nagar Agartala (the 30th of June)
- Teaching faculty of Holy Cross College, Agartala (the 30th of June)
- Teachers and students at Fatima School, Damdamia, Agartala (the 01st of July)



The topic of Drug Addiction was introduced to the participants, and the sessions included personal testimonies by young recovering drug abusers who shared their agonies, rejection, compelling & craving for substance, confessions, reflections and



appeals to the participants not to fall prey to any addiction. Mr. Soumitra Shankar Mukherjee, who presently travels across Northeastern states as a counsellor and



teacher, was our primary resource person. The speaker cautioned the hearers not to take lightly the emerging traits of the addiction-related killer diseases like Hepatitis B & HIV AIDS found among the abusers; instead, fight unitedly against the menace because it will have far-reaching consequences to individuals, especially the younger generation, families, and societies.



 **Thomas John, CSC**

CONFERENCE & SEMINARS

ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF HOLY CROSS EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Thirty-three educational leaders from twenty Holy Cross-run schools gathered for their annual conference from the 30th of June to the 02nd of July at Holy Cross Provincial House Agartala. The purpose of this conference was to up-skill and re-skill our principals and headmistresses to make our institutions places of academic excellence and produce citizens with academic calibre and human values. The meeting was inaugurated by Smt.



Chandni Chandran, IAS, Director of Secondary Education, Government of Tripura, in the presence of Fr. Simon Ferndnais, CSC, provincial superior and Fr. George Jacob, CSC, secretary of Holy Cross Educational Foundation. She appreciated the contributions of Holy Cross Fathers in the educational arena of northeast India.



The inaugural session was followed by a session on

'Continuous Professional Development: A NEP 2020 Perspective by Dr. Mun Mun Das Biswas, Asst. Professor of Education at Institute of Advanced Studies in Education, Agartala.

On the second day, Dr. Rakshit Tandon, a nationally



acclaimed cyber security expert, interacted with the participants on 'cyber security and cyber hygiene'. In the afternoon, Fr. K.J. Abraham, CSC, director of



MIIT, Shillong, spoke on 'care and safety of the children'. On the last day, the participants were addressed by Ms. Salony Priya,

Founder & Director of Ummeed Counselling & Consulting Service on 'innovative and inspiring leadership'. The annual conference organised by Holy Cross Educational Foundation was appreciated by all the participants, and it





equipped them with skills to continue their role as leaders of educational institutions with more professionalism.

SEMINAR FOR TEACHERS

National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 emphasises Continuous Professional Development (CPD) for teachers, intending to provide them adequate opportunities for self-improvement, learning about the latest innovations and advancements in their profession, and upskilling themselves with an understanding of learning as a lifelong process. It provides teachers opportunities to aggrandise with the changing world to achieve expected learning outcomes of learners. To this end, Holy Cross Educational Foundation organised seminars for teachers working in our educational institutions in Tripura.

Seminar for English Teachers

On the 27th of May, fifty-nine English teachers from all the Holy Cross Schools in Tripura gathered at Andre Home, Agartala, to enrich themselves



professionally. Dr. Asher R. Jesudoss, a master trainer and a resource person at NCERT, interacted with the participants on 'English Language Teaching

with NEP and Multidisciplinary Learning'. The day was filled with hands-on activities and practical sessions to help the teachers to acquire the skills for making language classrooms a fun-filled place of learning.

Seminar for Mathematics Teachers

Mathematics teachers of classes I to V and VI to X of our schools in Tripura gathered on the 07th and 08th



of July respectively at Agartala for an up-skilling session. A total of ninety-three teachers participated in these two days. The resource person Mr. Sudhir Singhal, a maths educator par excellence,

a dynamic trainer, and a Guinness world record holder, spoke to the teachers on making

maths exciting and interactive learning for the students.





LEADERSHIP SEMINAR FOR STUDENTS

A leadership seminar for students is an excellent way to develop leadership skills and prepare



students for the future. It can help students learn how to communicate effectively, work in teams, and develop problem-solving skills. With these objectives in mind, Holy Cross Educational Foundation organised a day-long Leadership Seminar for the students at three locations. Fr. Jilson Tom, CSC, Principal of Holy Cross School, Agartala, was the resource person. The sessions included the qualities



of a leader and the roles and responsibilities of a student leader. The day was filled with activities and practical sessions,

which prepared the student leaders to organise various programmes in the school and showcase their leadership qualities. The programmes were organised in the following places:

- On the 13th of May at Holy Cross School, Kumarghat, for Holy Cross schools of Bagbassa, Panisagar, Kumarghat, Kathalcherra

and Chailengta. Ninety-six students and ten animators took part in it.

- On the 24th of May at Holy Cross School, Tuikarmaw, for Holy Cross Schools of Moharpara, Bodhjungnagar and Tuikarmaw. Eighty-three students and six animators were part of it.



- On the 29th & 30th of May at Holy Cross School, Agartala, for its forty-five students.

MOREAU'S COLUMN

BL. BASIL MOREAU'S UNIQUE VISION OF COMMUNITY – UNION AND COLLABORATION

Fr. Basil Moreau conceived of a congregation where the three societies of priests, brothers and sisters worked in close collaboration with one another. He wished them to be united in life and mission. For Fr. Moreau, their union was "a powerful lever with which to move, direct and sanctify the whole world" (CL #14, 1841). Whenever ecclesial authorities requested him to send missionaries, he would prefer to send members of all three societies together. Fr. Thomas Barrose, CSC, former superior general, rightly observed that for Fr. Moreau, the 'kind of union' was more important than the 'fact of the union' of the three societies. He conceived of the three societies as autonomous and standing on an equal pedestal. The three societies together

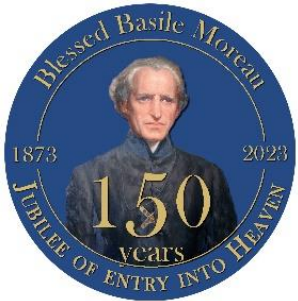


were to form the congregation's general chapter and take all important decisions together.

What was more progressive and radical for Fr. Moreau was the status he gave to women and lay religious at a time when these were considered passive. He wanted women religious to have an equal voice with men religious and lay religious (brothers) to have an equal voice with clerical

religious. This was a prophetic vision of the founder who "in the church of his time, should have conceived of the union of the three societies as a single congregation as he did." For him, the union was the fundamental element of the congregation of the Holy Cross. He understood the union of heart, mind, and ministries as the foundation of community life. For him, the importance of union is such that he offered four models for Holy Cross to emulate: the Holy Trinity, the Holy Family, St. Paul's body image, and the Vine and Branches.

Although the dream and vision of Fr. Moreau was to establish a family consisting of the three societies, that was rejected despite his continuous persuasion with the Holy See. Nevertheless, the congregation consisting of laymen and clerical religious was approved, and the vision of fundamental equality for both societies was fulfilled. Constitution #6 of the congregation states that the congregation of Holy Cross is "a religious congregation composed of two distinct societies of clerics and of laymen bound together in one indivisible brotherhood." Fundamentally, we are called to live and work together in the Lord's mission and are united by "a common founder, tradition, rule, government, way of life and mission" (C. # 6). As Fr. Claude Grou, CSC, former superior general, said, "This call to unity is a

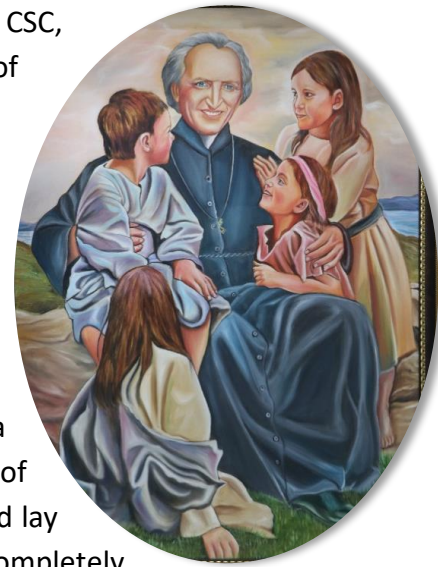


key element of the Speaking of the unique identity of the Holy Cross." Fr.

Thomas Barrose, CSC, pointed out that of the many religious institutes founded during the 19th century, there was none like the Holy Cross that was approved by the Holy See as a congregation of societies of cleric and lay religious on a completely

equal footing. As far as Fr. Moreau was concerned, he was ahead of his time. Although the 19th century was witnessed by increasing centralisation of power in civil government and the Church, Basil Moreau insisted on collegial structures by which the most important decisions were to be taken. The systems he introduced were an annual general chapter with broad authority and local chapters with decision-making powers. He being the superior general undertook extensive consultation on matters of congregation-wide interest, and in matters of appointment, he only assigned his religious to the more difficult ministries if they responded to the invitation voluntarily.

We are proud of our founder and the legacy that he has left behind. To repeat what Fr. Claude Grou, CSC said, "Our union and collaboration is a gift and a task." From reading the circular letters of the former superiors general, I realised that this task has always been challenging. As we celebrate the 150th entry of our beloved founder into eternal life, it is time for us to seriously reflect and ponder on how to bring this rich gift to fruition. That means making our union a powerful lever to move and sanctify the world. The intimate union should be like the first





Christian community, a spectacle of admiration for others - "See how they love one another." It is in loving one another that our community becomes "a sign in an alienated world: men who have, for the love of the Lord, become closest neighbours, trustworthy friends, brothers" (C. # 42).

 **Bilingshar Syiemlieh, CSC**

RESULTS OF HCEF SCHOOLS AT A GLANCE

CBSE SCHOOLS



HCS KUMARGHAT (10th) Students Appeared : 73 Distinction : 31 1 st Division : 30 2 nd Division : 11 Compartment : 01	ST. ANDRE SCHOOL (10th) Students Appeared : 113 Distinction : 05 1 st Division : 23 2 nd Division : 50 3 rd Division : 19 Compartment : 16	NDHCS MOHARPARA (10th) Students Appeared : 175 Distinction : 04 1 st Division : 45 2 nd Division : 105 Compartment : 20
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Holy Cross Educational Foundation
CONGRATULATES

the Principals, Staff and Students of
 Holy Cross School Kumarghat, Notre Dame Holy Cross School Moharpara
 and St. Andre School Bodhjungnagar for the splendid result in the
 10th board exam CBSE 2022-23

CISCE SCHOOL (Holy Cross School Agartala)



ICSE RESULTS

Pass Percentage : 98.4 %
 Above 90 % : 94
 Distinction : 166
 First Division : 101
 Second Division : 33
 Third Division : 09

ISC (Arts)

Pass Percentage : 100 %
 Above 90 % : 2
 Distinction : 11
 First Division : 36
 Second Division : 07
 Third Division : 01



ISC (Science)

Pass Percentage : 98.36 %
 Above 90 % : 05
 Distinction : 14
 First Division : 25
 Second Division : 15
 Third Division : 06

MBOSE SCHOOLS




SSLC (MBOSE)

St. John Bosco School Mawpat Appeared : 23 1 st Division : 01 2 nd Division : 06 Simple Pass : 06	Holy Cross School Mawkynrew Appeared : 71 1 st Division : 06 2 nd Division : 24 Simple Pass : 22	Holy Cross School Umkiang Appeared : 90 1 st Division : 07 2 nd Division : 42 3 rd Division : 02 Simple Pass : 15	Good Shepherd School Jongksha Appeared : 96 1 st Division : 07 2 nd Division : 53 Simple Pass : 23
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HSSLC (MBOSE)

Holy Cross School Mawkynrew Appeared : 43 1 st Division : 03 2 nd Division : 21 3 rd Division : 16	Good Shepherd School Jongksha Appeared : 64 1 st Division : 15 2 nd Division : 37 3 rd Division : 11	Holy Cross School Umkiang Appeared : 43 1 st Division : 02 2 nd Division : 14 3 rd Division : 22
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Holy Cross Educational Foundation
 Congratulates the schools for the good results in the
 recently held MBOSE board examination 2023





HOLY CROSS EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

CONGRATULATES

St. Andre School Bodhjungnagar
 for the splendid result in the recently held
 board examination

12th CBSE RESULT 2023






TOTAL APPEARED : 162	
Distinction : 08	1 st Division : 48
2 nd Division : 82	Compartment : 18




MBOSE SCHOOLS
(CLASS XII SCIENCE)




Holy Cross Educational Foundation
CONGRATULATES

GOOD SHEPHERD HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, JONGKSHA
for the excellent result of the first batch of HSSLC
Science stream in the recently held MBOSE
examination for the Academic year 2022-23.



Appeared : 08
1st Division : 04 2nd Division : 01

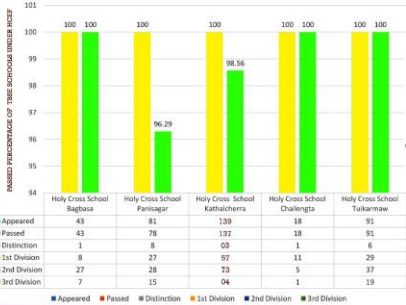
*Congratulations to the Principal,
Staff, Parents and all the Students*



TBSE SCHOOLS (CLASS X)

TBSE CLASS X BOARD EXAMINATION RESULT 2023

Holy Cross Educational Foundation Congratulates
Holy Cross School Bagbasa, Holy Cross School Panisagar, Holy Cross School Kathalcherra,
Holy Cross School Chalengta and Holy Cross School Tuikarmaw for the excellent result in
the recently held TBSE Class X Board Examination 2023.



School	Appeared	Passed	Distinction	1 st Division	2 nd Division	3 rd Division
Holy Cross School Bagbasa	43	81	139	18	91	
Holy Cross School Panisagar	43	78	137	18	91	
Holy Cross School Kathalcherra	1	8	03	1	6	
Holy Cross School Chalengta	8	27	97	11	29	
Holy Cross School Tuikarmaw	27	28	73	5	37	
	7	15	04	1	19	

TBSE SCHOOLS (CLASS XII)

HOLY CROSS EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
Wishes hearty
CONGRATULATIONS

to

Holy Cross Higher Secondary School & Holy Cross Higher Secondary School
Tuikarmaw & Kathalcherra

Appeared : 67	Appeared : 68
Passed : 65	Passed : 67
1 st Division : 13	1 st Division : 22
2 nd Division : 46	2 nd Division : 45
3 rd Division : 06	
Passed Percentage : 97 %	Passed Percentage : 99 %

MBSE SCHOOLS

CONGRATULATIONS



Appeared : 12
1st Division : 01
2nd Division : 06
3rd Division : 01



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