

# Waves



AGARTALA

Province Newsletter

VOLUME - 02 / 2024

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## PROVINCIAL SPEAKS

*Dear Confreres and Readers,*

I extend my heartfelt greetings to each one of you. Once again, our Province Newsletter, WAVES, graces your hands, showcasing the multitude of activities within our Province.

As we enter the Annual Lenten Season, we must anticipate a Resurrection Experience in the Risen Lord. I extend my best wishes to all, especially to our pastors in the Mission Centers, for a successful Holy Week program ahead.



Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Haiti. The ongoing political turmoil has resulted in unprecedented violence, disproportionately affecting innocent civilians. In a letter from Rev. Brother Paul Bednarczyk, C.S.C., our Superior General, he highlights the dire situation: *"...Haiti is in a downward spiral of unprecedented violence, poverty, and loss of life, due to the political unrest in the country... Our Holy Cross religious are relatively safe, yet they remain vigilant... Despite the tremendous hardship and condition our Haitian religious currently endure, their faith in God and hope for a better future remain unshaken."* As people of hope, let us turn to the Lord in prayer, seeking His providential intervention in Haiti during this challenging time.

The upcoming Provincial Chapter is a significant focus for each of us. I request your prayers as we prepare for this important event in the Province.

With the 2024 General Elections drawing near, the entire country is gearing up for the same. Please exercise your Right to Vote wisely, as we fervently pray for a peaceful election and a favourable outcome.

I hope you find the contents of our Province Newsletter, WAVES, engaging and informative.

Fraternally yours in Holy Cross,

Warm regards,

Provincial Superior  
Province of Northeast India



# Province of Northeast India NEWSLETTER

MAR. 2024

VOLUME # 02

PROVINCE UPDATES



CONGREGATION OF HOLY CROSS

## EDITORIAL



Dear Readers,

As we embark on the sacred journey of Lent, our hearts are drawn to the symbol of the Cross - a profound reminder of sacrifice, redemption, and ultimate hope. In the life and writings of our revered

Founder, Blessed Basile Moreau, we find a profound reflection of this theme.

Blessed Basile Moreau's life was intricately woven with the threads of the Cross. He understood that true discipleship often involves embracing the trials and tribulations that come our way. In his circular letter, he writes, "For those who live by faith, the cross is a treasure more valuable than gold and precious stones" (*Circular Letter 34, June 19, 1848*). Through his teachings, he



illuminated the transformative power of suffering, inviting us to unite our crosses with that of Christ.

Amid our Lenten observances, as we contemplate the significance of the Cross, let us turn to Blessed Basile Moreau as a guiding light. Let us allow his words to penetrate our hearts and inspire us to embrace our own crosses with faith and courage.



May the Cross serve as a beacon of hope as we journey towards Easter, leading us to the joy of resurrection and new life in Christ.

- **George Jacob, CSC**

"Therefore, let us visibly show great faith as we take part in this procession, and let us say over and over again to ourselves what the prince of the apostles said, "You are the Christ, Son of the living God" (Mt 16:16). Or, let us rouse ourselves to devotion by thoughts of faith and devout reflections such as these: Behold the one who was born of Mary. Behold the body that was in her womb and which she carried in her arms. Behold the flesh that was crucified for me and the blood that was poured out on Calvary. Let us go through the different events in the life of our Lord that we might have more reasons for reviving our faith and enkindling our love."



## HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, AGARTALA

### Celebrating the Journey: Farewell to ISC and ICSE Candidates – 2024

Embracing the journey ahead with courage and determination, Holy Cross School, Agartala, bid a fond farewell to its ISC and ICSE candidates of 2024. The event, filled with warmth and nostalgia, marked not an end but a new beginning for these promising individuals.

As tradition dictates, the program commenced with the applying of *Chandan* on the foreheads of the candidates. This symbolic act aimed to enhance their concentration and focus during the upcoming examinations, recognising the significance of mental preparedness in achieving success.

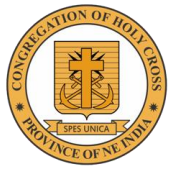
The students, in turn, presented a delightful array of performances, showcasing their talents and camaraderie. From prayer dance to cultural expressions, each act radiated the spirit of unity and celebration. Principal Fr. Jilson Tom, CSC, addressed students on the occasion, urging them to strive for excellence and embrace the challenges ahead with resilience.

In a touching gesture, the outgoing Class of XII and X presented a vibrant program, symbolising the passing of the torch to the next generation. As a token of remembrance, each student received a batch photograph as a memento, immortalising their time at Holy Cross School. A small refreshment followed, providing relaxation and camaraderie amidst the festivities.

In the words of Charles Dickens, "The pain of parting is nothing to the joy of meeting again." As we bid adieu to our beloved candidates, we do so with the promise of reunion and the anticipation of future triumphs. Farewell, dear students. May your journey be filled with success, happiness, and endless possibilities.

- Arundhati Majumder



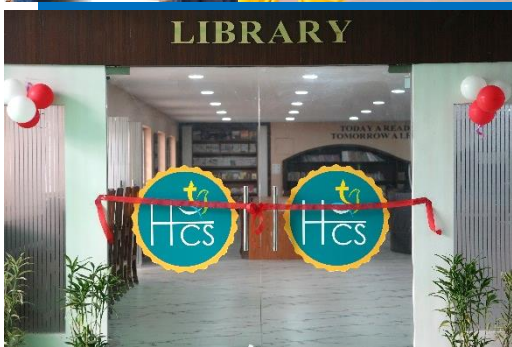


## A Joyous Beginning-Nursery Inauguration 2024

January 27 witnessed the commencement of a significant milestone in the lives of our youngest learners. It was a day filled with emotions as children took their first steps towards elementary education, bidding farewell to their parents to embrace the guidance of their new mentors and friends.



This year, the much-anticipated ceremony unfolded uniquely and memorably with the traditional "haathe khori" ceremony, symbolising the learning journey. Parents watched with pride as their little ones adorned the school uniform for the first time, marking the beginning of their educational journey. The program commenced on an auspicious note with the lighting of the lamp ceremony, invoking blessings for the new venture. The performances by our young talents captivated the audience, leaving them in awe and earning thunderous applause. We were privileged to have Mr. Justice T. Amarnath Goud, Judge of the High Court of Tripura, grace the occasion as the chief guest. His words of praise for the arrangements filled us with pride and motivation.



Amidst the nursery inauguration, we also celebrated the grand opening of our renovated library.

- Debashree Sinha

## Celebrating Unity and Sportsmanship-Morning Shift Sports Day 2024

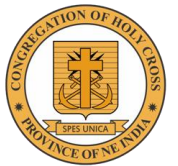
Amidst the radiant glow of the morning sun on February 16, Holy Cross School, Agartala, came alive with the vibrant energy of its Morning Shift Annual Sports Day. With enthusiasm and camaraderie, students and faculty gathered to celebrate the much-awaited event, brimming with excitement and zest.



The playground, adorned with fluttering flags, colourful balloons, and lively decorations, set the stage for a week-long extravaganza of sportsmanship and joy. The presence of Fr. George Jacob, CSC, Secretary of the Holy Cross Educational Foundation, added an aura of inspiration as he encouraged students to embrace the spirit of sportsmanship and unity.

The day commenced with the proud hoisting of the school flag, symbolising our collective pride and unity, followed by the ceremonial lighting of the torch, symbolising the essence of sportsmanship, knowledge, and life itself.

As the day unfolded, the playground transformed into a bustling arena where students from Class 1 to 4 showcased their remarkable talents in various sporting events, including the long jump, spoon race, frog race, and relay race. The air resonated with cheers and encouragement as participants demonstrated their skills with



determination and zeal. Certificates and gleaming medals adorned the deserving winners, acknowledging their dedication and perseverance.

For the youngest members of our school community in KG I and KG II, the day was filled with excitement and laughter as they engaged in many delightful activities, from navigating through tunnels to aiming balls into baskets and balancing bottles. Their infectious enthusiasm added an extra layer of joy and togetherness to the event.



Holy Cross School, Agartala, continues to stand as a beacon of excellence, nurturing academic prowess and instilling values of sportsmanship and teamwork, thereby shaping future generations poised to excel both on and off the field.

- **Reshmi Ganguly**

## HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, PANISAGAR

### Kokborok Language Day-Honouring Cultural Heritage

January 19 is celebrated as Kokborok Language Day to commemorate the recognition of the Kokborok language as an official language in Tripura in 1979. Our students actively participated in the sub-divisional level celebration to mark this day.

Our students showcased their cultural vibrancy and talent amid the festivities by participating in various events. They participated in a colourful procession, proudly representing our school and the rich heritage of the Kokborok language. Additionally, they enthralled the audience with captivating performances in the cultural program and won



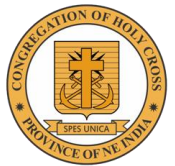
many prizes. Their success reflects their individual talent and highlights our school's collective efforts in promoting cultural diversity and inclusivity.

### Exploring and Learning-Educational Trip to Agartala

Embarking on an educational journey, our Class X students, accompanied by four teachers, set off on a train journey to Agartala on January 20. Their destination: the Zoo at Sepahijala and the Science City at Agartala.



Filled with anticipation and excitement, the students eagerly explored these educational landmarks, soaking in knowledge and experiences.



Despite the brevity of their visit, they expressed immense satisfaction with the learnings gained during this enriching excursion.

### Under 17 Girls' Football Team wins Runners UP Trophy

We're thrilled at the success of our students in the Girls U-17 Junior District Football Championship held in Dharmanagar! Our talented students showcased their skills and determination, securing the Runners Cup and a cash award of Rs 30,000/-.



During a special assembly, we took the opportunity to express our heartfelt appreciation for the hard work and dedication displayed by our student-athletes. Their achievement was celebrated with joy and pride as we congratulated each team member for their remarkable performance on the field.

### Republic Day Celebration

January 26 is a momentous occasion in our nation's history as we celebrate Republic Day. To honour this day, we gathered with our hostellers for a special prayer dedicated to our beloved motherland, followed by unfurling the flag. Our guest of the day, Sr. Mary Halam, shared insightful words with our students,



emphasising the importance of our duties towards society. Her message resonated deeply, reminding us of the values and responsibilities that bind us as citizens of this great nation.

### Annual Sports Day

Holy Cross School, Panisagar, organised its sports meet on January 31 with great enthusiasm and fervour, graced by the esteemed presence of Shri. Nababrata Datta, BDO Panisagar.

Shri. Datta opened the sports meet by hoisting the school flag and delivering an inspiring speech encouraging students to view failures as growth opportunities and strive for excellence. He praised the significant contributions of Holy Cross Schools,

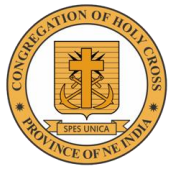


particularly the one in Panisagar, in serving the community. The principal highlighted the importance of sports activities in promoting physical health and instilling qualities like discipline, hard work, patience, respect, and teamwork.

The day was filled with spirited competitions for both boys and girls, followed by the heart-warming moment of distributing certificates and trophies to the deserving winners. It was a day filled with camaraderie, sportsmanship, and unforgettable memories.

### Embracing Farewells with Heartfelt Love

Rumei once said, "Goodbyes are only for those who love with their eyes because, for those who love



with heart and soul, there is no such thing as separation." This sentiment beautifully encapsulates the spirit of the farewell organised by the students of Class IX for their peers in Class X on February 17.



With great warmth and affection, the 83 departing students were welcomed and escorted by the vibrant melodies of the school band as they made their way to the hall. The evening was energised as students showcased high-voltage performances, leaving everyone in awe.

As the program drew to a close, the best student of the year was duly honoured, and each departing student received a heartfelt memento and a packet of snacks, symbolising cherished memories and shared experiences.

Amidst good wishes and blessings for success in their upcoming board exams, the entire school community came together to bid farewell to these remarkable individuals, knowing that although they may physically depart, their presence and impact will always remain in the hearts and halls of our school.



## Hostel Day

Healthy competition is the cornerstone of fostering excellence among students. Recognising this, on February 28, our regents, alongside hostel wardens, orchestrated a diverse array of physical, intellectual, and cultural competitions for our hostellers.



These competitions provided an avenue for students to showcase their talents and encouraged participation and camaraderie among peers. Most students were awarded prizes and gifts as a token of appreciation for their dedication and involvement.

Such initiatives not only elevate the overall



atmosphere of the hostel but also instil a sense of achievement and motivation among students, inspiring them to continually strive for greatness in all endeavours.

- **Kanikkai Jeyaraj, CSC**





# NOTRE DAME HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, MOHARPARA

## Republic Day Celebration



Notre Dame Holy Cross High School, Moharpara, joyously commemorated the 75<sup>th</sup> Republic Day on January 26. Adding to the pride of the occasion, our school band received a special invitation from the SDM office to participate in the Republic Day Celebration organised by the Government of Tripura at Teliamura. The event was graced by esteemed dignitaries, including Smt. Kalyani Saha Roy, MLA- 29 Teliamura, Shri. Abhijit Chakraborty, TCS, SDM, Teliamura, and Smt. Sudhambika, IPS, SDPO, Teliamura. The performance of our band, comprised of boys from classes VI and VII, captivated the audience, leaving a lasting impression.

## Kids' Day Celebration

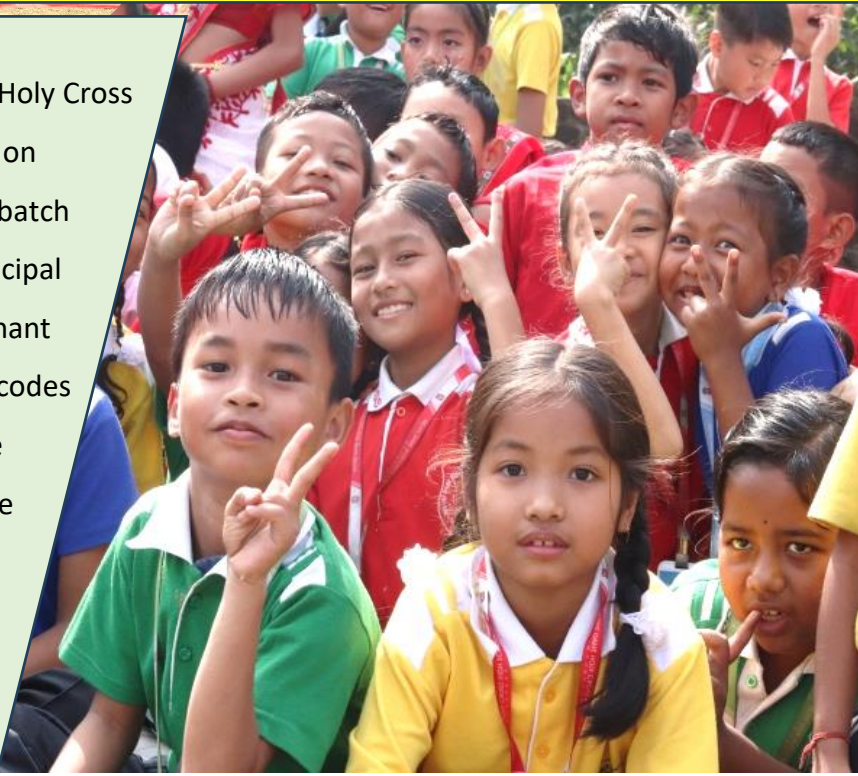


On February 3, the school held its annual Kids' Day Celebration, a cherished event dedicated to the kindergarten children and their parents. Mr. Joydeep Saha, Branch Manager of ICICI Bank, Teliamura, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, adding to the joyous atmosphere of the day.

## Class X Farewell

Notre Dame Holy Cross High School organised a grand send-off ceremony on February 9 to bid farewell to the outgoing Class X batch of 2023-24. Fr. Roby V. Menacherry, CSC, the Principal of the School, addressed the students with a poignant speech, imparting valuable life lessons and moral codes to abide by. The departing students also took the opportunity to express their gratitude towards the teachers and the school management through heartfelt farewell speeches.

- *Roby Menacherry, CSC*







## HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, TWICHAKMA

**Parents' Day Celebration:** On February 9, Holy Cross School, Twichakma, reverberated with joy as it celebrated Parents' Day with grandeur and enthusiasm. The event witnessed a remarkable turnout of appreciative parents, who lauded the school management for organising such a splendid showcase in their honour. Shri. Pathan Lal Jamatia, MLA 41-Ampi Nagar Assembly Constituency, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and was deeply moved by the students' stellar performances and the parents' unwavering support. The event was also graced by esteemed guests, including Fr. Emmanuel Kallarackal, CSC, Vicar and First General Assistant of the Congregation of Holy Cross, and Fr. Alfred DSouza, CSC, Administrator North East Province.



- **Roby Menacherry, CSC**

## ST. ANDRE SCHOOL, BODHJUNG NAGAR



### Farewell and Welcome



A heartfelt felicitation was organised to bid farewell to Sr. Felicity, SABS and Sr. Veronica, SABS, who served our school with dedication and commitment for many years. Their immense contribution to the spiritual life of our community has profoundly impacted the students, nurturing their growth and fostering new perspectives. Sisters Felicity and



Veronica have been succeeded by Sr. Teslin SABS as headmistress and Sr. Rose SABS as a community member, who were welcomed on February 7.



On February 8, we bid adieu to 165 Class X and XII students. The students orchestrated a touching farewell, presenting mementoes, words of appreciation, and vibrant cultural performances. We extend our best wishes for a bright future to all.



## Staff Picnic



A rejuvenating staff picnic occurred on January 13 at Barmura Park. Teachers came together



enthusiastically, strengthening the bond of fraternity and creating lasting memories filled with laughter and joy.



## One Child One Tree

### INITIATIVE

In line with the CBSE's initiative for a greener environment through the "One Child One Plant" scheme, parents and students were given saplings to plant. These saplings, nurtured in our school nursery with the assistance of the forest department in Kamalghat, symbolise our commitment to environmental sustainability. Additionally, students organised a campus cleaning drive to promote awareness of a paper and plastic-free environment. Led by class leaders and guided by their teachers, this initiative highlights the proactive efforts of our Eco Club towards a cleaner,



## Celebration of Life



Life is a precious gift meant to be cherished and celebrated. On February 7, students and teachers came together to celebrate the life of Fr. Jayaseelan, CSC, the parish priest and secretary of the school. A colourful cultural program organised by the

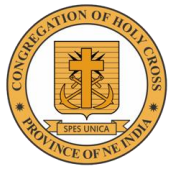


students enchanted the day, culminating in a fellowship meal shared in joyful camaraderie.



greener future. We commend their dedication and initiative.

*Iswar Happa, CSC*



## HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, KATHALCHERRA

### Talk on Road Transport Accidents, Drug Abuse, and Cyber Crime

In commemoration of 150 years of dedicated service to Tripura by the Tripura Police Force, Holy Cross Higher Secondary School, Kathalcherra, hosted a talk on Road Transport Accidents (ATA), Drug Abuse, and Cyber Crime on Friday, February 9. Led by Shri. Raju Reang, SDPO of Manu, the team included Shri. Dippu Debbarma, Officer-In-Charge of Nepaltila, alongside other senior officers. Following the informative session, students engaged with the officers, posing various questions to which they received positive responses. The lively presentation profoundly impacted the school community, fostering awareness and transformation.



### Farewell to Class X and Class XII

On February 20, the School bid farewell to its Class X and Class XII students. A total of two hundred and thirty students, filled with nostalgia, bid farewell to their alma mater. They were welcomed at the school gate with bouquets and badges and greeted by the school band's melodious tunes. Accompanied by their class teachers, the students were ushered into a vibrant cultural program organised by their junior counterparts, expressing love and gratitude. In their parting speeches, the outgoing students conveyed deep appreciation for the nurturing environment provided by the school. Souvenirs were distributed to all departing students, who reciprocated with heartfelt gifts, symbolising their enduring bond with the school.



- Davis Konuran, CSC



## HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, KUMARGHAT

### Kokborok Day Celebration

In the state of Tripura, January 19 marks the celebration of Kokborok Day, commemorating the official recognition of Kokborok as a language. This year, the 46<sup>th</sup> Kokborok Day was joyously observed at the Manasi Hall, organised under the auspices of SDM Kumarghat. A significant contingent from Holy



Cross School, Kumarghat, including several Tribal students accompanied by Ms. Kavita Reang and Ms. Merry Debbarma, actively participated in the event. The festivities commenced with a vibrant rally from Netaji Chowmuni to Manasi Hall. Anujit Debbarma, a ninth-grader from Holy Cross School, Kumarghat, delivered a captivating Kokborok speech resonating deeply with the audience. The program included an enthralling folk dance competition featuring various dance groups, showcasing the rich cultural heritage of Kokborok.



- Merry Debbarma

### National Youth Day Celebration

We at Holy Cross School, Kumarghat, enthusiastically participated in celebrating National Youth Day through the Pariksha Pe Charcha 2024 program. From January 12<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, a series of activities were organised at the school level to commemorate this significant occasion. Some of the highlights of the programme were:

#### Poster-Making Competition

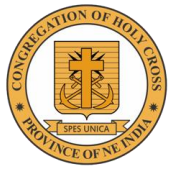
A spirited poster-making competition was held among students representing different houses. A total of 60 students showcased their creativity and talent in this event.



#### Yoga and Meditation Session

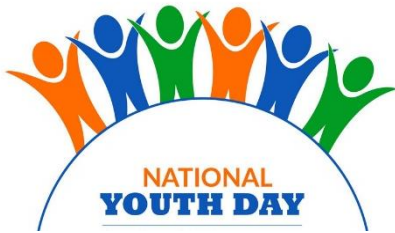
A rejuvenating yoga-cum-meditation session was organised for students, fostering a sense of holistic well-being in honour of National Youth Day.





### Talks during School Assembly

Students actively participated in school assembly sessions, sharing insights and reflections on the significance of National Youth Day and spreading awareness among their peers.



### Speech Competition

A stimulating speech competition was conducted among Class VII and VIII students, with 32 participants engaging in thought-provoking discourse.

These activities not only celebrated the spirit of youth but also instilled a sense of pride and responsibility among students, empowering them to contribute positively to society.

- Sahaya Lourdu Raj J.

## HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, CHALENGTA

### REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATION

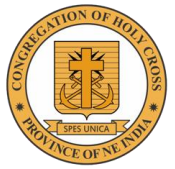
On January 26, the Holy Cross High School students, Chailengta, joyously commemorated the 75<sup>th</sup> Republic Day with enthusiasm and fervour. While some students represented the school in a dance performance during the flag-hoisting ceremony at the SDM ground in Chailengta, others gathered for the celebration in front of the school. Sr. Roshni Tiwari, the Girls' Hostel in charge, proudly unfurled the national flag after an impressive march past by the students took place. A program of patriotic songs and dances followed, with Fr. Harry D'silva, the Guest of Honour, delivering a poignant message to the students, emphasising the importance of contributing to the nation and upholding our nation's secular fabric.



### FAREWELL TO THE STUDENTS

On February 3, the school bid farewell to its Class-X students with a touching program and a brief prayer for blessings. Classmates and teachers wished the departing students success in their exams and future endeavours, commending them for their contributions and exemplary conduct throughout their time at the school. The farewell concluded with photo sessions and a tea party, marking a memorable send-off for the graduating students.





## Sports Day

A two-day sports extravaganza unfolded on February 5th and 6th, with teachers and house leaders eagerly leading the inauguration on the first day. Fr. Harry D'silva, the school secretary, raised the school flag and officially declared the sports day open. In his inspiring address, he underscored the spirit of sportsmanship encapsulated in the Olympic motto, urging participants to strive for excellence. The event witnessed spirited competition among the houses across various sports disciplines, culminating in the jubilation of students receiving medals and certificates.



- **Binoy John, CSC**

## ST. JOSEPH PARISH, CHALENGTA

### Children's Bible Seminar

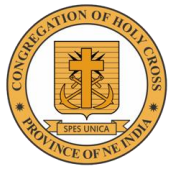
The Parish hosted a one-day Bible seminar on February 18, catering to Catholic children from Class IV to X in the Parish and

hostel. The seminar commenced with confession followed by Holy Eucharist, celebrated by Fr. Binoy John, CSC, focusing on "Let the Children Come to Me". (Mt: 19:14) During his homily. Fr. Binoy emphasised responsible parenthood, addressing parents present during the mass. The children were enlightened on topics such as sacraments, the Holy Eucharist, and the Ten Commandments through multimedia presentations and real-life

examples by Frs. Harry D'silva and Binoy John. Sisters from the SRA congregation enlivened the seminar with action songs and engaging activities like musical chairs, balloon races, and Bible quizzes. The seminar concluded with a delicious meal, leaving participants content with newfound knowledge of Jesus Christ.



- **Binoy John, CSC**



## HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, KOLORIANG

### A Sweet Farewell to New Beginnings

Every teacher dreams of witnessing their students graduate and go on to achieve greatness in life. Holy Cross School, Koloriang, marked the culmination of a significant chapter as they bid farewell to their Class 5 students (4th Batch) on February 2 with a grand program. Members of the School Management Committee (SMC) graced the occasion. Mr. Bengia Tade delivered an inspiring address to the outgoing students, urging them to prepare for their future endeavours.



Amidst heartfelt farewells and good wishes, the juniors expressed their well-wishes for their seniors through various creative performances, including singing, dancing, and felicitations. Despite their challenges, principal Fr. Stephen, CSC, lauded the departing seniors for their exemplary leadership and responsible conduct throughout the years.

Adding to the emotional atmosphere, students from Classes III & IV sang a heartfelt farewell song, reminiscing about the camaraderie shared within the school's walls. The crowd was further entertained by a delightful and humorous dance performance by Class UKG students. Bengia Sai, speaking on behalf of the outgoing students, expressed gratitude to the institution for its role in shaping their personalities and providing them with invaluable opportunities.

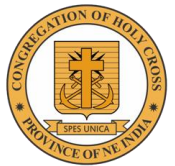
The departure marked a significant milestone for the 19 outgoing students, awaiting the results of their State Board Exams, scheduled to be declared on March 30, 2024.

- **Stephen Munga, CSC**

## ST. ANDRE PARISH, NYOPIN

### Visit of the Shepherd

Amidst a chilly winter afternoon on January 14, Most Rev. Benny Varghese Edathattel, DD, the Second Bishop of Itanagar Diocese, embarked on his inaugural Canonical Visit to St. Andre Parish in Nyapin, Arunachal Pradesh. Parishioners eager to greet their newly ordained shepherd welcomed the Bishop with immense joy. The day commenced with a Eucharistic Celebration presided over by Bishop Edathattel himself. During his homily, the



Bishop shared poignant anecdotes from his life, reflecting on God's presence and guidance from his early childhood to his journey to the priesthood and, ultimately, his appointment as Bishop of Itanagar Diocese. Following the Eucharistic celebrations, a felicitation program featured vibrant dances and melodious songs prepared by parishioners. The Bishop was deeply moved by the heartfelt performances, especially amidst the cold and windy evening. He expressed gratitude to the missionaries tirelessly serving in Christ's vineyard, particularly acknowledging the enduring commitment of the Congregation of Holy Cross to the people of Nyapin and Kurung Kumey valley. Bishop Edathattel spent the night in the Parish before departing early the following day for Yangte Parish and neighbouring areas.

- **Lawrence Wanniang, CSC**



## ST. JUDE SCHOOL, NYOPIN

### Republic Day Celebrations

On January 26, commemorating the 75th Republic Day of India, Nyapin Sub-division witnessed a spectacular display of patriotism through vibrant march-pasts, cultural performances, and speeches by dignitaries. Various schools and Panchayat segments participated enthusiastically in the events. St. Jude's School Nyapin was invited to partake in the Republic Day Celebrations at Nyapin General ground.



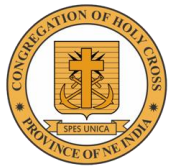
Representing the school, boys from Classes III and IV participated in the march-past, securing an



impressive 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize despite being the smallest contingent. Additionally, girls from Classes II, III, and IV showcased their talents in a patriotic dance, earning the school the 3<sup>rd</sup> prize. It was a moment of immense pride for the school and parents alike, marking a significant achievement in the Republic Day celebrations.

- **Lawrence Wanniang, CSC**





## ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL, KHAWZAWL

### Republic Day Triumph

On January 26, St. Joseph's School soared to victory at the Republic Day march-past competition,



clinching the first position and a coveted cash prize of Rs. 3,000. A heartfelt round of applause goes to the dedicated sisters, teachers, and students for their unwavering commitment and hard work.

### Farewell to Class X

February 2 marked a bittersweet moment as St. Joseph's School bid its graduating Class X students farewell. A touching cultural program was organised to convey gratitude, support, and encouragement to these outgoing students. Class IX students presented tokens of love and appreciation



while lunch was shared among teachers and high school students, fostering a sense of camaraderie and fond memories.

### Special Visit

On February 6, St. Joseph's School had the honour of hosting Fr. George Jacob, CSC, Secretary of the

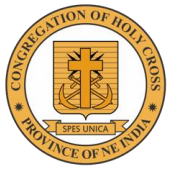


Holy Cross Educational Foundation, accompanied by Fr. Ajith, CSC and Fr. Arokiasamy, CSC. The esteemed guests were welcomed with a delightful



cultural program featuring traditional Mizo dance performances, showcasing the region's rich cultural heritage.

- *Ishongkun Kurbah, CSC*



## ST. JOHN'S PARISH, KHAWZAWL

### Altar Server Gathering

January 19

marked a significant gathering as Altar servers from Khawzawl and Ngaizawl congregated for the first time. Led by Sisters, Catechists, and Fr. John, the children enthusiastically participated in activities. They learned songs to enhance their involvement in church services, fostering a sense of community and spiritual growth.



### Women's Group Meeting

The Khawzawl Parish Hmeichhe Pawl held its first meeting of the year on January 27, with women leaders from different villages participating enthusiastically. Fr. John, CSC, Cate. Pu Joseph and women's group advisors contributed to fruitful discussions, laying the groundwork for community initiatives and support networks.

- *Ishongkun Kurbah, CSC*

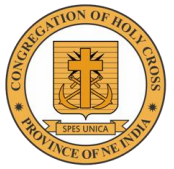
## ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL, ZOKHAWTHAR



### Visit by HCEF Secretary



On February 8, our school had the honour of hosting Fr. George Jacob, the Holy Cross Educational Foundation Secretary. He was accompanied by Fr. Ajith, CSC. The school community warmly welcomed Fr. George with a beautifully orchestrated program during the morning assembly. His official visit left a lasting impact on the daily lives of our students and teachers, thanks to his powerful and inspiring interactions.



## Welcoming the Clarist Franciscan Missionaries



Exciting news awaits us at Zokhawthar as we welcome the new Sisters Community, the Clarist Franciscan Missionaries of the Most Blessed Sacrament (CFMSS). Officially welcomed at St. Joseph's Church, Zokhawthar, on February 18, during the Sunday Holy Eucharist, the Sisters were greeted warmly by Fr. Jerome, the Parish Priest of Holy Cross Parish Champhai. In St. Joseph's School, the Sisters were officially welcomed by Fr. Alfred D'Suza, CSC, alongside Frs. Jerome, Samy, and CFMSS Provincial Superior Sr. Deena.

- *Paul Choorackal, CSC*

## HOLY CROSS PARISH, MAWPAT

### The Annual Eucharistic Procession

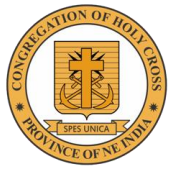
On the picturesque Sunday of February 25, the annual Eucharistic Procession unfolded at Dilingim village, hosted by Holy Cross Parish, Mawpat. Most Rev. Wilbert Marweiñ, Bishop of Nongstoin Diocese, graced the occasion as the principal celebrant, accompanied by many Holy Cross fathers from the Meghalaya Region.

The day commenced with consecrating the new Church of Dilingim by Most Rev. Wilbert Marweiñ, dedicated to St. Andre Bessette. In his heartfelt homily, Bishop Marweiñ commended the faithful of the Parish, particularly those of Dilingim, for their

tireless efforts and generosity in constructing the new Church. He urged the congregation to hold the sacred space in reverence, encouraging them to utilise it fully for prayer, the Lord's adoration, and the Sacraments' celebration.

- *Marbilus, CSC*





## SACRED HEART STUDY HOUSE, LEMBUCHERRA

### Founder's Day Celebration:

On January 20, the Sacred Heart Study House and St.



Andre Minor Seminary community came together to host a vibrant one-day Futsal tournament on the occasion of the death anniversary of our founder, Bl. Basil Moreau. We were

honoured to welcome Fr.

Simon Fernandes, the Provincial Superior of the North East Province, as our esteemed chief guest. Alongside the Priests from SAMS, we were delighted to have Fr. Jayaseelan, the Parish Priest of Bodhjunnagar, Fr. Iswar, the Principal of St. Andre School in Bodhjunnagar, and Fr. Pappy Valan from the ASHA community grace the occasion.

The tournament commenced with a solemn prayer led by Fr. Jayaseelan, followed by a special moment



as Fr. Simon unveiled the new jerseys for Sacred Heart and SAMS. Teams were formed, each bearing

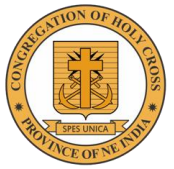
the names of revered figures from the Holy Cross, including St. Andre, Venerable Peyton, Fr. Dujarie, Archbishop Ganguly, and our Founder Bl. Basil Moreau.

Throughout the day, both priests and boys showcased their talents, skills, and dedication on the playing field. Every match was a spectacle, showcasing the best of our community's sporting spirit. Despite spirited competition from all teams, the Moreau team emerged victorious, securing the first prize. It's worth noting that the Moreau team



achieved a remarkable feat by winning all their matches through penalty shootouts, perhaps a nod to the intercession of Moreau himself. The day concluded with a ceremony to award trophies and medals, followed by a heartwarming gathering over tea and snacks.

- *Andria CSC*



## HOLY CROSS PINE VIEW STUDY HOUSE, SUMER

### Museum Visit

Exploring a museum is always a delightful experience, filling one's mind with joy and enthusiasm. Yet, when the visit offers educational insights, it becomes even more enriching, providing invaluable knowledge. On January 8, we had the privilege of visiting the DBCIC Museum in Mawlai, Shillong. Within its walls, we encountered a treasure trove of photographs and replicas of artefacts, coins, weapons, pottery, and more. Additionally, we had the opportunity to immerse ourselves in the rich traditions and cultures of India's eight northeastern states. After spending two captivating hours in its halls, we departed the museum, our minds brimming with memories of an unforgettable and enlightening visit.



### Republic Day Celebration

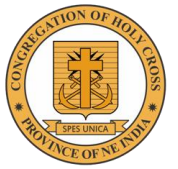
HCPV Study House, Sumer, resonated fervently as we commemorated the 75<sup>th</sup> Republic Day. The festivities commenced with Fr. Jowelson, the local Superior and Director, hoisting the national flag, followed by a spirited parade by the students. The event culminated with a collective rendition of the National Anthem, symbolising our unity and pride.

### Birthday Celebrations



At HCPV Study House, we honoured Fr. Aneesh Mathew as he marked another milestone in his life journey. In gratitude for his presence among us, we offered prayers for his parents, friends, loved ones, and all who have contributed to his growth and experiences. To celebrate this special occasion, a delightful cultural program was organised, fostering bonds of camaraderie and joy.

- **Jowelson Khongtani, CSC**



## HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, TUIKARMAW

### Annual Sports Day

The Annual School Sports Meet occurred on January 18th and 19th, 2024. We were honoured to have Fr. George Jacob, Secretary of HCEF, as our esteemed Chief Guest. His presence underscored HCEF's dedication to promoting sports and encouraging our youth to strive for excellence in all aspects of life. Fr. George Jacob commended the students for their integral role in fostering talent, dedication, and the spirit of sportsmanship. The school witnessed a remarkable turnout of students participating in various sporting events, with many more cheering for their respective houses. Heartfelt congratulations to all the winners and sincere appreciation to every participant.



### NCC Students Shine Once Again

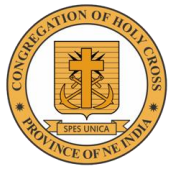
Our School's NCC girls and boys brought pride as they clinched first and second prizes, respectively, in the Republic Day Parade at the Sub Divisional level, Santir Bazar. Special thanks to Sir Nibaran and Miss Pinki for their dedicated guidance and support to these students. Kudos to all!



### Kids Day

The joyful celebration of Kids day took place on January 29, 2024. Fr. Varghese MSFS, Principal of SFS School Sindukpathar, graced the occasion as Chief Guest, highlighting KG children's boundless energy, curiosity, and creativity. Their infectious enthusiasm and endless creativity made the event truly special. We extend a special thanks to the parents and families for entrusting us with the care and education of these young children. Your support means the world to us. Let's continue to cherish and nurture the spirit of childhood every day.





## Science Exhibition



On January 29, 2024, the school hosted a Science Exhibition, with Fr. Thomas John, CSC, Director of ASHA, as the esteemed Chief Guest. Students from Classes IV to VIII participated, showcasing a variety of science and art models. The exhibition sparked great enthusiasm among the students, allowing them to demonstrate their classroom learning through these innovative models. Congratulations to all for their hard work and dedication!

## Farewell

Holy Cross School Tuikarmaw bid farewell to its Class X and XII students, totalling 161 who will appear for their Board Examinations this year. Fr. Renju expressed heartfelt sentiments, acknowledging these students' indelible mark on the school community. As they embark on new journeys, may they face challenges with courage, seize opportunities with enthusiasm, and never lose sight of their extraordinary potential. Congratulations to the Class X and XII students on this momentous achievement. May your future be bright and filled with endless possibilities and joy. Farewell, and may your journey ahead be filled with boundless success.



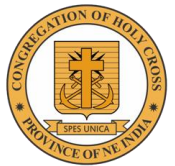
- **Renju George, CSC**

## WORKSHOP ON FINANCIAL PLANNING FOR ASIAN JURISDICTIONS



A comprehensive workshop on Financial Planning for the Provincials and Stewards of Asian Jurisdictions of Holy Cross took place on February 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, at Andre Home in Agartala. The primary objective of the workshop was to address the General Chapter recommendation for the General Administration to engage with Provincials and Stewards to review the financial dynamics between the various jurisdictions and the General Administration.





Throughout the workshop, various topics were explored to equip participants with the knowledge necessary to effectively navigate economic challenges, optimize available resources, and cultivate fiscal resilience within their respective Provinces. By fostering collaboration and sharing of expertise, this initiative aims to enhance financial stewardship and promote sustainable development across Asian Jurisdictions, ultimately fostering greater prosperity and stability.



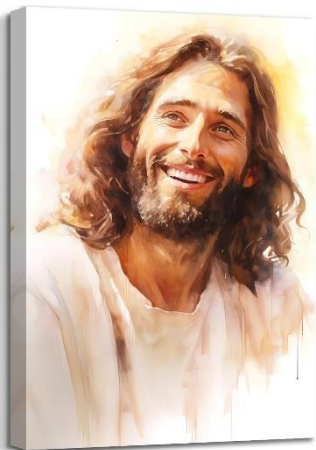
The workshop was facilitated by Fr. Jack Ryan, the General Steward, and saw participation from Provincials and Stewards representing their respective provinces. It provided an excellent opportunity for participants to connect, discuss, and deliberate on various issues pertaining to life and ministry within their provinces.

- Alfred D'Souza, CSC

## MOREAU COLUMN

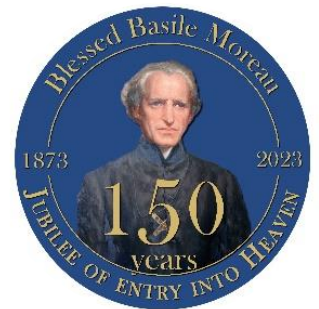
### CONFORMITY TO CHRIST

The concept of "Conformity to Christ" owes much to our revered founder, Blessed Basile Moreau. While it finds roots in biblical inspiration, it was primarily through the writings of our founder that we became acquainted with this profound notion. Embedded within Holy Cross Spirituality, "Conformity to Christ" is not just a theoretical concept but a lived reality. One could argue that our founder drew inspiration from the words of St. Paul, who urged, "Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may



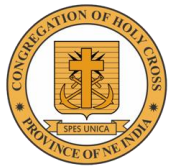
discern what is the will of God, what is good, acceptable and perfect" (Romans 12:2).

At its core, Conformity to Christ speaks to our profound union with Christ in every aspect of our lives – our thoughts, words, and actions. As inheritors of the Charism grounded in an encounter with Jesus, our Founder's spirituality revolves entirely around the Person of Jesus.



Therefore, as authentic Holy Cross members, we are naturally drawn towards a life that mirrors Christ's. This entails not just adopting Christ-like virtues but also actively embodying His Gospel message of love, joy, hope, and peace. Jesus Himself admonished us, "You are in the world and not of the world" (John 17:15-19), reinforcing the imperative of transcending worldly conformity.





For us in the Holy Cross community, Conformity to Christ entails embracing the legacy of Blessed Basile Moreau and the core values upheld by the Congregation of Holy Cross. It serves as a guiding light in our spiritual journey, steering us towards lives that reflect the values espoused in the Gospel. Under the inspired leadership of Basile Moreau, our Congregation has championed this spiritual alignment, advocating for a life that not only respects but actively embodies the teachings of Christ in every thought and action. Conformity to Christ is not merely a personal pursuit; it is a divine blueprint for sanctification, guiding us towards a transformative alignment with the life of Jesus.



Basile Moreau, recognizing the profound significance of this spiritual conformity, envisioned a Congregation built upon the ideal of becoming Christ-like in all aspects of life. His spirituality was deeply imbued with the symbolism of the Cross, which he regarded as the ultimate expression of love and sacrifice. Our Congregational Motto, "Ave Crux, Spes Unica" (Hail the Cross, Our Only Hope), underscores the centrality of the Cross in our religious life.



In his Circular Letter 34, Basile Moreau emphasized the transformative power of trials, asserting, "*Happy, indeed, are we if we know how to profit by [trials]*

and to understand the unspeakable advantage of becoming more and more conformed to the image of the divine Christ crucified." His teachings encourage us to view Christ not only as our Savior but also as a model for daily living. He firmly believed that through education, evangelization, and service, we could cultivate Christ-like virtues and thus draw closer to Him. This ethos remains the hallmark of our Congregation, bearing witness to the transformative journey of conforming to Christ.

Conformity to Christ beckons us to a path of selfless love, radical obedience, and unwavering faith. In a world beset by turmoil, it serves as a clarion call for us to scrutinize our lives and align them more closely with the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. As we embark on this journey, we discover that in conforming to Christ, we unearth our most authentic selves.

## UPCOMING ORDINATIONS

- Deacon Desing John Nongphud CSC  
On 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 at St. John Mary Vianney Parish, Nongkasen at 10.00 am.
- Deacons Francis Gayang CSC  
on 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 at St. Peter's Catholic Church, Syndai, under Ka Syiem Jingsuk Parish, Amlarem at 10.00 am.

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