



January 2023

Volume - 01 /2023 | Holy Cross Northeast India|

Provincial Speaks



Dear Confreres / WAVEerS,

Peace of Christ. In the first month of the New Year - 2023, the newsletter of our Province reaches you with its renewed greetings and blessings.

Lots of activities have taken place during the last two months or so, keeping all of us on our toes: The visit of Bro. Paul Bednarczyk CSC, our Superior General, and the hectic activities that followed in his honour; Christmas cum New Year Celebrations at our mission centres; Province Assembly; Annual Retreat, etcetera.

As the aroma of the new year celebrations is still around us, I wish to gratefully congratulate you for all that you did last year; and simultaneously wish each of you the very best for all that you have planned to do to make God known, loved and served.

Province Assembly has given us all a renewed spirit to carry on with our religious life and mission. It was a wonderful feeling to have honoured, as a Province, our Deacon, New Priests, and the Jubilarians.

Let us keep the Vicariate of India - Brothers, and the Vicariate of Tamil Nadu - Priests, in our prayers, as they are officially to be upgraded to Provinces. I will personally witness both events on the 19<sup>th</sup> and the 20<sup>th</sup> of January, respectively. As Holy Cross in India is soon to have four Provinces, we pray that there may be a more significant amount of collaboration among us and between us to explicitly experience the hope and vision of our founder Bl. Basil Moreau.

Wish you all the best for the celebrations we are to have in honour of our founder Bl. Basil Moreau, on his birth and death anniversaries, soon. May we return to the sources of religious life – the Constitutions and Spiritual Life – the Word of God.

Have a pleasant reading of our Province Newsletter ... WAVES: Jan.'23 Issue.

Fr. Simon Fernandis CSC,  
Provincial Superior

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# EDITORIAL

*Dear readers of WAVES,*

I wish a happy and prosperous New Year 2023 to all our Readers. I pray that this year will bring prosperity and good health to all.

Sometimes, we are all positive about the New Year starting, but as the first month passes, everything seems to return to that rushed feeling. The anxiety of our ministerial commitments creeps back, and we feel like we are moving backwards. Here are some positive thoughts to keep all of us motivated.

## Be open to change

We never know what can happen but be open to every aspect. The New Year can bring new and exciting things to our lives, and knowing that the change that can occur can help us prepare for it, whether it was planned or the after-effect of something completely unplanned.



## Be hopeful

With the change, there could, unfortunately, be some negative aspects. We shouldn't let it get to us; we hope everything will work as it should. Don't panic! Have hope that good things, people, and experiences are coming our way. Be optimistic. We shouldn't let negative thoughts get into our heads. Even when something goes wrong, try and find something good about the situation.



## Be patient



Things take time, so don't worry if things aren't going in our favour. Let whatever is happening take its time because, eventually, everything will work out. Believe that everything happens for a reason. Good things will come out of anything that's challenging for us.

## Believe and live by the three E's

- Energy:** We need to put energy into everything we do.
- Enthusiasm:** Put good feelings toward the things we do.
- Empathy:** Be able to understand how others and we are feeling.



Hope that this year will be a year of great experiences for you.



*George Jacob, CSC*

# HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, KUMARGHAT

## Seminar for Catholic Students:

A Day-long seminar was organised for all the Catholic students of the school on the 05th of November 2022 with Sr. Bastian, FS as the animator. The importance of prayer and their relationship with Jesus were the topics covered. At the end of the seminar, a Q & A session was





arranged to clarify the doubts of the participants. The day's programmes included prayer and worship, animated by Sr. Veera Anthony, MC, and Mr. Francis.

**Tree Plantation Drive:**



Nature is God's most beautiful creation. To facilitate nature's growth, development, and nourishment, A "Tree Plantation Drive" was organised in the school on Wednesday, the 09th of November 2022. The campaign's main aim was to direct students' minds to constructive activities that would contribute to society. The students participated in the drive enthusiastically, planting many saplings themselves and helping each other to plant. All the teachers and students took an oath to look after the saplings they planted and invite others and themselves to grow more in their homes. School authorities hope such steps will help foster solid mental and social health amongst the students and protect Mother Earth.

**Workshop on Fire Safety Awareness and Disaster Management:**

Mr. Prashant Chakraborty, an expert on fire safety, led a demonstration cum training for the members of the fire and safety committee of the school on the 03rd of November 2022. His demonstration included the use of fire extinguishers, the operation



of the fire alarm, the function of the fire detector, the use of fire safety

pipes during minor and major incidents, and the use of cylinders.

Following the fire safety demonstration, on the 10th of November 2022, fire safety personnel from Kumarghat Fire Station, led by Bennubusan Debnath, gave a session on Disaster Management. The session covered the basic drills followed during disasters like a fire or earthquakes. Both sessions were very informative and helpful in times of disaster and emergencies.

**Children's Day Celebration:**



In memory of India's first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the 14th of November is celebrated as Children's Day. Our school celebrated this day with cultural programmes and the distribution of sweets. Cultural activities performed by the teachers included songs, dances, a fashion show, and an orchestra. Sr. Rita, FS, the day's chief guest, Fr. Sahaya Lourdu, CSC, and a student representative spoke on the occasion, highlighting the day's importance and expressing gratitude to everyone for the beautiful day.

**Visit to Avenanda Ashram (orphanage home):**

On the occasion of Children's Day, the principal and some teachers and students visited Avenanda Ashram, Kumarghat, an orphanage home for





children. Our students entertained the children with various cultural items, and the children of 'Avenanda home' performed a group song. Sweets, dresses, and sweaters were distributed among the children doubling their joy and happiness. This visit was organised to share the joy of children's day with the people of the periphery and make the students aware of their social responsibility towards the less privileged.

**Holy Cross Educational Exhibition:**

An educational exhibition is an essential component of an effective teaching-learning process. It opens the world of innovation and imagination to the students. To this end, Holy Cross School, Kumarghat, organised the 'Holy Cross Educational Exhibition' on the 26th of November 2022. It was inaugurated by Sri. Prasanta Kilikdar, the District Education Officer of Unakoti District. Many models and innovations in Science, Mathematics, and Social Science were displayed and witnessed by students, parents, and well-wishers of the school. For both students and visitors, it was a great learning experience.



The occasion was used to proudly acknowledge the achievements of our students in co-curricular activities. Kathashree Roy of Class VIII, who won the laurels at 'The Far East Zone Yoga Championship 2022-23' organised by the CBSE, was felicitated by Principal Fr. Sahaya Lourdu, CSC.



*Sahaya Lourdu, CSC*

**ST. PAUL'S PARISH KUMARGHAT**

**Leadership Training Program for Parents:**

To help the Parish Leadership Teams enhance families' spiritual life, a training program was



organised on the 26th of November, 2022. Forty-five participants from Holy Cross-run parishes of Bagbasa, Kathalcherra, Chailengta and Kumarghat participated. The training began with invoking the Holy Spirit, followed by interactive input sessions on family leadership, the importance of family prayer

**Sweet Chiming Bells!**

Sweet chiming bells were ringing on the school campus as we celebrated the Birth of Jesus. The event, organised on the 19th of December 2022, brought immense joy to the students. Students presented the Christmas play with the message of love, peace, and joy, followed by the singing of Christmas Carols by the teachers and students. Mr. Roitua Darlong, the Chief Guest of the day, gave the Christmas Message focussing on Christmas as the celebration of the birth of LOVE.





and rosary, responsible parenting, and the social responsibility of families. Speakers of the day included Fr. Lancy D'Souza, CSC, Mr. Lala Darlong, Mr. Piangluma Darlong, and Mr. Johnuana Darlong. The day ended with Holy Eucharist presided over by Fr. Harry D'Silva, CSC, Parish Priest of Chailengta.

 **Bro. Jojoppa**

**Elders' Day and Initiation of the Altar Servers:**

Elders' Day, coupled with the initiation of the Altar Servers, was celebrated on the 04th of December 2022. It was a day to thank the elders for their sacrifices in keeping the flame of faith alive. For the ninety elders who had gathered, it was a day to remember, filled with spiritual and recreational activities. Spiritual activities, including Holy Eucharist, helped the participants to be in communion with God. The parish community



prayed for the elderly, especially for their excellent health. The day came to an end with a sumptuous meal for everyone. During the mass, thirty-four children were initiated as altar servers in the parish. Twenty-five girls and nine boys took an oath to be faithful in serving at the altar. They were given medals and rosaries as a symbol of being holy.

**Small Christian Communities:**

Thirty-five participants gathered for a deanery-level animation and meeting of Small Christian Communities on the 10th of December 2022. It began with an enthronement of the Bible followed by the 'Lexio Divina'. There was a presentation of

reports by the zonal secretary Mr. Pyonglema Darlong and all the Parish Secretaries. The importance of SCCs was explained to the participants by Fr. Lancy D'Souza, CSC, and Fr. Ivan D'silva, SVD, and a report of the SCC training program held at Shillong was presented by Sr. Bastian, FS. It is to be noted that the next Agartala-



Aizwal zonal meeting will be held at Kumarghat on the 17th of February 2023, for which the resource person is Most Rev. Stephen of the Aizwal diocese.

Br. Paul Bednarczyk, C.S.C., the newly elected Superior General of the Congregation of Holy Cross, who was on his visit to India, spent a few minutes with the participants and spoke about the role of the laity in the church. He gave a special blessing to all those present.

**Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells:**

Catholic youth of Kuamrghat parish took upon themselves the responsibility of spreading the joy and message of Christmas in the parish by visiting various villages and greeting the faithful with Christmas Carols. The programme, held on the 20th of December 2022, included singing Carols and delivering Christmas Messages. They visited various mondolis - namely: Shantipally, Ratacherra, Bethcherra, Kanchancherra and Tuinaisa, and people were overjoyed to receive





them. It was an exciting and faith-filled experience for the youth and others who participated in it.

*Mr. Francis Darlong*

## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH, MOHARPARA

### Chapel Blessing at Baktomohan:

A newly built chapel at Baktomohan village dedicated to Mother Mary was blessed by Fr. Hormis John, CSC, the Judicial Vicar of Agartala Diocese, on the 20th of November 2022. The mondoli started in the year 2016, was working hard to get a beautiful place of worship, and their dream came true with the

blessing of this place of worship. It is heartening to know that the construction was done purely using the local contribution of the people. The day came to an end with a community meal.



### Chapel Blessing at Hamjakma:

It was a day to remember for the members of Hamjakma mondoli, as their dream of having a place of worship was fulfilled, with the blessing of a new chapel dedicated to St. Andre. On the 27th of November 2022, Most Rev. Lumen



Monteiro, CSC, Bishop of Agartala, inaugurated and blessed the chapel and offered the Holy Eucharist for the faithful. A short felicitation programme was held in honour of the Bishop and other dignitaries, followed by agape.

### Parish Day and Eucharistic Procession:

Parish Day and Eucharistic Procession were organised on the 11th of December 2022, with a



spiritual renewal for all four zones, a week before the celebration. Fr. Jeevan Kennedy, SVD, was the principal celebrant, and Fr. Joe Paul was the homilist who spoke about the faithfulness of Mary.

After the Eucharist, Blessed Sacrament was exposed for Adoration, and a procession was taken out

carrying the Blessed Sacrament. Faithful from thirty-four sub-centres joined the procession, professing their faith and praising and glorifying God through prayers and hymns. A praise and worship session was conducted by Fr. Jeevan with the accompaniment of music and singing by the choir from Twithampui Mondoli. It was a day of faith experience for the people of the parish.





### Marriage Preparation Course:

A three-day marriage preparation course was held from the 12th to the 14th of December 2022 at the Parish Centre and saw the participation of many youths. Resource persons of the event: Fr. Hormis John, CSC, Fr. Ivan D'Silva, SVD, Dr. Ashok Debbarma, MBBS, and catechist Thomas Hrangkhawl interacted with the participants on



various topics, like mother-child care during the pregnancy period, hygiene, drugs, alcohol, abortion, understanding of the menstrual period, and natural family planning. They also touched upon the Sacredness of Marriage as a Sacrament, the indissolubility of the marriage bond, children are God's gift, and the importance of family prayer. The participants shared their experiences of their faith journey and family life with one another. A Q&A session was held at the end of the course to clarify their doubts about health care, especially during pregnancy.

*Arbok Lyngdoh, CSC*

### HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, PANISAGAR

#### Talent Show:

All of us are blessed with the ability to sing at varied levels. A singing talent show was organised for the students of classes KG to V on the 05th of November 2022. Students of the above classes were allowed to showcase their singing talent and did exceptionally well, earning the praise of teachers and students of higher classes.

#### Peace Yatra by BSF Jawans:

On the 10th of November 2022, we were blessed with the presence of BSF Jawans from Agartala, who made a peace yatra to Kolkata. Their presence encouraged the students to be courageous and work for peace.



#### Children's Day:

Children's Day was celebrated in the school on the 14th of November 2022 with various programmes. The cultural programmes performed by enthusiastic teachers were based on the ideas of Shri. Abdul Kalam. Students truly enjoyed the entire programme performed by their teachers and went home with hearts filled with joy and hands filled with snacks and sweets.



#### Death Anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

The Death Anniversary of Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar was commemorated in the school on the 06th of December 2022. The children were made aware of his outstanding contribution to society and the Constitution of India. Students prepared and presented speeches on the valuable contribution of Ambedkar to our country.





**Celebration of Christmas:**

The joy and message of Christmas were shared among the students and the public with week-long celebrations in the school, villages, and Panisagar town. Students participated in these festive programmes and enjoyed the spirit of Christmas before they went home for Christmas / winter holiday. Along with the Holy Cross candidates, we visited the government-run orphanage home and shared the joy of Christmas by distributing cakes and singing carols.



*Kanikkai Jeyaraj, CSC*

**ST. ANDRE MINOR SEMINARY,  
BODHJUNG NAGAR**

**Visit of Important Personalities:**

The candidates of St. Andre Minor Seminary were blessed with the presence of significant personalities during November and December 2022. The first to visit us was Most Rev. Stephen Rotluanga, CSC, Bishop of Aizawl, on the 23rd of November 2022. He encouraged the candidates and invited them to remain faithful to their call. Fr Mariaraj, CSC, the Formation Coordinator of the Province, made an official visit to the seminary and shared with the candidates the formation policy of the Province, expectations from the candidates, and their responsibilities. Accompanied by Fr. Simon



Fernandis, CSC, the Provincial Superior, Rev. Bro. Paul Bednarczyk, CSC, the Superior General of the



Congregation of Holy Cross, made his maiden visit to the seminary on the 08th of December 2022. After receiving a warm welcome accorded to him by the candidates, he shared with them the Congregation's priority of formation. He encouraged the candidates to care for their vocation and nurture it till the end.

**Christmas Celebration and Parish Experience:**



Before going for their parish experience during the winter holiday, the candidates had an advance Christmas celebration on the 21st of December 2022. The celebration included sharing Christmas gifts, singing Christmas Carols, and having a delicious dinner. After the pre-Christmas celebration, all the candidates were sent to different Holy Cross parishes in Tripura to experience the ministry of Holy Cross Fathers and sustain them in their vocation.



*John PKC, CSC*







## ST. MARY'S PARISH, TUIKARMAW

### Christomela:

Under the aegis of South Tripura Christian Forum (STCF), St. Mary's Parish organised a 'Christomela' on the 14th of December 2022. The programme, held at Holy Cross School ground, was represented by eight Christian denominations from the South Tripura district. In his welcome address, Fr. Thomas Pereira, CSC, thanked the vision of Fr. C. Abraham, CSC, and Fr. Alfred D'Souza, CSC, for starting such a noble programme in 2015. A Program of such nature helps us share our faith and celebrate the Birth of Jesus in a union of heart and mind. Christmas messages, Carole singing, a dance competition, and various stalls were the celebration's highlights.

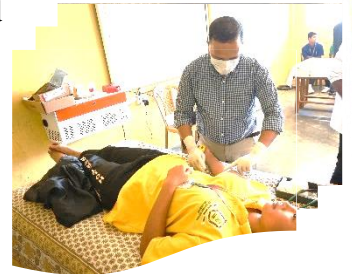


attraction as the children enjoyed deliciously cooked local delicacies.

### Medical and Blood Donation Camp:



A team of doctors from BC Manu PHC came to the school on the 29th of November 2022 to conduct a medical camp to benefit our students. They received free consultations and medicines during the camp. On the same day, a blood donation camp was organised in collaboration with the parents, youth, and BSF personnel from the Bogafa camp. Blood bank personnel from GB hospital Agartala provided technical assistance in conducting the camp. A total of 26 units of blood were collected.



*Renju George, CSC*

## HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, TUIKARMAW

### School Fete:



The school fete - a fun and entertaining day was organised for students on the 14th of December 2022. Fourteen stalls, set up for the day, allowed the children to spend time in fun and frolic and win prizes. Food stalls were a great

## ST. ANDRE SCHOOL, BODHJUNG NAGAR

### Teachers' Seminar:

A Seminar for Teachers was organised by CBSE on the 21st



of December 2022, and all our teachers enthusiastically participated in it. All were given a certificate by the CBSE.



## Youth Programme:

The youth program with the theme: Youth for Christ, was held from the 27th to the 30th of December 2022 in the School Campus for various parishes of the diocese. A Hundred and fifty youths and students participated in the program. The

resource persons created awareness among the youth regarding ethical and moral values, substance abuse and proper use of digital technology.

Most Rev. Lumen Monteiro, CSC, the Bishop of Agartala Diocese, offered the Eucharist and invited the youth to be agents of change in the church and society.



occasion, the new Parish Church, built with the financial contributions and labour of the parishioners, was inaugurated and blessed by Most Rev. Victor Lyngdoh, DD, Archbishop of Shillong Archdiocese, in the presence of Most Rev. Lumen Monteiro, CSC, DD, Bishop of Agartala, Fr. Simon Fernandis, CSC, Provincial Superior of Northeast Province, Fr. Roque D'Costa, CSC, Provincial



Superior of South Indian Province, priests, religious, parishioners and civic officials from the Government of Meghalaya. In the afternoon, Eucharistic Adoration was organised to thank God for His blessings on the parish for the last 50 years. An entertainment programme, which included the felicitation of people who were part of the Golden journey of the parish, added joy to the celebration.

Good Shepherd Parish Jongksha was bifurcated from the Cathedral Parish, Laitumkhrah, in Shillong, in 1972. It was initially administered by the Salesians of Don Bosco. In 1976 the parish was handed over to the Congregation of Holy Cross, and Fr.



Isaac Kelampambil, CSC, was appointed as the Parish Priest and Fr. Joseph Kuzhikkat, CSC, as Assistant Priest. In 1985, the Good Shepherd Parish was bifurcated and gave birth to Holy Cross Parish, Mawkynrew, also administered by Holy Cross.

Over the fifty Golden Years, Good Shepherd Parish has grown to a population of 14,618 spread across 21

## GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH, JONGKSHA

### Golden Jubilee Celebration:

Good Shepherd Parish, Jongksha, celebrated its Golden Jubilee on the 18th of December 2022, with about 15,000 faithful attending the Eucharistic celebration and the programmes after that. On the





villages. Apart from the pastoral needs of the parish, Holy Cross Fathers are also engaged in meeting the educational needs of the people. Parish runs twenty-three schools up to 5th grade and seven schools up to 8th grade. It also runs two secondary and one senior secondary school, catering to about 3700 students.



*George Jacob, CSC*

**HOLY CROSS PARISH, KOLORIANG**

**Altar Servers' Association:**



On the 20th of November 2022, the Altar Servers' Association was officially formed in the parish. The members were trained to assist the priests at the Altar for a meaningful celebration of the Eucharist.

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**Eucharistic Procession:**

A solemn Eucharistic procession was organised on the 20th of November 2022, on the feast of Christ - the King. Hundreds of people joined the Eucharistic celebration and the Eucharistic Procession, singing hymns in honour of Christ our King.



**Christmas Cricket Tournament:**

The Parish organised the first ever T20 inter denominational cricket tournament with the motto: Love and Friendship. Eight teams participated in the game, which lasted for fifteen days. Shri. Pani Taram, ex-MLA, was the Chief Guest and Shri. Yumlam Pulu, APCS, was the Guest of Honour. The



Christian Church emerged as the winner, and the Catholic Church, as the runners-up of the tournament. During the days of tournament, various church leaders had an opportunity to talk about faith and prayer, moral values, education and family formation.

**Visits of Bishops:**

We had the privilege of hosting three Bishops during October and December 2022. Mar John Nellikunnel, Bishop of the Syro-Malabar Eparchy of Idukki, Kerala, paid a visit here on the 24th of October 2022. Most Rev. John Thomas, Bishop of Itanagar and Most Rev. Gabriel Kujur, SJ, emeritus Bishop of Daltanganj were here in our parish on the 15th and the 16th of December 2022, and administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to our parishioners, numbering forty six.



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*Gabriel Darlong*



**GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH,  
KATHALCHERRA**

**'Christo Mela':**

'Christo Mela' – celebration of the birth of Christ was celebrated at Good Shepherd Parish, Kathalcherra on the 17th of December 2022. A two-hour drama depicting the events from the annunciation of John the Baptist to the killing of innocent



babies by King Herod was staged on the occasion.

The presentation helped the viewers to experience the Word of God coming alive in their midst. It was a moment of faith experience for thousands of people gathered for the event. A parish-level carol singing competition was part of the 'Christo Mela' celebration.



*Abraham C, CSC*

Congregation of Holy Cross, as the Chief Guest; Fr. Simon Fernandis, CSC, the Provincial Superior as the Guest of Honour and Fr. George Jacob, CSC, Secretary, Holy Cross Educational Foundation as the Special Guest, along with priests, religious, parents and guardians.

Before the Cultural Extravaganza - 'Kaleidoscope' by the students, all gathered for the inauguration and blessing of the St. Andre statue near the main entrance by the Chief Guest & the Guest of Honour.



The scintillating performance of the students was a feast to the eyes and ears of the audience. They were surprisingly mesmerised by the performance of the students. The parents truly appreciated the school for extraordinarily nurturing their children's talents. The celebration ended with the twin releases of the school magazine - *Eunoia* and the School's Mobile App Logo.



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*Ajith Philip, CSC*

**HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, BAGBASSA**

**Decennial Jubilee and Parents' Day Celebration:**

Holy Cross School at Bagbassa celebrated the Decennial Jubilee of the establishment of the school and Parents' Day. The event held on the 10th of December 2022 saw the presence of Rev. Bro. Paul Bednarczyk, CSC, Superior General,



**ANNUAL PROVINCE ASSEMBLY AND RETREAT**

After a gap of two years due to Covid 19 pandemic, Holy Cross Northeast Province gathered on the 6th and the 7th of January 2023 for its annual assembly.





It was a truly rejuvenating and hope-instilling experience for the entire membership. There was a

tangible manifestation of fraternal concern, ministerial affirmation, and spiritual

solidarity in all the reports, sharing, and reflections during the annual assembly.



The membership is genuinely grateful to our Provincial Fr. Simon Fernandis, CSC, and the provincial administration for

organising a full-day session on the 06th of January on a very relevant and vital topic, "Social Media and Ethics" by Fr. (Dr.) Shiju Edassery, CSC, Director Peyton Institute Bangalore.



The session was very scientific, informative, and enlightening. He warned us that the misuse or inappropriate use of social media would cause us much harm and damage, such as loss of personal reputation, loss of money and time, loss of privacy, and loss of self-confidence. It will have far-reaching consequences on public life, mission, church, and the province as we represent them. Therefore, sufficient knowledge, awareness, and prudent and productive use of social media must be taken seriously as it is essential for our contemporary life and ministry,



especially with easy access to advanced social media.

The community retreat that followed the annual provincial assembly was yet another unique experience for all who attended it. Fr Luke Rodrigues, SJ, a Mumbai Province Jesuit, animated the retreat passionately and spiritually on the topic of Ecology with an explicit focus on integrating the

mystery of creation into our spirituality. His primary reference was the reflection and wisdom of His Holiness Pope Francis articulated in 'Laudato Si' and the Holy Bible. The cosmic walk, exercise on the web of the

mystery of creation, discovering and rediscovering God in Creation and God of creation, and God's tender care for



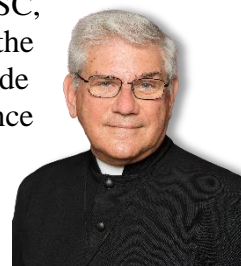
creation and nature were appropriate, stimulating phases of reflection, prayer, and meditation during the five days of retreat. One more area of integration advocated by the preacher was to enter a conscious, responsible, and passionate communion with the mystery of creation with a great sense of gratitude, concern, and care and thus encounter the DIVINE in the creation as "God, the Father Son and the Holy Spirit" is Omnipresent...Omnipotent and Omniscient.



Shaji M.L., CSC

## VISIT OF THE SUPERIOR GENERAL TO THE PROVINCE

Rev. Bro. Paul Bednarczyk, CSC, the Superior General of the Congregation of Holy Cross, made his maiden visit to the Province from the 07th to the 13th of December 2022. He attended a slew of programmes organised in his honour. On the 7th, he



was accorded a warm welcome at the Airport by the Provincial and members of Moreau Community House. The following day after reaching Agartala, he was received and felicitated at Holy Cross School.



Later in the morning, he dedicated the Rev. Richard Warner, CSC auditorium at Holy Cross College. He then visited St. André Parish, St. Andre

Minor Seminary, the Sacred Heart Students Home, and ASHA. He also interacted with the Most Rev. Lumen Monterio, CSC, Bishop: Diocese of Agartala. That noon, the area Holy Cross Priests, local religious and clergy gathered for a Mass and fellowship lunch to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Priesthood of Fr. Simon Fernandis, Provincial. Bro. Paul B CSC was incredibly grateful to be able to join in the celebration.



On the 9th and the 10th of December, Bro. Paul visited the schools, parishes, and communities in Panisagar, Moharpara, Chailengta, Kathalcherra and Kumarghat. At Holy Cross School in Bagbassa, he dedicated a new St. Andre statue and addressed the students and parents at the Annual Parents' Day Celebration.



Before his arrival by road in Shillong on the 11th, he attended the Sunday Mass with the Holy Cross Parish community in Umkiang. While residing at the Moreau Institute of Integral Training (MIIT) in Shillong, he spent the



morning at Holy Cross Parish in Mawkeynrew, where he dedicated a new library.

Afterwards, it was lunch with the community and invited guests and a tour of the new Good Shepherd Church in Jongksha which was then preparing for its 50th Anniversary celebration.



To culminate his visit to India, Fr. Theophilus Sohtun, CSC, MIIT Director, and Fr. Roy Paul Thalackan, CSC, Administrator, hosted a reception and supper in honour of the Superior General for approximately 130 local clergy, religious and friends of Holy Cross. In his speech, Bro. Paul B CSC said he is leaving "India with a full and grateful heart for the missionary zeal and commitment of our Holy Cross religious who admirably minister in this part of the world."



During his visit to the Northeast, as is his custom, Bro. Paul, CSC also conducted three open forum



sessions for the Holy Cross religious in the West and North Tripura regions and the Shillong area.



Courtesy: CSC Global



**HOLY CROSS COLLEGE,  
AGARTALA**



**ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIAL AND HUMAN  
ADVANCEMENT**

**Graduation Day:**

Holy Cross College, Agartala, organised the 11th Graduation Day Program at Jubatara campus,



Lembucherra, on the 12th of November 2022. Dr. (Fr.) Benny. K. John, Principal, Holy Cross College, welcomed the dignitaries to the program. Mr. N.C Sharma, Director, Dept. of Higher Education, Govt. of Tripura, was the Chief Guest and Fr. Simon Fernandis, CSC, President, Holy Cross Educational Foundation, North-East Province, presided over the function. The Chief Guest appreciated the efforts of the students and parents in reaching the graduate

level and also encouraged

them to aim higher in their life. He expressed his hope that Holy Cross College

will become Autonomous soon. Later, the dignitaries and the heads of different Academic Departments distributed the certificates to the graduates. Around five hundred students graduated this year from Holy Cross College, with fourteen securing ranks in Tripura University in various courses, including seven gold medals

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*Joe Paul, CSC*

**Career Guidance Workshop:**

ASHA, in collaboration with Holy Cross-run schools in Tripura, organised a Career Guidance Workshop

for Classes X and XII students.

About six hundred students

benefitted from the programme. Using worksheets, the resource persons - Mr. Anbhuvan, Headmaster of Dhanalaxmi School Chennai, and a career guidance expert, made the students understand their aptitudes, and helped them to broaden their perspective in choosing a career for themselves.

Fifteen members of SHGs under Holy Cross Parish



**Exposure Programme for SHG Members:**

Koloriang, Arunachal Pradesh, attended a seven-day training programme from the 26th of November to the 02nd of December 2022. Along with their coordinator Mr. Lindum Tadep, they had training by a team of experts and exposure to Livestock management, Income generating activities, Horticulture, Mushroom cultivation, Apiculture, Vegetation, Flower culture, Food Processing, farming, and documentation.





**Training of Anganwadi Workers (AWW):**

Collaborating with the Dept. of Social Welfare & Social Education (SW & SE) Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council, Khumulwng, ASHA organised a 10-day Training Program from the 02nd to the 12th of December 2022 for twenty AWW teachers. They represented six ICDS from Dhalai and North Tripura districts. Thirty-five skill-based and practical modules were dealt with by ten Resource Persons.



Smt. Dolly Reang, the Hon'ble Executive Member (EM) of TTAADC, Kumwlung, appreciated the training given by ASHA and invited the trained teachers to develop young minds under their care. At the end of the programme, certificates were distributed to all the AWW teachers.



*Pappy Valan, CSC*

*Editorial Team*

- George Jacob CSC
- Mariaraj CSC
- Jilson Tom CSC

*Design & Layout*

- Paul Ranglong

Send your feedback to : [georgejacobcsc@gmail.com](mailto:georgejacobcsc@gmail.com)

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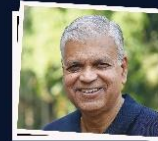
**JUBILARIANS**

**CONGRATULATIONS**

**50<sup>th</sup> Years of PRIESTHOOD**



**Fr. Hormis John Vithayathil, CSC**



**Fr. Jose Varkey Chempottical, CSC**

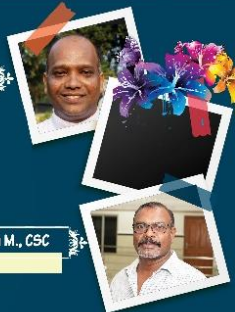
**50<sup>th</sup> GOLDEN Jubilee of RELIGIOUS LIFE**



**Fr. Arul Jeganathan, CSC**

**25 YEARS RELIGIOUS LIFE**

**Fr. Sahaya Lourdu Raj J., CSC**



**Fr. Packya Jayaseelan M., CSC**

