



Congregation of Holy Cross

Province of Northeast India

NEWSLETTER

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PROVINCE UPDATES

WAVES 2025

PROVINCIAL SPEAKS

“Mandela Day and the Power of One”



Every year on July 18th, the world pauses to celebrate Nelson Mandela International Day—not just to remember an extraordinary man, but to remind ourselves of a powerful truth: Each of us carries within us the power to make a difference.

This message rings especially true for us in the Congregation of Holy Cross, where education is more than academics—it is a mission of the heart. We strive to shape young lives that are rooted in compassion, driven by justice, and alive with the desire to serve.

So, what does Mandela Day mean for the children in our Holy Cross schools?

In today’s world—marked by division, noise, and uncertainty—our young people need more than lessons from textbooks. They need living examples of hope. Nelson Mandela’s life, with its deep wells of courage, forgiveness, and perseverance, shows us that true leadership begins not in the halls of power, but in the quiet choices of everyday life. A kind word. A helping hand. A stand for what’s right.

Our students don’t need to wait until they grow older to become changemakers. They can begin now—in their classrooms, in their families, among friends. A small act of kindness or a courageous stand for someone left out is where leadership is born.

At Holy Cross, we cultivate that leadership. We guide students not only to dream, but to act—to learn that even a small flame can light up the darkness.

Imagine what could happen if each student gave just 67 minutes—as the Mandela Day campaign suggests—doing something good for someone else. Cleaning a classroom, writing a note of gratitude, comforting a peer, or giving a book to someone in need. These aren’t grand acts—but they carry the power to uplift, to connect, to transform.

Dear educators and companions in mission, this Mandela Day, let’s plant in our students the seeds of empathy and courage. Let’s shape classrooms that form not only future professionals, but builders of peace, voices of truth, and hearts of compassion.

Let’s continue this holy work—one child, one act, one heart at a time.

Fr. K. J. Abraham, CSC
Provincial Superior

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EDITORIAL



“Becoming Beacons of Hope and Builders of Peace”

We live in troubled times. The daily news is filled with images of war, destruction, displacement, and division.

From conflict zones across the globe to tensions in our own communities, the cries of the wounded and the weary seem louder than ever. In such a world, it is easy to feel powerless, to retreat into silence or indifference. Yet, as people of faith and members of the Congregation of Holy Cross, we are called to respond—not with fear or despair, but with hope and peace.

Hope is not wishful thinking. It is a deep, active conviction that light still shines in the darkness. As our Constitutions reminds us, “We must be men [and women] with hope to bring.” This hope is not abstract. It is made real in the choices we make, the words we speak, and the lives we live. It is in the way we teach, accompany, forgive, pray, and stand up for what is right.

Peace, too, is not merely the absence of war. It is the presence of justice, reconciliation, and mutual respect. It is built brick by brick—through honest dialogue, patient listening, compassion for the other, and a refusal to give in to hatred. Peace begins with the human heart, and therefore, it begins with us.

In our communities, schools, and ministries, we are called to be agents of reconciliation—to be those who sow unity where there is division, understanding where there is prejudice, healing where there is hurt. We may not be able to stop global wars, but we can shape the world around us. Every smile offered, every conflict resolved peacefully, every



child taught to love instead of fear—these are seeds of peace.

As members of the Holy Cross family, our mission is to be signs of God’s love and instruments of His peace. The cross we carry is not a symbol of defeat, but of redemption—reminding us that even in suffering, life and hope emerge. In a divided world, let our lives proclaim that peace is possible, and that God is still at work through us.

- *George Jacob, CSC*

ST. ANDRE PARISH, NYAPIN

3rd Sangram Deanery Mega Youth Convention

St. Andre Parish, Nyapin, came alive with energy and faith as it hosted the 3rd Sangram Deanery Mega Youth Convention from the 7th to 11th of May. Over 400 participants—including youth, priests, religious, and lay leaders—from nine



parishes gathered under the theme “*Youth of the Church; Hope for the World.*” The convention featured insightful sessions on the Eucharist (Fr. Roshan Bamin), the impact of social media (Fr. John, SDB), vocation (Fr. Prasanta Basumatary, CSC), and other topics vital to youth formation.



Amidst learning and reflection, the convention also celebrated youthful spirit through sports, cultural competitions, and prayer. The event was a powerful expression of unity, formation, and fellowship, leaving the youth spiritually enriched and inspired.

Marian Procession and Farewell to Fr. John Nongphud, CSC

A touching Marian procession and farewell program for Fr. John Nongphud CSC was held at St. Andre Parish on the 1st of June despite heavy rain. The faithful turned out in large numbers to express their deep devotion to Mary and heartfelt gratitude to Fr. John for his dedicated service to the parish and school. The Rosary procession was followed by a cultural farewell celebration filled with songs, dances, and emotional tributes. Fr. John now proceeds to Shillong for his new pastoral assignment, leaving behind a legacy of warmth, care, and commitment to the mission in Nyapin.



ST. JUDE SCHOOL, NYAPIN

Investiture Ceremony

On 2nd June, the Investiture Ceremony at St. Jude’s School marked the official induction of the newly elected student leaders for the academic year 2025–26. In a solemn and graceful ceremony, School, Class, and House leaders took their oath of office, committing themselves to serve with truth and integrity. Principal Fr. Lawrence



Wanniang, CSC, in his address, encouraged the young leaders to be role models of discipline and dedication, and to lead by example in building a positive school culture.

International Yoga Day

In observance of International Yoga Day on 21st June, students from Nursery to Class V at St. Jude’s School took part in a well-organized session of yoga and mindfulness activities under the theme



“One with the World, Health for All.” Teachers guided the students through basic postures and breathing exercises, promoting awareness of physical and mental

well-being. The day reinforced the importance of a healthy lifestyle and inner balance, even among the youngest learners.

Visit of the HCEF Secretary

The school and parish community were blessed with the visit of Fr. George Jacob CSC, Secretary of the Holy Cross Educational Foundation. He was accompanied by Fr. Ishwar Happa CSC and Mr. Paul Ranglong. The visit included a warm



welcome during the school assembly, where both Fr. George and Fr. Ishwar addressed the students with messages of encouragement, vision, and faith. An interaction with the staff followed, creating space for dialogue and appreciation. Fr. George's presence was a source of inspiration, strengthening the community's commitment to the Holy Cross mission in this remote corner of Arunachal Pradesh.

- *Lawrence Wanniang, CSC*

HOLY CROSS MISSION, KOLORIANG

Marian Devotion

The faithful of Koloriang came together ON 31st May in devotion on the Feast of the Visitation for a Marian procession from the Helipad to the Parish Church. Although rain threatened the event, it providentially cleared at the right moment, allowing the procession to proceed smoothly. The community prayerfully journeyed

together, honouring Our Lady with hymns and the Rosary.

The celebration culminated in the Holy Eucharist, presided over by Fr. Stephen Langsianmunga,



CSC, who, in his homily, reflected on the grace of the weather turning in their favour—an experience that deepened the community's faith. The liturgy was followed by light refreshments and joyful fellowship.

A Heartfelt Farewell and a Warm Welcome

The Holy Cross School community bid an emotional farewell to Fr. Stephen Langsianmunga, CSC, who concluded his tenure as Principal. The sisters, teachers, and students



organized a touching program in his honour, expressing deep gratitude for his leadership and pastoral presence. Fr. Stephen, in turn, expressed his thanks to the provincial administration and to the school and parish community for their constant support during his time in Koloriang.

Later, the parish community held a joint farewell and welcome celebration—bidding goodbye to Fr. Stephen and welcoming Fr. Simon Fernandes,

CSC. The church was filled for the event, which included a lively cultural presentation and a hearty meal enjoyed by all.

Holy Cross School also organized a brief but meaningful felicitation to welcome Fr. Simon. The program was graced by Fr. George Jacob, CSC, Fr. Ishwar, CSC, and Mr. Paul Ranglong, who extended their blessings and support to the new Principal.



- *Prasanta Basumatary, CSC*

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL, ZOWKATHAR

Celebrating Sportsmanship

St. Joseph School, Zokhawthar, celebrated its Annual Sports Day with great energy and enthusiasm on 26 May 2025. The event began with an inaugural ceremony at 9:30 a.m. at Zokhawthar Playground II, with Major Adharsh, Commander of the 14th Assam Rifles, as the Chief Guest. In his address, Major Adharsh encouraged students to develop discipline, leadership, and a commitment to both sports and personal growth, leaving a strong impression on all present.

The opening ceremony featured a vibrant March Past by students from the four school houses—Red, Yellow, Blue, and Green—setting the tone for



a week filled with athletic competitions at the Champhai Ground in Zotlang.

Students participated in a variety of events including running races, long jump, shot put, tug of war, football, volleyball, and more. Each activity emphasized the values of teamwork, resilience, and healthy competition. House captains and vice-captains played a key role in organizing and motivating their teams throughout the week.

The sports celebration not only promoted physical fitness but also nurtured self-confidence, discipline, and the joy of fair play. It was a time for students to relax, bond, and build lasting memories beyond the classroom.

- *Sr. Arsida*

HOLY CROSS PARISH, CHAMPHAI

Two New Churches Blessed

The Catholic community of Champhai rejoiced as two new churches—Christ the King Church, Khuangthing, and St. Stephen’s Church, Tuipui—were inaugurated and blessed by Most Rev. Stephen Rotluanga, CSC, DD, Bishop of Aizawl.



On 24 June 2025, the newly built Christ the King Church in Khuangthing was solemnly blessed. Located 84 km from Champhai and under the care of Holy Cross Parish, the church currently serves four Catholic families. The community’s roots date back to the 1960s under the leadership of

late Pu Thomas Lalduna. The original Assam-type church was blessed by Bishop Rotluanga in 1994. Thanks to the tireless efforts of Fr. Jerome Chorei, CSC, the current Parish Priest, and the Parish Council, the new church now stands as a symbol of faith and perseverance, supported by benefactors from various parishes.

Two days later, on 26 June 2025, Bishop Rotluanga also inaugurated St. Stephen's Church in Tuipui, a community that traces its origins to



1983 when Fr. Harry D'Silva, CSC first served as a missionary there. In 2022, Fr. Clement Amo, CSC, laid the foundation for a new building, and construction was completed under Fr. Jerome Chorei, CSC. Today, the Tuipui church serves 11 families comprising 44 faithful.

Both occasions were marked by heartfelt liturgical celebrations and joyous community



fellowship. The presence of priests, religious, and lay faithful made these events memorable milestones in the missionary journey of Champhai parish.

- **Boniface Rohmingmawia**



GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH, JONGKSHA

Parish Feast

The faithful of Good Shepherd Parish, Jongksha joyfully celebrated their Parish Feast Day on 18th May 2025. A major highlight of the celebration was the administration of the Sacrament of



Confirmation to 578 candidates, marking a significant moment in the spiritual journey of the parish community. In preparation, a day-long catechesis on Confirmation was held on 11 May, led by Fr. Raphael Maiong, SDB, along with three Salesian Sisters.

The festive Eucharist was presided over by Fr. Roy Thalackan, CSC, with eight Holy Cross priests concelebrating. Over 5,000 faithful participated. Church leaders from 21 villages renewed their pastoral promises, while the parish community—along with Bethany Sisters, youth, and mothers—ensured a beautifully arranged liturgy.



A Benediction and cultural program followed in the afternoon, during which priests, sisters, catechists, and parish leaders were felicitated. The event concluded with refreshments for all and the ceremonial lowering of the parish flag by Fr. John Valan, CSC.

- *Suresh Kagoo, CSC*

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, PANISAGAR

Welcome to Regent John

On 6th May 2025, the school community warmly welcomed Br. John, who will spend a year of regency in Panisagar as part of his formation. His presence was joyfully acknowledged by the students through song and celebration.



Felicitation to Toppers

A day later, on 7th May, the school felicitated its academic achievers, celebrating a 100% pass result. Anirban, the school topper, secured 97%, while Sumedha and Pritham followed with 89%. Their success brought pride to the institution.



Investiture

The Investiture Ceremony held on 8th May saw the appointment of Saptak as School Pupil Leader and Michael as Assistant SPL, along with other class and house leaders. TBSE toppers graced the occasion and distributed certificates to class

toppers. Addressing the students, the Principal



emphasized that leadership is about inspiring others and creating a supportive environment.

Welcome to Fr. Alex

On 13th May, Fr. Alex, CSC, was formally introduced to the school community. Formerly serving in Meghalaya, Fr. Alex who works in South India expressed his joy at returning to the Northeast and was greeted with a song and shawl during the school assembly.



5th Rank in the Merit List

A proud moment came on 13th June, when it was announced that Anirban from our school had secured the 5th rank in the TBSE State Merit List. His achievement was celebrated by all, especially when he received a meritorious award from the Chief Minister in Agartala.



Marathon Winner

On 25th June, Debajit Roy, a student of the school, secured 5th place in a District-Level Marathon. He was awarded a certificate and cash prize by the District Magistrate of North Tripura, a proud moment for the school during the summer holidays.

- *Kanikkai Jeyraj, CSC*



ST. PAUL'S PARISH, KUMARGHAT

BEC Leadership Training

In June 2025, a one-day leadership training on Basic Ecclesial Communities (BEC) was held at St. Paul Parish, Kumarghat, drawing around 140 participants from various parish ministries.

The seminar began with the Bible enthronement, followed by an input session from Mr. Paul Sangma, who explained the core of BEC—reading, understanding, and proclaiming the Word of God within local communities. Fr. Lancy, CSC, Parish Priest, elaborated on the vision, mission, and structure of BECs using placards and a PowerPoint presentation. He emphasized BECs as a model of “Church as Communion of Communities.”

Post-lunch, Mr. Lala Darlong conducted a session on Bible sharing through the Seven Steps of BEC, encouraging the faithful to gather regularly



around the Word of God. In the concluding session, Mr. Roitua Darlong introduced the Diocesan Pastoral Plan, dividing participants into nine groups to create practical action plans for strengthening BECs in their villages.

The program ended with an evaluation and a blessing from Fr. Lancy, who encouraged everyone to remain committed to building Kingdom-oriented communities.

- *Sr. Amali, FS*

Parish Feast and Green Sunday

St. Paul's Parish, Kumarghat, joyfully celebrated its patronal feast on Sunday, 29 June 2025, with around 550 parishioners and over 40 priests and religious in attendance. The solemn Eucharistic celebration was led by Fr. Jilson Tom, CSC, with



eight priests concelebrating. The vibrant liturgy reflected the deep faith and unity of the parish community.

Following the Mass, a Eucharistic procession was held, marked by hymns and adoration. In response to Pope Francis' call for care of creation, the parish also observed “Green Sunday.” Saplings were planted on the church grounds and distributed to families, encouraging everyone to take part in nurturing the environment. The celebration concluded with a joyful fellowship meal, reinforcing bonds of communion and gratitude.



- *Francis Xavier, CSC*



HOLY CROSS SCHOOL KUMARGHAT

Investiture Ceremony

The academic year 2025–26 began on a high note with the Investiture Ceremony on 14th May at Holy Cross School, Pabiacherra. The ceremony was graced by Col. Dharminder Chauhan, SM, Commandant of 28 Assam Rifles, as Chief Guest, along with Fr. Lancy D’Souza (Manager), Fr. Francis Xavier (Principal), and Sr. Berthilla (Headmistress).

The event began with a prayer and a candle-lighting ceremony, followed by a graceful prayer dance. Newly elected leaders, including the School Pupil Leader and House Captains, were formally invested with sashes and badges. In his address, the Chief Guest encouraged the students to lead with courage, vision, and responsibility.



The program concluded with a motivating message from Fr. Lancy, a vote of thanks by Fr. Francis, and the national anthem.

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Farewell and Academic Recognition

On 27th May, Holy Cross School, Kumarghat, held a moving program to honour the Class X academic achievers and bid farewell to Sr. Berthilla, FS (Headmistress) and Sr. Ainita Rani, FS (Supervisor), who completed their years of dedicated service. The program featured student performances, speeches, and cultural presentations. Arnob Das, the school topper, delivered an inspiring message.

The outgoing sisters were presented with traditional Risha and floral tokens of appreciation. Their farewell speeches were filled with gratitude and emotion, reflecting their deep bond with the school community. The event closed with a heartfelt vote of thanks and left a lasting impression on all present.



New Leadership Welcomed

As the school reopened after summer vacation, the staff and students warmly welcomed Sr. Lilly Theresa, FS, as the new Headmistress, and Sr. Ashrita, FS, as the new Supervisor. During the morning assembly on 30th June,

Fr. Francis Xavier, CSC, Principal, introduced the new leaders and presented them with the



traditional Risha in a gesture of respect and goodwill. The community looks forward to their leadership in continuing the legacy of academic excellence and values-based education.

- *Francis Xavier, CSC*

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, KATHALCHERRA

Kindergarten Inauguration

29th April marked the joyful inauguration of the Kindergarten section at Holy Cross H.S. School, Kathalcherra. The event was attended by teachers, parents, and school authorities, marking a new chapter in the school’s commitment to early childhood education.

The ceremony began with a prayer led by Mrs. Elizabeth Darlong, followed by the symbolic



lighting of the lamp. Fr. Sharon, CSC, Principal, welcomed all and emphasized the importance of nurturing young minds from the very beginning. An interactive session allowed parents to share their thoughts and hopes for their children's growth.

Sr. Cicilia, BS, Headmistress, addressed the gathering, underlining the shared responsibility of teachers and parents in shaping students. The event concluded with refreshments and informal interaction, setting a positive tone for the new academic journey.

Welcoming Class XI Students

A special assembly was held on 30th June to welcome the new Class XI students after the summer break. Fr. Sharon, CSC, congratulated them on their successful completion of secondary education and encouraged them to embrace the higher secondary years with focus and confidence.



In a gesture of warmth and camaraderie, senior students offered bouquets to the newcomers, fostering a spirit of unity and respect. The event concluded with an orientation session by Sr. Cicilia, BS, guiding the students on academic expectations and school culture. The day marked a hopeful and inspiring beginning to their senior school journey.

- Sharon Piuse, CSC

NOTRE DAME HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, MOHARPARA

Labour Day

On International Workers' Day on 1st May, the school recognized the invaluable contribution of



its support staff with a felicitation ceremony. Fr. Lourdu, CSC, Principal, highlighted the dignity of labour and the school's commitment to uphold it. Guests of honour included Fr. Roby V. Menacherry, CSC, Fr. Preet Anupam Beck, CSC, Fr. Arbok Lyngdoh, CSC, Fr. Newton Basumatari, CSC, and Sr. Rose Maria, SABS. Students organised a meaningful assembly and gifts were distributed to the staff.

Parent-Teacher Meeting

The first PTM of the academic year on 11th May saw 756 parents participate in discussions on academics, discipline, and school policies. Held in individual classrooms, the sessions allowed for focused interaction with class teachers. Parents



expressed satisfaction with the dialogue and appreciated the clarity and commitment of the staff.

Inauguration of Class XI & Felicitation of Toppers

On 19th May, the school formally welcomed the new Class XI batch in a meaningful ceremony.

Fr. George Jacob, CSC, Secretary of HCEF, encouraged



the students to strive for excellence and lead by example. He inaugurated the Higher Secondary section with a ribbon-cutting and blessing of the classrooms was done by Fr. Arbok, the manager of the school.

The event also honoured the Class X CBSE toppers. Out of 133 candidates, 129 passed, achieving a 98% success rate. Fr. George felicitated the top 10 performers with certificates and awards.

World Environment Day

In anticipation of World Environment Day, on 2nd of June, students and staff marked the occasion

with a tree-planting drive and campus cleaning activities under the theme “Beat Plastic



Pollution.” The Eco-Club coordinated the event, reinforcing the school’s commitment to environmental awareness.

Welcome of New Headmistress and Staff (30 June 2025)

The school warmly welcomed Sr. Sushma Bhalrai, SSpS, as Headmistress, and Sr. Sushila Damor, SSpS, during a special assembly. Principal Fr. Sahaya Lourdu Raj, CSC, extended a formal welcome. Students presented flowers, a welcome song, and traditional shawls. Both sisters addressed the assembly and assured their dedication to the school’s mission.

- *Sahaya Lourdu, CSC*



**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH,
MOHARPARA**

Marriage Preparation Course

A Marriage Preparation Course was held at Immaculate Conception Parish, Moharpara from June 19 to 21, with nine couples taking part. The programme began with Holy Mass celebrated by Fr. Newton, CSC, who also introduced the sessions

to follow. Catechist Thomas led the first session, emphasizing the value of family planning.



On the second day, Dr. Chinarung Uchoi from Twidu Hospital addressed health and relationship issues, including sexual health awareness. The final session was led by Sr. Juliana, SSpS who spoke on the role of Mother Mary in family life. The course concluded with a fellowship meal.

Though brief, the three-day programme was impactful, equipping the couples with valuable insights on communication, mutual understanding, and commitment to building strong Christian families.

Pilgrimage to St. Paul Parish, Kumarghat

On June 7, over 200 parishioners from Immaculate Conception Parish, Moharpara took part in a diocesan pilgrimage to St. Paul Parish, Kumarghat on the occasion of Jubilee Year. It was a day of spiritual enrichment through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and the Holy Eucharist.



Participants described the experience as deeply moving and spiritually refreshing. Many expressed gratitude for the opportunity to step away from daily life and renew their faith.



Special thanks to Fr. Lancy CSC, Fr. Francis CSC, and the Fatima Sisters for organizing and guiding the pilgrimage. It was a day that rekindled faith and deepened the community's spiritual journey.

Marian Procession

The annual parish-level Marian Procession was held in Hadupa village on May 25, drawing more than 300 faithful from various villages under Immaculate Conception Parish. The celebration began with a solemn Mass at 10:30 a.m. presided over by Fr. Arbok CSC, focusing on Mary's role as a model of faith.



Following the Mass, parishioners participated in a grand Marian procession. The statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary was reverently carried through the village, accompanied by hymns and Rosary recitations. Afterward, Bro. Subrai Jamatia led a session encouraging Marian devotion. The event concluded with Eucharistic adoration and a shared meal, strengthening communal bonds and renewing devotion to Our Lady.

- *Arbok Lyngdoh, CSC*

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, TUIKARMAW

Welcome to Emilius Lyngkhai

On May 6, 2025, the school community warmly welcomed Bro. Emilius Lyngkhai, CSC, as he began his regency year. During the Morning Assembly, he was honoured with a traditional risha and a bouquet. Bro. Emilius expressed his gratitude and shared his eagerness to contribute wholeheartedly to the growth of the school. His presence is a welcome addition to the Holy Cross family.



Student Workshop

A student workshop was held on May 7, 2025, for Classes X and XII. Dr. A. Anbuwanan led impactful sessions on digital safety, substance abuse, mental health, and career planning. The engaging session inspired students to lead balanced, healthy, and purpose-driven lives. The school



community expressed its deep appreciation to Dr. Anbuwanan for his valuable insights.

Peace Club Exposure

On May 8, 2025, five students and a teacher participated in a Peace Club programme at

Damdamia, organized by JUST Agartala. The event focused on peacebuilding and capacity development. While teachers attended a session



by Ms. Merellin Darlong on the role of educators in fostering peace, students engaged in interactive activities and a session on need-based capacity building led by Ms. Momita Reang.

Teachers' Workshop

A one-day seminar on Holistic Education was conducted on May 8, 2025, in collaboration with Holy Cross Schools of Ichachera and Laxmichhara. Led by Dr. A. Anbuwanan and Mrs. D. Nalini from



Chennai, the workshop welcomed 85 teachers. Sessions focused on classroom discipline, active learning strategies, digital challenges, and interest-based student profiling—equipping educators with practical tools for effective teaching.

Leadership Seminar

On May 17, 2025, the school hosted a Leadership Seminar for 55 student leaders. Fr. Jilson Tom, Principal of Holy Cross School, Agartala, facilitated the programme, emphasizing leadership values, public speaking, and

teamwork. The inspiring session empowered



students to lead with confidence, integrity, and responsibility.

Investiture and Felicitation

On May 20, 2025, the school celebrated its Investiture Ceremony and Felicitation



Programme to formally install the new student leaders and honour academic achievers of the Madhyamik and Higher Secondary Examinations. Chief Guest Mr. Manoj Paul, BDO of Bokafa Block, lauded the school as a model of academic excellence in South Tripura. The event featured an oath-taking ceremony and recognition of meritorious students in the presence of proud parents and SMC members.

Peace Club Workshop

On May 23, 2025, the school's Peace Club conducted a session on Conflict Resolution Skills led by Ms. Eliakimi Hrangkhawl from JUST Peace Club, Agartala. Students participated in an engaging mix of activities including an ice-breaker and a creative segment titled "Sharing

Emotions with Facial Reactions." The session fostered empathy, emotional awareness, and peaceful problem-solving among students.



Orientation for Class XI Students

The school conducted an Orientation Programme for new Class XI students on June 2, 2025, led by Principal Fr. Vicky L. Gayang, CSC. Themed "Be Your Master," the session focused on self-discipline, goal-setting, and responsibility. Students were introduced to school values and expectations through interactive activities that promoted unity and enthusiasm for the journey ahead.



World Environment Day Celebration:

World Environment Day was celebrated on June 5, 2025, through a series of awareness and eco-action initiatives. In partnership with the NCC Unit, Eco Club, and Peace Club, students performed a street play in Manu Bazar, highlighting environmental concerns. Saplings were distributed to the public, and a tree



plantation drive on campus involved students, teachers, and parents—reinforcing the school’s commitment to environmental stewardship.

Freshers’ Day Welcomes Class XI

On June 6, 2025, the school hosted Freshers’ Day to welcome 55 new Class XI students. The celebration, themed “A New Beginning,” featured



vibrant cultural performances and student introductions. Chief Guest Fr. Martin Ranglong, MSFS, Assistant Parish Priest of Sindukpathar Parish, addressed the gathering with words of encouragement, urging students to embrace the future with courage and hope.

- *Vicky Gayang, CSC*

ST. ANDRE SCHOOL, BODHJUNG NAGAR

Child Protection Awareness Session

On 6th June 2025, Fr. Mariaraj, CSC, Secretary of the School, conducted an engaging session for teachers on Child Safety and Protection. The session focused on the POCSO (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences) Act, highlighting



the moral and legal responsibilities of educators in safeguarding minors. It was an interactive and thought-provoking hour that reminded all participants of the vital role teachers play in shaping not just minds, but lives.

Parents-Teachers Meeting

A Parents-Teachers Meeting for Classes X, XI, and XII was held on 31st May 2025 at Saint André School. The meeting was aimed to enhance



student discipline and academic performance. Fr. Iswar Happa, CSC, the principal emphasized the importance of active parental involvement, particularly by regularly checking students' diaries and supporting their academic journey at home.

Capacity Building Programme for Educators

On 24th May 2025, the school hosted a CBSE Capacity Building Programme (CBP) for teachers on the theme “Theory of Knowledge.” The seminar saw the participation of 60 educators from various schools and was facilitated by Mr. Mantu Deb from Shishu Bihar H/S School, Agartala. The insightful session concluded with an evaluation and feedback round, contributing to the ongoing professional growth of teachers.



- *Iswar Happa, CSC*



HOLY CROSS SCHOOL,
AGARTALA

POCSO Act Awareness Session

On May 3, 2025, Holy Cross School, Agartala, organized an orientation programme for its



transport staff in the school hall. The session was led by Fr. Abraham K.J., CSC, with Ms. Supriya Chakraborty, PRO, assisting with Bengali translation.

Fr. Abraham spoke on the importance of child safety and the provisions of the POCSO Act, encouraging staff to adopt respectful and empathetic behaviour towards students. He emphasized personal hygiene, appropriate communication, and being attentive to children's emotional needs. The staff were urged to work in partnership with teachers and parents and to extend these values into their wider communities, contributing to a more just and compassionate society.



International Yoga Day

Although school was closed for summer holidays on the official date, Holy Cross School, Agartala



observed International Yoga Day in two sessions: the Morning Shift on June 30, 2025, and the Noon Shift on July 1, 2025, during their respective assemblies.

Students demonstrated a range of yogic asanas, each accompanied by an explanation of its physical and mental health benefits. The celebration promoted holistic wellness and reinforced the importance of incorporating yoga into daily life.



Both students and staff participated enthusiastically, reaffirming their shared commitment to balanced and healthy living.



Class XI Inauguration and Birthday Celebration

On June 26, 2025, Holy Cross School, Agartala, celebrated the inauguration of Class XI along with the belated birthday of Vice Principal Fr. Renju George in a joyful gathering that united the school community.



The event began with a solemn prayer service and ceremonial lighting of lamps. The principal welcomed the new students, and a heartfelt tribute was offered to Fr. Renju George, recognizing his dedication and leadership. Cultural performances and expressions of appreciation added to the festive atmosphere.

Following the celebrations, an orientation session for the new Class XI students introduced them to the Holy Cross educational values, the CISCE curriculum, and key academic guidelines, setting a strong foundation for the year ahead.



JEE/NEET Coaching

In an effort to support aspiring science students, Holy Cross School, Agartala, has launched a cost-effective and student-friendly coaching programme for JEE and NEET preparation through the Extra Marks mobile app.

The app offers high-quality video lessons, interactive quizzes, mock tests, and doubt-clearing sessions, providing flexible and accessible learning opportunities. This initiative reflects the school's commitment to academic excellence and inclusive, tech-enabled education for all.

- *Jilson Tom, CSC*

SACRED HEART STUDY HOUSE, LEMBUCHERRA

Farewell and Welcome

On June 7, 2025, the Sacred Heart Community gathered in an atmosphere of warmth and fraternity to bid farewell to Fr. Kitbok, the outgoing director, and to extend a heartfelt welcome to the incoming director, Fr. Bilingshar.

The beautifully organized programme reflected the unity and vibrancy of the community. The event featured words of appreciation, cultural performances, and songs that celebrated Fr. Kitbok's dedicated leadership, pastoral zeal, and tireless service.

Equally, there was joyful anticipation as the community welcomed Fr. Bilingshar into his new role, assuring him of their prayerful support.



Seminary Feast Day

The Seminary Feast Day at Sacred Heart Study House was joyfully celebrated on June 27, 2025, in conjunction with the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the titular feast of Holy Cross



priests. The day was marked by prayer, reflection, sports, and fraternal celebration. The day began with a meaningful morning prayer and a felicitation ceremony honouring staff members for their faithful service. A friendly futsal match with candidates from SAMS added a touch of joy and camaraderie.

The highlight of the day was the Solemn Eucharistic Celebration at 6:00 PM, presided over by Rev. Fr. K.J. Abraham, CSC, Provincial Superior. The liturgy reflected deeply on the spiritual meaning of the feast and recalled Blessed Basil Moreau's dedication of the priests to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. After Mass, SHSH and SAMS candidates honoured all the priests with a moving tribute, including songs and speeches that expressed deep appreciation for their



vocation and ministry. The day concluded with a festive meal shared in joy and gratitude, sealing a

memorable celebration of faith, vocation, and fraternity.

- *Bilingshar Syiemlieh, CSC*

ST. ANDRE MINOR SEMINARY, BODHJUNG NAGAR

Welcoming the New Director

On June 9, the SAMS community joyfully welcomed Fr. Jowelson Khongtani, CSC as the new Director.

The community greeted him warmly, invoking blessings through a prayerful welcome.



Summer Formation Inputs

The summer vacation period was wisely utilized for a series of input sessions aimed at the holistic development of the seminarians:

- Fr. George Jacob initiated the sessions, offering insightful talks on leadership, social media awareness, communication skills, and study techniques. His practical approach encouraged personal responsibility and self-discipline.
- From June 12 to 14, Fr. Mariaraj conducted sessions on Holy Cross Heritage, Religious Life, and Community Living, deepening the candidates' understanding of the Holy Cross charism and the values of simplicity, service, and shared faith.
- Fr. Jilson Tom provided additional sessions focused on leadership and effective communication, urging the seminarians to grow in confidence and clarity in interpersonal interactions.

- ☞ A valuable session on psycho-sexuality and emotional maturity was conducted by Fr. K.J. Abraham, CSC, the Provincial Superior. His talk offered meaningful insights on self-awareness, human integration, and the development of a healthy vocation.
- ☞ As part of their holistic formation, the candidates also benefited from music classes led by Fr. Stephen Lohrii, CSC. His instruction in tonic solfa theory and practical enhanced their musical literacy and improved their contribution to the seminary's liturgical life.

Spiritual Renewal

A significant moment of reflection and grace came through the annual retreat, led by Fr. Leenus, VC. The retreat offered space for deeper vocational discernment and spiritual renewal as candidates prepared to re-enter academic life with fresh commitment and faith.

Inauguration of the Academic Year

The formal inauguration of the academic year took place on June 28, 2025, with a Solemn Eucharistic Celebration presided over by Fr. K.J. Abraham, CSC. The theme for the year, "Rooted in Hope, Rising in Purpose," was officially launched, inspiring the candidates to anchor their



formation in faith while moving forward with clarity of mission. The celebration was attended by Holy Cross priests, neighbouring religious sisters, and guests, creating a deeply spiritual and communal atmosphere to commence the year ahead.

- **Jowelson Khongtani, CSC**

PREPARING FOR PERPETUAL PROFESSION

From April 1 to 30, 2025, eight theology students from the 2nd and 3rd years of formation participated in an intensive and grace-filled preparation programme at MIIT, Shillong, in view of their perpetual profession. The month-long journey aimed at deepening spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral readiness for lifelong commitment in the Congregation of Holy Cross.



Sessions were led by Holy Cross priests and lay experts, covering vital topics such as our constitutions, financial stewardship, school and family ministry, psycho-sexual maturity, human relationships, and pastoral leadership.

Fr. Leo opened the session with a reflection on our Constitutions, reminding us of our call and identity rooted in Scripture and the Holy Cross charism. Fr. George emphasized servant leadership rooted in love and mission, while Fr. K.J. Abraham guided us through the complex yet



essential terrain of psycho-sexual maturity and healthy relationships. We also gained valuable insights from lay collaborators like Sir Ronnie, Bah Wilfred, and Kong Mylinda, who shared their expectations of authenticity, pastoral presence, and holiness from religious today.

Practical wisdom on education, family ministry, and mental health was shared by Fr. Joe Paul, Fr.

Roy, Fr. George Gerene, Fr. Thomas Manjaly, Fr. Arul, and Fr. Shiju, while Fr. Clement concluded with powerful reminders on living the vows with joy, depth, and pastoral competence.

The programme was not just informative but deeply transformative—enriched with group sharing, reflections, and community life. We return with renewed clarity, conviction, and gratitude.

- **Akhsi Kumar Wari, CSC**

PROVINCE RENEWAL PROGRAM

REKINDLING THE FIRE WITHIN

A spirit of reflection and fraternal joy filled the corridors of MIIT, Shillong, as two vibrant groups of the Northeast Province came together for a grace-filled renewal programme. The gathering



offered a sacred pause—an opportunity for renewal, sharing, and deepening communion with God and one another.

The André Tribe-Grace in Seasoned Ministry

The André Tribe, consisting of senior priests, reflected on the beauty of aging gracefully, rediscovering purpose, and becoming mentors in mission. Their sessions were enriched by Fr.

Kuriala C., SDB, whose pastoral depth and serene wisdom invited the participants to embrace elderhood with strength, serenity, and silent witness.

The Peyton Guild-Sustaining Ministry in Midlife

The Peyton Guild, made up of priests in active ministry, engaged in dynamic sessions led by Dr. Shijo CM. With psychological insight and a touch



of digital-age relevance, he guided reflections on vocational joy, sustainable spirituality, and holistic well-being. The sessions helped priests rediscover the sacred in the midst of busy pastoral life.

Moments of Joy and Fraternity

The two-day programmes culminated in a joyful outing to Synthung, where nature, laughter, and shared meals fostered deeper brotherhood. The scenic beauty and informal setting provided space for rest, renewal, and cherished memories.

Whether in the quiet wisdom of seasoned years or the vibrant demands of active ministry, the renewal programme affirmed that every stage of priestly life is an invitation to rekindle the flame and return to mission with renewed heart and hope.

- **Jilson Tom, CSC**

HOLY CROSS RENEWAL PROGRAM - MONTREAL

From June 1 to 15, 2025, the Congregation of Holy Cross hosted a transformative Renewal Program in Montreal, Canada, under the theme “The



Strength of Our Vocation.” Designed to deepen spiritual commitment and renew the living spirit of the Holy Cross charism, the programme brought together over 15 Holy Cross priests and brothers from around the world.

This international gathering provided a sacred space for spiritual growth, fraternity, and vocational reflection. The participants engaged in sessions on spiritual formation, workshops on St. André Bessette, group reflections, daily Eucharistic celebrations, and visits to historic Holy Cross sites in and around Montreal—the birthplace of many foundational missions of the Congregation.

The diverse group created a vibrant atmosphere of shared faith and mission, fostering renewed energy and deeper communion. Through prayer, dialogue, and moments of quiet reflection, the programme reaffirmed the participants’ call to live out their vocation with greater clarity, zeal, and love. The renewal experience was a true affirmation of the strength we draw from our vocation and community. It reminded all involved that the charism of Holy Cross continues to speak powerfully in every corner of the world.

→ - *Agi Paul, CSC*

EMPOWERING EDUCATORS

As part of the professional development of teachers, Holy Cross Educational Foundation organised a series of Teach, Learn, Inspire (TLI) training programmes across Holy Cross Schools in Meghalaya, marking a significant step towards strengthening the mission of Holy Cross education.

Organized in collaboration with MIIT, Shillong, these two-day sessions were conducted in each of the eight Holy Cross-run schools, impacting over 140 dedicated teachers. The programme led by Ms. Jasna Kuruvilla, an experienced and dynamic educator, focused on enhancing pedagogical skills, promoting reflective teaching practices, and rekindling the passion to educate with purpose, compassion, and excellence.

Through interactive sessions, practical strategies, and personal reflection, teachers were encouraged to grow not just as professionals, but as transformative mentors shaping the future of their students. The training emphasized the integral values of Holy Cross education—educating both the mind and the heart.

As our teachers return to their classrooms, they do so renewed and re-energized—ready to teach with clarity, learn with humility, and inspire with love.



FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY

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