

# WAVES

# NEWSLETTER

March 2026

Volume 2 of 2026

## PROVINCIAL SPEAKS



### War and Peace

Our world today stands in a strange and painful contradiction. While humanity has achieved extraordinary progress in science, technology, and communication, the same world is increasingly shaken by conflict and violence. News headlines speak of flying missiles and exploding cities. Wars do not only destroy buildings and borders; they shatter the dreams of children, weaken the hopes of the youth, destroy the security of the elderly, and steal the quiet peace of the old.

Modern society often speaks passionately about protecting our common home—the Earth. We hold conferences, write policies, and promote ecological responsibility. Yet, on the other side of the same reality, we witness our planet torn apart by bombs and weapons. The land that sustains life becomes a battlefield, and the skies meant to carry clouds and rain carry missiles instead. This contradiction invites us to reflect more deeply on the human condition.

The ancient words of the prophet echo with unsettling clarity: “The heart is deceitful above all things” (Jer. 17:9). Human history often reveals how power, privilege, and prejudice can overshadow compassion and wisdom. Differences of creed, culture, language, and nationality—beautiful signs of humanity’s diversity—are sometimes turned into reasons for division and conflict.

Yet there is also another story quietly unfolding in the world. In classrooms across nations, teachers patiently nurture the next generation. Children are taught the values of inclusivity, respect, and unity in diversity. In these spaces of learning, seeds of hope are planted. They remind us that peace is not merely the absence of war; it is a culture that must be learned, practiced, and handed down from one generation to the next.

The world today needs not only powerful leaders but statesmen of character and conviction—men and women who place the dignity of people above the pursuit of power. True leadership recognizes that humanity shares one destiny and one fragile home.

Peace, however, does not begin only in international conferences or political negotiations. It begins in the human heart, in the choices we make each day. The well-known phrase challenges us: think globally, act locally. Peace grows when we cultivate understanding in our families, fairness in our institutions, respect in our communities, and responsibility toward the world around us.

Perhaps the path forward is simpler than we imagine, though not always easy. Peace is built one heart at a time, one home at a time. In a world shaken by the noise of war, the quiet work of peace may seem small. Yet it is precisely these small and faithful efforts that sustain the hope of our common future.



**K. J. Abraham, CSC**  
**Provincial Superior**

# WAVES

## CONTENTS

EDITORIAL

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL  
BAGBASA

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL  
PANISAGAR

KUMARGHAT MISSION

KATHALCHERRA MISSION

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL  
CHALENGTA

MOHARPARA MISSION

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL  
TWICHAKMA

BODHJUNGNAGAR  
MISSION

TWIKARMAW MISSION

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL  
AGARTALA

HOLY CROSS COLLEGE

KOLORIANG MISSION

NYAPIN MISSION

JONGKSHA MISSION

MAWKYNREW MISSION

MAWPAT MISSION

KHAWZAWL MISSION

ZOKHAWTHAR MISSION

ZUANGTUI MISSION

TEACHERS' TRAINING  
WORKSHOP

CSC INDIAN PASTORS  
CONFERENCE

SEMINAR ON FINANCE &  
BOOK KEEPING ETC.

HOSTEL WARDENS'  
SEMINAR



## EDITORIAL

### A Time for Reflection, Hope, and Peace

As this issue of our provincial newsletter reaches you, we find ourselves in the sacred season of Lent—a time given by the Church for reflection, conversion, and renewal. Lent invites us to pause from the noise and pace of everyday life and to turn our hearts more deeply toward God, toward one another, and toward the suffering of the world.

This call to reflection becomes especially meaningful in the light of the events unfolding around us. In recent days, the world has watched with concern as the conflict involving Iran, Israel, and the United States has intensified, bringing destruction, uncertainty, and fear to many people in the Middle East. Reports speak of escalating strikes, missile exchanges, and growing regional instability, affecting not only military targets but also ordinary families whose lives are disrupted by violence and displacement.

In such moments, the Church reminds us that peace is not merely the absence of war but the fruit of justice, dialogue, and respect for human dignity. As people of faith, we are called to respond not with indifference but with prayer, compassion, and renewed commitment to peace. During this Lenten season, our fasting and prayer take on a deeper meaning when we remember those who suffer because of war, injustice, and division. We pray especially for all innocent people whose lives have been affected by the violence and for leaders around the world to seek paths of reconciliation and dialogue.



At the same time, this issue of our newsletter offers many signs of hope. Across our province, the past months have been filled with vibrant pastoral initiatives, educational programs, formation activities, and gatherings that strengthen our mission. Conferences, youth events, teacher formation programmes, parish celebrations, and community outreach efforts all remind us that the mission of Holy Cross continues to grow quietly and faithfully in many places.

Each report in these pages reflects the same spirit that Blessed Basile Moreau envisioned for the Congregation of Holy Cross—a community committed to bringing hope where there is discouragement, faith where there is doubt, and love where there is division. Whether through the formation of young people, the strengthening of families, the celebration of faith in our parishes, or the dedication of our educators, the ministry of Holy Cross continues to bear fruit.

May this season of Lent renew in us a deeper commitment to prayer, peace, and mission. And may the life and ministry of our communities, reflected in the pages of this newsletter, continue to be signs of hope for the Church and for the world.

Let us keep praying—for peace in our world, for those who suffer because of conflict, and for the grace to be instruments of reconciliation wherever we are called to serve.



- *George Jacob, CS*



## HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, BAGBASA

**PARENTS' DAY:** Holy Cross School, Bagbasa celebrated Parents' Day on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2026 on the school campus, bringing together parents, students, staff, and guests for an occasion of appreciation and shared commitment to education.

The programme was graced by Kriti Devi Debbarma, Hon'ble Member of Parliament from Tripura East (ST), as the Chief Guest. In her address, she encouraged students to pursue education with dedication and discipline, highlighting the role of values and hard work in shaping responsible citizens. The Guest of Honour, Fr. George Jacob, Secretary of the Holy Cross Educational Foundation, underlined the importance of strong collaboration between parents and teachers in fostering holistic education rooted in moral and spiritual values.

A significant highlight of the programme was the presence of Fr. Dr. Justin Kannadan, Principal of Nirmala College, Muvattupuzha, who announced scholarship support for ten meritorious students of Holy Cross School, Bagbasa under a Memorandum of Understanding. This initiative aims to widen access to higher education and motivate academic excellence.

The celebration included cultural performances by students, expressions of gratitude to parents, and recognition of student achievements, reaffirming the school's commitment to academic excellence, character formation, and community partnership.



**HOSTEL PICNIC:** The hostel picnic was held on 15<sup>th</sup> February at the Lions Club Park, Kailashahar. Organised to offer students a break from their regular routine, the outing promoted friendship, cooperation, and community living. Accompanied by hostel wardens and staff, students participated in games, group activities, music, and informal cultural interactions. A common picnic meal further strengthened the sense of family life within the hostel.



**ANNUAL DAY OUTING FOR CLASSES X AND XII:** The Annual Day outing for Classes X and XII was organised on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2026 at the Lions Club Picnic Spot, Kailashahar. Students, accompanied by teaching and non-teaching staff, enjoyed a day of relaxation and fellowship following an intense period of academic preparation. The outing provided an informal setting for strengthening student–teacher relationships through games, shared meals, and group activities. It also served as a refreshing and meaningful experience for the outgoing batches as they prepared for their board examinations.



**SEND-OFF PROGRAMME:** A send-off programme for Class X and XII students was organised on 12<sup>th</sup> February by the students of Classes IX and XI. The event began with a prayer service seeking God's blessings for the students' future. Juniors expressed appreciation through speeches, songs, dances, and creative performances, acknowledging the seniors' leadership and contribution to the school community. Teachers offered words of guidance and encouragement, while the outgoing students shared memories and expressed gratitude to the management, staff, and peers. Tokens of remembrance were presented, and the programme concluded with a shared lunch, symbolising unity and hope as the students prepared for their board examinations.



**ANNUAL SPORTS DAY:** The Annual Sports Day was celebrated on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> February 2026 on the school campus, promoting physical fitness, teamwork, and healthy competition. The Chief Guest for the occasion was Lalengzami Chhakchhuak, Principal of Bethlehem English Higher Secondary School, Noangang, who encouraged students to cultivate discipline, perseverance, and sportsmanship alongside academic growth. The programme featured a march past by the four houses, an oath-taking ceremony, and a wide range of track and field events, relay races, and team competitions. Winners were recognised with medals.



and certificates during the closing ceremony. The event highlighted the school's emphasis on holistic development and collective spirit.

- Ajith Philip, CSC

## HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, PANISAGAR



**SCIENCE EXPO:** Students of Class VII organised a Science Expo during the school assembly, presenting innovative and practical science projects under the guidance of their science teacher. The students demonstrated models such as solar-powered water purifiers and biodegradable waste solutions, showcasing creativity, scientific curiosity, and application-based learning.

**ANNUAL SPORTS MEET:** The Annual Sports Meet was conducted over four days, culminating in a lively and well-attended closing programme on the school campus. The opening ceremony was graced by the Assam Rifles Jawans Band, whose bagpipe performance added colour to the event. Students from KG to Class XI participated enthusiastically in track and field events, including relays, long jump, shot put, and fun races for juniors. House captains played an active role in motivating participants, promoting teamwork and sportsmanship.



### **HOSTELLERS EXCEL AT SUB-DIVISIONAL SPORTS MEET:**

As part of the 77<sup>th</sup> Republic Day celebrations, the Panisagar Sub-Division organised a local sports tournament. Hostellers of Holy Cross School, Panisagar participated in the competition and emerged winners, securing both the award and the championship cup, bringing recognition to the school.



**EDUCATIONAL TOUR:** An educational tour for Class XI students was organised to promote experiential learning beyond the classroom. Over forty students, accompanied by three teachers, travelled by train to Agartala. The students visited Neer Mahal and the State Museum, gaining exposure to history, archaeology, and cultural heritage in alignment with their academic curriculum.



**FAREWELL PROGRAMME:** Students of Class IX organised a farewell programme for the outgoing Class X batch in a warm and emotional atmosphere. The Principal addressed the students, urging them to “act justly, love mercifully, and walk humbly with God” as they prepared for their board examinations. Cultural performances marked the occasion, and each student received a memento and refreshments. As a gesture of gratitude, the outgoing students sponsored two televisions for school classrooms.



- *Kanikkai Jeyraj, CSC*

## ST. PAUL'S PARISH, KUMARGHAT

**ANNUAL PARISH SABHA:** St. Paul's Parish, Kumarghat conducted its Annual Parish Sabha at Masli Garo I from 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> January 2026 on the theme “Family Renewal: Connect, Engage and Grow.” Around 180 delegates participated in the three-day programme, while nearly 300 parishioners joined the concluding gathering on Sunday.

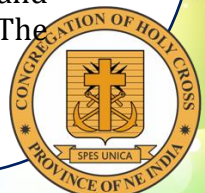
Fr. Leenus, VC, served as the main resource person, assisted by Sr. Shalini, CMC, offering reflections on strengthening family life and Christian values within the household. The concluding Eucharist was celebrated by Fr. Lancy Dsouza, CSC, Parish Priest, who emphasised the importance of family prayer and mutual understanding.



**INSTALLATION OF NEW PARISH PRIEST:** The parish community witnessed the installation of Fr. Sojan Augustine, CSC as the new Parish Priest of St. Paul's Parish, on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2026. The ceremony was officiated by Fr. Ivan D'Silva, SVD, Dean of Ambassa Deanery, in the presence of priests, religious sisters, and about 300 faithful.



The Eucharistic celebration was presided over by Fr. Lancy D'Souza, CSC, the outgoing Parish Priest. During the rite of installation, Fr. Ivan entrusted the pastoral responsibility of the parish to Fr. Sojan and encouraged him in his new ministry. The



community expressed gratitude to Fr. Lancy for his seven years of dedicated service and warmly welcomed Fr. Sojan.

## HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, KUMARGHAT

**ANNUAL SPORTS MEET:** The Annual Sports Meet of Holy Cross School was held on 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026 with enthusiastic participation from students. The programme began with a march past and oath-taking ceremony, followed by various track and field competitions. Students displayed strong sporting spirit and teamwork throughout the events. The meet concluded with a prize distribution ceremony, marking a successful two-day celebration of sports and discipline.



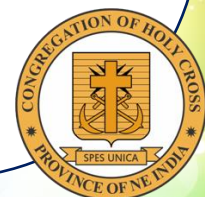
**FOUNDATION BLESSING OF NEW SCHOOL BLOCK:** The foundation blessing for a new block of Holy Cross School Kumarghat was held on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2026. The ceremony was led by Fr. Francis Xavier, CSC, Principal, in the presence of staff and students. The programme began with a prayer service invoking God's blessings on the construction project. The Principal highlighted the importance of developing better facilities to support the school's growing educational mission.



**FAREWELL PROGRAMME FOR CLASS X:** A farewell programme was organised for the 81 students of Class X as they prepared for their Board Examinations beginning on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2026. Teachers offered words of encouragement and blessings for the students' future. The outgoing students expressed gratitude for the support and guidance they received during their years in the school. The programme concluded with prayers and best wishes as the students prepared to move forward to the next stage of their academic journey.



- *Francis Xavier, CSC*



## GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH, KATHALCHERRA

### ANNUAL PARISH SABHA AND INSTALLATION OF NEW PARISH PRIEST:

The Annual Parish Sabha at Kukicherra village marked an important moment in the life of Good Shepherd Parish, Kathalcherra with the installation of Fr. Clement Amo, CSC, as the new Parish Priest. As delegated by bishop Lumen Monteiro, Fr. C. V. Jose, CSC, officiated at the installation. The occasion also included a warm and meaningful farewell to Fr. Abraham C, who completed seven years of dedicated pastoral service in the parish.

Parishioners gathered in gratitude and joy to welcome the new parish priest and to express appreciation for Fr. Abraham C's committed and selfless ministry. His pastoral leadership, closeness to the people, and respect for all were recalled with deep gratitude. The celebration reflected the unity, faith, and sense of belonging of the parish community.



### ANNUAL SABHA OF MARIA SANGHA

The Maria Sangha of Kathalcherra Parish held its Annual Sabha on 17th and 18th January. During the meeting, new community leaders were unanimously elected, entrusting them with responsibilities for service and coordination in the coming year.

- **Clement Amo, CSC**



## HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, KATHALCHERRA

**FAREWELL AND WELCOME PROGRAMME FOR SCHOOL SECRETARY:** The school organised a farewell and welcome programme on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2026 to bid farewell to Fr. Abraham C. and to welcome Fr. Clement Amo as the new Secretary of the school. Fr. Sharon, the Principal, expressed appreciation for Fr. Abraham's dedicated service, leadership, and commitment to the school community. He also extended a warm welcome to Fr. Clement and encouraged him in his new responsibility.

Teachers and students conveyed their gratitude through songs, dances, and speeches. In his address, Fr. Abraham shared reflections from his life journey and encouraged students to remain focused and committed in their pursuits. Fr. Clement, in his message, spoke about the values that shape a person's life, urging students to cultivate love, honesty, confidence, and dedication.

*Thank you!*  
AND FAREWELL

**WELCOME**



**FAREWELL PROGRAMME FOR CLASSES X AND XII:** A farewell programme for the students of Classes X and XII was held on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026. The programme began with a prayer seeking blessings for the outgoing students. Fr. Clement addressed the students, encouraging them to work hard and face future challenges with confidence and determination. Sir Debasis also extended his best wishes.

Junior students presented cultural performances, while outgoing students shared memories of their school life and expressed gratitude to teachers and friends. Tokens of appreciation were distributed, followed by a photo session. The programme concluded in a spirit of gratitude and hope as the students prepared for their board examinations.



- Sharon Piuse, CSC



## HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, CHALENGTA



**REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATION:** Holy Cross School, Challengta celebrated the 77<sup>th</sup> Republic Day with patriotic fervour. The National Flag was unfurled by Fr. Marbilus, CSC, Secretary of the school. The programme included patriotic songs and cultural dances, recalling the sacrifices of the freedom fighters and the values of the Constitution.

Students also participated in the Sub-Divisional celebration at Challengta Market Ground under the guidance of Miss Bana Priya Tripura and Miss Sujata Deb, representing the school with enthusiasm.

**FAREWELL FOR CLASS X STUDENTS:** A farewell programme was organised on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2026 for the Class X students as they prepare for their board examinations. The occasion provided an opportunity to thank them for their contribution to school life. The students were encouraged to remain disciplined and confident as they move forward to the next stage of their academic journey.



**HEALTH AWARENESS AND AADHAAR UPDATE CAMPS:** A Health Awareness and Medical Check-up Camp for teachers was conducted on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026 by the Employees' State Insurance Corporation, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India.

From 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> February, an Aadhaar mandatory biometric update camp was organised in collaboration with the Unique Identification Authority of India. The initiative enabled students to update their Aadhaar details conveniently on the school campus.



**EDUCATIONAL VISIT TO TSR CAMP:** Thirty students participated in an Awareness Programme at the Tripura State Rifles camp at Lalcherra on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2026. The programme was hosted by Commandant Officer Mr. Amarjit Debbarma.

Through interactive sessions and activities, students gained insights into discipline, leadership, and the role of security forces in maintaining law and order. The visit provided meaningful exposure and practical learning beyond the classroom.

- M.P. Jayaseelan, CSC



## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH, MOHARPARA

**INAUGURATION OF CHAPEL AT KHANGRAITWISA:** A new village chapel was inaugurated at Khangraitwisa under Moharpara Parish on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2026. Around 120 parishioners from nearby villages, along with priests and religious sisters, participated in the celebration.



The programme began with the blessing of the holy statues by Fr. Arbok, CSC. The chapel was formally inaugurated by the Parish Secretary, Amar Prem Jamatia, along with local leaders. The Holy Eucharist was then celebrated by Fr. Arbok, who encouraged the faithful to strengthen family prayer and Christian life. A brief felicitation programme honoured those who contributed to the construction of the chapel. The celebration concluded with a

community meal, strengthening fellowship among the parishioners.

**BISHOP'S PASTORAL VISIT TO TUITHAMPUI:** Most Rev. Lumen Monteiro, CSC, Bishop of Agartala, made a pastoral visit to Tuithampui village under Moharpara Parish on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2026, the Second Sunday of Lent. The villagers warmly welcomed the Bishop, after which he celebrated the Holy Mass for the community.



In his message, he encouraged the faithful to live a deeper spiritual life during the Lenten season. A short felicitation programme followed the Mass, during which the villagers expressed their gratitude for the Bishop's pastoral visit and guidance.

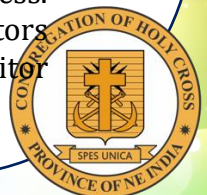
- *Arbok Lyngdoh, CSC*

## NOTRE DAME HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, MOHARPARA

**TEACHERS' TRAINING ON DIGITAL EVALUATION:** A training session on Digital Evaluation of Class XII answer scripts (On-Screen Marking – OSM) was conducted on 24 February 2026 at Holy Cross School, Moharpara. Teachers and newly appointed evaluators participated in the programme.



Mr. Martin Kaipeng, Head Teacher, introduced the rules and advantages of digital evaluation and explained the use of annotation tools during the assessment process. The technical session was led by Mr. Surendra Debbarma, who demonstrated how evaluators can mark answer scripts, access the question paper and marking scheme, and monitor



evaluation progress through the digital platform. The session concluded with a mock evaluation and an interactive discussion, helping teachers familiarise themselves with the OSM system.

- **Lourdu Sahayaraj, CSC**

## HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, TWICHAKMA



### REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATION:

Republic Day was celebrated with patriotic spirit at Holy Cross School, Twichakma. The programme began with a march past followed by the hoisting of the National Flag by Sr. Binita Soreng, Headmistress of the school. Students presented speeches and patriotic songs highlighting the

significance of the Constitution and the duties of responsible citizens. The celebration concluded with the distribution of sweets among the students.

### VISIT OF THE SAC SUPERIOR GENERAL:

The school community welcomed Sr. Josephina D'Souza, SAC, Superior General of the Missionary Sisters of the Catholic Apostolate, along with Sr. Adelhide, SAC, on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2026. During the morning assembly they addressed the students and staff, appreciating the discipline and value-based education of the institution and encouraging the community to continue striving for excellence and unity in service.



**AADHAAR BIOMETRIC UPDATE CAMP:** An Aadhaar Mandatory Biometric Update Camp was organised on the school campus on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> February under the supervision of Mr. Subrata Das. Around 65 students successfully updated their biometric details during the programme. The camp was conducted smoothly without disturbing the regular classes. Parents appreciated the initiative, which enabled students to complete the required government documentation conveniently within the school campus.

- **Binita Soreng, SAC**



## ST. ANDRE PARISH, BODHJUNGNAGAR

**MARIA SANGO GATHERING:** The half-yearly gathering of Maria Sango was held on 8<sup>th</sup> February at Mokam village. Leaders from 24 sub-centres participated in the meeting, which was conducted under the leadership of the President, Mrs. Shyamoli. The Parish Priest and the group's animator, Catechist Sukesh, were present for the meeting. The primary agenda focused on preparations for the forthcoming International Women's Day celebration at Moharpara.



**ST. ANDRÉ YOUTH GROUP:** The Parish Youth Group remains active and engaged in parish life. Recently, the youth elected a new leadership team, with Sanjay Debbarma appointed as President. The group has organised activities such as a singing competition and actively supports parish events including marriages, funerals, month's

mind Masses, parish council meetings, night vigil adorations, and celebrations. The youth also regularly take responsibility for the parish choir, contributing significantly to the liturgical life of the parish.

- *Mariaraj, CSC*

## ST. ANDRE SCHOOL, BODHJUNGNAGAR

**THIRD PRIZE AT SCIENCE FAIR:** St. André School, Bodhjungnagar participated in a Science Fair organised by Subrai Vidya Mandir on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2026, on the theme "Sustainable Development." The school secured third position with the project titled "Valorization of Waste through Handmade Paper Making", which highlighted the importance of recycling and sustainable resource management. The model, prepared by a Class IX student, was presented by Christina Debbarma and Laibi Debbarma under the guidance of Sir Sadon Sing Molsom. The participation reflected the school's emphasis on environmental awareness and scientific learning.



**CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME ON AI:** A CBSE-sponsored Capacity Building Programme on “Use of Artificial Intelligence in the Classroom” was held at St. André School on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2026 with 60 participants.



The resource person, Mr. Sudip Bhowmik, explained practical applications of AI in lesson planning, question paper setting, preparation of study materials, and classroom management. The session also addressed personalised learning and ethical use of AI. The programme emphasised that AI should serve as a

supportive tool for teachers rather than replace human instruction.

**REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATION:** Republic Day was observed with the hoisting of the National Flag by Fr. Aneesh Mathew, CSC, the Principal. The programme included patriotic observances reflecting unity and national pride. The school’s cultural dance group also participated in the Sub-Divisional celebration at Mohanpur.



**BRAIN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME:** A demonstration class on Skill and Brain Development was conducted in the Primary Section by the Abacus team for students from LKG to Class V. The session focused on improving concentration, memory, and mathematical skills through abacus techniques.



**FAREWELL FOR CLASSES X AND XII:** A farewell programme for the outgoing Classes X and XII (2025–26 batch) was organised by students of Classes IX and XI. The programme included cultural performances, speeches, and a slideshow of the school memories of the outgoing students.



Class X students presented a coffee machine to the school, and Class XII students donated a loudspeaker system as tokens of gratitude. The ceremony concluded with a shared meal.





**PRIZE DISTRIBUTION:** On 23<sup>rd</sup> February, prizes were distributed during the morning assembly to students who excelled in sports. The awards were presented by Fr. Aneesh Mathew, CSC, Principal, and Sr. Teslin, SABS, the headmistress, recognising students' discipline and sportsmanship.

- **Aneesh Mathew, CSC**

## ST. MARY'S PARISH, TUIKARMAW

**MARIA SANGHA CONVENTION:** The fourth Maria Sangha convention at the parish level was held on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at St. Paul's Church, Laxmichara. The programme brought together 170 participants, including 120 women, along with men and children from the parish communities.

The convention was guided by four resource persons: Sr. Mary Halam, CSC, Sr. Pramila Lobo, UFS, Fr. Leenus, and Catechist Lebyo Reang. Through their inputs, the participants were encouraged in their faith formation and community responsibilities.

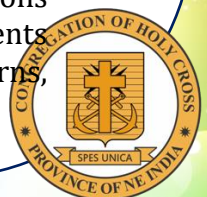
The two-day programme included Bible quiz competitions, singing and dance events, which saw active participation from the members. Spiritual activities formed an integral part of the gathering, with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, Eucharistic Adoration, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The gathering strengthened community bonds and renewed the commitment of the Maria Sangha members in their parish life.

- **Jerome Chorei, CSC**



## HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, TUIKARMAW

**COUNSELLING PROGRAMME FOR STUDENTS:** A two-day counselling programme was conducted at the school, on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> January 2026 by Fr. Shaiju, CSC. The sessions included both individual and group counselling. During the individual sessions, students were given personal attention and guidance, enabling them to share their concerns,



challenges, and aspirations. The group sessions focused on motivation, emotional well-being, and responsible decision-making. The programme proved beneficial in strengthening students' confidence and clarity as they continue their academic journey.



**NCC ACHIEVEMENTS:** The school participated in the Sub-Divisional Republic Day celebrations with enthusiasm and patriotic spirit. The NCC cadets represented the institution with honour and pride. The Girls' NCC Cadets secured First Position in the parade, while the Boys' NCC Cadets achieved Second Position. The school congratulates the cadets and their instructors, Sir Nibaran Reang and Miss Pinki Hazra, for their commendable performance and dedication.



**FAREWELL PROGRAMME FOR CLASSES X AND XII:** A farewell programme for Classes X and XII was held on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026. This year, 139 students from Class X and 54 students from Class XII are appearing for their board examinations.

The programme included speeches, cultural presentations, and messages of encouragement from the Principal, teachers, and outgoing students. The students expressed gratitude to the

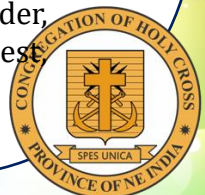


management and staff for their guidance and support. The event concluded with best wishes and blessings for the board examinations, followed by an agape meal shared by students and teachers.

- *Vicky Gayang, CSC*

## HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, AGARTALA

**INVESTITURE CEREMONY:** The Investiture Ceremony held on 7<sup>th</sup> February, formally inducted the newly elected student leadership team. Positions included School Pupil Leader, Assistant SPL, House Captains, Vice Captains, and other student leaders. The Chief Guest



Shri Chandan Saha, Superintendent of Police, Special Branch Intelligence, Government of Tripura, encouraged the students to lead with discipline and integrity.



**FIRST PRE-PRIMARY GRADUATION CEREMONY:** The school celebrated its first Pre-Primary Graduation Day for the KG-II batch of 2025 on 17<sup>th</sup> January. The programme was attended by Sri Pallab Kanti Saha, former District Education Officer of West Tripura, as Chief Guest, and Fr. George Jacob, CSC, as Guest of Honour. Fr. Jilson Tom, CSC, Principal, welcomed the gathering and emphasised the importance of early childhood formation. Cultural performances by students and the distribution of graduation certificates marked the highlight of the ceremony.



**NURSERY INAUGURATION:** The Nursery Inauguration for the academic year 2026 was held on 24<sup>th</sup> January, welcoming the youngest learners into the school community. The programme was attended by Fr. K. J. Abraham, CSC, Provincial Superior, as Chief Guest, and Fr. George Jacob, CSC, as Guest of Honour. The traditional Haathe Khori ritual symbolised the beginning of the children's educational journey. Cultural performances added joy to the celebration as parents and students marked the start of a new academic year.



**ANNUAL SPORTS MEET:** The Annual Sports Meet held from 16<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> February, brought together students, staff, and volunteers in a celebration of sportsmanship and teamwork. The event was inaugurated by Justice Arindam Lodh, Chairperson of Tripura Human Rights Commission. Various track and field events were conducted, along with special games for staff and volunteers. During the closing ceremony, Fr. George Jacob, CSC, Secretary of the Holy Cross Educational Foundation, distributed the prizes.



**ARSHIYA DAS ACHIEVES WOMAN INTERNATIONAL MASTER TITLE:** The school celebrated the remarkable achievement of Arshiya Das, a Class X student, who became the first Woman International Master (WIM) from Northeast India. She achieved her final norm in Serbia by winning the 42<sup>nd</sup> Rudar IM Round Robin tournament. The school congratulated her on this outstanding accomplishment.



**LIONS QUEST TRAINING:** On 31<sup>st</sup> January and 1<sup>st</sup> February, Holy Cross School hosted a two-day Lions Quest Training Programme on Social and Emotional Learning (SEL), organised by the Lions Club of Agartala Anish. The programme equipped teachers with practical strategies to promote empathy, emotional awareness, resilience, and positive communication among students. Through workshops and interactive discussions, participants explored ways to integrate SEL into daily classroom teaching. The training strengthened collaboration among teachers and reaffirmed the school's commitment to holistic education.

- Jilson Tom, CSC

## HOLY CROSS COLLEGE, AGARTALA

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:** Holy Cross College, Agartala organised a three-day International Conference on Emerging Trends in Education in India with Special Reference to Teacher Education from 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> February 2026. The conference was conducted by the Department of Teacher Education in collaboration with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC). Academicians, researchers, and teacher educators from India and abroad participated.



The inaugural session began with a welcome address by Fr. Benny K. John, Principal of Holy Cross College, Agartala. The Chief Guest was Fr. Emmanuel Kallarackal, Vicar and First Assistant General of the Congregation of Holy Cross, Rome. Fr. K. J. Abraham, Provincial of the



Northeast India Province, served as Guest of Honour. The keynote address was delivered by Fr. Patrick Gaffney, Vice-Chancellor of Notre Dame University, Bangladesh, who highlighted the central role of teachers in educational reform.



The conference included hybrid technical sessions with paper presentations on digital pedagogy, inclusive education, competency-based learning, artificial intelligence in classrooms, and technology integration in teacher education. Young researchers and student teachers also presented their work.

The valedictory session was addressed by Farita Viegas, Dean, School of Teacher Education, St. Aloysius (Deemed to be University), Mangalore. The conference concluded with recommendations to

strengthen teacher education through interdisciplinary approaches and continuous professional development.

- Davis Konuran, CSC

## HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, KOLORIANG

**REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATION:** Holy Cross School, Koloriang celebrated the 77<sup>th</sup> Republic Day, which began with the unfurling of the national flag, followed by a march past, speeches, cultural performances, and the singing of the National Anthem. The celebration fostered patriotism and unity among students and staff.

After the school programme, students participated in the Sub-Divisional public function held at the Koloriang Public Ground, organised by the local administration. The event brought together the wider community in a display of cultural diversity and national pride.



### PICNIC FOR CLASS V STUDENTS



As part of the Republic Day celebrations, Class V students had a day outing to Sangram. Accompanied by teachers, fathers, and sisters, the students participated in games and group activities that strengthened fellowship and unity. The day concluded with a shared meal before returning home.



**FAREWELL FOR CLASS V STUDENTS:** on 13<sup>th</sup> February, a farewell programme was organised for the Class V students, a class known as 'super seventeen'. Soon, they will be appearing for the State Board Examinations. Chera Pabu, the student representative expressed gratitude to teachers and parents for their guidance and support. In his address, the Principal encouraged the students to remain honest and sincere in life, rooted in prayer and commitment. The programme included brief cultural performances, and meritorious students were recognised for academic and extracurricular achievements. The gathering concluded with a fellowship meal shared by students and teachers.



**ARUNACHAL PRADESH STATEHOOD DAY:** Students participated in the Arunachal Pradesh Statehood Day celebrations at the public ground, presenting a cultural dance programme. Teachers and animators accompanied and guided the students in representing the school at the public event.

- Ishwar Happa, CSC

## HOLY CROSS PARISH, KOLORIANG

**BIBLE TRAINING FOR FAMILIES:** Holy Cross Parish, Koloriang organised a two-day Bible Training programme for families on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> February 2026. The main preacher was Fr. Paul Mate, Parish Priest of St. Mark's Parish, Sarli, who shared reflections on deepening faith and living a sacramental Christian life. Fr. Ishwar Happa, CSC, also addressed the participants, encouraging them to embrace a deeper spiritual life and to observe the Lenten season with purpose. On the second day, Touring Catechist Mr. Yumlam Tache shared his personal faith journey inspired by the Scriptures.



The programme concluded with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist presided over by Fr. Ishwar Happa, CSC, bringing together the participants in prayer and reflection.



**PARISH WOMEN'S COMMISSION BEGINS LENTEN OUTREACH:** The Women's Commission of the Parish has begun a Lenten outreach programme, visiting the substations of the parish starting from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2026. Through these visits, the members engage with families, share the Word of God, and encourage the faithful in their Christian life. This initiative aims to strengthen faith and promote greater participation of families in the life and mission of the parish.



- Prasanta Basumatary, CSC

## ST. ANDRÉ PARISH, NYAPIN

**CATECHISM DAY:** St. André Parish, Nyapin celebrated Catechism Day on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026, marking the culmination of the year's catechetical programme. The celebration brought together children, catechists, parents, and parishioners in a spirit of thanksgiving.

The programme included Bible skits, Scripture enactments, Bible recitation, and a quiz competition. The children participated confidently and demonstrated their knowledge of the Scriptures and understanding of the faith. The activities reflected the fruit of sustained catechetical formation throughout the year. Prizes were distributed to the participants in appreciation of their effort and commitment.



**FOUNDATION FOR THE PRESBYTERY:** On 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2026, the parish marked an important milestone with the laying of the foundation pillar for the new Priests' Presbytery. The ceremony was led by Fr. Lawrence Wanniang, CSC, Parish Priest, along with Fr. Stephan Langsiangmung, in the presence of parish leaders, school staff, and hostellers.



The gathering began with a prayer service invoking God's blessings upon the construction project. The occasion reflected the unity and shared commitment of the parish community towards strengthening parish infrastructure and pastoral service.

- Lawrence Wanniang, CSC



## GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH, JONGKSHA

**ANNUAL EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION:** The Annual Eucharistic Procession of Good Shepherd Parish, Jongksha was held at Thadan village on 15th February 2026, drawing nearly 6,000 faithful from across the parish. The celebration was marked by prayer, devotion, and a strong sense of community. The Holy Eucharist was presided over by Rt. Rev. Bernard Laloo, Auxiliary Bishop of Shillong, and concelebrated by several Holy Cross priests from the Meghalaya region. On the occasion, 250 children received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion.

Following the Mass, the faithful participated in a Eucharistic procession through the village, singing hymns and offering prayers. Members of other Christian denominations also joined the gathering, reflecting a spirit of unity and shared prayer.



## GOOD SHEPHERD SCHOOL, JONGKSHA

**EDUCATIONAL EXPOSURE VISIT:** Ten teachers of Good Shepherd School, Jongksha undertook an educational exposure visit to Tamil Nadu, made possible through the support of Mr. Kulandai Francis, Founder and Director of the IVDP, Krishnagiri. During the visit, the teachers toured seven educational institutions and interacted with educators to learn about different teaching methods, classroom management

practices, and approaches to student engagement.

The programme offered valuable exposure to diverse educational environments and administrative practices. The teachers returned with renewed enthusiasm and insights for improving teaching practices in their own classrooms.



- Antony Jose, CSC



## HOLY CROSS PARISH, MAWKYNREW

### PARISH PROCESSION

The parish community gathered at Wahlakhiat village for the annual Parish Procession on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2026. Despite the distance, many faithful participated in the prayerful gathering as a public witness of their faith.

The Holy Eucharist was celebrated by Fr. Roy Thalackan, CSC, while Fr. John Nongphud, CSC preached during the Eucharistic Adoration. The event fostered a strong sense of unity and devotion among the faithful.



## HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, MAWKYNREW

**TEACHERS' EXPOSURE PROGRAMME:** Teachers of Holy Cross Higher Secondary School, Mawkynrew participated in an exposure programme to South India, sponsored by Mr. Kulandai Francis. Together with teachers from Good Shepherd School, Jongksha, they visited several educational institutions in Chennai, Salem, Bangalore, and Krishnagiri. The programme provided valuable insights into different teaching methods and school practices. The teachers returned with renewed motivation to apply these learnings for the benefit of their students.

**BEGINNING OF THE NEW ACADEMIC SESSION:** The new academic session began on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026 with the return of students to the campus. An inauguration ceremony was held on 18<sup>th</sup> February to formally mark the start of the academic year. The programme was graced by Fr. K. J. Abraham, CSC, who celebrated the Holy Mass for the school community. The theme for the academic year, "Be the Light for Others," was introduced, encouraging students and staff to live with hope, kindness, and commitment in their daily lives.

- *Preet Anupam Beck, CSC*



## ST. JOHN BOSCO SCHOOL, MAWPAT

**INAUGURAL HOLY MASS:** The new academic year at St. John Bosco Higher Secondary School, Mawpat began on 12<sup>th</sup> February with an Inaugural Holy Mass celebrated by Fr. K. J. Abraham, CSC, Provincial Superior. Following the Mass, Fr. Abraham interacted with the teachers and conducted a session on Child Safety, highlighting the responsibility of educators in ensuring a safe and nurturing environment for students.



**INVESTITURE CEREMONY:** The school held its Investiture Ceremony on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026, formally installing the newly elected student leaders. The Chief Guest, Shri Carnes Sohshang, former MDC of Mawkyrwat Constituency, encouraged the students to take their responsibilities seriously and to value the educational opportunities made possible through missionary efforts in the region. The ceremony marked an important moment in encouraging leadership and responsibility

among students.

**ANNUAL SPORTS DAY:** The Annual Sports Day of the school was held from 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> February with enthusiastic participation from students. The opening ceremony was graced by Shri Damang Lyngkon, District Sports Officer, who encouraged students to pursue sports with discipline and determination. The closing ceremony on 27<sup>th</sup> February was attended by Shri Pynkhraboklin Kharjarin, MDC of Mawkyrwat Constituency. Various track and field events were conducted, and prizes were distributed to the winners, celebrating the spirit of teamwork and sportsmanship.



## HOLY CROSS PARISH, MAWPAT

### Youth Activities

Youth activities remained vibrant, with the election of a new youth executive team and the selection of sub-district youth leaders at Dilingim and Nongtynniaw. A thanksgiving Mass was celebrated at Umjarain on 1<sup>st</sup> February.



### Family Cell

A two-day Family Cell programme was conducted at Phlangdiloin village in collaboration with the Diocesan Family Commission. The sessions, led by Mr. Julius Nongdhad, helped families reflect on prayer, faith, and Christian family life.

- *Friny Peter, CSC*



## ST. JOHN THE APOSTLE PARISH, KHAWZAWL

**ANNUAL PARISH YOUTH GATHERING:** The Annual Youth Gathering of the Parish was held



at St. Joseph School, Khawzawl on 17 January 2026. Around 130 youth from six villages of the parish participated in the programme. The morning session included seminars on marriage preparation and the role of youth in the Church. Catechist Joseph Thanga from Holy Cross Parish, Champhai, and Catechist Andrew Tlangthankhuma from St.

John the Apostle Parish served as resource persons. The gathering also included games and fellowship activities, concluding with a community meal.



**ELECTIONS OF PARISH LEADERS AND ASSOCIATIONS:** During January 2026, St. John the Apostle Parish, Khawzawl conducted elections for various parish bodies in accordance with diocesan norms. The parishioners elected new parish office bearers for the year 2026–27, and the newly elected leaders assumed their responsibilities. The parish community prayed for them during the Holy Eucharist on 18<sup>th</sup> January, entrusting their service to God's guidance.

The Women's Group also held its election on 24<sup>th</sup> January at the Parish Committee Room, selecting new office bearers to lead the organisation, which plays an active role in supporting parish activities and strengthening community life. Earlier, on 10<sup>th</sup> January, the parish youth elected their new office bearers for a two-year term at the Parish Committee Hall. The newly elected youth leaders took an oath of responsibility, and the Parish Priest prayed for their leadership and service to the Church.



**VISIT TO BUKPHIR PARISH, MYANMAR:** The Parish Priests of Holy Cross Parish, Champhai, and St. John the Apostle Parish, Khawzawl, made a friendly pastoral visit to Bukphir Parish in neighbouring Myanmar. They were warmly received by Fr. Bosco and the Sisters of St. Theresa. The visit included meetings with church leaders and the celebration of the Holy Eucharist for the parish community.



## ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL, KHAWZAWL

**VISIT OF HCEF SECRETARY:** Students and staff of St. Joseph School warmly welcomed Fr. George Jacob, CSC, Secretary of the Holy Cross Educational Foundation, during his visit on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2026. The students greeted him with songs and cultural performances, and the visit offered encouragement to the school community. He also had an interaction with the teachers.

- John PKC, CSC



## ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL ZOWKATHAR

**PARTICIPATION IN SPES UNICA 2026:** Students of St. Joseph's School participated in SPES UNICA 2026, the annual faith and leadership programme organised by the Holy Cross Educational Foundation. The event was held from 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at Holy Cross School, Champhai with the theme "Crossing Borders, Carrying Hope." Our Students took part in chart presentations, group song competitions with original compositions, cultural programmes, sports, and interactive activities. The event helped our students to interact with other students and broadened their horizon. St. Joseph's School, Zokhawthar emerged as the Champion of SPES UNICA 2026 in Mizoram.



**VISIT OF THE SECRETARY OF HCEF:** St. Joseph's School, Zokhawthar welcomed Fr. George Jacob, CSC, Secretary of the Holy Cross Educational Foundation, on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2026. The school community received him with a traditional welcome during the morning assembly. During his visit, Fr. George interacted with students and teachers, visited the classrooms and school facilities, and encouraged the students to work hard and pursue their goals with dedication. In his interaction with the staff, he highlighted the importance of education rooted in values and character formation.



- **Arsida Songthiang, CFMSS**

## ST. ANDRE SCHOOL, MUANNA VENG



**ANNUAL SPORTS DAY:** The Annual Sports Day of the School, Muanna Veng, Aizawl was celebrated with enthusiastic participation from students. Events included the 50-metre and 100-metre races, relay races, tug-of-war, and a football match. The day highlighted teamwork, discipline, and



sportsmanship as students, teachers, and parents gathered to celebrate the spirit of participation and healthy competition.

**PARENTS' DAY:** St. André's School, Muanna Veng, Aizawl organised its Parents' Day and Pre-Christmas celebration on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2025. The programme was graced by Fr. Caleb Laldawngsanga as Chief Guest. The event began with prayer and a welcome dance, followed by cultural performances, skits, and songs presented by the students. In his address, the Chief Guest appreciated the talents of the students and acknowledged the efforts of the school management and staff. He also emphasised the shared responsibility of parents and teachers in the holistic development of children.

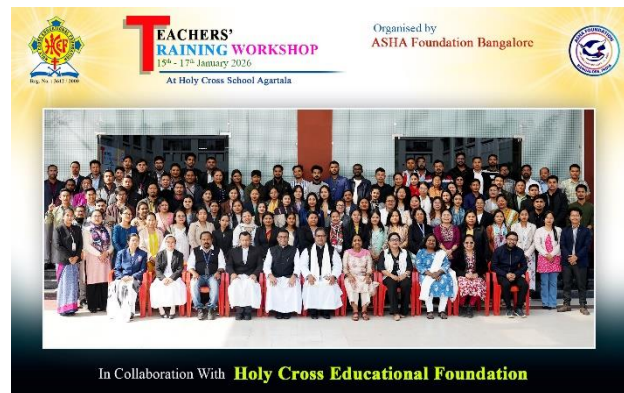


- Arockiasamy Innaci, CSC

## TEACHERS' TRAINING WORKSHOP FOR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN TRIPURA

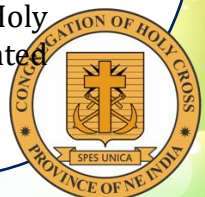
A three-day Teachers' Training Workshop was conducted from 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> January at Holy Cross School, Durjoynagar, Agartala. The programme was organised by the Holy Cross Educational Foundation in collaboration with ASHA Foundation, Bangalore. A total of 123 teachers from 44 Catholic schools across Tripura participated in the workshop.

The training focused on equipping teachers with skills to accompany adolescents during their formative years, address classroom challenges, and support students in dealing with real-life situations. Sessions highlighted adolescent growth and development, effective classroom management, and ways of fostering emotional resilience and leadership among students.



The inaugural session was presided over by Fr. K. J. Abraham, CSC, Provincial Superior of the Holy Cross Fathers. In his address, he emphasised that education should aim at the formation of the whole person and encouraged teachers to play an active role in guiding young people with care and responsibility.

Fr. George Jacob, CSC, Secretary of the Holy Cross Educational Foundation, highlighted



the relevance of the workshop for teachers working with adolescents and expressed gratitude to the ASHA Foundation for their collaboration and support.

The sessions were facilitated by a team of experienced resource persons from ASHA Foundation. Through interactive discussions, group activities, and practical exercises, the workshop provided teachers with valuable insights and strategies for their classroom practice.



## CSC INDIAN PASTORS AND JPIC CONFERENCE HELD

The CSC Indian Pastors and JPIC Conference was held from 26<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2026 at the Provincial House in Agartala, hosted by the Northeast India Province. The gathering brought together 42 pastors and social workers from the four Indian jurisdictions of the Congregation of Holy Cross for reflection, sharing of pastoral experiences, and common discernment on ministry in the Indian context.

The conference was enriched by the presence of Fr. Emmanuel Kallarackal, CSC, Vicar and First Assistant General of the Congregation; Fr. Gaspar Selvaraj, CSC, Provincial of the Tamil Nadu Province; and Fr. K. J. Abraham, CSC, Provincial of the Northeast India Province.

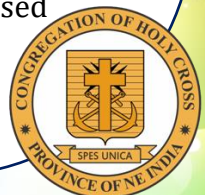


The conference formally began on 27<sup>th</sup> January with an opening address by Fr. Emmanuel Kallarackal. Fr. K. J. Abraham delivered the keynote address on the theme “Strengthening Families, Nurturing Faith.” The sessions included presentations by Fr. Stanislaus Chinliankhup and sharing from representatives of the different provinces, followed by group discussions.

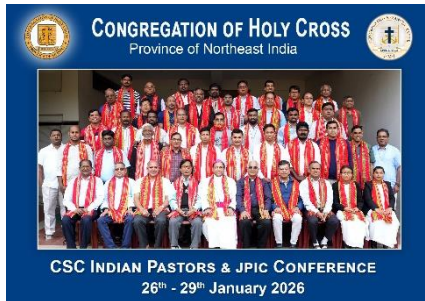


The third day focused on the theme “Challenges and Opportunities for Christians Engaging in Works of Justice and Peace in Today’s India.” The day was attended also by Holy Cross Sisters and included an address by Rt. Rev. Stephan Fernandez, Auxiliary Bishop of Mumbai and a noted scholar of Catholic Social Teaching.

The final days of the conference included visits to selected pastoral and social ministries of Holy Cross in Tripura as well as opportunities for fellowship. Participants expressed



gratitude for the enriching discussions and the opportunity to reflect together on pastoral and social concerns facing the Church in India today.



## SEMINAR ON FINANCE, BOOKKEEPING, AND SCHOOL SOFTWARE MANAGEMENT

A two-day seminar on Finance, Bookkeeping, and School Software Management was held on 10–11 February 2026 at the Holy Cross Provincial House, Agartala. The programme was organised for the units of the Society of the Fathers of Holy Cross and the Holy Cross Educational Foundation. Participants included unit administrators, accountants, and office assistants responsible for financial administration and institutional management.



The sessions on accounts and bookkeeping were conducted by Dipsha Dsouza, Chartered Accountant and Auditor. She guided the participants on important aspects of financial compliance, including Tax Deducted at Source (TDS), Goods and Services Tax (GST), Labour Laws, Employees' Provident Fund (EPF), Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), Professional Tax, and recent amendments in

financial regulations. She also explained the implications of the Central Government Budget for educational and charitable institutions.



A separate session on school software management was conducted by Kiran Kumar from Hembro Infotech. The session introduced participants to digital systems designed to streamline school administration, accounts, and record management.



The seminar proved to be both informative and practical, equipping participants with updated knowledge and tools for effective financial management, transparency, and compliance in their respective institutions.

- *Alfred Dsouza, CSC*

## HOSTEL WARDENS' SEMINAR

A Wardens' Seminar was organised on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at the Holy Cross Provincial House, Agartala for the wardens serving in hostels managed by the Holy Cross institutions in the province.

The sessions were conducted by Fr. Joe Paul, CSC, and Fr. Jilson Tom, CSC, who addressed various aspects of hostel administration and pastoral care for students. The presentations focused on the importance of proper documentation, safeguarding and protection of children, responsible interaction with students and parents, and addressing issues such as addictions and behavioural challenges among young people.

The seminar also highlighted the role of wardens in creating a safe, disciplined, and supportive environment in hostels. Through discussions and practical inputs, the participants reflected on their responsibilities in ensuring the holistic care and well-being of the children entrusted to them. The programme provided a valuable opportunity for learning, sharing experiences, and strengthening the commitment to child safety and responsible hostel management.



**FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY**

- 👉 George Jacob, CSC
- 👉 Jilson Tom, CSC
- 👉 Mariaraj, CSC



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