



Congregation of Holy Cross

Province of Northeast India

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PROVINCE UPDATES

WAVES 2025

PROVINCIAL SPEAKS

“The Joy of Mission and the Courage of Hope”



On 15th September, the family of Holy Cross gathers around its patron, Our Lady of Sorrows, to celebrate the Feast of the Congregation of Holy Cross. Many greet us a day earlier on the 14th September, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross. We joyfully accept their greetings, for our motto, given to us by Fr. Basil Moreau, is: **“Hail the Cross, our only Hope.”** Indeed, both feasts point us to the heart of our vocation—the Cross, the sign of God’s saving love and unfailing hope.

This year, in the ‘Year of Mission: **“Hope Beyond Borders”**’, we remember the bold footsteps of the first missionaries who left the motherhouse in Le Mans, France, for Algiers in 1840. Since then, men and women of Holy Cross have continued to cross borders—of geography, language, culture, and customs—carrying the hope of Christ to new lands and new peoples. As our Constitutions remind us, “no culture of this world can be our abiding home” (C #17). We are a pilgrim people, sent to be signs of God’s kingdom wherever we go.

In this Ordinary Jubilee Year 2025, responding to the call of the universal Church, Holy Cross men have reached Papua New Guinea as educators in faith, walking alongside those whose lot we share and supporting men and women of goodwill in forming communities of the coming Kingdom (#12).

Our feast is therefore not only a celebration but a moment of gratitude. Looking around, we see partners and collaborators—locally and globally—who support us spiritually and materially. Together, we strive to be agents of hope for those weighed down by sickness, loneliness, injustice, or despair. In Northeast India, our province serves the rural poor across five states. To all our friends, benefactors, and collaborators—both known and unseen—we say a heartfelt thank you for your care, concern, and solidarity.

May this feast be an opportunity for us to rededicate our lives to the mission command of Jesus: “Go everywhere... I will be with you.” (Mt. 28.20) Let us journey together as pilgrims of hope, trusting in the Cross, guided by Our Lady of Sorrows, and inspired by the Spirit to carry hope across every border.

Join us in celebrating our Patronal Feast on September 15th, and may this day rekindle in each of us the joy of mission and the courage of hope.

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

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EDITORIAL



“I have a dream that one day students will be more important than syllabi.”

These words of Sean Hampton Cole strike at the core of what true education ought to be. They remind us that education is not simply about content delivery or syllabus completion, but about students themselves — their lives, their growth, and their transformation.

As we celebrate Teachers’ Day in September, we recall with gratitude the countless women and men who animate our Holy Cross classrooms with dedication, creativity, and quiet sacrifice. Our Founder, Blessed Basile Moreau, envisioned education as a work of both mind and heart: “We shall always place education side by side with instruction; the mind will not be cultivated at the expense of the heart.” These words challenge us to resist the reduction of education into a mere transaction of knowledge and instead see it as a formation of the whole person.

Across our schools, teachers live out this vision daily. They recognize in each child not just a student of lessons, but a person of promise and dignity. They labour patiently, often unseen, shaping character, nurturing values, and instilling hope. In them, Cole’s “dream” and Moreau’s “philosophy” find living witness.

Many of the news items carried in this very issue of WAVES testify to this fact. Programmes such as Spes Unica, which took place in August, stand out as shining examples. In such initiatives, we see our teachers going beyond classroom walls, guiding students to discover their missionary role in society, and forming them as compassionate, resilient, and responsible individuals. These events are not add-ons to education; they are its fullest expression.

In a time when metrics, examinations, and outcomes can overshadow the human face of education, Teachers’ Day calls us back to what is essential: our students. Their struggles, aspirations, and growth must remain at the center of our mission. For it is only when students are more important than syllabi that education truly becomes transformative.

We salute all our teachers, especially in the Holy Cross family. May your vocation continue to inspire, your witness continue to form, and your labour continue to build not only useful citizens for society but also compassionate disciples for the Kingdom.

- *George Jacob, CSC*

HOLY CROSS PARISH, KOLORIANG

Reviving of Youth and Women’s Participation

Holy Cross Parish, Koloriang, is witnessing a remarkable renewal with a special focus on youth and women’s participation.

Once known for its vibrant youth involvement in mission activities, the parish had seen a decline in participation following its division into five smaller parishes. Young people were reduced to being mere festival attendees, with little engagement in parish life.



That trend has now been reversed under the leadership of the Parish Priest, who initiated the formation of a Parish Youth Association. A parish-wide survey was conducted, and two active members were appointed as youth animators to guide and encourage participation. As a result, young people are once again taking an active role in various church activities, filling the church with renewed enthusiasm every Sunday.



Equally noteworthy has been the empowerment of women in the parish. A Women's Committee has been established, with members gathering for common prayer in five different sectors every Wednesday. On the last Wednesday of each month, they come together for a joint Mass at the parish. The committee has also been entrusted with maintaining discipline in the church, fostering a sense of ownership and stewardship among the women.

The parish recently celebrated Women's Commission Day on August 27, the feast of St. Monica, patron saint of Christian mothers, honouring the contribution and commitment of the women's commission.



This renewed energy among youth and women has brought fresh vitality to parish life, setting a hopeful direction for the future of Holy Cross Parish, Koloriang.

- *Prasanta Basumatary, CSC*

ST. ANDRE PARISH, NYAPIN

Leadership Seminar

From August 8–10, St. Andre Parish, Nyapin, hosted a Leadership Seminar for 23 parish



leaders from different villages. Conducted by Fr. Boniface and Mr. Taku Stephen of Itanagar, the sessions emphasized spiritual maturity, collaborative ministry, and the responsibilities of lay leaders in parish life.

Couples Seminar

On August 23–24, St. Andre Parish organized its first-ever Couples Seminar, drawing more than 50 couples. Resource persons Mrs. Tei Hampu (CDPO, Sarli & Phalosang Circle) and Mrs. Mary Joram, Parish Secretary of Don Bosco Parish, Yachuli, led the sessions. In the spirit of the Year of Mission, the seminar focused on strengthening marital bonds, nurturing faith in the family, and the



parental role in Christian upbringing. The program was warmly received, with participants requesting more such initiatives in the future.

ST. JUDE SCHOOL, NYAPIN

Teachers' Seminar at Nyapin >

The 2nd Annual Seminar for Holy Cross Teachers of the Arunachal Region was held on August 4–5 at St. Jude's School, Nyapin, on the theme "Educators: Shaping Minds, Touching Hearts." Guided by Sr. Gloria Fernandes, the sessions focused on classroom challenges, lesson planning, digital tools, and inclusive education. The 22



participants, from Holy Cross School Koloriang and St. Jude School Nyapin, found the sessions highly interactive and practical. New teachers, in particular, expressed gratitude for the opportunity to learn and build fellowship. The next seminar is scheduled to take place at Holy Cross School, Koloriang.

- *Stephen Malneu, CSC*

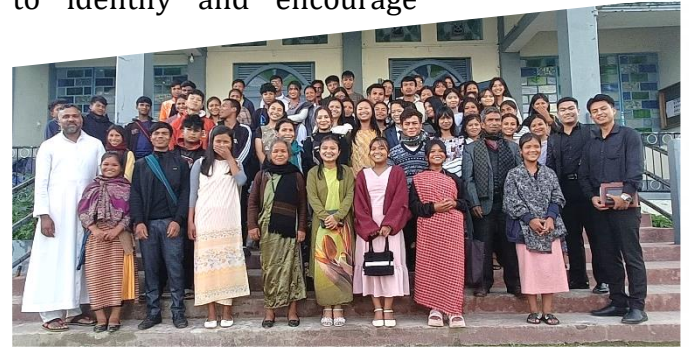
HOLY CROSS PARISH, MAWKYNREW

Parish Life and Youth Initiatives

Holy Cross Parish, Mawkynrew, is witnessing renewed energy in parish life through a series of initiatives. Weekly **music classes**, led by Mr. Bikonsing Nongrum every Saturday, are encouraging parishioners to take greater interest in choir singing and learning musical instruments. The parish also organized a **youth retreat** for members of four villages under the Mawkynrew sub-district. Held on the theme Pilgrims of Hope, the retreat challenged the youth to embrace a

missionary outlook, move beyond self-centeredness, and become bearers of the hope that Christ brings.

The parish's **Vocation Committee**, under the leadership of Parish Priest Fr. John, has also been revitalized. Members have begun visiting villages to identify and encourage



possible candidates for priesthood and religious life. A special seminar was organized for parents who have generously offered their children to the service of the Church. Fr. Roy Thalackan, who led the session, expressed gratitude to the parents for their sacrifice and urged them to inspire others to foster vocations from the parish.

- *Preet Anupam Beck, CSC*

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, MAWKYNREW



Visit of HCEF Secretary

On July 9, Fr. George Jacob, Secretary of the Holy Cross Educational Foundation, paid a visit to Holy Cross Higher Secondary School, Mawkynrew. Despite the heavy rains, he was warmly welcomed by the Principal, Headmistress, SMC members, and staff. During the visit, Fr. George and Mr. Paul Ranglong carefully reviewed the school's records and documents, and Fr. George expressed his appreciation for the school's efforts, assuring continued support of HCEF and encouragement.





Health Camp

The school also organized a health check-up and awareness program in collaboration with a team of doctors from Shillong. All students received free medical examinations, while sessions on



health and hygiene were conducted to promote better care of one's body. Girls from Classes 8 to 12 were given special counselling on adolescent health, with discussions on teenage pregnancy and early relationships. The program was well-received and highlighted the school's commitment to the holistic well-being of its students.



Independence Day

Holy Cross School marked Independence Day with a blend of competitions and cultural events that highlighted the students' creativity and patriotic spirit. On August 14, an inter-house competition brought together students across all sections. The Lower Primary section took part in a colouring contest, the Upper Primary in a drawing competition, while Secondary and Higher Secondary students impressed with patriotic dance and song performances. Other events included speech, poetry, and essay writing



contests, as well as a colourful fancy dress display that captured the enthusiasm of the day. Winners went on to represent their houses in the Independence Day program the next morning.

On August 15, the school gathered to celebrate the nation's Independence Day. Principal Fr. Anupam hoisted the tricolour as the assembly sang the national anthem. The program featured a spirited parade, choir renditions of patriotic songs, and performances by competition winners. Addressing the gathering, Fr. Anupam urged students to cherish the values of freedom, unity, and service to the nation.

- *Preet Anupam Beck, CSC*

HOLY CROSS PARISH, MAWPAT

Despite heavy rains and poor road conditions during July and August 2025, missionary activities at Holy Cross Parish, Mawpat, continued with dedication in the spirit of the Congregation's Year of Mission.

At the parish level, Grandparents' Day was observed with 15 elderly members participating.

The Basic Christian Communities

were revitalized

under the parish

motto "Ka Jingtarei Lang Ryngkat-Ryngkat" (Walking side by side). Baptisms of new members, both children and adults, were



celebrated, while altar servers deepened their faith through a quiz competition.

In the school, Independence Day was celebrated



with enthusiasm through competitions in solo singing, fancy dress, drawing, and speech.

These initiatives fostered collaboration among parishioners, teachers, students, and pastors, keeping alive the mission of “educating the hearts and minds” of the faithful and children in this mission land.

- *Friny Peter, CSC*

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, PANISAGAR

Parent-Teacher Meet

The academic year 2025 opened with a Parent-Teacher Meeting on July 5, providing a platform for parents to meet the new class teachers and discuss the way forward for their children’s education. The gathering was well-attended, and parents expressed satisfaction in knowing their children were in capable hands.

Inauguration of Higher Secondary and New Building

A long-cherished dream came true on July 7 with the inauguration of the Higher Secondary section in Arts and Science streams, enrolling 87 students. The occasion was marked by a cultural program and the blessing of the newly constructed school building by Fr. George Jacob,

Secretary of HCEF, in the presence of fathers from



the North Region. The event was seen as a milestone, opening new opportunities for students of the locality.

Tree Plantation Day

On July 11, students took part in a tree plantation program organized with saplings provided by the Forest Department through JUST. Saplings were planted in the campus and distributed to students, promoting a culture of environmental care and responsibility.



Fr. Victor Memorial Day

On July 25, the school community paid homage to Fr. Victor Crasta, CSC, who was martyred 25 years ago in Tripura. A special assembly was held in his memory, recalling his sacrifice which became a seed of peace for the state.



Teachers’ Training

On July 26, teachers attended a training session on the use of interactive smart boards, conducted by Ms. Geetha from Agartala. The session

enhanced teachers' technical skills, helping them use modern tools more effectively in classrooms.

Independence Day Competitions & Celebration

As part of the run-up to Independence Day, inter-class competitions in speech, debate, singing, dance, and fancy dress were held on August 12 to foster patriotic spirit and showcase students' talents. On August 15, the 79th Independence Day was celebrated with a flag-hoisting ceremony led by Fr. Clement Amo, CSC. Cultural performances by students added colour to the day, while a unique highlight was the honouring of ten construction workers with bicycles for their service in building the school.



- **Kanikkai Jeyraj, CSC**

ST. PAUL'S PARISH, KUMARGHAT

Deanery-level Maria Sango Seminar

On July 25, St. Paul Parish, Kumarghat, hosted the Deanery-level Maria Sango seminar in connection with the Jubilee Year of Hope. Despite heavy rains, more than 250 mothers from 14 parish groups participated with great enthusiasm. The day began with the Holy Eucharist celebrated by Fr. Lancy, CSC, Dean of the region, and the Word of



God was proclaimed by Fr. Ivan, SVD, who preached on the theme Pilgrims of Hope.

The seminar featured enriching sessions: Fr. Ivan spoke on the role of "Mothers of Hope" in today's world, underlining the importance of family prayer and building neighbourhood families. Dr. Margaret D. Barma addressed the health and hygiene of mothers, reminding them that a healthy mother is a blessing for the family. Fr. Lancy, CSC, spoke on the vocation of mothers in family life, stressing their role in nurturing both children and their spouses. He also led a meditation and healing session. The event concluded with a fellowship meal, and participants expressed appreciation for the seminar, calling it both spiritually uplifting and practically helpful.

Village Leaders' Training

From July 26–27, the parish organized a Village Chalok (Leaders' Training) program for 79 leaders representing 16 villages. The two-day



training began with Bible enthronement and included sessions on effective leadership, conducting Sunday prayer services in the absence of a priest, preparing and delivering homilies, motivating the faithful, and maintaining village church accounts. Resource persons included Mr. Piangluma Darlong, Mr. Lala Darlong, Mr. Roitua Darlong, Sr. Gerald MC, Sr. Margaret FS, and Fr. Lancy, CSC.

The program also featured the sacraments of reconciliation, the Holy Eucharist, and discussions on Eucharistic life. Participants engaged actively in the sessions, sharing their experiences and challenges. In the evaluation,

many highlighted the relevance of the training and requested that such programs be held regularly to strengthen lay leadership in the villages.

Couples Day Celebration

On August 3, St. Paul Parish joyfully celebrated Couples Day, with 92 couples participating. The Holy Eucharist was presided over by Parish Priest Fr. Lancy, CSC, while the homily was delivered by Fr. Alwin, who emphasized the importance of faith and prayer in sustaining family life. Before the offertory, couples solemnly renewed their marriage vows, a deeply moving moment that many experienced for the first time.



Following the Eucharist, Fr. Alwin led interactive sessions for the couples, encouraging open sharing and reflection on family life. The participants engaged wholeheartedly, appreciating the opportunity to learn, interact, and strengthen their marital bond in the light of faith. The celebration concluded with a fellowship meal, marking the day as a memorable and grace-filled event for parish families.

- *Lancy Dsouza, CSC*

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, KUMARGHAT

Nurturing Talent and Celebrating Unity

Holy Cross School, Kumarghat, witnessed a series of vibrant events during July and August 2025, aimed at nurturing the talents and confidence of its students.

The month began with an **Extempore Speech Competition** on July 5, where 25 students impressed the audience with their quick thinking, creativity, and communication skills. This was followed by a **Debate Competition** on July 14, which brought together 16 groups of speakers. The debates, centered on contemporary issues, highlighted students' critical thinking, teamwork, and persuasive abilities.



In the run-up to Independence Day, an **Inter-House Dance Competition** was held on August



12. The performances, themed around freedom and unity, reflected India's rich cultural heritage and filled the campus with patriotic spirit.

The highlight of these months was **Holy Cross Spectrum 2025**, hosted by the school, which brought together five Holy Cross Schools from the North Region. Students competed in debate, extempore, dance, and solo singing, showcasing outstanding talent and creativity. The event was graced by Fr. George Jacob, CSC, Secretary of the Holy Cross Educational Foundation, as Chief Guest, along with the presence of Fr. Clement, CSC, Vice-Provincial, and other fathers and sisters. Spectrum was not just a competition but a celebration of unity, diversity, and the shared Holy Cross spirit.



These events together created platforms for students to express themselves, build confidence,

and grow in friendship, reflecting the school's commitment to holistic education.

- *Francis Xavier, CSC*

GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH, KATHALCHERRA

Youth Convention

Good Shepherd Parish, Kathalcherra, hosted a two-day Parish Youth Convention on August 9–10, 2025, with 198 young people participating enthusiastically.

The program began with input sessions by Fr. Nabin Lakra, SVD, on the challenges of Christian



discipleship today, stressing personal spiritual growth and family prayer. Team games, cultural competitions, and a Bible quiz added energy to the first day's activities.

On the second day, a solemn Eucharistic celebration was presided over by Most Rev. Lumen Monteiro, CSC, DD, Bishop of Agartala, and animated by the youth. After the Mass, Bishop Lumen addressed the participants on the role of Catholic families as "domestic churches," urging



the youth to uphold strong values and face challenges with faith and courage.

The convention concluded with the election of a new parish youth committee, planning of future activities, distribution of prizes, and a fellowship meal. Participants appreciated the convention as a time of faith, learning, and community building.

- *Abraham C., CSC*

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, KATHALCHERRA

Bethany Foundation Day

On July 16, the school celebrated Bethany Foundation Day in gratitude to the Bethany Sisters for their dedicated service in education, pastoral, and social work. The day was graced by

Sr. Isabella B.S., one of the pioneers of the mission in Kathalcherra, along with other Bethany sisters. The celebration included a prayer service, cultural programs, and messages from Fr. Abraham, CSC, and Sr. Isabella, highlighting the values of selfless service and education of the poor. The event concluded with a vote of thanks and friendly sports matches, making it a joyful occasion of gratitude and fellowship.



Independence Day

The 79th Independence Day was celebrated with patriotic fervour on August 15. Chief Guest Mr.



Siamkunga Darlong, an ex-serviceman, hoisted the national flag, followed by a parade, cultural performances, and competitions. In his address, he urged students to live meaningful lives, while Principal Fr. Sharon Pius, CSC, reminded everyone of the sacrifices of freedom fighters and called on students to be responsible citizens. The program ended with prize distribution among the houses.

Sports Achievements

The school's under-15 football team participated in the 64th Subroto Cup, beginning from the block level at Dhumacherra on July 14 and advancing through the sub-divisional and district levels,



where they emerged champions. At the state level in Unakoti on August 8, the team reached the semi-finals. Their spirited journey highlighted the school's commitment to sports and the development of teamwork, discipline, and confidence among students.

- Sharon Piuse, CSC

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH, MOHARPARA

Grandparents' Day

On July 27, Choronmoni village hosted a joyful Grandparents' Day celebration, honouring the invaluable role of elders in family and community life. About 55 grandparents participated in the program, which began with Holy Mass celebrated by Fr. Newton, CSC. The day included group

activities animated by Sr. Juliana and Mrs. Chinarung Uchai, distribution of gifts, and a fellowship meal. The event was marked by gratitude, joy, and togetherness.



Youth Sunday

On August 9, Debthang village celebrated Youth Sunday with the participation of 66 young people.



The day began with Mass celebrated by Fr. Newton, CSC, followed by catechism, group activities, and team-building sessions. The program helped the youth deepen their faith, build friendships, and renew their commitment to Church life.

Maria Songo Meeting

A *Maria Songo* meeting was held on August 9 at Hadupa village with around 45 women attending. Following the Eucharist celebrated by Parish Priest Fr. Arbok, CSC, the Holy Spirit Sisters and local leaders led reflections and discussions on



women’s roles in family and Church. The group proposed initiatives such as prayer meetings, Bible sharing, leadership workshops, and small income-generating projects. The meeting strengthened fellowship and empowered women for greater involvement in parish life.

Jubilarian Couples Celebration

On August 24, Moharpara Parish hosted a celebration for 95 couples who had completed 25 years or more of married life. The event began with a thanksgiving Eucharist presided by Fr. Alfred, CSC, who highlighted the sacredness of



marriage in his homily. The day included an input session on family values, games organized by the Holy Spirit Sisters, and distribution of gifts. The couples expressed joy and gratitude for the occasion, which strengthened their commitment to faith and family life.

- *Arbok Lyngdoh, CSC*

NOTRE DAME HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, MOHARPARA

Health Camp

On August 4, the school organized a Health Camp in collaboration with the medical officers of Teliamura Sub-Division, primarily for hostel students under government and NGO care. About 150 students benefited from free check-ups that included blood pressure, vision, and dental tests. Doctors also distributed basic medicines such as paracetamol, antibiotics, ORS, and first aid

materials. Alongside the check-ups, they conducted



awareness sessions on hygiene, nutrition, and lifestyle practices, encouraging students to wash hands regularly, eat balanced meals, and maintain physical activity. The camp was well-received as both informative and practical in promoting healthy habits among students.

Cybercrime Awareness Program

An Awareness Program on Cybercrime was held on July 25 in the school assembly square, with Sub-Inspector Rajendra Reang from Teliamura Police Station as the resource person. He explained the growing risks of online fraud, including identity theft, phishing, ransomware, cyberbullying, banking scams, and AI-driven cyberattacks. He also highlighted cryptojacking as a serious digital threat. Students were encouraged to use the national 1930 helpline to report cases promptly, enabling faster action against fraud. The session was highly interactive, with students raising questions about safeguarding personal data. The event concluded with a vote of thanks from Fr. Newton Basumatary, CSC.



Independence Day Celebrations

The school community observed the 79th Independence Day with great enthusiasm across



two days. On August 14, the Pre-Primary section presented a colourful program that included march-past, fancy dress, and inspiring speeches. The celebration was attended by Chief Guest Sr. Juliana Vas, SSpS, and Guest of Honour Fr. Arbok Lyngdoh, CSC. On August 15, the formal Independence Day program was graced by Smt. Patal Kanya Jamatia, Hon'ble Chairperson of Tripura Rehabilitation Plantation Corporation (TRPC), along with other dignitaries. The program featured patriotic dances and a skit, which received wide appreciation. In their speeches, the guests underlined the values of freedom and responsibility, inspiring students to contribute meaningfully to the nation.

Digital Learning Initiative

On August 2, the school installed a state-of-the-art Interactive Panel Board to enhance classroom learning. Equipped with both Android and Windows operating systems, the board supports internet connectivity, multimedia access, and a wide range of teaching tools. During the training session, teachers were introduced to its key features, including annotation tools, educational content, and multiple-screen options.

- *Lourdu Sahayaraj, CSC*

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, TWICHAKMA

Independence Day Celebrations

Holy Cross School, Twichakma, marked the 79th Independence Day with a week of patriotic activities and competitions.



The celebrations began on 12th August 2025 with a Tricolor Rakhi-Making Competition on the theme "Rakhis for Freedom Fighters." This was followed on 13th August by Rangoli, Drawing, and Painting competitions, where students expressed their creativity through themes of patriotism, national symbols, and freedom fighters.

On 15th August, the Independence Day programme opened with the flag hoisting by Chief Guest Fr. Newton, CSC, followed by the National Anthem. Patriotic songs, dances, and speeches highlighted the values of unity and sacrifice, while the Chief Guest urged students to uphold freedom with responsibility. The day concluded with a vote of thanks, distribution of sweets, and a pledge of service to the nation.



Inter-School Football Tournament

On 16th August 2025, the school football team competed in the Inter-School Football Tournament organized by the Sporting Club, Tuidu, under Ompi R.D. Block. Though they did not reach the finals, the team's discipline and sportsmanship were commended, earning them a trophy.



- *Binita Soreng, SAC*

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, AGARTALA

Yoga Day Celebration

June 21, 2025: Holy Cross School marked International Yoga Day with a program promoting physical, mental, and emotional well-being. Principal Fr. Jilson Tom highlighted the benefits of yoga in his address. A certified instructor, Ms. Jayasree Saha, guided students and staff through asanas, pranayama, and meditation. The event inspired participants to integrate yoga into their daily lives.



Educational Excursion –

July 21, 2025: Students of Class XII-B (Geography) visited the Brahmaputra Tea Processing Factory at Simna, Mohanpur. Welcomed by Mr. Sajal Debnath and his team, they observed the



complete cycle of tea production from plucking to packaging. The visit bridged classroom learning with real-world applications, deepening their understanding of agricultural industries.

NCC Combined Annual Training Camp –

July 21–30, 2025: Over 500 cadets joined CATC-73, organized by 71 Tripura Girls (1) Coy NCC SBS 41, at Sahid Bhagat Singh Hostel. Activities included drills, map reading, weapon handling, and cleanliness drives under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. A traffic police demo and blood donation camp added value. Holy Cross cadets excelled, with Elbyan Khaham Reang winning gold in the junior division and Debadatta Singh securing gold in the speech contest.

Science, Humanities & Art Expo –

July 28–29, 2025: The school hosted a two-day Expo, inaugurated by Fr. George Jacob, CSC, Secretary of HCEF. More than 200 students presented models, exhibits, and installations on sustainability, technology, social welfare, and

heritage. Highlights included projects under the INSPIRE MANAK initiative—Smart City, Floating Garden, Robotic Arm, and Smart Glove for Sign Language. The Sanskriti Sangam exhibit celebrated cultural



integration, reflecting the school’s commitment to holistic education.

Van Mahotsav –

July 29, 2025: The Van Mahotsav celebration began with a prayer by the school choir, followed by a speech from SPL Druvanjali (Class IV-B) on tree conservation.



Students from Classes I-IV presented cultural performances, while Principal Fr. Jilson Tom reminded all the vital role of trees in sustaining life. The program concluded with planting saplings across the campus.



79th Independence Day Celebration –

August 9-15, 2025: Holy Cross School celebrated India’s 79th Independence Day with a week of activities across its eight houses. Students participated in patriotic songs, dances, dramatizations, storytelling, rangoli, and even a “Cooking Without Fire” contest. On August 13, the school observed the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign, followed by intellectual events such as Spell Bee, Extempore, and a Mock Court.

The celebrations culminated on August 15 with flag hoisting, march past, and cultural



performances. The day was graced by Dr. Sudeshna Debbarma, Assistant Commandant and Medical Officer, CRPF, and a proud Crossian, along with Fr. K. J. Abraham, Provincial Superior. Their presence highlighted the school’s commitment to nurturing responsible citizens rooted in India’s heritage.

Awareness on Healthy Living

To promote healthier lifestyles, the school organized a session on “Junk Food vs. Healthy



Living.” Students learned about the risks of processed food—obesity, diabetes, and weak immunity—and were encouraged to opt for fruits, vegetables, and whole grains. The message emphasized moderation and mindful eating for long-term well-being.

- *School Editorial Team*

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL, TUIKARMAW

Teacher-Parent Meeting (TPM)

A Teacher-Parent Meeting for Classes Nursery to VI was held on 12th July 2025 in the respective classrooms, with 407 parents/guardians participating. The new format of conducting the meeting in each student's own classroom proved effective, allowing for meaningful interaction and strengthening the partnership between home and school.



Disaster Management Training

On 22nd July 2025, the school hosted a Disaster Management Training Session organized by the SDM of South Tripura. The interactive programme equipped students with practical skills to face emergencies, fostering awareness and preparedness.



First Saturday Activities

On 26th July 2025, the school launched its First Saturday Activities with inter-house basketball, spelling bee, drawing, and essay competitions.



Students participated with enthusiasm, showcasing their talents and teamwork.

Van Mahotsava Celebration

In collaboration with the Bagafa Forest Sub-Division, the school hosted the 76th Van Mahotsava on 2nd August 2025. Shri Manoj Kumar



Saha, SDM of Santirbazar, was the Chief Guest. The event included cultural programmes, interactive sessions, and a tree plantation drive, promoting the spirit of environmental care.

Independence Day Celebration

The 79th Independence Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm on 15th August 2025. The Chief Guest, Fr. Davis, CSC, hoisted the National Flag. The programme featured patriotic songs, dances, March Past, and a skit on Operation Sindoor. In his address, Fr. Davis emphasized honesty, hard work, and respect as the essence of true independence.



ST. MARY'S PARISH, TUIKARMAW

Blessing of New Churches

On 19th and 20th July 2025, Most Rev. Lumen Monteiro, CSC, DD, Bishop of Agartala, blessed the newly built churches at Turbuma and Ichachera villages. Faithful from nearby villages, sisters from various congregations, and parish leaders along with Fr. Thomas, the Parish Priest and Fr. Vicky Gayang, Asst. Parish Priest participated in the celebrations, which included a short felicitation program thanking the Bishop, Fr. Thomas Pereira, and benefactors for their support.



Farewell to Fr. Thomas Pereira

The parish and school communities came together in July to bid farewell to Fr. Thomas Pereira, CSC, who served both as Parish Priest and School Secretary. Separate programmes in the



parish on 13th July and at the school on 18th July expressed gratitude for his three years of dedicated service. Cultural performances, tributes, and words of appreciation highlighted his joyful leadership, concern for the poor, and commitment to the spiritual and holistic growth of the community. Fr. Thomas, in his address, thanked everyone for their support and assured his blessings for the future.

Installation of New Parish Priest

On 3rd August 2025, Fr. Jerome Chorei, CSC, was installed as the new Parish Priest of St. Mary's, Tuikarmaw. Bishop Lumen Monteiro led the



celebration, joined by Fr. Alfred D'Souza, CSC, Province Administrator. Parishioners, hostel students, and sisters extended a warm welcome with a procession and cultural programme. The day concluded with a community meal, marking the beginning of Fr. Jerome's ministry among the faithful. On 4th August 2025, the school welcomed Fr. Jerome Chorei, CSC, as the new School Secretary.

- *Vicky Gayang, CSC*

ST. ANDRE PARISH, BODHJUNGNAGAR

National Youth Sunday

After celebrating National Youth Sunday at the diocesan level in Agartala on 3rd August 2025, the parish youth of Bodhjunnagar observed the occasion at the parish level on 10th August at the Barkathal sub-centre. Over 120 young people from across the parish participated in the well-organized celebration.

Fr. Alfred D'Souza, CSC, Province Administrator, served as the main celebrant of the Eucharist and resource person for the input session. Priests from St. André Minor Seminary and sisters from the Adoration, Holy Cross, and Fatima congregations joined the event. Catechists,

parishioners from different mothas, and the faithful also took part in the day of prayer, fellowship, and learning.



The programme featured the Eucharist, an interactive session, cultural performances, and a community meal. The celebration strengthened the youth's commitment to parish life and fostered a spirit of collaboration in their pastoral activities.

Health Awareness Programme for Women

Responding to the call of the Diocesan Women's Commission, the Maria Sango of St. André Parish organized a Health Awareness Programme for married women on 8th August 2025 at Barkathal sub-centre.

The half-day session was led by Sr. Juby and Sr. Prasanti, SJA, from St. Joseph Hospital, who addressed key aspects of women's health. Forty-three women from different sub-centres attended, engaging freely with the resource persons in discussions that were both informative and enriching. Sr. Renukha, CSC, assisted by translating from English to Kokborok.



The programme began with morning prayer and included input sessions, a question-and-answer

period, and fellowship over snacks. Participants expressed gratitude for the initiative, which encouraged women to care for their health and well-being.

- *Mariaraj, CSC*

ST. ANDRE SCHOOL, BODHJUNG NAGAR

Health Check-up

A general health camp was held on 10th July 2025 in collaboration with Bidya Debbarma Memorial Hospital, Lefunga. Students underwent medical check-ups class by class, while teachers and staff also availed of the health services.

Students' Seminar

To inspire students in their academic and career paths, Class XI Science students attended an



interactive seminar led by Dr. Bheem Pad Mahato (Education) and Dr. Sovan Ghosh (Physics), both from ICFAI University. The session motivated students to pursue knowledge with greater dedication.

Digital Seminar

Recognizing the growing role of technology in education, the school organized a seminar for teachers on 5th July 2025. Conducted by Mrs. Geetu Sinha of Ebix Smart Class, the session trained staff in using newly installed LED panels to enhance classroom teaching and learning.

Inauguration of Science Stream

The school inaugurated its new Science Stream and laboratory with a prayer service led by Parish Priest Fr. Mariaraj, CSC. The event held on 31st July was graced by Chief Guest Fr. George Jacob, CSC, Secretary of the Holy Cross Educational Foundation, who highlighted the importance of scientific learning in nurturing both heart and mind.



Freshers' Day

On 31st July 2025, the school welcomed its new students with a colourful Freshers' Day celebration. The titles of Mr. and Miss Fresher of the Year were awarded to Waknuk Debbarma and Nirmika Debbarma.

Independence Day

The 79th Independence Day was celebrated with twin joy, coinciding with the birthday of Headmistress Sr. Teslin, SABS. Students



participated in the celebration at the Sub-Divisional Office with band performances, NCC marching, and cultural presentations. They also won a mobile phone prize in an Independence Day quiz competition.

Capacity Building Programme

On 23rd August 2025, a CBSE-mandated Capacity Building Programme on Art Integration was



conducted at the school by resource person Shri. Jadesh Kanti Debbarma of Garia Academy, Udaipur. Fifty-six teachers participated in the workshop aimed at enhancing creative and effective classroom practices.

- *Iswar Happa, CSC*

HOLY CROSS COLLEGE, AGARTALA

Tejas 12.0 – “Phoenix of Hope”

Tejas 12.0, the twelfth edition of the College's annual fest, was held on 11 July 2025 under the theme “Phoenix of Hope.” The celebration began with sports competitions and expanded into cultural, artistic, and literary events. Highlights included Ethnic Day, a grand fashion show, and an electrifying DJ performance. The Chief Guest,



Tripura Governor Shri N. Indrasena Reddy, addressed the gathering. The event's success

reflected the unity and enthusiasm of the entire college community.

Tejas 12.0 – Ethnic Day

As part of Tejas 12.0, Ethnic Day was celebrated on 2nd July 2025 in the Open Auditorium. The programme began with a lamp lighting and a welcome dance, followed by addresses from Vice Principal Rev. Fr. Joe Paul, CSC, Chief Guest Sri Animesh Debbarma, and Rev. Fr. K.J. Abraham,



CSC. Performances included folk songs, fusion dances, and a Tamil group song. A fashion show and band performance added vibrancy, and the day concluded with the National Anthem.

Farewell Programme – Class of 2025

On 25th July 2025, the College bid farewell to the graduating batch of 2025. The event began with a prayer song and an inspiring address by Dr. Moumita Dey, followed by cultural performances



including Kokborok and duet dances. Principal Rev. Dr. Benny K. John, CSC, offered a motivational message, while Dr. Sangita Chakraborty led the

prize distribution for sports achievements. The highlight was an emotional presentation by the sixth-semester students, recalling their college journey. The programme ended with a heartfelt vote of thanks and the National Anthem.

World Indigenous Peoples Day & Maharaja Bir Bikram's Birthday

On 20th August 2025, the Department of Kokborok commemorated World Indigenous Peoples Day along with the birth anniversary of Maharaja Bir Bikram Manikya. The event featured a welcome song, lamp lighting by Assistant Professor Sharmila Debbarma, and addresses by



Vice Principal Fr. Joe Paul, CSC, and Principal Rev. Dr. Benny K. John, CSC. Chief Guest Bubagra Pradyot Manikya Debbarma and Guest of Honour Ajit Debbarma were felicitated. Cultural highlights included Mosok Surmani, Hojagiri, Manipuri and Bihu dances, and an indigenous costume show. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks and the National Anthem.

Investiture Ceremony and Freshers' Day

Holy Cross College, Agartala, celebrated its Investiture and Freshers' Day on 29 August 2025 with a programme that combined tradition, responsibility, and festivity.

The formal session began with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp and a welcome address by Principal Rev. Dr. Benny K. John, CSC. The Investiture ceremony, conducted by the Principal

and Academic Coordinator Dr. Rumki Nath Sen, officially conferred responsibilities on the new student council. Chief Guest Prof. Makhlesh Kumar, Director of Central Sanskrit University (Ekalavya Campus), presented badges of office and also conferred ranks, badges, and insignia to the NCC cadets. A prize distribution ceremony followed, with students receiving awards from the Principal and Guest of Honour, Dr. Palash Santra, Assistant Professor at Central Sanskrit University. Cultural performances, ranging from Manipuri to South Indian dance, enriched the session, which concluded with a vote of thanks and the National Anthem.



The informal session began at 12:30 p.m., dedicated to welcoming the freshers. Students presented a lively mix of cultural items, including Nepali, Kokborok, and modern Hindi dances, solo songs, a comic act, and band performances. The day successfully combined solemnity with celebration, fostering leadership, creativity, and community spirit among the students.

- *Editorial Team, HCC Agartala*

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL, ZOWKATHAR

Independence Day Celebration

St. Joseph's School, Zokhawthar, celebrated the 79th Independence Day with a series of inter-house competitions that highlighted both creativity and patriotism.

The celebrations began on 14 August 2025 with a drawing competition on the theme of national

pride, providing students with an opportunity to express their artistic talents. On Independence Day, 15 August, the school hosted speech, quiz,



and singing competitions, each reflecting the spirit of freedom and unity.

The speech contest reminded students that independence is not only a right but also a responsibility, calling for honesty, hard work, and commitment to building a better India. The quiz tested knowledge and quick thinking, while also encouraging learning in an engaging way. The singing competition showcased teamwork, harmony, and stage presence, bringing the festivities to life with music and rhythm.

Through these activities, the school provided a platform for students to display their talents, grow in confidence, and deepen their appreciation of India's independence.

- *Francis*

ST. JOHN THE APOSTLE PARISH, KHAWZAWL

Feast of the Assumption

The Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary was celebrated with devotion at St. John the Apostle Church, Khawzawl. A large gathering of the faithful joined the Eucharist, thanking God for the



gift of Mary and praying for the nation on the occasion of India's 79th Independence Day. The celebration strengthened unity and brotherhood among the parish community.

Retreat for Altar Servers

On 23rd August 2025, a one-day retreat for altar servers of St. John the Apostle Church was held at St. Joseph's School, Muallungthu. Conducted by the Khawzawl Co-missionary team, the



programme included prayer, talks, practical training for Mass, and moments of praise and worship. The day concluded with the Eucharist and a fellowship meal, enriching the young servers in their faith and commitment.

Seminar and Retreat

As planned by the Parish Pastoral Council, a two-day seminar and retreat was organized for local leaders, women's guild members, and youth of St. John the Apostle Church, Khawzawl. Resource person Catechist Andrew Tlangthankhuma guided participants through talks, meditation,



adoration, and the sacrament of reconciliation. Twenty-five participants attended and expressed

gratitude for the spiritual renewal and leadership training.

Retreat at Lungtan

A two-day retreat for the faithful of Sacred Heart Church, Lungtan, was held on 23–24 August with about 50 participants. Led by Catechist Andrew Tlangthankhuma,

the retreat featured inspiring sermons, confession, Eucharist, and adoration of the



Blessed Sacrament. The event concluded with a solemn procession of the Blessed Sacrament through the village. Participants shared their joy and testified to the spiritual renewal they experienced.

- *John PKC, CSC*

PINE VIEW STUDY HOUSE, SUMER

Inaugural Function

The academic year at Sumer began on 28 June 2025 with a solemn inaugural Mass presided over by Fr. Pius Shadap, Parish Priest of Umsning. The theme for the year, "Come, follow me," reflects the call to discipleship and growth. The day included



a special blessing of the seminary building. This year, 18 candidates from Meghalaya, Tripura,

Mizoram, and Assam have begun their formative journey in Holy Cross.

Spiritual Enrichment

The seminary community organizes monthly recollection days to deepen the candidates' prayer life and spirituality, often with the help of



confreres from nearby communities. Opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, devotional hymns, and bhajans are integral to formation. A special highlight was the visit of Fr. John Nongphud, Director to the Land of Our Blessings (Le Mans), who shared insights on the legacy of Holy Cross.

Laudato Si in Action

Daily manual work is a core part of formation, fostering discipline and care for creation. At Sumer, seminarians cultivate crops such as



paddy, banana, pineapple, and ginger, and rear pigs, chickens, and cows—promoting self-reliance and eco-friendly living.

Independence Day Celebration

The seminarians celebrated Independence Day with the theme of purposeful living. In his homily, Fr. K.O. Joseph encouraged them to appreciate the



past, celebrate the present, and embrace the future with hope. The Beadle of the house reminded them of their duty to work hard, live with integrity, respect others, and uphold unity in diversity.

- *Dessing John Nongpud, CSC*

ST. ANDRE MINOR SEMINARY, BODHJUNG NAGAR

Community Outing

The first outing of the academic year brought much-needed refreshment after weeks of study.



The journey included a stop at Hathai Kotor Park before reaching Moharpara Parish, where Parish Priest Fr. Arbok Lyngdoh Lyngkhoi welcomed the group and guided them around the campus. For

many juniors, it was their first parish visit—an inspiring and joyful experience.

St. André Bessette's Birth Anniversary

The seminary community observed the birth anniversary of St. André Bessette with a solemn liturgy, thanking God for his example of humility and holiness. The day concluded with a friendly football match against St. André Parish hostellers, where SAMS emerged victorious, followed by fellowship over snacks.

Independence Day & Feast of the Assumption

On 15th August, the community celebrated both India's 79th Independence Day and the Solemnity of the Assumption. The day was marked by patriotic and spiritual fervour, capped with a spirited football match with Sacred Heart Seminary Hostel, which SAMS won.



Canonical Visits

The community joyfully welcomed Fr. Shaiju, CSC, Formation Coordinator, and Fr. K.J. Abraham, CSC,



Provincial Superior, on their canonical visits. Fr. Abraham presided over the Eucharist and encouraged the seminarians in their formation and mission.

- *Jowelson Khongtani, CSC*

SACRED HEART STUDY HOUSE, LEMBUCHERRA

Academic Year Inauguration

The new academic year at Sacred Heart opened on 14 July 2025 with a solemn Eucharist celebrated by Most Rev. Lumen Monteiro, CSC, DD, Bishop of Agartala, joined by several Holy



Cross confreres. A short cultural programme welcomed the Bishop and the new students, followed by a fellowship meal, setting a hopeful tone for the year ahead.

Visit of Br. P. J. Santosh, CSC

On 6 August 2025, Br. P. J. Santosh, CSC, Provincial Superior of the St. André Province, visited Sacred Heart. Though brief, his visit brought encouragement and inspiration as he shared



reflections on the Holy Cross mission and values with the brothers and candidates.

Farewell to the 2022–2025 Batch

The community bid farewell to the outgoing batch on 9 August 2025. The day featured a friendly basketball match, where the seniors celebrated

victory, followed by a thanksgiving Eucharist presided over by Fr. Alfred D'Souza,



Administrator of the Northeast Province, with Fr. Benny, CSC, and other priests concelebrating. A cultural programme and farewell dinner concluded the day, filled with gratitude and blessings for the graduates' future journey.

- Bilingshar Syiemlieh, CSC

SPES UNICA 2025: A CELEBRATION OF HOPE

Agartala came alive with youthful energy as Spes Unica 2025 was held from 16-18 August at Holy Cross School, Agartala. Organized by the Holy



Cross Educational Foundation (HCEF), the bi-annual students' gathering brought together 300 Catholic students and their animators from 10 Holy Cross schools across Tripura.

Guided by the theme "Crossing Borders, Carrying Hope," the event encouraged students to rise above divisions of culture, language, and background, fostering unity, friendship, and

shared responsibility as Catholic youth in today's world.

The programme was inaugurated on 16 August



and concluded on 18 August in the presence of Most Rev. Lumen Monteiro, CSC, Bishop of Agartala, as Chief Guest, and Fr. K. J. Abraham, CSC, Provincial Superior, as Guest of Honour. During the opening ceremony, several Catholic government officers and educators from Agartala were felicitated for their exemplary witness to Gospel values in public life.



Over three days, participants engaged in cultural exchanges, competitions, leadership sessions, and moments of prayer, culminating in a thanksgiving Eucharist and testimonies from students who



shared how the experience strengthened their faith and friendships.

Faithful to its name—Ave Crux, Spes Unica (“The Cross, Our Only Hope”)—the programme offered young people a platform to grow in creativity,



leadership, and community spirit while deepening their Catholic identity. This year’s gathering was a fitting tribute to the vision of Blessed Basile Moreau, Founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross, who believed in educating both the hearts and minds of youth to transform society with Gospel values.

HOLY CROSS MISSION IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA – IMMERSION EXPERIENCE

Six of us, Holy Cross missionaries recently completed a three-month immersion in the Diocese of Bougainville, Papua New Guinea, at the request of Bishop Driusz Kaluza, MSF. The experience was intended to prepare us for pastoral and missionary responsibilities by learning firsthand about the faith, culture, and social life of the people. Our reflections reveal both the challenges and the hope of this vibrant mission.

Pastoral Life

Bougainville is one of 19 dioceses in Papua New Guinea, comprising 35 parishes with numerous sub-parishes and Eucharistic centers. The faith of the people is striking—churches are filled on Sundays, and many walk long distances to attend Mass. Yet, the shortage of priests is acute: in some cases, one priest cares for 12,000 faithful and occasionally two parishes. With only 26 native

priests—some retired—the presence of Holy Cross, along with MSP and MSF missionaries,



brings much-needed support. Despite the scars of the decade-long civil war (1988–98), the Church is being rebuilt with strong lay leadership, Eucharistic ministers, and devotional practices that sustained the faithful in the absence of clergy. The diocese now looks ahead to celebrating the 125th anniversary of its Catholic faith in 2026.

Cultural Insights

Bougainville is home to many tribes and dialects, reflecting a strong desire for unity and independence as a people. Traditions include both matrilineal and patrilineal systems, with cultural norms that sometimes limit women’s roles in public life. The people take pride in their



appearance, identity, and celebrations. For missionaries, the call of Holy Cross to “cross borders of every sort” becomes real in learning to adapt, respect, and receive from this rich cultural diversity.

Educational Mission

The Marist missionaries laid a strong foundation in education decades ago, establishing schools across the diocese. The civil war, however, disrupted this progress, leaving many institutions

in ruins. Today, Catholic schools once again display strong faith identity, with prayer and silence shaping the atmosphere of learning. A renewed focus on infrastructure, teacher formation, and higher education is seen as vital for shaping the youth, who are eager, vibrant, and



full of potential. As Blessed Basil Moreau reminded, “The mind will not be cultivated at the expense of the heart”—an ideal that guides Holy Cross in this mission.

Social Realities

Bougainville society is marked by simplicity, resilience, and respect for nature. Farming and fishing are traditional livelihoods, with little mechanization, reflecting a sustainable lifestyle. Families generally avoid exploiting natural resources excessively, preserving forests and land. At the same time, issues such as polygamy,



sorcery, domestic violence, and substance abuse present pressing challenges that call for pastoral care and social action. The fertile soil, tropical climate, and abundance of natural resources, however, give hope for growth and renewal.

Moving Forward

The immersion experience has helped us discern priorities in pastoral, cultural, educational, and social spheres. It has deepened our appreciation of the faith and resilience of the people of Bougainville and strengthened our commitment to serve. With the support and prayers of confreres worldwide, Holy Cross continues to build a future of hope in this mission land, living the Congregation’s call to educate both hearts and minds.

- *Thomas John, CSC*

PILGRIM YEAR OF HOPE AT ST. JOSEPH’S ORATORY, MONTREAL

The Pilgrim Year of Hope at St. Joseph’s Oratory has become a radiant testament to faith, renewal, and the enduring power of prayer. With the



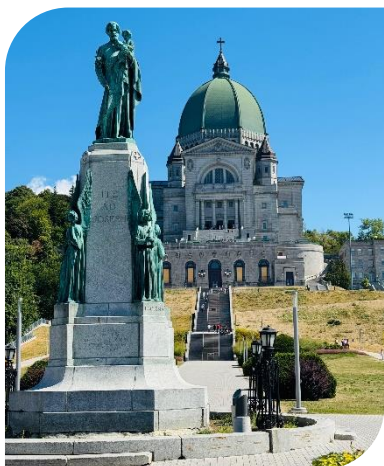
completion of extensive renovation works in February 2025, the Oratory – already the largest church in the world dedicated to St. Joseph – now welcomes the faithful and visitors alike with renewed beauty and accessibility. Four magnificent new

pavilions complement the original breathtaking structure, while a modern cafeteria, a spacious gift shop, and a resounding bell tower with 62 bells now enhance the spiritual experience for every pilgrim. Accessibility improvements ensure that even those on wheelchairs can fully enter, participate, and find peace within this sacred space.

Every day, thousands of pilgrims from every walk of life, every Christian denomination, and even those of other religious traditions pass through

the Oratory's doors. Tourists become pilgrims, carrying personal and family intentions of prayer, and leaving with hearts touched and spirits renewed. Here, conversions of hearts and minds occur quietly but profoundly; spiritual, physical, psychological, and mental healings unfold through God's grace. Saint Brother André, whose life continues to inspire, still draws countless souls to Christ, touching millions through his intercession.

Holy Cross religious men, hailing from countries near and far, form an international community devoted to guiding, accompanying, and serving these pilgrims according to their needs. During the summer months, many Holy Cross men, especially from the United States, spend days at the Oratory in recollection, retreat, and personal devotion to Saint Brother André and Saint Joseph. Their presence enriches the spiritual life of the Oratory and reminds visitors that faith transcends borders, cultures, and languages.



From distant lands and across oceans, we are united in gratitude. Let us raise our hearts in thanksgiving to God for the life and witness of Saint Brother André, whose example continues to draw millions to Jesus Christ. In this Pilgrim Year of Hope, St. Joseph's Oratory stands not merely as a place of beauty and grandeur, but as a living sanctuary of prayer, hope, and transformation for all who enter.

- *Jomon Kalladanthiyil, CSC*

THEOTONIIONS' RENEWAL SESSION IN MEGHALAYA

The Theotonium priest group recently held a three-day renewal session in Meghalaya that proved both spiritually enriching and personally uplifting. The programme combined prayer, reflection, sharing, and fellowship, giving members the opportunity to pause, recharge, and strengthen their priestly bond.

A highlight of the gathering was the sharing session, where priests reflected on faith experiences that continue to shape and inspire their ministry. Listening to one another's journeys offered fresh perspectives and reaffirmed their shared vocation of service. Input sessions addressed timely themes such as managing stress, moving forward with hope in this Jubilee Year, and deepening the call to religious life—providing both practical insights and spiritual encouragement.



The group expressed gratitude to Fr. Jilson for organizing the programme and to Fr. Shijo, CM for animating the sessions with dedication. Adding a lighter note, the priests also enjoyed a day in the scenic beauty of Meghalaya, which further deepened their bonds of friendship and fraternity.

The renewal session was truly a blessing—an experience of faith, hope, and renewed commitment to priestly life.

- *John Valan, CSC*

FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY

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