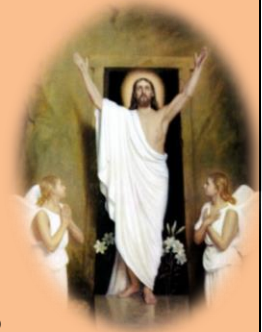




RICE COAL



ASANSOL DIOCESAN NEWS LETTER

EASTER EDITION

APRIL 2018

EASTER JOURNEYING.....

BISHOP'S MESSAGE

NEW FIRE, Easter Candle, Solemn Proclamation of *Exultet*, the Word of God, Blessing of Water, Renewal of Baptismal Promises at Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday lead to the celebration of the Paschal Mystery, the Presence of the Risen Jesus with us. The church solemnly proclaims JESUS IS RISEN, ALLELUIA. "Be glad, let the earth be glad, as glory floods her..." the Easter Proclamation invites the whole creation to be soaked in the glory of God in the triumphant victory of Jesus over his passion and death.

Even Nature exalts new life. Trees shed their old dry leaves and let their bare branches scorch in the blazing sun only to let the new twigs burst forth in fresh leaves and flowers - a dying and rising to life. The journey from Lent to Easter invites everyone to follow the way of Jesus: life, death, LIFE. Jesus prayed, 'Father, glorify your name.' and then said to his disciples, 'and when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself' (Jn.12/28, 32). Every human heart longs for the experience of being drawn by the Risen Lord. No human weakness, vulnerability, fragility can deprive one the journey of faith and LIFE won for us by Jesus.

I thank you for your presence, your journeying with me in the footsteps of Jesus. You have a place in my heart. I have experienced your zeal and enduring ministry in realizing the Peace of the Risen Jesus for the people and yourself. Let us continue to make this presence of the Risen Jesus more tangible wherever we live and work. I wish you, the members of your family and all those you serve in the places of your apostolate, the Peace and Joy of our Risen Lord. Happy Easter!

DIOCESAN PRIESTS' ANNUAL MEETING - DIGHA

Diocesan Priests' Annual Meeting was held from 27th to 29th January 2018, at Sindhutara, Kolkata Archdiocesan Pastoral Center, Digha. Thirty eight priests and Bishop attended the meeting. Fr. Reginald Fernandes of Kolkata Archdiocese, who moderated the meeting, called upon the priests to work for the growth of the Diocese, imitating Christ the Good Shepherd. He skillfully moderated the sessions beginning with the minutes of the last year's meeting being read by Fr Arbind Negi, Secretary of the CDPI. Certain matters were taken up for further discussion followed by evaluation; priests raised the concerns experienced in their ministry; suggestions were sought for future ministries; course of action for the coming year was planned.

Easter is a time for
 thinking of those who are
 a special part of our lives...
 and have a special place in
 our hearts...
 that's why Easter is a time
 for thinking of you all.

Happy Easter!

R-Editorial team

From Travel Diary of Fr. Sarto.....

Twelve youth from the Diocese of Asansol attended an orientation programme on “Leadership and SCCs”, at Dishari, Baruipur, from Jan 11 to 14, 2018. Bishop Cyprian Monis celebrated the Eucharist for the Regional youth on Feb 12 evening and encouraged them to promote love for the Word of God, in their villages. The program was organised by Fr. I. P. Sarto who animated most of the sessions. Frs. Rajesh Kujur, OMI and Prodeep Roy also facilitated sessions on the role of youth in society. A SCC orientation programme was held at Chelidanga on Jan 24, facilitated by Sr. Christin, HC. The parishioners of Kulti-Sodepur came in large numbers with Fr. Michael Dias to learn about SCC. Fr. Arul Joseph, SJ, organised parish animation on SCCs on Feb 4, 2018 in Kalna. Frs. Sarto and Rajesh facilitated the sessions which included ‘How to conduct Seven Steps of Gospel sharing’ for the boarding children. Twenty four village leaders and catechists attended an Orientation Session on Leadership, at Chetana from Feb. 6 evening to Feb 8 afternoon. The Prerona Team from Krishnagar motivated them ‘How to be Evangelizers’. 12 SCC animators of our Diocese attended the Regional SCC Council Meeting held at the Basilica in Bandel, from Feb. 23 to 25, 2018. They deliberated on the prophetic role of the Church. Fr. Rajesh conducted an orientation on SCCs at Sahanagar parish on March 10 and 11 at the request of Fr. John Soren, CMF, Pastor of Sahanagar mission. A group of Religious visited Ekpere Mission on Feb 28, 2018 to interact with the villagers on SCCs.

Galsi parish celebrated the Parish feast of St. Francis De Sales on Jan 28, 2018. MSFS priests Frs. Saajan Varghese and Michael organised parish animation for the faithful on the day. The Eucharist was presided over by Fr. Sarto who also conducted the animation on the importance of unity in villages. Bro. Vinod Gabriel Thomas, Superior, Christian Brothers Community, Asansol celebrated the Golden Jubilee of his Religious life, on Feb 10, 2018, at St. Vincent’s. A large number of priests, religious, teachers of St Patrick and St. Vincent Schools were present to felicitate and pray for him.

Asansol Welfare Society held a Meeting of Custodians on Jan 10 at Chelidanga. Fr. Sarto facilitated the meeting. Fr. Martin made the necessary arrangements. Asansol Christian Cemetery Committee had their meeting on Feb. 15 at Sacred Heart Cathedral Presbytery, Asansol. Fr. Sarto chaired the meeting while Fr. Lawrence Sah and Mr. Tapas Ghose briefed about the cleanliness and upkeep of the cemetery. Mrs. Rose Salvatore, Mrs. Brigit Victor of Cheildanga and Mr. Michael Shah of Shantinagar went to Matigarah, Bagdogra with Bishop Monis to attend the Regional Pastoral Council meeting, Feb. 21 and 22, 2018. On March 12, 2018, Bishop Cyprian Monis, Frs. Devassy, SJ and Sarto visited Nabanna, Howrah to meet Mr. Manoj Pant, IAS, Principal Secretary of Land to discuss about land for St. Xavier’s College. He was very cordial. The diocese is grateful to him. Fr. Sarto, Sr. Chandra SSAM, along with AC Sisters Alexia and Sirija from Calcutta visited the Burdwan Correctional Home on March 13 to meet the new Superintendent, Mr. Naveen Kujur. He invited them for a Prayer service on Good Friday at the correctional Home. The AC Sisters are running two income Generation ventures for women at the Burdwan Home - Sanitary pad making and tailoring.

Annual Fete- St. Francis Xavier English Medium School, Andal

St. Francis Xavier School, organized a Fun and Frolic- filled Annual Fete on 26th of January, 2018, on the occasion of the Republic Day with a view to raise Funds for the Education of Poor Children. Parents of our children, DSA Sisters and Hostel Boys took active part. On that auspicious Day, Fr. Martin Behera, Secretary of the School, also being Chief Guest, launched a Drone assembled by one of our students. Fr. Martin hoisted the Tri Colour Flag and delivered an inspiring speech to all parents concerning Religious and Social Unity of people in spite of diversities. Stalls for games and food were put up by our Teachers and Students. The concerted efforts of one and all fetched good sum for charity.

Lenten Retreat/Recollection

16th- 18th March – Dhitpur by Fr. Mathias Soren and Team
18th March - Kalipathar by Fr. Wilfred Monis, Bolpur
18th March - Andal by Fr. Mourlin sj
20th-21st March - Durgapur by Mr. Mathew Joseph, Kolkata
24th March - Kurmun by Bishop Cyprian Monis
25th March – Chittaranjan by Fr. Abraham

INFANT JESUS CHURCH, MARKRAMPUR, BOLPUR



18.1.18 marks the prime event in the history of Bolpur mission. It is on this day the **INFANT JESUS CHURCH** was **inaugurated** by his **Lordship Most Rev K A William**, the bishop of Mysore and **dedicated & consecrated** by his **Lordship Most Rev Cyprian Monis**, thereby fulfilling the dreams and aspirations of our fore fathers. The inauguration and consecration ceremony was witnessed by more than 60 priests from various dioceses and religious congregations of India, more than 200 religious sisters and brothers, and more than 3500 Lay faithful from various parishes of our diocese. The liturgy was meaningfully organised by the parishioners.

The Infant Jesus church has adopted the Tagorean culture of making Christ more Indian in keeping the teaching of the church intact. The church also has adopted the tribal cultural richness. The panoramic view of the altar consists of Infant Jesus statue, Jesus in Lotus position and the tabernacle. The church's main focus is Jesus meditating under the Banyan tree. This image of Christ has become an attraction point for the visitors especially the foreign students and professors of Shanti Niketan. This imagery of Christ in the church has been enhancing the deep devotion to Christ and His teachings even among the people of other faith. As the people leave the church, they are also inspired to see another imagery of Jesus sitting under the tree and blessing the children.

St. Xavier's college, Burdwan

It was a historical milestone for the Jesuits of Calcutta Province to inaugurate the new campus and the blessing of the academic building at St. Xavier's College, Burdwan. The Chief Guest, Bishop Cyprian Monis inaugurated and blessed the new academic building. St. Xavier's School, Burdwan, had many activities. **Utkarsh-2017** - The District level inter-school competitions were held. St. Xavier's School, Burdwan, bagged many prizes and became the sole champion in the football tournament for the last consecutive years. Fr. T.V. George accompanied the higher secondary students to Susunia Hills for excursion and learning purpose. St. Xavier's School hosted the annual *Xtasy*2017. Fr. Michael Jacob, MSFS, the principal of St. Francis Sales School, Galsi, was the chief guest for the program of the primary section. Fr. K. K. Devasy, SJ the principal of St. Xavier's College, Asansol, was the chief guest for the higher secondary section programs. Both Principals emphasized on "Developing cultural quotient within". ISC and ICSE students are busy with their rehearsal examinations.



St. Joseph's Chittaranjan - La Despadida - Farewell Program.

It was an incredible morning of 29th January 2018, at the portals of SJCHSC CHITTARANJAN, as students of class XI hosted and organised a grand farewell program for outgoing students of class XII to bid them adieu. The theme was "La Despadida"-----Goodbye!!

Award Reward Day - Schools celebrate students in dozens of different ways, but honouring their academic and non academic accomplishments at the end of each academic session is perhaps the most awaited celebrations of all. Awards are given not only to celebrate the achievements of the students but also to encourage a sense of competitive spirit and zeal for learning. SJCHSS celebrated its award-reward function, especially for the students of classes 10 and 12, on the 3rd of February, 2018.

On 8th February 2018, a short assembly was conducted by the students of Class VIII A on the topic 'HUMAN TRAFFICKING'. Students also presented some action plans to spread awareness about this growing issue and how more people can be informed about it.



Various activities have been done at the Kristo Jyothi Ashram, Kurmun by the sisters of St. Ann's of Chennai. Foundress Day & Christmas Celebrations, Inauguration of Tailoring Course, Bricks Field Schools, seminar on Leadership, Human Rights Day, and Handicraft Exhibition have enhanced their charisms in our Diocese.

International Women's day

On the 11th March, 2018, 120 women from Hindi speaking Parishes of Asansol Diocese gathered together to commemorate and celebrate The International Women's day at St. Theresa's Church, Durgapur. Fr. Arbind Tirkey introduced the topic of the day and Most. Rev. Bishop Cyprian Monis presided over the Eucharistic Celebration. Each Parish unit came up with creative and motivating songs and programs on the theme. Sr. Kumodini AC conducted bible quiz and Bishop Cyprian Monis gave away the attractive prizes for the winners. The day's celebration concluded with a fellowship meal.

Bishop's programme

- March 27th - Chrism Mass - Bolpur
- 29th - Holy Thursday - Andal
- 30th - Good Friday service - Cathedral
- 31st - Easter Vigil Mass - Kurmun
- April 1st - Easter Mass - Galsi
- 8th - Confirmation - Rajnagar
- 14th - Diaconate Ordination - Nuta
- 15th - Ordination of Dn. Subhod, Raiganj
- 21-23rd - Nephew's marriage - Mysore
- 25th - First Profession - Bethany Novitiate
- 28th - Golden and Silver Jubilee - MAMC

OBITUARY

Sr. Florence DSA, fondly known as **MATA**, passed away in Asansol on the 21st of February 2018. She was the pioneer in establishing St. Maria Goretti Hindi Medium School to educate girls from the poor and downtrodden sections of the society.

Sr. Janice CSST passed away in Kerala. She was suffering from cancer. Some years ago she was in Nuta as superior cum pastoral sister.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord May their souls rest in peace.

Birthdays		Ord. Anniversaries	Death Anniversaries
April	11 - +Cyprien Monis 25 - Fr Deepak	March 30 th - Fr Robert	March 29 th - Fr Van Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord, may his soul rest in peace
May	02 - Fr J Peter 05 - Fr Robert 10 - Fr Bishu Besra 13 - Fr Anand Raj 15 - Fr Harsha 24 - Fr Michael Dias 30 - Fr Arbind Tirkey	April 03 - Fr Ananth 21 - Fr Lawrence 23 - Fr Elias Frank 25 - Fr Bishu Besra 26 - Fr Henry 27 - Fr Arbind	Prayer Requests Fr Sebastian Joseph Recuparating from an accident in Kerala Sr Carmeli CSST Under Treatment for Cancer in Kolkata Sr Elina Hembrom FJ Under going physio Therapy Treatment for Paralysis in Bolpur
May God bless you with His choicest blessings. HAPPY BIRTHDAY		May 05 - Fr Xavier P 05 - Fr Arockia 07 - Fr I P Sarto 10 - Fr Aruldoss 11 - Fr Sebastian R 15 - Fr Roshan 23 - Fr Devadoss	

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