



PULSE

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*Blessed Carlo Acutis
Tech Savvy Soon To Be Saint*

Synodal Virtues

By
Pope Francis



**THINKING AS
GOD THINKS**



**OVERCOMING
EXCLUSIVENESS**



**CULTIVATING
HUMILITY**

1

Thinking as God thinks

Gospel of Mark (cf. Mk 8:3)



"Let us remember that the Holy Spirit is the protagonist of the synodal journey, not we ourselves: he alone teaches us to listen to the voice of God, individually and as a Church".

Pope Francis

15/06/2024



Synodal Virtues

2

Overcoming exclusiveness

Gospel of Mark 9: 31

Synod
2021
2024



John objects to someone casting out demons in Jesus' name because they weren't part of their group. Jesus counters this exclusiveness (Mk 9:40).

"Whoever is not against us is for us"

Synod 2021 2024

Let us be attentive: our own group, our own spirituality are realities that help us journey with the People of God, but they are not privileges, for there is the danger of ending up imprisoned in these enclosures.

Gifts $\neq$ Privileges

Synod 2021 2024

The temptation of the "closed circle"

NO

- Limiting ourselves to our group's views
- Convincing ourselves we are right for everyone
- Defending positions and prestige
- Fear of losing identity by opening up to others

Synod 2021 2024

Synodality instead asks us

- to look beyond the barriers with magnanimity
- to see the presence of God and his actions even in people we do not know

New pastoral approaches & uncharted mission territories

Synod 2021 2024

Synod
2021
2024

Synodality asks us to let ourselves be moved, even "hurt", by the voice, the experience, and suffering of others: of our fellow believers and all those around us.

Be open, with an open heart.

Pope Francis

19/06/2024



3

Cultivating Humility

Gospel of Mark (cf. Mk 8:31)



Following the third announcement of the Passion, James and John ask for positions of honour next to Jesus who instead responds by inviting everyone to consider true greatness as not in being served, but in serving. In being a servant of all, for that is what he himself came to do.

The starting point of spiritual conversion must be humility!

all virtues to the gateway the door the beginning

It is sad to see

BOASTING CHRISTIANS

I am this ...
I am from ...
I do that...
My institution...
My movement...

EGOISTIC CHRISTIANS

"go, me, no, conmigo, para mí"
"I, me, with me, for me"
put themselves "at the centre"

HUMILITY
compels us to scrutinize our intentions:

- What do I really seek in my relationships?
- Why do I pursue certain initiatives within the Church?

If we detect a hint of pride or arrogance within us, then let us ask for the grace to rediscover humility.

Only the humble accomplish great things in the Church for they have a solid foundation in the love of God, which never fails, and therefore they do not seek further recognition.

It is the humble who

- safeguard communion in the Church
- avoid divisions
- overcome tensions
- set aside their own initiatives in order to contribute to joint projects
- In serving, they find joy
- no frustration or resentment

Spiritual Conversion is also fundamental for building a synodal Church.

Living synodality, at every level, is truly impossible without humility

Pope Francis
13/06/2024



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FROM THE Provincial's Desk



SPREADING THE FRAGRANCE OF LOVE AND KINDNESS

The month of June reminds us of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the expressions of His love for each one of us. He has shown us the way to love, to be kind and to give even the last drop of blood for the sake of love.

“THERE IS NO GREATER LOVE THAN THIS: THAT A PERSON WOULD LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR THE SAKE OF HIS FRIENDS.”... (John: 15:13).

The least expensive gift one can give and the easiest language of love which everyone can understand are acts of kindness. An act of kindness can totally transform the life of another person.

You have heard the story of a little girl hurriedly picking up the starfish on the sea shore and gently throwing it back to the sea. A gentleman passing by noticed her and said, “Don't you realize that there are miles and miles of beaches and millions and millions of starfish on the beach. You can't make any difference to them”. While listening to the man, the girl picked up another starfish, and carefully threw it into the water, and then replied with a smile, “Uncle, I could make difference to that one”.

All of us want to see a lot of changes in this world. Once a young man came to Osho and asked him, “Wouldn't it be good to change the world?” Osho replied, “Forget about the world. I change myself. You change yourself. Then the world will be changed”. We are familiar with Mahatma Gandhi's saying “Be the change you want to see in the world”.

This change should happen from within and not forced from outside. It is said, “If the egg is broken from outside, life ends, but if it is broken from inside, life begins”. Great things happen from your personal determination and conviction. The real change begins from inside, that is, in our mind and in our heart. Let the light within you spread around by your deeds of love and kindness.

Life is something to be celebrated with others. You can help others to make their life a celebration by spreading the fragrance of your love and kindness all around. “Love and Kindness are the most powerful, least costly and most underrated agents of human change”, quipped Bob Kerry, the former American Senator. A smile, a kind word, a soothing touch, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or a small act of help has the potential to make everyone's life beautiful. It is a gift that you can give to make a difference to everyone, everywhere and at any time.

In his famous book, *The Man Without a Country*, Edward E. Hale wrote: “I cannot do everything, but still I can do something; and because I cannot do everything, I Will not refuse to do the something that I can do” Let us join hands in making our beautiful planet a place of 'LOVE AND KINDNESS UNLIMITED'. Let's live in love and be kind to one another.

GOD BLESS!

Sr. Sini Mathew
Provincial Superior



DISSEMINATION OF CHAPTER VISION IN CREATIVITY

Sr. Nycy Joseph



*“Look to the past with gratitude, live the present with enthusiasm and embrace the future with confidence”
(Pope John Paul II).*

Mary Immaculate Province, Kolkata warmly welcomed Sr. Katherine Joseph, the General Councillor for education for the post-General Chapter animation on 28th May 2024, based on the theme ***“Creative fidelity to the founding charism and spirit: Challenges and Responses”***.

The animation was arranged into three respective phases.” The first phase of animation consisting the participation of fifty members of the province was held on 28th and 29th at the Holy Cross Retreat Centre, Pandua, wherein they had the annual spiritual retreat. The animation for the second and third group took place at Auxilium Convent, Siliguri and at St. Mary's Convent, Khemkaran, Punjab.

The two days of animation re-awakened the members with a genuine desire to be faithful to the identity as MSMHC with our unique charism and spirit, in harmonious and complementary relation with each other.

The creative exploration of the vision and policies of every field of apostolate and its in-depth teaching triggered the participants to capture the maximum to live the spirit and charism of MSMHC. Its chapter policies are the map to launch ahead with the vision and goal therefore, Sr. Katherine Joseph with her extra-ordinary gift of teaching and articulation of the key elements of the chapter, enlightened the sisters to be vigilant and faithful to the observance of rules and regulations.

As every tree is known by its fruits, the quality of MSMHC depends on each and every member belonging to it hence the vision statement and the goal of GC-X was well imparted in order to be deeply rooted in Christ and His Word.

Sr. Katherine Joseph emphasized the importance of the local level where the communities need to be dynamic in keeping the flame of our charism and spirit burning bright by their witnessing life.

The sessions were interactive, inspiring and reviving the spirit keeping in mind that through every apostolate we as missionary and universal congregation are to make a difference in the world by living the spirit and charism given us by our beloved founder.

The assembly expressed their gratefulness to dear Sr. Katherine Joseph for enlightening their minds and being a source of inspiration through her vibrant teaching and explanation of the chapter policies with profound love for the Congregation and the church.





MOTHER CHRISTINE MYNSONG TO MAAYER ASHA

Maayer Asha Ichapur

Unexpected joy & blessings: - 10th April 2024 was a lovely day for all of us at Maayer Asha, as we were privileged to be visited by our loving Mother, Christine Mynsong. It was indeed a thrilling experience as this was the first time after her election as the superior General of the congregation. Her visit brought blessing for each of us as it was an unexpected one. We thanked God for her very self and charming personality that she holds to lead and guide our beloved congregation.



Be always like lamps giving light and burning light of good examples fire of love and sanctity.
"Stephen Ferrando"



NOVICES HANDLES TASKS OF MISSION

Mission Exposure @ Dumka Parish

Sr. Dolores Kisku
Baltikuri Ichapur



As part of the missionary formation, the province of Mary Immaculate Kolkata organised a week of mission exposure program at Dumka, for the novices, organised by Sr. Meena Tirkey, the provincial councillor for Evangelization and coordinated by Sr. Regina Murmu, the provincial councillor for Formation. Organised in view of providing with the missionary experience and thrust to the novices. The 15 novices of the province along with 9 sisters ventured out for the mission on 29th January which spanned the whole week up to 5th of February.

Before setting out for the villages on 30th the missionaries had Bible enthronement and short prayer conducted by Sr. Meena Tirkey after which they were made aware of basic necessities of the people about their faith by Rev. Fr. Sonaton Kisku then the parish priest of Dumka, and were given some tips and guidance by Sr. Meena Tirkey and Sr. Regina Murmu.

The next day, missionaries were divided into 9 groups each consisting of three or four members sent to nine different villages. The missionaries experienced God's mighty hands working through them throughout their stay in the villages and had the privilege of being in the families, sharing the living condition of people, also God's love to them.



"Let our Lord Jesus Christ, the Divine Farmer of your soul take possession of your souls to cultivate it always."

"Stephen Ferrando"



RETREAT 2024: A TIME OF INTERIOR RECOLLECTION

Sr. Nycy Joseph

Every retreat is a privilege; privilege to re- connect ourselves with the divine. Mary Immaculate Province, Kolkata was indeed blessed to have its annual retreat for the first group of sisters at the Holy Cross Retreat House, Pandua, from 20th to 27th May 2024. The group consisted of 47 members of the province experienced the mercy of the Lord as they spent intensely knowing the unfolded reality of their spiritual struggle with sin, self and God is a constant reminder “to return with ten-fold zeal to seek the Lord” (Baruch 4:28). The retreat was conducted by Rev. Fr. Biji Thomas SDB, a prolific preacher and teacher of the Word of God, a spiritual trailblazer who with God's wisdom, knowledge and charisma strengthened the retreatants to experience the richness of the Word of God and the inexhaustible depths of God's teaching.



The sisters deeply remained grateful to Sr. Sini Mathew the Provincial Superior and her team for their love for the spiritual growth of the members and for sustaining them with a conducive atmosphere to have their interior recollection with the Lord.

VISION EXPOUNDS TO REALITY

Auxilium Convent School, Siliguri



In the last scholastic year 2023-24 Auxilium Convent School Siliguri touched a new milestone on 31st October 2023, when CISCE (Council for Indian School Certificate Examination) approved the institution's request to introduce ISC curriculum from the academic session 2024-25.

The announcement of ISC affiliation filled the hearts and minds of every Auxilian with joy. In this direction, the institution took the pride to introduce **Arts and Commerce** stream and started off to welcome the students of **Class XI** by organizing a grand **Inaugural Ceremony on 22nd April '24** with Rev. Sr. Sini Mathew,

the Provincial Superior as its guest of honor.

The program began with the Bible reading and reflection and lighting of lamp invoking God's blessings upon the new venture. The joining of young blood in the form of Class XI students lit the Auxilium sky with twinkling stars of unending pleasure. Their arrival to the Auxilium family is the beginning of a new spell of hope and aspirations. Provincial declared class XI open officially and motivated the young auxilians with her inspirational talk. The Sisters and teachers in Auxilium family took a pledge to commit themselves in the service of these students so that their hidden talents can be explored and they become real lights in the society. The event turned out to be a momentous day in the diary of ACS coupled with few zestful performances.

“We cannot go to heaven by the road of pleasures and comforts.”

“Stephen Ferrando”



ST. MARY'S MASSIVE PROGRESS: PERMANENT AFFILIATION TO CISCE, NEW DELHI

St. Mary's Convent,
Kudda

On 8th January 2024 St. Mary's School Kudda had the inspection for the ISC Up gradation. The CISCE Board New Delhi appointed Fr. Jose Thekel the Principal of St Francis Xavier School, Shamli, Uttar Pradesh to be the inspector. The day was also graced with the presence of Sr. Anice Sebastian the Provincial Economer and Sr. Philomena Kharryja. Fr. Jose Thekel left positive impressions on the school and its management.



“May the glory of the Lord endure forever May the lord rejoices in his works”

The corridors of St.Mary's School Kudda echoed with joy as on 22nd February 2024, the school got the permission for the ISC Up-Gradation and a certificate of affiliation upgraded. The Sisters rejoiced on this day and offered a special thanksgiving Holy Rosary to Our Blessed Lady for her intercession and offered a Thanksgiving Holy Eucharist.

The school had another inspection for the Permanent Affiliation by Mr. Rakesh Kumar Chatthree the Principal of Christ Church College Lucknow on 11th March 2024. On witnessing the great progress that the school has made Mr. Chatthree assured that the school will soon get Permanent Affiliation.

THE LONG-AWAITED DAY COMES TO FULFILLMENT:

Finally, on 3rd May 4, 2024 the CISCE New Delhi granted PERMANENT AFFILIATION to St. Mary's School Kudda. The sisters with tears of joy embraced these great blessings and thanked the almighty for His marvelous love.



“I exhort you to be really Eucharistic souls.”
“Stephen Ferrando”





UN – UNITED NATIONS MEETS MSMHC KOLKATA

Auxilium Convent, Siliguri

The community of Auxilium Convent, Siliguri had the rare privilege to interact with Dr. Dominic F. Dixon an Executive Director of United Nations association for Development and Peace (UNADAP) and International Diplomatic alliance (IDA).

The meeting was held on the evening of 12th April, 2024 at the Postulants study Hall. The Postulants rendered a warm welcome to the esteemed guests along with Fr. CM Paul, The Vice Principal of the deanery of sciences, Salesian College Siliguri, Autonomous.

Mr. Dominic Dixon a renowned catholic and who is also a Doctorate holder in Psychology shared his life experiences and how he battled through challenges to reach the place where he right now is. He also talked about faith and experience of God in his address to the sisters and Postulants.

His life filled with inspiring and challenging stories indeed was an inspiration for the gathering. The session concluded with a moment of interactions based on his personal life and his work as an executive Director of UNADAP.

Dr. Dominic Dixon is distinguished as a world leading Foreign Policy, climate change and Renewable Energy Authority with an unapparelled legacy of 18 years in the vanguard of international transformation and international relations. He is accredited with the United Nations office at Vienna, Geneva and New York.

Author of seven books, his latest book is called, "CLIMATE CHANGED: Global Warming to Global boiling"



"Let nothing trouble you; we are the children of God who loves us."
Stephen Ferrando





EMPOWERING WOMEN, EMPOWERING NATION

Nirmal Sadan Khategaon,
Indore

On 21.03.2024 Women's Day program was organized at Nirmal Sadan Khategaon Centre. The programme was graced by the presence of Rev. Fr. Mukesh Machar, the parish priest, from IDSSS (Indore Diocese Social Service) Sir Jaideep, Miss Roshal, Sr. Taramani Kujur the in charge of social work and Mr. Rajesh Bakore the animator at central level. The day's main Chief Guests was Dr. Pahlavi Shukla from Khategaon, and Miss Papita Kumre, Anganbari teacher from Nayapura Bajgaon was the guest of honor.

Around 56 women from 5 villages participated in the program. The program started with a welcoming address by Mr. Rajesh Bakore the animator. The message was given on the importance of the role of a mother in the family and how a mother can become a good leader. Everyone was enlightened through the inspirational and thought-provoking messages from all the chief guests.

There was presentation of the colorful work sequence given by the women. The program was well organized under the leadership of Sr. Taramani Kujur and the animator Mr. Rajesh Bakore. With the help of IDSS gifts were distributed for all. Everyone enjoyed spending the day in the company of one another. Delicious meal was provided for all the participants.



REV. BISHOP CHACKO TO ST. MARY'S CONVENT SCHOOL KHATEGAON



On 20th February 2024 Rev. Bishop Chacko head of the Institute visited St. Mary's Convent School. The children and the whole school staff welcomed Swamiji with a welcome song and few program.

Be at peace with yourself and others.
Stephen Ferrando"



ANNUAL ASSESSMENT AT NIRMAL SADAN - KHATEGAON

On 20.02.2024 as usual every year from IDSSS (Indore Diocese Social Service) Rev. Bishop Chacko, Rev. Fr. Martin Kujur Director of IDSSS and Mrs. Nita Mam arrived at Nirmal Sadan Khategaon at 11.am for the annual assessment of social work.

Sr. Taramani Kujur officially welcomed Rev. Bishop Swamiji, Rev. Fr. Martin Kujur the Director of IDSSS and Nita Mam and then one by one the beneficiaries were called to share their experiences on how the social work is being carried out by the sisters and animator in the center of Khategaon and what are the benefits they get by the IDSSS.

All of them were happy about the work which Sister Taramani Kujur and the animator carries out in Khategaon. From each village 6 members and 15 tailoring members were present. On that day by the help and support of IDSSS 15 women got sewing machine who accomplished their training. They were motivated to strengthened their alternate livelihood by being self-employed in their respective places to support their families.

After the evaluation there was separately short meeting along with Rev. Bishop Swamiji, Rev. Fr. Martin Kujur, Rev. Fr. Mukesh Machar, Sr. Taramani Kujur, Mrs. Nita Mam and Mr. Rajesh Bakore. The social work carried out in Khategaon was much appreciated.

From Nirmal Sadan Khategaon, around 25 kilometers away there are three rural villages Malsagoda, Biloda and Nimora. In these villages by the help and support of IDSSS the sisters are carrying out social work. In these villages they have opened NFE centers and formed the SHG (Self-help group). The people over there are very poor, ignorant, undeveloped, and illiteracy is widespread.

In MP month of December and January is very cold and unbearable. One day fortunately Sr. Taramani Kujur happened to visit those three NFE centers. And she saw more than half of the children had come for classes without warm clothes; they were really trembling. On seeing their condition Sr. Taramani Kujur approached the Bank Manager of Union Bank of India, Indore, Mr. Ajit Kumar Ldwani, and shared with him about the work which the sisters are doing and the situation the rural villages are facing. By hearing he was generous and kind enough, within two days on 6th November 2023, along with three of his staff members he came to distribute sweaters for NFE children and shawl for the SHG members. Sr. Tara thanked them for their quick response and understanding towards the poor people.



"You have always Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and in your sorrows go to him."
"Stephen Ferrando"



ZONAL LEVEL PRINCIPALS AND ALL ECONOMER MEET

Auxilium Convent, Siliguri

On 8th June, 2024, Saturday, the North Bengal region school Principal's and Economer meeting was organized by Sr. Anice Sebastian, Provincial Economer and Sr. Agnes Baiju George, the Provincial Councilor for Education. It was held in Auxilium Convent, Siliguri. Sr. Agnes Baiju George enlightened the sisters regarding common way of functioning of the schools. She also spoke on AI (Artificial Intelligence). Sr. Anice informed the sister concerning administration of the school and online fee payment. It was indeed a time of sharing and exchange of ideas as well.



MOMENT OF REVITALIZATION

Deborah Khalthang
Salesian College Hostel, Siliguri

A one-day animation programme was held at Auxilium Convent Siliguri, on 6th of March 2024, for the juniors of North Bengal region.

The animation initiated by Sr. Sini Mathew, the Provincial Superior and Sr. Regina Murmu, the provincial councillor for Formation was based on vocation and personal conviction on one's call.

Sr. Sini Mathew, the provincial exhorted the juniors to be deeply rooted in the person of Christ to be authentic in living the religious life. She also spoke on the importance of having specific goal in life, and the indispensable need of diligence and hard work to achieve it.

“Formation and consecration”, was the theme item of Sr. Regina Murmu the councillor for formation. She

reminded the sisters that the purpose of being a disciple of Christ is to acquire the heart and mind of Christ, to pray daily for the perseverance of one's vocation and to be faithful to personal formation.

Few of the juniors shared their life experiences and insights from the animation. The four hours long animation was concluded with a vote of thanks and a short prayer by Sr. Sini Mathew the provincial.

Twelve young sisters who are in their probation period attended the animation.

It was a graceful and enriching experience.



POPE PROCLAIMS JUBILEE:

'May Hope Fill Our Days!'

At a ceremony in St Peter's Basilica on Ascension Thursday, Pope Francis solemnly proclaims the upcoming Jubilee Year 2025, consigning the Bull of Indiction – “*Spes non confundit. Hope does not disappoint*” – to the Archpriests of the Papal Basilicas and representatives of the world's bishops.

“**Hope**” is the overarching theme of the upcoming Ordinary Jubilee of 2025, a theme reflected in the opening words of the *Bull of Indiction*, entitled “*Spes non confundit. Hope does not disappoint.*”

Long passages of the Bull were read out ahead of Vespers on Ascension Thursday, during a ceremony in which the document was solemnly consigned to the Archpriests of the four Papal Basilicas, the Pro-Prefects of the Dicastery for Evangelization, and representatives of the world's Bishops.



Solemn proclamation of the Bull of Indiction of the 2025 Jubilee

SOLEMN OPENING OF THE HOLY DOORS

Pope: May the Jubilee be a time to rediscover, Proclaim, build hope

In *Spes non confundit*, Pope Francis announces that the Jubilee Year will begin with the opening of the Holy Door of St Peter's Basilica on Christmas Eve, 2024.

Later, on 29 December, the Pope will open the Holy Door of the Archbasilica of St John Lateran, the Cathedral of Rome. On the same day, every Cathedral and co-Cathedral throughout the world will have Mass celebrated by the local Bishop to mark the opening of the Jubilee.

On the Solemnity of Mary, the mother of God, 1 January 2025, Pope Francis will open the Holy Door for the Basilica of St Mary Major, with the Holy Door for the Basilica of St Paul's Outside the Walls being opened on Sunday, 5 January, the Vigil of Epiphany.

“In the course of the year,” Pope Francis writes, “every effort should be made to enable the People of God to participate fully in its proclamation of hope in God's grace and in the signs that attest to their efficacy.”



Reading of selections from "Spes nonconfundit"

The Jubilee will end in the particular Churches throughout the world on 28 December 2025, with the Holy Doors of St John Lateran, St Mary Major, and St Paul's Outside the Walls being closed on that same date.

And finally, the Jubilee Year will draw to a close in Rome on the Solemnity of Epiphany, 6 January 2026.

An opportunity to be renewed in hope

“Everyone knows what it is to hope,” the Pope wrote in the introduction to the Bull. “In the heart of each person, hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite our not knowing what the future will bring.”

Expressing his desire that the Jubilee might be “an opportunity for us to be renewed in hope, Pope Francis recalled that pilgrimage is “a fundamental event of every Jubilee event,” traditionally associated with the human quest for the meaning of life. The artistic masterpieces and the beauty of creation we see on our journey inspire us to praise and thank God for His wondrous works.

In particular, he invited all the particular churches throughout the world to prepare priests and the faithful for Sacramental Confession, which should be readily available throughout the year.



Pope Francis proclaims the Jubilee

In a special way, Pope Francis invited the faithful of the Eastern Churches, especially those already in union with the Successor of Peter, to take part in the Jubilee, and to feel welcome in the city of Rome, noting how many are already “enduring their own way of the Cross,” forced to leave their lands by violence and instability.

The light of Christian Hope

The Holy Father prayed, too, that during the Holy Year, “the light of Christian hope might illumine every man and woman, as a message of God's love addressed to all,” and that “the Church might bear faithful witness to this message in every part of the world.”

Reading the “signs of the times,” Pope Francis noted the desire for peace in a world increasingly marked by violence and conflict, and the loss of a desire to have children, with many countries facing a “demographic winter.” He called for a social covenant to support and foster hope.

The Pope appealed especially for prisoners, recalling the tradition of offering amnesty or pardons during Jubilees, and said he hopes to personally open a Holy Door in a prison, “as a sign inviting prisoners to look to the future with hope and a renewed sense of confidence.” And he called for prisoners to be treated in accord with their rights and dignity, while once again pleading for the abolition of the death penalty.

The Bull continues with Pope Francis urging that hope be offered to the sick, to the young and to the elderly – especially grandparents, to migrants and to the poor.

The Holy Father recalled that the fruits of the earth are intended for all, and encouraged everyone to come to the assistance of the poor. In particular, he called on richer nations to forgive the debts of countries that will never be able to repay them.

Recalling that 2025 is the 1700th anniversary of the First Ecumenical Council, Pope Francis urged expressions of synodality, and renewed efforts to further Christian unity. He appealed especially for progress to be made toward a common celebration of Easter, noting that in 2025, providentially, all Christians will celebrate the Paschal mystery on the same date.

“We are nothing we can do nothing, but if Jesus is with us, we have nothing to be afraid.”
“Stephen Ferrando”



A Holy Year Marked By Hope



Consigning the Bull of Indiction

Pope Francis insisted that Christian hope, rooted in Christ's death and resurrection for each human person, points to our final destiny, eternal happiness with God in heaven. We are saved by God's mercy, seen especially in the gift of indulgences: While Confession washes away our sins, indulgences – including the Jubilee Indulgence – remove the effects of sins forgiven in the Sacrament. In the Bull of Indiction, the Pope notes that the specific conditions for receiving the indulgence will be published soon.

The Holy Father concludes the Bull with a final note of hope, praying that “the coming Jubilee will be a Holy Year marked by the hope that does not fade, our hope in God”; and that it might help us recover “the confident trust we require in the Church and in society, in our interpersonal relationships, in international relations, and in our task of promoting the dignity of all persons and respect for God's gift of creation.”

“Let us even now be drawn to this hope!”

Spes non confundit ends with Pope Francis exclaiming, “Let us even now be drawn to this hope!” He calls on Christians to live a life in keeping with their faith, as a witness and an invitation to all to “hope in the Lord.”

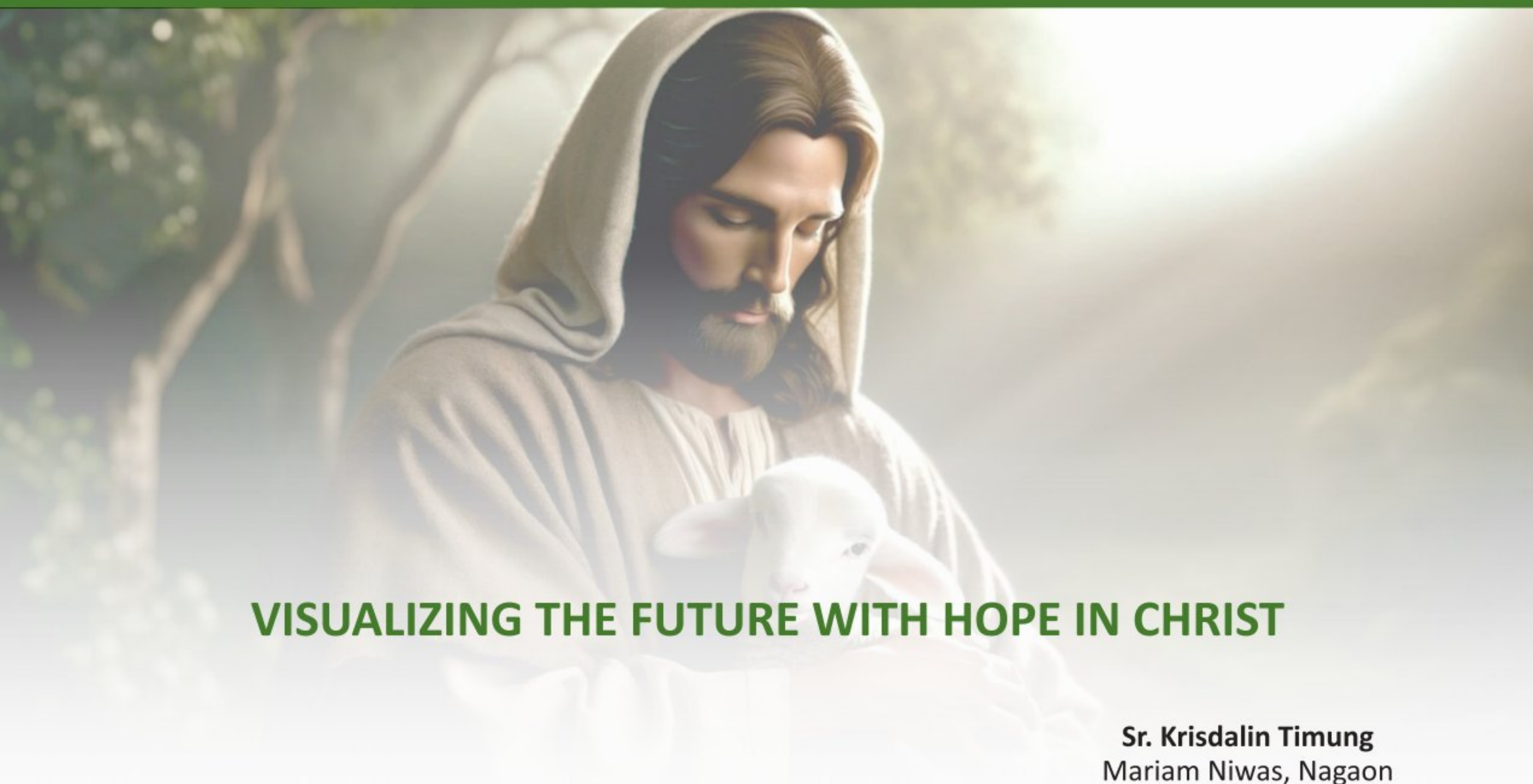
“May the power of hope fill our days,” the Pope says, “as we await with confidence the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and glory, now and forever.

Source: Vatican News Portal, Rome

“Put all your trust in God. Centre in Him all your fear and all your love. He will make Himself responsible for you, and all will go well, as He sees best.”

“Stephen Ferrando”





VISUALIZING THE FUTURE WITH HOPE IN CHRIST

Sr. Krisdalin Timung
Mariam Niwas, Nagaon

In the vast stretch of the universe, where possibilities seem boundless and uncertainties loom large, the power of envisioning the future with hope becomes our guiding beacon. It is through this lens of optimism that we can plot a route to the complexities of life, conquer challenges, and strive towards a brighter tomorrow. Visualizing the future with hope is so fundamental in our life especially as we venture to the unknown future. In a world often weighed down by crises, caused by environmental, social, or personal, it is easy to succumb to despair and nihilism. However, Hope serves as a counterforce to these negative emotions, offering a ray of light amidst the darkness. When we visualize the future with hope, we strike into our innate capacity for resilience and optimism. We see beyond the immediate challenges and setbacks, envisioning a world where solutions are possible, where progress is attainable, and where dreams can be realized. In elementary nature, hope is the fuel that propels us forward, even when the road ahead seems daunting.

But how do we cultivate this mindset of hopeful visualization? Sometimes, it seems as though hope is just vanishing away. But the astonishing truth is that God has a remedy. That's not unusual; He is the God of Hope! His remedy is unique and distinct. His Holy Spirit wants to overflow our lives with hope. Anchoring our hope in Christ can save us from misfortune and fill our life with such great joy. There is no greater hope than the everlasting hope found in our Lord Jesus Christ and the sufficiency of His Word. Hope has a name, and it's Jesus Christ.

Jesus, our living hope, is a person (1 Tim. 1:1; John 20:26-28). All too often, we try to put our hope in things that the world offers: programs, plans, steps, outlines, coping strategies, therapies, philosophies, false beliefs etc. These all can deliver temporary hope, but they leave us without satisfaction. It is in Him that we must place our ultimate hope through humble repentance and faith. And, this person is unlike any other: He's the preeminent one. He's the exalted one. He's the all-sufficient One. He is the glorious Christ!

In Jesus, we have a blessed hope; He will return, St. Paul describes Christians as "looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ" (Titus 2:13). How amazing is it that

"The more we love Him the more we long to be united to Him and the more we long to pray."
"Stephen Ferrando"



this life is not all that we have? Sometimes it is easy to be so focused on day-to-day living that we forget that our Savior is coming to gather us to Himself on the appointed day and then we will never be separated from Him or His holiness. It is our ecstasy that we will spend eternity together and sing his praises forever more.

How much less significant do some matter in our life appear when compared to eternity? When we lose sight of eternity, we lose sight of what is important (2 Cor. 4:16). When we lose sight of what's important, we chase after the temporary things of this world and cannot find contentment. We are left empty and hopeless. Instead, let us fix our hope in the love of Christ and the grace to be revealed when He returns (Eph. 3:14-21; 1 Pet. 1:13).

Colossians 1:27 says, "Christ in you, the hope of glory." Our hope is not distant off from us. Christ isn't secluded from us—He's right there in our lives. Because Jesus is always with us and lives in us, we can be sure that He hears us when we pray. Jesus is personally involved with us, everywhere, all the time (Ps. 139:7-10). God isn't simply with us; He harmonizes our lives for good. God is right in the focal point of it with us. Even in difficult circumstances, we can have hope because God in His sovereignty has us right where He wants us to be. Whether it is to grow us in faith or draw us closer to Him, God has us where we are for a reason, and He is sustaining us through each difficulty (Isa. 41:10; Rom. 5:1-5).

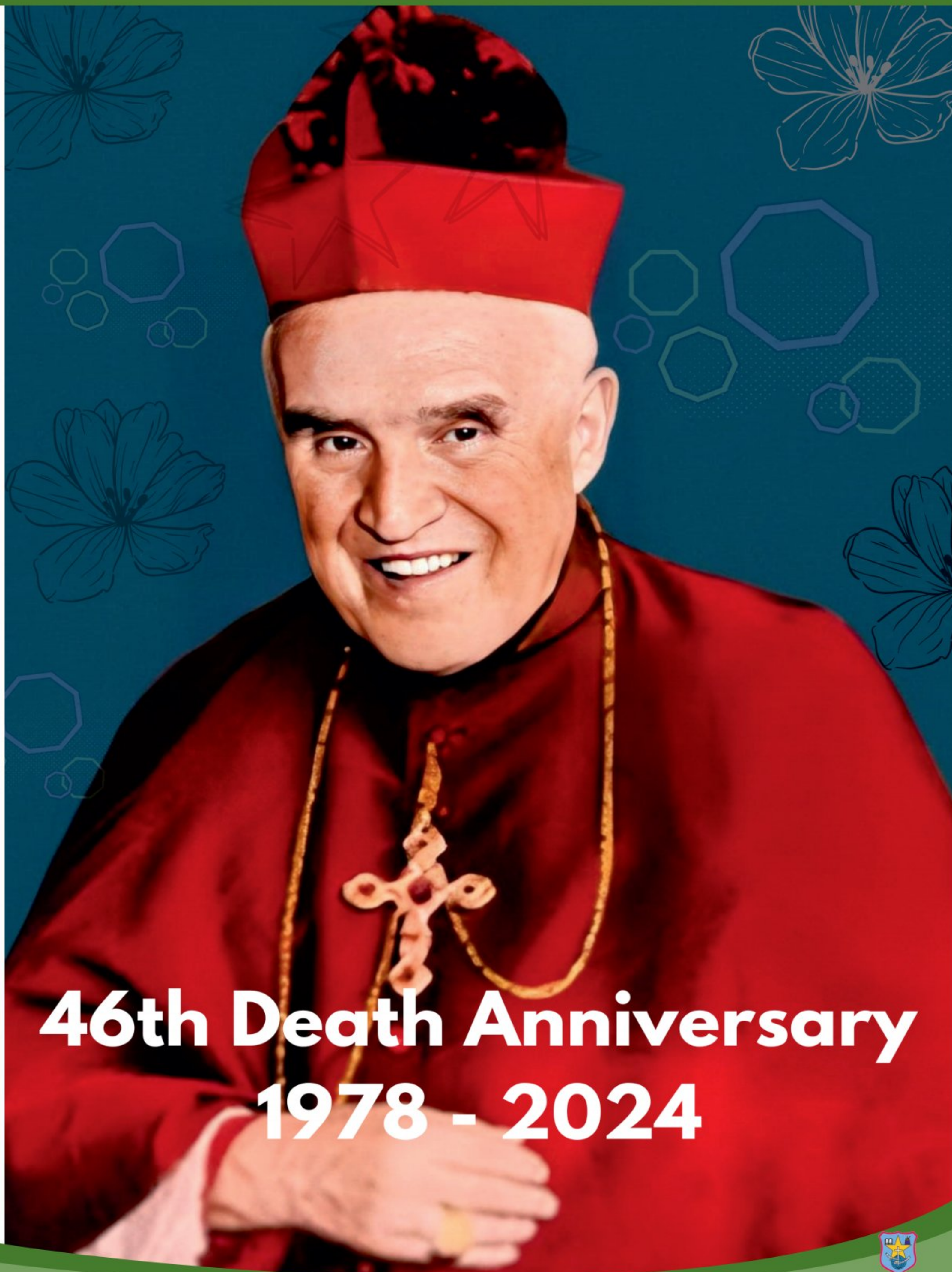
When we are covered and surrounded by pressure-filled circumstances, our persuasion is to put our hope in changing the circumstances. We tell ourselves, "If only these things which I wanted were to happen, then my life would be better." Instead of focusing on our situation, we need to turn our eyes to the resurrected Christ. We find resurrected life only in our resurrected Lord. Instead of trying harder and "pushing through," we must put our hope in Christ. That is what brings us living hope. There's no situation so difficult, impossible, agonizing, and exhaust of vitality that the risen Lord cannot share His resurrected life with us and see us through it, and if He so wills, even deliver us out of that situation. May we, today, find help, hope, and comfort in Jesus Christ, our living hope.

Hope in Christ is not a blurred expectation or uncertain searching. It is a solid trust in Him and His Word. Visualizing the future with hope in Christ encompasses a profound belief in the promise of redemption, renewal, and ultimate triumph over adversity. Hope in Christ encourages us to approach the future with faith, suppleness, and compassion, striving to personify the principles of love, forgiveness, and service. While admitting that the future may hold trials and tribulations, it is certain that when we visualize the future through the lens of Christ's hope, we find solace, purpose, and a deep-seated optimism that transcends circumstances.

"Preserve in our Convents the Spirit of Joy, of trust in God, of being one united by the bond of charity."

Stephen Ferrando





46th Death Anniversary 1978 - 2024



AUXILIUM OBSERVES 46TH DEATH ANNIVERSARY OF FOUNDER

Auxilium Convent, Siliguri



The 20 of June, 2024, was the 46th death anniversary of our beloved father and founder venerable Stephen Ferrando. Auxilium convent community Siliguri observed this day keenly.

The day's events commenced with the solemn celebration of the Holy Mass, which was presided over by Fr. John Berger, the Parish Priest. During the homily he spoke particularly focusing on Bishop Ferrando's extraordinary missionary fervour and his tireless efforts to spread the Christian faith in North East India. He recounted stories of Ferrando's dedication, compassion, and unwavering commitment to his mission, inspiring the sisters and postulants with examples of Ferrando's life and work.

After the Holy Mass, the community gathered for a sumptuous supper, fostering a sense of fellowship and love. The evening culminated with a creative exhibition displayed by the postulants that detailed the life and accomplishments of Venerable Stephen Ferrando.

This exhibition offered a vivid portrayal of our founder's journey, from his early life up to the founding of our Congregation through his dedicated missionary work. The exhibition featured a variety of elements. One of the standout aspects of the exhibition was that the Postulants were using storytelling form to explain on the life journey of our founder which provided insightful commentary and context for each exhibit, helping the audience to understand the significance of the items they displayed.

Their narratives highlighted Ferrando's missionary zeal, his compassion, and his unwavering commitment to his faith and love for the poor which led to the founding of the congregation. This storytelling and wonderful sharing by the Postulants made the exhibition not only a visual experience but also an emotional and intellectual journey. All the community sisters witnessed the wonderful exhibition presented by them. They appreciated and applauded their hard work, attentive engagement and creativity with the exhibits and the numerous discussions, learning and reflections on the life of our beloved founder.

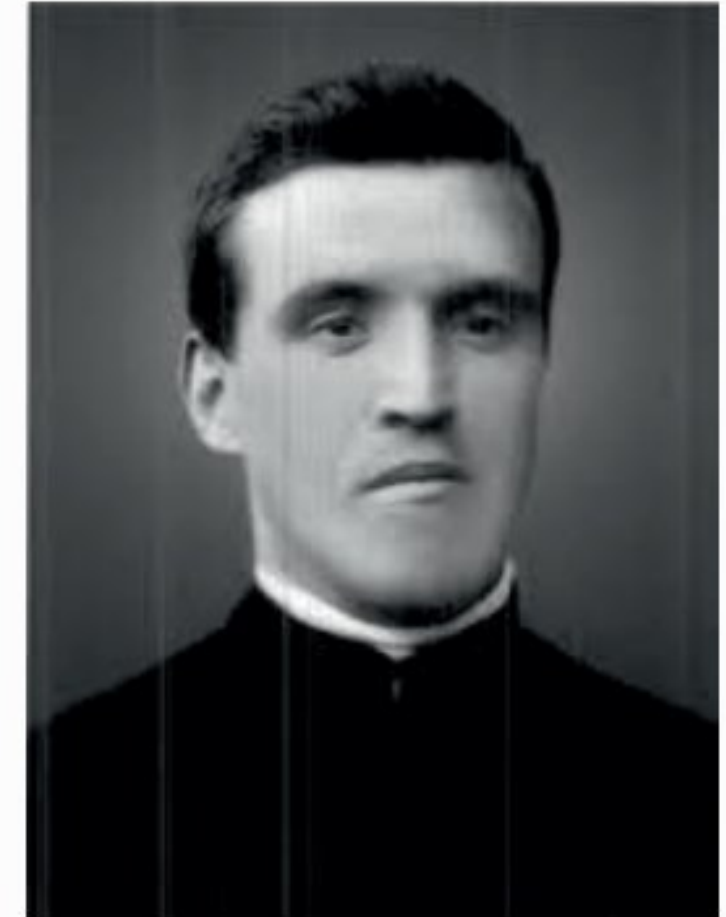
The exhibition succeeded not only in honouring Venerable Stephen Ferrando's memory but also in inspiring the sisters to carry forward his legacy with renewed passion and dedication. The day's observance was not only a tribute to Bishop Ferrando's legacy but also a reaffirmation of the values and mission he instilled in his beloved daughters.



"We must learn to love more and more our vocation, to detach ourselves from this world."
Stephen Ferrando

WORKING FOR THE SALVATION OF SOULS

Sr. Dimaya Mary L. Amdep
Ferrando Convent, Oodlabari



The mission of the father is the mission of saving souls through Jesus Christ. Jesus calls everyone to participate in this mission of saving souls. St. John Chrysostom tells us that nothing is more acceptable to God than the salvation of souls. If we wish to honor God, we can do no better than labour on behalf of the salvation of souls." Our Blessed Mother Mary and St. Joseph's mission was to save the child Jesus and by saving Jesus, they in turn saved countless of souls. For the only purpose of Jesus' coming into the world was to save mankind from the slavery of sin (Mt 1:21). If the purpose of Jesus' coming was very clear, what would be the purpose of our calling? Surely, our calling too is to take part in the plan of salvation and to save millions of souls who are crying for relief from the slavery of Satan. Venerable Stephen Ferrando loved Mary and Joseph very much because he knew without them it would be impossible for God the Father to accomplish His work of saving mankind. In imitation of Mary and Joseph Ferrando tried his level best to save souls for Christ all through his earthly pilgrimage. Today, we are the replica of him that is why he strongly exhorted us his spiritual daughters to save souls.

He wrote that Jesus has chosen you (MSMHC) to bring to Him many and many souls (from the heart, 16). Jesus wants all of you to save souls (p 25). He wants MSMHC to be true Missionaries of Jesus, Mary and Joseph by saving many souls. He said the religious consecration calls to live like a victim which is immolated everyday for the salvation of souls (43).

MSMHC should accept suffering when it comes for the sake of Jesus in order to save many souls for Him. They must work zealously to save souls (53). As their spiritual Father, he blesses them to have the true spirit of apostolate to save many souls for Jesus (54). He urges them to work and work very much to save souls but first their own souls (73). He said they ought to live only for Jesus in order to bring souls to Him (106). They are obliged to be charitable to one another for by their charity they will draw all souls to Jesus Christ the Lord (179). Fr. Kenny asserted that the beautiful title MSMHC should impulse them to work with zeal for God and for the salvation of souls (MSCA, chronicles 1965).

*"The inner most strength of the Congregation is within your soul.
The beauty and the greatness of the Congregation is within you."*
Stephen Ferrando



Walk the Path: Embrace the Choice

Sr. Christina Ekka
Ferrando Convent, Bandel

*In love we tread a familiar path,
Where many find solace and cheer,
Upon this well-trod journey's ease,
Gentle happiness we embrace,*

*Yet the less traversed trails await,
Inviting challenges and grit,
A test to strength and boundless will,
In which true contentment is knit.*

*Bishop Ferrando, a beacon bright,
Inspires us, casting a profound light,
He chose the road less ventured, true,
Found God's hand, shining and bright.*

*Untrodden miles he boldly trod,
Leaving behind a legacy grand,
A missionary's journey, his gift
A noble guide across North East India.*

*In his footsteps, we aspire to stride,
Extending compassion far and wide,
Touching lives with healing embrace,
Fulfilling our purpose, side by side.*

*Stephen's simplicity is the soul of excellent
Purity of heart is the key stone to heaven.
Stephen Ferrando you are now in paradise,
Bless your daughters with sacredness of life.*



Wounded Heart

Sr. Dimaya Mary Amdeb
Ferrando Convent, Oodlabari

*Heart so wounded and broken,
Divine love so complete and splendid;
There is nothing left to regret, for He gives all thing possible.
Affluent man can't grasp the length and weight of it,
Nor he able to taste the sweetness of it;
Like a shadow it vanishes in his eyes he who discarded.*

*Love never ceases in Him whose heart is wounded.
For it is not led by feelings or emotions,
But it is a being and a giving;
A giving in its Supreme act of expression;
A greatest sacrifice ever made,
To spring forth the fountain of grace to all generations.*

*Wounded heart so meek and mild,
Ever shines so pure and bright,
Blessings to the enemies,
Forgiveness in bountiful;
A heart that thirst to love and to forgive;
To heaven for souls, He longs.*

*Venerable Stephen Ferrando a lover of that wounded heart;
He fixed his eyes to love like He would have loved;
In season and out of season he journeyed the extra miles,
to heal the broken hearts,
To love the unloved, the lost and rejected,
He was a Good Samaritan, who bandaged and healed,
Following the Master's footsteps.*

*As daughters of Bishop Ferrando, we
Leave behind comfort, whispers he,
Urging us to persist and strive,
For soul's salvation, our mission clear.*

Beauty of Simplicity

Sr. Lisnora Mary Jana
Auxilium Pre-novitiate, Siliguri

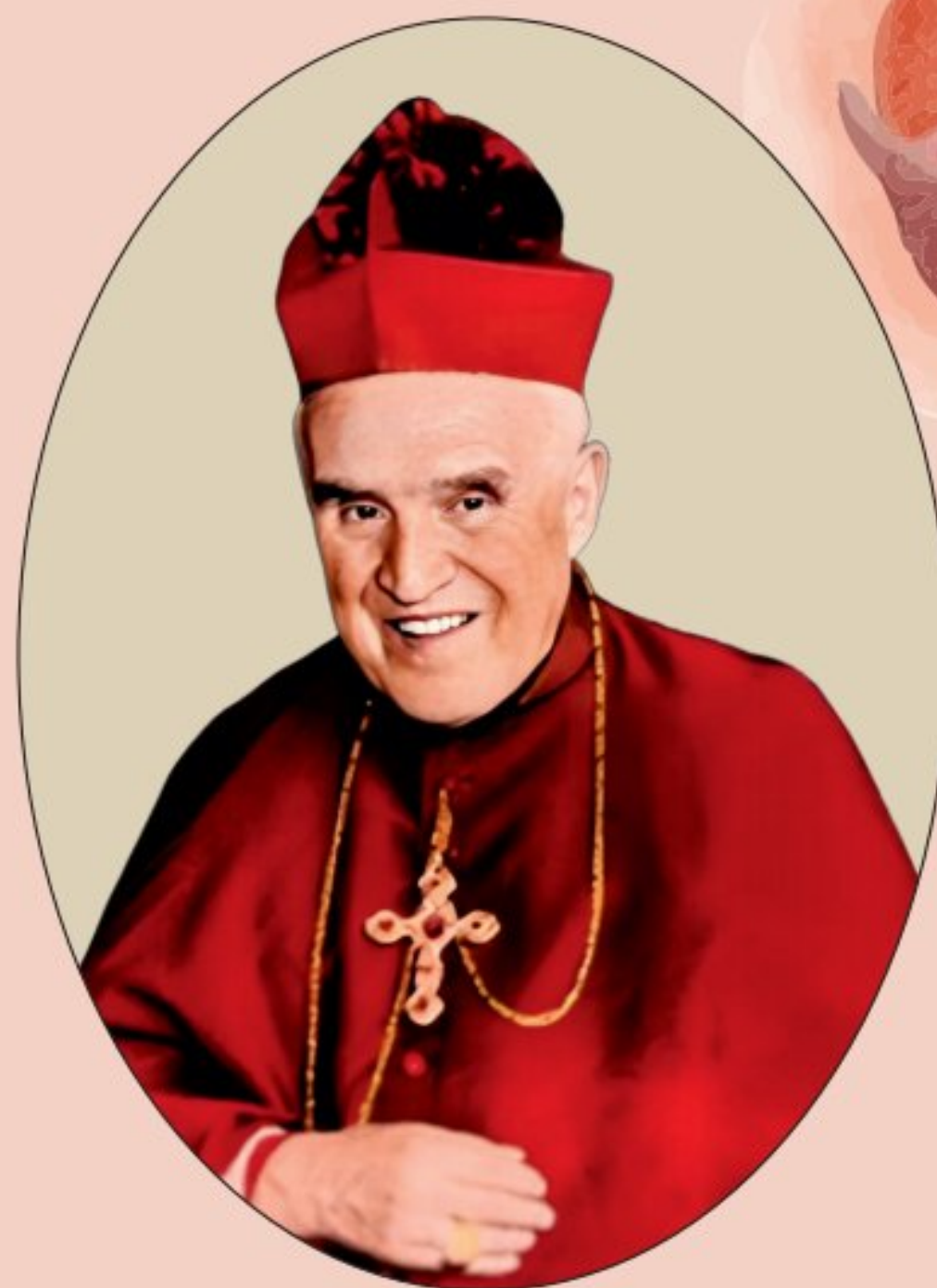
*Simple people have great thoughts
Who live simple are captivated by God
Stephen Ferrando did believe in simple living.
His greatness of life, ever retrieving.*

*Stephen Ferrando never demonstrated his simplicity
Yet his saintly life was captivated by humanity.
His transparency was not for exhibition
But lived simple and zealously for mission.*

*Beauty of the soul lies in the simplicity of life.
Never looked at how ugly someone can be in life.
His respect and praise for others was with sympathy.
That was his simplicity in reality.*

*Simplicity in his nature brings humility to his life.
His purpose of life was to yield souls to paradise
By touching many hearts with loving tenderness,
Crowning reward the final achievement of his greatness.*

*With cheerfulness, the mission you carried,
With humble heart you went forth to search souls.
Your humbleness that had drawn many souls.
O Stephen Ferrando a real soldier of Christ
Intercede for us too.*



Christ's Soldier

Aspirant, Charis Esther Kharkongor,
Ferrando Convent, Ambari

*Stephen Ferrando, a faithful man,
God's love, you received to give,
Humanity hearts you had won through love,
The greater flock to tend, yourself you lost
The vow that you took, His soldier to be.
Trials came, yet indomitable you stood.*

*O Stephen Ferrando, O valiant man
A courageous and compassionate heart
The fame, position of the world you got
In your eyes it is just a vanity
Yourself you put aside, God's will you grasp
To him a living sacrifice you gave.*

*O Stephen Ferrando, O humble man
Master and savior's steps you imitated*

*With cheerfulness, the mission you carried,
With humble heart you went forth to search
souls.
Your humbleness that had drawn many souls.
O Stephen Ferrando a real soldier of Christ
Intercede for us too.*



FAVOUR RECEIVED THROUGH THE INTERCESSION OF VENERABLE STEPHEN FERRANDO

Sr. Taramani Kujur
Indore

A certain Hindu family from Ajnas village, Indore, would often come to attend Sunday's Holy Mass with requests to pray for their safe delivery. According to doctor normal delivery would be complicated and the life of both the child and mother would be in danger. So, he suggested for the operation. The family desiring a normal delivery requested the sisters to pray. the Nirmal Sadan community prayed the nine days novena to our beloved Father and Founder Venerable Stephen



Ferrando and also offered Holy Mass. During the novena days and before delivery the mother was ill. Miraculously, the mother had a normal delivery while on the way to the hospital. The Child was kept in ICU since the child's health was not in good



condition. The sisters and the family members continued to pray to Venerable Stephen Ferrando and the Lord worked miracle in the life of the child and the mother. Now both are enjoying good health and the whole family is happy. In gratitude the family distributed sweets to the parishioners and for all. They regularly attend the Holy mass from then on.

May

- A Month of Blessings

Ferrando Convent
Ambari

The devotion to Blessed Mother Mary is an inseparable entity of our life. Our Founder Venerable Stephen Ferrando said, "The month of May is the most beautiful month of the year".

On 30th May the Ferrando Convent, Ambari, beamed with joy, to honor our blessed Mother Mary. The community enthusiastically and eagerly kept ready the convent and decorated the statue of Mother Mary to be carried during the procession. Kuchumoni Villagers joined the procession. The young, old, kids in their mother's arms took part in the procession. The children eagerly carried the candles beside Mother Mary's statue.

Fortunately, or unfortunately, during the procession, showers of rain poured down like a blessing. Yet, everyone prayed so devoutly in the midst of thunder, darkness and rain. At the end Fr. Mathias gave a short talk. He explained clearly about the Holy Rosary.

Sr. Emrencia Minj finally thanked everyone for this memorable day to honor our Blessed Mother.





*Sweet memories of you lingers on in our hearts dear Sr. Emelia
Pray for us in Heaven*



A Saintly Soul

WHO LIVED WITH US....

Sr. Lincy Varghese
Ferrando Convent, Bandel

On this life journey we meet many persons who come into our lives to light up the way. We draw many lessons from them to be led by their life example and live a better life. I strongly believe that the persons who encountered Christ in life lives and will live a graceful life now and later. My belief was strengthened as I got a chance to live with Sr. Emilia Tirkey during her last year.

Sr. Emelia or Nanny as she would be called lovingly by all, melted every heart who reached out to her in compassion and love. She had a good word and a beautiful smile for all. She asked the well being of the one who visited her; even ready to share her meal. She was the centre of affection of the community sisters and the aspirants. They visited her with toffees as she enjoyed it with bright eyes and big smiles. For every little thing she said, "thank you". Even there was very less memory one could make out her love for the superiors, *'Thank you superia...thank you provincial...'* it was all quite charming to listen. She was so lucky that provincial community often visited her, also the priests and the sisters of the neighboring communities.

She was very healthy till her last stage. Except the weakness of the old age there was nothing much that troubled her. She joined her sisters in heaven on 5th May 2024 which fell on a Sunday. When Sr. Superior found her uneasy and not taking food, she called on the priest for the last sacrament. She was lucky to receive the anointing of the sick and the holy communion on that day.

Jesus in the Eucharist never missed to visit her daily. Sensing the urgency of the time the sisters and aspirants surrounded her with unceasing prayers till she breathed her last. We could see her lips were moving with prayers. Her eyes were fixed in the air and her face beamed with a joyous smile. We could understand that she was having the heavenly vision and that the holy angels and the blessed virgin along with her Son appeared to her.

At 7.25 PM her breath became faster and she found little difficulty in breathing. All the sisters of the community gathered round her.

Sr. Jacinta Jyrwa, the Superior of the house, whispered a prayer in her ear and assured her saying, 'Sr. Emilia Jesus loves you'. With these words she made her kiss the crucifix which she often loved to do. With a drop of tear dripping from her eyes our dear sister then breathed her last, so peacefully like an angel.

There was brightness on her face which seemed to have been lit by her vision of the face of Christ. That Smile never parted her lips a victorious smile of a soul who loved Jesus and Mary very much.



"Our Congregation was born in humility, poverty and in the serenity of Bethlehem, was born in humility to help the humblest one."

"Stephen Ferrando"





GRACIOUS VISIT TO FERRANDO, BANDEL

Sr. Pratibha Lakra

Ferrando Convent, Bandel

Transcendent God generously rained down His bountiful blessings upon Ferrando Convent Bandel as the Provincial Superior Sr. Sini Mathew trod its ground for visitation from the 29th of April to 04th May, 2024. Veritably these 5 days were indeed days of blessings in disguise and a moment of renewal for the community as Sr. Provincial exhorted the community through her motivating, and inspiring conferences and life experience.

In one of her conferences on the ongoing formation, she reminded the sisters, "Following Christ means becoming more like Christ. In our daily living we should strive to be like Christ in every way especially in our interpersonal relationship in the community as good and holy sisters, which is the place to attain holiness as Constitutions too states that Community life is fundamental to our vocation as missionary sisters".

She invited every member to become a true sister to another where others can enjoy our own presence.

"A dream written down with a date becomes a goal and when it is broken down into steps becomes the plan. And a plan backed by actions makes your dreams come true." Through this very thought she called us to become persons with dreams who needs to plan meticulously for a fruitful life so that all our action points towards achieving that dream.

Through all these the community had an experience of being revived in spirit; being strengthened with new energy and dynamism, to love God more, be more active in our mission and apostolate for the growth of the community and for personal sanctification.



"Be always cheerful in the Lord united to Him, loving Him."
"Stephen Ferrando"



Canonical Visitation

SR. SANGITA LAKRA
ST. MARY'S BHAWAN DUMKA

“The Community of St. Mary's Bhawan Dumka, along with 21 boarders were delighted to welcome Rev. Sr. Sini Mathew, the Provincial Superior at her arrival for Canonical Visitation on April 17, 2024. She was accompanied by Sr. Jacinta Bhengra the Vice- Provincial.

This visit was considered a divine encounter, as Salesian Spirituality teaches us that the presence of Higher Superiors is akin to the presence of God.

In the spirit of St. Mark's words, 'whoever receives one such child in my name receives not me, but Him who sent me' (Mk 9:37). This pastoral visit affirmed God's presence and guidance in the community's journey.

The central theme of the first conference to the Community was 'Life and Vocation'. She emphasized that our journey leads toward eternity, and our true identity lies in standing in the name of Jesus. The community serves as the place where we strive for holiness.”

Rev. Sr. Sini Mathew, the provincial superior also met the domestic staff and expressed her gratitude for their exceptional service to the community. She also dedicated her time to personal meetings with each sister. With genuine care, she attentively listened to their joys and sorrows.



Through her selflessness, she demonstrated that unity of heart and mind is essential for the progress of the community.

Sr. Provincial met the 21 boarders as well. Interacting with them she appreciated their abilities and encouraged them in their studies.

On the second day, the community expressed gratitude to God through a well-prepared liturgical celebration held in the school hall. Three priests presided over the Mass, followed by Cultural Program and a fellowship meal."

The visitation was truly a moment of grace and a moment of spiritual re-connection for the community of St. Mary's Bhawan Dumka, through the presence of their spiritual leaders.

The time spent together indeed left lasting impressions on the hearts of all involved.

"If there is a chain which binds us, it is the chain of Christ, that is to say His love."
"Stephen Ferrando"



Laugh Line...



Now who did this ?



A British doctor says

"In Britain, medicine is so advanced that we cut off a man's liver, put it in another man and in **6 weeks, he was looking for a job.**"



The German doctor says

"That's nothing, in Germany we took part of a man's brain, put it in another man, and in **4 weeks he was looking for a job.**"



The Russian doctor says

"Gentlemen, we took half a heart from a man, put it in another man's chest, and in **2 weeks he was looking for a job.**"



Indian doctor laughs

"You are all behind us. 4 years ago, we took a man with no brain & no heart and made him the Prime Minister, now the **whole country is looking for a job!**"

Technically, Moses



was the first person
with a tablet
downloading data
from the cloud



EXERCISE?
i thought you said
"Extra Fries"

"We should be empty of selfishness, pride, jealousy then Jesus will reign in our hearts."

"Stephen Ferrando"



Little Children Welcome Jesus In Their Hearts

Ferrando Convent
Ambari

2nd June 2024 was a joyful occasion for 85 children of Rosa Mystica Church, Ambari who received Jesus in their hearts for the first time and 14 adults who received baptism. The day was very special as it was the feast of The Body and Blood of Jesus. Sr. Emrencia Minj the superior, prepared the children for three months by instructing and teaching them prayers, sacraments and word of God. The Holy Mass was solemnized by Rev. Fr. Joseph Xaxa the parish priest. It was fascinating to witness these little one's faith and love for Jesus. The parents and parishioners blessed and prayed for the children.



First Holy Communion Siliguri

Sr. Agatha Rai
Auxilium Convent, Siliguri



"I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world". (John 6:51-58)

"The Eucharist is an important part of the Catholic faith, and receiving Communion is a way for Catholic to build intimate relationship with Christ".

On 04th February, 2024, Don Bosco Shrine, Siliguri, celebrated the first Holy Communion Day. There were 9 children who had prepared themselves to receive Jesus in the Holy Communion. 15 days of classes were taken by Sr. Agatha Rai. The main celebrant was Rev. Fr. V.C. Jose, rector and Principal of the Don Bosco School

and Fr. John Berger the parish priest, Fr. C.M Paul and Fr. Albert Kujur con-celebrated.

The liturgy was well organized; the Church was crowded with the faithful. There was a short felicitation programme for the children after the Holy Mass.

"Always more and always better', will be realized by each one of you."
"Stephen Ferrando"



Annual Retreat at Saraswatipur

Sr. Dipa Sardar
Auxilium Convent, Siliguri



God's promise to the people of Israel "I will be your God and you shall be my people" is continuously being fulfilled even now. God cares for his flocks. He nourishes their souls and refreshes their minds.

The people of Saraswatipur from 25th – 27th of April, witnessed the power of God's word and sacraments in their lives as they were animated for three days by Rev. Fr. Lijo Jolly VC from MGN Centre, Siliguri. The annual retreat was a time to return to the Lord and experience God's unconditional love for the people of Saraswatipur.



He invited the people to deepen their love for the word of God. As the scripture says, "Indeed the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit" (Heb. 4:12). So too the people were touched by the word of God. And every one made good confession to participate in the Pascal mysteries of Christ and celebrate Easter meaningfully.



Strengthened by The Spirit of God

Sr. Dipa sardar
Auxilium Convent, Siliguri

The feast of the Most Holy Trinity, 26th May 2024, was a fitting occasion, where 16 children in Saraswatipur were engrained with the sacrament of Confirmation. The bishop of Jalpaiguri Rt. Rev. Clement Tirkey presided over the solemn Holy Eucharist and Fr. Berger, as the con-celebrant. The solemn Eucharist began with entrance dance and candle lit procession by the children who were going to receive confirmation. The people devoutly participated in the Holy Mass and prayed for the children. After the Holy Mass, there was felicitation ceremony for the children as well as for bishop. The grace of Triune God was experienced by all as the hearts of the faithful were filled with joy, peace and happiness.



"Preserve always the spirit of family of joy, joy which make even the walls of the convent smile."

"Stephen Ferrando"



The Maiden Visit

Nirmala Niketan
Nedungapra, Kerela



The maiden visit of our newly appointed bishop of Vijayapuram diocese, Rt. Rev. Justin Madathiparambil, on 6th May was a joyful occasion for the community of Nirmala Nikethan. The sisters and the inmates of the home gave him a warm welcome. Sr. Molly James, the superior, joyfully delivered a few words of welcome, appreciating his simplicity and generosity, and thanked him for his swift response to the invitation to visit our home. He spent some time with the sisters and inmates. In his message, he thanked the sisters for serving the parish with love and commitment and exhorted us to be more involved with the church, parish, and community. He emphasized the need to care for the vulnerable, particularly in matters of faith.

First Holy Communion and Confirmation

Nirmala Niketan
Nedungapra, Kerela

Five students received their First Communion on 28th May, and thirty-one individuals received the sacrament of Confirmation on 20th May. Sr. Elcita George conducted month-long classes with them under the guidance of the parish priest, ensuring that they were well prepared to receive the sacraments.

The sacrament of Confirmation took place in the parish after a five-year interval. Rt. Rev. Justin Madathiparambil, bishop of Vijayapuram, conducted the service during his pastoral visit to the parish. After the solemn Holy Eucharist, the catechism teachers organized a short program to felicitate the bishop.

Bishop Justin Madathiparambil appreciated the parish priest and parish members for their efforts in the growth of the parish. He also thanked the sisters for their valuable service to the church in various ways. He exhorted the ward and committee members to be faithful to the responsibilities entrusted to them by the parish, which would bring blessings to the family of St. Joseph Parish, Nedungapra.



"Nothing must bind us to the world in order to fly, higher and higher. If there is a chain which binds us, it is the chain of Christ, that is to say His love."

"Stephen Ferrando"



Investiture Ceremony

SACRED HEART CONVENT SCHOOL

Sr. Roseline Ekka
Khemkaran, Punjab

“If your actions create a legacy that inspires others to dream more, learn more, do more, and become more, then you are an excellent leader.”

On 16th April 2024, Sacred Heart Convent School in Bhura Kohna, Khem Karan, was filled with enthusiasm and joy as the institution conducted its Investiture Ceremony for the academic session 2024-25. The school was honored to have Rev. Fr. Mathew OSH as the chief guest. He was warmly welcomed by Rev. Sr. Melinda Mukhim, the principal, along with teachers and students, who greeted him with a Khada and a flower bouquet.



The ceremony commenced with a prayerful invocation and the lighting of the ceremonial lamp, symbolizing the illumination of knowledge and virtue. Following this, the eagerly awaited event unfolded. Elected leaders, including the Head Boy, Head Girl, and other in charges, walked with pride and a sense of responsibility to receive their badges and Sashes from the chief guest, Sr. Melinda, Sr. Philomina Kharryja the vice principal, Sr. Soumya Varghese the superior and Sr. Roseline Ekka.

The chief guest congratulated the newly invested leaders and urged them to adhere to the school's rules and strive for unity, harmony, and justice. The ceremony concluded with the National Anthem, marking the end of a memorable and inspiring event.

"Initiation Into Letters"

Sr. Melinda Mukhim
Khemkaran, Punjab

The Vidhyarambham Ceremony, held on the 26th of March 2024, was a joyous occasion that marked the initiation of learning for young minds. **Vidhyaaramb** is an Indian tradition, which introduces young children into the world of knowledge, letters. The ceremony begins with writing alphabet "A" in a tray which is filled with rice. Then the index finger of the child is held and she or he is made to write the alphabet.

Reverend Fr. Markus Hans graced the ceremony as the chief guest, imparting words of wisdom and encouragement to the parents and students, emphasizing the significance of education in shaping the future. The ceremony was honored by the esteemed presence of Rev. Sr. Sini Mathew the Provincial superior, Sr. Anice Sebastian adding prestige and blessings to the occasion.

Enthusiastic students of our School showcased their talents through various activities, infusing the atmosphere with energy and vibrancy, captivating the audience with their creativity and skill. The presence of parents, witnessing their children's early steps into the world of learning, added to the joy of the occasion. Their happiness and satisfaction reflected the success of the event.

Mrs. Minakshi Sharma a parent representative delivered a speech appreciating the school and ensuring the parents that with the guidance and support of the school, there is no doubt that each and every child will realize their full potential and emerge as successful individuals poised to make a positive difference in the world.

As a gesture of hospitality and gratitude, refreshments were provided to both parents and students by the school management, fostering a sense of comradeship and community.

The Vidhyarambham Ceremony concluded on a high note, symbolizing the commencement of a journey filled with curiosity, exploration, and growth.



"KITCHEN CHALLENGE"

Sr. Melinda Mukhim
Khemkaran, Punjab



Sacred Heart Convent School, Bhura Kohna Khemkaran, organized a Fireless Cooking Competition for students in the school. The event, held on 27th April, aimed to provide a platform for students to showcase their creativity, decision-making skills, and cookery talents while fostering a spirit of fun-filled learning.

Students from Nursery to 4th standards enthusiastically

participated in the competition, showcasing their cooking knowledge and skills. The event provided them with an opportunity to engage in hands-on learning and express their creativity through cooking.

Participants demonstrated their culinary aptitude by developing and following recipes, preparing dishes, and presenting them before a judging panel. The dishes were evaluated based on flavour, taste, and deliciousness, allowing students to receive constructive feedback on their cooking skills.

The Fireless Cooking Competition proved to be a memorable experience for all involved. Students enjoyed the opportunity to unleash their creativity in the kitchen while learning valuable cooking techniques and principles.

Fear nothing. Rejoice and go on working for the salvation of souls.
"Stephen Ferrando"



"ATHLETIC INVOLVEMENT"

Sr. Melinda Mukhim
Khemkaran, Punjab

A total of 40 students from Sacred Heart Convent School in Bhura Kohna, Khem Karan, Punjab, participated in an external sports event organized by the Youth Sports and Activities Association of India. Held in Amritsar on the 19th of May, this event marked a significant milestone as our students competed outside school premises for the first time.

The students exhibited outstanding skills and sportsmanship throughout the event. Their hard work and determination were rewarded as they secured victories in multiple games. Notably, our school's teams performed exceptionally well in the following sports:

- **Athletics:** Our athletes won several medals across different track and field events. The highlights include first-place finishes in the 100 meters, 200 meters and 400 meters races.
- **Badminton:** The badminton team showcased remarkable talent, winning the tournament with a clean sweep in doubles categories.
- **Kabaddi:** Our kabaddi team achieved first position, demonstrating excellent coordination and strength.
- **Tug of War:** The team secured first place, displaying tremendous teamwork and resilience.
- **KhoKho:** The khokho team emerged victorious with a first-place finish, showing exceptional agility and strategy.
- **Cricket:** The cricket team performed admirably, securing second place in a closely contested tournament.

In recognition of their outstanding performance, our school received two prestigious trophies:

Best Athletic Team: Awarded for the overall performance in athletics.

Champions Trophy: Given to the school with the highest overall points across all sports disciplines.

The participation and achievements have brought immense pride to our school and stand as a testament to the hard work and talent of our students and has been a remarkable experience for our students. It not only

provided them with an opportunity to showcase their talent on a larger platform but also instilled in them a sense of discipline, teamwork, and perseverance. We look forward to continuing this tradition and encourage more students to participate in such events in the future. The success of our students is a collective achievement, and we are confident that this is just the beginning of many more victories to come.



"Take courage, my dear sisters, work, work very much to save souls, but first of all your soul! Be always obedient and full of charity towards all."

"Stephen Ferrando"



ORIENTATION FOR PARENTS: DYNAMIC ROLE OF PARENTING

Sr. Dipa Sardar
Auxilium Convent, Siliguri

Parents play a vital role together with the teachers in the life of children especially in their schooling period. It is parents as well as teachers who mould, shape and nurture the kids. Pursuing and foreseeing the needs of the tiny tots, Auxilium Convent School, Siliguri, Preparatory Section organized orientation programme for the Parents of Class Nursery, who are admitted for the new academic session 2024-25.

The programme commenced at 9:30 a.m. At the outset Sr. Dipa Sardar, expressed a warm welcome to the parents to the family of Auxilium. She then introduced to the parents Sr. Merlyn Jacob, the superior and manager of the school and all the teachers. There was short video presentation about school curriculum and various activities. Sr. Dipa spoke to the parents about "Parenting" and invited them to guide their kids positively from the initial stage onwards. Finally she explained meticulously, the rules and norms of the school.

It was a positive response from the part of the parents. There was good cooperation and support and interest to give their best to guide their kids.



MAY DAY CELEBRATION

Sr. Dipa sardar
Auxilium Convent, Siliguri

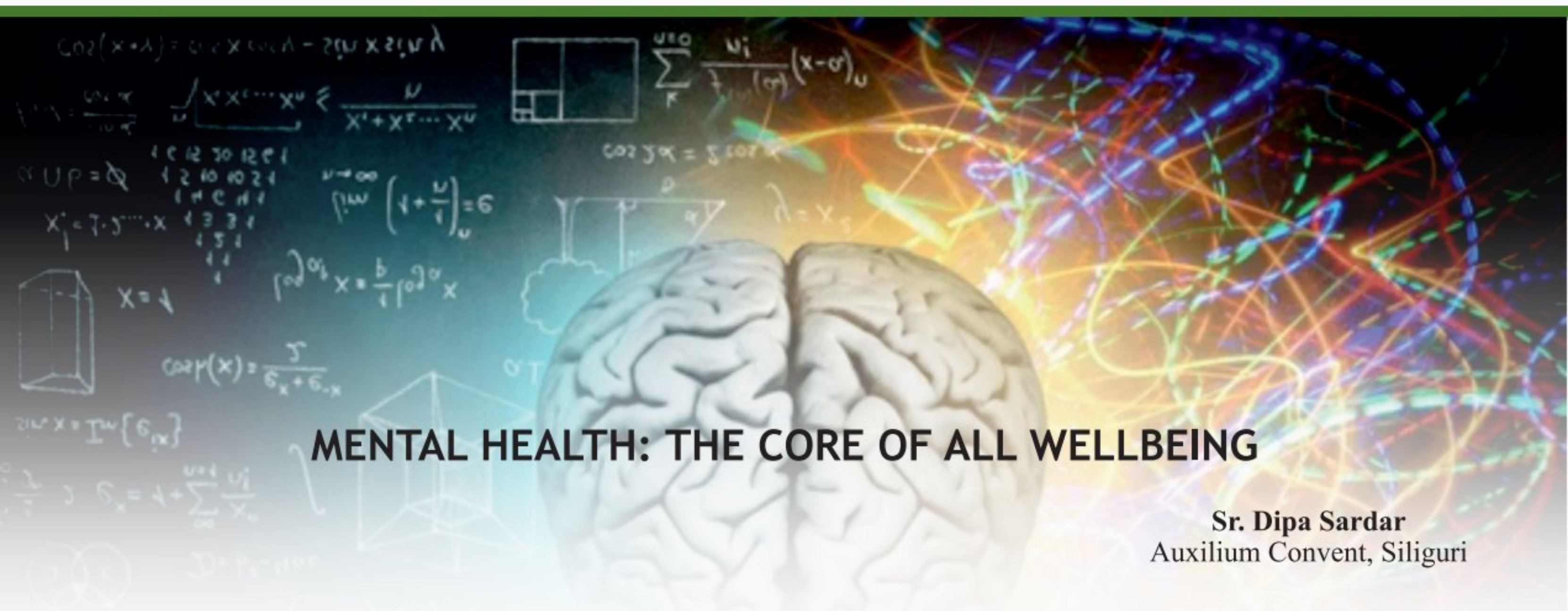
St. Joseph is the model of all the workers. On this occasion the Auxilium Convent School, Siliguri, Preparatory section honored their supportive staff of the school as well as domestic staff of the house. The community and school prayed for them and felicitated them through cultural programme. Acknowledging their help, service and contribution the school and community expressed their appreciation and gratitude.



"Trust always in our Lady. She is the mother of our Congregation."

"Stephen Ferrando"





MENTAL HEALTH: THE CORE OF ALL WELLBEING

Sr. Dipa Sardar
Auxilium Convent, Siliguri

“Mental Health ... is not a destination, but a process. It's about how you drive, not where you are going”. (Noam Shpancer)

Hygienic is a set of practices performed to preserve health. As the saying goes, “Health is wealth”, it is true indeed. Body, mind and soul are interconnected. In any areas of these are affected negatively, it paves the way to diseases in us. And everything starts with our MIND. Mind is a most powerful force to heal and kill, depending on one's mental environment.

Auxilium Convent School, Siliguri organized two days Mental Health Awareness Programme for the Teachers and staff on 10th and 11th April, 2024. Rev. Fr. Dr. Joe Kokkandathil SDB, a sought-after psychologist as well as the Principal of Don Bosco Degree College, Chitradurga, Karnataka was the resource person for the two days session. In this programme, the teachers were taught to focus on the importance of emotional hygiene to express their emotions positively. Few tips to improve one's emotional hygiene are: -

- Mindfulness meditation
- Be positive
- Cultivate an attitude of gratitude
- Stop comparing yourself with others
- Gratitude journal
- Challenge negative thought pattern
- Care of psychological wounds
- Use of physical body to remove stress
- Practice of silence
- Draw energy from the Divine

During the two days' workshop, Fr. Joe threw light on the fact on how mental health is fundamental to our overall well-being. It profoundly influences the way we think, act and interact in our daily life situation. He not only spoke to the teachers on different method of healing oneself but involved the teachers to practice it within these two days. Such as: types of breathing, IGTP (Integrative Group Treatment Protocol) therapy, Isha kriya, brain synchronization exercises etc. Good mental health enables us to face life's challenges with resilience, forge strong and meaningful relationship and make decisions that shape a positive future for ourselves and our communities.



“No doubt, our Lady loves you and holds your hand to lead you safely through.”
“Stephen Ferrando”

A NEW BEGINNING AT OODLABARI

Dapjingkyrmen, Asp,
Oodlabari

Far away from my homeland, one fine day I reached Oodlabari, a place where I have never heard or thought in my life. I am grateful to my parents who inspired me and I was willing to go. As I reached at Ferrando convent, Oodlabari, I was welcomed by the aspirants and sisters with great joy. It is a place so pleasant with green lands and wonderful scenery of the nature around. I believe it is also a place where I can find inner peace and joy as I desire to follow Jesus. I find my sisters and friends from different places and I feel proud to live in a community with multi-ethnic cultures. I am happy to learn many new things and I pray that the Lord who has called me may bless my family and all my friends.



MARIAN MONTH- PATHWAY TO VIRTUOUS LIFE

Postulant Larinan Phangcho
Auxilium Pre- novitiate, Siliguri

Daily gazing at our Blessed Mother, as I kneel praying the Holy Rosary before the statue of our Blessed Mother in our Chapel, it enables me to see my nakedness. It means I have no virtues to clothe myself. Practicing virtues makes one's life much better than that of yesterday's life situations. Living virtuous life is nothing but an imitation and discovering the person of Christ in my life. Although at the same time it was very difficult to achieve. Yet, continuous praying of the rosary and consciously practicing virtues made me succeed. It was my deepest desire to acquire and change my life for better. Indeed, it was a moment where I realized that I am clothed with the virtues of our Blessed Mother and developed my love for Jesus deeply

"Mary is your good Mother, trust in her and have recourse to her."
"Stephen Ferrando"



A Mother's Love

Postulant Gardinia Syiemlih
Auxilium Pre- novitiate, Siliguri

“You did not walk a lonely road, for Mary is always near she shares your heartbreak and your pain and as a mother she knows the thing you fear.” (Stephen Ferrando)

As a baby seek for a mother's love, so am I, seeking the love of our Heavenly Mother. I am so grateful whenever I think of her, especially during the month of May. It was a tremendous experience of her powerful presence in my life. Introspecting upon my life I realized the drastic change that took place in me. I started to fall in love with our Heavenly Mother as I hold the rosary and pray. Earlier it was a real struggle to complete the Holy Rosary, when I prayed alone. But Mother's love taught me this now. She softens and melts my heart making me humble. I understood the importance of being humble like her. She taught me so to be humble because humility is the mother of all virtues.



Cradle Of Love

Postulant Sengbe M. Marak
Auxilium Pre- novitiate, Siliguri

As I land into Auxilium Pre – novitiate on 15th December 2023, towards evening I was wonder struck with magnificent light that covered the premises with rich nature. Auxilium Pre – novitiate lies in the town of Siliguri.

It may be hard to chime in if I say “City without noise”. Yes, really, no noise, no gloom but only Peace and presence of God. When I heard for the first time that I have to be in Siliguri pre – novitiate I was so scared but it was wrong notion that I farmed.

Actually, Auxilium Convent is very rich in diversity with a colorful nature which re – echoes music to every melancholy soul. Every corner tall building; enclosed with a multitude of ethnic groups which reminds me to fix my focus on God and put my head high. Sometimes even busy squirrels smile at postulants and cheers every visitor. Its scenic beauty and divine nature always make me feel the Presence of The Almighty God.

We have also extraordinary experiment living together in a cradle of love to help all of us grow spiritually as well as intellectually on the wings of Auxilium convent. As we study the life of our founder and striving hard to cultivate his virtues and imitate his life we feel his powerful presence amidst us. We also experience God's loving presence, the positive vibration that surpasses all around like a raindrop falling down from above in the community. We always receive respect, care, acceptance, sisterly corrections and confrontation as from our parents and as a child in crèche. There is a space for us to grow. I love Auxilium so too my companions.

“Let us say everyday some prayers in order to obtain good vocations.”
“Stephen Ferrando”



My First Day in Oodlabari

Mary Kamei
Aspirant Oodlabari

*Ever since I was a kid
Occasionally I sit and pray
To connect with my beloved Jesus
Then I understand, it's the way I need to grow.*

*Years passed, and then one day someone called me
To go to Oodlabari
Before I begin to doubt, I just agreed
To listen to the voice of Jesus, to make a way ahead.*

*One fine day I reached at Ferrando Convent
I felt blessed with everything new
Still the pain of leaving home remained
Yet I'm happy and felt very pleasant.*

*However, that night I missed home
I prayed that I won't be left all alone
God's plan for me is very special
Following Him alone, I'll find a treasure.*

Nature

Aspirant Charis Esther Kharkongor,
Ferrando Convent, Ambari

*O, how I long to be like the nature,
Her serene beauty captures me.
She gives me lessons every time I gaze at her,
Acceptable being she teaches me to be.
Heat, cold, thorny storm, cool breeze, she accepts.
Even though when time comes for her beauty to be fade.*

*Undoubtedly, she accepts.
She was tested but didn't give to failure,
Time comes, her precious ornaments to be shaded,
Her admirable, colorful garments to be taken away
Freely, even ready to be given away
Her very nature clothed her back with a fresh precious garment ever.*

*Gently, softly moved and danced for me
Gently sang and played her natural instruments for me.
As the sunset approaches with a big smile,
Gazing at me, smoothly she went, she wants no departure from me.
Now she came hiding her beauty in the dark,
Up above she calls me, twinkling on high above.*

*Twinkling, warming my melancholy heart.
She offers me rest in her arms until I rise again.
She looked over me, with her serene eyes.
A new dawn came, she dressed up herself with a fresh garment.
Delightfully to spend together again*



*"You belong to Jesus; you must live for Him in order to bring souls to Him."
"Stephen Ferrando"*



Hope

Aspirant Charis Esther Kharkongor,
Ferrando Convent, Ambari

*Many times, I tried but failed,
To give up O, I don't want.
I heard the voice from far off,
Saying, "There is hope".*

*When things went wrong and in vain
Intractable and puzzled.
That I just want to get out,
Hope, caught hold of me.*

*It is hope that calmed my heart.
But, from where does hope come from?
That hope is my Christ himself;
My hope is in Him.*

Near To The Goal

Aspirant Charis Esther Kharkongor,
Ferrando Convent, Ambari

*O sleepy eyes, o wearisome mind
My poor little nut
Please be awoken,
Your future is waiting for you
You are wanted to reach there,
The millions are in your hands,
Valley of milk, fields of silver and gold is ripened.
Hold the sickle, put a hat, bend your back and cut them out.
Gather and give away for further use.
Beseechingly end up being a day dreamer.
Indeed, your life is,
Diamonds lay scattered on your way,
Stretch your arms, open your bag collect them all
To make a diamond castle for yourself.*

God The Essence of Life

Sr. Christina Momin
Lourd Prakash Bhawan Ranchi

*How lovely are you, O mighty one!
Outbursts the symphony from the depths of heart
Carried on the wings that never forlorn
Sigh for the best in you that I found the one
Pause did I, so to revere thou great art
Unimaginable I stand, while here alone!*

*Often times without break, I do forget you
Still silently, so close you did remember me
Thirsty as always, beyond time and space, I approached you
With no requirement to bargain
Deeply you quenched me
Never to be thirsty again!*

*"We are one with Jesus. This is the foundation of our joy."
"Stephen Ferrando"*



TECH-SAVVY TEEN TO BE SAINT SOON

Tech-savvy Italian teenager Carlo Acutis became the first **millennial** saint of the Catholic Church. The UK-born prodigy earned the moniker “God's Influencer” after spending his short life spreading faith online.

NB: Millennial refers to a person born between 1981 and 1996.

At the age of 15, Carlo Acutis died of leukaemia in 2006. He was beatified four years ago after it was the Vatican found that a boy recovered miraculously from a disease days after touching Acutis' t-shirt.

Who is Carlo Acutis?

The millennial, who died in 2006, became popular among the masses for using technology to propagate religion. Carlo Acutis was born in London on May 3, 1991. Later, he grew up in Milan. While growing up, Acutis handled his parish website and later began managing a Vatican-based academy.

Miracles attributed to Carlo Acutis

He was beatified four years ago after the Vatican observed that he had miraculously saved another boy's life. The 15-year-old computer prodigy embarked on the path of sainthood after it the Vatican observed that a 7-year-old boy from Brazil reportedly recovered from a rare pancreatic disease after touching one of Acuti's t-shirts.

However, a person qualified as a saint only after at least two miracles have been attributed to them and approved by the Pope. On Thursday, Pope Francis greenlit a second miracle attributed to Acutis. With this, Acutis became the youngest saint till date.

On July 8, 2022, Liliana prayed at Blessed Carlo's tomb in Assisi, leaving a letter describing her plea. Six days earlier, on July 2, her daughter Valeria had fallen from her bicycle in Florence, where she was attending university.



She had suffered severe head trauma, and required craniotomy surgery and the removal of the right occipital bone to reduce pressure on her brain,

with what her doctors said was a very low chance of survival.

Liliana's secretary began praying immediately to Blessed Carlo Acutis, and on July 8, Liliana made her pilgrimage to his tomb in Assisi.



That same day, the hospital informed her that Valeria had begun to breath spontaneously. The next day, she began to move and partially regain her speech.

On July 18, a CAT scan proved that her haemorrhage had disappeared, and on August 11, Valeria was moved to rehabilitation therapy. She made quick progress, and on September 2, Valeria and Liliana made another pilgrimage to Assisi to thank Blessed Carlo for his intercession.

“I was not an example of sanctity, but for me Carlo was like a teacher, he was special, never a complaint, never a criticism,” said carlo's mother.

Carlo's remains on display at Church of Santa Maria Maggiore

Carlo's remains are displayed in a tomb with a glass side at the Church of Santa Maria Maggiore in Assisi.

He appeared astonishingly lifelike, his face reconstructed and body dressed as he lived -- in jeans, trainers and a sweatshirt.

For many Catholics, the place has become a place of pilgrimage. It was also declared the site of the second miracle attributed by the Vatican.

Pope Francis beatified the millennial in 2020 in Assisi, where Blessed Carlo had made multiple pilgrimages and where his mortal remains rest.

Pope Francis on 23rd May 2024 has recognized the miracle attributed to the intercession of Blessed Carlo Acutis, paving the way for him to become the first millennial saint.



Echoes on Prayer

Sr. Teresa Anthony
Auxilium Convent, Siliguri

When we speak about prayer, it has many definitions. Lifting up our mind and heart to God. Continuous prayer leads us to have immense attraction towards God. During prayer men speak about the cares and odds of life including his sorrows and failures. During the prayer perhaps very, rare he thank God for the blessings which he received. In general God remain silent. And His silence is mysterious. And this silence of God itself is His divine voice we only need to acquire the capacity to listen His voice.

Our prayers have to be unceasing and in humble supplication. For our very life depends on Him who created us. For example, Moses prostrated in front of the whole assembly of Israelites. (Num. 14:5, Est. 14:3-10, Tob.5:7, Mt. 14:23, Lk. 40:42) Mother Mary and Jesus is our role model for our prayer life. There are so many eminent personalities who loved to pray. Abraham Lincoln, Thomas More, Thomas Edison in spite of their heavy schedule.

There is a touching incident in Thomas Edison's life. In 1914 a sweeping fire destroyed Edison's laboratories wiping out two-million-dollars of equipment and the record of much of his life's work. Seeing this Edison's son Charles ran about frantically trying to find out his father's whereabouts. Finally, he came upon his father, standing near the fire. His face was ruddy in the glow of fire. His white hair blown by the winter winds. Charles heart ached when he saw his father. But when Edison saw his son a few meters away he shouted at asking him to find out his mother. He continued saying, "for all our mistakes are burned up, thank God we can start again". Edison the great man of God could see God's loving hand even in great disaster.

The prayer removes indolent hearts, sets nations amazing process of social renewal and removes the lethargic hearts to generous service. The prayer paves the way for transformation in life.

"Oh, one hour with my God infinitely exceeds all the pleasures and delights of this world."
David Brainerd.

"Jesus wants all of you to become saints and to save many souls."
"Stephen Ferrando"



Holy Rosary

Sr Bellora Momin
Ferrando convent, Malbasey

*Rosary came from Latin word 'Rosarium'
Meaning garden or garland of roses
Imagine then the prayer you pray
Is turning into garland of roses as you say*

*Beads of the Rosary with Hail Mary
Oh, how beautiful roses will it be
Pondering the mysteries of Jesus and Mary
As you offer every bead saying Hail Mary*

*Mary is a lady as we know
We can perceive that she loves flowers so
Like anyone of us here below
Why then not offer this bouquet
In every single bead 'Hail Mary'*

*Give devotion bringing all your intention
Whatever wishes, plans and petitions
Share with her all your worries, cares and tension
She is powerful in intercession
Showering graces and blessings like ocean*



*"The virtue of Purity must be the brightest diamond of your crown."
"Stephen Ferrando"*

Experiences Strengthens Vocation

Sr Bellora Momin
Ferrando convent, Malbasey

*Experiences in life teaches a lesson
Whether is of pleasant or unpleasant
Something to be done to make it beautiful
Though it makes you cheer or painful*

*This made me reflect on my life past
Both the good and bad incidents as such
So learnt more and able to draw lesson
From every painful moment and happy actions*

*Counting and recounting God's blessings
In the midst of trials and tribulation
And came to my senses and realization
God was with me loving unconditioned*

*Moreover, the picture of footprints
Caught my attention with happy thousands
Undoubtful God was with me in- separation
Holding me close with arms open*

*How amazing to draw lesson from creation
Time to time change weather and season
Likewise in life there exist situations
To plant and uproot till perfection*

*I believe to perfection needs humiliation
This can help to self realization
It may doesn't matter
Whether misjudge true or false either*

*To understand this fixes your eye on crucifix
Who commits no crime or sins instead
Accepts humiliation without consolation
But God raises him up to glorification*

*Why complain and get discourage
Raising questions to life's vocation in rage
Is not God who gave you call
Know you perfectly even if you fall.*



Life, A Mysterious Journey



Sr. Ankita Lakra
Ferrando Convent, Bandel

*Life is a vast journey, a voyage on endless sea
With no fixed start or destiny
A journey through both calm and stormy weather.
We embark each day with new hope and vigour
To see better tomorrow,
winding deep and mountains high
Seeking purpose and meaning amidst the puzzle world.
Tracing the pictures and figure it out to make sense in life.
Every rising sun of the dawn unrapples a chance to explore.*

*The mysteries of existence rich and pure
Finding meaning in absurdity
Realizing we are condemned to be free.
On path unknown we tread with grace.
Drawing strength from Almighty's face
Reminding self, 'am not alone',
But God who created me is all along.*

Divine Heart Of Love

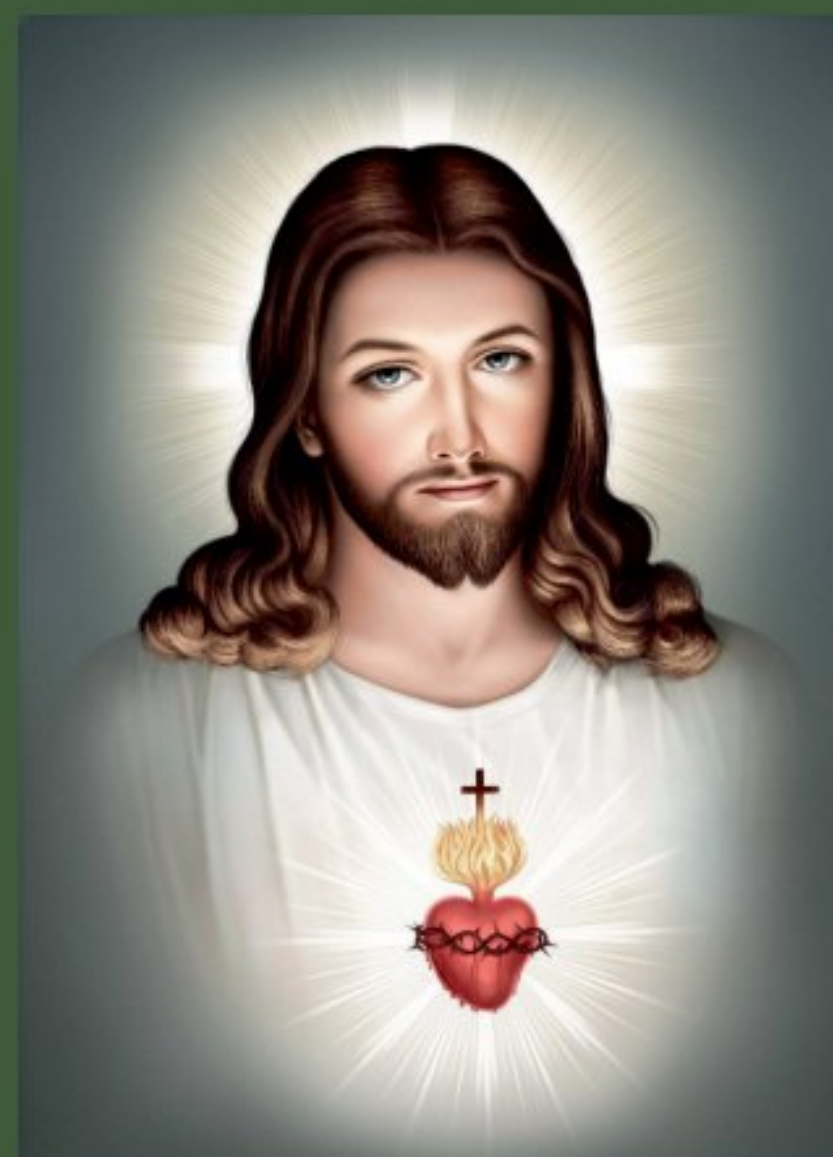
Sr. Deborah Khalthang
Salesian College Hostel, Siliguri

*Kneeling and praying before the divine image of
your divine heart, sweet Lord I make my prayer to thee.*

*O Sacred Heart, O love divine
Do keep me near to thee.
Make my heart and love so like to thine
That I may be meek and pure like you.*

*Heart of Jesus hear, o heart of love divine
Do listen to my prayer and make me always thine.
O temple pure, o fount of life
In you is my heaven and eternal joy.*

*What sweet delight what happiness untold
Ever flowing from your heart divine.*



HOLY FATHER ADDRESSED G7 FIRST POPE AT G7



The pontiff brought his moral authority to bear on the G7, invited by host Italy to address a special session on the perils and promises of AI.

Pope Francis has addressed leaders at the G7 Summit in southern Italy, **the first pontiff to do so.**

Speaking at a special roundtable, the Pope challenged them to keep human dignity foremost in developing and using artificial intelligence, warning that such powerful technology risks turning human relations themselves into algorithms.

"Faced with the marvels of machines, which seem to know how to choose independently, we should be very clear that decision-making, even when we are confronted with its sometimes dramatic and urgent aspects, must always be left to the human person," he said.

"We would condemn humanity to a future without hope if we took away people's ability to make decisions about themselves and their lives, by dooming them to depend on the choices of machines."

The pontiff has offered an ethical take on an issue that is increasingly on the agenda of international summits, government policy and corporate boards.

Francis said politicians must take the lead in making sure AI remains human-centric, so that decisions about when to use weapons or even less-lethal tools always remain made by humans and not machines.

He also took a swipe at autonomous weapons, saying it should never be left to machines to decide whether or not to kill a person.

No machine should ever choose to take the



life of a human being.

Pope Francis

"Allow me to insist, in light of the tragedy that is armed conflict, it is urgent to reconsider the development and use of devices like the so-called 'lethal autonomous weapons' and ultimately ban their use. This starts from an effective and concrete commitment to introduce ever greater and proper human control. No machine should ever choose to take the life of a human being," he said.

The G7 final statement largely reflected his concerns. Leaders vowed to better coordinate the governance and regulatory frameworks surrounding AI to keep it 'human-centred.'

At the same time, they acknowledged the potential impacts on the labour markets of machines taking the place of human workers and on the justice system of algorithms predicting recidivism.

"We will pursue an inclusive, human-centred, digital transformation that underpins economic growth and sustainable development, maximizes benefits, and manages risks, in line with our shared democratic values and respect for human rights," they said.

By attending the summit, Francis joined a chorus of countries and global bodies pushing for stronger guardrails on AI following the boom in generative AI kickstarted by OpenAI's ChatGPT chatbot.

On the weapons issue, G7 leaders said they recognised the impact of AI in the military domain "and the need for a framework for responsible development and use." They encouraged states to make sure "military use of AI is responsible, complies with applicable international law, particularly international humanitarian law, and enhances international security."

WHAT IS G7 MEET?



The G7 is an informal bloc of industrialized democracies – **the United States, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United Kingdom (UK)** – that meets annually to **discuss issues such as global economic governance, International security, and most recently, Artificial Intelligence (AI)**

Source: Vatican News



MUST WATCH – MOVIE REVIEW

THE POPE'S EXORCIST

SYNOPSIS: What should be a normal exorcism in 1980s Spain turns into a battle over the fate of the Catholic Church, as an ancient evil attempts to undermine the power of the church's greatest exorcist.

LENGTH: 1 hour 43 minutes

RELEASE DATE: April 14, 2023



Father Gabriel Amorth was a fascinating man in his lifetime. He was the Vatican's lead exorcist for decades and became famous for his battles against the forces of darkness— Which Earlier this year, a modestly successful new movie was released that explored his life, with Russell Crowe in the role of Fr. Amorth.

is one of the least original in contemporary film making. With rare exceptions, its structure, themes, and visual ideas have all been callbacks to *The Exorcist*, with every entry in the genre positively or negatively compared to its predecessor. Maybe it shouldn't be surprising that *The Pope's Exorcist* was not received kindly for that reason.

And it's not hard to see why. Like most exorcism films, it exploits Christian and Catholic imagery in a way that

neither meaningfully depicts it but just uses it as set dressing for supernatural mythology. Characters discuss God, confession, and temptation, and yet it doesn't feel like more than acting in a movie. It feels exploitative as though the filmmakers believe they are spinning a shallow fairy tale that preys upon the prejudices of the common believer.

The Pope's Exorcist follows an American family living in 1980s Spain who move into a large rural Catholic Abbey. When their youngest child begins showing signs of possession, the church calls upon its chief exorcist to protect the child but stumbles upon an ancient secret hidden beneath an ancient Abbey since the fall of Satan—a conspiracy from the depths of Hell to infiltrate and destroy the church itself.

What also makes the film interesting is how immediately it tries to plant itself into the modern social-political issues with the modern Catholic Church, its place in the world, and its own internal battle with its sins, hypocrisies, and failures.

The film directly addresses serious issues like the liberalization of the church in the 1970s, the sex abuse crisis, and the Spanish Inquisition, with Crowe directly calling it “one of the darkest moments in the history of the church.” At one point, the Pope's Cardinals threatened to remove Fr. Amorth's position because they are afraid that continuing exorcisms will damage the church's reputation in the 20th century.

Crowe's Amorth is given a passably fascinating story arc, with his own failures and doubts seeping in and affecting the exorcism. While he sarcastically quips that “my only fear is that France will win the World Cup,” he has many buried regrets and the demonic entities are able to take advantage of them. Much of the film explores thematic handwringing about the circumstances under which an authentic exorcism can be held. According to the rules of the film, a priest can only perform the exorcism if he is fully confessed, blameless, and unafraid—not letting the fears and regrets of his heart consume him.

The result is a film where Amorth's story mirrors that of the state of the Catholic Church in the 20th century—being a church grappling with uncertainty, failure, decadence, pride, and moral compromise that continues to struggle with affirming its place as the self-proclaimed See of Peter. It is a film that wants to question how the church can operate in spite of its mistakes, with Amorth playing the role of the church's on-call cowboy who can effortlessly and confidently banish demons with a joke.

The Pope's Exorcist is not the most effective film. It is also not an accurate depiction of the life of Fr. Amorth, just as the *Conjuring* movies are only loosely based on the “true” stories of the Warren's. I doubt much of the film's plot comes from any of Fr. Amorth's real writings, despite the film's claim to be based on his memoirs. But there is a novelty in it as a movie—a schlocky horror film with the optimistic message that *evil ultimately has no power in the absence of our guilt and doubt*.

“Offer your heart to the heart of Jesus and do all the work for the glory of God.”
“Stephen Ferrando”



LEARNING TO UNLEARN

Lourd Prakash Bhawan Ranchi
Sr. Christina Momin

Doubt not that we are born to learn with every new dawn. Expect the unexpected to go unlearnt as well. Life, doesn't compartmentalize anyone in any way. All are in the circle of learning much. In this field of life, when even life gets going tough, learning becomes a necessity for growth. All thanks to God, for the gift of intelligence to us most preferably the most blessed of all creatures, the crown of creation.

Thanks to the 'Schema, the gift within us, that serves us best, with the varieties of stimulus received from all around, the environment we dwell in, since birth till death. Life flows with the flow of nature. Hence, one of the most significant aspects of life or growth in us is the potential that forges us to learn. However, there are times too, when we tend to unlearn. Do not be surprised at it. Live life at the natural flow. We need to receive it as a sliver of life displayed, for certainly that completes our life.

One of the great learners like Dr.A.P. J Abdul Kalam quotes "If you want to move forward in life, then always have agreed to learn things".

Learning is a lifelong process. No one has ever learnt everything.

Life without learning is a lifeless or stagnant thing.

Life is an energy. This energy must therefore be utilized.

Learning to unlearn compels us to shed outdated beliefs and practices adapted in the past to accumulate new information and personalize them.

In a rapidly evolving world, clinging to old ways may hinder our growth and development, so it is crucial to learn and unlearn. This process calls for openness to new ways and means; and willingness to let go of the old habits as well.

Remember there is no age barrier in the pursuit of learning. At different age levels, we learn different things. We can always learn from the experiences we gather about life at various stages the environment we live in, persons we closely associate with, places we live or just set foot on, from mistakes that we make every single day, knowledge gained from books, with all possibilities, do great learning from wireless gadgets unquestionably.

Life is better when we learn new things each day. Only a great learner is a good giver and the best Teacher undoubtedly.

Last but not the least," Learn to live and live to inspire."

"Everyday make a special offering of yourself to God that He may dispose of you and all you possess in whatever way He pleases."

"Stephen Ferrando"



Sacred Heart of Jesus Inflamm Our Hearts With Love

Sr. Krisdalin Timung
Mariam Niwas, Nagaon (Student)

*O Most Sacred Heart of Jesus inflame our hearts with love Divine,
May we long for love that never perishes, instill in us love so eternal
May we look to you with love, Shelter us in that love so Divine and true
In that love so immense arouse us with uninterrupted love for you.*

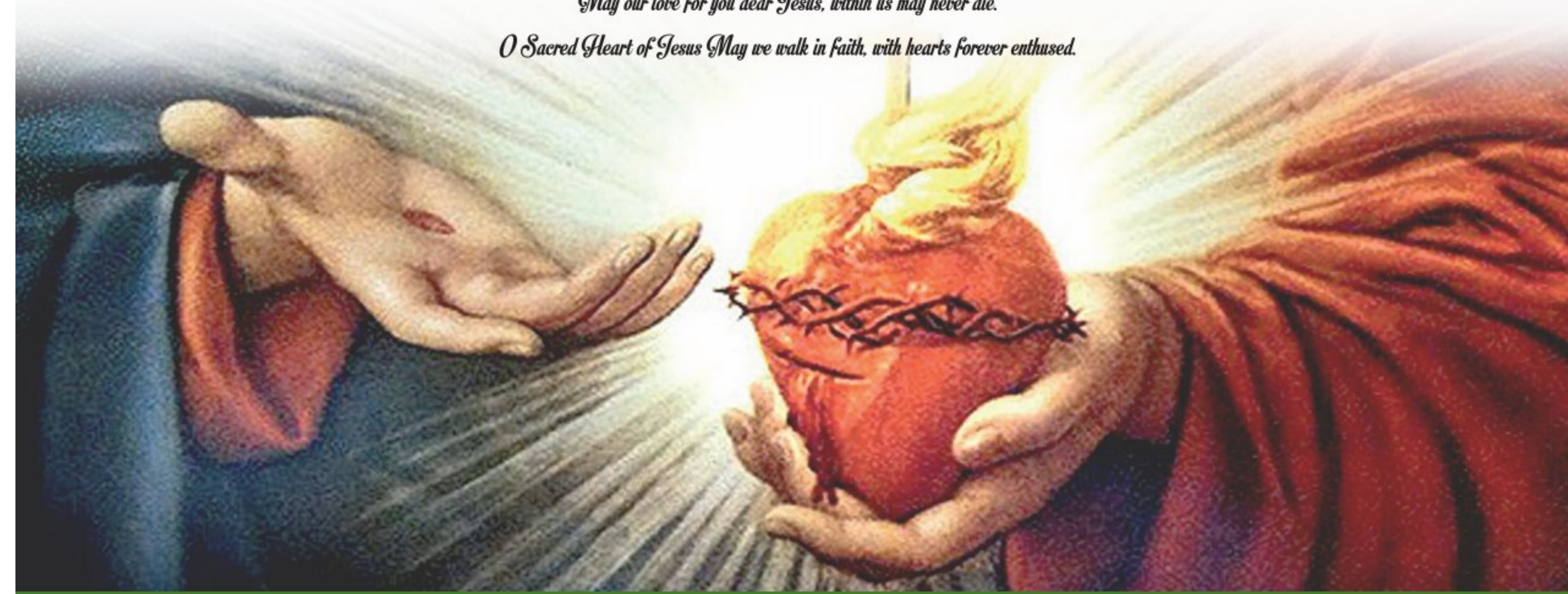
*O Most Sacred Heart, May our heart beat echo, with the rhythm of your grace,
Infuse our hearts with courage, as we journey through life's uncertainty.
With arms outstretched in mercy, your love knows no restraint,
Inflame our hearts, dear Jesus, till we join you in heaven pure and saint.*

*O Most Consecrated heart we bow in reverence, before you
And offer up our love in that Heart which is fountain of love and blessings
For in your Sacred Heart, dear Jesus, we find our truest home,
Inflame our hearts with love Divine, till eternity is known.*

*O Most Sacred of Jesus in thy love lead us and hear our prayers
Through trials and tribulations, through valleys dark and low,
May your love unwavering be our guide a symbol of hope steady glow.
May we heed your calling, with hearts wide open and free*

*O Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Inflame our souls with kindness and compassion
May we reflect your own image in all we say and do.
Oh, Sacred Heart of Jesus, source of boundless grace, embrace us in your mercy,
Inflame our hearts with courage, to boldly face the night, in every time and place.*

*O Most Sacred Heart of Jesus lead us to the dawn, with your ever-guiding light.
With each new dawn that breaks, with each day's gentle sigh,
May our love for you dear Jesus, within us may never die.
O Sacred Heart of Jesus May we walk in faith, with hearts forever enthused.*



*“Walk together.
Question together.
Take responsibility together
for community discernment,
which for us is prayer,
as the first Apostles did:
This is synodality,
which we would like
to make a daily habit
in all its expressions,”*

Pope Francis

