

## PROVINCE FLASH DAUGHTERS OF THE CROSS CALCUTTA PROVINCE

PF/2026/1

April

News Bulletin

For Private Circulation



Dear Sisters, Associates, Friends and Well-wishers,

I am happy to bring out this issue of the Province Flash as we approach the most significant event in history, Easter. This year we are celebrating Easter in the background of the wars in the world, the latest being the Gulf war and our hearts are turned to the millions facing the brunt of the machinations of the world leaders. All are looking for peace, a new life, a better world.

Risen Jesus brings peace. The reason for our peace is the surety of our salvation. Easter reminds us that we are saved by the risen Lord's mercy, our hope guaranteed by God's power, the power of salvation. The empty tomb witnessed the resurrection event. And women were the first witnesses of the resurrection. The resurrection of Jesus brought a different understanding of the seeming tragedy, disaster and failure. The transformation of the disciples as a result of the Easter experience was amazing.

Easter is not only concerned with the recalling of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus and its effect on the first disciples, but it is the meaning of this event in our day-to-day life.

When we look back, we find that the past months have not been easy for us, challenges were many. In our personal life, in our communities and in our mission, we had encountered no less trials but with providential care we have been able to face them, undeterred by our vulnerabilities and brokenness. The stories from our communities testify to the ways in which we have struggled to be faithful to our charism in spite of setbacks on various fronts.

Fidelity to the charism presupposes our living of the paschal mystery, which is the nucleus of our lived spirituality. Our apostolates ought to bear testimony to our love for Jesus, manifested in our involvement in the life of the people.

May the sharing of our joys and tears and the loving helping hand in our mundane life bring love, joy and hope in our life journey!

With love and prayers for each one of you,

Sr. Catherine FC  
Provincial

# Happy Easter!

# DIPHU

# ASSAM

## A Celebration of Talent, Culture and Faith...

Helena Hostel came alive with joy and vibrant energy as a series of enriching activities were organized, bringing together students in a spirit of creativity, unity and celebration.

The Republic Day celebration was marked with great enthusiasm and patriotic fervour. Students actively participated in games and a drawing competition, expressing their love for the nation through art and joyful activities that showcased their creativity and talents. Adding to the excitement, a skit competition, conducted under the guidance of Sr. Rashmilata, became a highlight of the events. The students presented meaningful and lively performances, revealing their hidden talents.



The celebration of the Karbi Harvesting Feast brought a beautiful cultural dimension to the program. Through storytelling and traditional cultural dances, students experienced the richness of Karbi heritage.

An enriching Praise and Worship session was conducted by Angel and the Jesus Youth team from Guwahati. Their sharing of personal experiences of God deeply touched our students, creating an atmosphere of prayer and inspiration. It was truly a grace-filled moment for all.



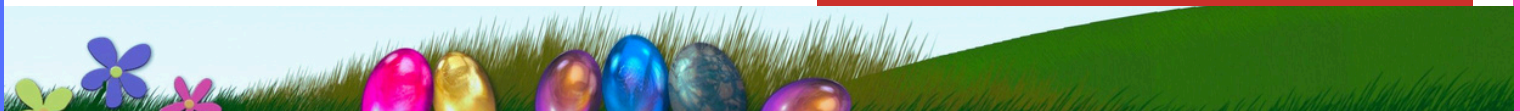
## OUTGOING CLASS-XII

The series of events concluded with a quiz competition held on 6<sup>th</sup> March. The participants displayed great enthusiasm and eagerness. Overall, these activities provided a holistic experience, nurturing creativity, strengthening cultural roots and deepening spiritual values among the students. It was indeed a memorable and meaningful time for the entire institution.

*Sr. Manju Dungdung*

## RANGJULI

On 1<sup>st</sup> January, we had the Holy Mass at Garopara village Church followed by a fellowship meal for the whole village with about 110 families. It was amazing to see how well organized their meal distribution to the whole villagers within short time with no confusion. From 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> January we had our annual Sobha at Ranjuli for all the 21 substations. It was a beautiful opportunity for all the faithful to renew their faith. Bishop Emeritus Thomas Menamparaphil and Archbishop John Moolachira were the main celebrants for 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> January.





On 28<sup>th</sup> February there was a women religious' get-together at Guwahati. About 600 sisters belonging to 58 congregations working in our diocese took part in it.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> March, we had a Women's Day celebration in the parish. They were given an input session on mothers' role in bringing up their children.

All the exams are over and boarders have gone home for holiday. School is getting ready for new academic session, which will commence on 7<sup>th</sup> April.

*Sr. Saly Joseph*

## Hatigopa

With warm smiles and joyful excitement, we welcomed a new member, Sr. Philomena, into our St. Joseph's family. Her arrival has brought a sense of freshness and hope to our vibrant community. We are delighted to have her among us and look forward to the many ways she will enrich and contribute to our mission and spirit.



Adding to our joy, we had the wonderful opportunity to welcome a talented band team from St. Joseph's School, Kurseong. The four gifted students, brimming with enthusiasm and passion, generously shared their skills and taught our students, setting the beginning of our school band. It was truly a memorable experience for all, filling our campus with harmony, joy, and a renewed spirit of togetherness.

*Sr. Anu James*

## MAHESHPUR - NEPAL

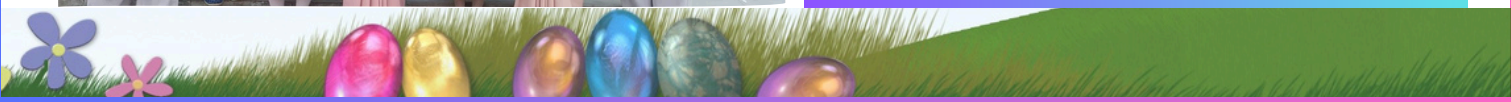
A one-day youth program was held on 30<sup>th</sup> January at St. Xavier's Parish, bringing together around forty participants. Sessions were based on the Sacraments. The day was spiritually enriching, with adoration, confession and the celebration of the Holy Mass followed by a fellowship meal.

Sr. Virginia Kujur and Sr. Embrencia Toppo received their Indian Embassy Registration certificates from Kathmandu.

On 14<sup>th</sup> March, our parishioners, including four sisters, had gone for a pilgrimage to Patapur Church.



The recent election in Nepal was peaceful. We remain hopeful for positive change.





As the academic year ends, students are preparing for their final and board exams. Some hostel girls were honored in the Rastrapati program at Bhadrapur.

The sisters continue their mission through visits to the sick, mobile clinic services, and guiding students.

*Sr. Urmila Kisku*  
**SIKKIM**

## Jorethang

The ICYM of the South West Deanery organized a winter camp from 28<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> January at Jorethang Parish. Around 100 youth participated and benefited from the program. Various activities and competitions were held, with each parish presenting their own creative compositions. A meaningful session on the use of social media in the Church, focusing on how to proclaim Christ through the internet in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, was also conducted. Mr. Albert Cobo, a singer from Kalimpong, motivated the youth with his inspiring presence.

Ratipani, one of the sub-stations of Namchi Parish in South Sikkim, is located about two hours from Jorethang. On 22<sup>nd</sup> February, a one-day charismatic recollection was organized by the South-West Deanery. Many faithful from seven parishes participated. Although Ratipani has only eleven families, three other sub-stations of Namchi Parish extended their support to organize the recollection. It was a very fruitful day, with many experiencing spiritual, mental, and physical healing.



Personally, I was deeply moved by the struggles of the people and felt the need for someone to listen and pray with them. Therefore, I visit the people of Jorethang daily, and at times I also go to Salghari Parish. I stay with one family and visit others, listening to their problems and praying with them.

On 4<sup>th</sup> March, all the priests, religious, and office bearers of the South West Deanery gathered for a meeting at Namchi Public School. During the meeting, emphasis was laid on proclaiming the Good News to those who do not know Jesus Christ and on reaching out to the lost one rather than feeding the 99.

*Sr. Mary Therese Rai*

## Mamring

We continue to reach out to those in need, sharing God's compassionate love through our small but meaningful acts. On Ash Wednesday, we arranged, along with our parish priest, visits to three elderly and homebound persons in our remote substations. They received Holy Communion and ash with great joy. We also spent time with them, listening to their rich life stories and experiences, which made the visit even more meaningful.





In Tarkhola, we extended financial assistance to an elderly couple who earn a meagre livelihood by selling iron scraps. This support was not given from our surplus, but through a thoughtful initiative—collecting iron scraps from our school and convent and selling them at a better price, ensuring they received a little more than usual.



The Leadership Camp for ARCEIS schools of South Sikkim was held at our school from 14th to 19th March. A total of 119 captains and vice-captains from various schools participated in this enriching programme, aimed at nurturing leadership qualities and strengthening their sense of responsibility. The camp featured two distinguished resource persons, Rev. Fr. Danish Lepcha and Mr. Prakash Parajuli. Students were grouped in mixed teams to promote cooperation and interaction among different institutions. The sessions highlighted that true leadership goes beyond fulfilling duties—it calls for integrity, teamwork, effective communication, and the ability to inspire others to become responsible and influential leaders of the future.

*Sr. Rojinta Kujun*

## Kurseong St. Helen's Convent

**Associates of the Daughters of the Cross:** St. Helen's Community has empowered a vibrant group of Associates who live the spirit and charism of the Daughters of the Cross. They are the backbone of various activities in the parish. They actively participate in prayer groups, social activities, WEC and the parish choir. We motivate and commission them to preach the Gospel values through their life and actions.

As a faithful group, they reach out to suffering humanity in old age homes, families and distant parts of the parish. Their keenness for spiritual growth is visible through their participation in prayers, adoration and daily Holy Mass whenever possible. This reveals their commitment as Associates of the Daughters of the Cross. One of the most significant events in their lives was the pilgrimage to South India. Their sharing of God's experiences and the healing they received—spiritual, emotional, and physical—was truly overwhelming.

*"Woman, who are you?"*

*I am a masterpiece crafted by God,  
delicate in appearance,  
yet strong as silk within.*

*My womanhood carries the weight of  
the world,  
and my heart beats for every child on  
earth.*

*In my prayer, I hold suffering humanity:  
"Dear Lord, liberate them with your love  
and mercy."*

*One day a radiant dawn will arrive,  
and the world will celebrate the beauty  
of life."*

*Sr. Winifred Rai*



## SILIGURI

### St. Joseph's Convent, Matigara

The year 2026 began with many meaningful events and gatherings. On 4<sup>th</sup> January, Sr. Rajni participated in the Bagdogra Mahila Sangh get-together at Rosa Mystica Church, Mailanijote. On 18<sup>th</sup> January, our associates, along with those from Karuna Nilaya Convent, Gurubathan, enjoyed a picnic-cum-get-together, fostering fellowship and unity.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> January, Sr. Shila Louis and Sr. Rajni attended a seminar on "Synodal Catechetical Approach and YOUCAT" at Loyola Pastoral Centre, Matigara. Led by Rev. Fr. Vijay Machado, the seminar brought together clergy and religious of the Diocese of Bagdogra to reflect on faith formation in the spirit of synodality.

The parish community bid farewell to Fr. John Tigga SJ and warmly welcomed Fr. Samuel Simick SJ as the new parish priest on 25<sup>th</sup> January. On 8<sup>th</sup> February, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord was joyfully celebrated, appreciating the dedicated service of religious men and women. International Women's Day on 8<sup>th</sup> March was also celebrated.

Sr. Shila Louis, along with the enthusiastic associates, continues visiting families for prayer services, funeral services and the Stations of the Cross, especially with the sick and elderly. The associates also had their recollection and the Sacrament of Reconciliation on 7<sup>th</sup> March. On 14<sup>th</sup> March, the sisters and associates visited Shanta Bhawan, Tindharia, offering some provisions and support to the elderly and destitute.

We also continue accompanying young girls in discerning their vocation to religious life. During these months, we were blessed with visits from our sisters of other communities and well-wishers, enriching our journey of faith and service.

*Sr. Rajni Kerketta*

## St. Joseph's School



We had a series of enriching activities that fostered creativity, joy, and togetherness among students and staff at St. Joseph's High School.

The Art and Craft Exhibition held on 17<sup>th</sup> January gave students from LKG to Class XII a wonderful platform to showcase their creativity. The hall was beautifully decorated with paintings, sketches, paper crafts, tie-and-dye dupattas, cushions, and needlework. It was inaugurated by Fr. Basil SJ, who appreciated the students' efforts. Parents admired the exhibits, making the event a great success.

On 21<sup>st</sup> January, Class XI organized a heartfelt farewell for Class XII. There was a prayer service, cultural performances, and the presentation of mementos. It concluded with meaningful messages from teachers and the head girl, leaving behind cherished memories.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> January, the students of Classes VI to IX and XI enjoyed a refreshing picnic at Dreamland Park. Accompanied by their teachers, the students had a joyful journey filled with singing and laughter. At the venue, they delighted in rides, games, dancing, and sharing meals, returning home with happy and unforgettable memories.





The spirit of togetherness continued with the staff picnics held on 24<sup>th</sup> February and 31<sup>st</sup> February at Green Castle Resort, Lataguri. Both teaching and non-teaching staff enjoyed a day of relaxation and bonding through games, group dances, and lively interactions. The pleasant weather and delicious meals added to the joy, making it a refreshing and memorable experience for all.



**NEWS UPDATE**

**Siliguri student shines at SIP Arithmetic Genius Competition**

Vaanya Choudhury, a student of St. Joseph's School, Matigara, and Daughter of Mr. Animesh Choudhury & Mrs. Shruti Choudhury Siliguri, delivered an outstanding performance at the SIP Arithmetic Genius Competition 2025. Competing against over 9.13 lakh students from across India, she secured first position at the state level and achieved an impressive 5th rank at the national level, held in Chennai on February 1. The competition was conducted for students of Classes 1 to 5 across 24 states.



Our Literacy students participated in the International Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Seminar conducted by Miko Hytonen at Siliguri. The seminar focused on advanced Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu techniques and skill development, reflecting strong discipline and commitment from all participants. These events not only brought joy and relaxation but also strengthened the sense of community within the school.

*Sr. Lucy Thaikkattil*

**Jesu Ashram**

On 11<sup>th</sup> January we had a health camp for Gangaram Tea Garden. 111 patients took the benefit of it. Fr. Julius, Sr. Jaya, 3 doctors, staff and students joined for this outreach programme.

17 girls completed their training and now they are working in various hospitals and nursing homes. Still from different health institutions, requesting us to provide students.

One of our Leprosy ward staff, Mr. Tasuruddin, retired and Jesu Ashram gave a good farewell. He was a leprosy patient who was cured and Bro. Bob & Sr. Ivana trained him and he has served here since then.

This year we have 14 new students. The 32<sup>nd</sup> batch of students. As they are financially deprived as well as grasping and capacity-less, the teachers have to work hard for the future of students through preparing them for the NIOS examination as well as the Jesu Ashram certificate course.



In the month of February Fr. Julius Kujur was transferred to Rajganj college community and Jesu Ashram bid him a tearful farewell.

Many of the nursing school students visited Jesu Ashram for their exposure programme. Republic Day and Women's Day are celebrated. World Leprosy Day, Tuberculosis day programme put up and awareness program given. The govt. official was present for tuberculosis day. World Sick Day is observed by conducting a prayer service as well as a health talk.

## Pradhan Nagar

*Sr. Jaya Polpas*

The year 2026 began with the quiet beauty of winter, inviting reflection and peace. Amid this calm, our community remained active in pastoral care—visiting families for prayer, offering encouragement and standing in solidarity with grieving families during burials.

Three of our sisters attended a session on catechism and faith formation, gaining valuable insights into sharing the Word of God and creative teaching methods.

We warmly welcomed Sr. Jyotshna Barla into our community.



We celebrated Republic Day with great enthusiasm in the school, with Bishop Paul Simick as the chief guest.

A special highlight of the Lenten season was a three-day parish retreat, offering spiritual renewal and deepening of faith.

We were also blessed by the presence of Navajeevan BSc and GNM students, who stayed with us during their practical training, bringing joy and vibrant energy to our community.

## Hatighisa

*Sr. Veronica Chungath*

On 18<sup>th</sup> January, a picnic was organized for the hostel children, accompanied by Sr. Anastacia Bilung and the staff. On 24<sup>th</sup> January, seventeen students of class XII were given a farewell. Women's Day was celebrated on 8<sup>th</sup> March with an aesthetic program. On 20<sup>th</sup> March, a quiz competition on the Bible was conducted. Non-Christian students also participated in activities such as drawing and selecting topics like peacock, sunflower, lotus and swan. The students were divided into four groups. Republic Day was celebrated on 26<sup>th</sup> January.





On 11<sup>th</sup> February, World Sick Day was observed and Holy Eucharist was celebrated by Fr. John S.J. We have five elderly sisters in our center who have become a special focus of care and attention. Their presence draws many visitors, especially our sisters from other communities, fostering a spirit of love and connection.



On 27<sup>th</sup> February some of our nursing staff received award from Navjeevan and Tarai Nursing Institution for their selfless service. On 7<sup>th</sup> March, Associate attended a day of recollection in Matigara. Once a month, Associate comes to pray at the health center. Every Wednesday, they go to the villages to pray for the sick.

*Sr. Mousumi Mondal*

## Gorubathan

The new academic year 2026 began with 106 students. On 28<sup>th</sup> February, we organized an excursion for the students to Science City and Bengal Safari, where the children enjoyed themselves to the fullest. We also celebrated Holi together, witnessing the beauty and joy of colors. On 4<sup>th</sup> March, our community attended a recollection at the Jesuits' Novitiate in Kalimpong. We spent the entire day there. We bid farewell to Sr. Jyotshna Barla. The community is grateful for her service and wishes her well in her new mission.



*Sr. Hema Kujur*



# Navjeevan Convent



Navjeevan Hospital conducted various health camps and awareness programs across different locations. In January, 85 children received free pediatric care under Dr. Siddhartha. A dental camp at Hanuman Mandir led by Dr. Simran served nineteen patients. On 7<sup>th</sup> February, a health camp at Girijaline helped thirty patients and a session was given for forty women on menopause and osteoporosis. On 6<sup>th</sup> March, a Women's Day program at Giritline involved twenty five women and a gynecological camp gave free check-ups, medicines, and awareness on breast care and cancer to twenty six patients.

The new academic session began with the 5<sup>th</sup> Batch of B.Sc. Nursing and 18<sup>th</sup> Batch of GNM students. Counselling and motivational sessions were conducted from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> January by MSMI Sisters from Kalimpong, with active participation from all students.

On 25<sup>th</sup> January, students volunteered at the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual MUSKAN Sports Meet in Siliguri for differently abled participants and secured 1<sup>st</sup> prize in the dance competition. The college also underwent a surprise WBNC inspection on 10<sup>th</sup> February.

**Socio-pastoral Work:** In February, Sr. Anjelina Tirkey attended BEC training in Darjeeling with fifty participants, focusing on community bonding, shared values, and supporting one another, with BEC activities conducted four days a week in the village.

The sisters participate in Sunday catechism classes, providing spiritual nourishment to the parish children. On 7<sup>th</sup> March, a mental health program was conducted at Girit Line by Dr. Sheriya, emphasizing self-care, awareness, and reducing stigma, followed by refreshments. Regular Sunday family visits are also carried out to listen, pray, and offer support and guidance to families.





The lamp lighting ceremony was held on 27<sup>th</sup> February for the new batches, along with the graduation of the first B.Sc. Nursing batch (2021–2025). During this auspicious ceremony, two of the grassroot health workers from Daughters of the Cross Palliative Care Centre and Jesu Ashram were given the Sr. Schwester Emilie Schneider Award for their committed service for more than 25 years to the weakest and most suffering humanity.

*Sr. Anthonia Arulandu*

## OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL CONVENT

- We went for a community outing to Happy Land in Nepal. It was a joyful trip and refreshing experience for everyone. The journey itself was filled with excitement and a sense of togetherness. We enjoyed the beautiful surroundings, various activities and quality time with one another.
- Sisters went to different sub-stations and assisted with Holy Communion distribution on Sundays and on various occasions and actively participated in parish activities.
- Hostel children, accompanied by the Associates and Sr. Nilima, went on a pilgrimage for the Seven Churches visitation.
- Classes V to VIII had a cake-making and statue-making competition. Everyone enjoyed the activities.
- Class VIII students spent an hour praying for peace in the world, especially for the war-torn countries and for the faithful of Chhattisgarh.



*Sr. Annette Lepcha*



## DUNDAJHAR



The Women's Day was celebrated on 7<sup>th</sup> March to honour and appreciate the achievements and contributions of women in society. We invited our students' mothers and facilitated them. Various activities were organized by students which conveyed strong messages about women's rights, education and leadership.

We also had the Oath Taking and Farewell Ceremony on 12<sup>th</sup> January. A session was conducted on Smart Screen for Teenagers by Fr. Lijo on 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

As a community, we had gone for a pilgrimage. Our visit to the Stations of the Cross at the Sonada Nalichour grotto, was a truly beautiful and prayerful experience. Surrounded by the peaceful hills, we walked through each station with deep reflection. The serene atmosphere helped us feel closer to God, filling our hearts with calm, faith and gratitude. It was a spiritually enriching journey that we will always cherish.

*Sr. Anusha Ramala*

## Goromtoli

## Raiganj

On 2<sup>nd</sup> January, we had a thanksgiving Mass for Sr. Embrencia Toppo. On 3<sup>rd</sup> January, our Parish Priest and we three sisters accompanied her to Maheshpur, Nepal, for her new mission and we brought Sr. Jyoti Ekka as a new member of our community.

On 12<sup>th</sup> January, the new academic year began. All the hostel children returned with great enthusiasm. On 26<sup>th</sup> January, Republic Day was celebrated in a grand way. Sr. Jyoti Ekka as the chief guest hoisted the national flag. The hostel children presented a beautiful program with dances and songs.

On 3<sup>rd</sup> February, the school held its Annual Sports Day. Many of our hostel children won prizes for various games.

From 24<sup>th</sup> February, we had a three-day retreat in the parish. Many experienced healing and spiritual renewal. On 3<sup>rd</sup> March, our community visited the home of one of our Associates who lives alone, as her children are away for studies and her husband works in Kerala.



*Sr. Bridget kerketta*



## Jordighi



On 15<sup>th</sup> January, the hostel children returned from their home and began preparing for their examinations. The sisters accompanied and supported them in their studies.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> February, we held a parents' meeting. They were happy and satisfied with the progress of their children.

The sisters also visited families of those who were sick or going through anxiety and difficulties. They tried to bring comfort and hope by being present with them, especially during times of death, accidents, and other moments of suffering.

15<sup>th</sup> March children returned for the new academic session. Through these services, we continue our mission of compassion, care and support for the people around us.

*Sr. Jayshri Kindo*

## Buniadpur

The past months were marked by a series of meaningful events, celebrations and developmental milestones that strengthened both community outreach and institutional growth. To foster team bonding and relaxation, a picnic was organized for the staff and the students on different days.

World AIDS Day was observed by conducting awareness programs, educating the public on prevention and care, emphasizing the importance of compassion toward those affected. In continuation of our commitment to community health, several mega medical camps were organized across different areas, providing accessible healthcare services to underserved populations.

Infrastructure also is progressing with the laying of the foundation stone for the convent and chapel.



National Youth Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm, encouraging young people to contribute positively to society. An orientation program was organized for the skill-training students by Fr. Simon Hansda, the Youth Coordinator of Raiganj Diocese.

Patriotic spirit marked the Republic Day celebration, led by the training center students through parade, songs, and dance, highlighting unity and national pride.

A significant administrative achievement was obtaining the NOC from the CMOH for conducting eye surgeries, marking an important step forward in expanding specialized medical services.

A spiritually enriching pilgrimage to Bandel was undertaken by Sr. Rani for the Catholic staff of the hospital, strengthening their faith and fellowship.

Professional development was prioritized through a five-day in-service program for the nursing staff, enhancing their skills and knowledge.

World Sick Day was observed with compassion and dedication, beginning with a Eucharistic celebration offered for the sick and suffering.

Overall, the year reflected a harmonious blend of service, celebration, growth, and commitment to holistic care.

*Sr. Martina Thapa*

## Gosaba Sundarbans

The sessions of Sr. Regi on the Charism and Spirituality have reawakened us. As a community we have strengthened our visits to the families and the sick, praying with them and listening to the joys and sorrows of their lives.

### PRAYER FOR PEACE

As conflict spreads across the Middle East and the entire world stands at a dangerous crossroads, the students and the staff of St. Joseph's Primary School, turn to God during our morning assembly prayer every day.

#### Our prayer is:

*"Almighty Father, You who calmed the raging sea with a single word from your Son- speak now into this storm of conflict and unrest. We pray for the people of Iran, for Israel, for the United States, and for every nation- that hatred may give way to humanity, and that vengeance may yield to wisdom.*

*Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Peace, you who stood at the foot of the cross and witnessed the cost of violence upon your Son, intercede for us now. Cover the nations with your mantle. Protect the innocent. Protect those who are defending the lives of others. Comfort the grieving. And obtain from your Son the peace that this world cannot give itself."*



*"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God." Mt. 5: 9*



*Sr. Suchita Tete*



# Basanti

The new academic year began with great enthusiasm as our school reopened on 5<sup>th</sup> January. The campus once again came alive with the joyful presence of students. We were delighted to welcome a good number of new admissions, bringing fresh energy and hope to our school community.

A Health and Hygiene Awareness Program was organized on 7<sup>th</sup> January in collaboration with Basanti Hospital for the students of Classes V to X. The most significant event was the Annual Day celebration held on 20<sup>th</sup> January, based on the

theme **“Girl Child—A Precious Gift of God.”** Through meaningful and creative performances, students highlighted the dignity and importance of the girl child in society and reminded everyone that every girl is truly a precious gift from God.

On 3<sup>rd</sup> February, the Investiture Ceremony was held where the newly elected student leaders took their oath to serve with dedication, discipline, and commitment.

In collaboration with the Leprosy Mission Trust India, a Free Eye Camp was organized on 22<sup>nd</sup> February for the people of Basanti. The camp received an overwhelming response, with around 600 people participating and benefiting from eye examinations and medical guidance. It was a meaningful outreach initiative aimed at serving the needs of the local community.

A Bible quiz competition for the parishioners was organized on 15<sup>th</sup> February, encouraging participants to deepen their knowledge of the Holy Scriptures. The Holy Childhood Day celebration was also observed with prayer and joy, reminding children of their mission to share God’s love with others.

The school organized a Spring Festival on 5<sup>th</sup> March, filling the campus with colours, music and enthusiasm.

International Women’s Day was celebrated on 9<sup>th</sup> March.

Continuing the spirit of compassion and service, a special program for widows was organized on 15<sup>th</sup> March, offering them encouragement and support.

A Teachers’ Orientation Programme was organized at St. Joseph’s School, Gosaba, where teachers from all four FC primary schools of the Baruipur Diocese came together for a day of learning and sharing. We were delighted to have Mrs. Samanta from St. Agnes School, Howrah, who guided and enriched the session with her valuable insights.



The English Section Annual Sports Meet was held on 30<sup>th</sup> January with great excitement and sportsmanship. The event was graced by Sr. Jasmine F.C. as the Chief Guest.

We had quiz competition for the associates on the life of the Blessed Mother Marie Therese and Gospel of St. Mathew on 25<sup>th</sup> March. It was great to see the interest and eagerness among the associates.

We thank God for His abundant blessings and education and service with renewed dedication.



look forward to continuing our mission of

*Sr. Deepshika Rai*

## Baidyapur



We had a get-together for the elderly people of our parish. We began with a prayer and ended with lunch. They were very happy and grateful.

We also visited the sick and elderly in the parish. One of our parishioners was very ill and had been bedridden for six to seven months. She lives alone. With continuous prayer, medication, and her constant efforts, she is now able to walk and is happy. We visit her regularly.

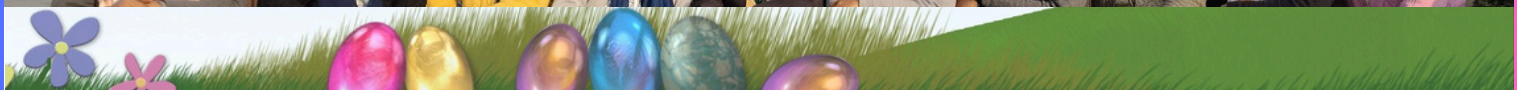
In our school, the students had a Sports Day as well as a one-day seminar. The resource person was from the diocese and spoke about the value of life. The students cooperated well and learned valuable lessons for their lives.

*Sr. Meera Kujur*

## BARASAT

### BROADENING THE HORIZONS OF LEARNING...

As the farmer waits for the rain to cultivate the paddy, we too were waiting patiently for the announcement to go for a picnic. At last, the long-awaited day dawned when Sr. Nirmala announced that we were going for a picnic. We began our journey, within an hour, we reached our picnic spot, Science City. We were extremely happy to see the perfect art of God's hands, which is so creative and excellent. We were overwhelmed to see the varieties of flowers and instruments, which were beautifully decorated. This outing brought relaxation, refreshed and renewed us to carry on for the year 2026.



This New Year brought some more interesting classes that charged us with zeal and enthusiasm. The classes on the life of our Beloved Mother Marie Therese and Sister Silvie broadened our understanding of the Congregation, inspired and strengthened us in our vocation. All the classes were very interesting and effective.

*Novices*

## St. Catherine's Home

## Kadderpore

It was a blessed day for St. Catherine's Home when our Rt. Rev. Archbishop Elias Frank visited us and gave us a blessing to our elderly ladies and Sisters. He interacted with the ladies and found them joyful and serene. Bishop then told us that this mission of taking care of the elderly is the need of the hour.

We have assigned a lady to engage our residents with exercise and music therapy on a daily basis. We have found that this initiative is enabling them to develop a positive vibe.

Our ladies were taken by an NGO (Entally) to celebrate Valentine's Day. It was an exciting day for our ladies to celebrate Valentine's Day along with other NGOs in Entally. They organized games, a foot spa, snacks and a delicious lunch.

Daughters of St. Paul conducted a reflective Stations of the Cross in our chapel.

We have equipped our physiotherapy unit with few more equipment in an aim to promote comfort, relieve pain and decrease stress.



**Sr. Agata Lepcha**

## St. Vincent's Home

### 244<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of our dear Blessed Marie Therese on 28<sup>th</sup> of February

On 28<sup>th</sup> of February, the community of St. Vincent's Home celebrated the 244<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of our dear Blessed Foundress Mother Marie Therese in The day began with Prayer and the Holy Eucharist and concluded with a joyful programme. Sisters from St. Cathrine Home and the Formees join the celebration. The programme was prepared by the Formees and it brought great joy to all the sisters.

The programme started with a short prayer, followed by a dance and recitation of the Gleanings of Blessed Marie Therese. The day was filled with joy, love and meaningful reflection on the life and mission of our Blessed Marie Therese.

At the end of the celebration, we had a together Feast Day meal and thus the celebration came to a joyful end.

**Sr. Lalita Lucy Tudu**

## St. Teresa's Secondary School

St. Teresa's Secondary School has witnessed a vibrant and productive period filled with academic achievements, co-curricular activities and spiritual enrichment.

The ISC and ICSE board examinations and also the school examinations were carried out in a well-organized manner. Recreational activities such as the Students' Picnic and Staff Picnic promoted camaraderie and well-being.

Students were encouraged towards social responsibility through a visit to an elderly home at Nabanir Home. Health awareness was emphasized through a Dental Awareness Programme conducted in collaboration with the Rotary Club.





Creativity was showcased during the Art, Craft, and Needlework Exhibition, while initiatives like No Bag Day encouraged experiential learning among young learners. Spiritual growth remained a priority with participation in a Lenten Recollection Programme for the teachers and a student pilgrimage, nurturing faith and reflection. Teachers also enhanced their professional skills through training aligned with the National Education Policy. The school community stood united in prayer during moments of loss among staff members and conducted a special prayer service for peace in the world. St. Teresa's Secondary School continues to strive for excellence by fostering academic growth, moral values, and holistic development in all its students.

*Sr. Mary Jasmine*

## St. Paul's Boarding & Day School

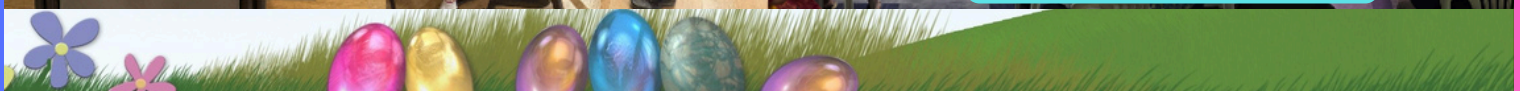


**Alumni: "Together again, like never before"**

**Exhibition: "Celebrating Talent, Creativity & Innovation"**



**Parents' Day Celebration**



## Ekpere Mission

Ekpere Mission, in collaboration with the Asansol Diocese, operates the SAA and Roshni Shelter Home for boys in need of care and protection (CNCP). At present, seven children from diverse and vulnerable backgrounds-including those who are mentally challenged, deaf and mute and former child labourers are under our care.

Three of the children are enrolled in the local government school in Koirapur. The duration of stay at the shelter home is generally short-term; however, it has been observed that some children are reluctant to return to their families upon reunification.

The mission remains committed to ensuring the care, protection, rehabilitation and holistic development of each child entrusted to our care.

*Sr. Gloria Dungdung*

## Experience Faith Exposure Programme in Grojapara Parish, Guwahati Diocese

We are happy to share our experience of 16<sup>th</sup> Faith Exposure Program 2026 at Gojapara Parish, Guwahati. It was meaningful and spiritually enriching experience for us. This program gave us the opportunity to encounter the life, faith and culture of the people in a rural parish community.

During the exposure program, we visited different villages and families. People welcomed us warmly and shared their lives. Even though many families live with limited resources their strong faith in God and joyful spirit deeply inspired us.

We were also glad to have those missionaries who shared their mission experience, motivated and strengthened our faith. Their enthusiasm and dedication encouraged us greatly. We also admired at the commitment of the priests, religious and catechists who work tirelessly for the Spiritual and social development of the people.

Overall, the programme was not only an exposure to a new place but also a journey of faith and personal growth. It helped us understand the realities of mission life and strengthened our desire to serve the Church and the people with love, humility and dedication. This experience will remain valuable inspiration for our future ministry.

*Srs. Kiran Kerketta & Kusmita Tigga*

**“Every success is built on the foundation of gratitude, support and blessings received from others.”**

I completed a nine-month Diploma in Holistic Spirituality at Dhyavanava, Mysore, with 45 religious from various congregations, enriching our shared learning and appreciation of diverse spiritual traditions.

The sessions, group sharing, and reflections deepened my intellectual, spiritual, and emotional growth. Through daily Eucharist, prayer, Adoration, recollections, confession, spiritual direction, and retreat, my relationship with God was strengthened, inspiring me to live my spirituality through service, compassion, and finding God in everyday life.

Community activities and gatherings fostered unity and renewed our energy. This course was truly a time of grace, renewal, and growth. I return with a grateful heart and renewed commitment to my vocation, sincerely thankful to Sister Catherine, the provincial and her team, for her support. As Mother Teresa of Kolkata reminds us, “Do small things with great love.” With this spirit, I continue my journey with faith, gratitude, and dedication to my mission.

*Sr. Ebha Anjali Kujur*



## **A Grace-Filled Pilgrimage to Velankanni**

A group of thirty-eight Associates of the Daughters of the Cross and nine Sisters, guided by Sr. Shila Louis, set out on a pilgrimage filled with joy, faith, prayer, and hope. From the beginning, the journey was marked by trust in God and devotion to Mother Mary, as we sought her protection, healing, and guidance.

Though many began without knowing the travel details, we followed in faith like the disciples. Gradually, we became one pilgrim family through shared prayers, meals, and fellowship.

Our visit to Kanyakumari was a profound experience of God's presence in nature. At the Triveni Sangam, we were moved by the beauty of the meeting seas, the sunrise and sunset, and the serene surroundings. We also felt blessed to witness the place associated with St. Devasahayam Pillai.

Reaching Velankanni, the shrine of Our Lady of Good Health, was the most cherished moment. We spent time in prayer, attended Holy Mass and entrusted our intentions to Mother Mary.

This pilgrimage brought deep inner transformation, with many experiencing spiritual, emotional, and physical healing. Despite challenges, it was a truly grace-filled and memorable journey.

We sincerely thank all the Sisters and associates who made this pilgrimage meaningful. We returned home with renewed faith and grateful hearts.

*Associates of the Daughters of the Cross*

## **IN LOVING MEMORY OF SISTER LUCIA KUJUR**

*Thank you Dear Sr. Lucia,*

*For all you have been or done.*

*You are a precious gift from God and precious  
to tulachan, Nepal.*

*You were the pioneer of the mission and the school.*

*You did not leave any work unfinished.*

*You struggled to bring up this mission and school.*

*But you never turned back and said No.*

*Your love and jealous nature brought up this mission.*

*You crossed all the barriers to bring this mission.*

*Once you put forward your steps, you never said "No".*

*You went ahead with much zeal and enthusiasm  
to make this place better.*

*Your dedication and commitment to God's work  
were undesirable.*

*Your readiness to proclaim the Good News was amazing.*

*You as a teacher firm friendly and caring.*

*You, as a coordinator, were supportive.*

*You as a pioneer had a mind and heart for a mission.*

*You as a sister added joy and laughter.*

*You as a Principal dedicated and Committed  
to your responsibility.*



We Sisters, teachers, staff, parents, MC members, Guthi members and the Daughters of the Cross Society Nepal miss you. Remember us in heaven.

*Sr. Nirmala Dewan*



## **Maison Mere – Mother House: Down Memory Lane!!!!**

Maison Mere, standing tall and elegant  
Against rain, storm, hailstorms and snow  
A hundred and ninety-two years of its history.

The spacious corridors have seen  
FCs of great Caliber, going back and forth  
Be it prayers, meals or meetings

This present generation have lived with  
Monica McAuley, Marguerite Dirik, Arlinda, Katheleen, Pushpa  
Councillors Nilda, Lutgard, Lydwina, Anandi, Mary George etc....  
All contributing to the richness and growth  
Under the banner of our special Charism.

Our Mother Foundress' coffin opened and closed  
Only to find the state of non-decay.

Lying in state in Ecce Homo,  
Opened for investigation on the green lawn  
In the presence of Ecclesiastical Authorities,  
Doctors and Undertakers.

Beatification, Transfer to Mother House Church  
All organised solemnly and magnificently.

Memories!! Memories for all who were present  
To pass on to the next generation,  
The rich culture and heritage of the daughters of the Cross.

Blessed Marie Therese, waited at her own Church  
Until the next Call, given in 2017.  
Mother as usual, never hesitated to move on....

Aril 24<sup>th</sup> 2017,

Carriage drawn by white horses  
Carried the Coffin of our Mother  
From Rue Hors Chateau to Liege Cathedral.

Mother lies now among saints and all the deceased-  
Bishops of Liege, St. Lambert in Particular..  
St. Joseph continues to be her Patron and Protector  
Lying below His alter.  
She shines like a star of brightness.  
Many come to her tomb  
To pray and intercede for healing and wellness.

Maison Mere is a scenic beauty  
The tall trees of the garden  
Tell her stories of greatness.

The hillside is fresh and green  
Life giving fresh air everywhere  
For Maison Mere, though the interior is altered  
The exterior is untouched  
Telling the stories of the Daughters of  
Mother Marie Therese to one and all !!!!!



*Sr. Jacinta Mattathinkara*



# *Gone to Heavenly Abode*



**Sr. Lucia Kujur**

**25<sup>th</sup> April 1950-7<sup>th</sup> February 2026**



**Sr. Mary Anita Ekka**

**29<sup>th</sup> February 1944-21<sup>st</sup> March 2026**

*Sr. Punitha Alpin's Father*  
*Sr. Nilima Dungkung's Niece*  
*Sr. Rose Joseph's Nephew*

**1<sup>st</sup> March**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> March**  
**18<sup>th</sup> March**



HAPPY  
*Easter*  
HE IS RISEN

