

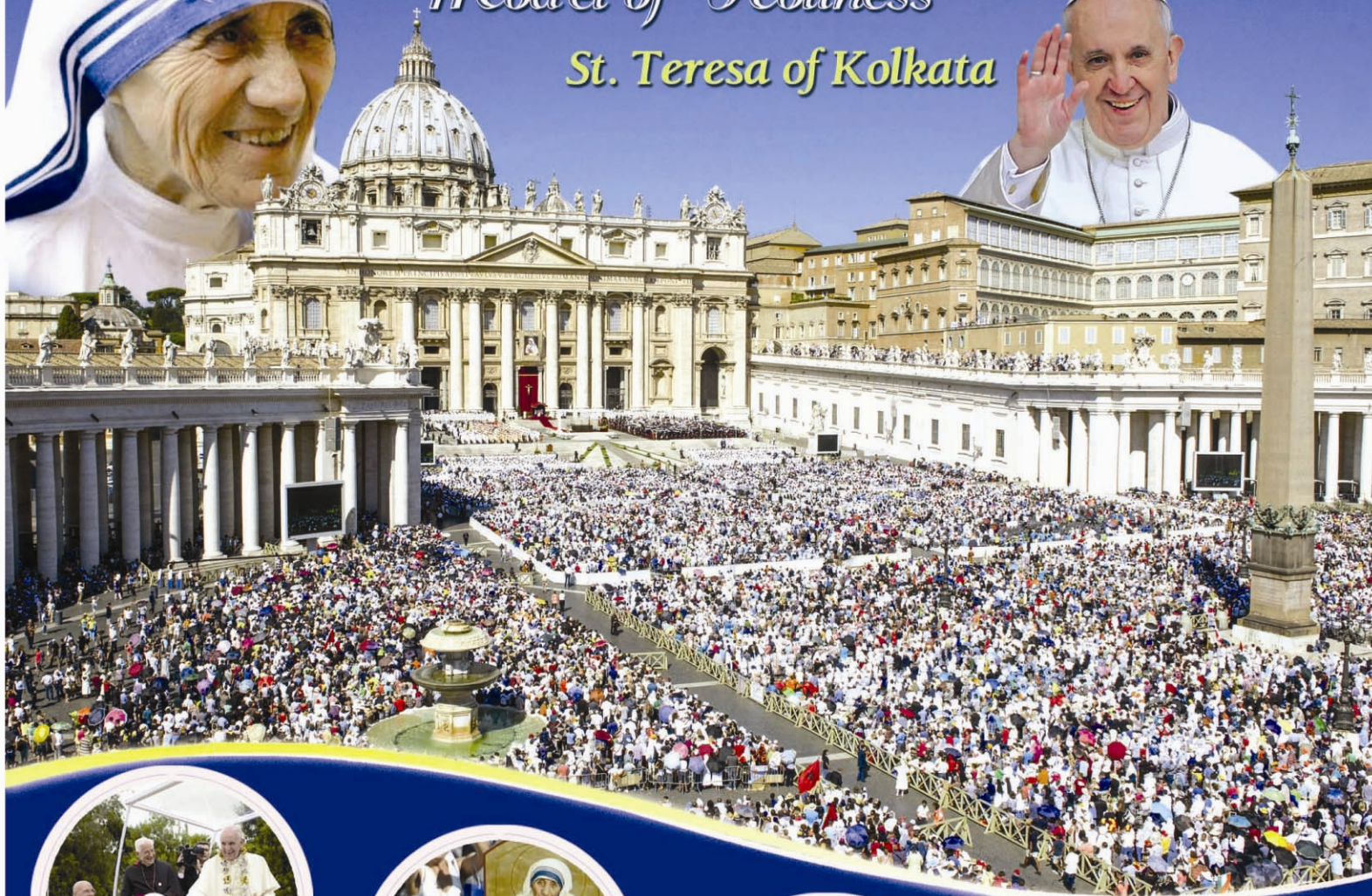
# Dibrugarh Diocesan iary



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## Model of Holiness St. Teresa of Kolkata



'Today, I pass on this emblematic figure of womanhood and of consecrated life to the whole world of volunteers. May she be your model of holiness'

POPE FRANCIS in his homily





# Give love until it hurts...



*Dear Readers,*



**St. Mother Teresa of Kolkata** during her life time always said this inspiring sentence ***"give love until it hurts"***. She lived her life so much to the full that, in fact it has already inspired the hearts of millions of people all over the world. The real proof was seen on 4th September 2016, when Pope Francis said, ***"She made her voice heard before the powers of this world, so that they might recognize their guilt for the crime – the crimes! – of poverty they created."***

**Queen Sofia of Spain** and some 1,500 homeless people also looked on as Francis described Teresa's work in the slums of the Indian metropolis as ***"eloquent witness to God's closeness to the poorest of the poor."*** ***Mother Teresa was totally "committed to defending life, ceaselessly proclaiming that the unborn are the weakest, the smallest, the most vulnerable,"*** the Pope said.

Even in my life, I have encounter with number of people who so easily try to criticise people who work for the poor and marginalised. But they don't even take a step forward to help someone who is in great need. However, it is much more hurting to see people just passing by without even giving a single glance at a person whom they do not love. St. Mother Teresa rightly said, ***"Perhaps I don't speak their language but I can smile"***. ***"Let us carry her smile in our hearts and give it to those whom we meet along our journey, especially those who suffer."***



Not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great love...this saying of Saint Mother Teresa can be understood by a true story of a charity-worker from **Denmark-Ania Ringgren Loven** who some months back in Nigeria adopted a naked and dying two –year abandoned child. She named the child as Hope. Before and after picture of Hope are portrayed here.



It's not so easy to love someone whom we do not know. Just as Mother Teresa said in her life, ***"spread love everywhere you go"***. For giving with love expands the heart and removes the creases of the heart. We are rich only through what we give, and poor only through what we refuse. It is more blessed to give than to receive. It is possible to give without loving, but impossible to love without giving. Therefore, seek joy in what you give, not in what you get. For, what you keep to yourself you lose but what you give away, you keep forever. ***"It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving"***...said St. Mother Teresa.

Therefore, dear friends, the trick is to realize that after giving your best, there's nothing more to give. For the fruit of love is to serve, not to get but to give. There is only one word that frees us of all the weight and pain of life; that word is **LOVE**. Therefore, if we take away LOVE from our earth than, what ultimately remains is **TOMB**.



*Yours affectionately*  
***Fr. Noas Lakra***



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## *Sainthood of* **MOTHER TERESA** Celebrated in Dibrugarh

**D**ibrugarh, Sept 4: The Sainthood of Nobel Laureate and Bharat Ratna Mother Teresa of Kolkata, was celebrated at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Bishop's House with thanksgiving prayers, eulogy, drama and other events.

The Christian community in thousands took part in the day long ceremony. The thanksgiving prayer was led by Rt. Rev. Joseph Aind, Bishop of Dibrugarh. At least 15 priests, several nuns, including the Missionaries of Charity, the order founded by Mother Teresa, took part in the event along with the general public.

Nearby Catholic institutions like Don Bosco Higher Secondary School, St. Mary's Higher Secondary School, Little Flower Higher Secondary School, St. Joseph's Minor Seminary, Boniface Apostolic Home, St. Xavier School, V.G. Hospital, Pragyalaya and Bishop Marengo Memorial Hostel were also part of the celebrations.

The community glorified God for the gift of Mother Teresa. They also invoked upon the Almighty to grant them the virtue and the grace to enable each one to serve the humanity like iconic Mother Teresa.

Bishop Aind in his homily exhorted upon the congregation to emulate the great Saint Mother Teresa so as to walk in the path of sainthood. The other events included devotional dances, a drama on Saint Mother Teresa, songs and talks on the Messiah of the poor, etc.

*Dibrugarh - Staff Correspondent  
The Assam Tribune, Monday, Sep 5, 2016, Pg-9*



# FAITH FORMATION

*"To believe – to begin – to become"*

St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Phillobari, is the only church in the diocese where people come for mass or any other liturgical functions without being reminded by Church bell. The faithful are there in the Church at 7.30 am for Sunday mass. The parish comprises of 1800 Catholic families. The Church is alive in Phillobari.

From 27<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> May 2016, the parish celebrated Mahila Divas. It was animated by Sr. Amulia Minj and Mrs. Helena Aind. The program was attended by most of the women. It was concluded on 29<sup>th</sup> May with solemn Mass presided over by the Parish Priest.



From 13<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> August, 2016, there was three days youth program. This time there were three main resource persons: Fr. Peter Mahendra Tigga, S.J. from Ranchi, Fr. Noas Lakra, the Youth Director and Fr. Anthony Xalxo. Salute to Fr. Mahendra Tigga for his presentation on ***Life of the Adivasis of Assam in Socio-Religio-Economic Sphere***. The presentation was well ground on the need of the faithful. The total number of youth who participated in the program continuously numbered eight hundred. On 15<sup>th</sup> August, the solemn conclusion of the Youth Convention with Youth Football Tournament could not be carried out due to social unrest. However, good number of the youth turned up for the final day.

On 21<sup>st</sup> August, one sub-station of the parish, Borohullong, organized ***Bible Youth Fest***.



Four neighbouring communities of Borohullong came together for this Bible Youth Fest, in which Bible quiz was held. In this occasion effort was also made by Deacon John Minj to present ***A Tribal reading of the Bible*** and ***An Assam-Adivasi Perspective of the reading of the word of God*** with special reference to Ex. 3: 1-12.



On 28<sup>th</sup> August, again the women of Phillobari parish came together to Celebrate Monica Diwas known as Mother's Day. On this day Holy Eucharistic was offered for all the mothers of the parish. After the Church service Fr. Gregory gave a session on **"How to live the Sacrament of Marriage in everyday life"**. Fr. Leonard the PP explained to the mothers about the life of St. Monica and the implications of feast St. Monica. Sr. Archana gave a session on **'Challenges of Mothers'**.

**Canonization of Blessed Mother Teresa:** The faithful of Phillobari parish gave a due homage to Mother Teresa on 4<sup>th</sup> September on the day of her Canonization. A Beautiful portrait of St. Teresa of Kolkata drawn by Non-Catholic students was placed in the Church and the faithful paid homage to St. Teresa of Kolkata.

*By: Deacon John Minj*

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## *Dhuria* YOUTH CONVENTION

The Dhuria Parish started in the year 1993. For the past 23 years, lots of spiritual activities have been conducted in the parish, yet the people are very slow to accept the teachings of the Church. The fact is that, though they accepted Catholic faith, they were not fully convinced of it. Very soon they lost their interest to come to the Church as well as to learn and follow the teaching of the Church. They just lived their lives like any other non-Christians lived in the tea gardens.

As we are in the Year of Mercy, some of the Catholics who are convinced of their faith are trying their best to renew and deepen their faith by bringing them to the Church on Sundays. That's the reason why they have formed Mahila Sangh, Youth Sangh and Purush Sangh in the month of January 2016. The main task of this spiritual organisation is to bring back those Catholics who have lost their faith in Christ Jesus and bring them back to the Church. And also to teach them and make them understand their duty and responsibility as a true Catholic and a follower of Christ Jesus.





## DIBRUGARH DIARY

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At present after having conducted lots of programmes for the Women, Men and Youth, today the faithful have become dynamic and enthusiastic in the Church activities. Several retreats were conducted for the faithful. Many faith formation, Motivational and Leadership Training programmes were conducted not only for the youth but also for the men and women of the parish. Even, lots of seminars and meetings were conducted in the Parish. Today, there is life in the parish due to active participation in the Church services as well as in the Church activities.

**FROM 5TH – 10<sup>th</sup> JULY 2016**, Youth Convention had been conducted by the Youth Director Fr. Noas Lakra. The theme of the Youth Convention was *“to believe, to begin & to become”*. The total numbers of participants were 343. Some of the resource persons were like Fr. Sunny Minj sdb, Fr. Nazarius Lakra sdb, Sr. Sandra, Mr. Ajay Kerketta and Mr. David Topno. The topics that were dealt for the Youth Convention were:

- a) *Faith Formation and Faith Crisis of the Youth in the present era.*
- b) *Necessity and requirements of Career Guidance and Entrepreneurship.*
- c) *Good and Evil consequences of the use of Mass Media*
- d) *Good and Evil consequences of the use of Mobile phone*
- e) *Good dynamic Youth Leaders for good governance in the Church*
- d) *Evil consequences of the use of drugs / alcohol in the lives of the youth.*

**ON 8<sup>th</sup> JULY 2016**, Rt. Rev. Joseph Aind sdb, celebrated Holy Mass for the youth along with Fr. Devassy Palatty sdb, the personal Secretary of Bishop. Through his sermon Bishop inspired the youth to take up challenges and responsibilities for the growth and development of the Church and society. Fr. Devassy too, enlightened the youngsters by his talks how to lead a good moral life as well as how to live with dignity and honour.

**ON 9<sup>th</sup> JULY**, Fr. Lazar the Vicar General and 3 fathers seat for the confession. Almost all the youth made good confessions. The boys and girls after having made their confession looked so happy and cheerful. We could see lots of energetic smiles on their faces. The resource persons made sure that they follow their instructions. Above all, the participants were punctual for the session every day.

**FINALLY, ON 10<sup>th</sup> JULY 2016**, the Youth Convention was concluded by lowering down the Youth flag. By the grace of God, all the participants have become enthusiastic and have decided to follow up what they have heard and learned during the session. The youngsters are also planning to arrange some competitions for both boys and girls to keep up the unity within them and to take up catechism class in their respective villages every Sundays.

*Fr. Jose Oonnukallel, Parish Priest – Dhuria*



## ST. MONICA DIWAS

This year St. Monica Diwas celebration was anticipated on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2016 at Naharkatia Parish. Rev. Fr. Joseph Mulaparampil the Parish Priest of Naharkatia Parish welcomed Rev. Fr. Lazar Kakkassery the Vicar General of the Diocese and Sr. Amulia Minj msmh, the Women Co-ordinator.



To mark this day, the Women group in large number came in hundreds from different villages to take part in the Holy Eucharistic celebration. Sr. Elizabeth Barla and Sr. Promila Kerketta also took part in the celebration. Rev. Fr. Lazar Kakkassery was the main celebrant to offer Holy Eucharistic celebration. Through his inspirational homily about the life of St. Monica and Blessed Mother Mary's seven sorrow, he touched the minds and hearts of many. They are:-

1. The prophecy of Holy Simeon
2. The flight into Egypt
3. The loss of the Child Jesus for three days at Jerusalem
4. Mary meets her Son on the way to Calvary
5. Mary stood beneath the Cross
6. Mary received the dead body of Jesus taken down from the Cross
7. Mary arranges the body of Jesus in the tomb with her own hands.

Immediately after the Holy Eucharistic celebration a short felicitation program was organised by the women commission. It began with the lighting of the lamp and by invoking God's blessings upon all the mothers by Fr. Pradeep Lakra. The resource persons were felicitated with a phulam gamosa.

Rev. Fr. Lazar Kakkassery in his speech encouraged the assembled women and others to



cultivate the vegetables in their own gardens for self-sustenance. Rev. Fr. Jose the Parish Priest of Naharkatia inspired the mothers to strengthen their prayer life as well as to have self sacrificing spirit at all time. Sr. Amulia Minj in her speech said that, all the mothers in the world should take the place of Mother Mary and St. Mother Teresa of Kolkata, who faced all sorts of challenges in their life. She also gave the example of "Thomas Edison" who was expelled from the school for having questioned the teacher in the class. Though Thomas Edison was expelled from the class, his mother never gave up hope in him but instead she taught him and encouraged him. Above all, she created much more interest in his studies. Thus, finally we see Thomas Edison invented the motion pictures of the movies as well as the incandescent electric bulb.

Before the closing of the day the women staged their attractive and colourful cultural program. Nearly 700 women had gathered for the celebration of St. Monica Diwas. Finally, all were served the meal and departed for their home feeling so happy and cheerful.

*Sr. Amulia Minj msmhc, The Women Co-ordinator*

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## The ABCs of St. Mother Teresa

**A**lways have the courage to say sorry.

**B**e kind, be compassionate.

**C**ontrol your judgements.

**D**on't let yourself get discouraged.

**E**very minute is precious

– don't waste your time.

**F**ind out what is nice in each other.

**G**ive until it hurts.

**H**ave deep respect for each other.

**I**f you really want to love God,

love one another.

**J**ust do small things with great love.

**K**ep your heart clean.

**L**earn to pray, love to pray and pray often.

**M**ake time for each other in your family.

**N**ever tell lies.

**O**nly believe you are precious to Him (God).

**P**ut love in whatever you do.

**Q**uite a lot of people have forgotten what  
love is...so begin to give  
the joy of loving.

**R**efrain from prejudice.

**S**mile at each other.

**T**ake the trouble to listen.

**U**se your talents for the glory of God.

**V**ery often, we look but we don't see,  
let us look and see.

**W**hen humiliation comes,  
accept it and offer it.

**E**xcuse rather than accuse.

**Y**ou must learn to forgive.

**Z**eal is a second name for love,  
do not lose that zeal!





## *Adivasis Mark* **KARAM FESTIVAL**

**D**ibrugarh, Sept 22: The Adivasi Cultural Development Committee (ACDC) of the diocese of Dibrugarh organised its eighth annual Karam festival in Kumchai Kong High School, Hawaipathar in Tinsukia district as stated by a release recently.

The three day colourful event included deliberations, training on mandar (drum) beats, karam dance and singing. The programme was inaugurated on the second day by Fr. Norber Xess, the Parish Priest of Jagun. Fr. Xess unfurled the flag of the Adivasi Cultural Development Committee while Fr. Anil Lakra, Principal of St. Vincent's High School, Jagun and Bikash Minj hoisted flags of Jagun Parish and organising committee's respectively. The "*swahid-tarpan*" was led by Jernal Minj, the general secretary.

The deliberations were mainly held on the "*roots of Adivasis, Adivasi history, Karam history and Adivasi seasonal festivals*". The talks on the topics were delivered by Fr. Anthony Xalxo, Albert Markey, Bartholomeo Kandulna. Mrs. Suchita Tirkey conducted the *mandar-taal* and Karam dance training program. In the evening, there was the Karam cutting ceremony, planting of the Karam branches and the narration of the Karam-story by the Pahan (Priest) Albert Markey.

The Karam dance competition was participated by twelve teams from different areas of Upper Assam. The Nilmoni team was adjudged the best in the competition. The team from Mariani begged the first runners up while Tongna team grabbed the second runners up prizes.

*The Assam Tribune, Dibrugarh, September - 22 -2016.*



# FLOOD RELIEF OPERATIONS

*in* DIBRUGARH DISTRICT

A large area of Dibrugarh district was affected by flood in this year 2016. Seva Kendra Dibrugarh relentlessly made assessment of the affected villages and reached out to most affected villages beginning from August 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016. A total of 710 families in 7 worst affected villages received relief materials of Bleaching powder, Detergent powder, Dettol, Buckets (20 litre) with lid, Mug, Sanitary Cloth (4 mtrs), Citronella Oil 2nos per family, Mosquito Coil (2Pkts), White phenyl 750 ml per and Mosquito Net double size.



## LIST OF THE VILLAGE

Sl no	Name of the village	Total HH
1	1no Banhbari	123
2	Hingori Bali village	70
3	Dewan Na gaon	37
4	Bordoi Maz Gaon	73
5	Sessa Kinar Moina Miri Gaon	115
6	Kalakhowa Gozai Gaon	204
7	Chakaipother	88
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>710</b>

At Dewan Na Gaon, distribution was done by Mr. Jacob Munda, the Assistant Commissioner of tea welfare Board and other dignitaries. On the occasion he asked the people to be vigilant during flood and help each other. Thereafter distribution was done at Bordoi Majgaon, Sessa Kinar Moina Miri Gaon, 1no Banhbari and Hingori Bali village. On the final day distribution took place at Kalakhowa Gozai gaon and Chakaipother villages where media coverage was done in the presence of Director SKD, Fr. Elias Lugun and other dignitaries.





The Seva Kendra team had a very good networking system and cooperation assisted by Mr. Prabal Sen, the state officer for Caritas India from Guwahati.

The communities of all the villages have expressed sincere thanks to SKD and Caritas India for such noble interventions.

The communities specifically mentioned about problems faced during post floods and expressed their concern on the various other problems that they had to face to onslaught of flood.

*Fr. Elias Lugun, SKD-Director*

## MOTHER TERESA finally becomes SAINT TERESA of Kolkata

*(In order to be declared a saint, the congregation needs to agree to the candidate having lived a virtuous life and having performed at least two miracles through the intercession of God after her death.)*

**V**ATICAN CITY, Sept 4: Pope Francis on Sunday declared Nobel Peace Prize winner Mother Teresa, revered for her work among the poor in India, a Saint of the Catholic Church.

***"We declare and define Blessed Teresa of Calcutta to be a Saint"***, the Pope said to a roar from the thousands gathered as St. Peter's square here, including many Indians who held or waved the Indian flag. ***"We enrol her among the Saint, decreeing that she is to be venerated as such by the whole Church. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,"*** He said, making a long awaited announcement.



An estimated 120,000 people attended the Holy Mass, according to the Vatican Press Office. Crowd flooded the Vatican to celebrate the highly anticipated canonization of Mother Teresa, an event which Catholics and non-Catholics alike had looked forward to since the nun's death in 1997.

Many arrived before dawn to get the good spot for the ceremony, the Catholic News Agency reported. In New Delhi, **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** described the sainthood of Mother Teresa as ***"a memorable and proud moment"*** – reflecting the popular thinking



in the country which Teresa made her home.

**Cardinal Angelo Amato** read a brief biography of Mother Teresa's work and then asked the Pope to canonize her in the name of the Church. Mother Teresa's life was given to service and she was committed to defending life, especially the *"unborn and those abandoned and discarded"*. She was *"a generous dispenser of divine mercy"*. *"She was committed to defending life, ceaselessly proclaiming that the unborn are the weakest, the smallest, the most vulnerable,"* the Pope said.

Speaking of Teresa, the Pope noted how she *"bowed down before those who were spent...seeing in them their God given dignity."* *"Today, I pass on this emblematic figure of womanhood and of consecrated life to the whole of volunteers may she be your model of holiness"*.

After the Holy Mass, the Pope thanked everyone, especially the Missionaries of Charity whom he called the *"spiritual family of Mother Teresa"*. Hundreds of Missionaries of Charity Sisters attended the event, along with several heads of state or government. About 1,500 homeless people from across Italy were served a pizza lunch by some 250 nuns and priests of the Sisters of Charity order media reports said.

Born in Agen Gonxha Bojaxhiu on August 26, 1910 in Skopje now in Macedonia. Mother Teresa founded the Missionaries of Charity in 1950. After doing iconic work in the slums of Calcutta (now Kolkata) that won universal acclaim, she died in 1997 at the age of 87. She was beatified in 2003, a key step to sainthood.

Two miraculous cures of the sick after Mother Teresa's death have been attributed to her intercession. The youngest of three children. She attended a youth group run by a Jesuit priest called Sodality, which eventually led her to becoming a nun. She joined the Sisters of Loreto in Ireland at age 17 and was sent to Calcutta, where she taught at a high school.

After contracting tuberculosis, she was sent to rest in Darjeeling. It was on the way that she felt what she called *"an order"* from God to leave the convent and live among the poor.

The Vatican granted her permission to leave the Sisters of Loreto and to live her new call under the guidance of the Archbishop of Calcutta.

Catholic News Agency said Mother Teresa's canonization was significant not only because it took place during the Jubilee of Mercy but also because it fell during a special September 2-4 Jubilee celebration for workers and volunteers of mercy, of whom Mother Teresa is widely considered one of the greatest. (IANS)

*The Sentinel – Dibrugarh, Monday 5 Sept 2016, Pg.1-2.  
(Vol-VII No 298 Regd. No. ASSENG/2009/30529*



# WORLD YOUTH DAY EXPERIENCE

at KRAKOW – BLONIA PARK



The whole excitement that kept me mesmerized and enthralled was the Night Vigil and the final Holy Eucharist offered by His Holiness Pope Francis. It was early in the morning at 5.00 am on 31<sup>st</sup> July I was asked by a media man, ***“What’s World Youth Day for you?”*** This question kept me spellbound for a minute and I answered him after a brief pause. *“For me World Youth Day is about coming together for meeting, singing, dancing and worshipping the true Lord Jesus Christ with others from across the world, who shares my same faith and belief. Moreover, it’s about prayer, growing in faith, adoration, living the joy of being a true ardent young Catholic. But much more, it is non-other than His Holiness Pope Francis who has brought me all the way from India to Poland to celebrate the World Youth Day together with 1.6 million from 187 countries to the land of St. John Paul II and St. Sr. Faustina Kowalska.”*

I remember it was on 30<sup>th</sup> July at the Night Vigil on Saturday after hearing testimonies from three young people; Pope Francis built upon them to tell all the youth present not to be couch potatoes, living boring, paralysing lives, but to leave their mark on history and not let others determine their future. Youth are sometimes gripped by a false happiness, he said, a happiness they confuse with a sofa. He called it ***“Sofa happiness”!*** *“To think that in order to be happy, all we need is a good sofa. A sofa that makes us feel comfortable, calm and safe. A sofa like one of those we have now a days with a built-in*



*massage unit to put us to sleep. A sofa that promises us hours of comfort, so we can escape to the world of video games and spend all kinds of time in front of a computer screen. A sofa that keeps us safe from any kind of pain and fear. A sofa that allow us to stay home, without needing to work at or worry about anything. That is probably the most harmful and insidious form of paralysis, since little by little, without even realising it, we start to nod off, to grow drowsy and dull. Thinking that in this world, in our cities and our communities, there is no longer any room to grow, to dream, to create, to gaze at new horizons – to live in the world – is one of the worst things that can happen to us in life, and especially at a young age. When we are paralysed, we miss the magic of encountering others, making friends, sharing dreams, waking at the side of others. This does not let us join hands. It closes us as if in a glass cage... Dear young people we didn't come into this world to "vegetate", to take it easy, to make our lives a comfortable sofa to fall asleep on"* said Pope Francis.

If you want to follow Jesus, he said, you must take risk, have a good dose of courage and be ready to trade in your sofa for a good pair of walking shoes. You must be ready to do crazy things for God. You must make history rather than simply be mute spectators to it. And this requires courage.

Like a football match, life *"only takes players on the first string, and has no room for benchwarmers,"* the Pope told young people at the World Youth Day. "Today's world demands that you be a protagonist of history, because life is always beautiful when we choose to live it fully, when we choose to leave a mark."

At the concluding Holy Mass on Sunday (July 31<sup>st</sup>), Pope Francis spoke about three obstacles that we face in our faith life, making an analogy with the person of Zacchaeus who overcame those obstacles to meet Jesus.

**The first obstacle** is the smallness of stature, or low self-esteem, and the fact that at times we don't feel worthy before God. We forget that we are His children, made in His own image and likeness. We walk away from God, when He wants to look at us.



**The second obstacle** is the paralysis of shame. Not saying a whole-hearted “Yes” to God, not becoming crazy for God because we are afraid of becoming a laughing stock; we are worried about our public image.

**The third obstacle** is the criticism of those around us, of those who judge us on the basis of our achievements, rather than peering into our hearts and seeing who we truly are.

Finally, like Jesus told Zacchaeus, He wants to come and stay with us. *“He wants to enter your homes, to dwell in your daily lives: in your studies, your first years of work, your friendships and affections, your hopes and dreams. How greatly He desires that you bring all this to Him in prayer! How much He hopes that, in all the “contacts” and “chats” of each day, pride of place be given to the golden thread of prayer!”* said Pope Francis.

At the end of the Holy Mass, Pope Francis announced that the next World Youth Day would take place in **Panama in 2019**. The youth of Panama were promptly handed the symbols of the WYD. Before departing for Rome, the Holy Father met with the volunteers of the WYD at the Tauron Arena and praised them for their dedication, fervour and sacrifice. He compared Christian volunteer work to the person of the Virgin Mary in the Gospel mystery of the Visitation and highlighted her three attitudes of listening, deciding and going with haste. WYD volunteers are not only “**workers**,” but “**evangelisers**, because the Church exists and serves to evangelise”, he said. Papa Francesco, we love you, and we can’t wait to meet you again in Panama. Come to Panama in 2019, and make some noise! Said one of the Youth who had spent a major time of the WYD in front of a laptop.

Dear friends, now let me share about my personal experience at Poland. The city of Krakow came to a standstill for a week, as a sea of young people took over the streets. It was a young and “loud” celebration of faith and Catholicism, the Universal Church united around the figure of Peter, worshipping God and celebrating their joy. As per official figures, 843 pilgrims were present from India, including 54 priests and 10 nuns.



I, on the other hand, saw and experienced the WYD from a different perspective. As a Youth Director of Dibrugarh Diocese I witnessed in the streets, village roads

## DIBRUGARH DIARY

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and market squares all around young hearts overrun with a sea of humanity – national groups waving flags, shouting slogans, singing hymns, breaking out into spontaneous dance and song, encouraging one another, introducing themselves to contingents from other countries, taking selfies, holding each other and shaking hands with each other, all these actions showed the real excitement of the celebration of WYD.

But the interesting part of it is that we had to face lots of challenges during the days of World Youth Day celebration. We had to walk for hours and hours each day, sitting in open fields under heat and rain, struggling to get a meal outside packed restaurants. But who cares? It's the World Youth Day!

The WYD truly began when the Papal plane landed at Krakow airport, and there we could see in the screen the energy and love of youth from around the globe flocking to him. The electricity was already in the air, but the switch had just been turned on. One needs to be in the mass of people to feel how much *"Papa Francesco"* means to them. He is an electrifying figure and chants of *"Papa Francesco"* rang out throughout the day at the main venues and on the streets.

'Pope Francis created memorable images at the WYD. Young people look up to him, they adore him, they love him with all their hearts when he said to the youth to go out and *"make noise"* and *"make a mess"* in the streets but it should be *"beautiful noise"* and *"colourful mess"* to make this place a heavenly chorus.

Of course we also visited the countries like, Austria, Czech Republic, Germany and Poland. We visited number of important pilgrim Churches, tourist centres, cities, towns, shopping malls, restaurants, parks, gardens and green fields with beautiful landscapes.



We were 72 in a group, so we were sent either two or four persons to a parish to stay for a week. We stayed in Pyrzowice Parish under Sosnowiecka Diocese for a week. We were given accommodation in the house of Mr. Piotr and Mrs. Elzbieta. They have three sons namely: Adrian, Przemyslaw and Jakub. Mr. Adrian is married to Miss Angelica. After a week we were sent to Morgi Parish under Myslowice Diocese. There we stayed in the house of Mr. Adam Pastuszka and Mrs. Izabela Pastuszka.



They have two sons, Powel and Tomasz. Grandmother Pelagia Pastuszka and niece Maja Nowak. Both the families gave us the best of treatment and made us feel like one of the family member. The love and affection shown to us is beyond measure and the memories are so deep that we can't forget it, but only keep on cherishing all the days of our life.

Dear friends, this International World Youth Day had been a very memorable one for me. It has created a big and deep impact in my life as a whole. The things that I saw and learnt are very much enriching and always cheering me up. I can't forget it because it has been deeply imprinted in my heart and mind for the rest of my life.

*Fr. Noas Lakra, Youth Director*

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## NEWS IN BRIEF...

### **PARISH FEAST MARGHERITA**

On 29<sup>th</sup> May 2016, the feast of Margherita Parish was celebrated. There were more than 100 confirmations. About 2000 people took part in the celebration.

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### **FEAST OF THE CATHEDRAL PARISH**

The feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus was celebrated on 05<sup>th</sup> June 2016 at the Cathedral Parish. The faithful of the parish and the institutions around Dibrugarh took part in it. There were about 75 confirmations also.

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### **BONIFACE APOSTOLIC HOME**

The feast of St. Boniface was celebrated on 06<sup>th</sup> June 2016 at Boniface Apostolic Home. The apostolic boys had a well prepared Holy Mass and they put up some cultural items to make the celebration more colourful.

### **BLESSING OF THE CHURCH, INAUGURATION OF THE ST. XAVIER'S HALL AND CONVENT BUILDING AT PENGAREE**

On 12<sup>th</sup> June 2016, there was the blessing of the Parish Church and inauguration of the St. Xavier's Hall and the Convent building at Pengaree. It was a solemn moment of joy and thanksgiving to God as the Church and two other buildings were blessed and inaugurated. It was attended by a large number of priests and religious and large crowd of the faithful of the parish. There were several dignitaries present on the occasion. Rev. Fr. Xavier Lakra SJ, Mission Superior and Sr. Bernadette Beck, the Provincial of the DSA Sisters and Sr. Teresita Tigga DSA were also present for the occasion.

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### **SILVER JUBILEE OF MC SISTERS JORHAT**

The MC Sisters celebrated the silver jubilee of their foundation on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2016 at Jorhat. The Holy Mass and the function were well attended.

### **PARISH FEAST AT MEZENGA**

The Parish feast was celebrated on 03<sup>rd</sup> July 2016. There were about 75 confirmations.

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### **VIANNEY DAY CELEBRATIONS**

On 04<sup>th</sup> July Vianney Day was celebrated at Sonari parish with the priests of the Diocese. There was a solemn Eucharistic celebration which was followed by various programmes and competitions among the priests.

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### **CONFIRMATION AT GOLAGHAT PARISH**

On 10<sup>th</sup> July 2016, there was a solemn Eucharist in which about 120 confirmations were administered.

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### **CONFIRMATION AT CATHEDRAL PARISH**

The Cathedral Parish at Dibrugarh organised Confirmation on the 17<sup>th</sup> July 2016. There were about 80 children who received the sacrament of confirmation.

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### **SCC TEAM VISIT AND MEETING**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> July there was a meeting of the National Team of the Small Christian Communities (SCC). It was animated by the National Team of the SCCs. The meeting was attended by about 40 members from various parishes and institutions of the Diocese. Fr. Robert Kachua who is In-charge of the SCCs in the Diocese has made some plans for the formation and animation of the SCCs

in the Diocese. The details were already sent to the parishes. We greatly encouraged the parish priests and the assistant parish priests to initiate this movement in the Diocese.

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### **PRIESTS' RETREAT 2016**

The annual retreat for the priests was held from 24<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at Pastoral Centre, Mancotta, Dibrugarh. About 66 priests and 1 Brother attended the retreat. The retreat was animated by Rev. Fr. Jude Mendonca from Mumbai. Every one appreciated the retreat. It was very encouraging to see the large number of priests attending the retreat. We are grateful to Rev. Fr. Timothy Saldanha, the Director of the Pastoral Centre along with his team who took good care of everything needed for helping the participants to make a meaningful retreat. We also thank Vicar General for all arrangements for the retreat.

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### **PARISH FEAST AT URIAMGHAT**

The parish feast of Uriamghat was celebrated on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2016. There were also about 110 confirmations.

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### **ORNALPUR CONVENT BLESSING**

The Convent building at Ornalpur was blessed and inaugurated on 02<sup>nd</sup> August 2016. It is the first Convent of the Sisters of Daughters of Mary in the North East.



### **OP SISTERS AT DULIAJAN**

The Dominican Sisters of the Presentation generally known as the OP Sisters arrived on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2016 at St. Xavier's, Duliajan. On behalf of the Diocese of Dibrugarh, we welcome them to the Diocese. They will collaborate with the Diocese in education and parish ministry there. We wish them all the best in their ministry. At the moment two Sisters are actively involved in the School. Eventually they will also run a hostel for the girls. We thank Rev. Sr. Philomina Vengachottil, the Provincial and her Council of Sisters who have taken this decision to open a Convent at Duliajan. They are in the North East for the first time.

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### **NAHARKATIA SCHOOL BUILDING BLESSING**

On 16<sup>th</sup> August 2016, the newly built School building was blessed. It was done in the presence of the local dignitaries. The function was attended by the school students, guardians and the staff.

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### **PARISH FEAST AND CONFIRMATION AT DOIGRONG**

On 21<sup>st</sup> August 2016, there was solemn Eucharist at Doigrong parish during which more than 100 children received confirmation. The Eucharist was attended by a large crowd of about three thousand faithful of the parish.

### **PASTORAL COURSE AND RECOLLECTION ON THE JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY**

On 30<sup>th</sup> August we had the full day pastoral course organised at Mancotta. The animator of the programme was Rt. Rev. James Thoppil, DD, the Bishop of Kohima. It was attended by about 80 priests and religious. The day was concluded with a solemn Eucharist.

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### **DPC AT DIBRUGARH**

The Diocesan Pastoral Council was held on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2016. It was attended by about 250 participants from various parishes and institutions of the Diocese. It began with the Eucharistic Celebration presided over by Rt. Rev. Joseph Aind sdb. After the presentations of reports there was general discussion on various aspects of the Diocese. We thank the Vicar General and his team for seeing to all preparations and managing the meeting effectively.

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### **HONOURING MOTHER TERESA**

On 05<sup>th</sup> September, Rt. Rev. Joseph Aind sdb, was present at Life Plus Jorhat for the celebration in honour of Mother Teresa. It was a very meaningful celebration to honour Mother Teresa.

## **PROFESSION AT MARIA BHAVAN CHABUA**

There was the first religious profession of five novices at Marian Bhavan Chabua on 08<sup>th</sup> September 2016. It was an impressive ceremony during the Holy Mass.

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## **YEAR OF MERCY PILGRIMAGE**

The priests and religious of the Diocese of Dibrugarh gathered at St. Joseph's Parish, Doom Dooma for the Year of Mercy pilgrimage on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2016. They spent the day in prayer and recollection. It was a moment of grace and experience of the mercy of God for the priests and religious.

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## **VOCATION CAMP**

The Diocese of Dibrugarh is organising vocation camp for boys who desire to join the Diocese from 07<sup>th</sup> to 09<sup>th</sup> October 2016. It will be held at Bishop's House,

Dibrugarh. It is meant for students who are studying in Class 6 and 7 of English medium school. The parish priests are encouraged to send candidates who are interested to take part in the vocation camp. For further details you may contact Fr. Albert Hemrom.

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## **CONCLUSION OF THE JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY**

The Diocese of Dibrugarh will conclude the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy on the 13<sup>th</sup> November 2016. The details of the programme will be sent to you soon.

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## **CONDOLENCES**

On 05<sup>th</sup> August 2016, Sr. Sebastiani Kujur of the MSMHC province of Tinsukia passed away. Rt. Rev. Joseph Aind sdb, offers sincere condolences to the province.

**OCTOBER**  
03. Fr. Henry Caesar  
11. Fr. Chacko Kumplamthanam  
15. Fr. Elias Lugun  
18. Fr. Valerius Kerketta  
30. Fr. Alphonse Dhanwar

*A Prayerful Birthday  
Greetings*

**NOVEMBER**  
05. Rt. Rev. Joseph Aind sdb  
10. Fr. Jacob Edassery  
11. Fr. Lazar Kakkassery  
12. Fr. Martin Lakra  
23. Fr. John Mannathany  
24. Fr. Lebanus Kujur  
27. Fr. Joseph Joy Pallikunnel

**DECEMBER**  
15. Fr. Mathew Thundathil  
17. Fr. John Bhengra  
22. Fr. Vijay Kujur  
28. Fr. Bobby Thomas Emprayil vc



# *Jottings from the Bishop's Diary*



## JULY 2016

Apr. Day	Programme		
02 Sat	Dib., Attabari Retreat Mass		
03 Sun	Mezenga Parish feast Mass & Confirmation		
04 Mon	Dibrugarh Curia meeting		
05 Tue	Dibrugarh CHAD reopening	19 Fri	OP Sisters Provincial meet regarding their presence
06 Wed	Dibrugarh meeting with Cathedral Parish Priest for creation of Binoygutia Centre	20 Sat	Golaghat DB college meeting with Staff & Students
08 Fri	Dhuria Youth Mass. Bishop's House started using first solar power plant	21 Sun	Doigrong – Holy Mass & Confirmation
10 Sun	Golaghat Holy Mass & Confirmation	23 Tue	Dibrugarh Caritas representation meets
13 Wed	Dibrugarh – DPC executive meeting	24 Wed	DPC meeting at Cathedral Hall
17 Sun	Dibrugarh Cathedral Holy Mass & Confirmation	27 Sat	Nagaland – visiting Mon
21 Thu	Margherita DRRC Youth Retreat	28 Sun	Visitin Tizit at Mon
23 Sat	Dibrugarh SCC National team visit	29 Mon	Visiting – Sonari & Nilmoni
24 Sun	Moran Parish feast & Priests Spiritual retreat begins	30 Tue	Mancotta Pastoral leadership seminar by Rt. Rev. James Thoppil of Kohima/ Priests recollection day
25 Mon	Dibrugarh Provincial meets		
29 Fri	Spiritual Retreat ends		
30 Sat	Mancotta – Education meeting for ESI/ Policy		
31 Sun	Uriamghat – Vianney feast & Confirmation		

## AUG. 2016

Apr. Day	Programme
01 Mon	Lachitgaon feast Holy Mass
02 Tue	Ornalpur blessing the convent-Daughter of Mary (DM)
03 Wed	Chabua Vianney feast
04 Thu	Sonari Vianney feast with the priests
07 Sun	Bokakhat Holy Mass & Confirmation
10 Wed	Duliajan Town – St. Xavier's Higher Secondary School
11 Thu	Dibrugarh meeting with the General of Fatima Sisters & OP Sisters arrival
12 Fri	OP Sisters of Presentation start their presence at St. Xavier's School, Duliajan
15 Mon	Independence day celebration at Cathedral Parish
16 Tue	Naharkatia – School building's blessing

## SEPT. 2016

Mar Day	Programme
01 Thu	Lakwa –Clarist Fransican Sisters of the BI Sacrament visit / Curia meeting
03 Sat	Dibrugarh Catholic Lawyers meet
04 Sun	Canonization of Mother Teresa celebrated at Cathedral Parish
05 Mon	Jorhat Life Plus – Canonization of Mother Teresa celebration
08 Thu	Chabua – SCCG Profession
10 Sat	Doomdooma Pilgrimage by Priests and religious of the Diocese
11 Sun	Jorhat – Celebration of Canonization of Mother Teresa
12-14 Mon -Wed	Guwahati – Pastoral conference
15 Thu	Shillong Bishop's meeting
24 Sat	Dibrugarh Diocesan Lawyers fraternity meeting
25 Sun	Jagun – Parish feast
26-27 Mon -Tue	Dibrugarh - Mancotta Seminar on Adivasis welfare
29 Thu	Dibrugarh – St. Mary's Jubilee of Sisters





**THE DIOCESE OF DIBRUGARH...** *We gratefully extend our prayerful wishes and acknowledge your valuable support....*

✿ *To Rev. Fr. Mirosław Dubiel the Parish Priest of Morgi Parish of Mysłowice Diocese.* ✿ *To Mr. Adam Pastuszka and Mrs. Izabela Pastuszka's family.* ✿ *To all the faithful of Morgi Parish.*



**THE DIOCESE OF DIBRUGARH...** *We gratefully extend our prayerful wishes -*

✿ *To Rev Fr. Mirek the Parish Priest of Pyrzowice of Sosnowiecka Diocese.*  
 ✿ *To Mr. Piotr and of Mrs. Elzbieta's family.* ✿ *To all the faithful of Pyrzowice Parish.*





"Blessed are the  
**merciful** for they  
shall obtain mercy"(Mt 5:7)



# World Youth Day 2016

20th of July - 3rd of August



Blessed are the  
**merciful**,  
for they will receive  
**mercy**  
Mt 5:7