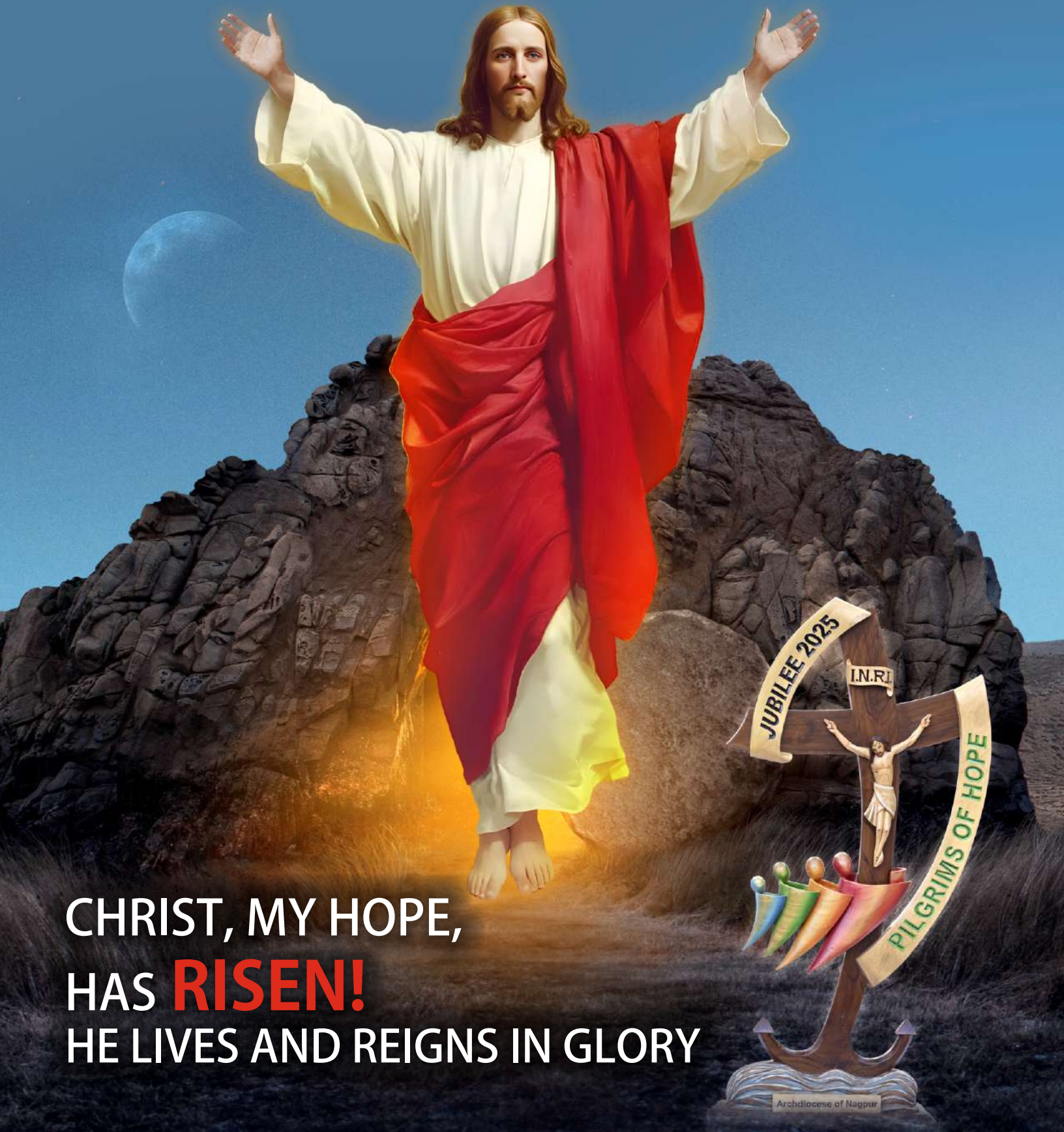


# messenger

ISSUE 1 VOLUME VI

NAGPUR ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS LETTER

APRIL 2025



CHRIST, MY HOPE,  
HAS **RISEN!**  
HE LIVES AND REIGNS IN GLORY



*Easter Wishes From*  
Manager, Principal, Staff & Students  
**SFS SCHOOL**





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(Archbishop of Nagpur)

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# EDITOR'S MESSAGE

We have just celebrated the solemn feast of Easter — a powerful reminder of the triumph of life over death. May the Risen Lord continue to accompany each of us with His blessings of love, peace, and joy.

It gives us great joy to present to you the Easter issue of The Messenger. The theme highlighted in this edition is The Synodal Journey, a reflection on the path the Archdiocese of Nagpur has undertaken in preparation for the Jubilee Year of Hope.

This issue of our Archdiocesan bulletin carries a detailed report on the activities of the Christian Life Community (CLC) and various Archdiocesan Commissions. These commissions have organized several meaningful programs at the parish, deanery, and archdiocesan levels, fostering a spirit of communion and mission.

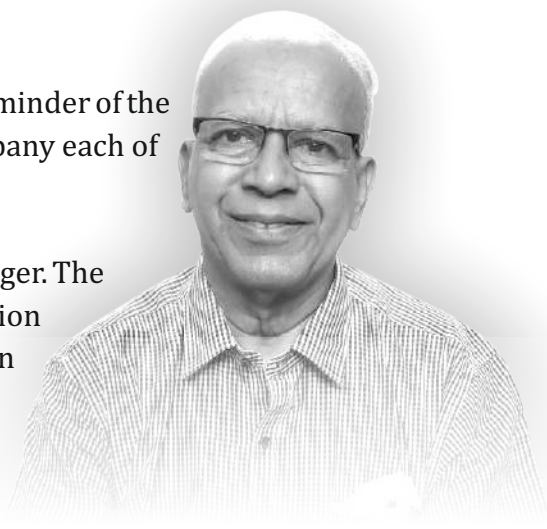
Additionally, we have included comprehensive reports of the initiatives and activities carried out by our parishes and educational institutions. As we await the results of the various board examinations, we place our trust in the hard work and dedication of our students, confident that they will make us proud and reflect the collaborative efforts of all stakeholders.

To those among you heading off for your well-deserved home holidays, may this be a time of rest, renewal, and joyful reunion. May you return refreshed and reinvigorated in spirit to continue your apostolic work with renewed zeal.

We invite you to take some time to flip through the pages of this bulletin and stay connected with the life and mission of our Archdiocese.

*Wishing you every Easter blessing,*

**Rev. Fr. Anthony D'Souza**

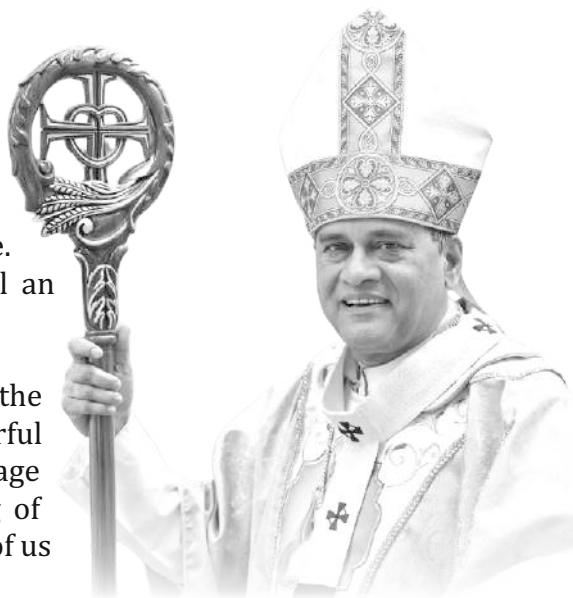




## Easter – A Call to Journey together as Synodal Church

His Holiness Pope Francis has proclaimed 2025 as the Jubilee Year, with the inspiring theme: “Pilgrims of Hope.” We marked the beginning of this sacred year with the blessing of the Jubilee Cross, which is now on pilgrimage to various parishes across the Archdiocese. This Cross remains in each parish for a week, offering the faithful an opportunity for adoration, worship, and veneration.

During this Lenten season, the blessed Jubilee Crosses were sent to the parishes and brought into the homes of families, serving as a powerful symbol of hope, redemption, and transformation. In his Lenten message for 2025, Pope Francis invites us to reflect deeply on the meaning of journeying together in hope—a call to conversion, addressed to each of us personally and to the Church as a community.



### The Holy Father outlines three key reflections:

- **To Journey** – The Jubilee motto, Pilgrims of Hope, begins with the first call to personal conversion through honest self-examination.
- **To Journey Together** – The Church is invited to walk in synodality, emphasizing unity and shared mission. This is a second call to conversion—toward communal discernment and deeper participation, a summons to synodality.
- **To Journey Together in Hope** – We hold fast to the promise of God's enduring love. As St. Paul writes, “Hope does not disappoint” (Romans 5:5). This hope is central to our Jubilee journey and guides us toward the joy of Easter. This, then, is a third call to conversion: a call to hope, to trust in God and his great promise of eternal life.

My dear people, together we have walked the Lenten path of this Pilgrimage of Hope. Pope Francis reminds us that the Cross is “the greatest sign of love,” showing how Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection transforms pain into promise and despair into hope. A call by Jubilee for tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth.

As we enter the Easter season, may each of us experience the joy, peace, and renewed life that the Risen Lord offers. In this Jubilee Year of Hope, as we implement our Archdiocesan Pastoral Plan, let us commit to listening, discerning, and journeying together as true pilgrims of hope.

May the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Hope, intercede for our families, communities, parishes, and the entire Archdiocese of Nagpur. May she accompany us on this sacred journey of grace.

Wishing you a joyful and blessed Easter.  
May the peace of the Risen Lord fill your hearts.

✠ **Elias Gonsalves**  
Archbishop of Nagpur

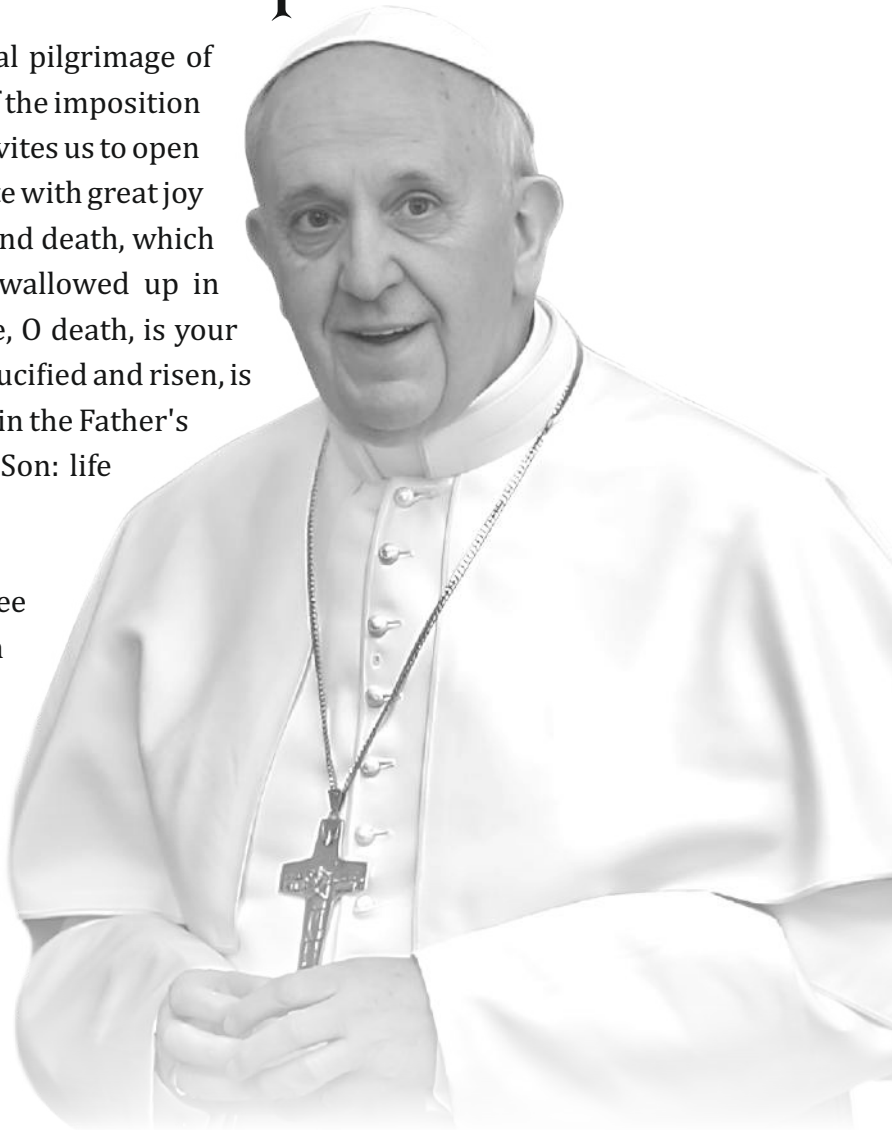
# MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR LENT 2025

## Let us journey together in hope

Dear brothers and sisters, We begin our annual pilgrimage of Lent in faith and hope with the penitential rite of the imposition of ashes. The Church, our mother and teacher, Invites us to open our hearts to God's grace, so that we can celebrate with great joy the paschal victory of Christ the Lord over sin and death, which led Saint Paul to exclaim: "Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" (1 Cor 15:54-55). Indeed, Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is the heart of our faith and the pledge of our hope in the Father's great promise, already fulfilled in His beloved Son: life eternal (cf. Jn 10:28, 17:3).

This Lent, as we share in the grace of the Jubilee Year, I would like to propose a few reflections on what it means to **journey together in hope**, and on the summons to conversion that God in His mercy addresses to all of us, as individuals and as a community

**First of all, to journey.** The Jubilee motto, "Pilgrims of Hope", evokes the lengthy journey of the people of Israel to the Promised Land, as recounted in the Book of Exodus. This arduous path from slavery to freedom was willed and guided by the Lord, who loves His people and remains ever faithful to them. It is hard to think of the biblical exodus without also thinking of those of our brothers and sisters who, in our own day, are fleeing situations of misery and violence in search of a better life for themselves and their loved ones. A first **call to conversion** thus comes from the realisation that all of us are pilgrims in this life; each of us is invited to stop and ask how our lives reflect this fact. Am I really on a journey, or am I standing still, not moving, either immobilised by fear and hopelessness, or reluctant to move out of my comfort zone? Am I seeking ways to leave behind the occasions of sin and situations that degrade my dignity? It would be a good Lenten exercise for us to compare our daily life with that of some migrant or foreigner, to learn how to sympathise with their experiences, and in this way, discover what God is asking of us so that we can better advance on our journey to the house of the Father. This would be a good "examination of conscience" for all of us wayfarers.





Second, to journey together. The Church is called to walk together, to be synodal. Christians are called to walk at the side of others; and never as lone travellers. The Holy Spirit impels us not to remain self-absorbed, but to leave ourselves behind and keep walking towards God and our brothers and sister; Journeying together means consolidating the unity grounded in our common dignity as children of God (cf. Gal 3:26-28). It means walking side by side, without shoving or stepping on others, without envy or hypocrisy, without letting anyone be left behind or excluded. Let us all walk in the same direction, tending towards the same goal, attentive to one another in love and patience.

This Lent, God is asking us to examine whether in our lives, in our families, in the places where we work and spend our time, we are capable of walking together with others, listening to them, resisting the temptation to become self-absorbed and to think only of our own needs. Let us ask ourselves in the presence of the Lord whether, as bishops, priests, consecrated persons and laity in the service of the Kingdom of God, we cooperate with others. Whether we show ourselves welcoming, with concrete gestures, to those both near and far. Whether we make others feel a part of the community or keep them at a distance. This, then, is a second call to conversion: a summons to synodality.

**Third, let us journey together in hope**, for we have been given a promise. May the hope that does not disappoint. It would be a good Lenten exercise for us to compare our daily life with that of some migrant or foreigner, to learn how to sympathise with their experiences, and in this way, discover what God is asking of us so that we can better advance on our journey to the house of the Father. (cf. Rom 5.5), the central message of the Jubilee, be the focus of our Lenten journey towards the victory of Easter. As Pope Benedict XVI taught us in the Encyclical *Spe Salvi*, "the human being needs unconditional love. He needs the certainty which makes him say: 'neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord' (Rom 8.38-39)". Christ, my hope, has risen! He lives and reigns in glory. Death has been transformed into triumph, and the faith and great hope of Christians rests in this: the resurrection of Christ!

This, then, is the **third call to conversion**: a call to hope, to trust in God and His great promise of eternal life. Let us ask ourselves: Am I convinced that the Lord forgives my sins? Or do I act as if I can save myself? Do I long for salvation and call upon God's help to attain it? Do I concretely experience the hope that enables me to interpret the events of history and inspires in me a commitment to justice and fraternity, to care for our common home and in such a way that no one feels excluded?

Sisters and brothers, thanks to God's love in Jesus Christ, we are sustained in the hope that does not disappoint (cf. Rom 5:5). Hope is the "sure and steadfast anchor of the soul". It moves the Church to pray for "everyone to be saved" (1 Tim 2.4) and to look forward to her being united with Christ, her bridegroom, in the glory of heaven. This was the prayer of Saint Teresa of Avila: "Hope, O my soul, hope. You know neither the day nor the hour. Watch carefully, for everything passes quickly, even though your impatience makes doubtful what is certain, and turns a very short time into a long one" (The Exclamations of the Soul to God, 15:31). May the Virgin Mary, Mother of Hope, intercede for us and accompany us on our Lenten journey.

# MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS

## For The 59<sup>th</sup> World Day of Social Communications

*Share with gentleness the hope  
that is in your hearts*

*(cf. 1 Pet 3:15-16)*



Dear brothers and sisters!

In these our times, characterized by disinformation and polarization, as a few centres of power control an unprecedented mass of data and information, I would like to speak to you as one who is well aware of the importance – now more than ever – of your work as journalists and communicators. Your courageous efforts to put personal and collective responsibility towards others at the heart of communication are indeed necessary.

As I reflect on the Jubilee we are celebrating this year as a moment of grace in these troubled times, I would like in this Message to invite you to be “communicators of hope”, starting from a renewal of your work and mission in the spirit of the Gospel.

### **Disarming communication**

Too often today, communication generates not hope, but fear and despair, prejudice and resentment, fanaticism and even hatred. All too often it simplifies reality in order to provoke instinctive reactions; it uses words like a razor; it even uses false or artfully distorted information to send messages designed to agitate, provoke or hurt. On several occasions, I have spoken of our need to “disarm” communication and to purify it of aggressiveness. It never helps to reduce reality to slogans. All of us see how – from television talk shows to verbal attacks on social media – there is a risk that the paradigm of competition, opposition, the will to dominate and possess, and the manipulation of public opinion will prevail.

There is also another troubling phenomenon: what we might call the “programmed dispersion of attention” through digital systems that, by profiling us according to the logic of the market, modify our perception of reality. As a result, we witness, often helplessly, a sort of atomization of interests that ends up undermining the foundations of our existence as community, our ability to join in the pursuit of the common good, to listen to one another and to understand each other’s point of view.



Identifying an “enemy” to lash out against thus appears indispensable as a way of asserting ourselves. Yet when others become our “enemies”, when we disregard their individuality and dignity in order to mock and deride them, we also lose the possibility of generating hope. As Don Tonino Bello observed, all conflicts “start when individual faces melt away and disappear”. [1] We must not surrender to this mindset.

Hope, in fact, is not something easy. Georges Bernanos once said that, “only those are capable of hope, who have had the courage to despair of the illusions and lies in which they once found security and which they falsely mistook for hope... Hope is a risk that must be taken. It is the risk of risks”. [2] Hope is a hidden virtue, tenacious and patient. For Christians, it is not an option but a necessary condition. As Pope Benedict XVI noted in the Encyclical *Spe Salvi*, hope is not passive optimism but, on the contrary, a “performative” virtue capable of changing our lives: “The one who has hope lives differently; the one who hopes has been granted the gift of a new life’ (No. 2).

### **Accounting with gentleness for the hope that is in us**

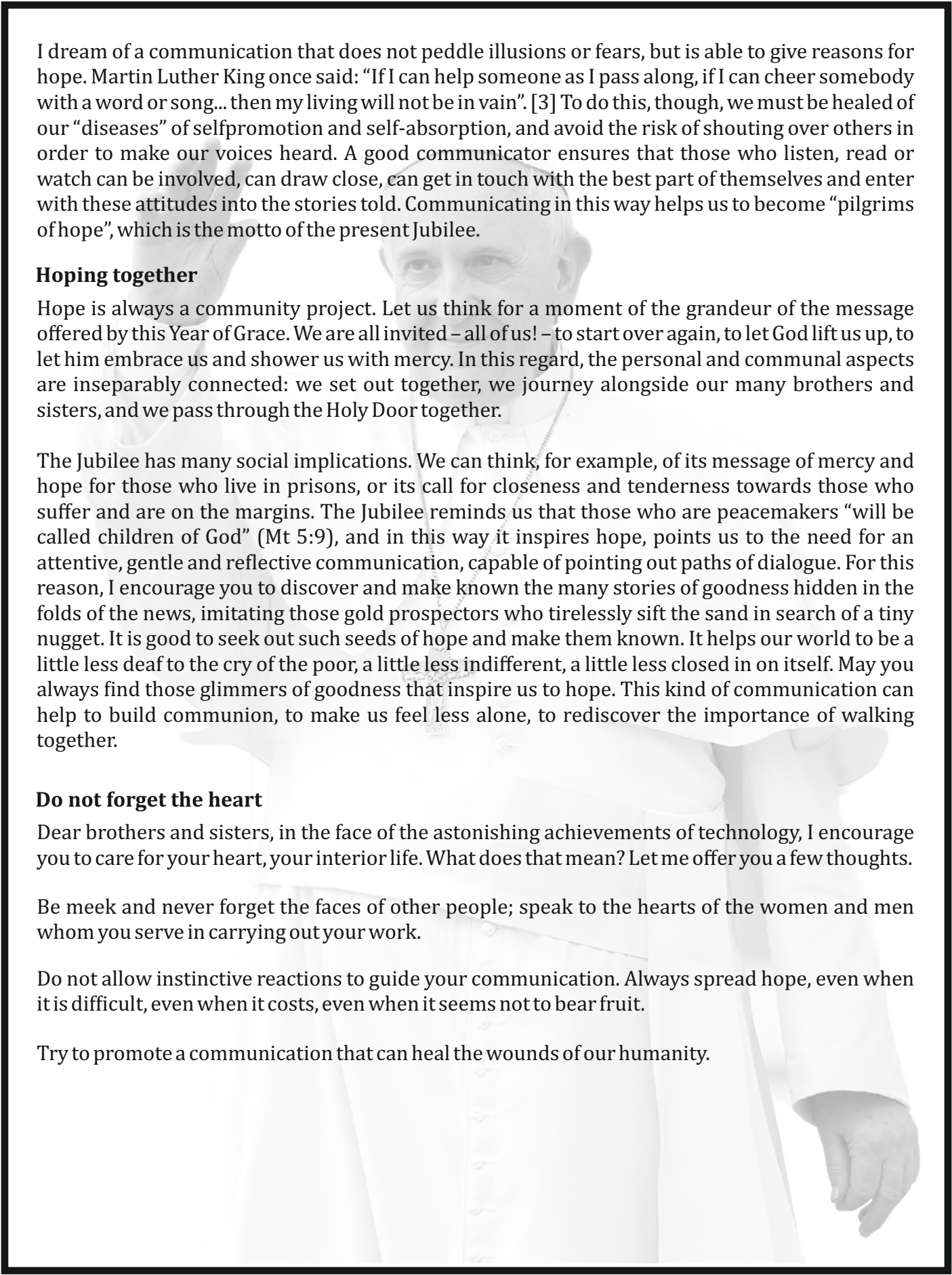
In the First Letter of Peter (3:15-16), we find an admirable synthesis in which hope is linked to Christian witness and communication: “In your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence”. I would like to dwell on three messages that we can glean from these words.

“In your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord”. The hope of Christians has a face, the face of the risen Lord. His promise to remain always with us through the gift of the Holy Spirit enables us to hope even against all hope, and to perceive the hidden goodness quietly present even when all else seems lost.

The second message is that we should be prepared to explain the hope that is in us. Significantly, the Apostle tells us to give an accounting of our hope “to anyone who demands” it. Christians are not primarily people who “talk about” God, but who resonate with the beauty of his love and a new way of experiencing everything. Theirs is a lived love that raises the question and calls for an answer: Why do you live like this? Why are you like this?

In Saint Peter’s words, we find, finally, a third message: our response to this question is to be made “with gentleness and reverence”. Christian communication – but I would also say communication in general – should be steeped in gentleness and closeness, like the talk of companions on the road. This was the method of the greatest communicator of all time, Jesus of Nazareth, who, as he walked alongside the two disciples of Emmaus, spoke with them and made their hearts burn within them as he interpreted events in the light of the Scriptures.

I dream of a communication capable of making us fellow travelers, walking alongside our brothers and sisters and encouraging them to hope in these troubled times. A communication capable of speaking to the heart, arousing not passionate reactions of defensiveness and anger, but attitudes of openness and friendship. A communication capable of focusing on beauty and hope even in the midst of apparently desperate situations, and generating commitment, empathy and concern for others. A communication that can help us in “recognizing the dignity of each human being, and [in] working together to care for our common home” (*Dilexit Nos*, 217).



I dream of a communication that does not peddle illusions or fears, but is able to give reasons for hope. Martin Luther King once said: “If I can help someone as I pass along, if I can cheer somebody with a word or song... then my living will not be in vain”. [3] To do this, though, we must be healed of our “diseases” of selfpromotion and self-absorption, and avoid the risk of shouting over others in order to make our voices heard. A good communicator ensures that those who listen, read or watch can be involved, can draw close, can get in touch with the best part of themselves and enter with these attitudes into the stories told. Communicating in this way helps us to become “pilgrims of hope”, which is the motto of the present Jubilee.

### **Hoping together**

Hope is always a community project. Let us think for a moment of the grandeur of the message offered by this Year of Grace. We are all invited – all of us! – to start over again, to let God lift us up, to let him embrace us and shower us with mercy. In this regard, the personal and communal aspects are inseparably connected: we set out together, we journey alongside our many brothers and sisters, and we pass through the Holy Door together.

The Jubilee has many social implications. We can think, for example, of its message of mercy and hope for those who live in prisons, or its call for closeness and tenderness towards those who suffer and are on the margins. The Jubilee reminds us that those who are peacemakers “will be called children of God” (Mt 5:9), and in this way it inspires hope, points us to the need for an attentive, gentle and reflective communication, capable of pointing out paths of dialogue. For this reason, I encourage you to discover and make known the many stories of goodness hidden in the folds of the news, imitating those gold prospectors who tirelessly sift the sand in search of a tiny nugget. It is good to seek out such seeds of hope and make them known. It helps our world to be a little less deaf to the cry of the poor, a little less indifferent, a little less closed in on itself. May you always find those glimmers of goodness that inspire us to hope. This kind of communication can help to build communion, to make us feel less alone, to rediscover the importance of walking together.

### **Do not forget the heart**

Dear brothers and sisters, in the face of the astonishing achievements of technology, I encourage you to care for your heart, your interior life. What does that mean? Let me offer you a few thoughts.

Be meek and never forget the faces of other people; speak to the hearts of the women and men whom you serve in carrying out your work.

Do not allow instinctive reactions to guide your communication. Always spread hope, even when it is difficult, even when it costs, even when it seems not to bear fruit.

Try to promote a communication that can heal the wounds of our humanity.



Make room for the heartfelt trust that, like a slender but resistant flower, does not succumb to the ravages of life, but blossoms and grows in the most unexpected places. It is there in the hope of those mothers who daily pray to see their children return from the trenches of a conflict, and in the hope of those fathers who emigrate at great risk in search of a better future. It is also there in the hope of those children who somehow manage to play, laugh and believe in life even amid the debris of war and in the impoverished streets of favelas.

Be witnesses and promoters of a non-aggressive communication; help to spread a culture of care, build bridges and break down the visible and invisible barriers of the present time.

Tell stories steeped in hope, be concerned about our common destiny and strive to write together the history of our future.

All this you can do, and we can do, with God's grace, which the Jubilee helps us to receive in abundance. This is my prayer, and with it, I bless each of you and your work.

Rome, Saint John Lateran, 24 January 2025,  
Memorial of Saint Francis de Sales

Francis





**FABC**

**FEDERATION OF ASIAN BISHOPS' CONFERENCES**

Prot. No. 004/2025

March 15, 2025

**FABC Pastoral Letter  
To the Local Churches in Asia on the Care of Creation:  
A Call to Ecological Conversion**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Peace and blessings to you all.

We write to you, as shepherds of the Church in Asia, a land of rich cultures, ancient traditions, and deep faith. In this cradle of human and spiritual diversity, the Word of God continues to offer hope to many facing trials and challenges.

Today, we reflect on the urgency of responding to the ecological crisis in our time. On the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'*, a prophetic call for humanity to rediscover its relationship with creation, God, and one another, we renew our commitment to care for our common home. This message is further deepened by Pope Francis' *Laudate Deum*, which calls for decisive action to safeguard the earth for future generations.

As we continue to celebrate the Jubilee of Hope 2025, we are inspired by the words of St. Paul to the Romans, that "...afflictions produce endurance, and endurance proven character, and proven character hope. And hope does not disappoint..." (Rom 5:5). Christian hope calls us to engage actively in the restoration of creation and the healing of the wounds of our world. This letter is an invitation to recognize the ecological sufferings of our time—not as reasons to despair but as an invitation to endurance, action, and hope rooted in Christ.

**I. The Afflictions of Our Common Home**

Across Asia, we see creation groaning under the weight of human indifference, abuse, and exploitation. The consequences are already visible and scientifically attested:

- *Deforestation and Biodiversity Loss:* The rainforests of Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Malaysia, Myanmar and the Philippines are being devastated, displacing indigenous



communities and threatening biodiversity. These forests, vital for the survival of the planet, are under immense pressure from illegal logging, agricultural expansion, and mining.

- *Rising Sea Levels and Coastal Displacement:* Warming in the Pacific Ocean has intensified typhoons, flooding, and rising sea levels which are threatening the existence of entire villages in countries like the Philippines, Bangladesh, and Vietnam. Coastal communities face increasing displacement, with millions vulnerable to the impacts of climate-induced migration.
- *Water Security:* The melting of glaciers in the Himalayas and drying rivers in South and Central Asia are endangering the water supply for millions. These changes exacerbate conflicts over water resources, particularly in river basins shared by multiple nations.
- *Air Pollution and Health Impacts:* Cities across Asia, such as Beijing and Shanghai, Dhaka, Delhi, Karachi, Jakarta, Manila and Bangkok, are suffocating under hazardous levels of air pollution. This air pollution significantly contributes to respiratory diseases, especially among children and the elderly, and reduces overall quality of life.
- *Stronger and More Frequent Extreme Weather Events:* The warming of the Pacific Ocean is precipitating frequent and ever-intensified typhoons that have disastrous effects on the Southeast Asian countries facing the Pacific Ocean, especially the Philippines. These effects are felt all the way through South Asia (e.g., India, Pakistan, Bangladesh) and East Asia (e.g., China, Taiwan, Japan), leading to devastation, displacement and economic hardship. These powerful storms are a reminder that our inaction on climate change will only deepen the suffering of our most vulnerable brothers and sisters
- *Agricultural Crises and Food Security:* Droughts, floods, and unpredictable weather patterns are wreaking havoc on agriculture, reducing crop yields and threatening food security. Climate change is particularly devastating for rural populations that rely on farming for their livelihood.

These ecological tragedies affect Asia's poorest and most vulnerable communities—coastal families whose homes are washed away, farmers who can no longer grow crops, and children who suffer from polluted air and water. Political leaders, government policymakers, and decision-makers, especially the lay Catholics among them, must be reminded: the choices you make today will be judged by the generations to come. Will you leave behind a planet scarred by exploitation, or a home that reflects the beauty of God's creation?

In this time of the Jubilee, these afflictions call us to repentance, conversion, and a deeper commitment to our shared responsibility, as stewards of God's creation.

## **II. Signs of Hope: The Spirit at Work**

Despite these challenges, we see signs of hope that the Holy Spirit is alive and active in our world:

- *Community Resilience:* Grassroots movements, such as the reforestation efforts and the rehabilitation of mangroves in many parts of Asia, show the resilience of local communities.

These efforts sustain biodiversity and the livelihoods of indigenous peoples, who are at the forefront of climate action.

- *Ecological Ministries and Education:* Across Asia, dioceses have embraced ecological ministries, from green audits of parishes to renewable energy projects, integrating creation care into parish life and Catholic education. These efforts inspire others to follow.
- *Youth Engagement:* Young people in our dioceses are rising as champions of integral ecology, heeding Pope Francis' call in *Laudate Deum* to act with urgency for the future of the planet. Their commitment offers hope for the future of creation and challenges us all to act with greater responsibility.
- *Interfaith and Civil Society Collaboration:* The urgency of climate justice transcends religious boundaries. It is a crucial starting point for ecumenical and interreligious dialogues, as well as partnerships with civil society and all people of good will. As Christians, we must walk alongside our neighbour-religions in this shared advocacy for the care of our common home.
- *A Mission for Basic Ecclesial Communities:* The transformation of Basic Ecclesial Communities into Basic Human Communities can help nurture a wider human fraternity and a shared sense of stewardship for creation, bridging faith-based efforts with global sustainability goals.
- *The Church's Commitment in the Jubilee Year:* As part of the Jubilee Year of Hope 2025, the Church is incorporating Care for Creation as an essential theme, urging dioceses and parishes to strengthen ecological initiatives and promote sustainable lifestyles as an expression of faith.

These signs of hope remind us that suffering is not the end. As Pope Francis emphasizes, the love of God, poured out through the Holy Spirit, inspires us to participate boldly in the mission of renewing creation (cf. Romans 5:5).

### III. Our Call to Action

Hope compels us to action. As local Churches in Asia, we must rise to meet this moment with courage and determination. We must address the ecological crisis through four critical dimensions: mitigation, adaptation, legislation and finance.

#### a. *Mitigation: Bridging the Gap*

We must advocate for stronger climate commitments, such as the Paris Agreement, and work to bridge the gap between national climate targets and the scientifically necessary 1.5°C global goal. Preserving Asia's rainforests, coral reefs and rivers must be a priority. Governments, businesses, and communities must work together to ensure these ecosystems thrive, with indigenous peoples leading the way. As stated in our FABC 50 Bangkok Document which echoes *Laudato Si'*, we must acknowledge that "the environment is on loan to each generation, and we are responsible for the way we leave it for those who follow" (BD, 104). We owe it to future generations to protect this shared heritage.

*b. Adaptation and Loss and Damage: Standing with the Vulnerable*

The poor are the first and hardest hit by climate change. We must amplify their voices and demand accountability from governments and industries. Funding for adaptation and loss and damage must be accelerated, particularly for vulnerable countries and communities in Asia. The FABC 50 Bangkok Document reminds us that intergenerational solidarity is not an option but a question of justice (BD, 104).

*c. National and International Legislation in Defence of Ecology*

We must actively lobby for the creation of environmental laws with well-defined implementing rules on solid, liquid, and gaseous-waste management, regulations on mining, and the protection of watersheds, and make it possible for communities and small nations to demand accountability from national and multinational corporations that are proven to be abusive and destructive of the environment.

*d. Finance*

Climate financing rooted in justice is essential. Polluters must pay their fair share, and wealthier nations must fulfil their commitments to fund climate action. In this Jubilee Year, we must also advocate for debt relief, recognizing that debt traps prevent many nations from effectively addressing the climate crisis.

Beyond debt relief, however, what is truly needed is a comprehensive review of the entire system of international loaning—one that prioritizes the well-being of debtor countries rather than perpetuating cycles of dependence and financial subjugation. Economic justice demands that financial institutions and lending nations rethink unfair structures that constrain climate action and sustainable development in the Global South.

#### **IV. Participation in COP 30: A Call for Active Engagement**

As we seek to deepen our commitment to ecological conversion and global solidarity, we also encourage all local Churches in Asia to participate actively in the upcoming COP 30, which will take place in Belem, Brazil, in 2025. This Conference offers an essential platform for nations and communities to come together and renew their commitment to climate action. We call on our dioceses to contribute by raising awareness, supporting climate advocacy, and engaging with decision-makers to push for ambitious and equitable climate solutions. Let us ensure that the voices of the most vulnerable are heard and that the call for justice resonates strongly, especially in the context of our shared Christian responsibility to care for the earth and all its inhabitants.

#### **V. The Season of Creation: A Time of Spiritual and Ecological Renewal**

As we celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *Laudato Si'* and the Jubilee Year of Hope 2025, we also invite all local Churches in Asia to sustain the celebration of the Season of Creation, from September 1 (Feast of the Act of Creation in many Oriental Churches) to October 4 (Memorial of St. Francis of Assisi, Patron Saint of Ecology). This special time is an opportunity to deepen our spiritual and ecological renewal by:

- a. Educating our communities about ecological responsibility.
- b. Promoting simpler, more sustainable lifestyles.



- c. Nurturing a spirituality of creation that deepens our relationship with God, humanity, and the cosmos.

We must not let fear or apathy paralyze us. Instead, let us walk the Pilgrimage of Hope together, responding with faith and courage. We trust that Christ walks with us, renewing the face of the earth through our collective efforts.

## Conclusion

Let this Lenten Season be an occasion for us to examine our consciences and humbly admit our sins against God's creation. Let it be an opportunity for us to respond to God's call to ecological conversion.

As we continue our journey towards becoming a missionary synodal Church, let us entrust ourselves to Mary, our Blessed Mother, who journeys with us as we care for God's creation. May her intercession inspire us to act with courage, wisdom, and compassion for the sake of our common home.

Yours faithfully in Christ,



+Cardinal Filipe Neri Ferrao  
President of FABC



+Cardinal Pablo David  
Vice President of FABC



+Cardinal Isao Kikuchi, SVD  
Secretary General of FABC

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## HEALTH COMMISSION REPORT

The Health Commission of the Archdiocese of Nagpur successfully conducted a series of impactful health initiatives from 29th December 2024 to 9th March 2025. The journey began with a Christmas Gathering attended by 30 healthcare professionals, featuring talks on preventive healthcare, leadership, and digital awareness by dignitaries like Archbishop Elias Gonsalves and Dr. Nijo. A key highlight was the Cancer Screening and Awareness Campaign for women, held in collaboration with GMC across five locations including St. Martin de Porres, St. Anthony's Ajni, Sitabuldi, Yerla, and Jaitala. Over 250 beneficiaries availed medical services during these camps, supported by ASHA workers, parish teams, and medical professionals. Under the guidance of Sr. Seena Jose, the patient assistance initiative provided critical support to six individuals with serious illnesses such as liver cirrhosis, kidney failure, and heart disease, in collaboration with Catholic Nightingales at GMC and AIIMS. Looking ahead, the Commission plans a Women's Health Camp at Bendala, a Children's Health Camp during the summer, and a Blood Donation Drive with NMC. A special health camp in Buddha Vihar slum is also underway, aimed at serving the underprivileged. These efforts reflect a strong commitment to holistic and inclusive healthcare outreach.



## THE HOME FOR AGED & HANDICAPPED, UNTKHANA

The Home for Aged and Handicapped, Untkhana, Nagpur, recently celebrated remarkable achievements in various events. On January 20, 2025, students participated in the District Level Sports Competition, winning 47 medals, including 25 gold, 11 silver, and 11 bronze. On February 8, 2025, the institution marked its 135th Foundation Day with a grand celebration attended by dignitaries, including Archbishop Dr. Elias Gonsalves. The event featured cultural performances, including a dramatization on child exploitation and a performance on India's unity in diversity.

In preparation for Holi, students created 100 kg of eco-friendly, herbal colours, promoting environmental sustainability. The institution also excelled at the State Level Disabled Sports Tournament held from March 21-23, 2025, where they won 21 medals, including a historic Best Astivyang Team Award. These achievements reflect the institution's commitment to empowering its residents and promoting social welfare.





## JEEVODAY EDUCATION SOCIETY CELEBRATES 36<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL DAY – "ASHAO KI UNCHI UDAAN"

On 15th February 2025, Jeevoday Education Society, comprising Jeevoday Special School, Prathiksha Rehabilitation Center, and Jeevoday College of Special Education, celebrated its 36th Annual Day with the theme "Ashao Ki Unchi Udaan" (The High Flight of Hopes). The event, presided over by Most Rev. Dr. Elias Gonsalves, Archbishop of Nagpur, highlighted perseverance, achievement, and inclusion. Performances by special youngsters, including dances, drama, and music, showcased their talents. The highlight was a skit that demonstrated their remarkable progress. Ms. Mamta Dalakoti received the Topper Award for academic excellence. The event concluded with a heartwarming vote of thanks and the National Anthem.



## PRISON MINISTRY, NAGPUR

The Prison Ministry of Nagpur, under the guidance of Most Rev. Dr. Elias Gonsalves, organized a week-long program from December 11 to 18, 2024, for the inmates of the Central Jail. The initiative, coordinated by Sr. Vanita SMMI and CRI members, included a variety of engaging activities for both men and women prisoners, such as games, dances, competitions, and a fashion show. These activities were designed to bring joy, foster teamwork, and showcase the talents of the inmates.

On December 19, Archbishop Gonsalves, along with clergy and religious members, visited the jail, delivering a meaningful Christmas message and distributing prizes to the winners. The inmates were deeply moved by the love and care shown, expressing gratitude for the thoughtfulness of the organizers. The event not only uplifted their spirits but also encouraged them to embrace transformation, peace, and a hopeful future.





## FIRST PROFESSION OF VOWS OF ASMI SISTERS.

The Sacred Heart province of Assisi Sisters of Mary Immaculate, Nagpur was blessed in this jubilee year of hope by the first profession of three of our novices Manisha Burh, Nikita Bhengra and Rashmita Kerketa on 19th February 2025 in SFS cathedral. This solemn ceremony was presided over by His Grace Most Rev Elias Gonsalves in the presence many Fathers, Sisters friends and family members of novices. In his inspiring homily the Archbishop congratulated the novices and also their parents for sacrificing their daughters for the Lord. He exhorted us about the meaning of consecrated life with the examples of Samuel who said "Yes Lord" and St Paul who said "Your grace is sufficient for me". He emphasized that where there is love there is sacrifice. We exist for the mission of the church – to proclaim the Good News to all through our life. Sacrificial love for the community and mission is very important for consecrated life.

Let us pray for these newly professed Sisters that by living the charism of the ASMI congregation to follow the poor, humble and crucified Jesus and radiate his compassionate love in joyful service to the sick, needy especially to the rejected persons in the society they may find meaning and fulfilment in their life and powerfully witness to the Kingdom of God.



## 10<sup>TH</sup> FOUNDATION DAY OF THE CATHOLIC INFORMATION CENTRE, NAGPUR

The Catholic Information Centre (CIC) in Nagpur celebrated its 10th Foundation Day on March 15, 2025, at the Catholic Institute, hosting approximately 100 widows and community members. The event commenced with a lamp-lighting ceremony and a dramatization of the Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector (Luke 18:9-14). Providence College girls performed a prayer dance, and Sr. Jiwanlata DSP, CIC In-Charge, outlined the year's objectives and activities. Mrs. Uma from St. Pius the Tenth Parish recited a poem on women's empowerment. Archbishop Elias Gonsalves delivered inspiring words, emphasizing the importance of recognizing and advocating for one's rights. Performances included gospel-themed songs by Martin Nagar widows, a solo dance by 78-year-old Shilla, and a group dance titled "God is our Rock" by Naya Basti children. Mrs. Carline Andrew shared her unwavering faith amidst life's challenges. The Daughters of St. Paul pre-postulants concluded with a thanksgiving dance. The event was graced by Fr. Vivian Lobo, Fr. Ajay Andre, Fr. Anbu, Sr. Apolonia, Sr. Vincent, and the Little Flower Sisters. Special thanks were extended to Mr. Francis Robert Pilley and Mrs. Anita Francis Pilley for generously sponsoring the meal.



## ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF THE CHRISM MASS

The Annual Chrism Mass of the Archdiocese of Nagpur was solemnly celebrated on Monday, 14 April 2025, at St. Francis de Sales Cathedral, Nagpur. The occasion commenced with a tea at 3:00 p.m., followed by a spiritually enriching prayer service, led by the seminarians of the Archdiocese.

Fr. Paul Chandrankunnel, SAC, then guided the assembly through a reflective and inspiring recollection on the theme "Pilgrims of Hope: Discerning the Synodal Path." His address emphasized the call to a deeper engagement with the synodal journey, in line with the Church's ongoing mission of renewal and communion. More than 200 participants, including priests and religious sisters, actively took part in the recollection. During his reflection, Fr. Chandrankunnel underscored sixteen thematic priorities outlined in the synodal document for discernment and action.

Following the recollection, His Grace Elias Gonsalves, Archbishop of Nagpur addressed the gathering, reiterating the Archdiocese's commitment to the implementation of the CCBI Pastoral Plan and the proposals of the 36th Plenary Assembly. "We are striving to integrate these visionary guidelines to transform our Archdiocese into a truly synodal Church. Our priests and religious have embraced these initiatives with great enthusiasm and openness," he affirmed. The spiritual journey continued with Eucharistic Adoration, during which the Sacrament of Reconciliation was made available, providing a meaningful opportunity for renewal and grace.

The highlight of the celebration was the solemn Chrism Mass, held on the Cathedral grounds and attended by a large number of the faithful, clergy, and religious men and women. During the liturgy, priests and religious commemorating their jubilees were honored and felicitated for their dedicated service. The day concluded with a festive fellowship meal at the SFS School premises, marking the end of a spiritually uplifting and communally joyful celebration.





## ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, GONDIA

Graduation Day was celebrated at Nirmal school Gondia. 18 students completed their K.G training successfully. The Children recollected their good memories of their schooling. All the children unanimously agreed that their three years of life at Nirmal school were very joyful and they could learn lots of things. Parents and children both thanked school management and teachers for providing a conducive atmosphere for them to learn in a safe environment. Certificates were distributed by Fr. Robert the manager and Fr. Roshimon Peter. The Program ended with the National Anthem.



Feast of St. Joseph was celebrated at St. Joseph's Church, Gondia. Being Wednesday the liturgy began with the way of the cross, followed by carrying of the statue of St. Joseph in a procession around the church. After which the solemn Eucharistic celebration was presided over by Fr. Robert Nicholas, the parish priest and con-celebrated by Fr. Roshimon Peter. In his homily Fr. Robert emphasized the silence nature of St. Joseph even in difficult situations. He urged every one to inculcate the good qualities of St. Joseph in their personal life and family lives. After the Eucharistic celebration all the fathers of the families were honoured and a gift was given to everyone. The celebration ended with Preetibhoj for every one prepared by the parishioners





## DIACONATE ORDINATION AT ST. CHARLES SEMINARY

St. Charles Seminary remains a sacred institution where faith deepens, vocations flourish, and divine grace abounds for the future priests. A momentous occasion was the Diaconate Ordination of five third-year theology brothers, held on February 6, 2025. The ordination ceremony was presided over by Archbishop Elias Gonsalves of Nagpur, whose presence and blessings added profound significance to the event.

In his homily, Archbishop Gonsalves emphasized the ministry of service that the newly ordained deacons would undertake in the Church. Following the Eucharist, a felicitation program was held in the seminary auditorium, where the newly ordained deacons were congratulated and presented with flowers and certificates. The occasion was marked by joy and celebration, as the deacons shared a cake-cutting ceremony with Archbishop Gonsalves. The Archbishop concluded the event by saying grace over the meal, and the congregation enjoyed a fellowship meal together, savouring the spirit of community and shared joy.



## CONFERRAL OF MINISTRIES AT ST. CHARLES SEMINARY

On February 22, 2025, St. Charles Seminary celebrated the conferral of the ministries of Acolyte and Lector, coinciding with the Feast of the Chair of St. Peter. Archbishop Elias Gonsalves presided over the Eucharistic celebration, joined by the Rector and seminary staff. In his homily, Archbishop Gonsalves encouraged the seminarians to understand the significance of their ministries, emphasizing the importance of developing a genuine love for the Eucharist and engaging with both the Word and the Eucharist.

During the ceremony, 16 first-year theology students received the Ministry of Lector, and 16 second-year students received the Ministry of Acolyte. Following the Mass, a felicitation ceremony was held, and the celebration continued with a cake-cutting, photo session, and a breakfast, making the occasion memorable for all.



## SILVER JUBILEE OF ST. JUDE'S CHURCH, BAIHAR

On the 25th of January, the Silver Jubilee of St. Jude's Church, Baihar, was celebrated with great reverence and solemnity. The occasion began with a Thanksgiving Eucharistic Celebration, presided over by His Grace, Most Rev. Dr. Elias Gonsalves, Archbishop of Nagpur, in the esteemed presence of Rev. Fr. Siju Kuliraniyil, Provincial Consultor, Rev. Fr. Jacob Nampudakam, former Rector General of the Pallottines, and the priests who had served in Baihar, alongside the Deanery clergy, pallottine fathers, religious sisters, brothers, and a large assembly of parishioners.

This significant milestone was an opportunity to express profound gratitude to the Almighty for His abundant blessings and guidance over the past 25 years of the parish's journey. Following the Eucharistic celebration, a heartfelt felicitation program took place, where former parish priests shared their reflections and experiences, offering inspiring insights into the growth and mission of the parish community.

The jubilant celebrations culminated in a fellowship meal, fostering a spirit of unity and joy among all present. This momentous occasion not only honored the rich history and achievements of St. Jude's Church but also renewed the collective commitment of the faithful to its mission of faith and service.



## ROSARY PARISH, SEMINARY HILLS

Thirteen children received their First Holy Communion on January 12, 2025, at Rosary Parish in Seminary Hills. Family Day celebration, and award ceremony of Sports Carnival held at Rosary Parish on 29 Dec. 2024



## PALLOTTINE SISTERS AT KAMPTEE

### The Report of the Pallottine Sisters at Kamptee Regarding the Fourth Provincial Chapter Conclusion Mass held on 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan 2025 at kamptee

The 4<sup>th</sup> Provincial Chapter concluded on January 2<sup>nd</sup> 2025, in a spirit of gratitude, reflection, and celebration. The final day began with the Holy Mass, presided over by Most Rev. Elias Gonsalves, Archbishop of Nagpur. In his inspiring homily, the Archbishop emphasized the importance of bearing witness to the mission. Drawing from Gospel of St. John, he encouraged the congregation to embrace the challenges with courage, stand confidently before the Lord, and ensure the actions align with charism. Reflecting on the witness of St. John the Baptist, he highlighted the call to manifest Christ in every role and aspect of life.

The Archbishop also urged the assembly to keep the charism relevant and adaptable to contemporary realities. As the Feast of Epiphany approaches, he drew parallels to the journey of the wise men, who returned by a different road after encountering Christ. He encouraged everyone to take bold steps, embrace new challenges, and forge new paths that lead to a brighter and more righteous future.

At the conclusion of the Holy Eucharist, Provincial Superior Sr. Lucy Thomas expressed heartfelt gratitude to Archbishop Most Rev. Elias Gonsalves for his presence, his pastoral care, and his dedication to the spiritual growth of the congregation. She especially thanked him for presiding over the celebration and for his inspiring homily, which uplifted and encouraged everyone present.





## THE INFANT JESUS CHURCH, WADI

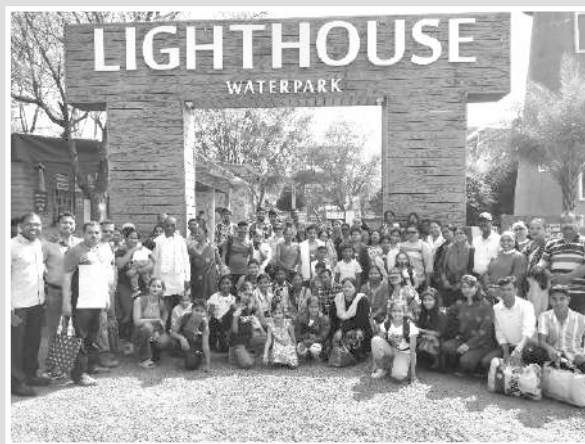
**The Infant Jesus Church, Wadi, organized BEC Day** on Sunday, 19th January. The day began with the Holy Eucharist, celebrated by Fr. George SAC, and concelebrated by Fr. Rajesh, Fr. Rudolf Toppo, and Fr. Thomas Joseph.

After the Holy Eucharist, an orientation program was conducted for all the parishioners, highlighting the importance of BEC. The program concluded with a vote of thanks by Jyothi Ingale. Parishioners participated enthusiastically and with great joy.



**A one-day picnic** was organized for the parishioners of Infant Jesus Church, Wadi, as a special outing. The church took the initiative to visit Lighthouse Water Park, offering a day filled with happiness and joy. A total of 75 participants joined in the fun, enjoying the various attractions and activities at the park.

After a day of excitement, the parishioners extended their trip by visiting St. Theresa Church in Mansar. The effort to visit this church added a spiritual element to the day, allowing everyone to reflect and connect on a deeper level. It was a memorable day, marked by fellowship, fun, and devotion, bringing the community closer together.



**The World Family Day Celebration** at Infant Jesus Church, Wadi, was a joyful and spiritually enriching event, bringing together families from the parish community. The event focused on the importance of family as the cornerstone of faith and unity. The celebration began with a special Holy Eucharist, celebrated by Fr. Aquin Noronha, the Rector of St. Charles Seminary, along with Fr. Rudolf Toppo and Fr. Thomas Joseph, who concelebrated the Mass. Fr. Aquin delivered a thoughtful homily, highlighting the vital role families play in nurturing faith, love, and support. His message resonated with the congregation, encouraging reflection on the value of family life. Following the liturgy, a variety of games and activities were organized for all ages.

The activities were well-received, providing an opportunity for families to bond and celebrate their togetherness in a fun and meaningful way. It was a day of not only spiritual reflection but also shared joy, strengthening the sense of community within the church.

In conclusion, World Family Day at Infant Jesus Church was a successful and heartwarming celebration. The event reaffirmed the importance of family in our lives and faith, leaving a lasting impact on everyone who attended.



## ANKURKUNJ MINOR SEMINARY

### ANKURKUNJ BIDS FAREWELL TO VICE-RECTOR

Ankurkunj Minor Seminary came together to say thank you to Rev. Fr. Anthony Xaviour, Vice-Rector of the seminary, on 19th March 2025. Seminarians presented a cultural programme in honour of Fr. Anthony. Teachers, Parishioners and representatives from various religious communities attended the farewell evening. Fr. Anthony Xaviour served the minor seminary for one year as vice-rector. He was a motivator for seminarians in academics and talents. He guided them in the priestly formation to discern their vocation.

### ARCHBISHOP OFFERS CONCLUDING HOLY EUCHARIST AT ANKURKUNJ MINOR SEMINARY, KAMPTEE

On March 22nd, 2025 evening, Most Rev. Elias Gonsalves offered the concluding Holy Eucharist of the academic year 2024 – 2025. Archbishop met minor seminarians and motivated them to the priesthood. He reminded them of the quality required of a priest and God's trust needed during the formation. His Grace asked the seminarians to be the ambassadors of the Archdiocese of Nagpur to promote new vocations. Seminarians performed a few cultural items to express their joy. The programme concluded with a thanksgiving meal.



## ST ANTHONY'S CHURCH, AJNI

The sacrament of confirmation is one of the seven sacraments of the Catholic church. It is considered a sacrament of initiation, along with the Baptism and the Eucharist. Through confirmation, a baptized person receives the fullness of the Holy Spirit, strengthening their faith and deepening their bond with the church.

In St Anthony's church, Ajni, 17 children and 4 adults were given the Sacrament of

Confirmation by Archbishop Elias Gonsalves who anointed the foreheads of the candidates with the Holy Chrism oil. Candidates took part in the Holy Mass whole heartedly and interacted positively when questions were asked by the Bishop. In the end of the Mass, all candidates were given a bible and certificate by His Grace Elias Gonsalves and the Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Philip Topno, Assistant Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Augustin also worked hard in training the children for the same.



## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH, KAMPTEE

### *Mother's Day Celebration*

#### **A mother's love is the heart of the family**

On 8<sup>th</sup> September 2024, mother's day was celebrated in the honor of feast of mother of Velankani at Immaculate conception Church, Kamptee. A special mass was offered for all the mothers. The holy mass was followed by a small cultural program. All mothers were given roses as a token of love. The children and the youth showed their love for mothers through dance and singing.





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## WORLD MARRIAGE DAY

On the sunny Sunday of February 23rd, a heartwarming celebration took place in the Nagpur Archdiocese as couples from all walks of life gathered to honour World Marriage Day. With around 650 couples participating, the day was nothing short of spectacular—a true testament to the strength of love and commitment. The celebration kicked off with a solemn Mass led by His Grace Archbishop Elias Gonsalves. As the couples renewed their marriage vows, the spirit of love filled the air, reminding everyone present of the promises made during their sacred unions. The archbishop's blessings were like a gentle breeze, encompassing each couple with warmth and grace, as they reaffirmed their dedication to one another.

Following the Mass, the festivities truly took flight with a vibrant cultural program that showcased the talents of both couples and the youth from St. Martin de Porres Church, one of the prominent parishes in the city. The atmosphere was electric, with singing, dancing, and skits that brought laughter and joy to everyone in attendance. It was a delightful reminder that love is not just about solemnity; it is also a celebration of life, laughter, and shared experiences. As the saying goes, “the more, the merrier”—and this gathering was a perfect illustration of that phrase. Couples mingled, forged new friendships, and rekindled the sparks of romance in each other's eyes. The fellowship meal that followed was the icing on the cake, providing a space for everyone to bond over good food and great conversations.

This memorable event was meticulously organized by the Marriage Encounter and Family Life Commission, reflecting their unwavering commitment to nurturing family ties and promoting the sanctity of marriage. A special shout-out goes to Andrew and Vinita for their tireless efforts—your leadership and dedication truly made a difference. Their heartfelt thanks to all participants at the end of the program encapsulated the essence of the day: a unified family celebrating love,



resilience, and community. As couples left with smiles on their faces and hearts brimming with renewed vows, the success of World Marriage Day in Nagpur Diocese was undoubtedly evident. It was more than just a day of celebration; it was a reaffirmation that love, in all its forms, is the glue that binds us together through life's ups and downs. In the grand tapestry of life, may we continue to cherish and celebrate love, for it is indeed the greatest gift of all.





## THE 4<sup>TH</sup> RECITATION OF BIBLICAL QUOTATION ARCHDIOCESAN LEVEL

To make the **Word of God** to be loved, alive and active in our lives from the early age, the **Catholic Information Centre** has begun encouraging the first Holy communicant children to read the Bible. Soon after one or two weeks of the first Holy communion, we conducted the recitation of the biblical quotation from the Gospel of Matthew in the city parishes. The final competition was held on 30th March 2025 at the study Hall of SFS School. Out of the 26 participants 19 appeared. It was a wonderful experience to listen all the children who recited the quotations without seeing. It was inspiring and heart touching to listen to them. There were three juries (judges) Mr. Ashirwad, Mr. Vivian Anthony and Miss Agnes.

The presence of the Archbishop Most Rev. Elias Gonsalves made the children happy and blessed. He presented the prizes to the winners and encouraged the children to read the Word of God and make it their own. Snacks were distributed for the children. Special thanks to Rev. Fr. Vivian Lobo the director of CLC & CIC, Arnold Peter, Sir Ashriwad, Kavisha and members, for their constant support and timely help. Our special thanks go to Fr. Prashant, the principal of the SFS School, Sadar, for making the necessary arrangements. Rev. Fr. Vivian Lobo proposed the vote of thanks and appreciated the catechism teacher's parents and the parish priests for their constant support and collaboration for this noble Cause. Last but not the least I thank all the members of the Christian life Commission (CLC) & Catholic Information Centre (CIC) for their active and enthusiastic participation.

Sr. Jiwanlata Ekka, DSP  
In-Charge, CIC



## BISHOP'S TEST MARKS MILESTONE OF ECUMENISM AND FAITH FORMATION IN NAGPUR ARCHDIOCESE

The 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Bishop's Test, a cornerstone of faith-based education in the Archdiocese of Nagpur, was conducted on 19/01/2025 at Providence Girls' High School, Nagpur. This year's examination witnessed a historic moment, with approximately 160 students from both Catholic schools and Sunday school catechism programs, as well as students from other Christian denominations, participating. The day began with a celebration of Holy Mass offered by CLC Director Fr. Vivian Lobo at the SMMI Chapel, the site of Mother Marie Gertrude's first tomb. The Mass was offered for all participating students, particularly for their upcoming 10th board examinations.

The Bishop's Test holds a significant place in the Archdiocese, serving as a benchmark for evaluating students' faith-based knowledge. For 70 years, it has provided a valuable tool for assessing their understanding of Catholic teachings and traditions. This year's inclusion of students from other Christian denominations marks a significant step towards ecumenism, fostering interfaith dialogue and understanding among the younger generation. A separate panel, composed of members from other Christian denominations Pastor Ganesh Barve CNI, the rector of All Saints Cathedral, Pastor Sudhanshu Kadam of Methodist Church, Sister Mahi Pradhan of KCC Church were present to assess the students from their respective communities. Fr. Vikas Joseph, the Dean of Seoni-Chhindwara Deanery, Fr. Vivian Lobo the director of Christian Life Commission, Fr. Ajay Kullu, Sr. Purnima from St. Joseph Sisters, Sr. Roshmita SSPC, Mr. Sheshrao Gedam, Mrs. Veronica D'Silva, Mrs. Prashansa D'Lima, Mr. Ashirwad Satyam, Ms. Rayna Pantawane took up the panelist roles for catholic students.

The importance of the Bishop's Test extends beyond mere assessment. It provides valuable insights into the effectiveness of current catechism methodologies and pedagogies. By analyzing student performance, educators can identify areas of strength and weakness in their teaching approaches. The results can highlight which concepts are well-understood and which require further attention. This data-driven approach allows for continuous improvement in catechism instruction, ensuring that the faith and knowledge of the Church remain relevant and accessible to each new generation.



The observations from this year's test, particularly the participation of students from diverse Christian backgrounds, will provide a unique perspective. Comparing the performance of students from different denominations can shed light on varying levels of biblical literacy and theological understanding. This information can be used to develop more inclusive and comprehensive catechism programs that cater to the diverse needs of all students.

Furthermore, the test results can guide catechism teachers in adapting their methods to keep pace with the changing world and the evolving understanding of young people. By understanding how students learn best, teachers can incorporate more engaging and interactive techniques into their lessons. This might involve the use of multimedia resources, group discussions, or real-life examples to illustrate complex theological concepts. The goal is to make learning about faith a dynamic and enriching experience, ensuring that it remains a central part of young people's lives.

The Archdiocese of Nagpur acknowledges and appreciates the support and dedication of all those involved in making the 70th Bishop's Test a success. A special thanks is extended to the Principal of Providence Girls' High School, Nagpur, and the entire staff for graciously hosting this important event. Their commitment to promote faith-based education is commendable.



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## CLC CLUB ANNUAL DAY – CHATTAN 3.0

The CLC Club Annual Day – Chattan 3.0 was celebrated with great zeal and spiritual fervour on Friday, 7th February 2025, hosted by Mount Carmel Girls' High School, Nagpur. The event brought together Christian students from various schools to celebrate the past academic year by glorifying Christ and embracing the spirit of unity and service.

The celebration was graced by the esteemed presence of Most Rev. Archbishop Elias Gonsalves, adding to the sanctity and significance of the occasion.

The day began with the Holy Mass, celebrated by Fr. Aquin, Fr. Anthony Xavier, and Fr. Vivian Lobo, who also serves as the Director of the CLC Club. The Mass was a spiritually uplifting experience, setting the tone for the day's events.

Following the Eucharistic celebration, a vibrant procession took place, with students from various schools proudly marching with their school flags. The procession was led by dignitaries and symbolised unity, faith, and commitment to Christian values.

Throughout the day, students were engaged in a variety of enriching sessions and activities. Fr. Vikas and Fr. Anthony Xavier conducted impactful sessions, offering valuable insights and key takeaways for the youth. The highlight for many was a mesmerizing magic show presented by Fr. Jomise Joy, which captivated the young audience.

The lunch break was filled with joy as a range of fun activities were organized, promoting interaction and camaraderie among students.



Post-lunch, an intellectually stimulating Quiz Competition was held, with Fr. Vivian Lobo and Sir Ashirwad Satyam as the Quiz Masters. The competition tested students' knowledge while keeping the excitement alive.

The spiritual high point of the day was the Eucharistic Adoration, beautifully led by Fr. Anthony Xavier and his team, allowing students to reflect and pray in deep reverence.

**The event concluded with a Prize Distribution Ceremony, celebrating excellence across multiple categories:**

- Top 10 scorers of the Bishop Test were felicitated by the Archbishop.
- CLC Coordinator Recognition was presented to all teacher coordinators.
  - Ma'am Snigdha Francis (Providence Girls' High School) was awarded \*Best School Coordinator.
  - Ma'am Suchita Johnson (Our Lady of the Rosary Church) was honoured as Best Parish Coordinator.
- Student of the Diocese Award was conferred upon Mst. Sumit Ranasingh from St. John's High School.
- CLC Championship Awards:
  - 1st Place: St. Ursula Girls' High School
  - 2nd Place: St. Vincent Pallotti School
  - 3rd Place: SFS School, Sadar

In a special gesture under the Jubilee Year of Hope 2025, all CLC member school principals were honoured with a Citation of Recognition by the Archbishop.

**A heartfelt tribute was paid through the Lifetime Achievement Awards:**

Fr. Francis Leonard and Sr. Pratibha SMMI were felicitated for their lifelong contribution to catechesis.

**The prestigious CLC Lifetime Membership Medal was awarded to:**

- Public Prosecutor Adv. Prashant Sathianathan – for his work in Social Justice
- Ma'am Rachna Singh – for her efforts in Women Empowerment through Education
- Sr. Marisa Victor Boccaro – for her role in Catechetical Education

A special moment of the event was the presentation of the CLC Inspiring Principal Award 2025, which was conferred upon Fr. Prashant K, the principal of SFS High School Sadar for his outstanding leadership, commitment to values, and tireless support to the Christian student community.

The event was meticulously coordinated by the staff and management of Mount Carmel Girls' High School, with special credit to Mr. Arnold Peter, Ms. Amanda Dsouza, Ms. Richa Peter, and Mr. Terrence Francis. A special word of gratitude was extended to Sr. Marisa Victor Boccaro, Headmistress of Mount Carmel, along with Sr. Emelda Mary, Sr. Millte, and Sr. Regina George for their unconditional support and hospitality.

Chattan 3.0 was a truly soul-enriching and joy-filled celebration, leaving every participant inspired and spiritually rejuvenated.



## JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE 2025 INAUGURATED WITH INSPIRING CEREMONY

The Jubilee Year of Hope 2025 was officially launched with a moving and celebratory inauguration ceremony held on December 29, 2024. The event commenced with a solemn procession and introductory rite, setting the stage for a year dedicated to hope and renewal.

His Grace presided over the Holy Mass, which formed the centerpiece of the inaugural event. The service included traditional elements such as the Opening Prayer, Lord, Have Mercy, Prayers of the Faithful, Offertory, Communion Prayer, and a Solemn Blessing. A particularly poignant moment was the handing over of the Jubilee Cross to the Seoni-Chhindwara Dean. Attendees also witnessed the release of a commemorative magazine and the official Jubilee Year Planner, outlining the planned activities for the year. Fr. Vivian provided a brief overview of the Jubilee Year's theme and objectives, inspiring those present.

The spiritual proceedings were followed by a vibrant cultural program that showcased the talents of various parishes. A welcome dance by the SFS Cathedral Parish kicked off the festivities, setting a joyful tone. The Mary Queen of Apostles Church choir shared the spirit of the season with beautiful Christmas carols. A captivating dance performance by St. Martin De Porres Church and an engaging musical act by St. Anthony's Church, Ajni, were also highlights of the program. Fr. Vivian concluded the event with a vote of thanks, expressing gratitude to all who contributed to the successful launch of the Jubilee Year of Hope 2025. The community left feeling inspired and hopeful for the year ahead.



## ASSUMPTION CHURCH, BALAGHAT

Assumption church Balaghat celebrated the women's day by inviting the resource persons Mrs Madulika mam and Rachana mam. Holy Eucharist prepared by women and felicitation followed by a grand lunch for all. All went happily St Mary's School has taken the initiative to take the children to interior tribal villages to mingle with them. This year School staff arranged an exposure program with the tribal children in a government hostel where St Mary's School children shared their joy by donating useful articles and participated in a short program. This gives immense joy and learning for the children.



## CRI UNIT

Dear Friends,

We would like to bring to your notice that Sr. Valsa Joseph, the President of the CRI Nagpur Unit, has been given an immediate transfer. We express our heartfelt gratitude to Sr. Valsa for her dedicated service, guidance and support, and we assure her of our prayers as she embarks on her new mission. In her place, the core committee has elected Sr. Mary Jose SGS as the new President of the CRI Nagpur Unit. We extend our best wishes to her as she takes up this responsibility of leading and animating the CRI Nagpur unit.





## CELEBRATING TOGETHERNESS WITH HIS GRACE

On March 24, 2025, the Ferrando Convent (Missionary Sisters of Mary Help of Christians) in Martin Nagar, was filled with joy and gratitude as the community welcomed His Grace, Most Rev. Elias Gonsalves, Archbishop of Nagpur, for a special Holy Eucharistic celebration. The occasion was particularly significant, taking place during this Jubilee year, and the community felt greatly blessed by His Grace's gracious presence and powerful blessings. In his thought-provoking homily, Archbishop Elias Gonsalves reflected on the Jubilee Cross, drawing inspiration from the day's reading of 2Kings 5: 1-15. He emphasized that the Jubilee Cross is a symbol of God's preferential love, mercy and forgiveness, resonating deeply with the sisters. The celebration was also honoured by the presence of Rev. Sr. Ancy Varghese, the Provincial Superior of Sacred Heart Province, Tinsukia - Assam, and Sr. Sheeba Paul the Bursar of the Province.



Following the Holy Eucharistic celebration, His Grace generously spent his time with the sisters, sharing words of wisdom and encouragement. The sisters expressed their heartfelt gratitude for his affectionate and appreciative presence and inspiring words.

Sr. Shiny Sebastian, MSMHC  
Ferrando Convent, Martin Nagar.

## LIFE AND LEGACY OF SR. THOMAS MARIA OF INFANT JESUS

Sr. Thomas Maria of Infant Jesus, a devoted missionary of the SMMI congregation, peacefully passed away on 6th March 2025 at the age of 102. Born on 22nd August 1922 in Nyarakkal, Kerala, she joined missionary service in 1943 and dedicated over 80 years to healing and evangelization across central India. Trained as a nurse, she served in remote villages, offering medical aid, treating snakebites, and spreading the Gospel. Her work in places like Rasegaon, Junwani, and Bhichia left a lasting impact on countless lives. In her later years, she devoted herself to prayer and community service at Mary Immaculate Convent. Known for her simplicity, humility, and radiant smile, she was a spiritual guide to many. Her funeral was held on 8th March 2025, with Bishop Emeritus Gerald Almeida as the main celebrant. Sr. Thomas Maria's legacy of faith, compassion, and missionary zeal continues to inspire the SMMI congregation and all who knew her.

## JAWAHARNAGAR ORGANIZED A RETREAT

On 6th April St. Thomas Church Sawari, Jawaharnagar, organized a retreat for the Parishioners to deepen their faith and foster a personal union with Jesus Christ. A one day retreat encouraged the faithful to reflect the importance of lent. It began with praise and worship led by James. Fr. Linto Peter gave talks. In his reflection he highlighted importance of healing during the retreat. Our souls get healed through the sacrament of reconciliation, physical, and mental sickness through prayer. Fr. Simon Fernandes, Parish Priest expressed gratitude to Fr. Linto and James for accepting the invitation to conduct the retreat for the faithful. He thanked the faithful for their presence and active participation.



## ARCHDIOCESAN BOARD OF EDUCATION

On the 14th January 2025 the Archdiocesan Board of Education had its general body meeting at St. Montfort school having with the topic moulding minds for the meaningful mission. Fr. Jeyaprakash the Archdiocesan education secretary welcomed everyone. It was wonderfully arranged by Montfort school principal Br. Jomon and meaningful session regarding the good practices practiced in our schools was conducted by Fr. Joseph Koovely and input session by Archbishop Elias Gonsalves. It gave boost to the ABE members. With the delicious lunch, the meeting came to an end



## ST. JOSEPH'S CONVENT TOASTS ITS 150<sup>TH</sup> YEAR

### A Milestone in the history of St. Joseph's Convent, Nagpur.

A grand function marking the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Joseph's Convent, Nagpur was held on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2025. The event began with a grand Eucharistic Celebration with Most Rev. Archbishop Elias Gonsalves as the main Celebrant and many priests concelebrating the Holy Mass. Speaking on the occasion the Principal Sr. Sophia D'souza said, "Reaching 150 years is a moment of pride for the entire school community. It reflects the School's commitment towards fostering, learning, leadership and innovation."

The Archbishop congratulated the sisters and appreciated their work in the Educational field. The School Choir uplifted the Eucharistic Celebration with their melodious singing. A Documentary titled 'Notre Voyage' (Our Journey) was released. It captivated the audience with its fantastic photography, narration and music. Present on the occasion were the Vicar General Fr. Anthony D'souza, Sr. Monica Augustine-Provincial Superior, Sr. Sophia D'souza - Principal, Sr. Rose - Vice Principal, Sr. Sadhana-Supervisor.





## ST. FRANCIS DE SALES (SFS) COLLEGE, NAGPUR

St. Francis De Sales (SFS) College, Nagpur, has continued to excel in the academic year 2024-25, upholding its mission of academic excellence, holistic development, and social responsibility. The college has organized various initiatives, including guest lectures, workshops, and seminars, aimed at enhancing students' academic knowledge and practical skills. Notable events such as InnoVision 2025, a scientific model competition, and a National Level Conference on sustainable biodiversity highlighted the institution's focus on innovation and science.

SFS College has also placed strong emphasis on faculty development, offering programs to enhance teaching methods and research skills. In addition, the college fosters holistic student development through workshops on leadership, self-improvement, and self-defense, as well as recognizing academic achievements during the Annual Awards Day.

Cultural and extracurricular activities, including quiz and debate competitions, have provided platforms for students to showcase their talents. The college's commitment to social responsibility is reflected in its environmental and health initiatives, as well as its scholarship programs for economically disadvantaged students. Looking ahead, SFS College plans to expand its academic offerings, infrastructure, and research collaborations, ensuring its continued leadership in higher education and its contribution to society.







# S.F.S. HIGH SCHOOL, SADAR, NAGPUR

## Celebrated 155 Glorious Years of Excellence and Legacy

### A Historic Milestone Honoring Faith, Knowledge, and Service

With immense pride and gratitude, S.F.S. High School, Sadar, Nagpur, joyously marked its 155th Jubilee Year on January 3, 2025. This momentous occasion was not just a celebration but a tribute to the school's rich legacy, built on the pillars of faith, education, and service to society.

### A Legacy of Faith and Excellence

Established over a century and a half ago, S.F.S. High School has been a beacon of learning, nurturing generations of students who have gone on to excel in diverse fields. The school's commitment to academic excellence, moral values, and holistic development has remained steadfast through the years.

Reflecting on this remarkable journey, **Principal Rev. Fr. Prashant** remarked,

*"This Jubilee is a heartfelt tribute to all the stalwarts who have been part of this journey—our dedicated management, a lineage of committed principals, priests, religious members, and the countless alumni who serve humanity across the globe."*



### A Grand Celebration of Culture and Patriotism

Leading up to the Jubilee, the school organized various events and competitions, engaging students, staff, and participants from different schools. These events fostered a spirit of camaraderie and excellence, bringing the community together in gratitude.

The highlight of the celebrations was the Annual Concert, themed around Bollywood history, Indian culture, patriotism, and English literature. It was an evening of grandeur and nostalgia, as students showcased their talents through dance, drama, and music, paying tribute to the rich heritage of India and global literature.



### **An Evening of Inspiration**

The grand occasion was graced by Mr. Harish Salve, Former Solicitor General of India, as the Chief Guest, along with His Grace Elias Gonsalves, Archbishop of the Nagpur Archdiocese, and Rev. Fr. Anthony D'Souza, Vicar General of the Nagpur Archdiocese. Their presence added great inspiration and pride to the event.

In an emotional address, Mr. Harish Salve reflected on his cherished school days, stating:

“Fr. Prashant, it is an honor to see you leading this great institution as its Principal. I still dream of the school, I still dream of the moments I spent here.”

His words resonated deeply, reinforcing the everlasting bond that alumni share with their alma mater.

### **A Celebration of Gratitude and Hope**

As the night unfolded, the Annual Concert became more than just a cultural event—it was a testament to the school's journey of 155 years, honoring those who shaped it and inspiring future generations to carry its legacy forward.

The Jubilee celebrations reaffirmed that S.F.S. High School is not just an institution but a living testament to faith, knowledge, and service—a guiding light for generations to come.

**Long live the spirit of S.F.S. High School!**

## **ST. PETER'S SCHOOL BELA, BHANDARA** *Silver Radiance*

The silver jubilee marks a momentous occasion in the school's illustrious history. It's time for reflection, gratitude and renewed dedication, shaping young minds and making a positive impact on society. It is silver year for St. Peter's School Bela, Bhandara. As we celebrate the rich legacy of our institution, gratefully remember those who toiled for its growth.

To mark this jubilant occasion and to inaugurate the silver year of blessings, we were blessed to have the presence of our Archbishop, Most Rev. Dr. Elias Gonsalves. On 13th January we had a simple jubilee inaugural function. It was indeed a blessed day, archbishop unveiled the jubilee logo, in the presence of Rev. Sr. Lilly one of the pioneers of Bhandara mission. He shared his insights with us and inspired the students for their future. We had photo session with grade 10th students, teaching faculty and supporting staff.





# MOUNT CARMEL GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL AJNI, NAGPUR

**July 13, Saturday**

Eucharistic celebration in honor of the Feast of our Lady of Mount Carmel was celebrated by Fr. Naveen D'Souza (OP). Mass was attended by Pre- Primary and Secondary Staff along with our Catholic parents, students and Ex- teachers and benefactors. The Mount Carmel Girls' High School students wished, all in their melodious voices. It was a memorable day.



**November 25, Monday**

The Eucharistic was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Vishwas Torne, who delivered an inspiring homily emphasizing the essence of faith, love and trust in God's providence.



**On December 8th** the Hallowed Halls of Mount Carmel Girls' High School, resounded with bright as to vibrant teams - one of talented students on the other of passionate teachers participated in the XXIV Carol Singing Competition organized by the Yuwak Yuwati Sangh (Youth Fellowship) of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, Nagpur. Sr. Marisa encouraged the staff and students to participate and sing for the Glory of God.







# FEAST DAY OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES AT ST. JOHNS HIGH SCHOOL

## **Celebration of the Feast Day of St. Francis de Sales, At St. Johns High School, Mohan Nagar**

On January 25th, the MSFS of Nagpur and community of the Provincialate gathered in joyful reverence to celebrate the feast day of our beloved patron, St. Francis de Sales. This significant occasion celebrated on St John's High School campus brought together religious members from various congregations, and the diocesan priests fostering a spirit of unity and devotion.

The evening commenced with a solemn blessing of the statue of St. Francis de Sales, by His Grace Archbishop Elias Gonsalves at the main gate of the school, accompanied by Fr Anthony Dsouza, the Vicar General of the Archdiocese and Fr Manoj Tirkey, MSFS, the Provincial of Nagpur Province. This moment set the tone for the festivities to follow. The blessing was a poignant reminder of the saint's enduring legacy and his commitment to the spiritual growth of the faithful.

Following the blessing, and devout procession to the Chapel, Fr Agnelo Fernandes in his introduction succinctly highlighted the virtues of St. Francis de Sales and his impact on the Church. His words resonated deeply the inner sentiments of all present, inspiring a renewed commitment to the values of gentleness, humility, and love that St. Francis exemplified.

The highlight of the celebration was the Holy Mass, celebrated by His Grace, Archbishop Elias Gonsalves, the Archbishop of Nagpur. The liturgy was a profound expression of faith, filled with heartfelt prayers and hymns that uplifted the spirit of the congregation. Archbishop Gonsalves' homily emphasized the importance of living out the teachings of St. Francis de Sales in our daily lives, encouraging all to embody his spirit of kindness and compassion.

After the Mass, Fr. Manoj Tirkey, MSFS, the Provincial Superior of the Nagpur Province, expressed gratitude to all who contributed to the success of the celebration. His vote of thanks was a heartfelt acknowledgment of the collaborative efforts of the community, reinforcing the bonds of fraternity among the religious and the priests of the Archdiocese.

The festivities continued with joyful cake-cutting ceremony by Archbishop Gonsalves, Fr. Manoj Tirkey, and the Provincial of SMMI Congregation and that of the Congregation of St. Joseph of Chambéry, along with all the MSFS Confreres. This moment of camaraderie symbolized the unity of purpose and mission that defines our community.

The celebration concluded with a fellowship meal, where all gathered to share not only food but also stories, laughter, and the warmth of companionship. It was a fitting end to a day dedicated to honouring St. Francis de Sales, a day that reminded us of the importance of community and the call to live out our faith with joy and generosity.

*(as reported by Fr Joseph Gollapudi, MSFS, the Secretary of the MSFS Provincial)*





## ST. MARY'S SCHOOL, GHORADONGRI

"Education breeds confidence, Confidence breeds hope, and Hope breeds peace". To impart knowledge, and confidence in the pupils mind. St. Mary's School had been rendering useful service from many years to the children of Ghoradongri and surrounding villages.

This Annual Report undoubtedly showcases the achievements and glories of our school, but also makes us think deeply about our shortcomings. We have always been committed to create an environment in the school which helps the young minds to blossom and provide a best platform for individual thinking and holistic development of the child's personality and growth. We also aim to set standards and goals for ourselves and strive to achieve them be it in the area of academics, sports, discipline, leadership and Etc.

***"Learning gives creativity, creativity leads to thinking, thinking provides knowledge and knowledge makes you great"***

The school's management constantly encouraged and supported by the secretary Rev. Fr. Smeer Nagrare who always puts all his efforts and ideas for school's healthy environment and academic growth. The full collaboration and contributions of the management have made this academic year different and fruitful. We had different academic activities throughout the year like, games, art, reading activities, speaking skills, story telling, vocabulary building, good habits,...etc.... We also have PTM meetings and extra curricular activities. As we are celebrating the 12 Annual Day on the theme of SAVE EARTH SAVE LIFE we are proud to say that we have upgraded our infrastructure facilities including till Class 5...Many milestones have been achieved and many still have to be reached. St. Mary's School will continue to mould the young minds towards their academic growth.







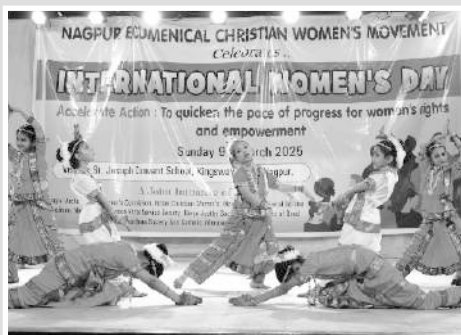
# INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION

## "ACCELERATE ACTION"

International Women's Day, observed on March 8th annually, celebrates women's achievements, advocates for gender equality, and empowers women. In 2025, the Nagpur Ecumenical Christian Women's Movement, in collaboration with several NGOs, organized an International Women's Day event on March 9th at the St. Joseph School Auditorium in Nagpur. The event, themed "Accelerate Action", aimed to accelerate progress for women's rights and drive meaningful change.

The celebration began at 3:30 PM with a lighting of the lamp by eminent guests, symbolizing wisdom, knowledge, and purity. A vibrant welcome dance performed by children from St. Joseph Primary School set the tone for the event. Distinguished speakers, including Most Rev. Dr. Elias Gonsalves, Archbishop of Nagpur, and Rt. Rev. Paul Dupara, Bishop of Nagpur, addressed the audience with motivational messages. Archbishop Gonsalves emphasized the importance of movements in advocating for women's rights and social change, urging women to rise against injustice.

The event featured powerful performances, such as a skit highlighting the struggles of women facing abuse and an action song celebrating women who reformed society. Testimonials from women entrepreneurs inspired the audience. The event, attended by over 600 women, showcased unity among women of various faiths, transcending caste, class, and religious differences. It concluded with a shared message: "My humanity is bound up in yours, for we can only be human together" – Desmond Tutu.





## **ICYM REPORT**

### **Career Guidance Program**

On 6th April 2025, ICYM Nagpur organized a Career Guidance Program under the guidance of Archbishop Most Rev. Dr. Elias Gonsalves, Rev. Fr. Anbu Xavier, Rev. Sr. Megha SMMI and Rev. Sr. Angel Wangsu MSMHC. Around 125 youth participated in the event, which began with action songs, prayer, and lamp lighting. Sessions were conducted by Dr. Ruben Buthello and Ms. Manisha Mahatme, followed by a talk on vocation by Fr. Shine Augustine. A panel discussion and Lenten reel competition was held. After the prize distribution ceremony and a vote of thanks all enjoyed the fellowship meal.



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## **Elections of the New Diocesan Executive Committee**

The ICYM-NAGPUR successfully conducted elections on Sunday, 15th December 2024, to form the new Diocesan Executive Committee.



## **ICYM-Nagpur Dexco Unites In Prayer**

Every 2nd and 4th Sunday, the ICYM-Nagpur DEXCO gathers for a meaningful prayer service, strengthening their spiritual bond and leadership commitment.

These regular moments of reflection aim to foster personal spiritual growth, renew their dedication to serve with humility, and build a habit of consistent prayer.



Following the service, the team often holds brief meetings to discuss upcoming programs and evaluate recently completed activities—ensuring their mission stays rooted in both faith and action.

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## **Raho Hopeful**

Raho Hopeful program for the youth of Nagpur deanery On 2nd March 2025, ICYM Nagpur's DEXCO conducted a program 'raho hopeful' for the youth of Nagpur Deanery. The aim was to inspire and equip the youth with a deeper understanding of the Jubilee Cross and key teachings of the church, fostering hope, faith and unity within the youth.



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## **Reel Making Competition**

With the intention of making the youth reflect on the holy season of lent, ICYM-NAGPUR has organised a reel making competition on the topic 'how will I prepare for Lent?'





## Short Film Making Competition

On the occasion of the feast of St. Gonsalo Garcia the patron saint of ICYM, ICYM-Nagpur conducted a short film making competition. The youth of Our lady of Fatima church, Jaitala emerged as winners of the competition.



## Welcoming Rev. Sr. Angel Wangsu (MSMHC)

On 16th February 2025, Most Rev. Dr. Elias Gonsalves the Archbishop of Nagpur along with ICYM-Nagpur DEXCO wholeheartedly welcomed Rev. Sr. Angel Wangsu (MSMHC) in the core team of ICYM-Nagpur.



## The Western Region Youth Conference (WRYC Nashik)

A three day conference (17th-19th January 2025) was held at the diocese of Nashik for the youth leaders of the western region. Six delegates from the Archdiocese of Nagpur attended this conference.

A key contribution from us was the presentation of the diocesan report highlighting the activities, initiatives and progress of ICYM-Nagpur. It was an enriching experience for all the participants, with meaningful sessions, spiritual growth and cultural exchange.





## **KAMPTÉE DEANERY LENTEN RECOLLECTION**

### **God seeks a repentant heart**

On 23rd March 2025 a Deanery Youth Lenten Recollection was held at St. Alphonsa Church, Mhasala under the guidance of our deanery youth director Fr. Anthony Xavier with the cordial coordination of parish priests of other churches in the Kamptee deanery. The main purpose of the recollection was to understand the importance of a good confession and how we can prepare for Lent. A brief session on how to prepare for lent was given by ICYM president Vivian Wasnik. A talk session on how to make a good confession was given by Fr. Anthony Xavier. Lastly the ICYM team led us in adoration. The session ended with confession and final blessings.



# *Merry Christmas*

## **Immaculate Conception Church, Kamptee Youth Celebrate Christmas at ASHA KIRAN ORPHANAGE**

### **Christmas lies in the spirit of sharing**

On 22nd December 2024 along with our deanery youth director Fr Anthony Xavier and Youth animator Sr Anila visited the Asha Kiran Orphanage in Mhasala. We started with a prayer invoking God's presence through the Holy word. We sang Christmas carols. The children were very loving and mingled soon. All the youth collected money and sponsored meal for the kids which we all enjoyed eating together.



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## *National Youth Day*

### **AAMCHI ASHA**

On 11th August 2024, all the youth under Kamptee deanery gathered to celebrate National youth day at Sacred Heart Church, Silewada. The theme of the day was HOPE.

A brief session on how we have a hope in Christ was given by Fr. Liju Anthony, parish priest of Silewada and Fr Anthony Xavier deanery youth director. Various fun activities were held for all by the Silewada youth.





# **YOUTH OF ST. MARTIN DE PORRES CHURCH LEAD FOOD DRIVE FOR THE POOR**

**Jaripatka, Nagpur | April 10, 2025**

In a beautiful display of compassion and community spirit during the holy Lenten season, the youth of St. Martin de Porres Church, Jaripatka, came together to serve the less fortunate through a heartwarming food drive.

Guided by the Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Jesu Raj, Assistant Parish Priest Fr. Jomise Joy, and Youth President Mr. Vivian Wasnik, the young volunteers took the initiative to prepare and distribute breakfast to the poor and needy in their parish and surrounding areas.

On the morning of April 10, 2025, the youth gathered early to cook and pack nearly 100 boxes of nutritious breakfast meals. With love and dedication, they then set out on foot and by vehicle, reaching out to those often forgotten—daily wage workers, homeless individuals, and struggling families—offering them not just food, but hope and kindness.

“This drive is a reflection of our faith in action,” said Mr. Wasnik. “Lent is not just a time for fasting, but also for almsgiving and reaching out to our brothers and sisters in need.” The initiative was more than just a charitable act—it was a powerful witness of how young people can be instruments of change and service in the Church and society. The parish community appreciated the youth’s efforts and encouraged more such meaningful missions in the future.

As the Lenten season continues to call for reflection, repentance, and renewal, the food drive stands as a shining example of Christian love put into practice.





# जयंती की शुभकामनाएँ





# Happy Easter

