

SYRO-MALANKARA CATHOLIC CHURCH



The Diocese of St. John Chrysostom
GURGAON

रूप नवीन

THE DIOCESAN BULLETIN

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The Bishop

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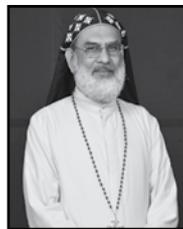
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Shepherd's Message

With New Year, comes again, new hopes and new efforts for a better life ahead. After the blessings received from the Christmas season, we continue to meditate upon the '*Denha*' (*rising*) feast of Our Lord. As we read in the Bible, through the baptism in Jordan, the heavens opened up and proclaimed Jesus as the Lord and Messiah. While the Heavens proclaimed the rising of the Son of God; from the part of humans, John the Baptist witnessed the moment. That experience transformed him to become an ever-greater life-witness of the Lord.



John the Baptist in his humility said, 'he may decrease and the Lord may increase and shine forth in and through him'. The life-witness of John must propel us to this level of discipleship. As we celebrate this important Feast of Our Lord, let the remembrance of Denha of Our Lord be also for us an occasion of getting symbolically baptized again, taking a dip in the waters of deeper faith. It should transform us to make our Lord Jesus grow in us. This would make us evangelisers on the Earth.

While many of us make the New Year resolutions, it is suggestable that one those resolutions should also include our increased participation in the Mission activities of our diocese. The existing apostolates of the MCA, MCYM and the MCCL are doing very well in the initial years of our Eparchy. We need to further grow, keeping in mind the vast number of people who are new or are yet to receive the love of Jesus Christ our Lord. Let us remember that they are our brothers and sisters waiting for our love and care.

Prayerful greetings of the Yaldo-Denha season and the New Year!

May God bless you all,

✠ Jacob Mar Barnabas
Bishop of Gurgaon

Diocesan News

Eparchial Pastoral Council



The 3rd Meeting of the Eparchial Pastoral Council (EPC) of the Diocese of Gurgaon was held on 17th November, 2017 (Friday) from 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. at St. Mary's Cathedral Hall, Neb Sarai, New Delhi, under the chairmanship of His Excellency Most Rev. Dr. Jacob Mar Barnabas, the Metropolitan Bishop of Gurgaon. A total of 66 Members (1 Bishop, 1 Corepiscopo, 21 Priests, 6 Sisters and 38 Laypersons) from different Parishes/ Mission Units of the Diocese attended the meeting.

The proceedings of the Meeting also included Spiritual animation, Lighting the Lamp, Welcome Address; Presidential Address; Administering the Oath of office by the New Members; Motion of Condolence & Tributes to Late Rev. Sr. Alice MCSJ (Odisha) and Late Mr. Thomas George (Neb Sarai); Election of New Priest-Secretary to Pastoral Council; Presentation of Minutes

& Gist of proceedings of the previous meeting by the Secretary and Confirmation thereof; Honouring & Felicitating Lay leaders; Briefing by the concerned Priests-in-charge on the functioning & life of Mission Villages in various Mission-Regions of the Diocese; Briefing by different Departments/Commissions by concerned Diocesan Directors or their delegates; Orientation Talk on Financial Accounts by the CA Shri K.K. George; Presentation of Financial Status & Budget by Diocesan Procurator V. Rev. Fr. Philips Vazhakunnathu; Presentation of issues, concerns and future Planning; Address by VG Very Rev. Msgr. Shaji Thomas Manikulam; Proposals/clarifications etc. during Zero hour, Group Photo session; Briefing about the Summary Record of proceedings, resolutions, motions and recommendations of the Council by the Secretary; Concluding remarks by the Chairman, Vote of thanks, etc.

During the Meeting Rev. Fr. Sam Pathackal (West Delhi) was elected and appointed as the new Priest-Secretary to the Pastoral Council. The orientation talk given by the CA Mr. K.K. George was very useful in clarifying various queries for maintaining proper Accounts and Financial Management. Members of the Pastoral Council actively participated in various deliberations which helped to arrive at various recommendations pertaining to the life & mission of the Diocese. Members also responded positively to the request made by the Bishop in cooperating and supporting the endeavour initiated by the Mar Ivanios Educational & Charitable Society. During the Council's meet, Chief Vicar General Rt. Rev. Msgr. Daniel Kuzhithadathil Corepiscopo welcomed the gathering and Rev. Fr. Sam Pathackal, Priest-Secretary (EPC) proposed the Vote of thanks. With concluding remarks and apostolic blessing by His Excellency, the Chairman of the Council, the 3rd Meeting of the Eparchial Pastoral Council of Diocese of Gurgaon concluded in a contented and blissful manner.

CBCI CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION



Indian Vice President Venkaiah Naidu on December 12 commended Christians for their service to those on the periphery and share in building a new India.

“The Catholic community is peace-loving and it contributes immensely to nation building,” the vice president told a gathering that the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of India (CBCI) organized to launch Christmas celebrations in the national capital.

“I have been attending Christmas functions at different parts of India as part of my political and social activities. This is the first occasion as the vice president of India that I am participating in a Christmas celebration,” said Naidu, who assumed the second highest office in the country on August 11, this year.

The Vice President asserted “People all over the world irrespective caste, creed or nationality celebrate Christmas with great joy and gaiety,” the vice president, the chief guest of the program, told the gathering comprising religious, political and social leaders as well as diplomats and media persons. “Jesus is the Son of God. He brings Good news to all seasons, peoples, cultures and nations.

His message is the message of peace. If there is tension, we cannot have attention to any activities of peace”, said Mr. Naidu.

Stating that Christmas reminds us all to live up to the ideals and values preached and practiced by Jesus Christ, Mr Naidu said Christmas is the festival of love, joy and sharing. It is a time to renew our commitment to love and serve our families, communities and society; to be just and transparent in our dealings; to promote social and economic inclusion of all; to promote lasting peace between people of different religions and cultures and to promote sustainable development, he added.

The Vice-President said that every individual must revere his/her mother, mother tongue, birth place and motherland. Venkaiah Naidu said, “It is the duty of every Indian to preserve and protect our culture. Christian community, especially Catholics, work for people’s welfare. “They maintain best educational institutions in the country that create awareness about the need of education for the needy.”

Christians have opened thousands of dispensaries and hospitals in remote areas and collaborate with the central and state governments. “The Christian community as a whole is assiduously engaged in contributing their share in building a new India which is united and strong,” the vice president said and added that he has personally witnessed how Christian helped in social transformation through formal and non-formal education.

“Education is the most important tool for social transformation. It helps impart values compassion, morality and ethics,” the vice president told the gathering held at the Community Hall of the Sacred Heart Cathedral Church that sits between two top Catholic schools in New Delhi – Columba’s and the Convent of Jesus and Mary.

The 68-year-old national leader urged Christians to continue their service with an added focus on the marginalized sections of society. Christmas, the festival of love and joy caring and

sharing, is time to renew commitment to serve family, community and society, work for social and economic inclusion of all, and promote lasting peace, he added.

The Christmas message of peace is relevant in these days when people misuse religion. “If you have tension, there cannot be any progress,” the Vice President said. He also asserted that no religion preaches hatred or violence. “Religion has nothing to do with terror. Terror is the enemy of humanity,” he said.

The Vice President also urged the gathering to distinguish between religion and culture. “Let me once again clarify that religion is personal, while culture is a way of life”, he added. Religion, he explained, is worship and personal, whereas culture is a way of life where people love, share and take care of each other. Explaining further, he said, “Suppose you have a chapatti. If you eat the chapatti, it is prakriti (nature), if you snatch a chapatti from another it is vikriti (deviation) and if you share your share with another it is sanskriti (culture).”

He wants every individual to respect, preserve and protect our culture and use the Christmas season to correct “our deviations if any” and spread the message of love through action. He wants the government, enlightened people, communities and their leaders to help the suppressed and the oppressed come up in life to realize Mahatma Gandhi’s vision of “antiodaya” (rise of the last person).

CBCI president, Cardinal Baselios Cleemis, while felicitating the Vice President, reiterated the Catholic community’s commitment to the welfare of the country and its people. “We offer our best wishes, prayerful support, deep commitment even through martyrdom to take the nation to its height of glory,” said the cardinal who hailed the Vice President as “a close friend” of every community in the country.

The 58-year-old cardinal, who also heads the Syro-Malankara Church, said the Christian community is in India to give its service to the poorest of the poor.

“The Church in India is at the service of the nation. People in the periphery need the Lord’s assurance,” he added.

He urged the government to take necessary steps to bring peace and progress to every citizen going beyond manmade boundaries. The head of the Indian Catholics reminds his countrymen that it is up to them to assure the world that diversity is not an obstacle, but the beauty of divine life.”

The cardinal also used the occasion to request the vice president to press the government to declare the recent Ockhi cyclone as a national disaster. The cardinal, who comes from Thiruvananthapuram, one of the worst affected by the November 30 cyclone, noted thousands of fishermen in southern coastal region have lost everything “except their faith in God.”

He stressed the need for satisfying, stable and long-term plan to rehabilitate the affected families. The Cardinal later told journalists that the Vice President promised to take up the matter with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The prelate said he has visited the affected areas twice and that the Church plans various ways to help the families.

Bishop Lumen Monteiro, Bishop of Agartala prayed that the Celebration of Christmas may enhance peace, joy and love in the world. Bishop Mar Barnabas of Gurgaon welcomed the guests. Bishop Jacob Barnabas in his welcome speech reminded that Christmas gives us the message of peace and Harmony.

Bishop Theodore Mascarenhas, the Secretary General of CBCI, the chief organizer of the event expressed happiness that so many Ambassadors, Members of Parliament and Spiritual leaders from various Faiths had attended. Bishop Mascarenhas spoke of Christmas as the feast that brings all peoples, cultures and faiths together.

The Catholic Church in India runs over a mammoth 25000 schools and Colleges and looks after 85,000 beds in catholic run hospitals across the country, several of them in the remote locations. It

also takes pride in more than 5000 registered NGOs catering to the basic needs of over 5 million poor and marginalized people annually.

The Children of Convent of Jesus and Mary School, Delhi created the spirit of Christmas through the singing of beautiful Christmas carols. Representatives from over 25 embassies along with members of the Apostolic Nunciature attended the function.

Priests and religious meet



The priests and religious meet was held on 15th November 2017 at St. Mary's Cathedral, Neb Sarai. The meeting began after the Morning prayers and Holy Mass. The theme of the meet was "Mission". The Chief VG Msgr. Daniel Kuzhithadathil Corepiscopo welcomed the gathering of (45) priests and religious of the diocese. The Inaugural address was given by His Excellency Most Rev. Dr. Jacob Mar Barnabas.

The main agenda of the meeting was to form a new Mission Manual for the diocese - which would be the fundamentals of the code of mission, which was introduced by Rev. Fr Simon Eluvathingal. The Second and the third sessions were held after a

group discussion by the priests & religious which further consisted of the plans and presentation about formation and formulation of the Eparchial Mission Manual. All the sessions were presided by Rev. Fr Simon Eluvathingal, who is the mission coordinator of the diocese and it is under his guidance the mission manual is drafted.

The second day of the meet began with morning prayers and Holy mass which included the sharing of mission experiences by the priests and religious of the following states: Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Odisha, Punjab and Tripura. The general concluding talk was given by His Excellency Most Rev. Dr. Jacob Mar Barnabas who congratulated the efforts taken by all the priests and religious working in the mission areas and specially appreciated Rev. Fr Simon for all his mission endeavours. The meet was concluded with the Vote of Thanks proposed by Chancellor and the two days' meeting was well organised under the supervision of Rt. Rev. Msgr. Shaji Thomas Manikulam, the Vicar General and Mission Coordinator of the Diocese.

First Lay-missionary Training Camp



Just 33 months after the inception of a mission diocese and with no mission centers to its credit, it has done the impossible, through the divine intervention of the Holy Spirit and the spirit filled

cooperation of the young missionaries of both men and women, when 37 native lay missionaries gathered in the cathedral church to pray, learn and empowered to carry out the great mission mandate in the 23 states of the mission diocese of Gurgaon. The historical first mission lay-missionary training camp was held 25-29th of November 2017. It was the fruit of our young missionaries who went out like missionaries of bygone era, breaking the boundaries of language, culture and distance to preach and plant the Syro - Malankara Catholic Church with the deep trust on the providence of God almighty and courage to respond to the mandate given to them by the holy mother church. They were out there to prepare, plant and harvest the rich harvest of Malankara communities in the north.

Many wondered what they were doing. Can they surmount the barriers of distance, language? Are there people who are interested in the spirituality of this ancient church with its liturgical traditions and set up? 33 months of hard work in the field with faith and determination had yielded rich harvest. The result was there for all of us to see, when in the cathedral church, the lay missionaries of Malankara church gathered to learn, reflect and pray. They gathered from eight states: Haryana, Punjab, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Tripura, Odisha, Assam, and Delhi. They spoke different languages: Hariyani, Punjabi, Hindi, Bengali, Kok borok and Odia. They stayed together for five days as one Malankara community. They broke the language barriers, culture, food habits, and distance and were able to stay praying, learning to grow as wonderful Malankara children.

The Training focused on the theme, “Be proud to be a Catholic and how to be a worshipping witnessing community.” The first missionary training mainly dealt with the mission subject, “the formation of Syro-Malankara Catholic Community Consciousness.” Since many of the participants had the non-catholic background the aim was to guide the participants to appreciate the key features and components of being a worshipping Community within the Syro-Malankara Catholic Tradition.

The participants reflected together the foundation of the Church the paschal mysteries in the light of the Scripture. How such mysteries are transmitted through the sacred **creed**; how the creed

is enacted in the present time through sacred **cult** -liturgical acts, and how the sacred **code** was formed to protect the liturgical acts and how a sacred **community** is safeguarding the code, cult and creed experiencing the power of the paschal mysteries that sets every human free from sin and encounter the the true God and worship Him.

The participants were lead through scripture studies and prayer and interaction to encounter the real presence of the Eucharistic Lord through spirit filled Eucharistic adoration. The whole sessions were led by Rev. Fr. Saimon Elavathunkal, one of the Mission Coordinators of the diocese of Gurgaon. The holy Qurbano was offered in Hindi by Fr. Philip Vazhakunnathu the cathedral parish priest joined by the faithful of the cathedral church. The Eucharistic celebration was also conducted in English; Prayers of Odia language were also used in the Divine Liturgy.

The Participants prayed the morning and evening prayer of the Malankara tradition in Hindi, recited the holy rosary together, and had Eucharistic adorations with praise and worship.

The camp proved many things like, that we can be a Malankara community with all these languages and cultures; that we can live, pray and eat together as one community though we are from the boundaries of Bangladesh or Pakistan; that we can eat together from one kitchen though we eat different foods and have different tastes; that our young missionaries are doing well and they can be real founding fathers and mothers of Malankara communities in hitherto unknown places.

The Camp was inaugurated by our beloved bishop H. E. Jacob Mar Barnabas and welcomed every participant to the camp. The diocesan VG and Mission Coordinator Rev. Msgr. Fr. Shaji Maanikulam who made all the arrangements wished the participants a fruitful experience of Malankara spirituality. Beloved Bishop also celebrated the concluding thanksgiving mass and interacted with the participants and addressed them with relevant information and called them to carry on with the good work that they are already doing. Fr. Sam Pathackal, Parish priest of West Delhi, gave the vote of thanks and appreciated and thanked all those who worked hard to make this historical first mission training camp a successful one.

Prachodana news

Prachodana Gets Social Service Award



Prachodana Social Service Society has been selected for the National Social Service Award this year 2017 on behalf of Social Protection Legal Aid

and Humanity Organization. Award was presented by Social Activist Smt. Irom Sharmila on 10th December 2017 as part of Human Rights Day celebration conducted by the organization. Mr. Anil K Joy received the award on behalf of PSSS. Award Function was held in Srifort Auditorium, New Delhi at 4 pm.

Children's Day Celebration

Children's day was celebrated on 14th of November to increase the awareness of people towards the rights, care and education of children in both of our non formal education centres at Manasarovar Park and Nebsarai. After the celebration children were served with food. Various competitions and cultural programmes were organized on the day.

Winter Cloth Distribution



During the 2017 winter time, Prachodana purchased woolen clothes and blankets and distributed to around 800 poor people including women and children in the in the vulnerable areas of slums and camps in Kashmiri Gate,

Manasarovar Park, Nizamudin and New Delhi railway stations etc. The same programme was conducted among the Non Formal Centres of Prachodana; Nebasari and Manasarovar Park, to the children and parents as well.

Christmas Celebration

In Kashmiri Gate



Prachodana food for the hungry programme team organized Christmas celebration at Kashmiri gate, one of the crowded places in New Delhi. Spending a day full of love and

fun at Kashmiri Gate by distributing cakes and food packets with destitutes and abandons gave a real Christmas meaning. Cakes and Cloths were also distributed.

In Manasarovar Park



Prachodana celebrated this year Christmas with Mansarovar Park Non Formal Education Centre children on 19 December 2017. H.E. Dr. Jacob Mar Barnabas blessed the function with his presence and kind words. Rev. Fr. Vishak Scariah, Social Service

Director welcomed all. Mr. Jomi Thomas, Senior Executive, Malayala Manorama was the chief guest. After the function children were served with food. Sr. Vineetha, Sr. Preetha and volunteers were there to support the program. Sr. Ruby, Sr. Emily and staff Mr. Vinod Nair and volunteer Jerry took initiative to organize the programs for children.

Non Formal Education Centre, Nebsarai

We celebrated Christmas with lot of programs at Nebsarai Children Centre. Children did a lot of activities including songs, dance and action songs. All the children with their parents attended the function. Cakes and gifts were distributed to children.

Destitute Home, Jassola

Prachodana Shanti Ashram celebrated this year Christmas with its inmates on 23rd December 2017. Diocese Chancellor Rev. Fr. Felix John O.I.C. was the chief guest of the function. Cultural Programs were organized by Chilanka School of Dance members for Shanti Ashram inmates with the local people over there. Many people came to Shanti Ashram with cakes and food packets to celebrate their Christmas with the residents of Ashram.

Prachodana Monthly Contribution Scheme

List of members

- 1. Ms. Sigimol Joseph, Jasola Syro Malbar Church**
- 2. Mr. Babu K Thomas, Dubai**
- 3. Mr. Manu Thomas, Nebsarai**
- 4. Ms. Anmol Mathai**
- 5. Mr. Vijaykumar**
- 6. Mr. Arun Kumar**
- 7. Mr. Jinto Paul**

If you want to support our programs please send your donations to the given address.

Name of the Bank (where the FC a/c is held) Prachodana Social Service Society

Address: South Indian Bank Ltd, Shop No: 4, Pocket 8/9, Sector B, C.S.C. Vasant Kunj Branch, NewDelhi 110070

A/c No: 0397 053 00000 4534

IFSC code No: SIBL 0000 397

SWIFT Code: SOININ55

| List 7: Send A Child To School | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------|
| 1 | Mr. Biju c/o Pithav | Thiruvananthapuram |
| 2 | Mrs. Molly Shajan | Mayur Vihar |
| 3 | Tincy Shinu | Mayur Vihar |
| 4 | Abigal Manu Kuriachen | Jasola |
| 5 | St. Jude Malankara Catholic Church group | Jasola |

Girideepam Minor Seminary

Regency transfers

Bro. Mathew who was doing his regency in Odisha has been shifted to Girideepam minor Seminary for the second term of his regency and Bro. Dains Raj who was doing his regency in the Seminary is shifted to Odisha mission.

The Diocese is fortunate to receive two new regents from the Major Archdiocese of Trivandrum, Bro. Jacob Chalil who will be doing his second term of his regency in Punjab and Bro. James Chirakkarottu in North East mission.

Minor Seminary Day

The Girideepam minor Seminary celebrated its 8th Seminary Day-Kohano on November 16th, 2017. The Chief Guest for the day was H.E. Most. Rev. Theodore Mascarenhas, the CBCI Secretary General. H.E. Most. Rev. Bp. Jacob Mar Barnabas, priests of the diocese of Gurgaon, sisters, pastoral council members and laity were present for the function. It was an excellent and heart-taking programme where brothers showcase their hidden talents in the form of dance, Mime, song and skit. The skit displayed the importance of the life of priesthood and the value that one must give to their vocation. The programme also included an auction where the money collected will be used for the development of the mission station. The Chief guest H.E Most. Rev. Theodore Mascarenhas gave an inspiring message saying we must never waste time; rather than being fully engrossed in the social networking sites we must take out time for quality reading.



BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION OF HINDI TEACHER



Monday, 27 November 2017, was the birthday of MRS. SAVITA BORGES, who teaches Hindi to The Girideepam Minor Seminarians. As the part of celebration, a cake was cut at the Bishop's House in the presence of His Excellency Dr. Jacob Mar Barnabas, Rt.Rev.Msgr.Daniel Kuzhithadtil, Rt.Rev. Msg.Dr.Shaji Manikulam, Rev. Fr. John felix OIC (Chancellor Of Gurgoan Diocese), Rev. Fr. Aji Thannimootil (Rector Of Girideepam Minor Seminary), Rev. Fr. Visakh Scaria (Director Of Prachodna Social Service Society) and The 1st Year Minor Seminarians.

Delhi Region

Faridabad

WE WILL MEET AGAIN



It was a day of flowing emotions as we gave farewell to one of the MCYM member “Betty Roy” on 3rd Dec. She was the current Prayer Warrior for Faridabad Unit and throughout her tenure, the unit saw tremendous growth spiritually especially among youth. She handed over the responsibility to Jaya George officially. MCYM adorned her with a farewell gift as well. She will be leaving abroad, and we wish her all success.

SAVIOUR IS BORN



St. Mary's MCC Faridabad celebrated Christmas in the most spiritual yet enchanting way. After the Carol singing at a nearby house, everyone gathered in the Church for the Christmas mass on 24th Dec. The Holy

Eucharist was commemorated by Fr. Geevarghese OIC and it was a musical and soulful Qurbana. Church was lit by decorations and lights all over. A crib and Christmas tree was also set up. Everyone bade bye to leave home after having Christmas Cake.

FESTAL CELEBRATION OF OUR SHEPHERD



St. Mary's Malankara Catholic Church, Faridabad celebrated the feast of their dear Parish Priest Fr. John Felix OIC on 26th Nov. The whole event was kept in secret and arrangements were made as soon as the Holy Mass came to an end. Representatives from Matrusamajam, Church Committee and MCYM came forward to extend their thanks to Achan. Gifts were also given as a token of love towards his service for us. The celebration ended in cutting a cake and his inspiring words to the entire masses.

JASOLA

Children's Day Celebration



On 19th November, 2017 St. Jude Malankara Catholic Church, Jasola organized children's day. The programme was organized by the Catechism teachers. The day was started up with the Holy mass. The main celebrant of the mass was Rev. Fr. George Thekkadayil. The choir of that day was lead by all the Catechism students. The program was done to honor all the children in the parish. After the Holy Mass teachers had organized public program for children. The program was hosted by Mrs. Jincy S. Mathew, regional representative. The felicitation address and message of

the day was given by Mrs. Christina Manu, MCCL animator and Fr. George Thekkadayil respectively. Cultural program was done by the teachers. Children were honored with a greeting card, a rosary and a chocolate. The cards were commented by the director- Fr. Visakh, the headmistress and respective class teachers. Cards and rosaries were sponsored by Fr. Visakh and sisters. The day was enjoyed by all.

Teachers Day Celebration



On 3rd September, 2017 St. Jude Malankara Catholic Children's League, Jasola organized teachers day and mother's day. The day was started up with the Holy mass which was offered for the catechism children, teachers and for all mothers in our church. The main celebrants of the mass were Rev. Fr. Justin Raj of Nagaland mission and Rev. Fr. Visakh Scaria. The choir of that day was lead by all the Catechism students. Catechism children had invited all the teachers for the celebration two weeks prior. The theme of the day was 'Garden of Roses' and all the children, teachers and mothers were dressed in pink to represent the roses of Jasola parish. The program was done to honor all the teachers and mothers in the parish. After the Holy Mass a public program was organized and hosted by the children. The special guest of the program was Rev. Fr. Justin Raj and he gave the felicitation speech. The message of the day was given by Rev. Sr. Keerthana SIC. Cultural program was done by the MCCL children. All the teachers were honored with teacher's day card made by the students for their respective teachers. The day was enjoyed by all.

Mayur Vihar

Catholics Visit



St George Malankara Catholic Church had the proud privilege to welcome His Beatitude Moran Mor Baselios Cardinal Cleemis Catholicos on 5th November 2017. His visit was received with much gladness and pleasure since the visit to our parish was after a very long time. The Holy Qurbano was solemnized by His Beatitude Moran Mor Baselios Cardinal Cleemis Catholicos

alongwith Rt. Rev. Fr. Shaji Manikulam, Diocese Vicar General. Words of gratitude was dedicated for the Cardinal by the parish secretary Mr. AD Varghese. Lastly, His Beatitude Cardinal Cleemis shared and expressed his heartfelt gratitude to be a part of the day's Holy Qurbano service and also for being amongst the parish members after years.

8th Mar Gregorios Quiz Competition

The competition was organised at St. Mary's Malankara Catholic Church, Neb Sarai on 10th December 2017. The participants from our unit namely Anu Mathew, Irene Jose, Norin Jose, Merin Varghese and Jubin James performed with zeal and were formidable opponents to the contending teams.

Festal Celebration of Mother Immaculate DM



8th December 2017 marked the feast of our dearest Mother Immaculate DM. Her feast was celebrated at St. George Syro Malankara Catholic Church on the 10th of December

2017 after the Holy Qurbano. Cake was cut by Mother Immaculate accompanied by Fr. Joseph Dayanand OIC, who presided the Holy Qurbano services for the day.

Door-to-Door Christmas Carol Services



The Christmas Carol services commenced on 16th December 2017. The members from our church, elders, youth and children all alike, participated actively in spreading and sharing the cheer, joy and message of Christmas.

Announcement for Georgians Quiz League (GQL) 2018:

All parishes are hereby informed that MCYM members of St. George Syro Malankara Catholic Church, Mayur Vihar Unit will be organising GQL on 7th January 2018 for MCCL students. Official invites shall soon be shared. We expect all of your cooperation towards making this initiative a successful one.

West Delhi

Half Yearly AGM and Feast of St. Jude Feast, Delhi

The West Delhi Parish community celebrated the Feast of St. Jude in befitting manner and Half Yearly AGM of the Parish held on 12th November, 2017. Rev. Fr. John Padippura and Rev. Fr. Sebastian Kunnumpuram together with the Vicar Re. Fr. Sam Pathackal concelebrated the Holy Qurbon and gave the Festal Message. Special Novena and Nercha were also there. During the AGM a brief report was presented. When show an update of the working and financial position of the Parish was presented by the Secretary and Trustee respectively and the briefing was also done about the Mission village, adopted by the parish in Odisha.

Charity Visit to Shanti Ashram, Jasola



Under the leadership of 'Pithruvedi' and 'Mathru-Sangham', a Group of Members from West Delhi Parish made a Charity Visit to the 'Shanti Anshram' a Destitute Centre of Diocese of Gurgaon,

at Jasola in South Delhi on 3rd December 2017 in the first week of Nombu. Around 40 members, together with Vicar and Sisters of the Parish visited the Ashram, spent about two hours with the Inmates of the Ashram and shared lunch with them. They had a patient hearing and heart-touching experience while sharing the sorrows and joys by the Inmates. Mr. Anil and Mrs. Jeena (Ashram-in-charge) briefed about the Ashram and each inmate-member of the Ashram. The Group shared the Word of God with Prayer and came forward to extend help to fulfil certain needs of the Ashram by providing money and materials required by them. The Director of Prachodana Social Service Society Rev. Fr. Visakh Scariah also met the Group, addressed and expressed gratitude for the visit and help provided to the Ashram.

Bhopal Region

Ahmedabad

One Day Retreat and House Visit by Suvishesha Sangam lead by Rev Fr. Antony Kakkanatt



On Sunday, 19th November, Retreat started with Holy mass by Fr. Antony Kakkanatt and during his talk he prepared the parish members for the house visit mission.

During the house visit mission Bible Prathista was conducted and importance of Vachanam was highlighted to the members. All the church members participated in three days' programme. This was a new experience for our parishoners.

Parish Day Celebration : 26th November



This year Parish Day celebration was conducted on 26th November. After a solemn holy mass, Fr. Jose Kuntharayil inaugurated the parish day celebrations. Quiz competition was conducted based on the Church history, MCYM bagged the 1st Place and Pithruvedi 2nd Place after a close competition. Cultural programs were

conducted in the afternoon, which witnessed active participation from the youngest to oldest members of the church. Parish day celebration ended with Prize distribution for catechism toppers and winners of Church Sports Day events.

Christmas Carol Service : 15th to 17th December



Almost after a decade, this year, we had the house to house Christmas carol. MCYM took the lead of proclaiming the birth of the Jesus. This was a wonderful experience for the youth and

church members to share the joy of the Christmas.

Mathruvedi Day and Onam Celebration



Mathruvedi day and Onam was celebrated on 10th September. MCYM members accompanied mathruvedi members for the Offertory procession and gifted a Rosary to all the Mathruvedi members . To share the joy of the Onam MCYM members arranged a Pukalam.

After the mass offertory, items were put on auctions and sweets were distributed.

Teacher Day

On Teachers' Day, catechism students felicitated their teachers and shared their love and respect with a token of gift to teachers.



MCYM Day



MCYM Day celebration was begun with flag hoisting ceremony. The chief guest for MCYM day celebration was Rev. Fr John Thomas Kandathinkal. MCYM President Mr. Jijo Thomas provided an insight on "MCYM Ahmeabad

Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow" to the church members.

Surat

Christmas Celebrations



When we celebrate the birth of our Lord, by singing carols, by decorating churches and houses, having crib and tree etc., unless we listen to the most vulnerable and marginalized poor people near to us who have none of their own, there will not be real birth of Jesus in our hearts, families and Church.

Realising this conviction, this year's Carol started in a unique and symbolic way as a model to be emulated by our youth and kids in the coming years. After Holy Mass on 10th Sunday, Dec, 17 whole community including members of MCA, MCYM and MCCL under the leadership of Rev Vicar Fr Shoby Mathew OIC, Asst Vicar Rev Fr Monson Kuriakose, OIC, Rev Sr Vimala OSS, Rev Sr Sunitha OSS & Rev Sr Mariyalit OSS, went to Mother Therasas's Leprosy Home, at Variav, a remote village situated 25 kms away from Surat which inhabits 300 odd sick, old, handicapped and mentally challenged persons.

Rev Sisters of the Missionaries of Charity and the inmates heartily welcomed the community saying “Jai Yesu”. Sumptuous lunch was served to them after the same being blessed by our Rev Fathers. The inmates had their own prayer before food especially thanking Lord and the sponsored the food. While they were having food in their own places, Santa along with entire team went around all the Wards and Blocks with songs and Christmas wishes and New Year and gave away to each and every one sweets as a token our love and affection. It was their first experience to see the ‘Christmas Papa’ and to hear the melodious and rhythmic carol songs in their premises. Even old and handicapped persons could not resist their cheers and joy and they danced together and sung the song of happiness and hope in their heart since they cannot follow the lyrics.

Clothes collected from the houses were handed over to the inmates. Food was sponsored by Mr. Sunny Kulangara and Family, San Francisco in remembrance of the 29th Death Anniversary of his father, Late Mr. Isac, Kulangara, Christmas cake was sponsored by Mr. Antony John and Family of Syro Malabar Church, Nanpura and Ice cream to all the inmates sponsored by Mr. C.C.Mathew and family

Concluded the day with carol songs and prayers in the Chapel of the Convent and having the lunch together therefrom. Thereafter from 16th Dec to 21st Dec, Carol team lead by Rev. Fr. Shoby Mathew OIC, visited the houses of all members and well-wishers of the church to wish the blessings and joy of Christmas and New. Holy services of Christmas started at 7 pm on 24th Dec,17 and ended with agape and presentation of gifts to the ‘Christmas friend’ chosen based on the ‘Unnikury’ distributed in the beginning of the month.

Project - 'Shubh Chintak' – Companionship with Odisha Mission members



Under the Project - 'Shubh Chintak' which was formally launched on 19th Oct,17 during MCYM convention held at Surat, members of MCCL & MCYM and interested families will select a member of our Mission in Odisha and he or she will be treated as one's own brother or sister and an extended member of the family. They will be remembered mutually in daily prayers and also foster relationship by caring and sharing. As a first phase of the Project, 18 members of MCCL/MCYM and four families selected their mutual friends from Odisha Mission. To kick start the project, Christmas Greeting Cards and special gifts were presented to each one of them as a token of love and affection

***“Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine you did for me”:* Mathew 25:40**

Kolkata

Surat Convention



Ivania 2017: "Youth the follower and Evangelizer" the first Mcym convention was held in Mary Matha Bethany Public School, Surat from 19th-21st October, 2017. 6 persons

from Kolkata unit participated in it. It was truly a well organised and a memorable convention. We all enjoyed a lot as well as got to learn a lot for our spiritual progression and strength from the beautiful sessions held. Mcym Kolkata unit was also declared as the Best Unit of Odisha region.

Gloria

The Kerala Christian Ecumenical Fellowship (KCEF) organised their Christmas cultural programme "Gloria 2017" on 9th December at St. Thomas Syro



Malabar Catholic Church, Behala. All the 7 churches participated in it and presented different programmes like Christmas Songs, Carol songs, Nativity plays. St. Jude Malankara Catholic Church performed a fusion of Christmas songs in English, Malayalam and Hindi which was highly applauded by the audience.

krupa nidhan

Carol Service



Mcym took the special initiative of organising the Carols this year for the West Bengal and North East Mission areas. Three days carol service was held from 15th-17th December, 2017 in which members from all the organisations of the church participated. Apart from our parish members houses we also visited the houses of our Ecumenical parish members to spread the Good news of the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ. We sang songs in Malayalam, Hindi and English.

Adoration for Bengali Christians

Adoration was organised on 26th December in view of Christmas and New year. The adoration was held in St. Jude Malankara Catholic Church. Dr. Samir Lobwo led the adoration. Around 50 people of the nearby areas participated in it. Lastly lunch was served for all.

Christmas mass in Mission

A mass on the day of Christmas was organised in the mission area of Paterpratima. Around 25 people gathered and cakes were distributed.

KCSSC Carol Competition

A carol singing competition was organised by KCSSC (Kerala Catholic Social Service Centre) on 30th December, 2017. Two teams from our church participated in it, Team Mother Teresa and Team Mar Ivanios. Team Mother Teresa comprised of the MCCL students and Team Mar Ivanios comprised of the Mcym members. All the teams performed exceedingly well in the competition. Team Mar Ivanios was declared the Second runners up of the competition.

'Unnikurri'- Christmas friend

The Christmas friend or 'Unnikurri' lot was distributed in the first week of December. All prayed for their Unni throughout the month and gifts were exchanged on the New Year's eve 31st December after the thanksgiving mass.

North East

JEEVAN DARSHAN CAMP



JEEVAN DARSHAN CAMP under the aegis of Dept. of Catechism was held for the MCCL members of St. Mary's Syro Malankara Catholic Church, Ram Chandra Para, Tripura from 29th-31st. Dec. 2017. Rev. Fr. Jinto, Br. James A. along with the Youth Members actively animated the Camp.

Odisha Region

Mr. Joel soby from Thirumoolapuram parish from the Archdiocese of Thiruvalla has come to get a mission experience and to render his service to the mission for a month. We wish him all the very best.

Novices' visit



10 novices and 2 sisters-in-charges came to the Orissa mission to have a mission experience. They spent about a month taking tuitions and giving leadership in the prayer meetings. They even took time to visit families and recited the evening prayer along with them. Under

the leadership of the novices, people from all the mission stations were brought together and a cultural programme was organized where the children and the youth performed some dances and some skits in the Mainapathar mission station.

Children's day celebration



Similimunda, Mainapathar, and Dongriguda mission stations celebrated the childrens day in a very festive way on 14th November. In the villages of Nilgundiguda and Boranpur, all the children were brought to the Nilgundiguda. The Chief Guests for the day was MCYM Odisha Youth President Abhinash and the unit President Reena and also Ms. Kumari. They spoke on the importance of the Children's Day. Sr. Nimya gave the message and there were cultural programmes which was presented by the children.

Feast of Immaculate Conception



As the preparation for the feast of Our lady, rosary was recited daily in every home. On the feast of our lady, a rosary procession was arranged in the villages of Nilgundiguda and Boranpur.

Vicar General's Visit



Msgr. Shaji Mannikulam visited the mission from 20th November. He spent enough time interacting with the youths, with the people and the pastors. He also met the novices

and took suggestions for the improvements in the mission.

Christmas celebration

Under the leadership of the youth of Dongriguda, Dorandipara, Korshahandi, a house to house Christmas Carols were organized. On 25th December in the villages of Boranpur and Nilgunduguda house to house carols were conducted. A good number of youth participated in this. Rev. Fr. Saimon gave a retreat to the parishioners of Korshandi in preparation of the Christmas. All the parishioners attended the same. The Christmas celebration was conducted on the eve of Christmas in Korshandi parish, Christmas service along with the mass conducted. On 25th December, celebrations were held in Dongriguda, Mainapathar, Similimunda. People from three villages (Sonuguda, Nilgundiguda, Boranpur) came to Nabarangpur house for the Christmas celebration. There was a candle procession as part of the Christmas service and later after the mass all the gathered people went in procession singing the carols in the locality which was followed by agape. About 100 people participated in the same.

Christmas Gift



As a Christmas gift to all our villages a packet 5kg of rice and 1kg of pulses were distributed. In Nilgundi village, food packets were distributed to tribal families.

Important Days

- 1 Naming of our Lord, Erection of the Eparchy of Mavelikara
- 3 Prophet Malachi, St. Chavara Kuriakose Elias
- 4 Erection of the Eparchy of America - Canada
- 6 Denho (Baptism of Our Lord)
- 7 Exaltation of St. John the Baptist, St. Julian
- 8 St. Stephen
- 10 Mar Gregory of Nyssa
- 11 Mar Theodosios the Abbot
- 14 40 Martyrs of Mount Sinai
- 15 Com. Mary Mother of God of Seeds, Erection of the Eparchy of Muvattupuzha, Comm. of Sr. Alice
- 16 Imprisonment of St. Peter
- 17 Mar Antony of Egypt,
- 18 Com. Moran Mor Cyril Baselios Catholicos & Bp. Joseph Mar Severios
- 20 St. Sebastian
- 21 St. Agnes
- 22 3 Days Nombu Begins, Mar Timotheos
- 24 St. Francis De Sales
- 25 End of 3 Days Nombu, Conversion of St. Paul, Erection of the Eparchies of Pathanamthitta & Puttur
- 26 Indian Republic Day
- 28 Kohne Sunday
- 29 St. Ignatius the Fiery
- 30 Mar Jacob Aphrates, St. Haiseenta & St. Martina
- 31 St. Don Bosco

FEAST

- 20 Rev. Fr. Devasia Kuthirakkallil

BIRTHDAY

- 1 Rev. Fr. John Felix OIC & Rev. Fr. Mathew Manaluvila OIC
- 6 Rev. Fr. Sam Pathackal
- 26 Rev. Fr. Visakh Scariah

February 2018

Important Days

- 2 Mayaltho
- 3 Mar Simon and Mortho Hanna
- 4 Aneede Sunday, Catholicos Day, St. John Britto
- 5 Episcopal Ordination of H. E. Most Rev. Geevarghese Mar Divannasios
- 9 Episcopal Ordination of H. E. Most Rev. Abraham Mar Julios
- 10 Establishment of the throne of the Malankara Catholic Major Archiepiscopate
- 11 Season of the Great Fast, Kothine Sunday, Syro-Malankara Catholic Bala Sakhya Dinam
- 12 Shubkono
- 13 Prophet Haggai
- 16 Comm. of Sr. Bensitta SIC
- 18 Garbo Sunday
- 19 Episcopal Ordination of H. E. Most Rev. Joseph Mar Thomas
- 22 Comm. of Bp. Thomas Mar Dioscorus
- 23 Mar Policarp of Smirna
- 24 Finding of the Head of St. John the Baptist
- 25 M' shario Sunday

Birthday

- 22 Rev. Fr. Mathew Kalarikalayil

Bishop's Diary

January 2018

- 01 Wedding - Adoor, Trivandrum
02 Feast of Catholica Bava – Trivandrum
04 Wedding – Perumbavoor
5-6 Suvisesha Sangam Training - Trivandrum
07 Installation of Shamshabad Diocese – Hyderabad
08 Wedding – Mananthavadi
09 Bathery Bishop's House
10 Reception – Delhi
11-12 Guest from USA
14 Wedding – Faridabad
18-20 Suviseshasangam 6th Batch – Trivandrum
21 Carmala Parish Feast – Konni
26-27 Mission Meet – Kochi, Jubilee celebrations of POC
28 First Communion – West Delhi, Christmas Celebrations – Janakpuri
30-31 Agartala Mission Visit

February 2018

- 01-09 CBCI General Body Meeting – Bangalore
11 Diocesan Jubilee Celebrations – Rourkela
12-16 Annual Retreat – Delhi
14 Synaxis preparation of SD – Delhi
17-18 Swiss Family Visit
19-23 Malankara Synod

Prayerful Remembrance



Sr. Alice
January 15



Sr. Bensitta SIC
February 16

Diocese of Gurgaon

ANNUAL RETREAT OF PRIEST

Date : 12 - 16 February 2018

Venue : Neb Sarai, New Delhi

Preacher : Rev. Fr. Danny Kappuchin

DELHI MALANKARA BIBLE CONVENTION

Date : 16 - 18 February 2018

Venue : St. Mary's Cathedral Neb Sarai

Preacher : Rev. Fr. Benny Narakathinal