

# DIOCESAN NEWS LETTER

The Catholic Diocese of Jamshedpur

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## The Church of Christ on the Mission in the world

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings of Peace and Joy!



“The Church by nature is Missionary”- St. John XXIII, “The Church exists only to evangelize” - St. Paul VI, “New Evangelization is the only hope for better world and brighter future” – St. John Paul II, “New Evangelization is the art of joyful living” – Pope Benedict XVI.

These are the statements of Popes in different ages, addressing the situations and need of the time, pronounced whenever the Church failed to follow the counsel of the Lord – In the world but not of the world.

After the First World War (1914-1918), Holy Father, Pope Benedict XV promulgated in 1919 an Apostolic letter, *Maximum Illud* or ‘That momentous and Holy Charge’, to the universal Church. In the wake of significant turning point in the political, cultural, economic and social climate of the world, the World War I sparked numerous revolutions and uprisings. In such circumstances it was necessary to rejuvenate the Gospel witness, reinforce accountability towards spiritual care of the People of God and to revitalize the Church’s ministry at large.

In the centenary year of ‘Maximum Illud’ Pope Francis invites the Church to realize the joy of sharing the Gospel and its values, the treasure that is received, meant for sharing and proclaiming to all with a missionary zeal all around the globe.

Holy Father wishes that the laity in all Church institutions and communities may deeply understand that through baptism they have become followers and apostles of Our Lord Jesus

Christ. Hence, he has taken the same aspect of Gospel witness to mark the designated special month. He says that all baptized members of the Church of Lord Jesus Christ have been commissioned to bear witness to the Gospel. He wishes that all members of the laity be sensitive in bearing witness to the Gospel and that they may zealously do so.

Holy Father also wishes that we take up the concern and mission of Our Lord Jesus Christ as the Church's central concern and mission. Through various structures, the Church works towards growth of the Kingdom of God.

Jesus' Mission mandate is till the end of the world. By declaring the Extraordinary Month of Mission – October, 2019, Pope Francis gives a call to revitalise the missionary zeal in our time. Every Christian is called to contribute in one way or another to the Mission of Christ.

I would like to propose the following in our diocese to inculcate the missionary work that Jesus entrusted us: -

1. Give a new phase of start and rejuvenate the ministry of catechists in the frontiers of our parishes and missions.
2. Starting a new missionary movement – of children, Youth, and lay volunteers.
3. Organizing an orientation on the Extraordinary Missionary Month, October, 2019 for various pious associations and groups in the parishes.
4. Encourage to read and reflect the Word of God and the lives of saints who were missionary martyrs.
5. Encourage the faithful to pray for the missionaries all over the world that they may have the strength and hope in Christ amidst the challenges and struggles.

May God bless us all!

**Most Rev. Telesphore Bilung, SVD**  
Apostolic Administrator  
Catholic Diocese of Jamshedpur

### **ST. ALBERT'S DAY**

On the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019, the Albertine family celebrated the solemnity of St. Albert of Louvain, the Patron of the College. The celebrations began with the solemn Holy Mass. The priest-celebrants were led to the altar through a cultural entrance dance. The Mass was presided by Most Rev. Bishop Binay Kandulna of Khunti Diocese who is also the Vice Chancellor of St. Albert's College. In the homily he inspired the students to be holy like Jesus Christ. He emphasized on the topics – obedience and collaboration with the people. After the Holy Mass, all gathered in front of the statue of St. Albert and venerated the same with garland and a short prayer service. Bishop Binay Kandulna gave the blessing and then all proceeded for the breakfast.

Thereafter, the football players of theology and philosophy were escorted to the playground with a solemn dance by the respective departments, followed by a friendly and exiting match between the philosophers and theologians. All enjoyed the interesting match, and a great cheer went up from the crowd. The students from both the sections expressed their cheers of encouragement to their team. At the end, the philosophers won the match. All congratulated both the teams for their wonderful performance. The winners got their trophy and all left for the festive lunch.

In the evening the cultural committee of St. Albert's College organized a cultural programme in which Assamese, Nepali and Lepcha, Jagoor and Ho, Rajasthani and Bhangra dances thrilled the audience. Oraon group performed a cultural Marriage celebration, and a short play on Telanga Kharia enchanted the audience with utmost attraction. The guests from different religious communities of Ranchi city took part to enjoy the evening programme. After the evening programme there was a fellowship meal with the guests. The celebration of St. Albert's Day ended with an open-air dance in which all participated.

### **KARMA FESTIVAL**

On the 9<sup>th</sup> September 2019 St. Albert's College, Ranchi celebrated the feast of Karma. Fr. Suman Kumar Ekka in his address to the students enriched with the short history, importance, necessity and message of the feast of Karma in the lives of tribals, celebrated especially in the states of Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Assam, Odisha and West Bengal. He emphasized on

celebrating the feast of Karma in a more fervent way in order to give witness to one's tribal identity in the modern society that tries to imitate the western culture. (Bro. Shital Lakra ).

### **Diamond Jubilee celebrations at St Roberts High school, Parsudih, Jamshedpur**



On the 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2019, on the feast day of St Robert Bellarmine, the school celebrated the it's Diamond Jubilee with pomp and show.

In the morning at 7.45 a.m the staff and students welcomed Rt. Rev. Dr Telespore Bilung SVD, Apostolic Administrator, Jamshedpur Diocese. with the traditional washing of the feet and dance. Thereafter, the Bishop blessed and prayed at Statue of St Robert Bellarmine and lit the first diya (lamp) of the 60 Diyas which were decorated at feet of the Statue as a symbol of thanksgiving for the 60 Diamond years of the school, thereafter all the guests and staff members and students lit up the remaining lamps. This was followed by Eucharistic celebration by the bishop, with devout dances and singing lead by the staff, students and brothers from Vianney Niwas. This was followed by refreshments for all who attended the celebrations. The Principal, Fr Vernon D Souza, thanked everyone who attended the feast day gathering.

In the evening, the cultural program began at 4.30 pm with a traditional dance and welcoming of all guests, led by chief guest Rt. Rev. Dr. Telespore Bilung, SVD, Apostolic Administrator, Jamshedpur Diocese, Guests of Honour, Mr N. C. Mahapatra, Senior General Manager, TATA

Hitachi, Mr. Pankaj Kumar Jha, CSR Head, Mr Ratan Prakash, Asst Head CSR, Tata Hitachi and Other dignitaries and guests. After the Traditional welcome, the programme began with a prayer dance which was followed by felicitations of all the former secretaries, principals, former teachers and meritorious students.

During the program, the school souvenir, PHILOMATH (VIDHYANURAGI) was also released with Fond memories of the school by the Chief Guest and Guests of Honour. The Principal Fr Vernon D Souza, presented a brief report of the school and the vote of thanks was proposed by Sr. Prisca Dung Dung. This was followed by Dinner for all the guests and staff members. The cultural Show mesmerized all the guests, parents and Students (Fr. Veron D'Souza)

### **St Roberts Church, Parsudih**

On 22<sup>nd</sup> September, the parishioners of St Robert's Church, Parsudih gathered in the morning at 6.30 a.m. to welcome the Bishop Rt. Rev. Dr. Telespore Bilung, SVD, Apostolic Administrator, Jamshedpur Diocese, with a traditional dance and washing of Hands.



At 7 am, after a brief introduction and welcome, the main celebrant Rt. Rev. Dr. Telespore Bilung, SVD, began the Eucharistic celebration with a brief introduction to the day's liturgy. During the Holy Mass the bishop administered the Sacrament of Confirmation on 58 of our young children. It was a solemn occasion for all. The Bishop blessed the congregation with his valuable message. The Parish priest Red. Fr John Ottoplackal thanked everyone for the meaningful Liturgy. Frs. John Ottaplakal, Vernon D'Souza and Jilson concelebrated the Eucaharistic celebration. The celebration ended with a group photography and breakfast. (Fr Vernon, Asst PP)

## **St. Mary's Church, Omra**

'Krusveer Diwas' was celebrated on 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 at St. Mary's Church, Omra. 28<sup>th</sup> of September was the preparation day. There were 186 children present for the preparation. Srs. Jayanti Tirkey DSA and Rashmi Xaxa DSA of St. Anne's Convent, Charbandia were the resource persons for the preparation day.

The Krusveer Diwas' celebration began with the solemn Eucharistic celebration presided over by Rev. Fr. Prince Dhibash. Fr Prince, in his homily explained the significance of Cross for God, Jesus, Satan and for all of us. 90 children committed themselves as Krusveers and 96 children committed themselves as candidates for Krusveer.

There was also a inter-mandali Bible Quiz conducted by the Youth for the Krusveer children along with other cultural events to make the day more memorable. Parents were very happy to see their children making promise in front of the altar one by one and receiving the cross with devotion. (Fr Prince)

## **Marriage preparation course at Golmuri**



A 5-days Marriage preparation course was organized for the prospective couples at Bishop's House, Golmuri from 10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> September, 2019. 66 youngsters participated in the programme. The sessions began with ice-breaking followed by instructions and group discussions on various aspects pertaining to married life. The thought-provoking questionnaire did enhance the

participants to think appropriately on the meaningfulness and sacredness of the Sacrament of matrimony. Fr. Edwin, Fr. Valerian Lobo, Fr. Jilson, Sr. Flora. DSA, Miss Kiran and Mr. Vimal as a team, put their hearts and minds to prepare the participants to form a healthy family in the near future. Fr. Sushil Dungdung took care of the logistics of the programme. A special thanks to Fr. David Vincent for availing the conference Hall at Bishop's House for the sessions!

### **Gua-Kiriburu news**



Gua unit of Kiriburu parish celebrated Monica Day on 31<sup>st</sup> September and 01<sup>st</sup> October, 2019 with a special theme: Is your family, a Call Centre or a Home? As desired by the women of the parish, Saturday, 31<sup>st</sup> September, 2019 was spent reflecting on the sacredness of family. God has designed the family in such a way that every member of the family has responsibility to understand the mystery of family life. Through the sessions, initiated by Fr. Valerian Lobo, the women were helped to accept the joys and sorrows with the Spirit of Christ. Afternoon, the sacrament of reconciliation helped the women to receive the graces to continue to work towards a better family with dedication. On Sunday, with Solemn Eucharist, the whole congregation thanked all the mothers for their un-tiring efforts to build the domestic Church. Short cultural programme after the Eucharist showcased by youth and children brought joy and happiness on the faces of everyone present. Congratulations and a big thanks!

## Youth Seminar at Goilkera

From 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2019, Prabhu Marshal Church was vibrant with youth from Omra and Goilkera parish. 55 young boys and girls from Omra came to Goilkera heeding the invitation from Fr. Bipin and youth from the parish. It was indeed a big surprise for everyone to welcome such a big number. The warm welcome from 80 plus youth from the parish, made the guests feel at home. Fr. Valerian Lobo, initiated the ice-breaking sessions on 13<sup>th</sup> evening with lots of questions. After initial hiccups, the youth gradually mingled and shared their thoughts and views.



14<sup>th</sup> September, morning one hour was devoted for the meditation and sharing with the help of selected Bible verses. The main session began with the theme: “Christus Vivit- Christ is Alive!”. The participants were made aware of their being alive in the family, society and in the Church. Only the youth -presence can make our Church young and vibrant as wished by Young Jesus. The obstacles and distractions could be overcome with proper motivation and guidance. The Youth need space in the Church in order to keep the Church alive and vibrant. The feast of Exaltation of the Cross celebrated during the Solemn Eucharist along with Krus vir Children. In the evening, a friendly foot-ball match was organized between parish youth and Omra youth. On Sunday, through the solemn Eucharist, the youth thanked the Lord for keeping them young and vibrant. In the homily, the indispensable role of youth towards building up a Young Church was highlighted and modalities of making the Church Young was enumerated by the Main Celebrant.



After the Holy Mass, a short but well prepared cultural programme made everyone full of life. A big thanks to Fr. Bipin Barla, Fr. Walter Purty, Fr. Benedict, Fr. Prince and Miss Preeti Kujur for motivating the youth!

### **Seminar on Maximum Ellud & EMM**

Under the patronage of Pontifical Mission Societies, the commission for Holy Childhood (Krus Vir) Jharkhand region organized a two- day workshop from 16<sup>th</sup> evening to 18<sup>th</sup> noon September, 2019 at JanVikas/ Catholic Charities, Sundernagar. The theme of the work shop was The Centenary Celebration Maximum Illud (Apostolic Exhortation by Pope Benedict XV, 1919) and Pope Francis' Call to Celebrate Extra-ordinary Missionary Month, October, 2019. Fr. Ambrose, the executive Secretary for Pontifical Mission Society, CBCI commission, Bangalore was present for the workshop. The Diocesan Krus vir directors and animators from JHAN region were invited to participate. There were 35 participants. After the inaugural prayer dance by St. Mary's English School, Bistupur, Fr. C.R. Prabhu, shared his missionary experience and challenged the participants to go back to the roots of our missionary orientation. After the tea break, Fr. Valerian Lobo through the power point presentation elaborated the theme. Meaningful and fruitful group discussions on our missionary work helped the participants to prioritize our choices and equip ourselves for impending challenges. Final day, Rt. Rev. Telesphore Bilung SVD celebrated Holy Eucharist and encouraged us with his valuable thoughts and experiences to be the vibrant missionaries. Thanks to Fr. Edwin for taking initiative to organize this event.

### **Faith formation programme at Dhanbad deanery**

“My Life + My Faith= God's Call to Holiness” was the theme for 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> standard Catholic students' seminar which was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2019 at St. Anthony's Church, Dhanbad. There were 85 plus young boys and girls from different parishes of Dhanbad deanery enthusiastically took part in this one-day programme. Fr. Alex Dodrai, celebrated the Holy Eucharist along with concelebrants Fr. Niranjan SJ, Fr. Emil Coehlo SJ and Fr. Valerian Lobo. The melodious choir from Nirmala School, Govindpur added extra devotion to the celebration. Fr. Niranjan SJ. meticulously explained the value and sacredness of life and Fr. Emil SJ elucidated the necessity of faith to nurture the gift of life. Fr. Valerian Lobo urged the young minds to listen to God's call and learn to respond to it as they mature in their life. In the final session, through different posters/pictures, the participants were made to realize that the current

world realities, however, attractive they may be, are not so conducive to live as we think, but we are called and made responsible to change the situation so that our future is guaranteed. The young minds expressed their desire to participate in such programs whenever and wherever possible. A special thanks to Fr. Gyan Prakash Topno, PP and Dean and Fr. Maria Charles for availing the facilities and whole-hearted co-operation.

## **EXTRAORDINARY MISSIONARY MONTH - OCTOBER 2019**



The Holy Father, Pope Francis has dedicated the month of October 2019 as an Extraordinary Missionary Month, promoting the greater commitment of “*Missio ad Gentes*” (missionary activity) and animating the missionary transformation of Church life and pastoral activity with new enthusiasm. This is done in view of the Centenary celebration of Pope Benedict XV (1914-1922), who

was known as a “Missionary Pope”, wrote the Apostolic Letter, “*Maximum Illud*”(that momentous), highlighting the essential task of every Christian to “Go into the whole world and preach the gospel to all creation,” (Mark 16:15).

### ***The noble purpose of remembering and celebrating Maximum Illud’s centenary***

Maximum Illud as an Extraordinary Missionary Month for October 2019 is firstly to awaken the commitment of the *missio ad gentes* and transform ordinary pastoral outreach along missionary lines. In other words, with the aim of fostering an increased awareness of the *missio ad gentes* and taking up again with renewed fervor the missionary transformation of the Church’s life and pastoral activity”.

Secondly, we are urged to move away from tiredness, formalism and self-preservation.

The Pope Francis ardently appeals us to live more enthusiastically the journey of preparation of the Extraordinary Missionary Month – October 2019 under four dimensions:

1. A personal encounter with Jesus Christ, living in his Church: in the Eucharist, in the Word of God, and in personal and communal prayer.
2. To rediscover the value of missionary saints and martyrs as an expression of the Church, scattered throughout the world.
3. To deepen the faith knowledge through Missionary formation: biblical, catechetical, spiritual, and theological.
4. To practice missionary charity.

Through being ‘permanently in a state of mission.’ we can fulfil the task. Pope Francis draws inspiration from St. John Paul II, and states “that missionary activity which is not an option, ‘renews the Church, revitalizes faith and Christian identity, and offers fresh enthusiasm and new incentive.’ Faith is strengthened when it is given to others! It is in commitment to the Church’s universal mission that the new evangelization of Christian peoples will find inspiration and support.” So, let us put our hearts and minds together to celebrate our faith vibrantly and fruitfully!

### **Forthcoming programs for the Catechists and Krus Vir**

1. Seminar for the Catechists at Divya Bharati, Diocesan Pastoral Centre, Chaibasa.  
Date : 21<sup>st</sup> evening to 24<sup>th</sup> Morning October, 2019  
Theme : 1. Pope’s World Wide Prayer Network (PWPN)  
                  2. Basic Teaching of the Catholic Church.  
Appeal: Please encourage All the Catechists (Full-Time, part time & Sunday Catechists.  
Bishop. Telesphore Bilung SVD will also address the Catechists
2. Krus Vir Convention for Jamshedpur Deanery  
Venue: Little Flower School, Telco  
Date: Sunday, 03<sup>rd</sup> November, 2019
3. Krus Vir Convention for Dhanbad deanery  
Venue: St. Anthony’s Church/School. Dhanbad  
Date: Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2019 (Fr. Valerian Lobo)

**APOSTOLIC ADMINISTRATOR' ENGAGEMENTS**

**(As of October 09, 2019)**

<b>October 2019</b>				
04	FRI	04.00 pm	Mass for the members of Vincent De Paul Society members	Catholic Charities
05-06	SAT	AM	Confirmation on Sunday 06	St. Paul's Church, Charbandia
07	MON	AM	St. John's Village Chapel Blessing	Gulrowan, Goilkera
08	TUE	AM	Confirmation	St. Mother Teresa Church, Siadih
09	WED	PM	Archbishop's House	Ranchi
10-11		AM-P M	20 <sup>th</sup> Mega Hindi karunagn Charismatic Convention	Delhi
11	FRI	PM	Archbishop's House	Ranchi
13	SUN	AM	Mass – Final Profession, Holy Cross	Mosaboni
14-15			Archbishop's House	Ranchi
16	WED	AM	Meeting with the Provincial Superior-Apostolic Carmel, Northern Province	Bishop's House, JSR
19	SAT	AM	Blessing of the new School Building,	St. Xavier's School, Balramapur
20	SUN	AM	Confirmation	St. Joseph's Cathedral, Golmuri
22	TUE	AM	Meeting with Catechists	Divya Bharati, Chaibasa
24	THUR	AM	Meeting with Pastors of other denominations	Catholic Charities, Sundernagar
25	FRI	AM	Eucharistic Celebration	Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Telco
26	SAT	AM	Final Profession, Sisters of Providence of GAP (SPG)	Saparaern, Ranchi

31	THUR	6.00 PM	JJSN, Founder's Day – Mass	Telco
			November	
02	SAT	PM	Mass at the Cemetery	Bistupur
03-07	SUN-THU R		HINDI-Regional Bishop's Meeting	Indore
08	FRI	AM	Feast of Our Lady of Khuntpani - Mass	Khuntpani

### **BIRTHDAY WISHES –OCTOBER**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>
06	Michael Dogam
14	Bipin Pani
15	Fabian Toppo
23	Pradeep Marandi
23	Puthumai Raj

*Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,  
Catholic Diocese of Jamshedpur cordially invites all of you to participate in the Annual Khuntpani Feast in memory of the First Baptisms in Chotanagpur. As we celebrate the Extraordinary Missionary Month-October, 2019, let us seek the blessings of Our Lady, Queen of Missions to help us to be true to our missionary mandate.*

### **LET'S PRAY FOR POPE'S INTENTION**

For October, 2019: "A Missionary "Spring" in the Church: That the breath of the Holy Spirit engenders a new missionary "spring" in the Church."

For November, 2019: Dialogue and Reconciliation in the Near East: That the spirit of dialogue, encounter, and reconciliation emerge in the Near East, where diverse religious communities share their lives together.