



DIOCESE OF BETTIAH



BETTIAH DARPAN

ISSUE - 6

September 2019 - January 2020



Bishops from Bihar with Holy Father, Pope Francis



Rt. Rev. Peter Sebastain Goveas 'Ad Limna' visit to Rome from 5th-13th September 2019.



THE NATIVITY OF BLESSED VIRGIN MARY CATHEDRAL, BETTIAH

Sinaugural 275th Year of Jubilee celebration of the Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary Cathedral, Bettiah was on 8th September 2019. In the remembrance of the Jubilee celebration 15 children received the First Holy Communion in the Eucharistic celebration. The logo of the Jubilee Year 1745-2020 was *“A Journey of Faith, Service and Excellence.”* After the Eucharistic celebration, there was a short inaugural cultural programme at the entrance of the Church to mark 275 years of Journey of Faith. Sri Prasad Vasu from Bettiah King's Family was the chief guest of the inaugural programme. The Manager of Bettiah Palace, priests and religious from the Diocese and neighboring Diocese,



the faithful, youth and children of Bettiah Parish participated in the celebration. Fr. Sushil Sah gave a brief introduction to the celebration and the chief guest congratulated the whole parish and recalled service of the Church to the humanity. On this Occasion the photo of late Fr. Joseph Mary was unveiled by Fr. Sushil Sah and Fr. Henry Fernando, Hindi Hymn book of Bettiah Parish was released, and jubilee song was sung by Bettiah choir. The children who received the First Holy Communion, students with good performance in their studies, and Sunday catechism children were given certificates. At the end all were served with breakfast by the Parish Council Members.





A SHORT HISTORY OF BETTIAH PARISH

From 1707 till 1745 Capuchin missionaries worked in Lhasa, Tibet. They used to rest in Patna for some time on their way to and from Lhasa, and for this reason a small church was built in Patna City which served the spiritual needs of the European soldiers and traders who came to the city from time to time. Among these missionaries was Joseph Mary Bernini who was adept at medicine. His fame spread as far as Bettiah 225 kms away from Patna City. In 1740 or 1741 a member of the royal household in Bettiah was ill and no doctor was able to effect a cure. Having heard of Fr. Joseph Mary, the Raja, Drup Narayan Singh, asked him to come to Bettiah to see the patient. Fr. Joseph Mary came to Bettiah, and treated the patient who recovered. The Raja was so impressed by the priest that he asked him to start a mission in his kingdom. Fr. Joseph Mary told him that he could do so only if the Pope in Rome would give the order for this. Hence, in 1741 Raja Drup Narayan



Singh wrote to the Holy Father in Rome asking that priests be sent to Bettiah to establish a mission there and preach their religion. On May 1, 1742 Pope Benedict XIV replied to the king and assured him that he would send Capuchin priests to work in Bettiah. Thus on December 7, 1745 Fr. Joseph Mary arrived in Bettiah and on the next day, the feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary the mission of Bettiah was inaugurated next to the royal palace on land which the king gave to the mission. Many priests have served the people of the parish but the two who are most remembered are Fr. Kevin Angelo, S.J., the parish priest, and Fr. Vincent McGlinchy, S.J. the headmaster of the Middle School. These two, working together for about thirty years, have made a lasting impact on the lives of the people. From Bettiah the faith has spread to many parts of North India.



CONFIRMATION TO FIFTY FIVE CHILDREN AT BETTIAH PARISH

Rt. Rev. Peter Sebastian Goveas conferred the Sacrament of Confirmation to Fifty Five children of Bettiah Parish on 13th October, 2019, 28th Ordinary Sunday. Rev. Fr. Sushil Sah, Rev. Fr. Paul Joseph and other priests con-celebrated with the Bishop. In hom-ily Bishop said that Jesus is a Healer; he heals all kinds of leprosy in our life, in our family and in our society and transforms them. Sec-ondly, we should not forget to thank God for all the good things that the Lord has done. in our lives.



BIBLE FESTIVAL CELEBRATION AT BETTIAH DIOCESE

The Bible Festival 2019 was organized at Diocesan level for the juniors for the students 5th to 8th Standard from 27th to 29th September 2019 at Sewa Kendra, Dussiya by Fr. Tobias Toppo, the Coordinator of Bible Commission. 70 selected children from each parish participated in the Bible Festival. The items for competitions were as follows: Solo Song, Group Song, Solo Dance, Group Dance, Kawali, Fancy Dress, Mono Act, Recita-tion, Verse Searching, Chart Making, Scene Presentation, Speech, and Quiz. The topic was on general knowledge of the New Testament and some familiar stories of Old Testament based on the Theme of the Bible Festival. All the children from different parishes of Bettiah Diocese performed well and were well appreciated, and awarded with prizes such as Rosaries, Bibles, statues of Mother Mary and Saints. etc.



Children performing SKIT based on Biblical Event

ACCOMPANYING CHILDREN IN THEIR FAITH JOURNEY



Faith Formation Seminar was organized for the High School Children from 7th to 8th Oct 2019 at Diocesan level at Sewa Kendra, Dussiyya by Fr. Finton, the Coordinator of Faith Formation Commission. About 63 selected children from Chuhari, Dussiyya, Ramanagar, and Rampur participated in the Seminar. Fr. Finton, Fr. Jesudas, Fr. Hermon and other animators instructed the children on Faith in the Bible, Vocation of the great personalities, and Importance of Word of God in our lives and sharing their faith experiences.





PREPARING YOUTH FOR THE VOCATION OF THE MARRIAGE

Marriage Preparation Classes were organized at Diocesan level at Sewa Kendra by Fr. Jesudas and Fr. Sushil Sah from 7th-8th October 2019. About 32 girls and boys attended the Marriage Classes. They were instructed on the sacredness of Sacrament of Marriage; Consent of Bride & Bridegroom; Covenantal bond between Husband & wife; Wellbeing of Husband & Wife; Procreation & natural family planning and Responsibility towards Church and society etc.



MISSION SUNDAY MELA @ CHAKHNI

Mission Sunday Mela was organised to raise fund for Mission Sunday at Chakhni Mission on 23rd November 2019. Fathers, Sisters, Teachers, volunteers, students and the faithful participated in the event. They collected about Rs. 40,500/- from Mela by organising different activities and games in different stalls. It was an expression of their solidarity and commitment to the suffering humanity.





JOTTINGS ON THE YATRA OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE AT DUSSAIYA

The feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe with the theme “*Hail, O Venerable Mother*” was celebrated with great pomp and devotion. The prelude of the feast began on 29th November 2019, with the flag hoisting and the celebration of the Holy Eucharist by Rev. Fr. Kuldeep OFM.

The Yatra of Dussaiya Maata was celebrated on 8th December 2019. The solemn festive Eucharistic celebration presided over by Rt. Rev. Peter Sebastian Goveas, Bishop of Bettiah and Rt. Rev. Cajetan Francis Osta, Bishop of Muzafferpur, broke the Word at the Mass. There were around 30 priests, hundreds of Religious Sisters and Brothers, and thousands of devotees participated in the feast. After the Mass there was a solemn procession (Yatra) of Our Lady of Guadalupe also popularly known as Dussaiya Maata. The liturgy, the choir, and the overall organization were greatly appreciated by all.

The Yatra was concluded by the core prayer of the novena ‘Guadalupe Raani Ki Yaad Kar Binti’ and the anthem of Dussaiya Maata thereafter. The parish community, Fr. Claude Corda O.P., Fr. Alfonse Jojo O.P., and Fr. Avil Lobo O.P is greatly thankful to the Triune God, to Our Blessed Lady and all the saints, parish council, the surrounding Religious convents, the parishioners and all the supporters who made this great event possible.

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EUCHARIST PROCESSION AT RAMPUR MISSION

Eucharist Procession at Rampur Mission was organized on 24th November by Fr. Norbert Kujur along with fathers, Sisters, Parishioners, and youth. The people witnessed, adored, and proclaimed the ‘**Eucharistic Lord**’ by taking part in the Eucharistic Procession.



DIOCESAN PERSPECTIVE PLAN SERVES AS ROAD MAP FOR BETTIAH DIOCESE

A follow-up seminar was organized for the Diocesan Pastoral Council members in preparation to draft the Diocesan Perspective plan on 28th to 29th Oct 2019 at Sewa Kendra, Bettiah. About 60 participants from all the three deaneries’ such as Bettiah, Bagha and Mothihari deaneries participated in the seminar. It was animated by Rev. Fr. Alphonse Francis from Navjyoti Niketan, Patna. Prior to that on 26th and 27th we had a core committee meeting, we developed Vision, Mission for the Diocese and Goal for four thematic areas of our intervention for five years. Later, in the follow up meeting we discussed in groups about pastoral activities, target group, responsible people and methods to actualize these activities. As a result, we could develop Diocesan Perspective plan for Five Years.



BETTIAH DIOCESAN PASTORAL PLAN FOR 2020-2024

DIOCESAN PERSPECTIVE PLAN 2020-2024

VISION

Pledge to build a New Society based on the values of Christ.

MISSION

To form a Person, Family and Society based on the Teachings of Jesus.

GOALS

A Participatory and Witnessing Church which is inspired by the God's Word, and alive by Faith (**Pastoral Care**).

Forming responsible and socially sensitive Citizens with character and competence for the welfare of the Humanity (**Education Ministry**).

Empowering the underprivileged to access their rights and improved facilities to lead dignified life (**Social Ministry**).

To form and strengthen groups and associations based on values of Christ (**Peoples' Groups**).



1. ACTIVITIES	2. TARGET GROUP	3. STRATEGIES
<u>1. Pastoral Care:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imparting knowledge of the Word of God at Parish level • Family prayer in families • Formation of SCC in each parish • Training on Sacraments • Compulsory Sunday Catechism Class • Training for Priests and Religious • Training for Laity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selected Children, • Father & Mother in Catholic Family • Animator of SCC • All the Faithful • Catholic Children 1st - 12th Classes. • Priests and Religious 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skit, quiz, training, seminar, camps, house visits, new methods of instruction.
<u>2. Education:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementing Diocesan Education Policy • Compulsory Catechism Classes • Compulsory Value Education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholic Schools in the Diocese • All Catholic Students in the Diocese from 1-12 Class • All the Students in the School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interiorizing Education Policy • Catechism Books & Exams in all Catholic Schools • Training for Catechism Teachers • Special Attention to Catholic children and youth
<u>3. Social & Health Services:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create awareness on Indian Constitution & Sensitize on Minority Rights • Sensitize on the Government Schemes and Benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People of the Target Area • Deprived Poor People • Children, Youth & Farmers • Children, Youth & Farmers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness Meetings • Seminars • Inviting Taru mitra
<u>4. People's Organization:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formation & Strengthening of Groups such as Crus Veer, Altar servers, Youth, Women, Vincent De Paul, Small Human Committees etc. • Assigning responsibility to Animators and promoting Leaders in various Groups • Timely Monitoring and Evaluation of various Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members of all the Groups • In all Groups • In all Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selecting Coordinators for various Groups in the Parish • Training on Leadership & Exposure Programmes
BETTIAH DARPAN	10	SEPTEMBER 2019 - JANUARY 2020

ACTION PLAN AT DIOCESAN & PARISH LEVELS FOR 2020

1. PASTORAL CARE:

- Educating/instruction on Bible
- Family prayer in families
- Formation of SCC/BCC in each parish



2. EDUCATION:

- Compulsory Catechism Classes
- Formation & Strengthening of Children Club (Crus Veer, Altar servers), YCS/YCM, & Youth etc.



3. SOCIAL & HEALTH SERVICES

- Create awareness on Indian Constitution & Sensitize on Minority Rights
- Education on Environment and protection of Mother Earth

4. PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATION:

- Formation & Strengthening of Groups such as Crus Veer, Altar servers, Youth, Women, Vincent De Paul, Small Human Committees etc.



RETREAT TO MARK THE CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS OF PATNA ARCHDIOCESE

Second Batch of Five Days Retreat was organized by Patna Archdiocese for priests from 9th to 13th September 2019 to mark the Centenary celebrations of Patna Archdiocese. Rev. Fr. Anil Dev, IMS was the preacher who preached about the 'Priesthood' based on the word of God and the practical life of a priest. About 120 priests from Bettiah, Bhagalpur, Buxar, Purnea, Patna, Muzaffarpur, Nepal and TOR Fathers participated to renew their priestly life. His Grace Most Rev. William D'Souza and staff of Navjyothi Niketan accompanied the priests during the retreat



CENTENARY YEAR OF PATNA DIOCESE

Closing ceremony of the 'Centenary Year of Patna Diocese' of Catholic Church was held on 29th November 2019 at St. Michael's High School ground. The theme of the closing ceremony is 'A Century of service to Bihar'. Most Rev. William D'souza SJ, Archbishop of Patna said that though Catholic Church has a presence in Bihar from 17th Century, Patna Catholic Diocese was formally established in September 1919 by the then Pope Benedict XV. Rev. Louis Van Hoeck SJ was ordained the first Bishop of Patna in 1921. The Chief Guest of the Closing ceremony was Cardinal Oswald Gracias of Roman Catholic Church, and head of the Catholic Bishops Conference in India. Besides 35 Bishops, Archbishops and priests from across the country participated in the event. The closing ceremony began with THANKSGIVING Eucharistic celebration about 6000 Catholics participated and thanked God for his blessings.



CONGRATULATIONS TO NEW DEACONS OF BETTIAH DIOCESE

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ro. Sandeep Ekka, Bro. Bipin Kispotta and Bro. Bimal Minj were ordained as a Deacon for the Diocese of Bettiah by Rt. Rev. Peter Sebastian Goveas, Bishop of Bettiah on 14th December 2019 at 10.30 am at Holy Family Church, Chakhni Parish. Many priests, reli-



gious, and the faithful from the Diocese and family members and relatives of new deacons, participated in Diaconate Ordination. After the Eucharistic celebration, we had a short felicitation programme for the new deacons by the parishioners under the guidance of Fr. Chamberleen, Fr. Herman Raphael and the Sacred Heart Sisters.



CONGRATULATIONS

Bro. Antony Sivichen (Siby) received the Diaconate Ordination from Most Rev. Jaya Rao Polimera, Bishop of Eluru on 4th January 2020, at St. Francis College, Janampet, Eluru for the service of the Universal Church and for the Diocese of Bettiah in Particular.



Bro. Pankaj Peter received the Sacred Order of Diaconate by Rt. Rev. Fulgence Tigga, Bishop of Raiganj at Khrist Premalaya Regional Theologate, Ashta on 19th October 2019. Fr. Paul Joseph represented the Diocese.



CONFERRED SPIRITUALLY TO BE SEALED WITH THE SPIRIT OF HOLY FEAR IN GOD'S PRESENCE

It was a great joy for St. Anne's church, Siricia, for the first time in the history of Siricia Mission that, Rt. Rev. Peter Sebastian Goveas conferred the sacrament of confirmation to five people on 15th December 2019, on the third Sunday of the advent. Through the sacrament of confirmation, they are spiritually sealed with the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of right judgment and courage, the Spirit of knowledge and reverence, and the Spirit of holy fear in God's presence. The Priest in charge Fr Anup Prakash Minj, Fr Chamberlin the parish priest of Chakhni and good many number of faithful were present to witness this graceful event.



THE PRIESTS' SENATE MEMBERS MEET TO DISCUSS DIOCESAN PERSPECTIVE PLAN

The Priests' Senate Meeting was organized on 18th December, 2019 at 10.00 am at Bishop's House, Bettiah. Some of the matters discussed in the Priests' Senate Meeting were review of various activities in Bagha, Bettiah and Mothihari Deaneries; Diocesan Perspective Plan of 2020-24; Yearly Plan of 2020: BCC; New Schools: at Mahindiyabadi, Dussiya, Chuhari; Jubilee Celebrations at Bettiah Cathedral; Priestly Ordinations of Deacons etc.





CELEBRATING 125 YEARS OF JOURNEY OF 'SISTERS OF MERCY OF THE HOLY CROSS' IN INDIAN SOIL



22nd

November 2019 was a historical day for Sisters of Mercy of the Holy Cross in India as we celebrated the Quasqui centennial of our existence in India. It was on this day in 1894 our four pioneer sisters arrived in Bettiah from Switzerland and began the mission of Comapassion in North Bihar. Bishops priests sisters and well wishers gathered from various parts of our country to celebrate the wonders God has accomplished through Holy Cross Sisters in India. The thanksgiving Eucharist was presided over by Rt. Rev. William D'Souza, Archbishop of Patna archdiocese along with Rt. Rev. Victor Henry Thakur Archbishop of Raipur, Rt. Rev. Sebastian Kallupura coadjutor bishop of Patna, Rt. Rev. Peter Sebastian Goveas bishop of Bettiah, Rt. Rev. Cajetan Francis bishop of Muzaffarpur, Rt. Rev. Fulgence Aloysius Tigga bishop of Raiganj, Rt. Rev. Emeritus J.B. Thakur and number of priests. The presence of our general councilor Sr. Elsit Ampattu, past and present provincials and a large number of sisters from all five provinces of India added to the solemnity of the occasion. The whole atmosphere was filled with the sentiments of joy and gratitude to God for the tremendous growth and development of the congregation in the past 125 years in the service of God and humanity.





CONGRATULATION TO JUBILARIANS BR. TOM SJ & FR. T.M. JOSEPH SJ



The jubilee of dear Br. Thomas Mannaramattathil and Fr. T.M. Joseph celebrated on 8th December 2019, at 5pm at K.R. Community, Bettiah. Rt. Rev. Peter Sebastian Goveas, the Bishop of Bettiah presided over Eucharistic celebration along with Jublarians, priests, and religious. It was a beautiful occasion to thank God for the gift Jublarians for the society and for the service of the people. After the Holy Eucharist Jublarians were felicitated by the Bishop, priests, religious and the guests who came to celebrate her jubilee from far and near which was followed by a delicious family dinner.

Br. Thomas Mannaramattathil was born on 31st July 1948 in Kottayam district in Kerala. He entered the Society of Jesus in 1969. There are number of places where Br. Tom has given his services in various capacities such as Minster, Farm In-charge and Administrator. Since June 2019, Br. Tom is at KR, Bettiah.

Fr. T.M. Joseph was born on 6th July 1938 in Kottayam district of Kerala. He entered the Society of Jesus in 1959. Fr. T.M. Joseph has served the people of God mostly through the ministry of education in different point of time at different places such as Head Master, Principal and Teacher in various prominent schools. He has written many articles and books on education and he continues to write and inspire.

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‘250 YEARS OF A LIFE OF DEVOTION, LIFE OF FAITH, AND LIFE OF FELLOWSHIP’ IN WITNESSING LOVE OF GOD AT CHUHARI MISSION

Chuhari Parish has been a symbol of Christian service and Mission, and in the year ‘1769’ the torch of the Gospel was lit here in Chuhari. This year being a Jubilee year, it is a great opportunity to remember with utmost gratitude for what the Lord has done in our lives as individuals, as priests, sisters, parishioners, and as a community of Jesus Christ. It is also a time to



move forward with confidence and renewed vision in the context of new challenges which are emerging in the Church. It is also time to thank the Lord for the missionaries who came to Chuhari to *‘sow the seed of Faith’*. When the Capuchin missionaries were forced out of Lhasa, Tibet, they settled in Nepal where there were three small communities of Christians. When strife began between the Gurkhas and

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the Newars the missionaries were forced to leave Nepal and the Newar Christians left with them. They came to Bettiah where they were welcomed by the government and the priests of the Bettiah mission. The English government gave them the village of Chuhari, eleven kilometers away from Bettiah. Thus, the mission of Chuhari began in 1769. A big church was built in 1787. It was similar to the church in Bettiah but not quite so big. Like its counterpart in Bettiah it also fell in the earthquake of 1934. The present church was built in the 1970's due to the persistent efforts of Fr. Joseph Martin, S.J. Semiquincentennial jubilee Eucharistic celebration at Chuhari parish was presided over by **His Grace. Most Rev. William D' Souza SJ**, the Archbishop of Patna along with **Rt. Rev. Peter Sebastian Goveas**, Bishop of Bettiah along with priests, religious, the faithful from Bettiah, Patna and MuZaffarpur. Archbishop acknowledged the immense sacrifices and hard work of our missionaries, priests, religious and the faithful in building the Chuhari Church. Bishop Peter Goveas said that this celebration is a historical moment and an incredible milestone to remember and celebrate *'250 years of a life of devotion, life of faith, and life of fellowship' in witnessing to the love of God in Jesus Christ*. After Eucharistic celebration we had a short cultural programme, distribution of blankets for elderly members of the parish, honouring the Archbishop and Bishop, Mother General, Provincials, Priests and Religious etc. All were served with a festive meal which is a symbol of celebration and fellowship.



RAMNAGAR PARISH WITNESSES 125 YEARS OF ITS EXISTENCE IN SERVICE



Ramnagar parish witnesses 125 years of its existence in service. The seed of faith was sown by the German caputians in 1895 and slowly the seed has become a plant. We have 20 families in the Parish, an English medium middle school and a home run by village sisters of India. C.I.C. Sisters give their service in the school. Our people are co-operative and social.

After the Eucharistic Celebration, there was a short cultural programme by the parishioners with a jubilee cake cutting. In remembrance of 125 years Jubilee celebration the First Floor of the new extension of school building was blessed by Rt. Rev. Peter Sebastian Goveas along with priests, sisters and the parishioners.





YOUTH SANG CAROLS TO CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF JESUS, OUR SAVIOUR

Youth of the Bettiah Parish prepared children, youth and families in Christian quarter, Bettiah with Carol singing. They spread the joy, hope, peace and love of Christmas by visiting each family. They took initiative to make crib outside the Church under the guidance of Fr. Robert Tigga. They enjoyed being together, sharing their love and warmth.



OCCASION TO SHARE JOY, LOVE AND FRATERNITY WITH EACH OTHER

Christmas Get Together in Bettiah Diocese was organized for priests and religious on January 2nd, 2019 at 9.30 am at Bishop's House, Bettiah. On the Occasion, we had a short prayer service, games, carols, cake cutting, distribution of gifts, and dance etc. Bishop thanked all the collaborators for their generous contribution, selfless service and continued partnership. He invited them to collaborate with the diocese to actualize Diocesan Pastoral Plan. It was a time to share happiness, joy and love with one another. All enjoyed being together and winded the celebration with a grand festive meal.





DEANERY MEETINGS

Bettiah Deanery Meeting was on 30th January 2020, 3.30-5.00 pm at Bishop's House, Bettiah. About 45 participants discussed about Bettiah Diocesan Perspective Plan 2020-2024 and Yearly Action Plan for 2020. Rev. Fr. Henry Fernando, Dean of Bettiah Deanery facilitated the meeting and the Bishop presided over the meeting.



Bagaha Deanery Meeting was on 30th January 2020, 10 am to 1 pm at Ramnagar. About 30 participants discussed about how to implement Bettiah Diocesan Perspective Plan 2020-2024 and Yearly Action Plan for 2020 in their deanery. Rev. Fr. Finton Sah, Dean of Bagaha Deanery facilitated the meeting and Bishop presided over the meeting.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- Bishop will attend the 34th Plenary Assembly of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India on 12th -19th February, 2020 at St John's Hospital Campus, Bangalore.
- The Priestly Ordination of Deacon Telesphor Toppo is on 22nd April 2020 at Holy Family Catholic Church, Noadih.
- The Priestly Ordination of Deacon Sandeep Ekka is on 23rd April 2020 at Mary Virgin of the Poor Church, Banabira.
- The Priestly Ordination of Deacon Bipin Kispotta is on 5th May 2020 at Dutwarg Catholic Ashram, Gholeng.
- The Priestly Ordination of Deacon Bimal Minj is on 21st May 2020 at Catholic Ashram, Saraitoli.



CELEBRATION OF BIRTHDAYS AND FEASTDAYS

BIRTHDAYS

Sl.no.	Name	Born
1	Fr. Hermon Raphael	10.01.1974
2	Bp. Peter Sebastian Goveas	08.02.1955
3	Fr. John Raj	12.02.1966
4	Fr. David Lakra	14.02.1987
5	Fr. Jesudas	05.03.1978
6	Fr. Pascal Anand J	09.03.1977
7	Fr. Packia Raja J	29..03.1982

ORDINATION DAY

Sl.no.	Name	Ordination
1	Fr. Amit Roshan Tirkey	03.01.2018
2	Fr. Kishore Reddy	04.01.2016
3	Fr. Vincent Kujur	19.01.2005
4	Fr. Berty Paul	19.03.1994

*Congratulations, Prayers & Blessings to the
Priests who are celebrating Birthday and Priestly
Ordination day*



DEEPEST CONDOLENCES OVER THE DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED REV.FR. IGNATIUS OSTA

OBITUARY OF FR. IGNATIUS OSTA

The earthly life of Fr. Ignatius Osta came to an end on 16 January 2020 in Patna. He was born on 23rd October 1944 in Jagdishpur in present Buxar Diocese. Their parents were originally from Bettiah. His father was Francis Osta, who was a Catechist of Piro Parish and mother was Shanta Raphael, who was a housewife. They were only two brothers and Fr. Ignatius Osta was the second one. His Nephew Fr. Anthony Osta, a Priest for the Archdiocese of Patna, was present to pay Tribute and to offer this Holy Eucharist for his uncle Fr. Ignatius Osta. The every single work of Fr. Ignatius was centered on the

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Fr. Ignatius Osta

BIRTH: 23rd October 1944,

DEATH: 16th January 2020

The funeral Mass of Fr. Ignatius Osta was on 18th January 2020 at Bettiah Cathedral at 10.30am, Most Rev. William D'Souza, Archbishop of Patna celebrated the funeral Mass along with Rt. Rev. Peter Sebastian Goveas, Bishop of Bettiah, Fr. Alex Joseph, Vicar General of Muzaffarpur, Fr. Anthony Osta -nephew of Fr. Ignatius Osta, priests, religious, relatives, and the faithful.



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motto “**preaching and service**”, therefore he was always successful. He was ordained by the then Archbishop Rt. Rev. Augustine Welder Mooth SJ in Piro Parish of Patna Archdiocese on 26th November 1974. Fr. Ignatius Osta got his initial education in Piro Parish, Middle Schooling in K. R. Bettiah and collage education in M. J. K. Collage Bettiah. After getting the call from God, he joined Patna Archdiocese. He completed his Philosophical and Theological studies in St. Albert’s Collage, Ranchi.

His first appointment was in Jahanabad and Khorla in Patna Archdiocese where he preached the Gospel values and served the people. When Muzaffarpur was bifurcated from Patna Archdiocese, he joined Muzaffarpur Diocese as a missionary. And when Bettiah was bifurcated from Muzaffarpur Diocese, he joined Bettiah Diocese as a missionary. This way he served three Dioceses for 45 years. He served the dioceses as a parish priest, a missionary and a social worker. In Bettiah Diocese he served the people and churches in Chuhari, Ramnagar, Chanpatia, Chapra and Dussaiah. While being a parish priest in Chakhani, he looked after and rendered his service in Sirisia, Bhitaha, Bhatuatola and while being in Ramnagar as a parish priest, he looked after Manchangawa village in particular.

For his spiritual strength and retreat he went to Rome, Lourds and Holy Land, Jerusalem. He, as a priest in a special way, rendered his service to Dalits, Fishermen, Tribals and Mushars. He also served in Bettiah Parish but because of his ill health he went to Bishop’s House for his rest. Losing his health all of a sudden, he was taken to Kurji Holy Family Hospital, Patna and he was admitted in hospital for two days. For his better treatment he was shifted to Ruben Hospital where he improved his health. Then under the medication he went to his own house in Patna.

During his stay at home, all of a sudden he lost his health and he got massive heart attack and he was taken to Ruben Hospital, where he died on Thursday 16 January 2020 at 9:30 in the evening. The death news of Fr. Ignatius Osta put all the faithful of three dioceses in sorrow.

We thank God for the great person of Fr. Ignatius and his family members and relatives. We, all of us present here pay tribute to deceased Fr. Ignatius Osta and pray to God that God may grant his soul eternal peace. With this intention let us offer this Holy Eucharist.



OUR HEARTFELT TRIBUTE TO FR. MATHEW ORATHEL - A PRIEST MUZAFFARPUR



Fr. Mathew Orathel
Birth: 14th July 1963
Death: 14th December 2019

Fr. Mathew Orathel, the Parish Priest of Lathaona of Muzaffarpur Diocese passed away on 14th December 2019 in a road accident while on his way to Koriah with his catechist. He was very service minded towards the poor and needy. Devotee of Mother Mary. Most of his priestly years he served in Muzaffarpur as parish Priest, Director of Minor Seminary, Vicar General etc... We are sincerely sorry for having lost such a committed person. May God grant him eternal rest.

CONTACT ADDRESS

Rt. Rev. Peter Sebastian Goveas (Bishop of Bettiah)
Bishop's House, Bettiah P.O. - 845 438 / West Champaran Dt., Bihar, India
Mobile: (0)8789161520, 9931440620
Email (P): petersgoveas@gmail.com, (O): bettiahdiocese6@rediffmail.com

Any suggestions & for Reporting, please contact:

Fr. Pascal Anand, pascalanand@gmail.com,
Whatsapp: 9472282600/Mbl.no.:7903953493.