

# messenger

ISSUE 3 VOLUME VI

NAGPUR ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS LETTER

DECEMBER 2025

# Merry Christmas &

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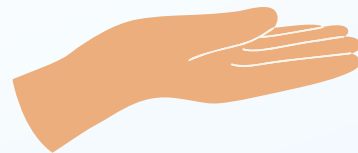
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**CONTENTS**

1	Editor's Message	02
2	Shepherd Speaks	03
3	Highlights From The Ministry And Messages of Pope Leo XIV	04
4	Becoming The Ark of The New Covenant Today	05
5	The Sacred Rhythm of Christmas	06
6	Moses Is Portrayed As A "Light In The Midst of Darkness."	07
7	Mary's True Titles: A Guide From 'Mater Populi Fidelis'	08
8	Golden And Silver Jubilee Celebration...	11
9	Jubilee 2025 – BEC Day Celebration And Leadership Training	12
10	Betul Deanery Jubilee Gathering At Pandurna	12
11	A Solemn Celebration of The Little Flower Sisters At Betul	13
12	Sacrament of Confirmation At Barkuhi	14
13	Way of The Cross At Padri Thana...	14
14	Three-day Retreat For Catechism Children...	15
15	A Day With Mother Nature: Gondia-Balaghat Deanery...	15
16	CRI Nagpur Unit – Jubilee Year Celebration 2025	16
17	First Holy Communion Celebration At St. Pius X Church...	17
18	Metropolitan Regional Jubilee Celebration...	18
19	Nagpur Deanery Recollection At St. Pius X Church, Mankapur	21
20	The Silver Jubilee Celebration of Holy Trinity Convent...	22
21	Archdiocese of Nagpur Shines At National Bible Quiz!	22
22	Golden Jubilee Celebration of The Religious Profession...	23
23	Final Profession of Sr. Ritanjali Nayak, SMMI	24
24	Celebration of The 375 <sup>th</sup> Foundation Day...	24
25	Solemn Conclusion of The Jubilee Year of Hope...	26
26	Ankurkunj Gurukul, Archdiocesan Junior Seminary...	32
27	Kamptee Deanery Celebrates The Jubilee of Hope	34
28	Association of Christian Advocates of Nagpur...	35
29	Pocso And Posh Awareness Seminar At St. Charles Seminary	35
30	Stakeholder Consultation on Draft Legislation...	36
31	NMSSS Community Development Highlights	39
32	A Glorious 25 Years of Excellence- St. Peter's School, Bhandara	40
33	Two-day Seminar on Advanced Technology...	41
34	St. Ann's E.M School, Khaperkeda, Nagpur...	41
35	St. Francis of Assisi School, Lugharwada, Seoni...	42
36	SFS College, Seminary Hills, Nagpur	44
37	S.F.S. High School & Junior College	45
38	Report On Social Justice & Development Initiatives...	46
39	Infant Jesus English Medium School, Wadi.	49
40	ICYM Nagpur Report - August To November	51
41	Jubilee Media Festival - 2025...	53
42	Fr. Jerome: A True Shepherd's Legacy	54

# EDITOR'S MESSAGE



As we celebrate the joyous mystery of Christmas and step into a New Year, we are reminded that God chose to enter human history not in power or privilege, but in humility and vulnerability. The birth of Christ is God's definitive affirmation of human dignity and a powerful call to build a world marked by justice, compassion, and peace.

In this spirit, the theme of the present issue, "Social Justice & Development," invites us to reflect on the Church's mission in today's world. True celebration of Christmas finds its meaning when faith is translated into action—when the Gospel is lived through concern for the poor, the excluded, and the voiceless. Social justice is not an optional aspect of Christian life; it flows from our baptismal commitment to love, serve, and transform society in the light of the Kingdom of God.

Across the Archdiocese of Nagpur, the faithful continue to witness to this mission through education, healthcare, social outreach, and initiatives that promote integral human development. These efforts remind us that authentic development must always uphold the dignity of the human person and foster solidarity, responsibility, and hope.

As we welcome the New Year, may the light of the newborn Christ inspire us to be instruments of justice and peace. May our communities grow in faith and unity, and may our collective efforts contribute to a more just, compassionate, and humane society.

We wish all our readers a Blessed Christmas and a Grace-filled New Year, rich in faith, hope, and love.

**Fr. Anthony D'Souza**  
Chief Editor, Messenger

## CHRISTMAS *Message - 2025*

*"For I Know the plans I have for You, Plans to Prosper you"  
and not to harm you, Plans to give you Hope and Future."  
(Jer 19:11)*

As we celebrate the joyful mystery of Christmas, once we again behold the radiant light of Christ breaking into our world—into our families, our communities, and our society. The birth of Jesus in the simplicity of Bethlehem is not merely a tender story of a Child; it is a divine summons to transform our world with justice, peace, and human dignity. As Prophet Isaiah says: "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light." (Isa 9:2)

In his recent reflections, Pope Leo XIV reminds us: "The light of Christ does not allow us to remain indifferent. Social justice is not an optional virtue, but a Gospel imperative that flows from the Incarnation itself." He further affirms: "A society develops when every person is seen not as a burden but as a gift, and when the weakest become the measure of our moral progress."

The theme of this edition of Messenger, "Social Justice and Development," invites us to enter more deeply into the heart of the Christmas message. Jesus, born into poverty, reveals God's irrevocable choice to stand with the poor, the vulnerable, and the forgotten. Bethlehem becomes the cradle of a new humanity where every person is valued, and where justice is the foundation of true peace. In our times, marked by rapid economic change, increasing social disparities, and the silent suffering of many, the message of Christmas calls us to renewed solidarity. Authentic development, as the Church teaches, is not merely economic advancement but the integral growth of every human person. It is the building of communities where opportunity, education, health, and dignity are accessible to all.

As disciples of Christ and members of the Archdiocese of Nagpur, we are called to make our parishes, institutions, and families places where justice is lived—not only spoken. "May the God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with Hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." (Rom 15: 13) in this Jubilee year of Hope, the Lord may journey with us as Pilgrims of Hope.

May this holy season renew in us the courage to build a just society, rooted in love. May the Prince of Peace bless our Archdiocese with harmony, unity, and a deepening commitment to the common good. I extend my warm greetings and blessings to all our priests, religious, and lay faithful. May the Light of Christ guide us towards justice, development, and lasting peace.

***A Grace-filled Christmas & Happy New Year 2026 to you all!***

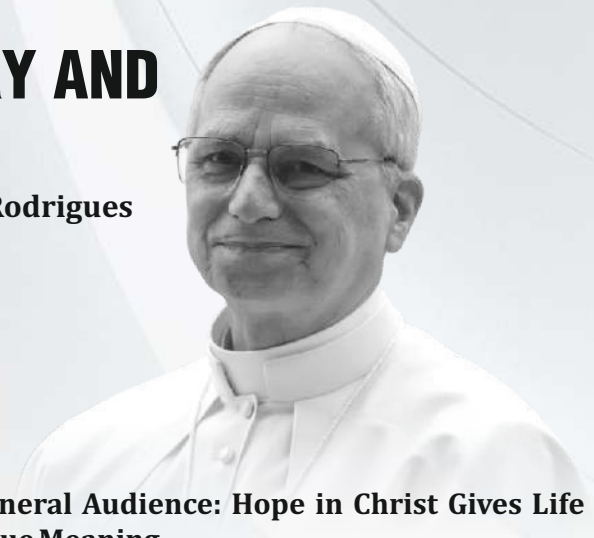


*+ Elias Gonsalves*  
**✝ Elias Gonsalves**  
Archbishop of Nagpur



# HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MINISTRY AND MESSAGES OF POPE LEO XIV

- Fr. Ranjith Rodrigues



## 1. Pope in Türkiye: A Call to Build Bridges of Fraternity and Peace

During his first Apostolic Journey, Pope Leo XIV addressed national leaders in Ankara, inviting Türkiye to embrace its role as a cultural and spiritual bridge between continents. He urged world leaders to reject division and instead foster unity, peace, and meaningful dialogue.

## 2. 'Virtual Connection' Cannot Replace Human Relationships

In an encounter with religious superiors, Pope Leo XIV acknowledged the value of technology for mission and communication. However, he cautioned that digital interaction must never replace authentic human relationships. He encouraged a healthy balance between digital tools and personal encounters, highlighting the importance of community life, prayer, and discernment.

## 3. December Prayer Intention: For Christians in Areas of Conflict

Pope Leo XIV invited the global Church to pray for Christians suffering in war-torn regions, particularly in the Middle East. He expressed hope that they may become seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope—strengthened by the Holy Spirit and supported by the solidarity of believers worldwide.

## 4. 'On the Paths of Unity and Peace': Pope Leo's First Apostolic Journey

As the Holy Father visits Türkiye and Lebanon, he reaffirms unity and peace as central themes of his pontificate. Marking the 1,700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea, the journey highlights ecumenical dialogue, solidarity with suffering communities, and the Church's mission of healing and hope.

## 5. Theology and Human Science: A Call to Engage Deeply

Addressing the International Theological Commission, Pope Leo XIV urged theologians to engage human sciences with rigor, openness, and faith. He encouraged interdisciplinary collaboration so that theology may illuminate contemporary challenges while remaining rooted in prayer and the Church's living tradition.

## 6. General Audience: Hope in Christ Gives Life Its True Meaning

Continuing his catechesis on Christian hope, the Pope reflected on the fragility and giftedness of human life. He reminded the faithful that true meaning is found in trusting God's love and walking with courage through life's trials, with Christ's Resurrection as our ultimate source of hope.

## 7. Christian Identity: The Compass of Education

In a message to educators, Pope Leo XIV emphasized that Christian identity must be the guiding compass of all formation. Authentic education, he said, unites faith and reason, shapes the whole person, and grows through collaboration among the Church, family, and society.

## 8. Message to Young People: Use Technology to Deepen Your Faith

Speaking to young Catholics in the United States via livestream, the Pope encouraged them to live their faith intentionally—through sacramental life, genuine friendships, and wise use of technology. He stressed discernment, responsibility, and openness to God's call in every vocation.

## 9. Choirs: A Sign of the Church's Unity

During the Jubilee of Choirs, Pope Leo XIV reminded liturgical musicians that their ministry is one of unity, not performance. Choirs, he said, are called to foster communal prayer, walk together in harmony, and reflect the synodal spirit of the Church.

## 10. Priesthood: A Total Gift of Self

In a letter to seminarians in Peru, Pope Leo XIV encouraged them to view the priesthood not as privilege or escape, but as a total offering of one's life. He urged them to persevere in prayer, study, and fraternity—warning against mediocrity and assuring them of his fatherly support.

# BECOMING THE ARK OF THE NEW COVENANT TODAY

- Br. Annel Anthony  
II Year Theology

Every Christmas invites us to pause and ponder the unfathomable love of God, who humbly embraced our human nature so that humanity might share in the divine. This holy season is not only a celebration of Christ's birth but also a moment of personal reflection. We are called to look within and ask how we are bringing Christ into the lives of others. Mother Mary, the first disciple and the one who carried Jesus into the world with deep faith and courage, becomes our model. Her life challenges us to live with the same openness and trust, even when circumstances are difficult.

The Gospel of Luke weaves together some of the most beautiful traditions about Mary. When we read Luke carefully, we discover how thoughtfully he narrates her story. The Visitation, for instance, is more than a joyful meeting between two expectant mothers; it echoes the Old Testament stories of the Ark of the Covenant. Luke subtly presents Mary as the Ark of the New Covenant, the living vessel carrying the divine Messiah. This becomes clearer when Elizabeth "exclaims" at Mary's arrival a rare verb used only here in the New Testament and found just a few times in the Greek Old Testament, always in scenes connected to the Ark. In the Old Testament, the Ark held three sacred signs: the manna, Aaron's staff, and the tablets of the Law. These symbols not only reveal Mary's mission but also guide our Christian living.

The manna calls us to be Eucharist-centred, drawing strength from the Lord not only in ritual but through our behaviour and compassion. Vatican II emphasize that the Eucharist is a source and submit of our Christian life. Aaron's staff reminds us of our baptismal priesthood, urging us to bring people to God through kindness and service. The tablets invite us to be governed by the law of love that Jesus himself fulfilled. When we live these values sincerely, our lives become places where God's presence is felt.

May this Christmas bring joy, peace, and God's abundant blessings upon you and your family. Merry Christmas!



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# THE SACRED RHYTHM OF CHRISTMAS

- Br. Anupam Lakra  
II Year Theology

Christmas is far more than a season marked on the calendar. It is a sacred rhythm that pulses through the human heart and echoes across human history. In today's world is filled with conflict, noise, uncertainty, and loneliness. Christmas arrives not only as a celebration but as a healing melody, calling us back to the humble manger of the infant Jesus. His birth gently reminds us that love can still bloom, joy can still rise, peace can still prevail, and hope can still be reborn within us. This rhythm of Love, Joy, Peace, and Hope is beautifully symbolized in the Advent wreath, guiding us as we prepare to welcome child Jesus into our midst and into our hearts.

The rhythm of Christmas begins with Love. This is the love of God revealed through the birth of Christ in a manger shows poor, powerless, and fragile. It is a love that neither dominates nor demands but gently invites us into a deep and personal relationship with Him: "Abide in me, and I in you" (Jn 15:4). Just as friendship grows through communication and trust, our relationship with Christ deepens when we open our hearts and minds, allowing Him to shape our thoughts, actions, and decisions. This Christmas calls us to embrace the love of Christ that listens, heals, and stands with the vulnerable. The manger teaches us that authentic love is rooted in simplicity, humility, and service.

The second note is Joy. The shepherds were the first to hear when the angel proclaimed, "I bring you good news of great joy for all the people" (Lk 2:10). Their joy was not based on comfort or wealth but on the presence of Emmanuel (God with us). Christmas joy is not a fleeting emotion; it is a deep inner assurance that God walks with us in every situation. This joy does not deny suffering; it shines through it, calling us to become bearers of light bringing encouragement, kindness, and gratitude into places of fear, despair, and darkness.

In this sacred rhythm is Peace, an urgent call for our fractured world. Christ's birth challenges us to be peacemakers, not peace-takers, sowing peace in our families, communities, and society. Theologically, peace is more than the absence of conflict. The Church document *Gaudium et Spes* (Vatican II) teaches that peace is the work of justice, growing where people respect one another, forgive freely, and seek the common good. Christmas therefore invites us into a rhythm of gentleness, patience, and unity, becoming instruments of the peace Christ came to bring.

The note of Hope is more than mere optimism. It strengthens our hearts to trust that God continues His work even when life feels uncertain. In this way, Christmas shines as a beacon of hope for the whole human family. The humble manger reminds us that greatness and grace often rise from the simplest and poorest places. Jesus' birth proclaims that every person is loved, valued, and remembered by God. It offers a profound message of forgiveness, peace, and joy and directs our hearts toward the ultimate hope of salvation.

The sacred rhythm of Christmas; Love, Joy, Peace, and Hope are not meant to remain merely as words or seasonal slogans. It must be lived and expressed in our daily choices, actions, and relationships. Just as the heartbeat sustains the human body, this rhythm should sustain our lives. Christmas must not remain a date circled on the calendar; it should become a way of life that shapes the world around us, heals broken relationships, and carries the light of Christ into every corner of the Earth.

# MOSES IS PORTRAYED AS A “Light In The Midst of Darkness.”

- Reena Cross



Moses is a towering biblical figure, chosen by God to lead the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt and guide them toward the Promised Land. His life is marked by moments in which divine “light” breaks into human “darkness,” a powerful metaphor for God’s guidance illuminating His people’s path through their greatest trials.

**Moses:** A Journey from Darkness to Light: The theme of “light in the midst of darkness” appears throughout Moses’ story, found primarily in the books of Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy.

## 1. Birth in the Darkness of Oppression

Moses’ story begins under the shadow of Egyptian tyranny. His birth takes place during a time when the Pharaoh, threatened by the growing Israelite population, orders the killing of all newborn Hebrew boys. To save him, Moses’ mother, Jochebed, places him in a basket among the reeds of the Nile. This small basket of hope becomes a glimmer of light in the surrounding darkness of genocide.

## 2. The Encounter at the Burning Bush

As an adult, having fled Egypt after killing an overseer, Moses encounters God in the burning bush on Mount Horeb. The bush “burned with fire, yet was not consumed.” Here God reveals His name and commands Moses to return to Egypt to free His people. This radiant, divine presence marks the beginning of Moses’ mission—a call illuminated by God Himself.

## 3. The Plagues Against Egypt

As Moses confronts Pharaoh, a powerful struggle unfolds between divine light and Egyptian darkness. The plagues God sends display His supremacy over the gods of Egypt. The ninth plague—three days of thick darkness—symbolizes Egypt’s spiritual blindness, while the Israelites in Goshen enjoy light. This contrast highlights God’s special protection over His people.

## 4. The Parting of the Red Sea

The climax of deliverance occurs at the Red Sea. Trapped between the waters and Pharaoh’s army, the Israelites seem doomed. Yet God leads them with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. At God’s command, Moses raises his staff, and the sea parts, allowing the Israelites to cross safely. When the Egyptians pursue them, the waters return, overwhelming their army.

Once again, God’s light—symbolized by the pillar of fire—guides His people out of darkness.

## 5. The Shining Face of Moses

After receiving the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai, Moses descends with a radiant face, shining so brightly that the Israelites are afraid to approach him.

This visible light reflects the profound intimacy Moses experienced with God, serving as a reminder to the people of the divine presence working through their leader.

## Conclusion

The life of Moses remains a timeless testament to hope, resilience, and divine intervention. Through each phase of his journey, God demonstrates that no matter how deep the darkness—whether oppression, fear, or idolatry—His light will always break through.

Moses’ transformation from a hidden infant to a radiant leader shows that faith can turn moments of despair into pathways of salvation. His legacy endures as a guiding light, illuminating the road to freedom and the moral law that would shape generations to come.

# MARY'S TRUE TITLES: A GUIDE FROM 'MATER POPULI FIDELIS'

- Br. Shom Yesudas  
Third Year Theology Student

The document *Mater Populi Fidelis* was written to give the Church clear guidance on how to speak correctly about Mary and understand her role in Christian life. It begins by expressing deep appreciation for Marian devotion, stating that the faithful “find in Mary refuge, strength, tenderness, and hope,” and calling this devotion “a treasure of the Church” that reflects “an evangelical attitude of trust in the Lord” (cf. *Mater Populi Fidelis*). Such devotion is not to be discouraged but protected, especially because “the poor also find God’s affection and love in the face of Mary” and see in her “the essential Gospel message.” For this reason, the Church seeks to clarify Marian titles so that devotion remains beautiful, healthy, and faithful to the Gospel.

The central teaching of *Mater Populi Fidelis* is Mary’s Spiritual Motherhood. The document insists that Mary is “the Mother of all believers,” and that her motherhood “is not reduced to a simple biological function but is extended to the life of grace.” This motherhood is described as “fully active,” guiding Christians on their journey of faith. Therefore, the Church encourages titles such as “Mother of Mercy,” “Help of Christians,” and “Advocate,” as they express Mary’s closeness, care, and intercession, highlighting her role as “a sign of tenderness and maternal protection” that leads believers to Christ.

At the same time, the document warns against the careless use of certain titles. It clearly states that it is “always inappropriate to use the title ‘Co-redemptrix,’” since this term “risks obscuring the unique mediation of Christ.” While Mary cooperated in salvation through faith and obedience, her cooperation never places her on the same level as Christ the Redeemer and remains entirely dependent on Him.

Regarding the title “Mediatrice,” the document allows its use only in a limited and subordinate sense. Since “Christ is the only Mediator,” any Marian mediation must be understood as a participation that does not add to or replace Christ’s unique role (cf. *Mater Populi Fidelis*, 12). When expressions like “Mediatrice of all graces” cause confusion or suggest equality with Christ, they “cannot be accepted” (cf. *Mater Populi Fidelis*, 13). Mary intercedes always through Christ, never apart from Him.

The document also rejects images that portray Mary as more merciful than Christ or as protecting sinners from God’s justice. It states that presenting Mary as a “lightning rod” shielding humanity from divine anger is unacceptable because it distorts the mystery of God’s love revealed in Christ (cf. *Mater Populi Fidelis*, 14). Mary reflects Christ’s mercy but never replaces it.

Finally, the document offers a guiding principle: Marian expressions that require “many explanations and theological clarifications” are not helpful for ordinary believers and should be avoided (cf. *Mater Populi Fidelis*, 16). Devotion to Mary should be simple, clear, and firmly centered on Christ.

In conclusion, *Mater Populi Fidelis* presents a balanced and loving teaching on Mary. It honors her as “Mother of all believers” (cf. *Mater Populi Fidelis*, 5) while firmly affirming that “Christ alone is Redeemer and Mediator” (cf. *Mater Populi Fidelis*, 12). Following this guidance allows the faithful to love Mary deeply while remaining rooted in the Gospel, as true devotion to Mary always leads believers to Jesus.

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# **GOLDEN AND SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATION OF THE RELIGIOUS PROFESSION OF ASMI SISTERS**

The community of ASMI- Nagpur, rejoiced with hearts filled with gratitude as we celebrated the Golden and Silver Jubilee of the Religious Profession of our dear Sisters — Srs. Nirmala & Ranitta (Golden Jubilarians) and Srs. Ann Mary, Gretti, Jis Mary and Joe Mary (Silver Jubilarians) on 1st November 2025 at Jeevoday special school auditorium. It was a day of thanksgiving for their fifty and twenty-five years of faithful and joyful service in the vineyard of the Lord.

The solemn Holy Eucharist was celebrated at 10:30 am with Rt. Rev. Malcolm Sequeira, the Bishop of Amravati as the main celebrant, joined by several priests and religious and friends. The theme of the celebration, “Faithful is God who has called you” echoed through the prayers, hymns, and reflections of the day.

In his homily, Bishop Rt. Rev. Malcolm Sequeira highlighted the beauty of a consecrated life rooted in love, obedience, and service. He praised the jubilarians for their dedication to prayer, community life, and their tireless service to the most vulnerable section in the society like persons affected with leprosy and the mentally challenged children. The liturgy was meaningfully animated, making the celebration deeply spiritual and vibrant.

Following the Eucharistic celebration, a short felicitation program was organized to honour the jubilarians. The beautifully prepared video presentation depicting the life and mission of the jubilarians was a touching reminder of their years of commitment and service.

The celebration concluded with a fellowship meal, where all participants shared in the joy and blessings of the day. The event was not only a time of celebration but also an inspiring witness of God’s enduring love and faithfulness. The Golden and Silver Jubilee Celebration of our beloved Sisters reminded everyone present that a life dedicated to God is a life of true joy, peace, and fulfilment. It was indeed a memorable day of thanksgiving and praise to the Lord for the gift of consecrated life.



## **JUBILEE 2025 – BEC DAY CELEBRATION AND LEADERSHIP TRAINING**

The Jubilee 2025 BEC Day Celebration and Training Programme for Parish BEC Leaders was held on 7 December 2025 at St. Francis Xavier Church, Sitabuldi. The event brought together parishioners and leaders from the six Basic Ecclesial Communities (BECs) of the parish, strengthening their sense of communion, mission, and collaborative ministry.

The training session was conducted under the able guidance of the Diocesan BEC Team, comprising Rev. Fr. George SAC, Sr. Bhavna, Sr. Manisha, Mrs. Flory, and Fr. Sameer. Each resource person addressed the parishioners on various aspects of BEC life, emphasizing the importance of small Christian communities in nurturing faith, fellowship, and active participation in the mission of the Church.

The BEC Day celebration was marked by a spirit of enthusiasm and spiritual fervor. Parishioners participated wholeheartedly, reaffirming their commitment to building vibrant and faith-filled communities rooted in prayer, service, and Gospel values. The programme proved to be both enriching and motivating, further strengthening the six BEC communities of the parish and encouraging greater collaboration among their members.



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## **BETUL DEANERY JUBILEE GATHERING AT PANDURNA**

On the occasion of the Jubilee celebration, the Betul Deanery organized a special gathering at Pandurna, bringing together forty Religious from various communities and congregations across the deanery. This significant event was marked by a spirit of communion, gratitude, and renewed commitment to the shared mission of consecrated life.

The gathering provided the participants an opportunity to come together in prayer, fellowship, and meaningful interaction. It served as a moment to acknowledge God's blessings and to celebrate the tireless dedication of the Religious who continue to serve the people of Betul Deanery with zeal and compassion.

The Jubilee celebration highlighted the unity and collaborative spirit that characterize the mission of Religious life in the region. The event concluded with a renewed sense of purpose, strengthening the bonds of fraternity among the Religious and inspiring them to continue their service with faith and joy.



## **A SOLEMN CELEBRATION OF THE LITTLE FLOWER SISTERS AT BETUL**

The Sisters of the Little Flower of Child Jesus Congregation, Betul, joyfully marked a momentous and grace-filled occasion with a solemn celebration of the Holy Eucharist. The liturgy, imbued with deep reverence and gratitude, was presided over by His Grace, Most Rev. Elias Gonsalves, Archbishop of Nagpur, whose presence added spiritual depth to the celebration.

This significant event was marked by several milestones in the religious commitment of the Sisters. During the Eucharistic celebration, Sr. Sumitha professed her First Vows, entering more deeply into the consecrated life of the congregation. Sr. Prabha made her Final Profession, sealing her lifelong dedication to Christ and to the mission of the Little Flower Sisters. The congregation also rejoiced in the Golden Jubilee celebrations of Rev. Sr. Catherine and Rev. Sr. Ancy, honouring fifty years of faithful service, prayer, and apostolic mission.

The celebration was further enriched by the esteemed presence of Rev. Sr. Annie, Mother General, whose leadership continues to inspire the congregation. Fr. Jojo, Dean and Parish Priest, along with numerous priests, religious sisters, and lay faithful, also participated, lending a spirit of ecclesial communion to the event.

A special note of gratitude was expressed for the Founding Mothers, Rev. Sr. Lucy and Rev. Sr. Philomena, whose vision, dedication, and pioneering spirit continue to guide and strengthen the congregation. Their blessings and presence elevated the significance of this joyous and historic gathering.

The solemn ceremony, woven with prayer, thanksgiving, and fraternal joy, stands as a powerful testimony to the enduring commitment of the Little Flower Sisters to the mission of Christ, the service of the Church, and the upliftment of the communities they serve.



## **SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION AT OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH, BARKUHI**

A moment of grace and joy filled Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Badkui, as six children from the Badkui and Sullakapa Mission communities received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

The Holy Eucharist was solemnly presided over by His Grace, Most Rev. Elias Gonsalves, Archbishop of Nagpur, who imparted the sacred anointing and invoked the gifts of the Holy Spirit upon the candidates.

The celebration was concelebrated in the esteemed presence of Fr. Thomas CMI, Parish Priest of Badkui, and Fr. Linto CMI, Parish Priest of Sullakapa Mission. Their pastoral guidance and preparation of the children contributed greatly to the meaningfulness of the occasion.

This sacred moment marked an important step in the faith journey of the young members of the mission, strengthening their commitment to Christian discipleship and the life of the Church.



## **WAY OF THE CROSS AT PADRI THANA: A PROFOUND PUBLIC WITNESS OF FAITH**

On the occasion of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, the Catholic community of Buttibori, Nagpur, organized a deeply moving and spiritually enriching Way of the Cross from the Buttibori Flyover to the historic Holy Cross Shrine at Padri Thana. The event served as a powerful public expression of faith, drawing the attention and admiration of people along the route.

Led by the parish priest, Rev. Fr. Prasanth, PSDP, the devotion brought together religious priests, sisters, and more than 300 lay faithful, who walked in prayerful silence and reflection. Carrying the Cross, proclaiming Scripture, and singing hymns, the participants sought to bring the message of Christ's sacrificial love to the streets, bearing witness to hope and redemption in today's world.

Throughout the journey, passers by paused to watch, many joining momentarily in reverence. The devotion culminated at the Holy Cross Shrine, a cherished spiritual landmark, where the faithful gathered for the concluding prayers and blessings. The celebration not only strengthened the unity of the local Catholic community but also served as an invitation to all people to contemplate the transformative power of the Cross—a symbol of love, compassion, and ultimate victory over suffering.



## **THREE-DAY RETREAT FOR CATECHISM CHILDREN GONDIA–BALAGHAT DEANERY**

The Gondia–Balaghat Deanery successfully organized a three-day retreat for the catechism children, with the participation of more than 100 children. This retreat proved to be a special time of grace and spiritual renewal, during which the young participants experienced the strengthening presence of the Holy Spirit and deepened their enthusiasm for the Catholic faith.

The retreat was meaningfully animated by the Jesus Youth (JY) team, whose dedicated service contributed greatly to the spiritual experience of the children. The Deanery extends its sincere gratitude to the Dean, and to all the Fathers, Brothers, and Sisters whose support, guidance, and collaboration ensured the smooth conduct of this enriching faith event. Their collective efforts made it possible to offer the children a memorable and spiritually uplifting experience.



## **A DAY WITH MOTHER NATURE: GONDIA–BALAGHAT DEANERY GATHERING AT GARATOLA PARISH, SONUGAGRA**

The Gondia–Balaghat Deanery organized a meaningful and refreshing day of fraternal gathering amidst the serene beauty of nature near Garatola Parish, Sonugagra. This unique experience brought together all the Fathers, Brothers, and Sisters of the Deanery for a moment of communion, reflection, and gratitude to God for the gift of creation. Surrounded by lush green trees, the gentle melody of the flowing river, and the tranquil ambience of the forest, the participants felt deeply connected to the presence of God manifested in the beauty of Mother Earth. The day provided a welcome opportunity for the religious to pause from their pastoral engagements, to contemplate creation, and to rejoice in the simple yet profound blessings of nature.

The fellowship was further enriched by the generous hospitality of the local community, as delicious meals prepared by various households were shared with joy and gratitude. The atmosphere was one of unity, celebration, and a deep sense of belonging, which transformed the gathering into a true jubilee moment within the heart of the forest. The Gondia–Balaghat Deanery expresses its sincere appreciation to all the Fathers, Brothers, and Sisters who contributed to the success of this memorable event. Special thanks are extended to Fr. Narendra, whose coordination made this meaningful encounter with nature and fraternity possible.



# **CRI NAGPUR UNIT – JUBILEE YEAR CELEBRATION 2025**

The CRI Nagpur Unit joyfully celebrated the Jubilee Year 2025 on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at St. Joseph's Convent School, Nagpur. Around 300 religious and consecrated men and women participated, making the event a memorable celebration of unity, gratitude, and renewal of commitment to consecrated life. The celebration began with a Solemn Eucharistic Celebration presided over by Most Rev. Elias Gonsalves, Archbishop of Nagpur. Fr. Shiju Francis, OP, delivered an inspiring homily, encouraging the young religious to remain rooted in hope amid the uncertainties of their vocation. The Pilar Brothers uplifted the liturgy with their melodious choir, enhancing the prayerful atmosphere. The Eucharist was made more meaningful through the contributions of various communities: the ASMI candidates performed an elegant entrance dance, and the DSP candidates offered a devotional Maha-Aarthi during the doxology. The entire liturgy was prayerfully and efficiently organized under the guidance of Sr. Anima and Sr. Jiwanlata, with active involvement from several communities of the Nagpur Unit.

Following the Eucharist, a short but vibrant cultural programme showcased the creativity and talents of various formation houses. The sequence of items was as follows:

1. Welcome Dance – SMMI Candidates
2. Welcome Address and Felicitation – Fr. Praveen Monteiro (Vice President)
3. Cake Cutting followed by Jubilee Song – Dominican Brothers
4. Musical Dance – Peter Clever Candidates
5. Dance Performance – St. Joseph Candidates
6. Message – Archbishop Elias Gonsalves
7. North-East Cultural Dance – SMMI Candidates
8. Drama on the Life of St. Devasahayam – Pallottine Brothers
9. Message – Sr. Rosaline Rodrigues, President of Western Region CRI
10. Dance Performance – Franciscan Brothers
11. Vote of Thanks – Fr. Francis (Secretary)

The entire programme was wonderfully compered by Sr. Martha and Sr. Megha. After the enchanting programme, the evening reached its joyful climax with a festive dinner through the blessing of Fr. Agnelo Fernandes the Episcopal Vicar for religious of Nagpur and the lively Sailo dance, filling the gathering with a spirit of communion, joy, and jubilation. The entire event was highly appreciated by the religious for the meticulous planning and organization carried out by the Core Team of the CRI Nagpur Unit.



# FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CELEBRATION AT ST. PIUS X CHURCH, MANKAPUR, NAGPUR

A joyous and grace-filled celebration marked a significant spiritual milestone at St. Pius X Church, Mankapur, Nagpur, as thirteen children received their First Holy Communion during the 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass on Sunday. This sacred occasion brought together the parish community in a spirit of prayer, thanksgiving, and profound reverence for the Holy Eucharist.

The Eucharistic celebration was presided over by the Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Prashant, who, in his homily, highlighted the deep spiritual significance of the Holy Eucharist and encouraged the young communicants to always approach this sacrament with devotion, purity of heart, and a worthy disposition. His message offered both guidance and inspiration, enriching the spiritual experience of the children and the community.

The liturgy was meticulously prepared and reverently executed. Beautifully arranged prayers and a melodious choir added a solemn and uplifting tone to the celebration. The parish community, comprising over 300 faithful, participated wholeheartedly, offering their prayers and support for the children as they received the Body of Christ for the first time.

The celebration was further graced by the presence of Rev. Fr. Francis Leonard, Co-Pastor (Assistant Parish Priest), whose prayerful participation added to the joy and unity of the occasion.

Special recognition and heartfelt gratitude are extended to Sr. Sunita and Teacher Sonia Saldanha, who played an instrumental role in preparing the children for this sacred moment. Through dedicated catechesis, spiritual guidance, and liturgical training, they helped the children understand the depth and beauty of receiving Jesus in the Eucharist.

The parish community extends its warmest congratulations to all the children and their families. May the graces received on this blessed day continue to strengthen their faith and nurture in them a lifelong love for the Holy Eucharist.



# METROPOLITAN REGIONAL JUBILEE CELEBRATION: A GRACE-FILLED JOURNEY OF COMMUNION AND HOPE

The Metropolitan Regional Jubilee Celebration, hosted by the Archdiocese of Nagpur on 2 October 2025 at SFS High School, Sadar, marked a truly historic moment of faith and fraternity. Bringing together four dioceses under one banner, the event radiated a spirit of unity, renewal, and hope—an expression not merely of commemoration but of a shared journey in prayer, dialogue, reflection, and celebration. Rooted in the grace of the Jubilee and the call to walk together in synodality, the day unfolded as a genuine experience of communion.

The celebration began with registration over tea, offering early opportunities for fellowship and joyful anticipation. The morning opened with a time of adoration before the Eucharistic Lord, centering all hearts in gratitude and invoking divine blessings upon the gathering.

The inaugural session began with an overview by Fr. Vivian Lobo, followed by a warm welcome address from Bishop Malcolm. A vibrant inaugural dance showcased the cultural richness and harmony that mark the region's ecclesial life. The reading of a special message from the Papal Nuncio added solemnity to the event, while Archbishop Elias Gonsalves' keynote address set an inspiring tone, weaving together the themes of Jubilee, hope, and synodal renewal. An energizing action song then invited participants to join in movement and joy, celebrating unity in both heart and spirit.

A thought-provoking panel discussion, moderated by Fr. Paul Chandrankunnel SAC, engaged distinguished speakers who reflected on the Jubilee's pastoral and social dimensions. They addressed current challenges facing the Church's mission and offered practical insights for renewal. The open session that followed allowed participants to share experiences and reflections, fostering a genuine exchange of ideas and faith. The mid-day fellowship meal became another moment of communion, as lunch was shared in a warm and fraternal atmosphere.

In the afternoon, Fr. Joseph Polishetty presented a comprehensive Jubilee report, consolidating the initiatives and pastoral achievements of the participating dioceses. Subsequently, Bishop Lancy led group discussions wherein participants engaged in meaningful dialogue on key pastoral themes—strengthening the domestic Church, empowering youth, and witnessing through consecrated life. Reports from each group, coordinated by Bishop Ephrem, enriched the collective discernment and provided clarity for the way forward.

After a brief tea break, the day reached its spiritual culmination in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. The Mass united all participants in thanksgiving for the graces of the Jubilee and the deepening communion that had taken root among the dioceses.

Throughout the celebration, a palpable sense of joy, collaboration, and spiritual depth permeated every moment. The faithful departed with hearts renewed—committed to walking together as one Church, animated by the spirit of synodality and the hope of the Jubilee. The event concluded not as an end, but as a beginning—the start of a renewed missionary journey to build a more inclusive and participatory Church across central India.

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# NAGPUR DEANERY RECOLLECTION AT ST. PIUS X CHURCH, MANKAPUR

On the evening of 25<sup>th</sup> November 2025, St. Pius X Church, Mankapur hosted the Nagpur Deanery Recollection, a spiritually enriching gathering attended by nearly 100 priests and religious sisters. The recollection was preached by Fr. James S.A.C. (Pallottine), who served as the resource person for the day, in the presence of the Deanery Dean, Fr. Vincent S.A.C.

The programme began with a warm welcome accorded to the preacher, followed by a graceful prayer dance presented by the candidates of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Lyon, setting a prayerful tone for the evening. Fr. James then delivered a profound and inspiring recollection talk, inviting all participants into deeper spiritual reflection.

This was followed by a period of Eucharistic Adoration, during which four priests made themselves available to administer the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Confessions continued simultaneously until 7:45 p.m., allowing many to experience God's mercy in a meaningful way.

The recollection concluded with a get-together dinner, which also marked the Deanery-level conclusion of the Jubilee Year. As the Parish Priest, Fr. Prashant meticulously coordinated the event and took charge of arranging the refreshments and dinner, which were deeply appreciated by all.

Before the gathering concluded, Fr. Vincent expressed his heartfelt gratitude to all who attended and extended special thanks to Fr. Prashant for his dedicated efforts in organizing the evening. The programme fostered a spirit of fraternity, reflection, and thanksgiving within the Nagpur Deanery community.



## THE SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATION OF HOLY TRINITY CONVENT (PALLOTTINE SISTERS) ANANT NAGAR

The Pallottine Sisters joyfully celebrated the Silver Jubilee of the Holy Trinity Community, Anant Nagar, coinciding with the Silver Jubilee of Sr. Rini George's religious profession on November 3, 2025. The Eucharistic celebration, presided over by Archbishop Elias Gonsalves of Nagpur, was a moment to express gratitude to God and acknowledge the support of those who contributed to the community's journey.

Sr. Lucy Thomas, Provincial Superior, and Sr. Selin Thomas, the first Superior of the community, were among the dignitaries present. The community warmly welcomed parishioners, friends, and well-wishers. The celebration was marked by heartfelt tributes to the pioneers and a joyous fellowship meal.



## ARCHDIOCESE OF NAGPUR SHINES AT NATIONAL BIBLE QUIZ!

Heartiest congratulations to both our teams for their remarkable achievements at the National Bible Quiz organized by Atma Darshan!

**1st Runner-Up:** Team led by Miss Suchita Johnson – Holy Rosary Parish

Members: Sr. Jyoti Policarp, Miss Jennifer Peringaden

Cash prize 160,000/-

**2nd Runner-Up:** Team from St. Martin De Porres Church, Nagpur Led by William Timothy

Members: Nandini Timothy and Francis Fredrick

Cash Prize 120,000/-

You have truly made the Archdiocese of Nagpur proud with your knowledge and faith-filled excellence!



## **GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION OF THE RELIGIOUS PROFESSION OF FIVE SMMI SISTERS AT THE MI CONVENT**

The MI Convent witnessed a deeply moving and joy-filled celebration as five Sisters—Sr. Celine Paul, Sr. Marietta, Sr. Shoba Rose, Sr. Merlin, and Sr. Asunta—marked the Golden Jubilee of their Religious Profession. This significant milestone, commemorating fifty years of dedicated consecrated life, was observed with profound gratitude, reverence, and communal joy.

The solemn Thanksgiving Holy Eucharist was presided over by His Grace, Most Rev. Elias Gonsalves, Archbishop of Nagpur, who graced the occasion with his presence and extended his heartfelt felicitations to the Jubilarians. In his message, the Archbishop acknowledged their unwavering commitment, decades of devoted service to the Church, and exemplary witness to the Gospel through lives lived in humility, prayer, and charitable service.

Rev. Sr. Vanitha SMMI, the Provincial Superior, along with a distinguished gathering of priests, religious, family members, relatives, and friends, participated in the celebration. Their presence enhanced the atmosphere of gratitude and unity, as many expressed admirations for the Jubilarians' lifelong fidelity to their vocation. The ceremony was filled with moments of reflection, thanksgiving, and heartfelt appreciation for the countless ways in which the Jubilarians have touched lives through their ministries. The celebration concluded in a spirit of joy and fellowship, as all present shared in the happiness of this blessed and memorable occasion.



## FINAL PROFESSION OF SR. RITANJALI NAYAK, SMMI

The SMMI Congregation and the Catholic community of Nagpur joined in a solemn and grace-filled celebration this evening as Sr. Ritanjali Nayak made her Final Profession in the Congregation of the Sisters of Maria Mater Infantium (SMMI). The ceremony marked a significant milestone in Sr. Ritanjali's spiritual journey, sealing her lifelong commitment to Christ and to the mission of the Church.

The Holy Eucharist was presided over by His Grace, Most Rev. Elias Gonsalves, Archbishop of Nagpur, who delivered an inspiring and deeply moving homily. His Grace offered a profound reflection on the three evangelical vows—poverty, chastity, and obedience—explaining their enduring relevance in the consecrated life and their powerful witness in today's world.



The celebration drew a large gathering of priests, religious, family members, and well-wishers, all of whom came together to support Sr. Ritanjali on this blessed occasion. The event was held at Rosary Parish, Seminary Hills, her home parish, adding a special note of warmth, belonging, and familial joy to the celebration. Gratitude was expressed to Rev. Sr. Vanitha, SMMI, Provincial Superior, for her leadership and presence, and to Rev. Fr. Shiju OP, Parish Priest of Rosary Parish, for meticulously coordinating the liturgical and logistical arrangements that contributed to the beauty and reverence of the celebration. As Sr. Ritanjali begins her fully professed consecrated life, the community extends its heartfelt wishes and prayers, invoking God's abundant grace and blessings upon her mission of service, love, and fidelity to Christ and His Church.

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## CELEBRATION OF THE 375<sup>TH</sup> FOUNDATION DAY OF THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH

The Sisters of St. Joseph — namely, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Annecy (SSJA), the Sisters of St. Joseph of Chambéry (CSJ), and the Sisters of St. Joseph of Lyon (SJL) — solemnly commemorated the 375th Foundation Day of their congregations with a dignified celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

The Thanksgiving Eucharist was held at Immaculate Conception Church, Kamptee, and was presided over by His Grace, Most Rev. Elias Gonsalves, Archbishop of Nagpur. The gathering brought together all three branches of the St. Joseph family in a spirit of unity, gratitude, and renewal as they marked this historic milestone.



The liturgical celebration was graced by the presence of Fr. Glen, Parish Priest of Immaculate Conception Church, and Fr. Linto, Dean of the Kamptee Deanery, Fr. Ranjith, The Chancellor of the Nagpur Archdiocese, whose participation added to the solemnity of the occasion. The event concluded with a festive breakfast, shared among all participants, fostering fellowship and strengthening the bonds of communion within the St. Joseph family and the wider community.



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# SOLEMN CONCLUSION OF THE JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE ARCHDIOCESE OF NAGPUR



The Archdiocese of Nagpur joyfully celebrated a three-day Jubilee Year of Hope conclusion from 26 to 28 December 2025, bringing together various sections of the faithful in a spirit of thanksgiving, participation, and renewal under the pastoral guidance of His Grace Archbishop Elias Gonsalves.

## Day One – 26 December 2025 (Youth and Children):

The Jubilee celebrations commenced with a dedicated programme for youth and children. The day began with registration, followed by a prayer service and prayer dance presented by the Home for the Aged and Handicapped, Untkhana. Informative and motivating sessions were conducted by Ms. Asawari Shenolikar (The Hitavada) and the Warrior Monks, focusing on awareness and self-defense. Students actively participated in competitions such as poster and collage making and a science exhibition. An orientation by HarperCollins Publications and an address by Dr. Rajesh Biniwale (Principal Scientist, NEERI) enriched the programme. The Archbishop addressed the gathering, encouraging young minds to grow in values and responsibility. The day concluded with a valedictory function, lunch, and a vibrant cultural





## Day Two - 27 December 2025 (Teachers' Jubilee):

The second day was devoted to teachers, highlighting their vital role in shaping society. The programme opened with a ceremonial welcome dance, followed by the keynote address of the Archbishop on "Educators at the Heart of the Sustainable Development Agenda." A panel discussion on the global impact of education, paper presentation competition, and action plan workshop aligned with SDGs and NEP 2020 provided meaningful academic engagement. An interreligious dialogue fostered shared values for sustainability. The celebrations concluded with a cultural programme, prize distribution, and valedictory ceremony.





## Day Three - 28 December 2025 (Families and Nurses):

The final day focused on families and healthcare workers. The Jubilee Mass, celebrated by the Archbishop with the procession of the Jubilee Cross, formed the spiritual highlight of the day. Sharing by couples on family life, role play with discussion, counselling sessions, and an inner healing prayer service addressed the pastoral needs of families. Golden Jubilarians among senior citizens were honoured for their witness and commitment. The programme concluded with thanksgiving and fraternity.

The three-day Jubilee celebrations were marked by prayer, learning, cultural expression, and communion, reflecting the vibrant life of the Archdiocese of Nagpur and strengthening its mission of faith, service, and hope.





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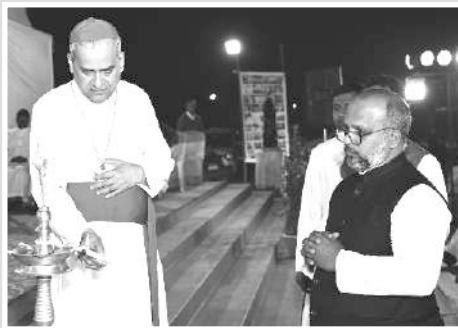
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# ANKURKUNJ GURUKUL, ARCHDIOCESAN JUNIOR SEMINARY, CELEBRATES 26 YEARS OF FORMATION

Ankurkunj Gurukul, Archdiocesan Junior Seminary at Kamptee, Celebrated 26 Years of Formation on November 10, 2025, at Kamptee. The celebration began with Thanksgiving Holy Eucharist presided over by His Grace Most Rev. Elias Gonsalves, Archbishop of Nagpur. Twenty-four passed out priests, including former students out of thirty, together with former rectors and vice-rectors, also twenty-five other guest priests, con-celebrated the Holy Mass. Many religious and faithful from various parts of the archdiocese participated in the celebration to express the love and support of the priests and formation.



# KAMPTEE DEANERY CELEBRATES THE JUBILEE OF HOPE

## 1. Jubilee Cross Prayan

Jubilee Cross received at Sacred Parish on August 24<sup>th</sup>. The Jubilee Cross was taken to all the parishes of the Kamptee deanery with much enthusiasm and prayer. Parish priests, along with religious and parishioners, venerated the cross and held day- or week-long prayer services. Mansar, Kanhan, Kamptee and Mhasala parishes celebrated the Jubilee of Hope with the Jubilee Cross. Finally, the Jubilee Cross was handed over to the Archbishop's House on October 1<sup>st</sup>.



## 2. Jubilee Gathering of Priests

Kamptee Deanery priests gathered at Mhasala parish for prayer and jubilee discussion on 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2025. Jubilee prayer and veneration are held to renew the fellowship with Christ. Priests shared their Jubilee Cross Prayan experiences. The gathering included the discussion of future deanery programmes, a birthday celebration of Fr. Glen and a fellowship meal.



## 3. Jubilee Gathering of Deanery

A half-day prayerful gathering held at St. Theresa's Church, Mansar, for priests and religious of Kamptee Deanery. A total of forty-four members attended from all over the deanery. Rev. Dr. Fr. Joaquim Savio Neto Gracias, SFX led the prayer service with a recollection talk followed by the sacrament of reconciliation. The gathering also felicitated the Jubilarian Sr. Anila CSAC and all birthday celebrants. The planning session was conducted for the further programmes of the deanery. The get-together was concluded with the Jubilee Prayer. The gathering was much appreciated by all the participants.



## **ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN ADVOCATES OF NAGPUR MARKS CONSTITUTION DAY**

The Association of Christian Advocates of Nagpur solemnly celebrated Constitution Day at the C.J. Sebastian Memorial Hall, Seminary Hills. The event featured an insightful address by Dr. S. M. Rajan, Director of Central India College of Law, who spoke on “Freedom of Conscience Safeguarded in the Indian Constitution.” His presentation highlighted the constitutional protections that uphold the fundamental rights of every citizen.

His Grace, Most Rev. Elias Gonsalves, Archbishop of Nagpur, expressed his appreciation for the collective efforts of Christian advocates who came together for this meaningful observance.

The celebration witnessed the participation of approximately 60 advocates from various Christian denominations, reflecting unity and shared commitment to constitutional values.

This initiative was coordinated by Advocate Fr. Praveen, OP, who has taken a pioneering step in bringing Christian advocates under one platform to honour the Indian Constitution through this unique and collaborative gathering.



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## **POCSO AND POSH AWARENESS SEMINAR AT ST. CHARLES SEMINARY**

A Training and Awareness Seminar on POCSO and POSH (Internal Grievance) was conducted at St. Charles Seminary on 28 November 2025 at 6:00 p.m. The session witnessed the active participation of all students and staff from the various study houses and was received with great appreciation.

The seminar was led by Professor Ms. Manisha Mathame, a distinguished member of the POCSO and POSH Committee of the Archdiocese, who served as the resource person for the evening. Through her insightful presentation, she provided clarity on safeguarding minors and promoting safe, respectful environments within ecclesial institutions.

The Archdiocese extends sincere gratitude to Fr. Aquin, OP, Rector of the Seminary, for graciously hosting the programme, and to Fr. Cyprian, OP, Judicial Vicar of the Archdiocese, for efficiently coordinating the entire event. Their leadership and collaboration ensured the effectiveness and smooth conduct of this important awareness initiative.



## **STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION ON DRAFT LEGISLATION FOR DOMESTIC WORKERS AT GOOD SHEPHERD PROVINCIALATE, MANKAPUR, NAGPUR**

The National Domestic Workers Movement (NDWM), Maharashtra, in collaboration with the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, organized a Stakeholder Consultation on the Draft Legislation for Domestic Workers at Good Shepherd Provincialate, Nagpur on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2025. The consultation focused on the theme “Advancing Rights and Protection for Domestic Workers” and brought together domestic workers, legal experts, stakeholders and civil society representatives to deliberate on the proposed legislation ensuring the welfare, dignity, and social security of domestic workers.

The event began with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp by dignitaries, followed by a welcome address from Sr. Louis Pushpa, Province Leader, Central East India \ Nepal. Sr. Kala facilitated whole the programme very meaningfully and Sr. Christy ICM outlined the objectives of the consultation, emphasizing the importance of recognizing domestic work as dignified labor deserving of fair wages, safe conditions, and social protection.

Ms. Chitra, Advocate NDWM, presented the key aspects of the draft legislation—its legal framework, governance structure, welfare provisions, and grievance redressal mechanisms. Adv. Sr. Philomina Pichapally discussed the legal context and protections included in the draft. Adv. P.K. Satyanathan, Senior High Court Lawyer and Legal Advisor to the Archdiocese of Nagpur, underscored the need for humane treatment of domestic workers and inclusion in the organized sector. He emphasized registration, social security, Shram Cards, and strict prohibition of child and bonded labour. Adv. Manjusha Giradkar shared information on welfare schemes like Ladli Bahen Yojana and Shram Cards available to workers.

Domestic workers Mrs. Fulkan and Mrs. Josephine shared their experiences and demands for social security, pension, weekly holidays, bonus, and minimum wages. The consultation also provided a platform for stakeholders to share inputs and recommendations for the draft legislation and future advocacy strategies. Sr. Louis Pushpa and Sr. Christy moderated the discussion. Notable suggestions included:

Capacity building for both employers and employees, addressing emotional exploitation and promoting financial security, Inclusion of pension and social security provisions, incorporating perspectives of persons with disabilities, Considering key points from the 2008 Draft Bill, and Introducing a provident fund and standardized rate card for domestic work.

The consultation concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Mrs. Nirmala Kujur, who appreciated the contributions of all speakers, participants, and organizers. The program successfully created a platform for dialogue and collective reflection toward advancing the rights, protection, and empowerment of domestic workers. The insights and recommendations from this consultation will inform ongoing advocacy and efforts to strengthen the forthcoming Domestic Workers Legislation.



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# **NAGPUR MULTIPURPOSE SOCIAL SERVICE SOCIETY (NMSSS) COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS**

The Nagpur Multipurpose Social Service Society (NMSSS) continued its strong commitment to social justice and integral human development through programmes focused on nutrition, sustainable agriculture, and livelihood enhancement. During the reporting period, over 600 households benefited, leading to improved food security, ecological care, and community participation.

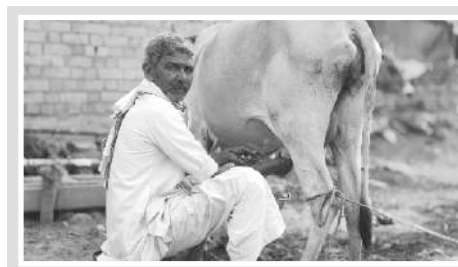
A key achievement was the expansion of nutrition-sensitive kitchen gardens in 13 villages. Through awareness programmes and demonstrations, NMSSS distributed 553 vegetable seed kits, enabling 403 families to establish household gardens. These initiatives are providing fresh produce, reducing household expenses, and improving dietary diversity, contributing to better health and long-term self-reliance.

A major milestone was achieved on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2025 under the Sustainable Drinking Water Resources and Food Security initiative, supported by Mission Bolzano, Italy. Under the leadership of Rev. Fr. Balaraju Madanu and in the presence of Rev. Fr. Nirdosh Xalxo, NMSSS distributed 1,250 fruit saplings to 25 tribal households from the Gond and Oraon communities. Each family received 50 saplings of mango, orange, litchi, and sweet lime, promoting future nutritional security, ecological restoration, and livelihood diversification. The active participation of women highlighted their growing leadership in sustainable community development.

In sustainable agriculture, NMSSS trained over 150 farmers in organic farming, soil management, and eco-friendly pest control. Additionally, 12 farmers established vermicompost units with NMSSS support, improving soil health and reducing reliance on chemical inputs.

Livelihood development through dairy farming also progressed significantly. Through training in fodder cultivation, animal care, and hygienic milk production, 37 dairy farmers—especially women—enhanced their income opportunities. Mrs. Rekha Ukey of Murzadi stands out for successfully improving fodder quality, livestock management, and expanding her dairy business, contributing to her family's financial stability.

On 15<sup>th</sup> November 2025, NMSSS participated in the Jubilee Celebration of the Social Work Commission at St. Martin de Porres Church, organised under the leadership of Rev. Fr. Sameer Nagrare in collaboration with NASSA. Over 200 migrant workers attended sessions on government schemes, livelihoods, legal rights, and social welfare, with expert guidance from Mr. Hemant Waghmare, Mr. Shafi Quarz, Adv. Sr. Polly, and Fr. Phillop Topno.



Through these integrated efforts, NMSSS continues to promote social justice, environmental sustainability, and community empowerment, fostering healthier villages, stronger families, and a more hopeful and equitable future.





# A GLORIOUS 25 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATION 2025

**St. Peter's School, Bela, Bhandara**, celebrated its Grand Silver Jubilee with a magnificent two day programme held on 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> November 2025 with great enthusiasm, grandeur and a deep sense of gratitude at the school premises. The occasion marked 25 glorious years of dedicated service in nurturing young minds and shaping responsible citizens.

The event commenced with a warm and dignified welcome to the esteemed guests. On 29<sup>th</sup> November we were blessed with the chief guest Rev. Sr. Lilly, the pioneer, Rev. Fr. Jayeprakash, the Secretary of Archdiocesan Board of Education, Shri. Niles More, the Additional SP and Dr. Shumaila Khan, the Alumna. Our tiny tots performed enthusiastically and exhibited their talents with zeal. On 30<sup>th</sup> November the program was graced by Most Rev. Dr Elias Gonsalves, the Archbishop of Nagpur Archdiocese along with Rev. Sr. Mary Thomas, the Pioneer, Mrs Manisha Gajbhiye, the DEO, Mrs. Anjali Kumar, the Alumna. The celebration began by lighting of the ceremonial lamp, symbolizing wisdom and hope followed by a prayer dance.

The Manager of the school, Rev.Fr.Dr. Joseph Polishetty extended a warm welcome to the gathering. The Principal, Rev. Sr. Regina along with the Head Girl Miss. Janki Tichkule and team presented the Annual Report highlighting the schools accomplishments in academics, sports, cultural achievements and innovative initiatives undertaken during the year. A special Silver Jubilee Magazine 'Aurora' was released, marking the milestone year. The cultural extravaganza that followed captivated the audience. Students presented an array of vibrant performances including the special attraction of the day "From Scroll to Soul: Awakening the Digital Generation" , a thought-provoking skit cum dance, a silver jubilee song theme dance and many more colorful cultural presentations.

Outstanding students were honored with trophies for their excellence in academics and sports. The pioneers, former Principals, former Manager, dedicated non- teaching staff were also felicitated for their selfless service and visionary leadership. The Chief Guest, Most Rev.Dr.Elias Gonsalves, in his inspiring address, congratulated the school on completing 25 vibrant years and encouraged students to pursue excellence with humility and determination. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks and the National Anthem, leaving everyone with a sense of pride and gratitude. The Silver Jubilee 2025 of St. Peter's School was indeed a memorable and historic event that celebrated not just an anniversary, but a legacy of excellence.





## TWO-DAY SEMINAR ON ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY AND COMPUTER APPLICATIONS

A two-day seminar on *Advanced Technology – Computer and Its Applications* was recently conducted at Jeevoday College of Special Education (IDD) for the D.Ed trainees. The programme was led by Rev. Fr. Wilson Abraham, whose profound knowledge and interactive approach created a vibrant learning environment for all participants.

The sessions explored a wide range of topics, including digital tools, emerging technologies, and their practical utility in teaching and learning, particularly within the context of special education. Fr. Wilson's clear explanations, real-life examples, and hands-on demonstrations enabled trainees to understand and appreciate the growing role of technology in inclusive classrooms. This seminar proved to be a valuable academic enrichment opportunity, broadening the trainees' perspectives and strengthening their digital competence. The college gratefully acknowledges Rev. Fr. Wilson Abraham for his dedicated efforts and for inspiring the future educators to embrace technological advancement in education.



## ST. ANN'S E.M SCHOOL, KHAPERKEDA, NAGPUR INCLUSIVE CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

St. Ann's School, Khaperkeda, hosted a heart-warming Inclusive Children's Day celebration on 14th November, welcoming children from Jeevoday Special School for the Intellectually Challenged. The event brought together children with intellectual disabilities and their peers from mainstream classes, promoting understanding, acceptance, and joyful collaboration among all students.

The celebration began with a welcoming ceremony in the presence of Fr. Linto Peter, Dean of Kamptee Deanery, along with Fr. Jomise Joy, Fr. Liju Anthony, Fr. Sanjeev, and Sisters from the Jeevoday Community. A colourful cultural programme followed, where children from both groups performed dances, songs, and skits together. Teachers and volunteers ensured every child felt supported, creating an atmosphere of unity and excitement.

A special highlight was the "Lucky Child Programme," symbolizing that every child is valued and deserving of celebration. The programme concluded with a message by Fr. Linto Peter on equality, compassion, and inclusive education. Refreshments were served, leaving the children with joyful memories and reinforcing the school's commitment to inclusivity.





# ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCHOOL, LUGHARWADA, SEONI ANNUAL SPORTS MEET REPORT – 2025-26

The Annual Sports Meet 2025-26 of St. Francis of Assisi School, Lugharwada, Seoni, held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2025, was celebrated with tremendous enthusiasm, vibrant house spirit, and disciplined participation. The school ground transformed into a colourful arena, reflecting the energy of the four houses-Blue, Red, Green, and Yellow as they competed with zeal and sportsmanship.

The event was graced by the presence of the Manager, Rev. Fr. Vikas Joseph, and the Principal, Rev. Sr. Jainy Mathew, whose encouragement added inspiration and dignity to the occasion. The Sports Meet’s success was ensured by the dedicated efforts of the Staff Secretaries—Pratima Behera, Shekhar Kumar Choudhary, and Sheeba Dennis—and the Sports Committee members—Shekhar Kumar Choudhary, Firoz Khan, and Ashwini Rajput—whose planning and coordination led to the smooth and grand conduct of the event.

A tribute is due to the school leadership for their inspiring guidance and presence. The school is deeply grateful to the Manager, Rev. Fr. Vikas Joseph, whose visionary leadership and emphasis on values, discipline, and holistic development continue to shape students into confident and responsible individuals; his motivating words inspired enthusiasm, courage, and fairness among the participants. Under the dynamic and compassionate leadership of the Principal, Rev. Sr. Jainy Mathew, the school has excelled in academics and co-curricular activities alike, and her belief in nurturing every child’s potential, along with her constant support, made the Sports Meet well-organised, meaningful, and memorable, encouraging students to give their best on the field.

## Highlights of the Event

- Guard of Honour ■ Lighting of the Lamp ■ Welcome Song
- Welcome Speech & Felicitation ■ Ceremonial Unveiling of the Rolling Trophies
- Olympic Torch - Lighting of the Sports Torch ■ March Past ■ Kabaddi Middle
- Dodge Ball - Primary (Girls) ■ Special Individual Event - Best Runner
- Aerobic Dance - Combined Houses ■ Address by the Chief Guest ■ Track Events (1-5)
- House Dance Event - Blue & Red House ■ Prize Distribution - Round 2
- Track Events (6-12) ■ House Dance Event - Green & Yellow House
- Prize Distribution - Round 3 ■ Taekwondo Martial Arts Demonstration
- Excellence Achievers - Prize Distribution ■ Address by PTA Members
- Closing Ceremony ■ Vote of Thanks ■ Result Announcement ■ National Anthem





# ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCHOOL, LUGHARWADA, SEONI CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATION REPORT - 2025

Children's Day on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at St. Francis of Assisi School, Lugharwada, Seoni was celebrated with immense joy, warmth, and enthusiasm. The entire campus was filled with bright smiles, cheerful energy, and happiness as teachers came together to honour the stars of the institution—the children. The programme began with a heartfelt welcome, followed by a beautiful Prayer Song invoking God's blessings for every child, which created a serene and joyful atmosphere and set the perfect tone for the celebration. The occasion was graced by the esteemed presence of our Manager, Rev. Fr. Vikas Joseph, whose constant guidance, encouragement, and deep love for children added inspiration and dignity to the event.

Following the prayer, our beloved Principal, Rev. Sr. Jainy Mathew, addressed the students with an inspiring message of hope, joy, and self-belief, reminding them that each child is unique, gifted, and capable of achieving greatness. Her affectionate and motivating words deeply touched the young hearts and encouraged them to dream big and shine brightly. The programme was smoothly and beautifully coordinated under the leadership of the Staff Secretaries—Pratima Behera, Shekhar Kumar Choudhary, and Sheeba Dennis—whose dedicated teamwork ensured a vibrant, well-organized, and meaningful celebration for all.

The celebration continued with delightful performances by the teachers, which filled the hall with joy and excitement. The Primary Wing Teachers won hearts with their cute presentation, Rev. Fr. Ajay's soulful song filled the atmosphere with warmth and serenity, the Middle Section Teachers entertained the students with a lively and humorous act, and the Senior Section Teachers impressed everyone with a powerful performance showcasing their hidden talents. The energetic performance by the Male Teachers added enthusiasm and cheer, making the day truly memorable. The event was made successful through the cooperation of teachers, non-teaching staff, and volunteers working under the supervision of the Principal. The celebration concluded with the National Anthem, marking the end of a joyful day dedicated to the children. Children's Day 2025 at St. Francis of Assisi School was not just a celebration but a heartfelt message of love, hope, and encouragement for every child to grow, dream, and shine.





# SFS COLLEGE, SEMINARY HILLS, NAGPUR

St. Francis De Sales College, Seminary Hills, Nagpur, continued its strong commitment to social justice, community development, and value-based education through a series of meaningful outreach programs conducted between September and November 2025. These initiatives aimed at creating awareness, empowering communities, and fostering a culture of responsibility and compassion among students.

## 1. Road Safety Awareness Campaigns

As part of the college's social responsibility mission, SFS College students performed engaging and educational road safety skits at multiple locations, including Surendragarh Hindi Madhyamik Shala, SFS School of Excellence, Walmikinagar Hindi High School, and the Agrovision 2025 Exhibition. A team of 13 students, under the guidance of Prof. Susan John, highlighted essential road safety practices, dangers of distracted driving, the importance of helmets and seatbelts, and safe road behaviour. These performances left a strong impact on schoolchildren, farmers, and visitors, receiving appreciation from school authorities and event organizers alike.

## 2. Good Touch–Bad Touch Awareness Lectures

To promote child safety and personal dignity, SFS College students conducted interactive sessions on “Good Touch and Bad Touch” in collaboration with partner schools. These sessions empowered primary students with the knowledge to protect themselves, understand boundaries, and seek help when unsafe. The initiative strengthened awareness on consent and personal safety; an important aspect of social development.

## 3. Anti-Drug Awareness Short Film

A talented team of SFS College students produced a powerful short film on drug addiction, portraying the struggles of a young boy and his journey toward recovery with the support of a teacher. The film educated youth on the impact of substance abuse and encouraged a drug-free lifestyle. This initiative, appreciated by staff and students, promoted mental health awareness, responsible decision-making, and social responsibility.

## 4. “Joy of Giving” – Donation Drive

The Women Cell of the college organized a large-scale donation program titled Joy of Giving on October 11, 2025. Students and staff generously contributed grocery items, clothes, bedsheets, and hygiene essentials, which were distributed at Shanti Bhavan, Katol Chowk. The drive, guided by Prof. Nikhat Naqvi and Dr. Shireen Iqbal, instilled compassion and the spirit of service among students, reminding them that “happiness grows when shared.”

Through these diverse initiatives, SFS College strengthened its mission of forming socially conscious, empathetic, and responsible citizens. Each activity reflected the core values of justice, human dignity, community upliftment, and service - perfectly resonating with the theme Social Justice & Development.





# S.F.S. HIGH SCHOOL & JUNIOR COLLEGE



**Inter School Drawing Competition**



**First Friday Mass by Class VII**



**Inter-House Quiz Competition**



**Diwali Assembly by Class X C**



**Awareness on Cleanliness**



**Weekly Assembly by Class VII**



**Nukkad Natak by Eco Club**



**Sports Week**



**Victory Vibes**



**Retreat for Catholic Students**



# REPORT ON SOCIAL JUSTICE & DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES ST. ANTHONY'S HIGH SCHOOL, AJNI

St. Anthony's High School, Ajni, under the Archdiocese of Nagpur, organized a variety of academic, co-curricular, cultural, and value-based activities from September to November 2025, focusing on holistic development, leadership formation, social justice, and community awareness. The period began with a Memorial Prayer Service for a young victim of violence, creating awareness about justice, women's safety, and human dignity. Teachers' Day was celebrated with prayer, lamp lighting, symbolic blessing, and tributes to Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan and Mother Teresa, highlighting the nobility of the teaching profession. An Essay and Drawing Competition was also conducted on the occasion of the 75th birthday of Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi as directed by the Education Department.

Student well-being and participation were strengthened through a Mental Health Awareness Programme conducted by Sahyadri Gramin Vikas Bahuddeshiya Sanstha, focusing on emotional health, responsible social media use, and seeking guidance from parents and teachers. Students actively participated in inter-school competitions, achieving notable success, including a First Prize in drawing at St. John CBSE School. Children's Day was celebrated joyfully with prayers, felicitation of academic achievers, cultural performances by teachers, games, gifts, and a special Mid-Day Meal, making students feel valued and encouraged.

Special emphasis was given to constitutional values, child protection, leadership, and scientific temperament. A Safeguarding Training on the POCSO Act was conducted by Sr. Pushpa Louis, CEIN, for staff and school stakeholders. Constitution Day was observed with assemblies, quizzes, competitions, skits, and participation in inter-school singing, quiz, and drawing competitions, earning the Audience Choice Award. Leadership talks highlighted national and social reformers, while science initiatives included participation in the Vikshit Bharat Buildathon and success in the Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan examination. Through these initiatives, the school continues its mission of nurturing responsible, value-driven, and socially conscious students.



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# INFANT JESUS ENGLISH MEDIUM SCHOOL, WADI.

## Nutrition Day

On the occasion of Nutrition Week, the Science Club successfully observed September 3<sup>rd</sup> as Nutrition Day, organizing interactive activities to promote healthy eating habits among students. Students from Classes 1 to 8 participated enthusiastically in sandwich making and salad & fruit decoration competitions, cultivating awareness about the significance of nutritious food in their daily lives. The initiative underscored the school's dedication to student well-being, making it a notable success.

## Teachers' Day

A very heartwarming Teachers' Day celebration was held on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2025, showcasing students' appreciation and respect for our dedicated teachers. The event was made memorable with their wonderful performances, followed by a thoughtful gift and lunch arrangement by the school management.

## International Competition

Our students recently participated in the "Artisans of Peace Contest", an international competition organized by Planet Fraternity. The event aimed to promote peace, creativity and cultural exchange among students worldwide. We await the results and look forward to the opportunity to showcase our students' talents on a global platform.

## District Level Competition

Our students shone bright at the 4<sup>th</sup> District Level Karate Championship held on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2025. Master Kunj Mukesh Rangale bagged the gold medal, and Kumari Ahana Bangwal secured the silver medal.

## Inter School Competitions

On 9<sup>th</sup> September 2025, our students from 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> standard, participated in the Science Working Model, Mono Act and Collage Making competition held at St Joseph's Convent Multipurpose Hall, Sadar, Nagpur. Alan Kujur secured 2<sup>nd</sup> position in the Mono Act. The students' enthusiasm and participation were commendable.

The Inter School 8<sup>th</sup> Science Working Model Exhibition was held at Essence International School, Nagpur. We're proud to share that our class 8 students showcased their science model, representing our school with creativity and innovation.

"Psalms in Praise" choir singing competition was organized by S. F. S. School of Excellence. Our school choir group participated in the competition.



### **School level competition**

It sounds like it was a vibrant and engaging time at school to the students! Between September and November, the school organized a diverse range of competitions, including:

- Hindi and English Essay Writing,
- Fall Art and Craft Competition
- Extempore Speech,
- Proverb Illustration,
- Clay Modelling Competition and
- Handwriting Competition.

The winners were honoured with certificates and trophies during the school assembly.

### **Seminar**

A child psychology seminar was organized for class 8 students, featuring insightful sessions by Dr. Shreyanshi, Dr. Tanya Sharma, and Dr. Sophia Thode. The interactive seminar aimed to provide valuable insights into child development and mental well-being.

Regular counselling sessions are being conducted for classes 6-8, twice a month, ensuring our students receive ongoing support and guidance.

### **World Environmental Health Day**

On World Environmental Health Day, our school marked the occasion by planting saplings, promoting a healthy planet and well-being. Students and teachers came together on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2025 to participate in this meaningful initiative.

### **Children's Day**

Children's Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm at our school on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2025. The event saw active participation from teachers, who put up impressive performances. The highlight of the day was the distribution of awards to talented students, recognizing their hard work and achievements.

### **School Picnic**

The school organized picnics for various classes, providing students with enjoyable experiences. The outings were scheduled as follows:

- Classes 3-5: Fun Planet, Nagpur on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2025
- Classes 6-8: Fun Planet, Nagpur on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2025
- Pre-Primary, Classes 1 & 2 Bal Udyan Children's Park, Nagpur on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2025



# **ICYM NAGPUR REPORT - AUGUST TO NOVEMBER**

## **Article number 1. Raho Hopeful Program & Youth Day Celebration – Chhindwara Deanery**

**Date: 20/8/2025**

The Chhindwara Deanery marked Youth Day with the Raho Hopeful program, bringing together youth for an inspiring and meaningful gathering. Mr. Vivian Wasnik led a thoughtful session on Hope, encouraging the youth to stay positive, grounded, and motivated in their daily lives.

This was followed by an enlightening session on the Four Documents of the Church, presented by Sr. Angel Wangsu, MSMH. The session sought to equip the youth with a deeper understanding of the Church’s core teachings and its overarching vision.

The day concluded with fellowship and joyful interaction, leaving the participants enriched and encouraged to live their faith with renewed enthusiasm.



## **Article number 1. Raho Hopeful Program & Youth Day Celebration – Chhindwara Deanery**

**Date: 20/8/2025**

The ICYM DEXCO team visited St. John Paul II Church, Hazaripahad, as part of the animation program in preparation for their upcoming elections. The purpose of the visit was to meet the parish youth, interact with them, and strengthen their understanding of ICYM movement.

During the session, we introduced the youth to the structure of ICYM and explained its roles, responsibilities, and functioning at various level.

The visit helped build confidence and enthusiasm among the youth as they prepare to take on active roles in the election process.



## **Article number 3. “Power to Lead” – Leadership Training Program**

**Venue: SFS School Hall | Date: 28.09.2025**

ICYM Nagpur conducted a one-day leadership training program titled “Power to Lead” at St. Francis de Sales School Hall, with around 110 youth representatives from Nagpur, Ajni, and Kamptee deaneries.

The program began with an introduction, action songs, and prayer. Rev. Fr. Augustine Antony Dsilva led an engaging session on effective communication, positivity, patience, and leadership in the Church and society. This was followed by group discussion.



The training program empowered the youth to serve effectively within their parishes.

#### **Article number 4. National Youth Convention Retreat – “Witness”**

**Date: 1–5 October 2025 | Venue: Divine Retreat Centre, Kerala**

From 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> October 2025, Rev. Sr. Angel Wangsu MSMHC, along with 15 youth representatives from the Archdiocese of Nagpur, participated in the National Youth Convention Retreat at the Divine Retreat Centre, Potta, Kerala. Celebrating the Silver Jubilee of ICYM under the theme “Witness,” the convention brought together over 5,000 participants nationwide and offered a profound experience of spiritual renewal, faith formation, and renewed commitment to the Church’s mission, inspiring youth to live as authentic witnesses of Christ in their daily lives and communities.



#### **Article number 5. Fellowship with Jabalpur Youth**

**Date: 6 October 2025**

The youth of the Nagpur Archdiocese spent a meaningful day of fellowship with the youth of the Jabalpur Diocese, accompanied by Fr. Pradeep, Youth Director, and Fr. Ravindra, Assistant Youth Director. The day began with a visit to Lourdes Mata Mandir, Seminary Hills, fostering a prayerful atmosphere, followed by a lively fellowship program at the SFS Cathedral Parish Hall where the youth bonded and strengthened friendships. The joyful gathering deepened unity and encouraged continued collaboration between the two dioceses.



#### **Article number 6. Parish visit to St. Pius X church, Mankapur**

**Date: 15/11/25**

The ICYM Nagpur DEXCO team visited St. Pius X Church, Mankapur, for an interactive fellowship with the parish youth. The programme began with a warm welcome and an introduction explaining the purpose of the visit, followed by a presentation on the structure and functioning of ICYM at the diocesan level. The simple and participative session enabled meaningful dialogue, strengthened connections, and encouraged greater youth involvement in diocesan initiatives, making the visit a fruitful and lively encounter.



#### **Article number 7. Parish Visit to Jaitala**

**Date: 29 October 2025**

The ICYM Nagpur DEXCO team visited the youth of Jaitala Parish as part of its ongoing parish outreach program. The purpose of the visit was to interact with the youth, understand their activities, and explain the structure and functioning of ICYM at the diocesan level. The program included a brief introduction, an interactive explanation of ICYM's movement. The discussion gave the youth an opportunity to share their ideas and experiences. The visit strengthened the bond between the parish youth and the diocesan team.





## जुबली मीडिया फेस्टिवल 2025 ने नागपुर महाधर्मप्रांत में बिखेरी “आशा की किरणें”

नागपुर महाधर्मप्रांत मीडिया और कम्युनिकेशन (NAMCOM) ने ICYM नागपुर के सहयोग से “आशा की किरणें” (Rays of Hope) विषय पर आधारित जुबली मीडिया फेस्टिवल का आयोजन 12 अक्टूबर 2025 को हर्शोउलास से मनाया। इस आयोजन में महाधर्मप्रांत के विभिन्न मण्डलों, विद्यालयों और पल्लियों ने भाग लिया। सेमिनरी हिल्स स्थित सेंट चार्ल्स सेंटीनरी मेमोरियल ऑडिटोरियम इस अवसर पर रचनात्मकता और आशा का केंद्र बन गया, जब यह एक दिवसीय उत्सव उल्लास और प्रेरणा के वातावरण में संपन्न हुआ।

इस आयोजन का नेतृत्व NAMCOM निर्देशक फादर लियो पीटर, सह-निर्देशक फादर जोमिस जॉय, ICYM नागपुर के निर्देशक फादर ऑगस्टीन एंटनी डिसिल्वा तथा ICYM अनिमेटर Sr. Angel MSMHC ने किया। इस कार्यक्रम का उद्देश्य युवाओं और वयस्कों दोनों को मीडिया के माध्यम से आशा, शिक्षा और सामाजिक परिवर्तन का संदेश फैलाने के लिए सशक्त बनाना था। दिन की शुरुआत सुबह 10 बजे से 12:30 बजे तक एक सशक्त मीडिया कार्यशाला से हुई, जिसे अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्तर पर प्रशंसित फिल्म “The Face of the Faceless” के निर्देशक डॉ. शैसन पी. ऊसेफ ने संचालित किया। अपने सत्र में उन्होंने प्रतिभागियों को प्रेरित किया कि वे मीडिया कथानक को एक मिशन के रूप में अपनाएँ। उन्होंने यह भी बताया कि तकनीकी ज्ञान को आध्यात्मिक गहराई के साथ जोड़कर कैसे दर्शकों की आत्मा को छुआ जा सकता है।

फेस्टिवल के अंतर्गत Rays of Hope विषय पर, एक लघु फिल्म प्रतियोगिता आयोजित की गई, जिसमें नौ विद्यालयों, महाविद्यालयों और पल्लियों ने भाग लिया। सेंट जॉन पॉल द्वितीय, हजारिपहाड़ पैरिश ने प्रथम स्थान प्राप्त किया, जबकि सेंट फ्रांसिस डी सेल्स कैथेड्रल और सेंट फ्रांसिस डी सेल्स स्कूल, सदर ने क्रमशः दूसरा और तीसरा स्थान प्राप्त किया। सेंट विन्सेंट पलोड्री ने सर्वाधिक व्यूज और लाइक्स का पुरस्कार जीता। शीर्ष तीन फिल्मों का प्रदर्शन उत्साही दर्शकों के सामने किया गया तथा पुरस्कार वितरण डॉ. शैसन पी. ऊसेफ और फादर एक्विन नोरोन्हा (रेक्टर, सेंट चार्ल्स सेमिनरी) द्वारा किया गया।

“राइजिंग स्टार्स” नामक एक विशेष खंड में मीडिया क्षेत्र में उत्कृष्ट योगदान देने वाले नागपुर महाधर्मप्रांत के कैथोलिक प्रतिभाओं का सम्मान किया गया, जिन्होंने संगीत, डिजाइन, फोटोग्राफी, स्क्रिप्ट राइटिंग, कंटेंट राइटिंग और वीडियो निर्माण के क्षेत्र में उल्लेखनीय कार्य किया है। यह सम्मान इस बात का प्रतीक था कि चर्च अपने सदस्यों की रचनात्मक और संचार कौशल के विकास को कितना महत्व देता है। नागपुर महाधर्मप्रांत के आर्चबिशप इलायस गोंसाल्वेस ने The Face of the Faceless फिल्म के निर्देशक डॉ. शैसन पी. ऊसेफ, तथा अभिनेत्री सुश्री कौशिकी नाशिकर और सुश्री स्नेहलता सिद्धार्थ को सम्मानित किया। उन्होंने यथार्थ आधारित सिनेमा में उनके योगदान की सराहना की। इसके पश्चात महाधर्मप्रांत के पत्रकारों – श्री चार्ल्स साल्वे (PTI), श्री फ्रेडी अल्मेडा (Hitavada), श्री राजेश जायसवाल (TOI), श्री जेरोम एंटनी (CNBC) – सहित गायकों, नर्तकों, कलाकारों, आरजे, फिल्म निर्माताओं और संगीतकारों को भी श्रद्धांजलि दी गई।

फेस्टिवल का भावनात्मक और विषयगत केंद्रबिंदु डॉ. शैसन पी. ऊसेफ की फिल्म “Face of the Faceless” रही – जो सिस्टर रानी मारिया, एक फ्रांसिस्कन क्लैरिस्ट धर्मबहन के जीवन पर आधारित है। फिल्म में उनकी अटूट करुणा, साहस और क्षमा की भावना को सशक्त रूप से प्रस्तुत किया गया है। यह उनके गरीबों और वंचितों की सेवा, न्याय के प्रति उनके निडर संघर्ष और कठिनाइयों में उनकी दृढ़ता की कहानी कहती है। फिल्म यह दर्शाती है कि “इससे बड़ा प्रेम किसी का नहीं, कि वह अपने मित्रों के लिए अपना जीवन दे दे।” उनकी शहादत प्रेम और क्षमा की उस शक्ति की साक्षी है जो हिंसा से भी परे है। यह फिल्म न केवल उनकी विरासत को सम्मान देती है बल्कि दर्शकों को प्रेरित करती है कि वे भी सेवा, क्षमा और मानवता के मार्ग पर चलें। इस फिल्म ने दर्शकों पर गहरा प्रभाव छोड़ा, जिसने उन्हें अन्याय के विरुद्ध खड़े होने और करुणा अपनाने के लिए प्रेरित किया। बढ़ती उत्सुकता और अधिक श्रद्धालुओं को यह संदेश पहुंचाने के उद्देश्य से इसका दूसरा प्रदर्शन शाम 6:00 बजे आयोजित किया गया।



# FR. JEROME:

## *A True Shepherd's Legacy*

- **Suzannah Barse**

Born to loving parents, he was raised with tenderness and care,  
Growing up among his siblings in the warmth of God's gentle air.  
He was a cherished brother, a faithful companion true;  
Together they shared laughter and memories that forever glow.  
Blessed with a close-knit family and a heart pure and bright,  
Guided by loving parents, he radiated joy and love's warm light.

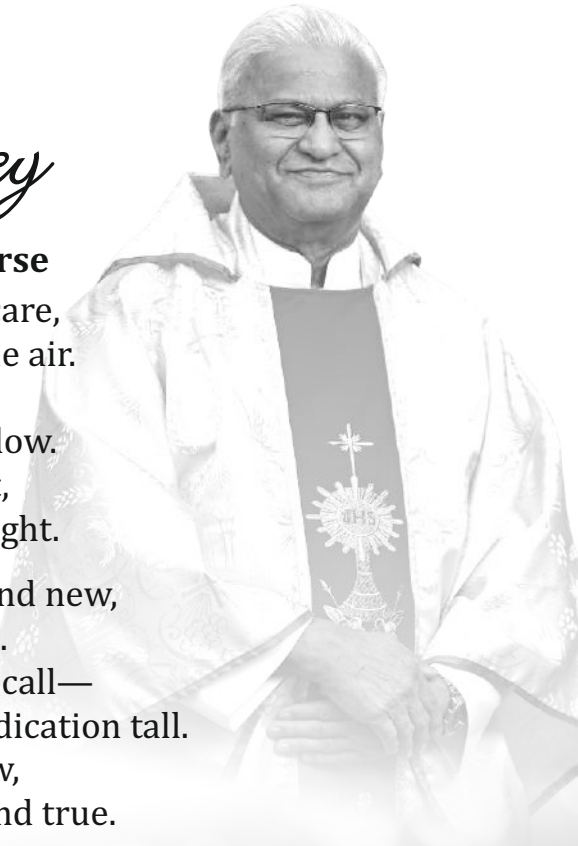
He came to Nagpur at a very young age, with a heart open and new,  
Studied at SFS School and College, where faith took root too.  
He joined the seminary in Pune, responding to God's gentle call—  
He became a priest, serving with devotion, humility, and dedication tall.  
With each passing year, his love for God and His people grew,  
A devoted shepherd guiding his flock with a heart sincere and true.

He welcomed children through the sacred waters of Baptism's grace,  
Bringing them into God's loving embrace.  
He prepared children for their First Holy Communion day,  
Teaching them about Jesus with gentleness along the way.  
He explained with clarity the role of the Eucharist so divine,  
Sharing with them God's boundless love—a treasure for all time.

With a patient heart, he listened as confessions were made,  
Guiding souls to truth with wisdom's calm shade.  
He explained what is right and what leads astray,  
Offering penance to heal, and grace to guide their way.  
He brought comfort and peace to those wandering or broken,  
A true shepherd whose counsel was a blessing spoken.

He visited the sick at any hour of the night,  
Carrying the Eucharist—the Lord's gentle light.  
Through hail and storm, he went with unwavering kindness,  
Administering the Last Rites with compassion's tender brightness.

At SFS Parish, at Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto,  
He prayed the Rosary daily with devotion's steady flow.  
After dinner, he often sat there silently, wrapped in prayer,  
Or visited the Adoration Chapel with reverence rare.  
Twice a day he would go there—to pray, praise, and adore,  
Finding solace in Jesus forevermore, with a heart faithful to the core.



Each year, he returned to Mumbai's familiar shore,  
Recharging his spirit with family and affection once more.  
His mother once asked him, "Why Nagpur, son, when Mumbai is near?  
There are many priests here; you could serve with comfort and cheer."  
He smiled and replied, "Mother, when you married Daddy,  
You didn't stay at your father's home—you went to Daddy's gladly.  
My heart is anchored in Nagpur; it is where I live and thrive.  
Nagpur is my home now—my mission, my joy, my life."

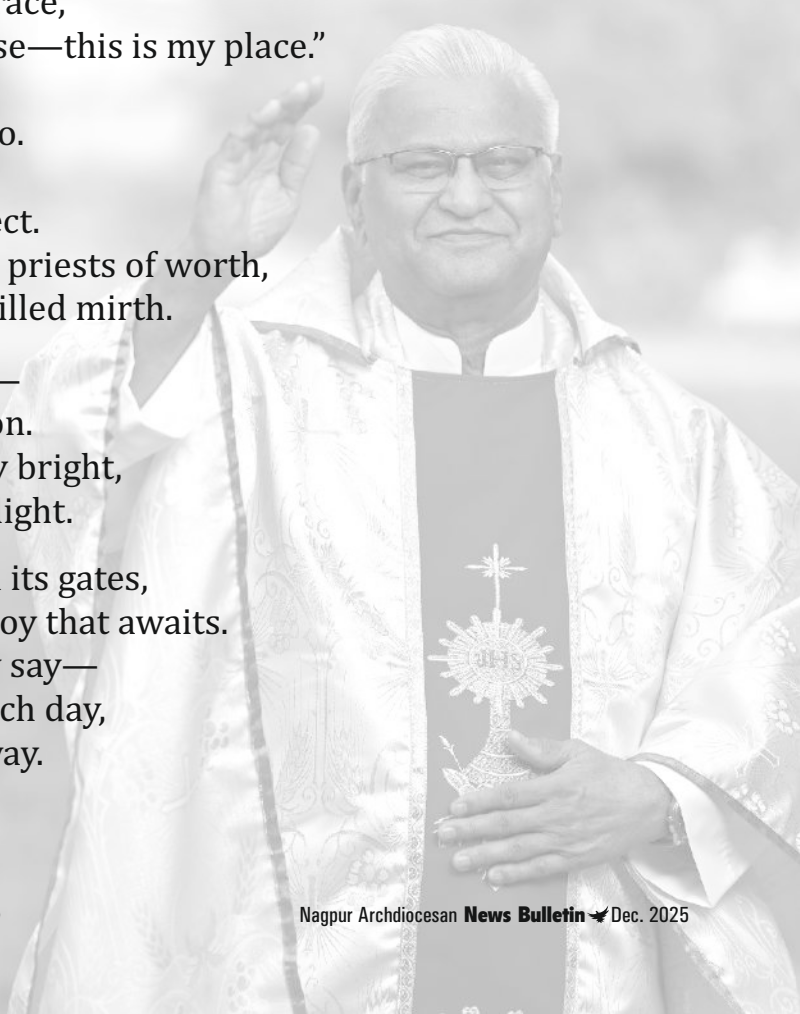
A loving son and brother, a devoted cousin, a cherished uncle dear,  
His family loved him deeply, with affection sincere.  
His nephews and nieces cared for him with tenderness that would never end,  
They came to Nagpur to bid him farewell—lovingly present till the very end.  
They comforted him with love and peace, gentle and kind,  
A bond of affection forever etched in heart and mind.

A shepherd's journey ends, yet his legacy remains—  
In Nagpur's heart, his love and labor sustain.  
Nearly six decades of service—a life poured out for God's name,  
Building churches, bridging hearts, igniting faith's flame.  
A renovator, a builder, a unifier true—  
Bringing people together with love ever new.

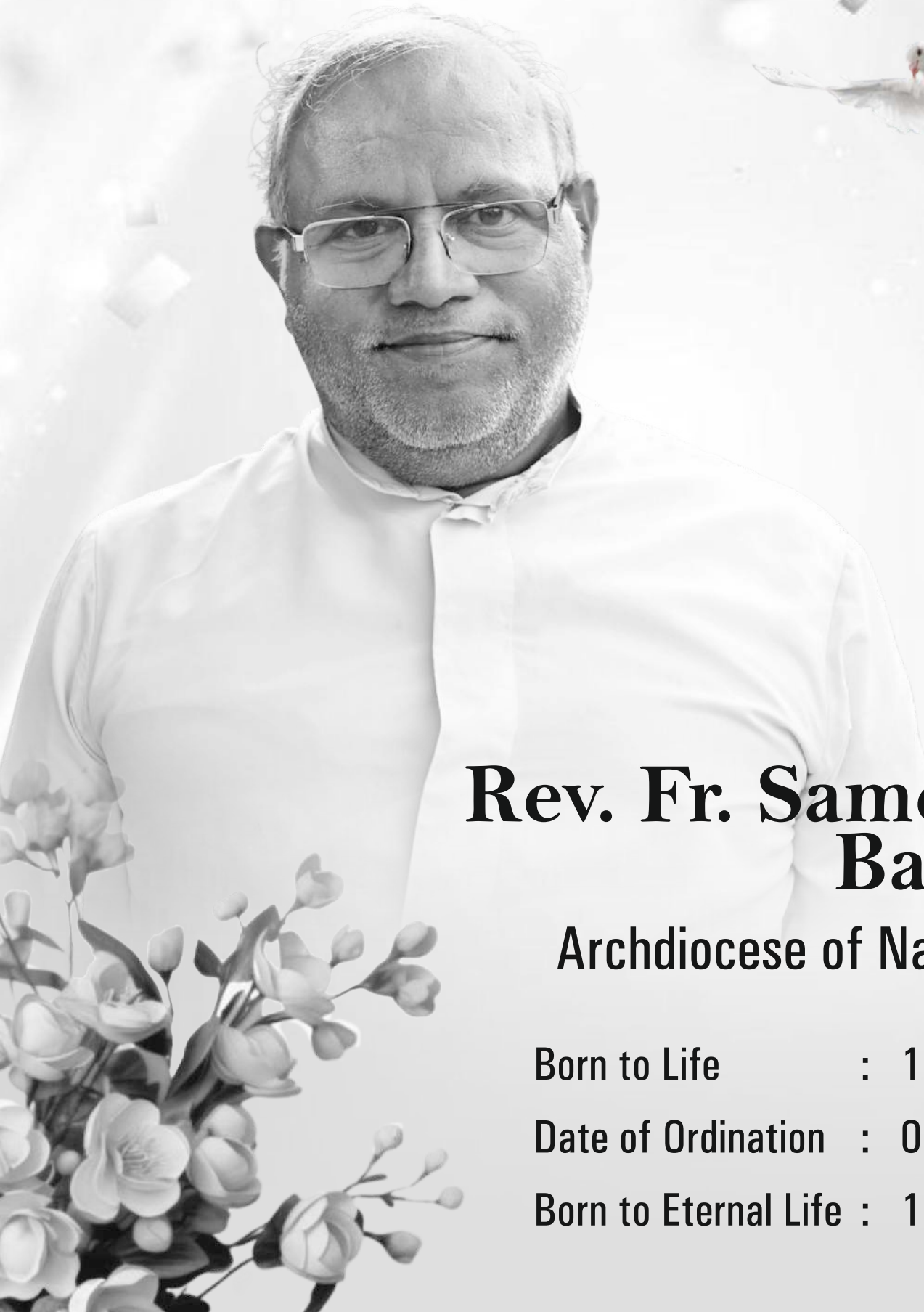
Celebrating 50 years of priestly service and grace,  
He said with conviction, "I love my Archdiocese—this is my place."  
What he spoke that day was sincere and true:  
Nagpur was his home, his haven, his family too.  
His brother priests held him in deep respect,  
A guiding light whose wisdom all could connect.  
He encouraged young seminarians to become priests of worth,  
Inspiring them with his gentle spirit and joy-filled mirth.

His life was a testament to love and devotion—  
A heart surrendered fully to God's holy mission.  
May he rest in eternal peace, crowned in glory bright,  
A faithful servant shining forever in heaven's light.

Heaven grew richer that day when he entered its gates,  
Surely angels and saints welcomed him with joy that awaits.  
"You will always be in our hearts," we lovingly say—  
May your example guide us on our journey each day,  
With a love that is true and will never fade away.



*Rest In Peace*



**Rev. Fr. Sameer  
Baptist**

**Archdiocese of Nagpur**

**Born to Life : 11-04-1961**

**Date of Ordination : 06-04-1988**

**Born to Eternal Life : 12-12-2025**



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