Merry Christmas

Year of Mercy, Dec. 8, 2015 – Nov. 20, 2016

Happy New Year
Priestly Ordinations 2015

DEACON JOHN NCHUMBEMO KIKON,
Salesian of Don Bosco
Date of Ordination:
Sunday, 13th December, 2015
Venue: St. Paul Church, Wokha
Time: 10.00 am
Contact No: +91-8732815301

DEACON VICTOR RENTHUNGO,
Diocese of Kohima
Date of Ordination:
Wednesday, 30th December, 2015
Venue: Sacred Heart Church, Bhandari
Time: 10.00 am
Contact No: +91-9089939810

Bishop James Thoppil with Shri TR Zeliang, Chief Minister, Nagaland,
on the ocassion of Golden Jubilee Celebration of ASHSS, Peren, 21.11.15

North Eastern Regional Youth Leaders' Meet at Mt. Tabor, Kohima, 22.11.15
Message from the Shepherd

Dear Friends,

We are already in the season of Advent, marking the beginning of the new liturgical and entering into the threshold of new calendar Year 2016. I take this opportunity to wish each and every reader of “Sharing” a very happy and joy-filled Christmas and a grace-filled New Year 2016. I also would like to thank each of you for your committed Catholic and Christian life and for the support – spiritual, moral, physical and material - to the diocese, to our priests and sisters in the parishes and centres, to me personally and to each other. Thank you and may God continue to bless you.

The Year 2015 has been remarkable for two important events that will leave an indelible mark in the coming year 2016. The first is the publication of the Pope Francis’ encyclical, ‘Laudato Si’ focused on the idea of “integral ecology,” connecting care of the natural world with justice for the poorest and the most vulnerable people. “Only by radically reshaping our relationships with God, with our neighbours and with the natural world”, the Pope says, “Can we hope to tackle the threats facing our planet today”. "Science”, he insists, “Is the best tool by which we can listen to the cry of the earth, while dialogue and education are the two keys that can “help us to escape the spiral of self-destruction which currently engulfs us.”

At the heart of the Pope’s reflections is the question: “What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?” The answers he suggests call for profound changes to political, economic, cultural and social systems, as well as to our individual lifestyles. Let us hope that all of us give heed to the clarion call of the Pope for a change in our attitude, action and lifestyle that will bring about equity and equality, caring for the nature and the poorest and the weaker sections.

The second remarkable event is the publication of Misericordiae Vultus, Bull of Indiction of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy which will begin on December 8th, 2015, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and will conclude on November 20th, 2016, Solemnity of Christ the King. It is to take place on the 50th anniversary of the closing of the Second Vatican Council in 1965.

The Catholic Church started the custom of proclaiming Jubilee years from the 15th century. The Jubilee year was proclaimed every 33 years in the beginning. Later it began to be proclaimed every 25 years. More recently we have seen that the Popes have proclaimed such Jubilee Years more frequently. A Jubilee year is proclaimed by the Pope to invite people to repentance and conversion. As a sign of their conversion and coming to Christ they are invited to visit a Cathedral, a Church or a Shrine designated for that purpose in the diocese. Every such Church set apart one of its doors as a ‘Holy Door’ and it is opened solemnly at the beginning of the Jubilee year and closed at the end of the Jubilee Year. The faithful walk through this door into the Church as a sign
of their repentance. Many pilgrims travel to Rome to walk through the ‘Holy Door’ of the four Basilicas. Walking through the ‘Holy Door’ is not a superstitious practice which automatically guarantees forgiveness or divine grace by the mere act of passing through a particular door. This walking through has to be accompanied by an inner disposition to conversion and change of life. Walking through the door is symbolic. Pilgrims walk through the door as a gesture of leaving the past behind and crossing the threshold from sin to grace, from slavery to freedom, and from darkness to light.

The symbol of ‘door’ finds meaning only when the believer associates the door with Christ. Jesus is the door. John’s Gospel clearly depicts this relationship between Jesus and us. “In truth I Jesus declared, I am the door of the sheepfold. All who have come before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep took no notice of them. I am the door. Anyone who enters through me will be safe: such a one will go in and out and will find pasture.” Jn 10:7-9. St. John Paul II tells us: “to focus on the door is to recall the responsibility of every believer to cross its threshold. To pass through that door means to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord; it is to strengthen faith in him in order to live the new life he has given us.” (St. John Paul II, Incarnationis Mysterium, 8, in the year 2000).

In our diocese we shall inaugurate this Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy on 13th December at St. Paul’s Church, Wokha, since I will be there on that day celebrating the golden jubilee of the parish and ordaining Deacon John Nchumbemo Kikon, by opening ceremonially the Holy Door of St. Paul’s Parish Church, Wokha. Along with St. Paul’s Church Wokha, four more churches in our diocese have been officially declared as centres of pilgrimage during this year of mercy, namely – Mary Help of Christians Cathedral, Kohima; St. Xavier’s Church, Jalukie; St. Peter’s Church, Kiphire and Holy Cross Church, Dimapur. You are invited to visit any of these Churches and walk through the Holy Door to experience the Mercy of God. Let us remember that this walking through the Holy Door is not a magical act. It symbolizes our faith in Christ Jesus who said “I am the door”. It represents our commitment to leave sin behind in order to embrace a life that is fully in keeping with the teachings of Christ. Participation in Holy Mass and reception of Holy Communion is also part of this spiritual exercise of the Jubilee Year along with prayer for the intention of the Holy Father, by which one can gain plenary indulgences. During this year we are encouraged to bring about a “mercy revolution” by undertaking daily almsgiving, caring for the needy and forgiving as a way to meaningfully observe the Year of Mercy called by Pope Francis.

Thus the Year 2016 is a crucial year for all of us to live a more pro-active life to defend and foster nature and to live in total submission to God’s mercy – receiving mercy from God and living our lives as persons of mercy. I believe that in Nagaland this call of the Holy Father to experience and give mercy and thus to forgive and be reconciled to one another take particular importance since we are all searching for peace and collective solution to our problems. May we take heed to this invitation of our Pope to live our lives in the coming year and make it a source of blessing to us today and to the coming generation in the days to come.

Most Rev. Dr. James Thoppil
Bishop of Kohima
Dear Readers,

As the year 2015 fades into eternity, the thoughts that run through my mind are of the people who have supported the regular publication of “Sharing”, the news letter and window of the diocese. Like the stars in the galaxy, I am indebted to numerous persons for their contribution, to all those who have contributed in small and big ways in the publication of the ‘Sharing’, by giving news and articles or monetary and physical assistance, I say a big thank you. Success of today is your Yesterday’s contributions and more success depends upon your tomorrow’s contribution. I will continue to rely on your continual support.

Christmas is at our door step. Friends, two thousand years ago on the world’s canvas, a tiny baby was born into a grim and dark world. The baby in the manger is the light of the world. When we gear towards the celebration of Christmas, we are given time to think of God’s greatest story of love towards humanity. The story of the birth of Jesus tells us that even when our world is in shambles, this Divine child stands as the sign and symbol of hope. Today, we are living in a time of intolerance, hatred, suspicion and there is fear all around. In these moments, Christmas is the living promise that we are never ever alone. No matter where we are in life, no matter in what condition we find ourselves, no matter how far we might go astray, or how unfaithful we are, God, the supreme lover, will pursue us in love for eternity! More than anything, God’s love manifested at Christmas never stops loving and caring. It is a light that continously invites men to come into the warmth of God’s grace and find peace, and hope, and love.

Holy Father Pope Francis’ announcement of the ‘Holy Year of Mercy’, beginning on December 8th, 2015 and ending on November 20th, 2016, is another epoch making event in these troubled times. We might wonder why this extraordinary Year of Mercy. The Year of Mercy is an invitation - an invitation to love and to be kind with unbounded generosity. His Holiness is offering us the opportunity to encounter the incredible mercy of God, manifested and shared in His Son Jesus Christ. Encountering mercy means encountering God. It can transform our life, our relationships, our work, and our ability to embrace and experience all of life. Let each of us be channels of the Mercy of God. Let us spend a few minutes every day praying the prayer for the Year of Mercy, and storm the heaven to assist us.

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him. Show us your face and we will be saved. Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money; the adulteress Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things; made Peter weep after his betrayal, and assured Paradise to the repentant thief.
Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman:
“If you knew the gift of God!”
You are the visible face of the invisible Father,
of God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy:
let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified.
You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness
in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error:
let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God.
Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing,
so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord,
and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor,
proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed,
and restore sight to the blind.
We ask this through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy,

I wish all the readers,
a Very Happy Christmas
and a Blessed and Prosperous New Year, 2016!

Happiness depends upon your outlook on life - Find the good in all situations
Attitude is just as important as ability - Keep your attitude positive
Passion find yours this year! - Do what you love and you will never work
Positive thoughts make everything easier - Stay focused and stay positive
You are unique, with special gifts, use them - Never forget you have talent

New beginnings with a new year.
Enthusiasm a true secret of success.
Wishes may they turn into goals.

Years go by to quickly, enjoy them - Wisdom from your elders, listen
Energy may you have lots of it - Take care of yourself
Appreciation of life, don’t take it for granted - Live each day
Relax take the time to relax in this coming year - Keep a balance in your life
**BISHOP’S PROGRAMME**
**DECEMBER 2015 - JANUARY 2016**

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<td>Songlhuh Church</td>
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<td>22 Dimapur</td>
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<td>24 Wokha – NCWAConvention,</td>
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<td>of Fr. N. A. George</td>
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Bishop James made his pastoral visit at St. Peter’s Parish at Longsa from 29th-30th November, 2105. The community welcomed bishop with escort in the traditional attire from the outside of the village and whole Catholic community lined up singing to receive the bishop. Bishop in his introduction said that with this pastoral visit he completes one round of visits to all the parishes and catholic villages. In his homily, based on the reading of the First Sunday of advent, the bishop exhorted the community to be vigilant in un expectation to meet the Lord who comes in expectedly in different and varied ways. For a Christian the coming of the Lord is a vindication of their faith and fulfillment of their hope. As Catholics, therefore, they must strive to do their best and bring about changes in the society.

The Bishop also lauded Fr. Mathew Rhanben and Ursaline Franciscan sisters for their yeomen service in pioneering the mission and urged the community to collaborate with them more earnestly. During the felicitation program he urged the community to inculcate family prayer and moral values in the children and live in honesty and truthfulness. Bishop also met the parish pastoral council (PPC) and explained the composition, nature and functions of PPC and also about the why and how of the tithe collection in the Church. Bishop also visited the houses of Bro. Stephen Chumchithung, Srs. Gloria Ezung, Teresa Arhoni, Martha Chumchano and Deacon Lucas Mhonchan and prayed for the family members. On Monday, 30th November, the Bishop celebrated the Holy Mass at Lotsu Yanthung village with four Catholic families and visited the lone Catholic family at Saki village.

- Fr. Mathew Rhanben

Bishop made his maiden visit to St. Clare, Centre, Akuluto on 22nd -23rd of November, 2015. Bishop celebrated the Holy Mass with the community on Sunday, the feast of Christ the King. 28 faithful received the sacrament of Confirmation and 4 children received the first Holy Communion. Bishop in his homily spoke on 4 marks of the Church. Bishop after the mass lauded Frs. Cyril, Royston and Stephen for the marvelous work they are rendering to the community. Their service as missionaries is the big sacrifice for the community of Akuluto. They do just because they love God and the people of God. Bishop urged the Community to collaborate in their mission. Bishop also laid the foundation stone of the new building of the Church. Bishop met the community and listened to their struggles and assured them of his prayerful support and recommended the community to live the life in values and as true Christians.

-Fr. Royston Cap OFM

Christ King Church (CKC) Kohima Village celebrated Christ the King feast on November 22nd, 2015. The celebration was presided over by the Parish Priest, Christ King Church, Kohima, Fr. Peter Salew, SDB, and concelebrated by Priests from Don Bosco Higher Secondary School, Kohima and priests of Christ King Church. On the occasion 51 children received the Sacrament of First Holy
Diocese of Kohima Assures Prayers for Mr. Isak Chishi Swu

Most Rev. Dr. James Thoppil, the Bishop of Kohima, in a statement assured Mrs. Eustar Chishi Swu, the prayers of the Catholic Church in Nagaland for the speedy recovery for Shri Isak Chishi Swu. Today, before the commencement of the meeting of the Diocesan Consultants, held at the Bishop’s House, Kohima, the members remembered and prayed for the ailing leader and requested the whole Church to continue to pray, recalling the words of St. James, “Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the Church, and let them pray for him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven...The prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effect” (James 5:14-16). As the Church begins the season of Advent on next Sunday in preparation for the great feast of Christmas, the Consultants assured the family members, the Catholic Church’s prayers daily for the speedy recovery and healing.

- Correspondent

Diocese of Kohima Offers Condolences to Lt. Khekiho Zhimomi

The Consultants also expressed profound shock and sorrow at the sudden demise of Shri Khekiho Zhimomi, the sitting Rajya Sabha member from Nagaland and offered prayerful condolences to the bereaving family members. The bishop said that the unexpected death of a leader is an irreparable loss to the community. In such situations it is our faith that gives assurance to us, for we know that the “souls of the just are in the hands of God. For old age is not honoured for length of times, nor measured by number of years; but understanding is grey hair for men, and a blameless life is ripe old age” (Wisdom 4: 7-9). The Church remembers with gratitude the yeomen service Khekiho Zhimomi rendered for the people of Nagaland.

- Correspondent

SFXC, Kidima Observes ‘Christ The King’ Feast

St Francis Xavier’s Church (SFXC), Kidima with rest of the world observed the Feast of “Christ the King of the Universe” with Fr. Thomas Muttathil Parish priest, Kidima, as the main celebrant on November 22nd at church premises.

Fr. Muttathil in his homily said that the church was inviting the faithful people to accept Jesus Christ as the King of the Universe. He highlighted the life of Jesus’ struggle for peoples’ salvation with his crucifixion. He said human beings speak out abusive words and curse to others when faced with difficulties in life.

He challenged the people to follow the example of Apostle Peter who left everything behind to follow Jesus while Judas Iscariot betrayed Jesus due to craze for money. Father urged for greater glory of God by being good to one another as dignified Christians.

Eucharistic celebration, thanksgiving for the good harvest of the year, blessing the faithful people with the holy water followed by felicitation were the highlights of the daylong celebration of the liturgical feast. Franciscan Sisters of Saint Mary of the Angels and different faithful joined the celebration.

- Nagaland Post 23/11/15

BAMS, Phek Organized Fete Day

Bishop Abraham Memorial School (BAMS) Phek organized “fete day” on November 7th with Mr. P. Chisapa Chisonyi as the Chief Guest. In his speech he lauded Kuzholuzo Nienu for cutting the road to the new BAMS Phek, while thanking the school authority for the concern they have for the welfare of the students and public in general. He also appealed to the public and parents of the students present to be generous to extend
monetary contributions to enable and provide good approach road to the school.

The programme began with a prayer led by Rev. Sr. Marina and welcome and introduction pronounced by the Principal, Rev. Fr. Patrick Neikalo. In his introductory speech he briefed the purpose of the fete day, which was to raise fund for the maintenance of road from new colony junction to BAMS, Phek.  - Sr. Marina Adaphro

ASHSS, Peren Celebrated Golden Jubilee

All Saints Hr. Sec. School (ASHSS), Peren celebrated its Golden Jubilee on November 21st, 2015 with Shri. T. R. Zeliang, Chief Minister as the Chief Guest and Bishop James Thoppil as the guest of honour.

Bishop in his address said, “Imagine 50 years ago what must have been the situation in this part of the world. Citing the words of Pope Francis, he said that Jubilee is a time when we remember the past with gratitude. We are privileged to have our Chief Minister Shri T.R. Zeliang, a top leader in the state, PF Franky, IPS, IGP (Hq) and host of others who studied in this school, who have become great leaders in the society. Big thanks to you the past Missionaries & pioneers who toiled. We are here to live the present with passion. Our passionate life in the present should make our life and life of others better. This can be achieved only when we live by the values of the Gospel and principles of Christ taught in a school like this. We also look to the future with hope, the bishop said. Our hope is that this institution will continue to nurture and nourish hundreds of students who will pass through the portals of this institution to become more humane and human, living the values of the Gospel. Therefore let us celebrate this golden jubilee remembering the past with gratitude, living the present with passion and look to the future with hope.

- Correspondent

People of Hurong Village Embrace Catholic Faith.

It was a joyous day for a community of Hurong village when 27 elders were received and 30 children were baptised on 22nd November 2015 by Rev. Fr. Carolus Neisalhou Kuotsu, Vicar General of the Diocese of Kohima. The new community had 6 months of catechesis before they were officially received into the Catholic Church. Christ King Parish of Kohima has extended its help by giving a sum of Rs. 75,000/- towards the construction of the church, named as Christ the King Church. The new community prays and hopes that
God will show them the way to go ahead to achieve the dream of building a small church. They also thanked the parish priest and community of Christ King Church, Kohima for financial and prayerful support extended to them.

-Fr. Gabriel

NERYC Meet at Kohima

North-Eastern Regional Youth Leaders’ meet was held at Mount Tabor Kohima on November 21st & 22nd, under the auspices of Northeastern Regional Youth Commission of which Sr. Regina MSMHC is the Director.

The Youth Directors and the Leaders (Presidents, Secretaries and Lady Animators) of the Youth Movement from 15 Dioceses of North-East India, numbering a total of 60 participated in this annual youth meeting cum seminar, which is held at different places every year.

The highlights of the programme included inaugural function, sessions, election of new Executive members to North Eastern Regional youth office and representatives to National Youth office and visit to the historical places in and around Kohima.

The programme started with a colorful inaugural function on November 21st where the Nagaland Catholic Youth president Ms. Regina gave the welcome address. The choir from St. Francis De Sales Parish and Christ King Parish Kohima enthralled the participants with their melodious welcome song and cultural programme.

A solemn Eucharistic celebration was presided over by the Youth Director of the Diocese of Kohima, Rev. Fr. Sojan Xavier on November 22nd and concelebrated by the youth directors from other dioceses. The first session of the day was animated by Rev. Fr. Noas, the youth Director from Dibrugarh diocese. He spoke on the topic, “Leadership’. This was followed by the election of the new office-bearers for the Regional Youth Office, Guwahati.

Dr. Patha S. Datta, research officer of Kripa Foundation addressed the participants and spoke on the evil effects of alcoholism and drug abuse. The participants had the opportunity to visit Naga Heritage Village at Kisama, Catholic Cathedral, Kohima and St. Joseph College, Jakhama.

-Correspondent

Late Bp. Abraham Remembered and New School Text Books Released

Priests, Religious and lay faithful of Mary Help of Christians Cathedral Church joined Most Rev. Dr. James Thoppil to offer prayers for the repose of the soul of bishop Abraham Alangimattathil, SDB, the first bishop of the diocese of Kohima, on his 18th death anniversary. In his homily during the Holy Eucharist, bishop recalled the yeoman work done by the Bishop Abraham in building up the diocese from its very inception from ground zero. “He was a man of faith, conviction and hard work.” Bishop Abraham spared no effort in realizing the dream he had for the diocese. The magnificent Cathedral stands as the witness to this fact”, he said. ‘He loved the church and the congregation to which he belonged to’, he added.

After the Holy Mass, special prayers were offered for the repose of the soul of Bishop Abraham. His tomb placed inside the cathedral sanctuary was also blessed. It may be recalled that praying for the dead is a practice which the Church inherited from the early Christians who remembered and prayed for the dead. The reason, as the Catechism of the Catholic Church explains is that most of us who don’t merit hell yet still need purification before we can enter heaven will pass through a state, the Church calls purgatory, when we die. (CCC, 1030) With our prayers we can help our loved ones move from purgatory to heaven.

On this occasion bishop James released “Learning with Culture” a new text book series, indigenously prepared text book for LKG and UKG students. The books were prepared by the Education Commission of the Diocese of Kohima, under the guidance of Rev. Fr. George Rino, the Secretary, Education Commission, diocese of Kohima. The novelty of these books is that many of the local symbols and images are incorporated in order to make the children learn better, for as
the bishop said, learning is better when symbols are taken from one’s own culture and environment. Learning is a gradual process. To augment this, the lessons are presented in a gradual way, with revision exercises for the students to recollect the earliest lessons. Learning oriented methods of teaching, with the available things from one’s own culture, will motivate creative skills, understanding and reasoning powers in the mind of the Children. The first copy was handed over to Master Kekhrieville Nigel. From the academic year 2016, the Catholic Schools will use this book for LKG and UKG classes.

– Fr. Sojan Puthankudy

Christian Life Programme at Kiphire Region

Christian life Program for the Couples of Kiphire region was animated by Mr. Hector Poppen, the Country Head for Couples for Christ in India and Mr. Rico and Mrs. Amy, full time missionaries for Couples for Christ from Philippines on 14th and 15th of November, 2015. The two days program was attended by 14 couples and 4 singles. The participants from Pungro and Kiphire have taken the decision that as members of the Catholic fold they will be promoters in bringing many more families to follow Christ more closely and know him more dearly.

– Fr. Benny Varghese

Inter-School Quiz & Word-Find Competition Held at Tseminyu

Under the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), an inter-school quiz and word-find competition was jointly organized by Tseminyu sub-division administration and education department on November 13, with President of Naga Mothers’ Association and brand ambassador for Kohima district SBM, Abei-u Meru as chief guest.

The chief guest administered the Swachh Bharat Pledge to the participants of the programme, which had the theme “One step towards Cleanliness” and also gave away the prizes to the winners of the inter-school quiz and word-find competition.

ADC Tseminyu, Vikhweno M. Meratsu delivered welcome and keynote address, while Rengma Hoho president Kenyseng Tep and Rengma Mothers’ Association president Keleshe Kath exhorted the gathering. Five groups of students from various schools participated in the inter-school quiz and word finding competition where the first, second and third prizes were secured by Don Bosco School, Tseminyu, GHSS Tseminyu, and Don Bosco School, Tesophenyu village respectively. All participants in the competition were given cash prizes as tokens of appreciations. SIS Cheng Rengma conducted the programme where students of Harmony School of Music, Tseminyu also presented a special number and a musical piece on the occasion.

- Correspondent

Confirmation at St. Paul’s Church, Wokha

46 faithful received the sacrament of confirmation from Bishop James Thoppil. Bishop in his homily spoke on the four marks of the true church. He also urged those who received the sacrament of Confirmation to open wide the door of their lives to the new gifts of God which the Holy Spirit gives us. God transforms us, confirms us in our trials, strengthens our union with the Lord and urges to have our steadfastness in him. Bishop appreciated Fathers and Sisters for the dedicated service they do in the parish and recommended parishioners to be ever grateful to them and to collaborate in their ministry. Special songs from LCYA, LCWA and children were presented during the felicitation program. Rev. Fr. Anto, SDB, parish priest pronounced the vote of thanks to the Bishop and to all.

- Fr. Anto SDB
New Catholic Community at St. Paul Parish, Pungro

A new Catholic community and a Church under the patronage of St. Joseph were inaugurated in Cedeyevong village with a 19 household members on November 8th, 2015. Fr. Sajimon, Parish Priest and the day’s main celebrant, baptized and officially welcomed them to the Catholic community. The parish priest also spoke on the need to build exemplary Catholic community. The newly built church was first blessed and inaugurated and then Holy Mass was celebrated in it. The Village Council Chairman and the Baptist community were present on the occasion. There was speech from the Village Chairman and a special song was presented by the Baptist church. The Catholic community members from Pungro, new Vongti, Vongva and Phuvkiu were also present. - Correspondent

Feast of St. Peter’s Church and Eucharistic Procession Held at Tesophenyu

St. Peter’s Church, Tesophenyu celebrated the feast of St. Peter, the patron of the Church with the celebration of the Holy Mass and Eucharistic procession along the vicinity of the Church, with Most Rev. Dr. James Thoppil, Bishop of Kohima as the main celebrant on Sunday, November 8th, 2015. Priests, Sisters and laity from Lazami, Tseminyu, Kohima and Chiephobozeug solemnized the occasion with their presence.

Bishop extended the festal greetings to the community and said that although the feast of St. Peter and Paul is celebrated together on June 29th, we keep the feast today for the convenience of the local church. Saints Peter and Paul guided the early church and both died as martyrs for the faith in Rome, in the late 60’s, just thirty years after the death of Jesus. Peter was crucified upside down in the courtyard to the left of St. Peter’s Basilica (in the courtyard behind the arch where the Swiss Guards stand on duty today) and Paul was beheaded between Rome and the sea, in a place now called Tre Fontane (Italian for three fountains after the legend that the three springs sprang up on the three places where Paul’s head bounced after being beheaded).

Each of these two saints is important for different reasons. Peter is important because he was the first Pope and kept the Church united which was growing very rapidly in the years following Pentecost. In the first years after Pentecost it was Jews who accepted Jesus as the Savior and so the early church was a very Jewish church. But as time went on Paul, who was specially called by Jesus, began to preach also to non-Jews, the Gentiles as they were called. His preaching was very successful and he brought huge numbers of non-Jews into the church, so much so that the number of Jews in the church was greatly outnumbered by non-Jews. So both Peter and Paul had very important tasks in the early church, Peter maintaining the unity in the church which during his lifetime had already spread throughout the Middle East and Europe, and Paul who taught the Jews that Jesus is the fulfillment of their Old Testament hopes and taught the non-Jews that Jesus is the Savior.

As we look at the personalities of Peter and Paul, we see that God called them to use their personalities to spread the Gospel, Peter to use his impetuous love to look after the flock, and Paul to use his training as a Pharisee and his strength of character to ensure that the non-Jews would be welcomed into the church. It is a reminder to us that our talents and our weaknesses too can become God’s means of helping others, if we allow God to work in our lives, said the bishop.

During the celebration, the sacrament of confirmation was administrated to 22 faithful and 20 children received the first Holy Communion. One hour Eucharistic procession within the village, during which prayers of rosary were said and the hymns were sung, with the special intention of praying for peace, justice, honesty to prevail in our society. Bishop gave a final blessing with the Blessed Sacrament to the community at the end.
NEWS - Diocese

of the procession which was concluded in the Church.

A short reception for Most Rev. Dr. James Thoppil, on his pastoral visit was organized by the Catholic community with songs, mouth organ, choreography, etc., were presented by the children of Holy Childhood, Mr. David Jemu, CYA, Sichulo & friends. Bishop thanked Rev. Fr. Joy Thotankara, Centre in charge, for ministering and instructing the community, despite so many difficulties, deprivations, struggles and inconveniences of staying alone in a remote village like Tesophenyu. The impressive gathering was dispersed after the meal that was served to all.

-Fr. Joy Thotankara

Students of NEISSR Give Relief Material to Fire Victims

Students of North East Institute of Social Sciences & Research (NEISSR) distributed blankets to the victims of October 25th inferno at K.K. Angami Colony, S.P., Colony and K. Kire Colony, Half Nagarjan, on November 7th, 2015.

Fr. Dr. CP Anto, Principal NEISSR, appreciated the effort of the social work trainees saying, ‘Social workers are called to tackle and handle the problems and woes of the people. This effort of the students in alleviating the sufferings of the fire victims is a small initiative towards the bigger call of helping the humanity.’

The relief materials consisted of 220 blankets and other toiletries.

The social work trainees collaborated with the Peace Channel and the National Social Service (NSS) of Maple Tree School in distributing the relief materials. The toiletries distributed were financed from the funds raised by the NSS students of Maple Tree School through the sales of crafts made by their own hands. Students of the Maple Tree were accompanied by Joy Kumar Singh and Ms. Nenem. Ms. Nenem expressed gratitude to the 50 Coy Sup, ASC, Dimapur, for the material help given to the students of the fire victims. Fr. Anto also thanked all the well wishers, educational institutions and organizations for their generous contributions.

-Correspondent

Newly Built St. Michael Church, Kigwema Blessed

The newly built, St. Michael’s Church, Kigwema, was blessed and inaugurated by the Most Rev. Dr. James Thoppil, Bishop of Kohima, on Saturday, November 7th, 2015 in the presence of a large crowd and Village Officials. Representatives from various Churches, Associations and Parishes were present for the auspicious occasion.

Bishop, in his homily, congratulated the Community of Kigwema along with Rev. Fr. Jerome Veigas and his team for constructing such a big and beautiful Church. Church is also a sign of the Christian presence and closeness to God, he said. Every Church is a grace from God and God dwells in it in a very special manner, particularly if the Eucharist is preserved in it. At the same time the physical church is only the manifestation of a real and true Church, i.e. every Christian. Every Christian is a Christ bearer and should manifest Christ to others. Bishop quoted the St. Paul saying that each of us is a Temple of the Holy Spirit. With our Baptism the Holy Spirit dwells in us. The real Church, therefore, is us and we should be living temple of God to manifest and witness to God’s closeness and presence to his people in and through us.

In referring to the Gospel of Luke, he said that the Jewish people, took pride in the temple of Jerusalem and they admired how it was adorned with gold and rich tapestry. Jesus, hearing the people talk remarked that a time will come when no stone will be left on another stone. Jesus, entering the temple, chased away the money lenders and business people, and said that my house shall be the house of prayer and not to make it a den of thieves and merchants. He knew well that though they prided in having a grand temple, yet their hearts were far from Yahweh, the God of their ancestors. Their worship was only lip service, and their sacrifice an empty ritual. Therefore, Bishop urged to make this church a living church that worship the living God and to build ourselves as true temple of God.
The Church is named or dedicated under the patronage of St. Michael, the archangel. In the catholic tradition all churches are named after saints to show our communion with them and their special patronage and protection for the community. The name Michael in Hebrew means, “Who is like unto God.” He is pictured as a strong warrior for God and known as the prince of the heavenly host, who continues to defend the Church and Christians against the onslaught of the devil.

Rev. Fr. Jerome Veigas, SJ, the Parish priest of Jakhama Parish expressed his sincere gratitude to Most Rev. Dr. James Thoppil, Bishop of Kohima, Mr. Vikho-O Yhoshü, Local MLA and Parliamentary Secretary, special guests from far and near for gracing the occasion with their presence and prayers. He thanked all the benefactors and others who spiritually and physically contributed to build the church. He also acknowledged late Methodius, a church leader for his work to build the church and prayed for him.

Mr. Vibellie Peter Sale anchored the programme. The choir consisted of the youth of the community, enchanted the audience with their melodious voices. Mr. Zakievotuo Zakaria, briefed the audience about their church history. Ms. Kethezie Kecii, presented the gift to all the invited guests. Mr. Zhalezo Victor proposed the vote thanks. The programme ended with the sumptuous meal served to all.

NEISSR Organises Workshop On NLP

North East Institute of social Sciences and Research, Dimapur organized a two day workshop on NLP (Neuro Linguistic Programming). The workshop commenced with a short inaugural programme, whereby Rev. Dr. C.P Anto, Principal, NEISSR welcomed the resource person Dr. A. Abraham, MD, Master Practitioner, NLP and others.

He explained the purpose of the workshop was to equip the professional social work students with the different therapies used to help the people in the communities. The workshop was attended by the trainees of NEISSR and staff of peace channel. During the workshop, the resource Person highlighted about ‘Mind Dynamics, and Personal Excellence and Mind Mapping’, the application of NLP in our life today.

NLP is an extraordinary and cutting-edge approach, to human communication and the development of excellence. It shows in very simple terms, how your mind works to produce a behaviour, so that you can make it work better for you, to produce the behaviour of your choice, whenever and wherever you want. This remarkable set of tools is based on the amazing discovery, that what you do and your resultant experience, your behaviour, is the result of a movie that you produce in your mind, which is based on your thinking. And in changing how you think, you can change what you think- and in changing how and what you think, you can dramatically transform the results you create in your life. The two-day workshop concluded with an evaluation.

Parents’ Day at SJHSS

Parents’ Day celebration at St. Joseph Higher Secondary School, Chumukedima, on November, 30th, 2015 was held with State Education Minister, Shri. Yitachu as the Chief Guest. In his speech he spoke about the government’s decision to do away with non-detention policy in educational system. He further announced that new education policy will soon be introduced in the State and it is in the process of consultation. He also declared that there should be certain balancing act between private and government run schools while introducing the new education policy. In the new education policy, government envisioned to depute Hindi, Mathematics and Science teachers from government schools to private Schools.

Let The Church Always Be A Place of Mercy and Hope, Where Everyone is Welcomed, Loved and Forgiven.

Fr. John Poji
Litany of thanks to those in Consecrated Life
(as delivered at SFS Church on 22nd November, 2015 by Mr. Rocus R. Chasie at the brief function to felicitate those in consecrated life)

- God the Father, who called us to be your sons and daughters, thank you
- God the Son, who redeemed us and offered us free salvation, thank you
- God the Holy Spirit, who is ever present in us and among us, sanctifying, inspiring and leading us to our eternal home thank you
- Holy Trinity, One God, who gave us priests and nuns to care for us thank you
- Dear Fathers and Sisters, called from the believing community to serve God and man congrats
- The first Catholic missionary priests and religious who sowed the seed of the gospel in our land thank you
- All the past missionary priests and religious who are no more living and may you rest in peace
- All the past parish priests, assistant priests and sisters who cared for this parish community at different times for varying periods of time thank you
- The Present parish priest, assistant priest, this morning’s celebrant, and the present sisters in St. Mary’s Convent and Mt. Tabor R.H. thank you
- For your witness to holiness and truth thank you
- For pointing out to Jesus and to authentic, spiritual life and witness thank you
- For your witness in prayer, in truth, in articulating and living the faith and in encountering others thank you
- For your life-giving contribution to the Church and following Jesus in a prophetic way thank you
- For re-reading your personal story and freely accepting the path of discipleship thank you
- For showing us the way to wake up the world to God’s love thank you
- God the Father, who is ‘I AM’ enable us to follow the example of those in consecrated life in coming closer to you
- God the Son, pinnacle of Consecrated life make us love you and witness to you
- God the Holy Spirit, source of all holiness sanctify us in the truth

Mary most holy, daughter of the Father,

Foundations Laid for New Church and School at Chessore

On 21st November 2015, the new Mission Campus at Chessore was blessed and the foundation for the new Church was laid by Fr. S. Charles, Director, DAN. The campus is named ‘Lumyin Campus’, meaning thoughts have seen light. While, the Church is dedicated under the patronage of St. Augustine. On 29th November the foundation stone for the new School building was laid by Fr. Francis Yimso in the presence of the community.

- Fr. Francis Yimso

Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do amazing things among you
Joshua 3:5 (NIV)

“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.”
– John Quincy Adams
Don Bosco Tech Starts 15th Batch of Skill Training

Don Bosco Tech (DBT), AIDA centre inaugurated the 15th batch of Skill Training Programme for unemployed youth of Nagaland on November 10th with Deputy Commissioner of Police, Zone II, Dimapur District, Dr. K.P.A Ilyas, IPS, as the Chief Guest and Rector & Administrator of Don Bosco campus, Dimapur Rev. Fr. C.T Varghese as the Guest of Honour.

In his inaugural address, Dr. Ilyas encouraged the trainees saying, “You have wonderful inborn traits like discipline, beauty, simplicity and respect for community, which is scarcely found in other communities”. He exhorted the trainees to discipline themselves and to develop and carry forward the good inborn qualities in them and also encouraged the trainees to be happy in what they do in their everyday life. “Happiness is not what we achieve at the end but happiness comes in whatever we do every day and by doing it in the right way”, he added.

Fr. C.T. Varghese encouraged the trainees to work hard to be successful by taking the anecdote of “welding where sparks makes the bonding of two pieces of iron strong, so too you can be truly successful if you create sparks through hard work, discipline and commitment to reach your goal”. Executive director AIDA, Bro. Sunny Joseph gave a brief report on Don Bosco Tech’s activities across the country. He said till date Don Bosco Tech in Nagaland had trained over 3000 unemployed rural youth in hospitality, beauty and spa, food and beverages services, housekeeping and ISMO.

Niloli, one of the trainees welcomed the gathering and Kusato Khesoh shared his life-testimony on behalf of trainees. The audiences were enthralled by Angami and Nepali folk songs, Chakhesang and Sangtam folk dances performed by the trainees. Sadamtoshi proposed the vote of thanks.

Bible Quiz & Singing Competition at Chiephobozou

The converged four centres under Kohima-2 Region had the Bible Quiz, Songs competition at St. Dominic’s Church, Chiephobozou on 30th October, 2015. Fr Sojan, the Youth Director, Diocese of Kohima was the resource person. He spoke on the rudiments of prayer life through power point presentation. 160 children participated in the programme.

“Clean Kiphire”

Swachh Bharat Mission Quiz Competition for the schools in Kiphire District was organized by the District administration under the theme “Clean Kiphire” on 2nd November 2015. Mr. Alobo Naga the Brand Ambassador for Kiphire District for the mission campaign was the Chief Guest. The students of Loyola Hr. Sec. School participated in the Quiz competition in both Higher Secondary and High School Level. They bagged the First at the Higher Secondary Level and Second in High School Level. They were awarded with Trophies, Certificates and Cash prizes. Speaking on the occasion the chief guest said that Mahatma Gandhi had two dreams namely Free India and Clean India. The first dream is achieved 69 years ago. The second dream is yet to be achieved. For that citizens from all walks of life need to put a concerted effort. Let us all work together to achieve that dream of the Father of our Nation.

—Fr. Benny Varghese
The Parishioners of St. Xavier Parish, Meluri, Phek Dt. Celebrated the ‘Year of Consecrated Life’ on 31st October and 1st November 2015. The whole programme was planned and executed by the Parishioners under the leadership of the Pochury Catholic Union (PCU). Meluri Parish has 2 Local Priests and 5 Local Nuns namely, Rev. Fr. John Poji, Rev. Fr. Dominic Selosie, Sr. Gloria, Sr. Sophia, Sr. Caroline, Sr. Martha and Sr. Rose - all belonging to the sisters of Ursuline Franciscan Congregation.

On 31st October, these consecrated religious together with the Priests and nuns working in Meluri, were taken for an outing accompanied by the PCU office bearers and Church Staff. On 1st November a solemn Eucharistic Celebration was organized in the Parish Church in which Rev. Fr. Jose Lukose was the Main Celebrant. In the short felicitation that followed after the Holy Mass, the PCU President Mr. Chichutho Jose congratulated all the Priests and Sisters for showing the way of religious life to everyone as an example for the younger generation. All the fathers and sisters shared their experience as a religious and exhorted the youth to follow the call of the Lord Jesus. The ADC of Meluri, Shri. John Tsilise while felicitating the Priests and Nuns appreciated the earlier missionaries who showed the example of a religious life because of which we have missionaries from our own home land which is a sign of growth in the Church. Sr. Matty appreciated the parents of these Priests and Nuns for having sacrificed their sons and daughters to be missionaries. The welcome address was delivered by Mr. Shiekutho and Fr. Jose Lukose the Parish Priest thanked the fathers and sisters for coming from distant places of their ministry, to accept the appreciation of the Parishioners under the leadership of the PCU for the sacrifice they make for the Church.

- Fr. Jose Lukose

Jesus Youth leaders of Nagaland along with their Chaplain, Fr. Sojan and Animator Sr. Annie assembled at Mount Tabor Retreat House, Kohima for paneling up the New Service Team on October 30th to November 1st, 2015. Fr. Linson Louise, SDB, the forerunner of Jesus Youth was also part of the program. His Lordship Rt. Rev. James Thoppil, Bishop of Kohima, celebrated the Holy Eucharist. Bishop applauded the Kohima Jesus Youth for the ministry they do in the diocese of Kohima. In his homily, Bishop narrated how Jesus was a keen observer when He was one among us. He also stressed on the youths not to take possession of power but to take possession of service to stabilize our tainted society. Fr. George Rino, Fr. Anand, and Bro. Shoy were the resource persons. Fr. George Rino spoke about “Living a Spirit led life”. Fr. Anand portrayed on “Where do I stand in my walk with the Lord?” and Bro. Shoy elaborated about youth leadership. A New Service Team members were inducted for the Jesus Youth Nagaland. They were Ms. Victoria Quinger (Coordinator), Pelezhanuo Elizabeth, Khrielhoutuonuo Karen, Vikukhoto Johnson, Sylvester Khrieketoulie, Caroline Dziivichii, Celine Pamei (Ex officio), Fr. Sojan (Chaplain), Sr. Annie, CMC (Animator). The program included - Praise & Worship, Rosary, Confession, Adoration, Sharing sessions, Group discussion and moral-based games. The program ended with Holy Mass and blessing of the New Team for Jesus Youth, Nagaland.

- Celine Pamei

“If you think in terms of a year, plant a seed; if in terms of ten years, plant trees; if in terms of 100 years, teach the people.”

By Confucius
First Parish Feast Celebrated at Mount Carmel Parish, 4th Mile

On Sunday, 1st November, 2015, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, 4th Mile, Dimapur (Chekye village) celebrated its first parish feast after its erection as a separate parish. It was erected on Easter Sunday, 5th April, 2015. It also coincided with the feast of All Saints and parish celebration of the “Year of Consecrated Life”. Most Rev. Dr. James Thoppil, Bishop of Kohima, was the main Celebrant with many Priests and Sisters from Dimapur joining the celebration. Bishop in his introductory talk greeted the parishioners and said that today Catholic Church celebrates All Saints Day and as children of God we have a glorious future because God in His goodness and generosity wants to share His love and life with us.

The Bishop in his homily said that according to Barrett’s Encyclopedia: there are 33,000+ “Christian Denominations” in 238 countries. In the midst of these multi-denominations, people lose sight of the true Church founded by Jesus. The question many people ask is, how to recognize the Church founded by Jesus? Citing the history of the Church, he said that the early Church Fathers gave us the criteria to recognize the Church in the very first Council in the Church, the council of Nicaea in the year 325, the very council that proclaimed the doctrine of the Holy Trinity, the most fundamental and basic doctrine of Christianity, accepted by all Christian denominations. In the Nicene profession of faith we say, “We believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic” Church. These are the four marks of the Church founded by Jesus and they are found fully in the Catholic Church. Other Christian Churches share in these marks to some extent. He also said that mere membership or baptism in the Catholic Church does not give one the passport to heaven. Only a true and genuine Christian life according to the values of the gospel will lead us to our true homeland (heaven).

Rev. Fr. Mathew Thuniampral, Director of Shalom translated Bishop’s Homily into Nagamese.

Teacher Trainees Study Tour to Delhi, Agra

Teacher trainees of St. Paul Institute of Education, Phesama undertook education tour to Delhi and Agra to visit the historical places and museums. Eight-day tour covered all the noteworthy historical places in both the cities. Teacher trainees were also taken to both the houses of Parliament. Such tours are organized every year by the Institute. The trainees were accompanied by the Principal, Vice-principal and the Staff.

- Nagaland Post 27/10/15
NEISSR, Commemorates Vigilance Awareness Week

culminating the weeklong “Vigilance Awareness Week”, North East Institute of Social Sciences and Research (NEISSR) in collaboration with NEZCC, Dimapur organized a debate on the topic, “Preventive Vigilance as a tool for Good Governance” at NEISSR conference hall, on Saturday 31st October, 2015.

In the programme, Deputy Director, D. Vashum called on the students and the faculty of NEISSR to retrospect in fighting the menace of corruption and other corrupt practices. “It is always sad to hear about different practices of corruption which are rampant in our society. It is all the more painful when we ourselves become victims of corruption”, he lamented. Mr. Vashum stressed that the real idea behind commemorating the vigilance week was to make ourselves more vigilant about the corrupt practices lingering in “our” heart. He added that the first aim and objective of this awareness programme was to clean our conscience and then only “our” actions will inspire people around us to follow the truth and do what is right.

Delivering the keynote address, assistant professor NEISSR, Mr. Anil Joseph spoke on the meaning of the word “Vigilance”. He pointed out the different forms of vigilance that was a requisite and important for any society to run. He also enquired as to how “our” actions as members of a society can support and promote vigilance, not only in matters of financial management but in all spheres of our life.

The main highlight of the day was a debate on the topic, “Preventive Vigilance as a tool for Good Governance”. The debaters for the motion pointed out the importance and the need of preventive vigilance while the debaters against the motion spoke on the abject absence of preventive vigilance and how it could hamper the smooth functioning of governance. The best debater award went to Ms. Tongtali, student of MSW III Semester and Aotoshi, student of MSW II semester.

In his concluding remark, Principal, NEISSR, Rev. Dr. C.P. Anto thanked the officials of NEZCC for hosting the event for NEISSR and also encouraged all the students to be agents of vigilance in the society. The students pledged themselves to work towards bringing about a fair and progressive society where every citizen gets his or her due rights.

Christ King HSS, Kohima Celebrated Parents’ Day

Christ King Higher Secondary School, celebrated Parents’ Day with Mr. Rovilatuo Mor IAS, Deputy Commissioner of Kohima, as the chief guest on 31st October, 2015. He said that Education is a tripartite process involving students, parents and the teachers. “No education can be complete without the active involvement of all the three stakeholders.” He called upon the parents to play their part by following up their children, of creating a suitable and positive environment for children to study.

The main feature of the day was the staging of the Musical Drama on Don Bosco, “Whispers of Love” besides various other items. The musical play was based on the life story of Don Bosco, who was orphaned at the age of two with the death of his father.

The prophetic dream at the age of nine kept him moving to become a priest and take care of the poor young boys ravaged by miseries of the industrial revolution in Europe especially Italy. He whispered words of love and encouragement to young and unfortunate poor boys and took care of their physical and spiritual needs.

The programme began with a scripture reading by Sr. Stella, Vice-Principal, Prayer by Fr. Paul Punii, SDB, and words of welcome from Fr. Peter Salew, SDB.

The vote of thanks was proposed by Fr. Deli Kapani, SDB, the Principal. He thanked all the Parents for putting their trust in the School authorities and teachers to mould their children. He especially thanked the teachers, supporting staff and all who contributed to the success of the programme.

― Correspondent

“Don’t be afraid to ask God for forgiveness. He never tires of forgiving us. God is pure mercy.”

― Pope Francis
Month of of Holy Rosary Concluded at MHC Cathedral, Kohima

The Catholic community of Cathedral of Mary Help of Christians, had a candle light procession on 31st October, 2015 to conclude the month of October, dedicated to praying the Rosary. During the procession the community prayed for the various intentions, especially for the peace and justice in our state, in the country and the world and also for the departed souls.

The introductory speech was delivered by Rev. Fr. Carolus Neisalhou, the Vicar General of the Diocese and the Parish Priest of the Cathedral. Citing concrete examples, he said that Mary, the Mother of Jesus is the true protector and defender against all that is harmful or evil. She obtains for us the grace to conquer every danger and overcome all that would threaten our health and well being.

He also narrated what happened at Joumol, in a small hamlet, consisting of 23 households situated in the remote area of Khengjoy Sub-Division in Chandel district of Manipur. A gruesome landslide swept away the whole village on the morning of August, 1st, 2015. Strangely, all the 9 survivors were all Catholics, who had the Rosary in their necks and they all attributed their escape from death to the special protection of Mother Mary. He urged the community to seek the help of Mother Mary for the journey of life, so that we may always walk safely together with her divine Son, Jesus Christ.

More than eight hundred people - children, youth, parents - participated in the candle lit procession. During the procession singing of hymns, reciting of Rosary prayers and petitions for various intentions were made. A beautifully decorated statue of Mother Mary was carried by the youth and elders of the community. The procession lasted for one hour and forty five minutes.

Most Rev. Dr. James Thoppil, Bishop of Kohima gave the final blessing to the community at the end of the procession. He also applauded Rev. Frs. Carolus, Johnny, Richard, the Sisters and the community for solemnizing the occasion with the well-decorated statue and candles to solemnize the occasion.

The community also prayed for the repose of souls late Marcus and Peter, who passed away recently. To wrap the celebration a special song was presented by the Children of the Holy Childhood organization of the Cathedral Parish.

- Fr. John Padinjareporiyath

Year of Consecrated Life Celebrated at Lakhuti

The Feast of Our Lady of Rosary was celebrated on October, 10th & 11th, at Queen of the Holy Rosary Parish, Lakhuti. The Community had observed the Novena to our Lady of Rosary and concluded with a Retreat. Rev. Fr. Amos Kikon, Rev. Fr. Pithungo Enni and Rev. Sr. Aloshia Yanthan, MSMHC gave talks. Rev. Fr. Paul Thungbemo, was the Main celebrant for the Holy Eucharist on the conclusion of Novena. On Sunday, October, 11th, Rev. Fr. Mathew Mhabemo presided over the Holy Eucharist. During the Holy Eucharist 24 children received First Holy Communion. The Year of Consecrated life was also celebrated on that day. The community prayed for all the consecrated people and felicitated all the consecrated people who were present and all the parents and relatives of the consecrated people hailing from Lakhuti parish. It was a meaningful celebration. Members from all the village communities were also present for the celebration.

- Fr. George Anthony

Christmas is not a time nor a season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas.

- Calvin Coolidge
Bishop’s Pastoral Visit at Seyochung

Bishop James made his pastoral visit to Seyochung on 24th & 25th, October, 2015 during which 17 Children received the first Holy communion. Bishop blessed the New Church, St. Peter’s Church, at Shotumi Village, under Seyochung Centre. The solemn Eucharistic Procession was held in the Parish on Monday, 26th of October. Bishop interacted with the leaders and the community of every village. Bishop applauded the Fathers and sisters who render their services to the community with love and joy for the community. He urged the faithful to collaborate with them in their ministry. Felicitation program was held in the school in honour of Bishop by the students of St. Mary’s High School, Seyochung. Bishop also made a visit to the substation villages like Shutomi, Phisami, Seyochung village.

- Correspondent

Don Bosco Bicentenary Commemorative Quiz

Don Bosco Alumni and Salesian co-operators of Don Bosco province of Dimapur, conducted the Don Bosco’s birth bicentenary commemorative quiz on October 24th at Don Bosco Higher Secondary School (DBHSS), Dimapur, with the commissioner & secretary of School Education, Mr. Francis Pelevituo Solo as the chief guest and Fr. Nestor Guria, SDB as the guest of honour.

In the senior level quiz, Don Bosco College, Itanagar, Little Flower Training Centre, Kohima and Don Bosco College, Maram bagged first, second and third positions respectively and were awarded with Rs. 25,000, Rs. 20,000 and Rs. 15,000 respectively.

- Correspondent

The Second Diocesan vocation camp was held at Holy Cross Parish, Dimapur from 23rd to 26th October, 2015. The Camp was organized for the students of Class 7 to 12 for the boys and girls. They were 95 participants from Bhandari, Chiephobozou, Chumukedima, Dimapur, Jalukie, Kiphire, Kohima, Lazami, Longleng, Longsa, Lozaphuhu, Niuland, Peren, Pungro and Phesema. Rev. Fr. Mathew Thuniampral, Director, Shalom, concluded the camp with the Holy Eucharistic Celebration on Sunday 26th October. 9 priests concelebrated with him. Fr. Mathew applauded the children who had come from far and near to attend the camp. In referring to the Gospel reading, Fr. Mathew said ‘Bartimaeus, the blind man on the road to Jericho (Mark 10:46-52) is a good example of the power of the prayer of petition. When the blind man cried “Jesus asked him, “What do you want me to do for you?” The answer was quick, clear and certain. “Lord, I want to see.” The request was granted. “Be on your way, your faith has healed you.” Immediately, the blind man received his sight and began to follow Jesus. He urged the community and children to have the eyes of the body so that we may not be blind to the reality of the evil in the world and also to see with the eyes of faith so that we might not be blind to the truth and goodness in the world.

Earlier, Rev. Fr. Thomas P.J., Parish Priest, Holy Cross, Dimapur accorded the words of welcome to Fr. Mathew the main Celebrant and Rev. Fr. Carolus Neisalhou, Vicar General of the Diocese, fathers, sisters and other guests to the Eucharistic Celebration. Earlier, he had also given a cordial welcome to the young campers and made them feel at home.

24th October, Rev. Fr. Justin Vinoto, Asst. Priest, Lazami, celebrated the Holy Mass. In his
reflection he said ‘Vocation is a personal call from God (Is. 43:1, Gal. 1:15, Eph.1.4), a call to those “whom He desired” (Mk.3.13) thus, he urged the campers to respond to God with a sincere and generous heart.

Rev. Fr. Thomas Toretkiu, Vocation promoter of the Diocese of Kohima, took the first session on Vocation: A Divine Call. He asked the participants, what God calls you to do with your life. Everybody is called by God to know, love and serve him. The difference is how each one does this. An Individual vocation vary between being single, married, consecrated, religious or a priest. However, we usually use “Vocation” to mean a call to the consecrated, religious or priestly life. God gives each one of us a particular mission in life. As we grow and life progresses, he makes it known to us, usually in indirect ways, more as an invitation than an imposition. He urged campers to discover the call of God and follow the vocation to find happiness.

Sr. Rita Miasalhou, SCCG, highlighted the topic: “Mission in the Church”. She said that with baptism “everyone in the Church is a disciple and we are all missionaries in the place which the Lord has given us”. Everyone “even the greatest is a disciple and the smallest is a missionary”. She urged the campers to be true witnesses of Christ and His gospel through the ‘Call.’

Rev. Fr. Philip Magh, Principal, Holy Cross School, Dimapur, spoke on Vocation in the Local Church. He began with the statement of St. Augustine’s “Qui bene cantat bis orat” (Latin) which means “He who sings well prays twice”. He said ‘It is a challenging and uplifting invitation of Jesus: “Follow me!” He invites us to become his friends, to listen attentively to his word and to live with him. He teaches them complete commitment to God and to the extension of his kingdom in accordance with the law of the Gospel: “Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit “ (Jn 12:24). He invited Children to live in constant connection with Jesus.

Rev. Fr. John Lichoi, Assistant Priest, St. Joseph Parish, Chumukedima, shared his personal Testimony with children. He narrated his life story, how he was a sick child and humanly speaking everyone had given up hope but not God. Human impossibilities turn into God’s Realities. He ended his speech by ‘If we have Christ in our life, we become a child of God and today he is a priest because of God’s love.

Rev. Fr. Jaison Thomas, Director, Pastoral Centre, Dimapur, spoke on “Prayer” to the campers. He confronted them saying, “Why should we pray? Well, in praying, we strengthen the recognition and the presence of God, that draws us closer to Jesus. That is why the Church recommends that we pray frequently and make prayer an important part of our everyday lives and urged children to ‘Rejoice always, and pray without ceasing. (1Th. 5:16-17)

Rev. Fr. John Poji, Vice Principal, NEISSR, Dimapur, highlighted the Discernment of Vocation. He challenged them and asked them why we read Bible? We read to Know Him. When we read the Bible, we need to view it as our marching orders. Rather than coming to the Bible with our own agenda and trying to find verses that support what we’d like to do, we need to allow the Bible to shape our hopes and dreams. Every time we read the Bible, we should understand our mission a little better. Bible answers—as long as we are ready to listen. He urged the campers to discern their vocation through Bible.

Rev. Fr. Augustine Kerketta, Rector of St. Xavier’s Minor Seminary, Jalukie, spoke on Vocation to holiness. He said ‘God is love’ (1 Jn 4.8) and doing the Father’s will in all things is the key to holiness, the perfection of charity. “Not one who says ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven” (Mt. 7.21).

Rev. Fr. Carolus, Vicar General, Diocese of Kohima, while meeting the campers said, ‘God’s Will for you is perfect happiness, because there is no sin in it. Fear not the Will of God.

Exercise, Meditation, Yoga, party-games and songs were taught during the camp. The camp ended with a get-together, where varieties of items were presented by the groups. Fr. Thomas Toretkiu expressed gratitude to Fr. Thomas P.J., Parish Priest and Community, Fathers, Sisters of the Religious Congregations, G.S.S. Brothers, participants, and to all well wishers who contributed to make the camp a success.

- Fr. Thomas Toretkiu
KCYA Observes 27th Session

Under the theme, “Bear with one another” (Col 3:13), Kidima Catholic Youth Association (KCYA) observed its 27th Session with administrator of St. Joseph’s College Rev. Fr. Sabu Chenackal, as main celebrant on October 25th at St. Francis Xavier’s Church, Kidima.

Quoting from the parable of the Kingdom of God, Rev. Fr. Chenackal said that God patiently waits for people’s repentance from sins. He asked the faithful to keep God’s blessings and bear fruits of love, mercy and peace, while keeping a check on their sins which blocks the way to reach God.

Rev. Fr. Chenackal expressed his gratitude to the Fr. Thomas Muttathil, Parish Priest, for the privilege given to the Occasion. Vice president of Southern Angami Catholic Union Vitsu Martin was the Guest speaker.

The session was also attended by Franciscan Sisters of Saint Mary of the Angels (FSMA), Southern Angami Catholic Youth Association (SACYA) and youths residing at different places. Main highlights of the two-day celebrations included sport competition between St. Peter and St. John houses, talent exposure, reading of Holy Bible and Holy Communion. Prizes were distributed by president of SACYA, Kenongol Mark while vote of thanks was delivered by Mezathel Justin.

Don Bosco Bicentenary Celebrated

A three-day bicentenary celebration of the birth of Don Bosco commenced with grand opening ceremony on 23rd and ended on 25th October, at Don Bosco Higher Secondary School (DBHSS), Dimapur, organized by Salesian province of Dimapur.

Speaking at the inaugural ceremony as Chief Guest, Administrator of Dimapur Municipal Council (DMC), H. Atokhe Aye, acknowledged the contributions of Salesian Family towards the growth of education in the State. He said the contributions of Salesian Family were immensely noteworthy and the presence of Don Bosco Schools in the State stands proof to it. Atokhe said the trust and faith that people have on Don Bosco schools towards the delivery of education has given a tough competition to other private institutions and government schools as well.

Appreciating Salesians for imparting various free vocational and technical courses to economically marginalized sections of the society, he said the courses imparted have offered the youth to become skilled and useful human resources. Atokhe said that Salesians were truly striving to uphold the dreams of the Saint John Bosco by working for the marginalized youth and the poor and encouraged them to keep the great works going.

He also congratulated DBHSS Principal Fr. Joshua Gangmei, for being awarded with State Level Teacher’s Award in recognition of his commitment for the welfare of the students and for playing active role towards providing quality education. Pointing out that there was no bar and limitation between gender to achieve excellence, Atokhe said as long as one commits himself/herself to work hard with sincerity and dedication one can scale greater heights. Therefore, he encouraged the students to follow their dreams unwaveringly and be the dawning light to the society. He also urged the students not to forget their primary duty which was to excel in their studies besides in the midst of the numerous co-curricular activities.

While highlighting the developmental activities of the Dimapur Municipal Council (DMC), he said that DMC has been relentlessly working towards giving a facelift to Dimapur town and have undertaken numerous developmental projects in many areas. The Provincial and Chief Organizer, Fr. Nestor Guria, highlighted the life journey, traits and character of Don Bosco and asked the gathering to instill in them qualities of Bosco and reach out the young people.

The programme was compered by Smita and Megdalene, invocation by Principal, Holy Cross School, Dimapur Fr. Philip Magh. Welcome speech was delivered by Rector, Don Bosco Higher Secondary School (DBHSS) while vote of thanks was proposed by Principal, DBHSS, Fr. Joshua SDB. Other highlights of the programme included bicentenary band of St. Mary’s Higher Secondary School (SMHSS), Padampukhri, tribute to Don Bosco by DBHSS, Dimapur and anthem by SMHSS, Dimapur.

The programme was attended by Students, Fathers and Sisters from various Schools in the Province.
"Nagaland University or any other academic institution has a special role to play to take Nagaland state forward. As for any state or country to march forward education is very important” stated Governor of Nagaland & Assam Shri. P. B. Acharya, while gracing the Graduation Day, 2015 at St. Joseph’s College, Jakhama, on October 24th, this Year.

Emphasizing on skill development, the Governor said that the central government has formulated skill development among the students of the country and the centre has earmarked Rupees 30,000 crores for skill based education at universities with central idea to equip every student with skill so that they become an asset of the country and not liability.

Governor said, “Education with skills is crucial in today’s world,” and referring to the status of India’s universities in world ranking on top 100, which he said is disheartening as India is home to numerous universities. Indians scientists constitutes 30% at National Aeronautics and Space Agency (NASA), which should be a source of pride and challenge to the students. The Governor said, “Education should provide knowledge to give wealth with ultimate goal of the students and not just achieving degrees.” He said that state universities were creating “educated unemployed youths” instead of equipping their skills. “Universities should not only be a centre of knowledge, but also be a centre of developing skills so that the young generations become an asset to the society in our country, India.”

The Governor while conferring awards to the meritorious students, announced that he would sponsor three meritorious award from the next academic year onwards in the field of Academic, Sports and overall performance in memory of Mahatma Gandhi, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam and Dr T. Ao. — Correspondent

If you want to live a happy life, tie it to a goal, not to people or things.” — Albert Einstein

Catholic Youth Scale Mount Saramati Peak

It was a moment of joy and triumph for the Catholic youth of St. Peter’s Parish, Kiphire and the teaching faculty of Loyola Higher Secondary School, Kiphire when they made it to the peak of Mount Saramati on October 22nd and 23rd respectively.

According to Fr. Loyola Antony, Kiphire, scaling the highest peak in Nagaland (12,601 feet) was long cherished dream that had come true for all of them who trekked from October 21-23 overcoming each mountain with a single focus in mind – to scale Mount Saramati.

There were 36 of them from St. Peter’s Parish, Kiphire and 35 from Loyola Higher Secondary School, Kiphire.

It was not the physical strength alone that enabled the trekkers to reach the top but it was the indomitable spirit with which everyone trailed the rocky cliffs as well as the slippery pathway, said Fr. Loyola Antony. The experience as well as the mental framework of the trekkers varied from person to person, he said. While climbing, he said some of them had the thoughts of giving up and were focusing more on the physical pains. However for a few, it was an occasion for them to prove their caliber.

The greatest joy experienced by all the Catholic youths was not merely reaching the top of the mountain, but the privilege to celebrate the Holy Eucharist on top of the mountain. Commenting on the experience of climbing the mountain, one of the youths said “It’s once in a life-time experience and I feel great to be part of the many who have climbed this historic peak.” Another trekker remarked “The joy of having reached the top of Saramati Peak makes me forget all the pains and fears that I went through during the journey...” Fr. Anthony said that if one was determined and focused, blending with God’s grace, then no barriers could dishearten one’s inner strength. “Climbing Mount Saramati is a visible example for that. And of course, the
magnificent Mount Saramati is itself a reminder of God’s Majesty,” said Fr. Anthony.

_Nagaland Post 26/10/15_

**SFXC, Kidima Observes Mission Sunday**

St Francis Xavier Church, Kidima observed Mission Sunday 2015 with the rest of the world with Reverend Fr. Raymond D’Souza, SJ, Director of Eden Garden, Khuzama as the main celebrant at the Church premises. Rev. Fr. Raymond D’Souza said that Mission Sunday is making the people to understand the mission for salvation. The day is dedicated for the missionaries throughout the world especially those who are facing the difficulties, he said.

Reading of the Holy Bible, receiving the body and blood of Jesus Christ, contributing for the missionaries by the faithful and special prayer for salvation ministry were the highlights of the daylong celebration of the liturgical calendar.

–Correspondent

**Bishop’s Pastoral visit at Lazami**

Bishop James Thoppil made his pastoral visit to St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Lazami from 18-20th of October, 2015. During the celebration of the Holy Eucharist 97 faithful received the sacrament of Confirmation. Bishop visited the Villages of Pughobotu, Natsumi, Mukhalimi and celebrated Holy Eucharist with each of these communities. The St. Nicholas Cemetary of the Parish was also blessed and inaugurated by the Bishop. During the Holy Mass Bishop explained the four marks of the Original Church. He further explained about the Episcopal-dress of the Bishop. The Bishop interacted with the School Staff, students of class 10, Village community and Parish Pastoral Council. Bishop thanked the Frs. Yesudas, OFM Capuchin, Justin, OFM Capuchin and Sisters of Charity of Saint Bartolomea Capitanio & Vincenza Gerosa (SCCG) for their dedicated Service rendered to the community. Bishop urged the community to collaborate in their ministry for the love and service to the mankind. -Correspondent

**Plantation by HS & G on Kalam’s Birthday**

The birthday of former President of India, Dr APJ Abdul Kalam was celebrated by the Hindustan Scouts & Guides, Nagaland at Holy Cross Higher Secondary School, Dimapur, on October 15th, 2015, where more than 150 Cubs, Bulbuls, Scouts and Guides participated. The function was presided over by Fr. Philip Magh, Principal, of the School. The programme began with observance of one minute silence for the departed leader, which was followed by a speech on the life of Dr. Abdul Kalam by Afreena. On the occasion, the HS & G undertook planting and took a pledge to protect the environment and to take care at least one plant at home.

–Morung Express 21/10/15

**St. Joseph College Students Sensitized on SVEEP**

Systematic Voters Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) programme was held at St. Joseph College, Jakhama on October 16th, in the Indoor Stadium where more than three thousand students took part.

Chief Election Officer, Nagaland, Shri. Sanjay Kumar, IAS, in his keynote address said that students are the hope of the future of the State and Country and called on every student to take part in the enrolment of their names in the electoral roll. He also said that enrolment of names more than once is illegal. According to him, in Nagaland, there are many bogus/multiple entries of names in the electoral roll, which needs to be corrected. He also said that one should know who is District Election Officer (DEO), Assistant Election Officer (AEO) or Election Registration Officer appointed in the district. He also mentioned that SVEEP campaign is a mega programme launched by the Election Commission of India. He urged the students to spread the message of Clean Electoral Roll so that the right persons can enroll his /her name in the electoral roll. Every elector should have their EPIC Card, Sanjay Kumar said and read out the pledge on clean election.
The programme was chaired by Joint CEO, N. Moa Aier, welcome speech and invocation by Fr. Anthony, Vice Principal, St. Joseph College. Managing Director, Peoples Channel, Rozelle Mero, Miss Nagaland 2015 and State Icon, Veineiem Singsong, SDO (C) and AERO Jakhama, Athsangla, gave short speeches. Dy. Chief Election Officer Vekho Vero tendered vote of thanks.

-Morung Express 18/10/15

Parents’ Day at HCHSS Section-D

The Holy Cross Hr. Sec. School,( Section-D), Dimapur celebrated the Parents’ Day with Most Rev. Dr. James Thoppil, Bishop of Kohima as the Chief Guest on 16th October, in the Pastoral Centre Hall, Dimapur. Bishop congratulated Rev. Fr. Jaison Thomas, Principal and the Staff for the meticulous training given to the Children. The classic way in which the kids performed during the program speaks volumes about the commitment of the teachers and parents for the training of the children. The children in one chorus said, “This day is for you Dad and Mom and we love you”.

Bishop in his message said that though we have advanced at a rapid speed in our communication net work, we have digressed in human relation and communication. While communication through machines has grown through mobiles, TV and other electronic gadgets in the homes, humans are becoming strangers to one another even at home. We are living more in a mechanized world than in a wed of human relationship. The gap between the Children and parents is being widened day by day. Therefore, Bishop urged the parents to spend some time with their children. Children are our greatest treasure.

Bishop also met the leaders of the Villages, Village Church members and Parish Pastoral Council members. He urged them to live the life of sincerity, honesty and truthfulness. He further visited the houses of Sisters and Brothers and prayed for the family. Bishop while addressing the students apprised them that ‘Gratitude is the best attitude.’ He said people who live with “I CAN’T, I WON’T” don’t bring success in life, but people who bring success are those who live with ‘I CAN.’ He urged the students to live with a set of goals in life and be industrious pupils.  

Fr. Jaison Thomas, Principal of the Christ School, accorded the words of welcome to Most Rev. Dr. James Thoppil, Bishop of Kohima, Fr PJ Thomas, Chairman of the school, other Fathers, Sisters, Parents of the children and other guests. The tiny tots mesmerized the parents through various items that gave a message to remember and live. Enactment of Bible passage, Choreography, Song, Vegetable Drill, U.K.G. in action, Skit, Naga Dance, Nursery Land, Magic, Color Rainbow, Couple Dance, Handi Dance, Tableau were the special items of the day. The program ended with the school anthem.

- Correspondent

Pastoral visit to Jalukie

Bishop James Thoppil made his Pastoral visit to Jalukie from 9th-14th October, 2015. He visited 8 Villages Viz, Samziuram, Sungihu, Nkwarew, Jalukielo, Ikisingrum, Jalukie B’, Mhainamtsi, Heningkunglwa(N). During the visit a total of 424 people received the Sacrament of the Confirmation and 64 people received the First Holy Communion. Bishop thanked Frs. Anthonysamy, the parish priest, John Vipral and the Sisters of the Missionary Sisters of Mary Help of Christians for the great services they do to the parish. Bishop while visiting the Ikisingrum visited the Khelma village under the guidance of Mr. Abraham.

Bishop also met the leaders of the Villages, Village Church members and Parish Pastoral Council members. He urged them to live the life of sincerity, honesty and truthfulness. He further visited the houses of Sisters and Brothers and prayed for the family. Bishop while addressing the students apprised them that ‘Gratitude is the best attitude.’ He said people who live with “I CAN’T, I WON’T” don’t bring success in life, but people who bring success are those who live with ‘I CAN.’ He urged the students to live with a set of goals in life and be industrious pupils.  

I NEVER DREAMED ABOUT SUCCESS
I WORKED FOR IT

SHARING: DEC 2015 - JAN 2016 - 25
KCJA Conducts Music Camp

As part of the Yearlong Silver Jubilee celebration that will culminate on December 19th -20th, 2016. Kidima Catholic Juniors’ Association (KCJA) conducted a music camp on October 10th. The Silver Jubilee is being celebrated on the theme “Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them.” (Mt. 19:14). KCJA members were trained on moral and religious values by Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Thomas Muttatathil, Franciscan Sisters of Saint Mary of the Angels, Visekunu Victor and Vizobeinu Rita. Pekronyu Pius, Kehonozo Paul along with Kidima Catholic Youth Association were the music camp teachers. Imparting hymns and tonic-solfa, amusement and interacting with children were the highlights of the camp. 140 children participated in the music camp.

- Eastern Mirror 12/10/15

Christ School Domukhia Observes Parents’ Day

Christ School, Domukhia celebrated Parents’ Day on October 8, with Brigadier Brijesh Dhiman, commander, 6th Sector, Assam Rifles as Chief Guest. Speaking on the occasion the Chief Guest lauded the staff and management and encouraged the parents to motivate their children and guide them in the proper way. He also presented sports items to the school. Principal of the school Mother Sibi, SABS, stressed the responsibility of the parents together with the staff to lead and guide the children in the right path of God by being sincere, honest and above all loving and caring. The programme consisted of the presentation of entertaining items by the students. Later vote of thanks was delivered by Sr.Aquina.

- Eastern Mirror 12/10/15

Regional Catechists’ and Lay Leaders’ Training at Kiphire

As per the plan of Kiphire Region, Catechists’ Training and leaders’ training program was organized for the catechists and Lay leaders of the region on 3rd and 4th October. The program was animated by Rev. Fr. Jaison Thomas, Rev. Sr. Rosin, UFC and Rev. Sr. Rose, MSMHC. There were 40 participants. Catechists and lay leaders were empowered to carry on the mission of Christ in their respective villages.

- Fr. Benny Varghese

Juniors Camp Organised, Consecrated Life Celebrated

Khonoma Parish junior CYA had three days camp held at Mezoma Village from 2nd to 4th October. There were 300 participants for the camp. The camp was sponsored by the Western Angami Catholic Union and facilitated by the Mezoma Catholic Community. The Catechists and the teachers of Sunday catechism jointly organised and conducted the camp. Besides input sessions for faith formation and Christian life, various competitions, talent shows etc were part of the camp.

The culmination of the camp was with the celebration of the Day of Consecrated Life on Sunday, 4th October. All the Priests and Sisters working in the Parish and hailing from the parish came together for this celebration. 13 sisters and 9 priests joined in the celebration. At present there are 11 professed sisters and one priest from the Parish and there are 10 sisters and 9 priests working in the Parish in different institutions. Rev. Fr. P.M. Joseph from Emmaus Novitiate, Zubza celebrated the Holy Mass and Rev. Fr. N.J. Jose from Zubza preached the homily. During the Felicitation Programme, all the priests and sisters were presented with gifts by the Western Angami Catholic Union, Western Angami Catholic Women Association and from the Parish. Later in the Day, Rev. Fr. George Rino and all the Sisters from the Parish present shared the story of their vocation and journey to consecrated life and challenged the youth to respond to God’s Call with courage and determination.

- Fr. Jacob Charalel

Capacity Building Programme on Peace Building

Peace Channel had conducted a one day capacity building programme for peace club leaders, members and teacher coordinators on October 10th at the Peace Channel conference hall, Dimapur. While addressing the gathering, Rev. Dr. C.P. Anto, Director of Peace Channel and Principal NEISSR, stressed on the need to capacitate youth and adult on peace building, conflict resolutions and techniques of conflict transformation like peace education, dialogue negotiation, etc. He also stressed on the role of government and non-Governmental organizations in the process of finding solutions to the existing conflicts and preventing future conflicts. Fr. C.P. Anto also educated the participants on four steps methodology of peace channel in promoting peace, namely information, formation,
transformation and evaluation. While illustrating on the concept, he said that information helps to understand and create awareness, while formation enables one to get educated and capacitated on the seven principles and seven values of the movement leading to build peaceful environment, and finally transformation empowers them to action for peace and the evaluation strengthens and assesses every day how is our relationship with God, people and environment.

The program was organized in the context of using the traditional method of skill development of youth by training them in Morung. He said as peace builders, we need to change our attitude and perceptions for peaceful and harmonious living. Stating that one cannot alter the past, he however said one can change what is to come. He ended his talk with an inspiring remark, ‘Aspire to inspire before you expire’.

Kishor Dass, DPO, DAN, enlightened the gathering on the power of meditation. A short session on how to meditate also was conducted with some tips. He also encouraged the students to become initiators and aspire to achieve permanent peace. “Peace education has given me a start, a new beginning. At first I did not know how to be a peace builder, but through this program I have gained a lot of knowledge and hope to become a better peace leader,’ said Akhumlila, student of MGM Higher Secondary School. Rev. Sr. Sudha said the invocation prayer while Ms. Atu welcomed the gathering.

- Eastern Mirror 12/10/15

**Scout Camp Held at Khonoma**

The Hindustan Scouts and Guides of St. Andrew School, Jotsoma participated in a three-day scout camp held at Khonoma from 25th to 27th September 2015. 65 Scouts and Guides along with their scout master and three other assisting teachers participated in the camp. The camp was animated by Ms. Gnana Nirmala, the Central Joint Secretary cum State Organising Commissioner of Hindustan Scouts and Guides and Mr. Abraham, State Training Commissioner. Besides the “Pravishika Course”, the camp included various scouting activities, camp fire, cultural shows and a guided tour of Khonoma Village. After the introduction of Scouts and Guides in the school in 2014, it was the first time the entire group took part in an outstation camp which was enthusiastically participated by all. - Fr. Jacob Charalel

**Kiphire Region Observes Consecrated Life**

Kiphire Region observed the Year of Consecrated Life on 28th-29th November at St. Peter’s Parish, Kiphire. The celebration was observed to honor those priests and Religious working as well from the region. The region comprises of Kiphire, Pungro, Seyochung and Shamator. On the first day, we had recollection, adoration and confession. On the second day, there was solemn Holy Eucharist followed by felicitation and common meal. It was a day for the laity to acknowledge and to thank God for the gift of priests and religious and also a day of introspection and gratitude for the priests and religious.

- Correspondent

**Parish Feast Celebrated at SXPM**

The feast of St. Francis Xavier, the patron of St. Xavier Parish, Meluri, (SXPM) was celebrated on 29th November. The feast was preceded an intense spiritual preparation of two-days retreat from 27th - 28th November conducted Fr. Sony, VC and Mr. Stephen for the parishioners. The main celebrant for the parish feast was Rev. Fr. George Punnolil, the Financial Administrator of the diocese and a pioneering missionary in Meluri area. A prayerful Eucharistic procession was held after the Holy Mass. 57 Children received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion. The celebration ended with the agape meal served to all.

- Fr. George Punnolil
1. What do you like best about being a Consecrated Person?

God’s call is a greatest gift that I have received to be a religious consecrated to Him. It is a pure gift of God to my family and to me. God has called me by Name saying “You are mine”. I am not better than the others, but he has chosen me. It is a sacred call - chosen by God for a purpose; to share His love as a consecrated religious in the Congregation of Missionaries of Charity. God gives me four vows which enable me to fulfill my mission of receiving and giving His love to others freely and wholeheartedly by serving the poorest of the poor. There is no other explanation apart from the love which he bears for me when I am called to be a religious. This love is absolutely gratuitous, personal and unique, and as a religious sister in the congregation of Missionaries of Charity I am able to cross all barriers of nationality, creed, tribe and culture. I am put in touch with Jesus in the Eucharist and serve Him in the poorest of the poor, 24 hours. The opportunity to meet Christ personally and directly in the poorest of the poor makes me rich vibrant in its totality.

2. What was one of the big challenges you have faced as a Religious and how did you deal with it?

The biggest challenge I faced as a religious is to be a witness truly fervent, authentic contemplative in the world and to be love in action in full radicalism both in big things and the small things. What Mother Teresa would term wholeheartedness, radicalism and totality in self-giving and self-sacrifice “all for Jesus, to Jesus and only for Jesus” without counting the cost for souls in and out of season at all times demands me to give the charity of Christ. This is the challenge I face every moment of my life.

The daily Holy Mass, adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, the spiritual reading, frequenting the sacrament of reconciliation, the examination of conscience twice a day, following the rule and regulations of the congregation, praying the Rosary, joyful and loving presence, communion and self-gift to each other in the community are the sustaining sources of living my religious life joyfully and meaningfully.

3. How would you make your vocation attractive to the youth of today?

The world is at the brink of despair and looking for pleasure at all cost. The youth of today are hungry for love, acceptance and appreciation. It is only a normal thing to see a happy religious. It is abnormal to see a religious going around always angry and moody. Joy is the infallible sign of God’s presence therefore the witness of my own life lived in sincerity and fidelity to God’s call with apostolic zeal that comes daily and radiating the joy of belonging only to Jesus, encouraging young people to give generous, voluntary service by sharing in our works of love to the poorest of the poor in laboring for salvation and sanctification of souls and trusting in Divine providence in all circumstances, living a life of total surrender joyfully. This could surely attract today’s youth in search of truth and life of holiness. The sign of contradiction to the worldly wise and the great of the time, we use simple and poor means that touches very core of human heart.

4. What aspect of Religious life has brought you most joy?

The apostolate of self-gift in seeking out the lonely, the uncared, unwanted, the outcasts of human society nursing the sick, visiting the poor and helping the dying person to make peace with God and help them to live and die with human dignity, see Jesus, serve Jesus, love Jesus in them etc. have brought joy in my life. Our Mother Teresa would say “I thirst” and “you did it to me” are two sides of one coin and see Jesus in my
sisters first and then love him in Eucharist and give service to the poorest of the poor without expecting anything in return thus helping me to identify myself with the poor I serve until it hurts no matter how small or humble this makes my religious life most joyful.

On-Going Formation, at Jalandhar

The diocesan priests of North-East India, had an exposure trip to Jalandhar from 25th October to 2nd November, 2015. The Programme was held at Gianodaya Pastoral Centre, near Gol Girja, Guru Gobind Singh Avenue, Chogitti, Jalandhar in Punjab.

The first two days the topic was on Media Apostolate conducted by Fr. George Plathottam. Another three days animation was on the Social teachings of the Church by Fr. Fr. Alwyn De Souza. The group also had an opportunity for the three days of exposure to Punjab and some inputs on the growth of the Church in Punjab. The important places like, Amritsar Golden temple, Jallianwalla Bag, Wagha Border, were visited. The next year proposal is to go for pilgrimage to Khandhamal in Orissa.

National Eucharistic Congress at St. Pius X College, Mumbai

The National Eucharistic Congress was held in the Archdiocese of Mumbai at the St. Pius X College, Mumbai from 12th to 15th Nov 2015, in commemoration of the Golden Jubilee of the 38th International Eucharistic Congress. The theme was: ‘The Eucharist: Nourished by Christ to Nourish Others’, which invited all to understand that we are called to become what we consume - to be other Christ. The 5-day program addressed the challenges of this message in the Indian context. One of the highlights of the Congress was the Statio Nationalis scheduled for the concluding day at St Pius. The participating dioceses also made a pilgrimage to the Mata Valankani Shrine at Bhathebander, Uttan, that was followed by a Eucharistic Adoration. The participants were given an opportunity to experience the faith and culture of the local community. Around 20,000 Catholic faithful came to the shrine for this faith celebration. The Congress was attended by the Papal Legate and 5 representatives each from each of the 135 dioceses and archdioceses, encompassing the Latin, Syro-Malankara and Syro-Malabar rites. There were 56 Cardinals and Bishops, 200 Priests and 800 delegates from different parts of the country. The Diocese of Kohima was represented by Fr. Benjamin Chang, Sr. Joyce, Mr. Stephen Ao and Mr. Benedict Angami. The Holy Eucharist was celebrated in the different rites. His Holiness, Pope Francis’ also gave his special message through a video conference.

Agartala Diocese Witnesses a Record Gathering

More than nine thousand faithful from all parts of the state converged at Agartala November 8th, 2015 to be part of the 7th Annual Eucharistic Procession, making it a record of sorts in the 19 year old diocese. The day’s program began with a solemn Eucharist officiated by Most Rev. Lumen Monteiro, CSC, DD, the Bishop of Agartala along with 35 priests in the presence of many Religious and thousands of lay faithful from different parishes, at Don Bosco School Grounds, Agartala.

Correspondent
God Doesn’t Get Tired of Us
(Reflection- ‘Holy Year of Mercy’)
- Rev. Fr. Sojan Puthankudy

During the Lenten Penance service in St. Peter’s Basilica at the Vatican on March 13 the Pope announced an extraordinary jubilee, a Holy Year of Mercy, to be celebrated from Dec. 8, 2015, the fiftieth anniversary of the closing of the Second Vatican Council, until Nov. 20, 2016, the Solemnity of Christ the King.

Holy Years, or Jubilees, are normally held every 25 years – the last such occasion was the Jubilee of the year 2000 called for by Pope John Paul II. But Pope Francis announced during a Lenten penance service that he intended to call this extraordinary Holy Year to focus on the Church’s “mission to be a witness of mercy” in the world.

Speaking on the initiative of the Holy Father Cardinal Kasper says the Holy Year is a “genial initiative and a prophetic voice” because mercy “corresponds to the signs of the times today”. God’s mercy, he says, is central to the message of Jesus himself so the Pope is placing it at the centre of our discussions, reflections and prayer for this coming year so that we can recognize “the real face of God” which is often misunderstood as a punishing, insidious, even violent God. Secondly, the Cardinal says, we are all sinners and need to be merciful to our neighbours and learn how to apologise for our failures…”

The emphasis on mercy is dear to Holy Father, and it is found in Pope Francis’ motto, Miserando Atque Eligendo, which translates loosely as “choosing through the eyes of mercy.” It was in his first Sunday homily as Pope, in which he said that “in my opinion, the strongest message of the Lord is mercy.”

The theme of mercy of Pope Francis’ pontificate is in continuity with his immediate predecessors. At the opening of the Second Vatican Council, Pope John XXIII stressed it was time for the Church to use “the medicine of mercy” and Pope Paul VI, in his closing address, said the model of spirituality of the Council should be that of the Good Samaritan. Pope John Paul II’s encyclical was dedicated to the theme of mercy, as was Pope Benedict’s first one, ‘Deus Caritas Est’…

Background to the Holy Year of Mercy

The horrors of the 20th century and the pontificate of Pope St. John Paul II form the backdrop to the Holy Father’s recent announcement of a Holy Year of Mercy.

‘Bull of Indiction’ Sets in Motion the Road Map for ‘The Year of Mercy’

The ‘bull of induction’ of Holy Father Pope Francis sets in motion, the notable steps and the significance of the “Year of Mercy.” It deals with the nature, and calling of mercy – describes the scope, mission, and substance of his pontificate. “Jesus Christ is the face of the Father’s mercy.” With these opening words, Pope Francis sets the tone for the entire document and identifies the core of “the mystery of the Christian faith.” When Christians speak of mercy, they are not merely advocating for gentleness, compassion, generosity, and understanding. Mercy certainly entails all of these things, but mercy is first and foremost a description of God’s nature. The call to become merciful (Mt. 5:7) is not simply an invitation to a more non-judgmental way of looking at others and ourselves; it is the invitation to “be merciful as your Father is merciful,” (Lk. 6:36) that is, to participate in the very way in which God loves his creatures.

Encounter Mercy, Encountering the Person of Jesus Christ

Mercy is a “concrete reality through which he [God] reveals his love as that of a father or a mother, moved to the very depths out of love for his/ her child.” It is not an abstract idea, for “mercy has become living and visible in Jesus of Nazareth.” Mercy is a person. To encounter mercy we need to encounter a person, Jesus of Nazareth. We would not know what mercy is, if it were not for the encounter
with the forgiving and compassionate glance with which God came to meet us in Jesus Christ. In fact, “with our eyes fixed on Jesus and his merciful gaze, we experience the love of the Most Holy Trinity.” We can confidently repeat John’s confession that “God is love,” (1 Jn. 4:8) for this love has been made “visible and tangible in Jesus’ entire life.” In Evangeli Gaudium, Pope Francis related that he had a profound experience of mercy in his teenage years through the sacrament of Confession. “After making my confession I felt something had changed. I was not the same. I had heard something like a voice, or a call.” This was the definitive moment of mercy in his life, which fuels his desire to share this mercy with others. He describes the Church as a “community [that] has an endless desire to show mercy, the fruit of its own experience of the power of the Father’s infinite mercy” (EG, 24).

Church, the Tangible Sign of God’s Mercy
How does mercy remain visible and tangible today? What is the concrete reality through which God reveals his love to the men and women of the twenty-first century? It is the Church, Pope Francis tells us, whose primary task “is to introduce everyone to the great mystery of God’s mercy.” As do the words and deeds of Jesus in the Gospel, so too the Church’s “language and her gestures must transmit mercy, so as to touch the hearts of all people and inspire them once more to find the road to the Father.” Mercy is the foundation of the life of the Church, and the Church’s credibility is seen in how she shows merciful and compassionate love. “Wherever the Church is present, the mercy of the Father must be evident.”

We are Called to be Instruments of God’s Mercy
We are called to be instruments of mercy, which means that we have to open our hearts to those living on the outmost fringes of society, overcoming our usual indifference and reaching out to those who are wounded and in need of help. Following Jesus’ steps, we too need to share our meals with sinners, without closing ourselves in our self-referential righteousness. Only in this way, in fact, will the Jubilee not be just another formal event, but an authentic “year of the Lord’s favor.” (Is. 61:2) A moment, that is, in which the entire Christian community will follow Jesus “to bring a word and gesture of consolation to the poor, to proclaim liberty to those bound by new forms of slavery in modern society, to restore sight to those who can see no more because they are caught up in themselves, to restore dignity to all those from whom it has been robbed.”

Life of Witness, Sublime Expression of God’s Mercy
In a time when everything in our culture seems to conspire against faith and authentic human communion, “the preaching of Jesus is made visible once more in the response of faith Christians are called to offer by their witness.” Pope Francis desires for the Jubilee to be a time when, steeped in mercy, Christians may go out to all, bringing the goodness and tenderness of God. By contemplating the face of Christ and listening to the Word of God, the Church is called to be a visible witness of mercy amidst the confusion and suffering of our time. This is the greatest contribution that the Church can give to our broken society: not to have an alternate position on the various issues of the day, but to be an alternative where true justice – that is, mercy – is proclaimed, lived, and pursued.

Conclusion
Holy Father wants to share the message that the Lord wants us to know that in the midst of the chaos of this world, even in the darkest moments, he is ready to shower his mercy upon us and to brighten our path through this new millennium. By proclaiming the Jubilee of Mercy, Pope Francis invites the entire Church into a special time when “the witness of believers might grow stronger and more effective,” and his invitation to convert and renew our faith. God doesn’t get tired of us, Pope Francis has said, but “we are the ones who get tired of seeking his mercy.” Join him in exploring the infinite love and unfailing compassion of God who is always “there first,” ready to receive and embrace us. Let us listen to the clarion call of our Pope to realize that we are a community of believers who need to help and support each other as we seek forgiveness for our sins.

“Mercy is the very foundation of the Church’s life...The Church’s very credibility is seen in how she shows merciful and compassionate love...Mercy is the force that reawakens us to new life and instills in us the courage to look to the future with hope.”

-Pope Francis
Pope calls Central African Christians, Muslims to unite against violence

Christians and Muslims must unite against acts which “disfigure the Face of God” by promoting peace, Pope Francis told Islamic representatives on the final day of his visit the war-torn Central African Republic (CAR).

“Those who claim to believe in God must also be men and women of peace,” the Pope said at the Nov. 30 encounter at the Mosque of Koudoukou in the CAR capital Bangui, recalling the long history of peaceful coexistence among people of different religions.

“Christians, Muslims and members of the traditional religions have lived together in peace for many years,” the pontiff said, adding: “We are well aware that the recent events and acts of violence which have shaken your country were not grounded in properly religious motives.”

Pope Francis arrived Sunday in the CAR, the final stop of his tri-nation visit to Africa. It also marks the pontiff’s first time in an active war zone.

“Christians and Muslims are brothers and sisters. We must therefore consider ourselves and conduct ourselves as such,” he said.

“They ought, therefore, to remain united in working for an end to every act which, from whatever side, disfigures the Face of God and whose ultimate aim is to defend particular interests by any and all means, to the detriment of the common good.”

“Together, we must say no to hatred, to revenge and to violence, particularly that violence which is perpetrated in the name of a religion or of God himself. God is peace, salam.”

The CAR became embroiled in violence in December 2012 when several bands of mainly Muslim rebel groups formed an alliance, taking the name Seleka. They left their strongholds in the north of the country and made their way south, seizing power from then-president Francois Bozize. Since then, some 6,000 people have died in the conflict, with several thousands more displaced.

The country will hold both presidential and parliamentary elections Dec. 27, after they were postponed in October due to violence and instability. Interim President Catherine Samba-Panza, who has so far struggled to keep peace, will not be a candidate.

Pope Francis went forward with the scheduled visit to the Koudoukou mosque despite security concerns. These fears were exacerbated by reports Saturday of three young people being killed in a nearby neighborhood, although it was later announced that no one died, and that the youths had been found.

In his address at the mosque, the Pope expressed his gratitude for the work done by Christian and Muslim leaders to re-establish “harmony and fraternity among all.”

The pontiff went on to acknowledge the acts of solidarity shown by Christians and Muslims towards persons of other religions by “welcoming them and defending them during this latest crisis in your country, as well as in other parts of the world.”

“We cannot fail to express hope that the forthcoming national consultations will provide the country with leaders capable of bringing Central Africans together, thus becoming symbols of national unity rather than merely representatives of one or another faction.”

The Pope called for the CAR, which is “situated in the heart of Africa,” to be a place of welcome for everyone – regardless of ethnicity, political affiliation, or religion – which in turn will encourage the rest of the continent to follow in its footsteps.

“It will prove a positive influence and help extinguish the smouldering tensions which prevent Africans from benefitting from that development which they deserve and to which they have a right.”

Pope Francis concluded his address by inviting those present to “pray and work for reconciliation, fraternity and solidarity among all people, without forgetting those who have suffered the most as a result of recent events.”

-CNA/EWTN News
Bangui is today the spiritual capital of the world,” Pope Francis said as he opened the Holy Door of Bangui’s cathedral on Sunday 29 Nov., the first time a Pope has opened a Holy Door outside Rome.

Pope Francis proclaimed: “We all pray for peace, mercy, reconciliation, pardon, love. Throughout the Central African Republic and in all the nations of the world which suffer war, let us pray for peace. And together we all pray for love and peace. We pray together.”

The Jubilee of Mercy does not begin until Dec. 8, but Pope Francis decided to open the Holy Door in the cathedral of Bangui as a sign of prayer and solidarity with the country.

The Central African Republic is an active warzone following the December 2012 uprising which led to the overthrow of the president. About 6,000 people have died in the conflict, with several thousands more displaced.

The rite of the opening of the Holy Door is intended to symbolize that the Church’s faithful are offered an “extraordinary path” toward salvation during the time of jubilee.

As part of the Holy Year for Mercy, holy doors for the first time will be designated in dioceses. These will be located either in the cathedral, in a church of special significance or a shrine of particular importance for pilgrimages. Each of the four major basilicas in Rome has a holy door. These are normally sealed shut from the inside so that they cannot be opened. The doors are only opened during jubilee years so that pilgrims can enter through them in order to gain the plenary indulgence that is connected with the jubilee.

Pope Francis’ Sunday homily emphasized that the power of God’s love can overcome “unprecedented devastation.” He called on Christians to be leaders in showing mercy, forgiveness, and reconciliation. He also called on those involved in unjust conflict to lay down their weapons.

“Arm yourselves instead with righteousness, with love and mercy, the authentic guarantors of peace,” he said.

Pope Francis will open the Holy Door at St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome when the Holy Year officially begins Dec. 8.

During his meeting with the youth of the Central African Republic, Pope Francis gave spontaneous comments in response to a young local who asked the Holy Father’s advice about living in a war-torn country.

“We have been taken by heavy winds and violence...these challenges remain numerous,” the young man told the Holy Father, pointing out that the symbol of their country was the banana tree because it is resistant and life-giving.

The young man expressed that he and many of his friends are tempted to leave the violence and difficulties of their homeland in the Central African Republic. Since 2012, over 6,000 people in the CAR have died from violence spread by Muslim rebel groups challenging the country’s presidential power.

Pope Francis’ visit to the CAR is the most dangerous yet, as the country is considered to be an active war zone.

The pontiff held his encounter with the youth outside of Bangui’s Notre-Dame Cathedral on Nov. 29. It included a short, unprepared address and was followed by the administration of the sacrament of confession and a prayer vigil.

Below is CNA’s full transcript of Pope Francis’ remarks to Central African youth:

This friend who spoke in all of your name said that your symbol is the banana tree, because the banana is the symbol of life, it always grows, always produces, gives life, nutrients, energy.
The banana plant is very resistant. I think that this tells us very clearly the way that’s proposed to us during this difficult time of war: the way of resistance.

Dear friends, some of you want to go away, some of you want to leave. But escaping from the challenges that life presents is never a resolution. We need to resist, to have the courage to resist, to fight so that good can come. Those who flee do not have the courage to give life.

The banana gives life and continues to reproduce, giving more and more life because it resists, because it remains, because it’s there. Some of you might ask me ‘but father, what can we do? how do we resist?’ I’m going to say to or three things that may be helpful for you in order to resist.

First of all, prayer! Prayer is powerful, prayer conquers evil, prayer brings us nearer to God who is all powerful. I’m going to ask you a question: Do you pray? I don’t hear you! (cheers). Don’t forget.

The second thing I’d like to say is work for peace. Peace is not found in a document you sign. That just remains there. Peace is found every day and peace is something that is done by hand, it’s something that artisans do, it’s done with one’s own life. But some of you might ask: ‘how can I be an artisan of peace?’

First, Never hate! And if someone does evil toward you, try to forgive – never hate. A lot of forgiveness. (Say together) ‘no hate, a lot of forgiveness.’

And if you don’t have hate in your heart, if you will be a victor. And then you will be a victor of the most important battle of life: victors of love, and out of love comes peace.

Do you want to be conquered or do you want to be victors: what do you want?

The path of love – and can one love an enemy? Yes. Can we pardon those who’ve done us wrong? Yes. Thus with love and with forgiveness, you will be conquerors. With love you will be victorious in life, love always wins, love will never allow you to be conquered.

I wish you all the best – think of the banana. Think of resisting before difficulty. Escaping, going far away, is not a solution. You need to be courageous. Have you understood what it means to be courageous? Courageous and forgiving, courageous and loving, courageous and being peaceful.

Are we agreed? (cheers). Let’s say together: courage, love, reconciliation, peace! Dear friends, I am very happy to meet with you. Today we opened this door, this means the door of the mercy of God. Entrust yourselves to God, because he is merciful, he is love. He is able to give you peace.

And so I told you at the beginning to pray: in order to resist, to love, and to be artisans of peace. Thank you so much for your presence. Now I will go inside to hear some of your confessions. Are you ready to resist? Yes or no? (cheers). Are you ready to fight for peace? Are you ready in your heart? Is your heart ready to forgive? Is your heart ready to be reconciled? Is your heart ready to love this beautiful country?

And now I go back to what I said in the beginning: is your heart ready to pray? And now, I ask you, to pray for me! So that I might be a good bishop. So that I might be a good Pope. Will you promise to pray for me? Now I give you my blessing. To you and to your families, a blessing, asking the Lord to give you love and peace.

-CNA/EWTN News

Peace is Impossible without Tolerance, Forgiveness: Pope Francis

Pope Francis’ first stop after arriving in the Central African Republic Sunday (29 Nov. 2015) was to a refugee camp housing thousands of persons displaced by the country’s ongoing conflict.

Upon his arrival at the camp Nov. 29, the Pope was greeted by children living there, who held up signs displaying words such as “peace,” “love,” “unity,” and “pardon.”

After greeting the children, Francis made his way through the camp before speaking briefly off-the-cuff to its inhabitants.

“I saw what the children have written (on the signs),” he said, explaining that “we must work and pray; do everything (possible) for peace.”

However, he cautioned that “peace without love, without friendship, without tolerance, without forgiveness, isn’t possible. Each one of us must do something.”
NEWS - Catholic - World

The Pope then expressed his desire that all Central Africans would have “great peace among you ... regardless of ethnicity, culture, religion, or social status.”

Located at the parish of St. Sauveur in Bangui, the camp is home to 1,000-2,000 people displaced by violence and conflict. -CNA/EWTN News


Dec 2015
13 Wokha – Golden Jubilee of the Parish & Ordination
19 Phor Village – Silver Jubilee
20-21 Lozaphuhu: Youth Jubilee
26 Rosuma Village Jubilee,
30 Bhandari – Priestly Ordination of Deacon Victor

Jan 2016
09 Zhavame – Golden Jubilee
15-17 Chizami: CWA Convention
24 Wokha – NCWA Convention,
27-30 Koh. – Catechists Convention
30-31 Dim: National Peace Convention

The 12th PCYA Convention will be held at St Peter’s Church Old Thewati Village from 8-11 January 2016, with the Theme: ‘MERCY’

MAY THEIR SOULS REST IN PEACE

Mrs. Acchama Mathew Mundathanam (84), eldest Sister of Fr. Sebastian Ousepparambil (Principal St. Joseph’s College) passed away on 14th October, 2015.

Mr. Abraham (70) the uncle of Fr. Sajimon (Pungro) passed away on 20th October, 2015

Sr. Anitha(61) FCC (61) Worked in Nagaland) passed away on 8th November, 2015.


Peter Kithan (former priest of our diocese) passed away on 15th November, 2015.

Eternal Rest Grant unto him, O Lord.
And let the perpetual light shine upon him.

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Ph#9436000387, 9615533436

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You may contact for further information:
Ph#09436000387 (Principal),
09856847845 (Vice-Principal)

Fr. Felix Monteiro S.J
Principal

Peter Kithan
(former priest of our diocese)

Father’s Name : Mr. Kezevio Dominic
Mother’s Name: Mrs.Khrieketouû Anthonia
Names of Children 1. Sedengunuo Mary
2. Dziesebeinuo Julina
3. Kuoyievinuo Noeline
4. Kezhangunuo Catherine
5. Kikrusetuo Samuel

1. Date of Marriage: 03-02-1983
2. Family Day : 27th May
3. Father’s Job : Govt. Service
4. Mother’s Job : Govt. Service
5. No of Children : 5 (five)
a) What they do?
   - They are studying and two are temporarily employed in the State Govt. Establishment.

6. Could you share with the readers something about your family?
   - By the grace of God and the blessings of my parents, my family is living a happy and a blessed life.

7. What is your dream for the Society?
   - My family looks forward towards an ideal Society.

8. Share about some persons to whom you are grateful?
   - My Parents, Relatives, Friends and Superiors who are always at our side, in good and bad times.

9. Any good and bad experience in your life?
   - Yes, Joy, happiness and peace on one side, sadness and works on the other side.

10. Your Message to the readers?
    - A strong Society keeps its members active, secure and united. And if the society leads, it leads others to the right direction. Therefore, let each of us put our effort to build a strong society.

11. Write something about your prayer life.
    - We pray at home, worship in the Church and have personal prayer as well.

12. What is your contribution to the growth of the church?
    - Our contribution is our humble participation and involvement in whatever possible way to what the church proposes.

“Unconditional love is loving your kids for who they are, not for what they do... it isn't something you will achieve every minute of every day. But it is the thought we must hold in our hearts every day.” » Stephanie Marston

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