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Heavenly Father,
When your only begotten Son Jesus Christ rose from the dead, he commissioned his followers to “go and make disciples of all nations” and you remind us that through our Baptism we are made shares in the mission of the Church.

Empower us by the gifts of the Holy Spirit to be courageous and zealous in bearing witness to the Gospel, so that the mission entrusted to the Church, which is still very far from completion, may find new and efficacious expressions that bring life and light to the world.

Help us make it possible for all peoples to experience the saving love and mercy of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever.

Amen
The Extraordinary Missionary Month declared by Pope Francis for October this year invites us to renew our missionary commitment and to rejuvenate our missionary spirit. The primary task of a Christian is to preach the Good News and to bear witness to Jesus. All our infrastructures and apostolates shall be focused to transmit the message of Jesus. Pope Francis says that the coming month of October shall be an occasion of intense and fruitful occasion of grace and promote initiatives and give importance to prayer which is the soul of all missionary activity. Let us differentiate between the primary and secondary tasks and give priority for evangelisation which is our primary obligation. Many of our activities for which we dedicate the lion’s share of time can be entrusted to other people.

*Evangelii Gaudium* says that mission *ad gentes* shall be the ordinary pastoral plan of the church (EG 15). In other words, the mission of Jesus shall be at the heart of the church and it shall be the criterion to measure the effectiveness and fruitfulness of her various ministries.

Bishop Abraham D. Mattam, the first bishop of Satna was a great missionary who was called to eternal rest on 16 April 2019 and his motto “… he went about doing good” (Acts 10:38) may motivate each missionary. We pay our rich tributes to the architect of Satna eparchy and pray for the repose of his soul. His tomb in St. Vincent Cathedral becomes an inspiration for us that a missionary must become part of the place where he/she lives and works.

We celebrate the Feast of Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary on 8 September. May Mother Mary, the model and inspiration of missionaries pray and intercede for us to follow Jesus closely.
Dear Brothers and Sisters,

For the month of October 2019, I have asked that the whole Church revive her missionary awareness and commitment as we commemorate the centenary of the Apostolic Letter Maximum Illud of Pope Benedict XV (30 November 1919). Its farsighted and prophetic vision of the apostolate has made me realize once again the importance of renewing the Church’s missionary commitment and giving fresh evangelical impulse to her work of preaching and bringing to the world the salvation of Jesus Christ, who died and rose again.

The title of the present Message is the same as that of October’s Missionary Month: Baptized and Sent: The Church of Christ on Mission in the World. Celebrating this month will help us first to rediscover the missionary dimension of our faith in Jesus Christ, a faith graciously bestowed on us in baptism. Our filial relationship with God is not something simply private, but always in relation to the Church. Through our communion with God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we, together with so many of our other brothers and sisters, are born to new life. This divine life is not a product for sale – we do not practise proselytism – but a treasure to be given, communicated and proclaimed: that is the meaning of mission. We received this gift freely and we share it freely (cf. Mt10:8), without excluding anyone. God wills that all people be saved by coming to know the truth and experiencing his mercy through the ministry of the Church, the universal sacrament of salvation (cf. 1 Tim 2:4; Lumen Gentium, 48).

The Church is on mission in the world. Faith in Jesus Christ enables us to see all things in their proper perspective, as we view the world with God’s own eyes and heart. Hope opens us up to the eternal horizons of the divine life that we share. Charity, of which we have a foretaste in the sacraments and in fraternal love, impels us to go forth to the
ends of the earth (cf. Mic 5:4; Mt28:19; Acts 1:8; Rom 10:18). A Church that presses forward to the farthest frontiers requires a constant and ongoing missionary conversion. How many saints, how many men and women of faith, witness to the fact that this unlimited openness, this going forth in mercy, is indeed possible and realistic, for it is driven by love and its deepest meaning as gift, sacrifice and gratuitousness (cf. 2 Cor 5:14-21)! The man who preaches God must be a man of God (cf. Maximum Illud).

This missionary mandate touches us personally: I am a mission, always; you are a mission, always; every baptized man and woman is a mission. People in love never stand still: they are drawn out of themselves; they are attracted and attract others in turn; they give themselves to others and build relationships that are life-giving. As far as God's love is concerned, no one is useless or insignificant. Each of us is a mission to the world, for each of us is the fruit of God's love. Even if parents can betray their love by lies, hatred and infidelity, God never takes back his gift of life. From eternity he has destined each of his children to share in his divine and eternal life (cf. Eph 1:3-6).

This life is bestowed on us in baptism, which grants us the gift of faith in Jesus Christ, the conqueror of sin and death. Baptism gives us rebirth in God's own image and likeness, and makes us members of the Body of Christ, which is the Church. In this sense, baptism is truly necessary for salvation for it ensures that we are always and everywhere sons and daughters in the house of the Father, and never orphans, strangers or slaves. What in the Christian is a sacramental reality – whose fulfillment is found in the Eucharist – remains the vocation and destiny of every man and woman in search of conversion and salvation. For baptism fulfils the promise of the gift of God that makes everyone a son or daughter in the Son. We are children of our natural parents, but in baptism we receive the origin of all fatherhood and true motherhood: no one can have God for a Father who does not have the Church for a mother (cf. Saint Cyprian, De Cath. Eccl., 6).

Our mission, then, is rooted in the fatherhood of God and the motherhood of the Church. The mandate given by the Risen Jesus at Easter is inherent in Baptism: as the Father has sent me, so I send you, filled with the Holy Spirit, for the reconciliation of the world (cf. Jn 20:19-23; Mt 28:16-20). This mission is part of our identity as Christians; it makes us responsible for enabling all men and women to realize their vocation to be adoptive children of the Father, to recognize their personal dignity and to appreciate the intrinsic worth of every human life, from conception until natural death. Today's rampant secularism, when it becomes an aggressive cultural rejection of God's active fatherhood in our history, is an obstacle to authentic human fraternity,
which finds expression in reciprocal respect for the life of each person. Without the God of Jesus Christ, every difference is reduced to a baneful threat, making impossible any real fraternal acceptance and fruitful unity within the human race.

The universality of the salvation offered by God in Jesus Christ led Benedict XV to call for an end to all forms of nationalism and ethnocentrism, or the merging of the preaching of the Gospel with the economic and military interests of the colonial powers. In his Apostolic Letter *Maximum Illud*, the Pope noted that the Church’s universal mission requires setting aside exclusivist ideas of membership in one’s own country and ethnic group. The opening of the culture and the community to the salvific newness of Jesus Christ requires leaving behind every kind of undue ethnic and ecclesial introversion. Today too, the Church needs men and women who, by virtue of their baptism, respond generously to the call to leave behind home, family, country, language and local Church, and to be sent forth to the nations, to a world not yet transformed by the sacraments of Jesus Christ and his holy Church. By proclaiming God’s word, bearing witness to the Gospel and celebrating the life of the Spirit, they summon to conversion, baptize and offer Christian salvation, with respect for the freedom of each person and in dialogue with the cultures and religions of the peoples to whom they are sent. The *missio ad gentes*, which is always necessary for the Church, thus contributes in a fundamental way to the process of ongoing conversion in all Christians. Faith in the Easter event of Jesus; the ecclesial mission received in baptism; the geographic and cultural detachment from oneself and one’s own home; the need for salvation from sin and liberation from personal and social evil: all these demand the mission that reaches to the very ends of the earth.

The providential coincidence of this centenary year with the celebration of the Special Synod on the Churches in the Amazon allows me to emphasize how the mission entrusted to us by Jesus with the gift of his Spirit is also timely and necessary for those lands and their peoples. A renewed Pentecost opens wide the doors of the Church, in order that no culture remain closed in on itself and no people cut off from the universal communion of the faith. No one ought to remain closed in self-absorption, in the self-referentiality of his or her own ethnic and religious affiliation. The Easter event of Jesus breaks through the narrow limits of worlds, religions and cultures, calling them to grow in respect for the dignity of men and women, and towards a deeper conversion to the truth of the Risen Lord who gives authentic life to all.

Here I am reminded of the words of Pope Benedict XVI at the beginning of the meeting of Latin American Bishops at Aparecida, Brazil, in 2007. I would like to repeat these words and make them my
own: “Yet what did the acceptance of the Christian faith mean for the nations of Latin America and the Caribbean? For them, it meant knowing and welcoming Christ, the unknown God whom their ancestors were seeking, without realizing it, in their rich religious traditions. Christ is the Saviour for whom they were silently longing. It also meant that they received, in the waters of Baptism, the divine life that made them children of God by adoption; moreover, they received the Holy Spirit who came to make their cultures fruitful, purifying them and developing the numerous seeds that the incarnate Word had planted in them, thereby guiding them along the paths of the Gospel… The Word of God, in becoming flesh in Jesus Christ, also became history and culture. The utopia of going back to breathe life into the pre-Columbian religions, separating them from Christ and from the universal Church, would not be a step forward: indeed, it would be a step back. In reality, it would be a retreat towards a stage in history anchored in the past” (Address at the Inaugural Session, 13 May 2007: Insegnamenti III, 1 [2007], 855-856).

We entrust the Church’s mission to Mary our Mother. In union with her Son, from the moment of the Incarnation the Blessed Virgin set out on her pilgrim way. She was fully involved in the mission of Jesus, a mission that became her own at the foot of the Cross: the mission of cooperating, as Mother of the Church, in bringing new sons and daughters of God to birth in the Spirit and in faith.

I would like to conclude with a brief word about the Pontifical Mission Societies, already proposed in *Maximum Illud* as a missionary resource. The Pontifical Mission Societies serve the Church’s universality as a global network of support for the Pope in his missionary commitment by prayer, the soul of mission, and charitable offerings from Christians throughout the world. Their donations assist the Pope in the evangelization efforts of particular Churches (the Pontifical Society for the Propagation of the Faith), in the formation of local clergy (the Pontifical Society of Saint Peter the Apostle), in raising missionary awareness in children (Pontifical Society of Missionary Childhood) and in encouraging the missionary dimension of Christian faith (Pontifical Missionary Union). In renewing my support for these Societies, I trust that the extraordinary Missionary Month of October 2019 will contribute to the renewal of their missionary service to my ministry.

To men and women missionaries, and to all those who, by virtue of their baptism, share in any way in the mission of the Church, I send my heartfelt blessing.

*From the Vatican, 9 June 2019, Solemnity of Pentecost*
सभी महामहिम, आदरणीय मेजर सुप्रीमियर, पुरोहितगण, धर्मबहनों और विश्वासियों सभी को शांति का अभिवादन!

संत पापा बेनेडिक्ट पन्द्रहवें के प्रेरितकप्रग्रंथ माक्सिमूम इल्द (Maximum Illud) की 100 वीं सालगिर हके पृष्ठ स्मरण हेतु संत पापा फांसिस ने 2019 के अक्टूबर महीने को विशेष मिशनरी महीने (Extraordinary Missionary Month) के रूप में मनाने के बुलावा दिया है और उन्होंने कहा है “हम सब इस महीने को हमारे क्षेत्र में एक यादगार बनायें।” संत पापा का यह बुलावा प्रमु येसू की उस आज्ञाके प्रति उत्तर है जिसे उन्होंने अपने शिष्यों को दिया था “संसार के कोने-कोने में जाकर सारी सृष्टि को सुसमाचार सुनाओ।” (मारकुस 16:15)। यह आज्ञा कल्लीसिया के लिए कोई विकल्प नहीं परंतु एक “महालपूर्ण जिमेदारी है, क्योंकि कल्लीसिया का ‘अस्तित्व ही सुसमाचार प्रचार करने के लिए है’ (LG 48, AG 2)। अतः संत पापा ने इस महीने के मूल विषय को “अभिषिक्त और प्रेरित - कल्लीसिया का मिशन: सुसमाचार की घोषणा” रखा है। उन्होंने येसू के मिशन को कल्लीसिया के केंद्र में रखने, उसके दौरान का नवीनीकरण और प्रभावीकरण, उसके परिप्रेक्ष्य के फल, एवं उसके पुरोहितों की गुप्तात्मा को नापने का मापदण्ड बनाने के लिए हमारा आहान किया है। आहव आहान किया है।

विशेष मिशनरी महीने के तैयारी एवं उसे मनाने में हमारी सहायतार्थ, संत पापा चार महालपूर्ण आयामों का विशेष रूप से उल्लेख करते हैं जिस पर हमें हमारा ध्यान केंद्रित करना है: 1. येसू से व्यक्तिगत मिलन जो कि कल्लीसिया में, यूजलित एवं अन्य संस्कारों में, ईश्वर में और व्यक्तिगत एवं सामुहिक प्रार्थना में उपस्थित हैं। 2. मिशनरी संस्करण और शहीदों के साक्षात्कार पर येसू के साथ स्वयं के व्यक्तिगत अनुभव को दूसरों
के साथ बांटना और दूसरों के बीच येसू के प्रेम की घोषणा करना. 3. मिशनरी प्रशिक्षण - लोकधारियों को सुसमाचार प्रचार के लिए तैयार एवं सशक्त बनकर, समितारी प्रशिक्षण के प्रत्येक स्तर में मिशन पर जोर देकर, पुरोहितों एवं धर्मसंपर्कों का वर्तमान प्रशिक्षण में मिशनरी फोकस देना एवं लोकधारियों को मिशन से सीधे जोडना। 4. कलीसिया में सभी वर्ग और समूहों के मिशनरी एनिमेशन द्वारा, कलीसिया के मेषातीली गतिविधियों में मिशनरी उत्साह के नवीकरण से हमारी संस्थाओं को सुसमाचारीय घोषणा के केन्द्र बनाना।

यथापि ऊपर दिखे गए सभी आवाम अपने आप में स्पष्ट हैं, उनमें से कुछ बिना निपटने पर जोर देना चाहिए, जिससे हमारी विशेष मिशनरी महीने की तैयारी तथा उत्सव और अधिक प्रभावशाली हो। आज हम अक्टूबर महीने के चार सप्ताह को संत पापा के द्वारा सुझाये गये चार आयामों पर मनन चित्र करने और उनको अपने जीवन में लागू करने हेतु समर्पित करें। पहले सप्ताह में रविवार, २९ सितंबर के हम सब कलीसिया में उपस्थित प्रभु येसू से मिलने एवं उन्हें व्यक्तिगत रूप से अनुभव करने का प्रयास रोजना पवित्र यूथसेट में भाग लेकर मेल-मिलाप संस्करण को अधिकाधिक महत्व करें, रोजना व्यक्तिगत रूप से एवं परिवारों में ईश्वर का पठन एवं उन पर मनन - चित्र करने और इतिहास कुछ समय प्रारम्भ में व्यतीत करें। इन माध्यमों द्वारा हम सब ईश्वर से मुलाकात करें एवं उनका अनुभव करें जो सदा हमारे साथ है (मती 25:20)।

दूसरे सप्ताह, रविवार, ६ अक्टूबर से, हम सब उन हजारों संस्कृतम महिलाओं एवं पुरुषों से घनिष्ठता स्थापित करें, विशेष कर उन से जो हमारे भारत देश हैं, जैसे प्रतित संत थॉमस, संत फ्रांसिस जेवियर, संत योहान ब्रिट टो, संत अल्कोनसा, संत चार्ल्स, संत मदरसेसा, धन्य रामनिरंतियाए आदि।

हम यह महसूस करे कि किस तरह उन्होंने अपने जीवन में तथा जीवन के माध्यम से येसू से कार्य की दीया तथा हम उनसे क्या सीख सकते हैं? हम निश्चित रूप से महसूस करें कि हमारे विश्वास का साक्षर करने का सबसे उत्तम माध्यम हमारी जीवन ही है। सभी संतांगण भी हमें यहीं बताते हैं। इसके अलावा, चीजीयों का पहचान चिन्ह प्रेम है, “जिस प्रकार मैंने तुम लोगों को यार किया, उसी प्रकार तुम भी एक दूसरे को यार करो, इसी से सब लोग जान जाएंगे कि तुम मेरे शिष्य हों।” (योहान 13: 34-35)। तो आईये हम प्रभु की इस महान आज्ञा को अपने जीवन में वांछित बनायें तथा उसे दूसरों के साथ बौद्ध कर येसू के सच्चे शिष्य बन जाएं। जैसे संत पापा कहते हैं, “बपतिस्मा के कारण प्रभु की प्रजा के सभी सदस्य मिशनरी शिष्य बन
जाते हैं (डढ़ मत्ती 28:19)। सभी बपतिस्मा प्राप्त लोग, चाहे वे कलीसिया में किसी भी पद पर हों, या उनके विश्वास व शिक्षा का स्तर कैसा भी हो, वे सब सुसंमाचार प्रचार के कार्यक्तता हैं। नवीन सुसंसार चार सभी बपतिस्मा प्राप्त लोगों को व्यक्तिगत भागीदारी के लिए बुलाता है। (EG, 120) अतः महीने के तीसरे सप्ताह में, हम धर्मशिक्षा तथा हमारे मिशनरी बुलाहट पर मनन चिन्तन करें और हमारे जीवन संदर्भ में इसे कार्यान्वित करने की युक्तियां खोजें।

चौथे सप्ताह में, संत पापा हम से कलीसिया के अस्तित्व के यथार्थ उदेश्य पर मनन करने की माँग करते हैं। कलीसिया ‘मुक्ति का सार्वभौमिक संस्कार’ है (LG 48)। और इस लिए उसके यथार्थ स्वाभाविक नस्त्र से कलीसिया शिष्यहरू है (AG 2)। अतः कलीसिया की सभी गतिविधियाँ, चाहे वे कुछ भी हों, कलीसिया के इस अन्तर्निहित प्रकृति को चारितार्थ करना चाहिये।

हम कई गतिविधियों में शामिल हैं, परंतु क्या वे कलीसिया के लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने के सच्चे माध्यम हैं जिस के लिए हमारे प्रभु ने इसकी बनावट की? अगर नहीं है तो हम इसे उस प्रकार कैसे सच्ची बना सकते जिससे कि हम प्रभु की हृदयसृष्टि सच्ची साबित हो। और अगर हाँ, तो हम इसको कैसे और अधिक प्रभावशाली बनायें जिससे कि एक विशाल जनसमूह का निर्माण हो जो यथा को स्वीकारें और पवित्रता में उनकी रस्सी करें। (LG 9)

इस संबंध में, उन सबों का आह्वान करना, चाहें जिन्हें विभिन्न शिष्यहरू धर्मकायों द्वारा लोगों की देखभाल की जिम्मेदारी सोची गयी है कि वे सबों को प्रेरित करने में किया गया है। अपने संबंधित समुदायों, संस्थाओं, पत्रिकाओं, दीनियों, और धर्मप्राप्त में इस महीने पर विचार विमान एवं समारोह के पश्चात हम सब सभी शिष्यों जैसे प्रभु का साधन देने के लिए अपने अपने कलीसियाई संभाग का प्रतिनिधित्व करने हुए 27 अक्टूबर रविवार को इंडिया में एकत्रित हों जहां सारे मध्यप्रदेश के 9 धर्मप्राप्तों की सीतीय प्रजा ब्रह्म समारोह में प्रभु को धन्यवाद अर्पण कर सकें। इस प्रयास में सुसंसार प्रचार का सितारा, माँ मरियम हमारे साथ रहे एवं हमारी मदद करें।

आश्रितों के साथ यह संदेश में आपका,

LEO CORNELIO, SVD
Archbishop of Bhopal
Bishop Mar Abraham D. Mattam VC, the first Bishop of Satna entered into the eternal bliss in the morning on April 16, 2019 at MSJ Hospital, Edapally in Kerala. Bishop Mattam was the senior most bishop of the Syro-Malabar Church with 97 years and the second senior most bishop of the Catholic Church in India.

Bishop Abraham Mattam was born on 21 November 1922 at Melampara in the parish of Narianganam in the eparchy of Pala in Kerala. He was the fifth child of his devout and traditional Christian parents, Devasia and Anna. He had three brothers and four sisters. After his primary education at Narianganam and Melampara, he passed SSLC in 1940 from St Mary’s High School, Bharananganam, the place which became famous because of St Alphonsa. In 1941 he received the special divine call to be a religious priest and he joined the Vincentian Congregation at Thottakam. After his initial formation at Archdiocesan Minor Seminary, Ernakulam, he undertook his philosophical and theological studies in St Joseph Pontifical Major Seminary at Alwaye. After his priestly ordination on 15 March 1950, he
was appointed Procurator of Vincentian Ashram, Thottakam. Then he underwent novitiate for one year and had the first religious profession. From 1952 to 1954, he served as the Parish priest of Little Flower Church, Nadel near Vaikam. He was sent to Rome to pursue his higher studies and he obtained doctorate in Philosophy from the Gregorian University, Rome in 1958. While in Rome in 1955 he made his solemn final religious profession before Cardinal Tisserant. After his return from Rome, he held many significant offices in the Congregation such as the Rector of Vincentian Minor Seminary, Angamaly; Rector of Vincentian Study House, Vidya Bhavan Alwaye; Superior of Vincentian House, Thodupuzha and General Councillor of the Congregation.

While serving as the Rector of Vincentian Study House, Alwaye a second time and Visiting Professor to Mangalapuzha Seminary, Alwaye, he was nominated Apostolic Exarch of Satna on 29 July 1968 and he started his first missionary journey to Satna on a Mission Sunday in 1968. The new Exarchate, bifurcated from the diocese of Jabalpur comprised of six districts of Madhya Pradesh namely Satna, Rewa, Sidhi, Panna, Chhatarpur and Tikamgarh covering the Bundelkhand and Bhagelkhand regions. His installation took place on January 09, 1969. Later he was appointed Bishop of Satna on 26 February 1977 and he was ordained and installed bishop by His Grace Eugene D'Souza, Archbishop of Bhopal. After shepherding the eparchy for long 32 years, he retired from the office of the Bishop of Satna on 14 January 2000 but continued as Administrator of the Eparchy until the Episcopal Ordination and installation of his successor, Mar Mathew Vaniakizhakkel VC on 12 April 2000. Since then he had been leading a retired life at Vincentian Generalate, Edappally in Kerala.

Until December 2018 Bishop Mattam was maintaining a sound health because of his disciplined and routine daily life. On 23 December when he fell ill he was admitted to M.A.J. Hospital, Edapally. He had to remain in the ICU for 40 days. Later when he was discharged from the hospital on 31 January 2019, he was taken back to the Vincentian Generalate. Then onwards he was almost bedridden as he could not consume normal food.

In the morning on 16 April he was found struggling to respiration. His doctor was called in immediately and his pulse rate was dropping down, and at 10.30 hrs he breathed his last. His body which was kept in Lisie Hospital, Ernakulam was brought to Vincentian Generalate on 22 April where the Holy Eucharist was offered for him with His Beatitude Mar George Cardinal Alencherry as the main Celebrant. Sixteen bishops, several major superiors, priests, religious and lay people
besides his family relatives participated in the liturgical celebration and paid homage. Bishop Mar Joseph Kallarangattu of the Eparchy of Pala delivered a touching farewell message recollecting his great contributions to the Universal Church as well as to the Syro Malabar Church.

On 23 April the mortal remains of Bishop Abraham were brought to Satna, the major platform of his missionary action and episcopal service. As he started his missionary journey from Kerala to Satna in 1968, his last journey also started from Kerala via New Delhi to Satna. His body was received at the airport among others by Archbishop Kuriakose Bharanikulangara of the Eparchy of Faridabad and was taken to Jhesola parish as a special expression of the love for the deceased bishop Mattam. In the prayer meeting that followed was attended among others by Archbishop Anil Cuoto of Delhi Archdiocese and Bishop Jacob Mar Barnabas of Malankara Eparchy of Gurgaon. Archbishop Kuriakose recollected the contributions of Mar Mattam towards the Syro-Malabar community in Delhi. He also remembered with gratitude that it was bishop Mattam, the great visionary of the church, who was the first to purchase a piece of property for the Syro-Malabar migrants in New Delhi and after the erection of the Archdiocese, this property was donated to the Archdiocese on the recommendation of Bishop Abraham Mattam, by the then bishop of Satna, Mar Mathew Vaniapikizhakel.

As per the last wish of late Bishop Mar Abraham Mattam, his body was laid to rest in St. Vincent Cathedral, Satna. His Beatitude George cardinal Alencherry was the main celebrant. Among the prominent participants of the funeral were Archbishop Leo Cornelio SVD of Bhopal, Bishop Gerald Almeida of Jabalpur, Bishop Sebastian Vadakkel MST of Ujjain, Bishop Thomas Thuruthimattam CST of Gorakhpur, Bishop Joseph Kollamparampil of Jagdalpur, Bishop Basil Bhuriya SVD of Jhabua, Bishop Chacko Thottumarickal SVD of Indore, Bishop James Athikalam MST of Sagar, Bishop Emeritus Antony Chirayath of Sagar, Archbishop Emeritus Joseph Augustine of Raipur, Fr Michael Kareekunnel VC, Asst Superior General of Vincentian Congregation, Fr. Varghese Puthussery VC, the provincial superior of Vincentian Province Delhi, Sr. Rose Therese, Provincial Superior SABS Province of Satna, Sr Genesia CSN, the Provincial superior of CSN Province of Allahabad, Sr Jessy DST, Provincial Superior of Pala, Sr Deepa DST Provincial Superior of Ujjain, delegates from other religious Congregations, Vicars General from neighbouring dioceses, the priests and the religious working in the Eparchy as well as the lay faithful in large numbers. Besides, the ecumenical representatives, leaders from various political parties and different religions came to pay their last respect to the departed leader of the Catholic Church.
In his condolence message, the Major Archbishop of the Syro Malabar Church observed: “Bishop Mattam, being the first bishop of the Eparchy of Satna, has given a new direction and strong foundation to the Evangelization and the Apostolic work in the Eparchy of Satna. He has been a role model and guide to all the priests, religious and the lay people of the Church. The contributions of Bishop Mattam towards the Vincentian congregation and the Eparchy of Satna can never be forgotten by the progeny of the Church.”

The motto of Bishop Mattam was “…he went about doing good…” (Acts 10:38). As a missionary Bishop Mattam came to a barren land, practically with no resources. There was only one mission station with very less Catholics; people of other religions were suspicious of the missionaries. He did not know the local language and culture but nevertheless he built up the Eparchy trusting in God and in His providence; with the co-operation of numerous dedicated Priests and Sisters, by starting parishes initially at district quarters and gradually moving to peripheries, to interior villages and starting mission centres. He was not weary of the small number of Catholics; he always considered the whole population in eparchial territory as his People of God and tried to bear witness to Jesus Christ. His hard work and untiring efforts have brought the Eparchy to a glorious status.

Bishop Mattam was indeed a multi-faceted personality who left an indelible imprint on the heart and life of the people whom he came across. As a member of the ecclesiastical hierarchy he contributed immensely to the local Church of Satna, to the Syro Malabar Church, to the Church in India and to the Church universal. He was an earnest, committed and zealous missionary through and through. He can truly be called a great visionary and missionary bishop in all the aspects. His simplicity of life was remarkable and his very appearance manifested it. His loving nature and paternal concern attracted people of all walks of life. Besides being a missionary bishop he was a theologian of the mission. His missiological vision was realized in the establishment of many parishes, mission stations and institutions for initiating different apostolates in the Eparchy of Satna. His efficient leadership, strong convictions coupled with timely guidance brought order, progress and development in the Eparchy of Satna.

The Syro-Malabar Church would remember Bishop Mattam as a great theologian, especially as an ardent promoter of Oriental theological heritage. Even after his retirement he used to come to Satna every year in order to give lectures to the seminarians as well as to those in the religious formation houses. Beyond doubt, he was a theologian among
the bishops and a bishop among the theologians. During the long years of the apostolic ministry Bishop Mattam was in the forefront as a zealous son of the Syro-Malabar Church in preserving and retaining the authentic traditions and patrimony of the Church. He always upheld the teachings of the Church in high esteem and quoted them profusely in his speeches and writings. He realized that love towards the Church is indeed the manifestation of the love towards Christ.

Perhaps the boldest action that Bishop Mattam had taken to materialize his theological insights was the establishment of the prestigious St Ephrem’s Theological College at Satna in 1992 for imparting priestly formation to the future missionaries in north India. In 2014 this diocesan major seminary was elevated to the status of the Synodal mission seminary of the Syro-Malabar Church. It stands out as a strong witness to the missionary zeal and the farsightedness of Bishop Mattam. Besides, he was instrumental in starting many religious formation houses especially Bethania Institute of Theology for the Religious in the Eparchy.

To the theology of the Syro-Malabar Church he has contributed his share through the pastoral letters, books, articles and seminar papers. As a prolific writer he published several books and articles. As a deacon he published a book in Malayalam on Marxist ideology (‘Maxinte palayathil ninnu’). To his credit there are around 11 books and 24 articles on various topics such as Syro Malabar Church, liturgy, theology, mission, etc. The recognition of his scholarship was evident in the invitation extended to him by the Lateran University Rome to be a guest professor of Indian Church History.

He was in favour of promoting interreligious dialogue and inculturation in the north Indian mission context but never at the expense of the orthodoxy of faith or diluting the official magisterial position of the Catholic Church. He was strongly against all types of syncretism in the field of theology and liturgy as well as in promoting interreligious dialogue and inculturation. He always favoured authentic and organic adaptations in various fields.

The Eparchial family of Satna pays rich respectful tributes to the illustrious departed founder Father and the architect of the Eparchy of Satna and remains ever grateful to him for his paternal love and far sighted approach. As he is no more with us, we earnestly continue to pray: Eternal rest, grant unto Bishop Mattam, O Lord, and may the light of Your Face shine upon him! R.I.P.

Fr. John Thoppil
I knew Bishop Mattam quite well having met him several times. I was amazed at his knowledge of Church history, his great love for the Church and his Missionary enthusiasm. He was a model professor in the Seminary, very dedicated priest, and an ideal pastor to his people.

Oswald Cardinal Gracias

I realize that I have lost a good friend and pastoral partner. Bishop Mattam was instrumental in initiating several pastoral co-operation programs between our dioceses.

Mar Mathew Arackal

Rt. Rev. Abraham D. Mattam, the first Bishop of Diocese of Satna had been very dear to us. Diocese of Satna who have lost a loving good shepherd and also a faithful servant of God.

Mar Remigiose Inchananiyil

As the senior most bishop of our Synod, I not only pray for his Eternal Repose, but also earnestly request his intercession for the Syro-Malabar Church before the Merciful Lord.

Mar Tony Neelankavil
നിയമനീകരണം

തിരുനാൾ‌ദൈവത്തിന്‍റെ സ്നേഹമുള്ള പ്രകടനത്തിന്‍റെ സ്പീഡ് നിയമനീകരണം വേളാസ്തുന്ന് എളുപ്പത്തിൽ അനുയോജ്യമാക്കുന്നതിന് അനേകം ഒരു സൂചി പ്രകാരം നല്ല സൂചിപ്പിക്കുന്നില്ല. വിവിധ ലോകങ്ങളിലെ തിരുനാളുന്നു തിരിച്ചറിയപ്പെടുന്നു. 

നിയമനീകരണം ക്ഷേത്രത്തിലെ ക്ഷേത്രത്തിലെ അഭ്യസ്യങ്ങളുടെ പ്രാധാന്യത്തിന്‍റെ പ്രാധാന്യത്തിന്‍റെ (One rite movement) അല്ലെങ്കില്‍ ഒരു സൂചി പ്രകാരം വാദവിക്കപ്പെടുന്നു. നിയമനീകരണത്തെ അഭ്യസ്യത്തെ നിർദ്ദേശം എല്ലാവരും വിശ്വസിക്കണമെന്നും ചെയ്യുന്നു. നിയമനീകരണം ക്ഷേത്രത്തിലെ ക്ഷേത്രത്തിലെ അഭ്യസ്യങ്ങളുടെ പ്രാധാന്യത്തിന്‍റെ പ്രാധാന്യത്തിന്‍റെ (One rite movement) അല്ലെങ്കില്‍ ഒരു സൂചി പ്രകാരം വാദവിക്കപ്പെടുന്നു. 

നിയമനീകരണത്തിന്‍റെ സ്നേഹം പുനരുത്ത് നിയമനീകരണത്തിന്‍റെ പ്രാധാന്യത്തിന്‍റെ പ്രാധാന്യത്തിന്‍റെ (One rite movement) അല്ലെങ്കില്‍ ഒരു സൂചി പ്രകാരം വാദവിക്കപ്പെടുന്നു. 

നിയമനീകരണം ക്ഷേത്രത്തിലെ ക്ഷേത്രത്തിലെ അഭ്യസ്യങ്ങളുടെ പ്രാധാന്യത്തിന്‍റെ (One rite movement) അല്ലെങ്കില്‍ ഒരു സൂചി പ്രകാരം വാദവിക്കപ്പെടുന്നു. 

നിയമനീകരണം ക്ഷേത്രത്തിലെ ക്ഷേത്രത്തിലെ അഭ്യസ്യങ്ങളുടെ പ്രാധാന്യത്തിന്‍റെ (One rite movement) അല്ലെങ്കില്‍ ഒരു സൂചി പ്രകാരം വാദവിക്കപ്പെടുന്നു. 

നിയമനീകരണം ക്ഷേത്രത്തിലെ ക്ഷേത്രത്തിലെ അഭ്യസ്യങ്ങളുടെ പ്രാധാന്യത്തിന്‍റെ (One rite movement) അല്ലെങ്കില്‍ ഒരു സൂചി പ്രകാരം വാദവിക്കപ്പെടുന്നു.
The Satna Samachar

The Satna Samachar

18 September 2019
The humble beginning of Sidhi was on 4th February 1969. Even before the inauguration of the Diocese of Satna, Late Msgr. Abraham D. Mattam visited Sidhi on 18th December 1968 and met Dr. Chaube and agreed upon buying his house and plot at Sidhi, near the collectorate. On 4th February 1969 the land was registered and he occupied the building along with Rev. Fr. James Edavazithara V.C, the pioneer missionary.

Realizing the importance of education in building up of the nation and its development, the Diocese decided to start the first school at Sidhi near the district head-quarters. According to the request of Msgr. Abraham D. Mattam, the Franciscan Clarist Congregation (F.C.C.) of Ernakulam province consented to start a convent at Sidhi. The pioneer members, Sr. Boniface, the first superior, Sr. Mariusha, the first headmistress and Sr. Beena along with Msgr. Abraham D. Mattam reached Sidhi on 19th July 1969. The present F.C. Convent’s humble origin was on 19th July 1969. Under the able guidance of the first parish priest Rev. Fr. Thomas Kuzhippala, the pioneer sisters started to teach in the school on 20th July 1969. The school which was the result of joint efforts of the Diocese of Satna and the Franciscan Clarist Congregation was officially inaugurated on 2nd August 1969. The School was named Gandhi Shishu Vidyalay after Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the nation whose birth centenary was being observed across the country in the same year. The management wanted to have
fitting memorial for the centenary year to remember Bapu’s high ideals of Satyagraha, non-violence, brotherhood, tolerance and swaraj. The school has always upheld these principles and tried to inculcate these values in the minds and hearts of the students. In addition to teaching Sisters found time to visit villages and tried to contact people through formal and nonformal education. Their close contact with the locality and civil authorities made Gandhi Vidyalay one of the famous schools in the district of Sidhi. The inauguration of the St. Thomas church was done on 17th September 1972.

Following the footprints of the pioneers many Fathers, Sisters and teachers from Sidhi town rendered commendable service to the progress of the school. At the beginning of the school the enrollment of students were very few. Gradually the number increased. For the conveyance of small kids a few cycle rikshaws were provided in the beginning. In the academic year 1974-75 the management purchased a Tempo Van to bring children. The School continued to grow with the passing of years. Thus the enrollment continued to increase; it became necessary to construct new building to accommodate students. The new school building was inaugurated on 31st December 1970. The rooms were added when new classes were started. Keeping in view of the need the high school section was started. Considering the request of parents, medium from Hindi is changed into English. When the strength went on increasing one more building was constructed and inaugurated in the year 2016. The school made steady progress and had excellent academic and co-curricular records. Many of our students are serving in Government and private sectors in respectable posts. Today we have 1730 students in the roll and 69 staff.

As the school celebrates its Golden Jubilee, marking 50 years of academic excellence and service we gratefully remember all the managers, principals and our dedicated staff. We remember with gratitude the service of late Miss Nirmala Verma, the senior most teacher of the institution who had dedicated her life for the welfare of the school from its beginning. We owe a lot to our founder bishop late Abraham D. Mattam, Mar Mathew Vaniakizhakkel V.C, Mar Joseph Kodakallil, all our benefactors, well-wishers, the civil authorities and good people of the locality. The existence of this institution has illumined the lives of many who are associated with us. We wish and pray that the Almighty God bless us to continue to spread the message of Christ’s love, peace, harmony and brotherhood and the life principles of the Father of our nation.

Sr. Navya FCC
NEW VICE RECTOR AND FINANCE OFFICER

Rev. Dr. Kondooparambil John from the diocese of Ujjain, resident professor of ETC was appointed as the new Vice Rector and Rev Fr. Parayil Joseph (a former student of St. Ephrem’s) from the diocese of Kalyan was appointed as the new procurator by the Chairman of Synodal Commission. The whole seminary whole heartedly welcomed the new appointments and offered all support and cooperation to the newly appointed.

INAUGURATION OF THE NEW ACADEMIC YEAR

The new academic year 2019-2020 was inaugurated by His Excellency Mar Joseph Kodakallil on 3rd July. The inaugural ceremony was privileged by the presence of Mr. Sunil Senani the Chairman of VITS colleges as the chief guest of the day. Very Rev Fr. Ottapurackal Joseph welcomed all to the ceremony and to the new academic year specially the first year theologians. Bp. Mar Joseph Kodakallil lighted the lamp and also used the opportunity to remind the value of education in the Christian life and in the period of formation. Rev. Dr. Puliyampallil Cyriac, Dean of Studies, presented the Letio Brevis which was very thought provoking and insightful.
INAUGURATION OF VILLAGE APOSTOLATE

The village apostolate of this academic year was inaugurated by Rev. Fr. Jacob Adampakallel, the accountant of Samaritan Social Service Society of Eparchy of Satna, on 14th July. He spoke about the importance of village apostolate in the mission seminary as well as in the current Indian context, moreover, about the fortune of the students of St. Ephrem’s to visit the remote villages of India. Rev. Fr. Joji Puliyampallil, in charge of village apostolate, introduced the sketch of programme of village apostolate for the current year. On the same day itself, students started to visit villages and giving tuition to the village children.

CONVOCATION DAY AND NEW PRIESTS DAY 2019

The 14th convocation day of St. Ephrem’s Theological College was conducted on 7th August 2019. His Excellency Mar Jose Chittooparambil CMI, the bishop of the Eparchy of Rajkot, presided over the meeting. The ceremony was honoured by the presence of Mr. Iris Joseph Xalxo the additional collector of Satna district as the chief guest of the day. Rev. Fr. Ottapurackal Joseph, the Rector of St. Ephrem’s, welcomed all to the ceremony and congratulated the BTh holders. Mar Jose Chittooparambil who delivered the presidential address pointed out the duties of BTh holders as the official spokespersons of the Word of God and he exhorted them to continue the reflection and the research in theology. Mr. Joseph Xalxo, the additional collector of Satna, also utilised the opportunity to wish the BTh holders. Rev. Dr. Puliyampallil Cyriac announced the names of the BTh holders and Mar Jose Chittooparambil distributed the certificates of merit in the presence of the entire Ephrem parivar. Rev. Fr. Edathil Joseph (Satna) and Rev.
Fr. Champakulathil Joseph (Changanassery), the rank holders were awarded the scholarship for the academic excellence in honour of Mar Abraham D. Mattam by Mr. Iris Joseph Xalxo.

St. Ephrem’s celebrated the new priests’ day in the presence of her 8 new priests on 8th August 2019. St. Ephrem’s was very much energized with the arrival of her children. The celebrations began on the eve of 7th August with the most solemn Ramsa presided over by Rev. Fr. Sebastian Paimpillil VC. All new priests shared their experience as newly ordained and the divine providence of God throughout their ministry. Holy Qurbana was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Thomas Kanjiraparambil and was concelebrated by all the new priests.

NEW VENTURE OF VILLAGE APOSTOLATE

Village apostolate of St. Ephrem’s started a new venture, classes on computer and spoken English for the students who are studying in class X and above, of nearby villages, in St. Ephrem’s on Sunday afternoon. Fr. Joji Puliyampallil who is in charge of the village apostolate, as inaugurator of the first session on 18th August, spoke about the importance of studying computer and learning English by youngsters in the modern world. Around 40 students from nearby villages attended the session and they thanked for the golden opportunity.

The Holy Father’s Prayer Intentions

September 2019

We pray so that “politicians, scientists and economists work together to protect the world’s seas and oceans.”
St. Thomas Minor Seminary is on a short break this year after having given long years of priestly formation to quite a good number of seminarians for the diocese of Satna. As we have decided to start the first year formation in Kerala on an experimental basis and due to lack of sufficient number of seminarians in the second and third year the diocese has taken a decision not to have the formation programme this year in the diocese. Hopefully, it might take place again in the next year as per the future circumstances.

After the successful completion of the academic year 2018-19 seminary was closed by 11th of April 2019. Rev. Fr. Rector visited the houses of all the seminarians and it was an occasion to get to know the family members and their backgrounds very closely. All the seminarians came back to the seminary after spending enough time on vacation and rendering timely assistance at Karayamparambu. They had their vacation duty at different times here in the seminary. This year we have two brothers, Bro. Thomas Vadakkeparayil and Bro. Jerin Ezhnootil who have been promoted to the MOC programme at Kotra, Ujjain. There are three second year seminarians who have been accommodated in Rajeshwar Bhavan, Ghonsla, the Minor Seminary of the diocese of Ujjain. They are doing their plus two course this year. Unfortunately, this year we don’t have any third year minor seminarians. The first year seminarians are undergoing their formation in the diocesan minor seminary of Jagadalpur at Ramapuram, Kerala.

At present, we are three members residing in the seminary. Rev. Fr. Varghese Kallely, the Vice Rector and the procurator who, after his dedicated service for the last one year, has been transferred and sent for his higher studies in MSW at Bhopal. He was offered a grand farewell and he left us by the end of the month of July. Rev. Fr Denis Kanjirakombil, the spiritual director and Fr. Mathew Tharakunnel, the Rector who after one and four years of their service respectively are looking forward for their new pastures. Rev. Fr. Devamitra Neelankavil, a priest of the diocese of Sagar is residing here as a member of the house. Residing here, he renders his service as a professor at St. Ephrem’s Theological College, Kotti and does some important works of
translation as well as compilation of ecclesiastical matters. We have one
domestic staff to assist us in the daily affairs of the house.

We thank God Almighty for showering his abundant blessings on all
of us throughout these years. We also pray to God that our seminarians
who are away from the lap of their real mother may attain their goal
and come back soon to occupy it back. Looking forward to a flourishing
age of STMS again and hoping to break the break soon, here we end
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BETHANIA

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BETHANIA UPDATES

Bethania became vibrant once again with the arrival of seventeen
pre-novices from Pala, Shillong and Ujjain. Rev. Fr. Joseph Ottapurackal
our priest in charge and rector of ETC gave them a warm welcome to
Ephrem parivar by offering Holy Qurbana.

JUBILEE CELEBRATION

All the DST communities joined together to have a grand celebration
of our Golden Jubilee that was conducted on 3rd July this year. It began
with Holy Qurbana offered by our beloved Bishop Mar Joseph Kodakallil.
Then we had a great feast where respected Fathers from ETC, V.C.
Study House, Bishop’s House, Minor Seminary Sherganj, Madhavgarh,
Maidani, Claretian House and sisters from SABS, SD, SH, CSN and Prem
Sadan Congregation blessed us with their valuable presence. Our
candidates made the day colourful with the Jubilee song.

INAUGURATION

The new academic year of the four months theological course
for pre-novices and postulants was inaugurated by our Bishop Mar
Visits

❖ His Excellency Mar Mathew Elavanal and Mar Joseph Kollamparampil made a short visit to our Provincial house on 24th April 2019.

❖ Archbishop Joseph Augustine, Emeritus of Raipur Diocese also paid a cordial visit to our community on 24th April 2019.

❖ Rev. Mother Sophy Pereppadan, the Provincial Superior of Thrissur Province, the councillor Rev. Sr. Rose Mary and the Sisters from Adoration community from Sagar made a friendly visit to our Provincial house on 24th June 2019. It was an occasion to share our joy and to renew our relationship with one another.

Celebrations

❖ We have celebrated the feast of Divine Mercy on 28th April, as our Sneh Sadan School is bearing the name of Divine Mercy of Jesus. At 3’o clock we began the mercy rosary from our chapel to Sneh Sadan School in procession and concluded the prayer session at Sneh Sadan School.

❖ We celebrated the inaugural ceremony of golden jubilee of our loving Sr. Rose Chakkieth, the Vicar Provincial on 1st May.

❖ We had given a small reception to our dear loving Sr. Rani Maria in our Provincial house, who made her eternal commitment to the Eucharistic Lord on 6th April 2019. We shared our joy in extending our greetings to her.
On May 25th Chantalamma’s (Our Co-Foundress) death anniversary was celebrated so solemnly with Eucharistic celebration, Holy hour, cultural programs and competitions. Including our elderly Ammas all participated in the programs very actively. It was a great occasion for us to express the heritage of our congregation to our new candidates.

On 2nd June 2019, we celebrated the death anniversary of our beloved Founder with solemn liturgy, varieties of competitions and programs which were highlighting the virtues of our beloved Founder.

Seniors’ day was celebrated on the feast day of St. Peter and Paul. After the solemn Eucharistic celebration community shared the joy of the feast.

CONGREGATION DAY

The feast of Corpus Christi was celebrated in our Provincial house with solemn Eucharistic celebration offered by our Bishop Mar Joseph Kodakallil. In the evening we also had Eucharistic Adoration and Procession conducted by Rev. Fr. Antony Panachinkal and Rev. Fr. Jacob Adambakallel, respectively. Sisters from neighboring communities and our parishners were invited. Their participation gave more joy to the occasion.

HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS

The newly ordained priest Rev. Fr. Erosiyan Ekka celebrated Holy Mass in our Provincial house on 24th June 24, 2019. We gave him a warm welcome and hearty congratulations.

PRE-ASPIRANCY DAY

Pre-Aspirancy day was celebrated on 28th July on the feast day of St. Alphonsa. We shared our greetings to our young ones. On this special occasion we conducted quiz competition for them and they displayed their cultural programs in the community. The program ended with the message given by Rev. Mother Provincial Rose Therese.

St. John Maria Vianny day and Juniors’ day was celebrated together in the Provincial house on 4th August 2019. With the solemn Holy
Mass and wishing the feastarians, Rev. Fr. Jacob Adambakallel our Parish priest and Sr. Liz Mary our junior sister, we enjoyed the day of joy.

RENEWAL SYNAXIS

The 8th Provincial Renewal Synaxis began on 2nd May 2019 at Provincial house, Pateri. The synaxis members were animated by Bp. Raphy Manjaly, Bishop of Allahabad. He was officially welcomed and introduced by Sr. Alphonsa Thekkanath. Sr. Celine Cholenkerry proposed vote of thanks to Bishop at the end of the session. On 5th May, by evening renewal synaxis dispersed.

MOMENTS OF GRACE

June 1st was a day of blessing for our Christu Jyoti Province as we had taken up the celebration of Founder’s day at Changanacherry. On this occasion we had made a new step i.e our family members were also brought to witness this event. Around 300 people from our families, joined with us in prayer. Our Bishop Mar Joseph Kodakallil was the main celebrant of the day. With his inspiring sermon and pleasant presence made the day more beautiful and grace filled. All of them prayed in front of the tomb of our founder Father, asking for his intercession. The Adoration which was conducted in the afternoon by Rev. Fr. Antony Panachinkal also made the day more graceful. As a whole, the day was a great blessing and moments of grace for all of us.
A TRIBUTE TO MAR ABRAHAM D. MATTAM, THE FIRST BISHOP OF SATNA

We, the Christujyoti Province of Satna, gratefully remember and pay homage to the departed soul of Mar Abraham D. Mattam, who was a great benefactor of our Province. The Synaxis members made a visit to the tomb of Bp. Abraham D. Mattam after the renewal synaxis. We pray that his departed soul may rest in peace.

SNEH SADAN SPECIAL SCHOOL

♦ Re-opening day celebration of new academic session of Sneh Sadan School was on 1st July 2019. Together with the new admissions, there were 48 students present for the same. The Re-opening day of the School started with a prayer conducted by teachers. Rev. Mother Rose Therese lighted the lamp and gave an inspiring message to the teachers and students. Thereafter the students went to their own classes with the lighted candle in procession.

♦ Sneh Sadan School staff and students gave Farewell to Rev. Sr. Mable, the previous Principal on 13th July 2019. Together with the 10th class students were given the farewell. Sr. Jessy Tresa, the new Principal welcomed everyone to the program. In honour of Sr. Mable and the outgoing students, students staged their cultural programe on the stage. Mr. Rajender, our teaching staff had given the farewell speech. At the end of the program Sr. Mable thanked everyone and advised the staff and students. Rev. Mother and Sr. Mable distributed the mementos to the outgoing students.
SD FORMATION HOUSE, PATERI

- Sr. Elizabeth SD -

SDFH BLOOMS.....

SD Formation house receives a pleasant spring after a long vacation. Seven aspirants of Pushpadham province joined the community as the study group on April 13. They will be doing their +2 here. A very warm welcome was accorded to them by the community.

JUBILEE TIDES.....

Sr. Anelet SD, one of the pioneer members of our formation house, is celebrating her silver jubilee of religious profession. It is a matter of great joy and pride to begin her silver jubilee in the same house where she started her missionary life. The jubilee year was inaugurated on the 14th February this year. We celebrated her jubilee in our community on the 1st of June. Celebrations began with the solemn Holy Qurbana offered by Rev. Fr. Jacob Adambakkallel our parish priest. That evening was amazing with the wonderful cultural program staged by the formees followed by Agape. Along with Jubilee celebrations we bade farewell to Sr. Anelet and Sr. Daliya who are on their move to the new mission fields.
IT’S SPRING TIME.....

More blooms are added to our SDFH garden. Aspirants of Delhi province (8) reached with their mistress Sr. Divya Rose on 1st of July. We are overwhelmed with joy, on their arrival.

“I will bless the Lord for He has multiplied me.” Twenty aspirants from our two mission provinces of Santhidham (Ghaziabad) and Krupadham (Wardha) joined our community with their respective mistresses Sr. Sajitha SD and Sr. Trincy SD. All the aspirants are attending theology course in Bethania, Kothi.

You made us glad....

VISIT OF THE SHEPHERD

His Excellency Mar Joseph Kodakallil blessed us with his gracious visit on 31st July. The thoughts he shared invoked the missionary spirit in us. We always cherish your inspiring presence and words.

VISIT OF VICAR GENERAL

On 30th July, Rev. Fr. John Thoppil, Vicar General of our Eparchy visited our house, sharing moments of fraternal love and encouragement. He met the formation groups and encouraged them through his valuable message. We thank dear Fatherji for his cordial gesture of concern and care.

KOINONIA GROWS.....

We welcomed Sr. Smitha the new mistress of the study group on 14th June. Sr. Divya Rose, Sr. Sajitha, Sr. Trincy joined us as the In-Charges of the aspirants of the three provinces. Sr. Amrita Bara and Sr. Diana Malieckal are coupled to the community from 31st July and they pursue their higher studies.
Fr. Erosiyan Ekka was ordained Priest on 10th May, 2019 for the diocese of Satna. He hails from the Parish of Musgutri in the Diocese of Jashpur. His family consists of his Parents (Mr. Marianus Ekka, Mrs. Ethelreda Ekka), Elder brother (Gratios Ekka), Younger brother (Kulranjan Ekka) and himself. He had his schooling in two schools namely Prathamik Shalla, Musgutri, St. Francis School, Basen. His Seminary studies began in the year 2007 at St. Thomas Minor Seminary, Satna. After three years of Minor Seminary formation, he had his Mission Orientation Course at Vikash Maitri, Kotra in Ujjain Diocese. For the Philosophical studies and BA for the next year three years he was sent to Vishwa Jyoti Gurukul Varanasi. After the successful completion of his Regency at Nirmal Mata School Kailashpur and Uday Shishu Mandir Karimatti, he received the Clerical Dress in the year 2015. He had his Theological studies at St. Ephrem’s Theological College, Satna. On completion of B.Th. course he was ordained to priesthood by His Excellency Mar Emmanuel Kerketta in the presence of Mar Joseph Kodakallil at Blessed Sacrament Church Musgutri. At present he is serving as the assistant Parish Priest at Little Flower Church, Tikamgarh.
"An investment in knowledge pays the best interest." Maria Mata Sr. Sec. School has been always committed to impart quality education to the students giving them adequate facilities and thereby preparing them to be priceless gems of tomorrow.

Keeping in mind the best interests of the future generation a new extended building was constructed after strenuous efforts. The same was blessed by His Excellency Mar Joseph Kodakallil, Bishop of Satna. The occasion was blessed with the presence of Fathers, Sisters, Staff and Parishioners of Maria Mata Church, Chhatarpur.

Empowering Teachers

With an aim to create effective mentors, an orientation programme was organized on 18th June 2019. This two days program rejuvenated the teachers and gave them a new ethical and moral direction to their career. The resource person of this programme was Rev Fr. Sebastian Francis from the diocese of Allahabad.

Student Lenders, New Thoughts

Foreseeing the welfare of the students’ future, to train them in leadership skills the student council members were selected freely and fairly and a new perfect body of leaders was formed. The newly selected members took oath in the solemn Investiture Ceremony on 22nd July 2019. Mr. Jai Raj Kuber, ASP Chhatarpur was the Chief Guest on the occasions.
The new academic session began in the month of April with overwhelming joy and happiness. The school closed for the summer vacation by the end of April and after the long summer vacation the children were back to the school by the last week of June with fresh mind and enthusiasm.

After rendering valuable services in the school as well as in the community, Sr. Noel moved on transfer to a new place. We remember her for her valuable services she rendered here in Kailaspur and wish her all the best in her future ministry. Sr. Rachna and Regent Bro. Jojo Kannelath were welcomed and received to the Nirmal Mata School as well as to the Kailaspur family with great joy.

On 24th July, there was a distribution of school bags along with other writing materials to 20 children on behalf of Samaritan Social Service Society.

The 73rd independence day of our Nation was celebrated in its elegance. Mr. Devi Deyal Prajapati, the surpanch of Pindra hoisted the National Flag and received the salute and children performed various programs.

**CELEBRATIONS**

The feast of St. Alphonsa was celebrated with great enthusiasm and joy. We had a solemn Qurbana and specially prayed for sick people and asked the blessing of God and intercession of St. Alphonsa. On the feast of St. John Mary Vianney, the whole Kailaspur family, together with our parish priest solemnly celebrated the Holy Qurbana and prayed for the intercession of St. John Mary Vianney for his blessings for all the priests of our Church. On 15th August, the assumption of our Blessed Virgin Mary was celebrated with great joy and on this day we sought the intercession and protection of our Mother for us and for our country.
PARISH FEAST

The feast of St. Alphonsa was celebrated on 27th July 2019. Bp. Mar Joseph Kodakallil was the main celebrant of the Holy Qurbana. The feast celebration was an inspiration to follow the God-centred life of St. Alphonsa. It was also spiritual nourishment for the people. Priests, Sisters and local people were present for the Holy Qurbana.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

On 17th August a general medical camp was conducted for the poor village people. 135 poor people benefited out of it.

Orientation programme for women and youth was conducted on health and education.

The new session of the tailoring batch was started in the month of August 2019.

Two new tuition centres were stated in the month of August 2019 in Turki and Dewra villages.

NEW DEACONS

From 2019 July onwards Dns. Ruble and Thomas began to do their pastoral Sunday ministry at St. Alponsa Church Koond.
THE ANNUAL RETREAT

The Annual Retreat at St. Jude’s Church Lavkush Nagar was conducted on 13th and 14th of April. Good number of participation from among the faithful kept up the retreat lively and vibrant—one. Rev. Fr. Joshy Pullokkaran from the diocese of Sagar was the preacher. The retreat paved the way for the faithful to introspect, to mend their ways and to prepare themselves for a new beginning as they were fast approaching the great feast of Easter.

THE HUNDRED FOLD

As the results of the 10th CBSE Board Exam were announced on 7th May, it was a day of great achievement for Christ Jyoti CBSE School, Lavkush Nagar. The School once again has repeated the history of yielding 100% result. These students were the second out-going batch of the school since its inception. Out of 49 students who appeared for the exam, 30 secured distinction, 11 could get first class and 8 of them secured second class. The school management along with the staff members specially congratulated the great dedication of the teachers and the hard work of the students that could add a good fame to the school.

IN LOVING MEMORY

The sad news of the death of Rev. Sr. Kripa PSA, who was undergoing cancer treatment at Ajmeer for the past 7 months, was a great shock for everyone in the community. It was on 10th May she passed away. She has been serving the School, for the last two years as the Principal. On 25th June, the School Management along with its staff and students paid a Sradhanjali to Rev. Sister. A zonal level Holy Mass for the dead was also celebrated on the 40th day of the demise of Rev. Sister.
TRANSFER AND APPOINTMENTS

Rev. Sr. Selma PSA, who has been rendering her service at Christ Jyoti School, Lavkush Nagar for the last three years, was transferred to Delhi and Rev. Srs. Regi PSA and Riya PSA are the new members to the community. As the principal’s post in the School was vacant for the last seven months, Rev. Sr. Regi PSA is appointed as the new Principal of the School. Rev. Sisters were cordially welcomed and introduced to the school by the Management.

OBSERVANCE OF GREEN DAY

“One touch of Nature makes the whole world kin,” says William Shakespeare. With this message we observed ‘The Green Day’. The students took keen interest to bring different tree-plants to contribute to the green space around the school. This was also an occasion for the students and staffs to be reminded of their conformity with the nature. We cannot despise the giving-taking bond that exists between the man and the nature.

THE PRINCIPAL’S DAY & INVESTITURE CEREMONY

The Christ Jyoti Family joined together to solemnize the Birthday celebration of Rev. Sr. Regi PSA, the New Principal. The day was also coincided with the Investiture Ceremony of the young and newly elected house in-charges and leaders of the school for the New Academic Year. On this occasion the students with the help of the staffs staged variety of programmes. Mr. Rajendra Kumar Jain, the manager of SBI branch Lavkushnagar, chaired the meeting.
“Your sun shall no longer be your light by day, nor for brightness shall the moon give light to you by night; but the lord will be the everlasting light, and your God will be your glory” (Is. 60: 19). Under the shade of everlasting light Odgady Mission station is moving ahead.

TRANSFERS AND APPOINTMENT

The Superior, Rev. Sr. Anitha and Sisters Anjose and Merin transferred from Assisi Sadan, Odgady and Rev. Sr. Jolly George the new superior and Sisters Sincitta and Neethu joined the Assisi Sadan.

APOSTOLIC FIELD

New academic session began on 1st April 2019 and 27th April School Closed for summer holidays. Remedial Classes and Martial Arts classes were conducted in summer vocations, more than 70 students participated in it and spent their time fruitfully.

We invited Mr. Anil Upadhya the TI of Bargawan police station as a chief gust and distributed the certificates.

Rev. Sr. Merin the principal of the school transferred and Sr. Sincitta took charge as the new principal. On 24th June School reopened for the students and we had special assembly during which Rev. Fr. Anil the Manager of the school introduced and welcomed the new principal.
The principal welcomed new staff members and blessed the students with her inspiring message.

In the parish level we celebrated the feast of St. Alphonsa on 28th July and St. Clare on 11th August.

**INDEPENDENCE DAY**

73rd Independence Day of our nation was celebrated with great enthusiasm and zeal at Christ Jyoti School Odgady. The ceremony started at 8 am in the school ground with our staff, students and parents.

To commemorate the sovereignty of our nation our manager Rev. Fr. Anil unfurled the national flag. The campus reverberated with National Anthem as the whole school sang the national anthem. On this patriotic occasion, our students presented a colorful program. Our principal Sr. Sincitta shared her views on the significance of the day. The program concluded up with vote of thanks by Head boy master Ajay of the school. At the end sweets were distributed.

In the light of the Almighty, our Odgady Mission is working hard to bring the glory of God and spread the kingdom of God.
NEWS FROM PANNA

Sr. Ranit SABS

LISIEUX ANAND SCHOOL

Teachers’ Seminar 2019-20 - A seminar was organized on 19th June 2019. The resource person was Edmend Dantise & Mrs Dantise. They dealt with the topic C.B.S.E Bylaws & Academic Circulars of 2019. He clarified all the doubts, it was enriching, motivating and refreshing for kick start of the academic session.

The Journey towards Leadership Begins - In order to scale the heights and reach the Pinnacle of success, Lisieux Anand School, Panna always strives to inculcate a sense of responsibility and commitment among the students with their heads held high, ready to shoulder responsibilities as leaders.

With the beginning of the new academic session for the year 2019-2020, an investiture ceremony was organized on the 23rd of July 2019.

A spirit of unity and dynamism filled the air as the grand ceremony commenced with the lighting of the auspicious Lamp of Knowledge followed by the soulful rendition of the School Prayer.

The Investiture Ceremony is a solemn occasion wherein all the young students are well prepared to don the mantle of leadership and responsibility while carrying it out with utmost dedication. Initially, the candidates had prepared and presented strong speeches in front
of all the students and teachers in order to qualify for the Elections. A democratic voting procedure was set in place which ultimately formed the school student council of the year 2019-20.

The newly elected student council members pledged to work earnestly and uphold the honour and glory of the institution while receiving their prestigious badges and sashes from the Chief Guest Dr. Kamal, Chief Physician Mother Teresa Hospital, Panna. The Head Boy, Head Girl, Captains and Vice - Captains stood tall while holding the flags of respective houses as destiny prepared itself to bring in many more laurels to the institution.

The Chief Guest, gave a speech to the children regarding his past experiences in life and explained to them how his school helped him shape his future and turn out to be a leader. He encouraged students to always walk on the correct path and be the change.

The Principal motivated the children to keep moving forward despite all the obstacles and challenges that life throws in front of us. She said that being a leader is a vital role and that the new Student Council would have ample responsibilities to shoulder.

With the flags held high and heads standing tall, the ceremony concluded with the National Anthem

ARADHANA NIVAS

After long six years of dedicated & selfless service in the parish, school and convent Rev. Sr. Mercy Menacherry was transferred to Sikar, Rajasthan. Sr. Moncy Palathinkal after her three years of service was transferred to Madhavgarh, Satna. May God bless you abundantly. Sr. Ninet Kadaparambil is once again back to Panna. Hearty Welcome and best wishes to dear Sr. Ninet.
BISHOP’S HOUSE

On 2nd May, Rev. Sr. Josmy CMC, the Provincial of Hasaribag Province and Sr. Jestin CMC visited Bishop’s House. The same day Bishop Mar Prince Antony Panengadan, the Bishop of Adilabad Diocese paid visit to our house. On 11th June, the newly ordained priest, Rev. Fr. Erosiyan Ekka came back from his house along with his family members. Bishopji welcomed him and those who came with him. The feast day of St. Antony was so remarkable for us, because we celebrated the feast day of Rev. Fr. Antony Panachinckal. We wished and prayed for him so that he may be successful in doing the valuable service in the Diocese. On 24th June Rev. Sr. Provincial of SABS congregation from Thrissur and SABS sisters from Sagar visited the Bishop’s house. We celebrated the feast day of Sacred Heart on 28th June. We wished S.H. Sisters and prayed for them.

This year we have got Bro. Umesh Jeevan Beck as the regent. He has taken the charge as the regent on 29th June in the Bishop’s House. We wish him all the best for his future ministry. The month of July was very important time for us because we had the solemn celebration of Dukhrana of St. Thomas the Apostle, the Father of Faith. Bishopji was the main celebrant for the Holy Mass in the Cathedral. On 6th July Rev. Fr. Champakara MST visited the Bishop’s house. He was the former Parish Priest in Sidhi. He came on the way to Sidhi for the Golden Jubilee celebrations. On 8th Rev. Sr. Provincial FCC and five FCC Sisters came to Bishop’s House. They came from Sidhi after the celebration of Golden Jubilee.

The Feasts and celebrations show the expressions of our joy and happiness. We had the birthday celebration of our dear Br. Umesh. We offered him in our prayers and wished him the greetings of his Birthday. 15th July was the day of rejoicing for us because Rev. Fr. Kuriakose (Robin) Kachappilly celebrated his feast day. We prayed for him during the Holy Qurbana and in the evening, we had the feast day celebrations. Rev. Fathers from Pateri and Sherganj took part in this celebration. Rev. Sisters from S.H. convent also were present for this
function. After wishing him, we had a delicious supper together.

On 25th July, there was Principals’ meeting at Bishop’s House under the leadership of Rev. Fr. Augustine. They were 15 Sisters who took part in this meeting. Then, we had also the monthly recollection for Priests (Satna zonal) in the evening. There were around 30 priests for the monthly recollection.

On 1st August, 1st year Brothers from ETC were invited to Bishop’s House, for enjoying lunch with us. On 7th August His Excellency Mar Augustine Chittooparambil CMI visited Bishop’s House. He joined with us for lunch. He shared about his experiences in the Diocese and also narrated about his Diocese. The same day the batch of new priests from ETC visited the house and they had tea and snacks with us.

On 15th August, we celebrated the feast day of Assumption and Independence Day. Bishopji hoisted the National flag at 7.30 a.m. On 28th August we celebrated the feast of Rev. Fr. Augustine Pullolickal. On the same day we had Satna zonal monthly recollection for the priests guided by Rev. Fr Manjalankal MST.

**CHRIST JYOTI SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL**

Every new day is a good opportunity to begin afresh, leaving behind failures, false hopes and repentances. On the 18th of March 2019, the school opened its gates to the students, ushering in a new academic session 2019-2020. Bright, smiling faces trooped into the premises with promises of change and betterment. Rev. Fr. Devmitra professor from St. Ephrem’s Theological College, Kothi was the Chief Guest of the Day. Through his valuable message he conveyed 3 ways to concentrate in studies.

Investiture ceremony for the session 2019-20 was conducted on 22nd April 2019, Shrijan Tamrakar and Khushi Tamrakar from class XII were elected as the Head Boy and Head Girl. House Captain was selected from class XI and Vice Captain from class X. Rev. Fr. Robin, the manager congratulated the new school cabinet.
An entertaining program was arranged for the parents of nursery class students on 06th April 2019. Teachers had performed well on various topics like Hygiene Self-dependency, Advantages and Disadvantages of Mobile, Health and Food, Child Psychology, Child Care etc. Program ended with inspiring message by Rev. Fr. Robin.

Mar. Abraham D. Mattam VC, the first bishop of Satna Diocese and Founder of our school, was called to the eternal rest on April 16, 2019. On 23rd April 2019 all the staff and students gathered to give tribute to our dear Bishopji.

Our Principal Sr. Ann Mary and Primary In-charge Sr. Merlin’s last day was truly an emotional affair. They were highly respected and well loved by their students as well as teachers. We bade them farewell on 4th May 2019. At the same time our new primary In-charge Sr. Prasantha was welcomed.

**SUMMER VACATION STARTS FROM 04/05/2019**

Maintaining our winning streak, we outshone other schools this year too by bagging top honours in CBSE XII examinations. Aryan Singh Baghel of class XII has scored 94.8 percent and has stood 2nd in the district.

The Central Board of Secondary Education declared the class 10 results on 6th May 2019. Our students excelled in the results as Shubham Singh Parihar stood First in the school by securing 96.8% Shreya Jaiswal stood second by securing 95.4 % and Pranjal Singh and Avani Singh stood third by securing 95%.

School was Re-opened on 24/06/2019. On this occasion, A warm welcome was given to Rev. Sr. Beena, the new Principal and Rev. Sr. Nancy. Rev. Fr. Robin Kachappily, the Manager gave a warm and cordial welcome to them. The school choir sang a melodious welcome song.
After the school there was a staff meeting in which different section in-charges gave a few words of welcome to Sr. Beena and Sr. Nancy.

One of our sub staff, Josefine Francis got retired this month. We bade her farewell on 25th June 2019.

We celebrated the feast of Rev. Sr. Prasantha, our primary in-change on 29 June 2019 with great joy. Festal Greetings were sung by school choir.

A Staff meeting was arranged on 13/07/2019 to anticipate the feast day of our manager Rev. Fr. Robin. The teachers had presented few items and gave a gift to the manager. In the school we celebrated the feast of Rev. Fr. Robin, our manager on 16 June 2019 with great joy. Festal Greetings were sung by school choir.

A short seminar was conducted for students of class XII regarding Income Tax by Mr. Saurabh Gupta Asst. Commissioner Income Tax, Satna On 22nd July 2019.

We pray so that breath of the Holy Spirit engenders a new missionary spring in the Church.
NEWS FROM SIDHI

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION

The golden Jubilee of St. Thomas church, F. C. Convent and Gandhi High School Sidhi was celebrated on 7th July 2019 with solemn Holy Eucharist in the morning and cultural Bonanza in the evening. The small seed which was sown in the land of Sidhi in 1969 by our Late Bishop Mar Abraham D. Mattam along with the pioneer members Rev. Fr. Thomas Kuzippala, Rev. Sr. Boniface the first superior, Rev. Sr. Mariusha the first Headmistress and Rev. Sr. Beena, the first member was very well taken care of by our succeeding managers, principals, staff and students. It has grown to a mighty tree by giving life and shelter for many. The light of knowledge which was lit on 19th July 1969 has kept on burning with the oil of love and service. We gratefully remember all who have become a part of it.

We had many colourful programmes staged by our students in the presence of many eminent personalities like Bishop Mar Joseph Kodakallil, patron of our school, civil authorities, Rev. Sr. Princy Rose F. C. C.Provincial, Amala Province, Bhopal, our pioneer members Rev. Sr. Mariusha and Rev. Sr. Beena, a good number of Fathers and sisters from near and far, and a big number of parents. It was a great opportunity for
us to spread the message of Christ’s love, peace, harmony, brotherhood and the life principles of the Father of our nation, Mahatma Gandhi through this programme.

CABINET INSTALLATION 2019-20

For the smooth and effective administration, at the beginning of the academic session the entire teachers and students were divided into four groups.

The school cabinet for the academic session 2019-20 was installed on 20/07/19. Master Adarsh Tiwari was elected the school Head Boy and Miss Suniti Singh the school Head Girl. Different committees and club captains also were selected for the smooth functioning. Student leaders promised to work for the betterment of the school and wellbeing of students.

The Holy Father’s Prayer Intentions
November 2019

We pray so that a spirit of dialogue, encounter, and reconciliation emerges in the Near East, where diverse religious communities share their lives.
HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

House Blessings: Regular house visits and house blessings were done by the Parish. Prayers were being held for the sick.

Church Feast: On July 28th 2019, St. Alphonsa's Feast was celebrated in the church. Novena for 9 days was held in the church during the evening time. On July 28th, arrangements for the Holy Mass was done by St. Alphonsa unit of Singrauli. After the Holy Mass a fellowship dinner (Preetibhoj) was organised by the unit.

CHRIST JYOTI SR. SECONDARY SCHOOL

1. RESULT 2019-20

CBSE results of class X and XII were declared and Christ Jyotians rocked. In class Xth, total 111 students appeared for the board exam. 25 students scored above 90%, 30 students scored above 80%, 26 students scored above 70%, 17 students scored above 60% and 98 students scored above 1st division.

Class X Toppers:
1) Kripa Singh – 96.8% - 484 marks
2) Rishabh Singh – 95% - 475 marks

In class XII, total number of students appeared for the exam were 69. Out of them 5 students scored above 90%, 9 students scored above 80%, 11 students scored above 70%, 17 students above 60% and 42 students above 1st division.

Class XII Toppers:
1) Sakshi Kumari – Science – 92.6% - 463 marks
2) Kanchan Gupta – Commerce – 92.6% - 463 marks
3) Isha Jain – Commerce – 91.8% - 459 marks
4) Harsh Kumar Suman – Science – 91.8% - 459 marks

Rev. Fr. Augustine Chittuparambil, School Manager, Rev. Sr. Sajana, the Principal and all the teachers congratulated the students for their good results and wished for their bright future ahead.
2. TEACHER’S SEMINAR

A seminar for the teachers of Christ Jyoti School Singrauli and Jyoti School Jayant was jointly organised by the school management on 17th June, 2019 in the Jayant Officer’s Club. Mrs. Kala Mohan was the resource person. The Topic of the seminar was – “Transforming teens through class management.”

3. KID’S CARE

This year God blessed the Christ Jyoti family with a new wing of little angels of God named as Kid’s Care. The inauguration and prayer service was done in the presence of our Manager Rev. Fr. Augustine Chittuparampil, Principal Rev. Sr. Sajana and K.G Headmistress Sr. Jaisy on 8th April, 2019.

The classrooms and corridors were decorated with colourful balloons and toys. Creative charts added the beauty of the class and made it attractive. Each little angel was welcomed with a balloon and chocolate as a token of love.

4. INVESTITURE CEREMONY

The Investiture Ceremony was held on 20th July 2019. Shri Nagender Pratap Singh Chouhan T.I. Morva was the chief guest of the occasion. Rev. Fr. Augustine, School Manager and Rev. Sr. Sajana, Principal welcomed the chief guest with warm greetings. The student council members took the oath to faithfully work for the school. The chief guest in his speech reminded the student council about being honest towards their duties and responsibilities.

5. INTER-HOUSE COMPETITIONS

The inter-house competitions are being held in the school by various clubs and committees of the school. The teachers and group in-charges of various houses remind the students to actively participate in the competitions and to contest with a sportsman spirit.
TRANSFERS AND APPOINTMENTS

We thank God Almighty Father for providing wonderful personalities to our Tikamgarh Parivar, Rev. Sr Elsy Kunnumpuram, Rev. Sr Prasantha, Rev Sr Jane Jose who rendered their selfless service to our Tikamgarh Parivar and to Pushpa English and Hindi Medium Schools for several years and were transferred to different places.

Rev. Fr Erosiyan Ekka as an assistant Parish Priest of Little Flower church was appointed as the new shepherd of the people of God in Tikamgarh and also he looks after Pushpa Hindi Medium School. Rev. Sr Little Rose is a Superior of S.H. community in Tikamgarh. Rev. Sr Albin is appointed as the Principal of the Hindi Medium School and Rev. Sr Merin as the Principal of the English medium.

FEAST OF DUKRANA

With great joy and happiness on 3rd July the feast of St. Thomas the Apostle of India was celebrated with the traditional piety and solemnity. Rev. Fr Erosiyan Ekka was the main celebrant for the holy Eucharistic celebration and with his inspiring speech enlightened the faithful to augment their faith in the risen Lord. Soon after the Holy Mass Rev. Fr Erosiyan Ekka was officially welcomed by Rev. Fr Cherian to Tikamgarh Parivar and was introduced as an assistant Parish Priest of Little Flower church, Tikamgarh.

FEAST OF ST. ALPHONSA AT GUVARAH

The feast day of St. Alphonsa, the heavenly patroness of the Guvarah church, was celebrated solemnly on 28th July with great enthusiasm. Rev. Fr Erosiyan Ekka was the main celebrant for the Holy Eucharist and gave an enriching message to the faithful regarding St. Alphonsa. Many faithful were present for the holy banquet. Soon after the Holy Mass we wished Alphonsa kujur a happy feast day and prayed for her all the blessings of St. Alphonsa and snacks were distributed to all.
FEAST OF ASSUMPTION AND INDEPENDENCE DAY

It is the day of blessing for our nation that on 15th August, our Lady ascended to heaven with soul and body. Having experienced blessings upon blessings on our nation the feast of assumption of our Lady was celebrated on 15th August at Little Flower church, Tikamgarh. Rev. Fr Cherian Kalapura was the main celebrant for the Eucharistic celebration and gave an enriching message to the faithful.

NEWS FROM WAIDHAN

• Sr. Lisa Chittinappilly SABS •

Rev. Mother John Mary, Sr. Vinaya, Sr. Alphin left on transfer to Kolkata, Shanti Nagar, and Gaziabad respectively. With new enthusiasm and zeal the new community was formed on 20th June. After the prayer service Mother Lisa took charge of the Waidhan community. Hostel teachers also gave a warm welcome to her and to the community members.

On 3rd July we celebrated St. Thomas day very solemnly and we had a dinner in the convent with Fr. Thomas, our parish priest as he celebrated his feast day. On 4th July we had a solemn Holy Qurbana and a grand dinner in the convent together with Fr. Thomas and hostel teachers as our mother celebrated her patroness day.

On 24th June school reopened after the summer vacation with new enthusiasm and energy. In the school we conducted Investiture Ceremony on 11th July. Mr Avigith Renj SD of Singrauli district was our chief guest and he gave an inspiring speech to the students.

On 25th July Mother Lisa attended the superiors’ meeting conducted in Edessa arranged by our Bishop Mar Joseph Kodakallil. And Sr. Jolly attended the principals’ gathering arranged by Satna diocese.

We celebrated principal’s day very solemnly with colourful programmes on 26th and 27th July. It was a golden chance to introduce the life of St. Alphonsa, specially her love towards Jesus, forgiving and sacrificial life too. And on 28th July we celebrated Sr. Alphy’s feast in the convent very solemnly.
After the long summer holidays we are back into full-fledged faith formation activities. Faith formation of the generation next is of the utmost importance to the very existence of the Church. At catechism we are trying to form them after the very personality of Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus at Nazareth was a beloved in the eyes of God and humane. At this juncture we sincerely thank the women religious, the Deacons from ETC and the Parish priests for taking an extra effort to mould the young minds after the Gospel values. We gratefully remember the selfless service rendered by those, who have been moved out of the diocese on account of their transfer.

ONE DAY ORIENTATION FOR CATECHISM ANIMATORS

To encourage and appreciate the faith formators for their selfless service in moulding the young minds to be ardent Catholics, the department of catechism organized a zonal catechism teacher’s get together and orientation at Christ Jyoti School Satna (Satna Zone), St Paul’s Waidhan (Singrauli Zone) and Maria Mata Chattarpur (Tikamgarh Zone) on Sunday 1st of September, 2019. The main thrust of the orientation was to inspire with the letter of Pope Francis that invites the whole church to celebrate the Extraordinary Missionary Month- October 2019.

BIBLE FEST

To nurture the inborn talents and the mutual bond of being one in Christ among our young Catholic children the Catechism department
is planning to have Zonal Bible Fest on Wednesday, 02 October 2019. The theme of this year’s Bible Fest is “I Am the Missionary”. The competitions would be in two categories, seniors and juniors. Children upto VII standard in school shall be considered juniors and from VIII standard shall be seniors. The participants shall restrict their program either in Hindi or English and purely Christian devotional. For group items there shall be only one entry from a parish and for singles one each from junior and senior categories. The minimum requisite number in a group item shall be 05 and the maximum be 09 with the exception of Bible Quiz. A minimum requisite of three entries is a must for any item or else it will stand cancelled. For group items first prize would carry 10 points and second prize would carry 07 points and the third prize would follow with 05 points. For a single item, the first prize would carry 05 points and the second prize would carry 03 points and the third prize would follow with 01 point. If there are only three entries for an item then only the first two prizes shall be awarded. Consolation prize shall be given away to the next position but without points. The following are the items proposed to be conducted.

1. Solo song : Jrs. & Srs. (04 minutes, any Christian Devotional Song in Hindi/English)
2. Single Dance : Jrs. & Srs. (05 Minutes, Any Christian Devotional Song in Hindi/English)
3. Speech : Topics for Jrs: (04 minutes, Missionary endeavors of St. Thomas the Apostle or of St Francis Xavier)
4. Extempore : Topics for Srs: (05 minutes, I am the Missionary, Catechism and Mission, Challenges of an Indian Missionary)
5. Essay Writing: Topics for Jrs: (01 hr, St. Kuriakose Chavara, St. Mother Teresa, St. Alphonsa)
   Topics for Srs : (01 hr, Extraordinary Month of Mission, St.Little Teresa an extra Ordinary Missionary, Life and Mission of Late Bp. AD Mattam)
6. Group Song : (07 Minutes, any Christian Devotional Song in Hindi/English)
7. Group Dance : (07 Minutes, Any Christian Devotional Song in Hindi/English to be used)
8. Quiz: (Topics: GK about Syro Malabar Church, Diocese Of Satna, Syro Malabar Qurbana Late Bp A.D Mattam)
9. Bible Skit (20 minutes, Based on New Testament)
Youth is the original and stimulating stage of life, which Jesus himself experiences and, thereby sanctifying it (Christus Vivit 22)

These words of Pope Francis in his post synodal apostolic exhortation enhances the importance of Youth and Youth ministry in the life and mission of the church. Our Eparchy in her prime time of the Jubilee throws her whole attention on the Youth by declaring this year as the year of the Youth. The special flags are being posted to point the attention of the parishners in the churches. After the Holy Mass every day a special prayer is being recited by the priest and the People for the Youth of our Eparchy. I gratefully remember the Parish Priests, Sisters, Youth animators and parishners for their sincere and spirit filled ministry and support in the Youth ministry.

DECLARATION OF THE YOUTH YEAR & SUMMER CAMP

The summer camp for the catholic youth was scheduled from May 01-03, 2019. From all the parishes of our eparchy almost 80 candidates participated in this program. The year 2019 -2020 was declared as the year of the Youth in our Eparchy. So the first two days were dedicated spiritual preparation for the Youth. Rev. Fr. Francis Chakkungal from the diocese of Jagdalpur drew the attention of the youth to the marvels of the spirit filled life.

The second day was marked with the penitential services. Everybody received the Sacrament of Confession and prepared themselves for the year of the youth. The Fathers from the nearby mission stations helped the youth to attend the sacrament of confession.
On the third day we began with the Pontifical Qurbana and His Excellency hoisted the flag of Youth year. Then we had a short program in the hall on the declaration of the youth year. We started our program with a prayer song and one of the participants welcomed our Bishopji. Then we opened the year of youth with the theme “Together to be with the Lord” (एक साथ प्रभु के साथ). Then we were fortunate enough to release the Bible verse for the year of the youth as “I write you young people, because you are strong and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one (1Jn 2:14). And all recited together the prayer for the youth year. All enjoyed the cultural programs and at the end our Bishopji encouraged everyone with the words of blessing.

Jesus in the years of his Youth was undergoing training to be prepared to carry out the Father’s plan. His adolescence and his youth set him on the path to that sublime mission (Christus Vivit 27). The second part of the summer camp was to keep the youth of our eparchy updated with the career guidance. For this cause Sanjos team from Ujjain came over here to guide the Youth to new ventures of the career. They divided the youth into two groups to facilitate the program in a better and useful manner. The activity, workshop and assessment brought awareness in the life of the youth on their strengths and weaknesses.

The aspects of Jesus’ life can prove inspiring for all those young people who are developing and preparing their mission in life. This involves growing in relationship with the Father in awareness of being part of a family and a people, and an openness for being filled with the Holy Spirit and led to carry out the mission God gives them, their personal vocation (Christus Vivit 30). The final hours of the summer camp was marked with the planning of the Youth Year and instructions from the director. Then the youth moved themselves with the prayer of the rosary and then to the cultural dances. By 11.00 pm we came to the conclusion of the summer camp.
BIBLE QUIZ

“How can a young person stay on the path of purity? By living according to your word” (Ps. 119: 9). In order to motivate the youth to read and comprehend the words of our Lord in their daily life, the Youth ministry conducted a Bible Quiz competition in the parish level. From the Gospel of Mathew chapters one to ten we prepared one hundred questions in nine varieties and send to each parish. And after the Holy Eucharist on 14th July, Sunday all the youth used their one hour to write the answers and it benefited them to understand the Word of God very closely with the repeated and slower reading.

COMPETITIONS

“Jesus is Young among the young in order to be an example for the young and to consecrate them to the Lord” (Christus Vivit 22). With the goal to enhance catholic values and explore the hidden talents in the life of the youth in connection with the youth year, the youth commission has conducted PPT and Poem competition in the eparchial level for the youth of our eparchy. The PPT brought awareness on the importance of word of God in the life of the Youth and poem explored the devotion to our Mother Mary. They were supposed to submit the same in the parishes on 11th July. Many of the Youth participated in it and made it a platform to unearth their hidden talents.

ZONAL LEVEL YOUTH MEET AND TRAININGS

Youth commission has arranged a zonal level one day training programe for the youth and catechism students (Class V onwards) of Satna, Tikamgarh, and Singrauli zones on 21st July, 4th and 11th of August respectively. This was to help out our catholic children to sort out the problems in the learning process and to solve it through various techniques. This programe encouraged everyone to adopt new methods in their daily learning and schedules.

YOUTH YEAR ORIENTATION PROGRAME

In order to amplify the Year of Youth in our Eparchy we made it a chance to acclimatize the youth of our Eparchy, a zonal level youth orientation programe. Thereby they were made aware of the goal of our motto (एक साथ प्रभु के साथ). In his Pastoral letter Pope Francis draws our attention to Jn 15:15 “I do not call you servants any longer, but I call you friends. By the gift of this grace, we are elevated in such a way that we truly become his friends” (Christus Vivit 153). So in this Year of Youth all will move together to be with Jesus in prayer. The Young minds also invoked themselves to the Word of God (युवकों ! मैं तुम्हें इसलिए लिख रहा हूँ).
Pope Francis rightly pictures before us Jesus himself as eternally young and wants us to give our hearts that are ever young. God's word asks us to “cast out the old leaven that you may be fresh dough (1Cor 5:7). St. Paul invites us to strip ourselves of the “old self” and put on a “young” self (Col 3:12-13) (Christus Vivit 13). So we can say that Word of God is the backbone and strength of each youth in their catholic life.

All the parish priests and Youth animators were very much interested in the formation and personal and spiritual nourishment of the youth due to which all the programs reached to the epitome of success. And the youth themselves cherished personally the feeling towards faith and spiritual realms of the church.

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**The Holy Father’s Prayer Intentions**

**December 2019**

We pray so that every country decides to take the necessary measures to make the future of the very young, especially those who suffer, a priority.
The Action Plan for the Extraordinary Month of October 2019 is “Baptized and Sent: Christ’s Church on Mission in the World”: Prayer, Reflection and Action

1. Prayer cards printed and made available to all the missions
2. One Karozutha shall be added in the celebration of the Eucharist. This will be prepared and made available to you.
3. Pastoral letter of the Archbishop of Bhopal in Hindi is to be read on 1st September (Sunday).
4. A Seminar organized by the St. Ephrem’s Theological College in collaboration with the diocese.
5. See to the Family prayers at home with all the members of the family
6. Family visits by the parish priest, sisters and lay persons
7. Half an hour adoration in the parishes/stations/institutions after/before the Sunday Holy Qurbana
8. Posters and flags made available from the regional team
9. Missionary awareness among different groups (parish council/catechism/associations/altar servers/youth etc.) in the diocese
10. Parish level celebration with rally
11. One Zonal monthly recollection on this theme in September/October 2019
12. Marriage rectification within this year in the parishes if any
13. Participation of fifty representatives (Priests, Religious and lay persons) from our diocese shall go to Indore for the ‘Missionotsav’ (Regional level celebration) will be held on 27 October 2019. A bus will be arranged from Satna.

Four weeks of October 2019 starting from 29 September will be devoted for prayer, reflection and action on this theme basing on the four points that the Holy Father highlighted in his letter: (1) A personal encounter with Jesus Christ living in his Church: in the Eucharist, in the Word of God and in personal and communal prayer; 2) Testimony: missionary saints, martyrs and confessors of the faith as an expression of the Church scattered throughout the world; 3) Missionary formation: biblical, catechetical, spiritual and theological; 4) Missionary charity.

First Week (29 September-5 October 2019): Experience personally Jesus in the Church by attending regularly the Eucharist, reception of the sacrament of Reconciliation, reading and meditating the Word of God individually and in families, spending a few minutes in prayer personally and with the family members etc.

Second Week (6-12 October 2019): Read from lives of saints/blessed/venerable especially those of India and inspire from them personally and in families through audio and video media.

Third Week (13-19 October 2019): Reflect and catechize on the missionary call; seek the ways and means to realize it in our present context; find out how to practice in the given situation through Christian witnessing.

Fourth Week (20-26 October 2019): Reflect on the missionary charity through charitable works, visiting the sick/hospitals, helping the poor and needy, fight against injustice/corruption, conduct seminars and orientation for different groups etc.
सतना धर्मप्रांत

विशेष भिक्षुनी महीना - अक्टूबर 2019

प्रार्थना

हे प्रभु हमारे ईश्वर, जब आपके इकलौते पुत्र प्रभु ईशा मसीह/मुस्तकों में से पुनर्जीवित हुए, उन्होंने अपने प्रेरितों को यह आदेश दिया, जाओ और सब रात्रों को शिक्षा बनाओ, और आप हमें यह स्मरण दिलाते हैं/ कि हम भी अपने वित्तस्मार संस्कार द्वारा/कल्याणिया के प्रेरितक कार्य करने हेतु/ सहभागी बनाये गये हैं।

हे प्रभु, हमें पवित्र आत्मा के वरदानों से सशक्त बना दे/ कि हम सुसमाचार के प्रति सच्चा साक्ष्य देने हेतु/ साहसी और उत्साही बने रहें, ताकि जो प्रेरिताई कार्य पवित्र कल्याणिया को सेवा है/ और अभी तक पूर्णता से अति दूर है, वह नया और प्रभावशाली अभिव्यक्ति प्राप्त कर सके, जिससे कि समस्त संसार/ प्रकाशमान होकर नवजीवन प्राप्त कर सके।

हे पिता, हमारी सहायता कीजिए/ जिससे हम प्रभु ईशा मसीह के अर्थिक प्रेम और दयालुता का अनुभव/ सारी मानवजाति को करा सकें। हे सब के प्रभु, पिता, पुत्र और पवित्र आत्मा सर्वदा, आमेन।

हे पिता हमारे,... प्रणाम मरियम,... पिता, पुत्र....