



SDB PROVINCE OF GUWAHATI - ING

NEWS *Line*

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20th PROVINCIAL CHAPTER

Province of Mary Help of Christians, Guwahati

SALESIANS FOR THE YOUTH OF TODAY



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Dear Confreres,

Kindly send articles with photos of various programmes and events of your apostolate for the next NEWSLINE June Issue.

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Editorial

Harkening to the clarion call of the Rector Major and to the 28th General Chapter theme, “What Kind of Salesians for the Youth of Today?’, the Salesian Province of Mary Help of Christians, Guwahati held its 20th Provincial Chapter at Don Bosco Institute from 19-22nd February 2019. The Chapter was presided over by Rev. Fr. Januarius S. Sangma, Salesian Provincial of the Province of Guwahati and ably moderated by Fr. Francis Fernandes, Controller of Exams, Assam Don Bosco University. The Chapter’s thematic question, “What kind of salesian for the youth of today?” is a personalistic question to which every salesian must give an adequately renewed and passionate answer. It is an urgent invitation to a change in mentality, perspective and lifestyle of every salesian irrespective of years of profession.

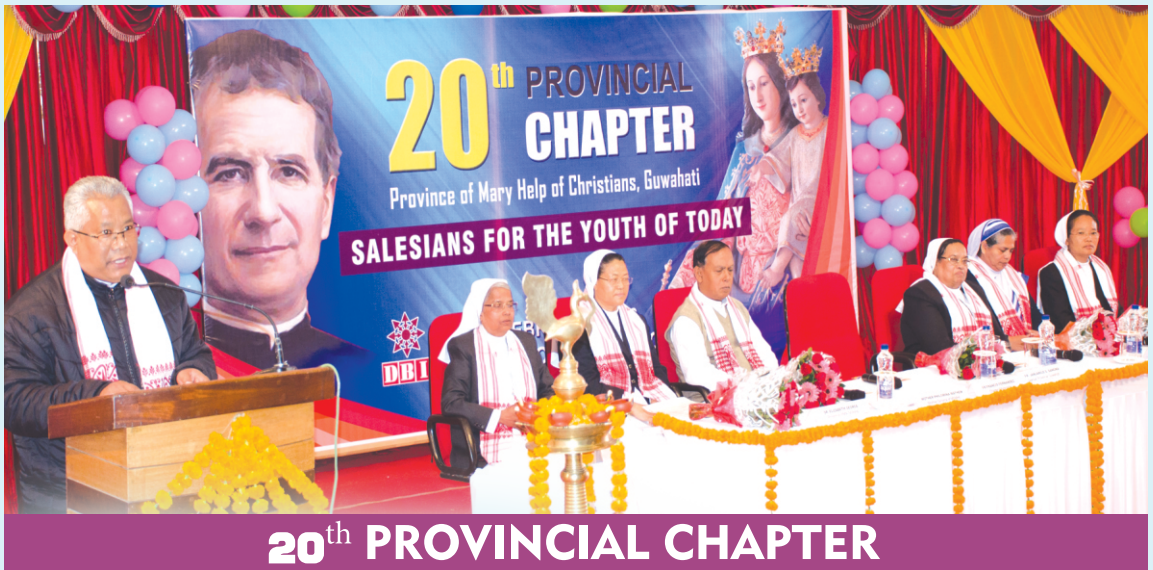


Fr. Pojit Marak, sdb
Editor

The Lenten Season that has just begun helps us to renew our commitment to the Lord in the Don Bosco way - the way of personal sanctification by doing our ordinary - pastoral, educational, developmental activities and programmes in an extraordinarily creative and innovative way.

The present issue of the province’s Newline highlights some of the important events that happened in the Province in the recent months. Most important of them all was the 20th Provincial Chapter of the Province of Mary Help of Christians, Guwhati. Other significant events were - Launching of the Centenary Celebration of the arrival of the First Salesians to Northeast India; Celebration of Salesian Family Day; Blessing of Don Bosco Communication Centre, Celebration of the Feast Day of St. John Bosco; and other celebrations and events of the Salesian communities.

Don Bosco’s parting message to the first salesian missionaries who went to Patagonia was to be relevant at all times by dynamically remaining faithful in the service of the young people especially those who are poor. I do believe that the celebration of the 20th Provincial Chapter and the outcome of its deliberations would be effectively implemented to become relevant salesians today. The Lenten cry ‘Here is an appointed time, now’s the day of salvation’ aptly coincides with the Chapter’s call to personal renewal. May He who began a good work in us bring it to fruitful completion. Wishing everyone a lovely time of Grace.



20th PROVINCIAL CHAPTER

We move on, clearer about ourselves and wanting to do more

On the evening of 22nd February 2019, with a solemn Eucharistic celebration in the amphitheatre of Don Bosco Institute (DBI), Kharghuli, Guwahati, with the participation of the young people of DBI, we concluded the 20th Provincial Chapter of our province. It was a moment of gratitude, satisfaction and joy for the 59 Chapter members and 8 invited observers.

The Chapter began with a recollection on the 19th evening, animated by Fr. Jose Varickasseril of Sacred Heart Theological College, Shillong. There followed three days of intense study, reflection, discussion and sharing. It was quite hectic, with rising at 5.30 a.m. and completing the daily discussions with dinner at 8.00 p.m. The moderator, Fr. Francis Fernandez, put us

through a tough regimen, with a few lamenting that the lunch break was just one hour only. Nevertheless, none fainted nor dozed off during the afternoon sessions.

“The decision to hold the chapter at DBI was indeed a wise one,” affirmed one of the senior chapter members. Fr. PD Johny led the staff and students of DBI in a meticulous planning and organization for the hosting of the Chapter, from the moment we stepped into DBI or Inspiration till our final departure on the 22nd night (for a few), and on the 23rd morning (for the majority). On the 20th morning, we had the formal inauguration of the chapter in the amphitheatre of DBI in the middle of nearly 200 young people, including the MBA students of DBIM. The young people welcomed us with their dance and songs and with a mime that aptly portrayed the person and ministry of Don Bosco, and we

could already feel within ourselves the evident answer to the theme of the Chapter “What kind of Salesians for the youth of today?” Representatives of the other members of the Salesian family honoured us with their presence, good wishes and prayers.

On the 21st, DBI had planned and put up a cultural performance for the Chapter members, who reciprocated with an impromptu group fusion dance led by Fr. Cletus of Don Bosco Socio-Technical Institute (DBSTI), Tezpur. The host of trainees of the hospitality sector got a free opportunity to experience for themselves the intricacies of attending to the guests during the meals and snacks. We also enjoyed a good weather all through the Chapter days which enabled us to have our meals on the beautifully arranged terrace of DBI, to the accompaniment of tasteful and soothing music. It was indeed a unique Chapter – discussing and reflecting, in the midst of lively and happy young people, on the kind of Salesians for the youth of today. They helped us to experience the joy and fruitfulness of the Salesian mission that is being so effectively carried out at DBI.

The preparations for this our 20th Provincial Chapter took off with the formal convocation of

the Chapter by me in my circular dated 16th July 2018, to be held from 19th to 22nd February 2019, and with Fr. Francis Fernandez as the Chapter Moderator. He wasted no time in proposing the names of those who could be in the precapitular commission- Frs. Joseph L. Teron, Maria Anthuvan, Thomas Lakra, Joy Kachappilly and Paul Rabha, and Bro. Benedict B. Sangma. However, Fr. Paul Rabha was not able to attend any meeting of the commission.

As per the report of Fr. Fernandez, the precapitular commission held all their meetings at the Provincial House which proved to be a convenient location for all. The itinerary of the preparations for the Chapter were drawn up in the first commission meeting, and thereafter the definite deadlines to be met with regard to the election of the community delegates and their substitutes and then the province delegates. The ex-officio members of the Chapter came to 33, the community



delegates numbered 17 and the province delegates were 9, bringing the Chapter number to 59, of whom 6 were Salesian Brothers. The suggestion to invite certain observers to the Chapter was approved. Thus, two young Salesians (both from SHTC, Shillong), a couple (as our lay collaborators), two young men and two young women took part in the Chapter as observers, providing us with insights from their own perspectives. The Chapter worked through five Chapter commissions with 13 members each.

Bishop Denis Panipitchai, the auxiliary Bishop of Miao Diocese presided over the Eucharist on the 20th morning, and Archbishop John Moolachira of Guwahati on the 21st. Bishop Thomas Menampampil addressed the Chapter members on the evening of the 20th. The good night talk on the 20th February was given by Fr. Stephen Mavelly who gave a detailed power point presentation on our University at Tapesia; Bro. Angelus Tete spoke about the National Conference of the Salesian Brothers held at the beginning of this year, and Fr. Denis Sangma of Garobadha narrated the ordeal of the robbery in their parish in January this year. Certainly, I too had my turn at addressing the Chapter members during the good night and other occasions.

As communicated to us by the moderator of 28th General Chapter (GC 28), it was also an

eco-friendly Chapter, a nearly paperless Chapter. Except for the initial communications with the communities and confreres by hard copy and soft copy, the other communications were mostly through the electronic and social media – namely e-mail and WhatsApp. Umswai, Amkachi and Rongjeng, as also one or two other Salesian centres of our province got linked by WhatsApp. The election results of the community delegates and substitutes, and more particularly of the province delegates, were communicated through e-mail and more by WhatsApp. The only desktop computers were those set aside by DBI for the use of the Chapter. However, laptops were brought along by the capitular commission presidents/secretaries. The only papers distributed during the Chapter were ballot papers for the election of the province delegates and their substitutes to GC 28. Our Chapter documents and contribution to GC 28 will be passed along as soft copies.

I recall to mind what Fr. Emmanuel Marngar spoke to the time-keeper in his intervention during a session. He had chosen to make his intervention during the third round (1 minute only). But with impeccable logic he said: “This is my first intervention; hence, I must be permitted to speak for 3 minutes.” Guess who the youngest member of the Chapter was. It was none other than his highness, Bro. Paul Makri – we were all looking up to him;

difficult to imagine what young people grow up to be. He was invited to light the candle in front of the statue of Don Bosco in the Chapter hall. At an earlier session, Fr. Eddie D'Souza, the oldest Chapter member, had lighted the candle to honour and seek Don Bosco's intercession. Frs. Jayaprakash and Thomas John, Chapter members, were the official photographers at the Chapter, the former for the archives, and the latter passing on to all Chapter details through WhatsApp. Fr. Biju Michael, Fr. Abhilash and Bro. Paul Makri served as Chapter secretaries, while Fr. Alex Mathew led the drafting committee (Frs. Damian, Abhilash, Anugrah and Bro. Benedict Sangma). Other Chapter members too carried out with commitment the responsibilities assigned to them as scrutineers, time keepers, sacristans, liturgical animators, etc.

On 22nd morning, soon after lauds and meditation, we had the election of the two delegates and their substitutes to GC 28. Frs. Francis Fernandez and Biju Michael were elected as the 1st and 2nd delegates, with Bro. Joby Mani and Fr. Joseph Teron as the 1st and 2nd substitutes respectively. Frs. Thomas John and Bro. Joby served as scrutineers during the election process, with Fr. Anthuvan as the secretary. GC 28 will be

held at Turin from 16th February to 4th April, 2020.

Seven months of preparation for the Chapter have brought all of us together in heart and mind; it has helped us to keep before our minds the Chapter theme "What kind of Salesians for the youth of today." Community reflections, involvement of the lay collaborators and of young people during the period of preparation have helped us to become more aware of the primacy of our youth mission, of the identity of the Salesian and of involving the laity in our mission to the young. The best results and fruits of the Chapter will not be the documents, but our own renewal as Salesians, faithful to our call and mission as sons of Don Bosco. Let us march forward with enthusiasm and vigour, particularly as we celebrate the 60 years of our province and soon the 100th anniversary of the arrival of the first Salesians in North East India.

Fr. Januarius S Sangma, Provincial ING



From Left to Right:

*Fr. Biju Michael, Fr. Joseph Teron, Fr. Januarius S Sangma, Provincial,
Fr. Francis Fernandez and Bro. Joby Mani*

LAUNCHING OF 2022 CENTENARY PREPARATIONS

Launching of 2022 centenary preparations of the arrival of the Salesians to Northeast India was flagged off on 31st January 2019 on the Feastday of St. John Bosco at Provincial House, Guwahati. The event consisted of hoisting of the Centenary Flag, Centenary Anthem, Message by Rev. Fr. Januarius S. Sangma, Salesian Provincial,



Planting of Tree-Sapling, Centenary Prayer and Fellowship Tea. 250 selected youth from the various sectors of apostolate of the



Salesian Family participated in the programme. Fr. Joseph Teron, Vice Provincial welcomed everyone to participate whole heartedly as we prepare to celebrate the arrival of Salesians to Northeast in 2022. The Provincial in his message thanked the pioneer missionaries and highlighted their motto – ‘DARE and HOPE’. The first stanza of the centenary

song reads, “Hundred years ago came the Salesians to the beautiful land of Northeast. We are now of what you did a hundred years ago.” In the evening there was a concelebrated Holy Mass for all the members of the Salesian Family and religious and priests from Guwahati region. The day ended with an elaborate fraternal meal hosted by the Provincial Economist.

RENOVATED DON BOSCO COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE, GUWAHATI

The Renovated Don Bosco Communications was blessed and inaugurated by Rev. Fr. Januarius S. Sangma, Salesian Provincial in the presence of Provincial Council members and Heads of various commissions of the Province and other invitees on 25th January at 10.30 am. Fr. Provincial announced the appointment of Fr. P.D. John, Executive Director of Don Bosco Institute, as the new Delegate of Social Communications in the province. Fr.

Benny Alex, the Provincial Economer was responsible renovating and equipping the centre with hi-tech facilities. Fr. George Plathattom, former Delegate, gave a brief history of the communication Centre and ended by saying, “All forms of behavior is communication.” Fr. Bivan Mukhim, Secretary of the Commission listed the way forward. Fr. P.D. Johny, thanked the Provincial and the Council for placing their trust in him and promised to do his best. Fr.

Provincial thanked Fr. Benny Alex for keeping the Centre ready for the blessing and Fr. PD John for taking up the responsibility as the Director of the Communication Centre. After the blessing, tea and snacks were served for everyone present for the inaugural ceremony.



THE SALESIAN FAMILY DAY

The Salesian Family Day 2019 was held at the Don Bosco Provincial House Guwahati on 6th February 2019. Nearly 70 members of the salesian family comprising of the SDBs, FMAs, MSMHCs, VSDBs, SMIs, Past Pupils and Salesian Cooperators gathered at the Mario Hall for the evening's

programme. The celebrations started with a prayer song and then there was lighting of the lamp by the members representing the various groups. After the words of welcome by Fr. Joseph Teron SDB, Vice-Provincial, Fr. Januarius S. Sangma SDB Provincial, ING animated the gathering on the strena



for 2019, HOLINESS FOR YOU TOO with the aid of the video of the strenna. This was followed by sharing of views by different individuals on the strenna which included taking resolutions to make the Strenna known, shared and implemented in our communities, institutes and field of work. Issues on the possibility of having common animation of formees of the different members of the family, studying, reflecting and sorting lines of action on various church documents from time to time were also put forward. Fr. Januarius SDB gave

tentative information about the forthcoming events of the congregation, region and the province with respect to the preparations for the celebrations of the arrival of Salesians to northeast India(2022); Diamond Jubilee of ING and the Boscoree 2022 that is to be held in our province (Fr. PD. Johny is to be the convener of Boscoree '22). Fr. Benny.P. Basil SDB (Economer ING) proposed the vote of thanks. The programme ended with a hymn to Don Bosco and a fraternal meal. (Recorded by Bro. George Williams)

THE SALESIAN BROTHERS' CONGRESS, BENGALURU



The 8th Salesian Brothers' Congress of South Asia was held at Don Bosco Skill Mission (DBSM), Bengaluru from 30th December to 3rd January 2019. The theme of the Congress was "Salesian, Be a faithful witness". A total of 130 Salesians participated (98 Brothers and 32 Priests) in it. During the congress, Br. Jose Puthenpurackel of Kolkata province was elected as the new National Delegate for Salesian Brothers in South Asia Region, comprising of India, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bangladesh. We appreciate Br. Biju Joseph Poonamkavil, the outgoing national

delegate. Br. Jobi Mani is elected as the new Province delegate for Salesian Brothers in the province. We congratulate him on his appointment and we assure him of our prayerful support in his work of animation and promotion of vocation to Salesian Brotherhood. We must consciously make effort to pray for and promote vocations to Salesian Brotherhood in the province. We express our gratitude to Br. Benjamin Rosant for his services and congratulate him for having done his work of animation well.

DEACON ROBERT BASUMATARY ORDAINED A PRIEST

You are a priest forever, a priest like Melchizedek of old." We thank God for the gift of one and the only priest for our province this year in the person of Fr. Robert Basumatary. We congratulate him on reaching this milestone in life which is not the end but rather a beginning of life in the service of God and the young. We wish and pray that he finds joy, peace and fulfilment in serving the people of God in the manner and style of St. John Bosco. The Parish Priest and the parishioners of Udalguri need appreciation for the way they organized the ordination ceremony and the first Holy Eucharist. There was an atmosphere of prayer,

devotion, joy and happiness around, where thousands gathered to rejoice and pray inside the beautifully constructed pandal. I appreciate the presence of so many SDB confreres especially the Council members for this solemn occasion. Fr. Robert Basumatary will join the community of Kumarikatta as Asst. Parish priest, warden of the hostel and Asst. Headmaster in the school.



DON BOSCO'S FEAST CELEBRATED AT DBI

Don Bosco Institute celebrated the feast of Don Bosco with a solemn Eucharistic Celebration presided over by Fr. P.D. Johny, Rector and Director. At 9.00 am there was the solemn hoisting of the centenary flag, paying floral tribute to St. John Bosco and singing of the centenary anthem. Rev.Fr. Januarius S. Sangma, Salesian Provincial was the Chief Guest on the occasion. The Chief Guest was escorted to the podium for flag hoisting by the marching contingent of DBI. Fr. Provincial in his speech appreciated the management, staff and students for the way in which they have organised the entire programme. Fr. Provincial wished everyone on the Feast of St. John Bosco and

said that each one of them were here because of him. He highlighted the contributions of the first Salesian missionaries and spoke about their motto: Dare and Hope. Ladoos were distributed to students and faculty after the function. Fr. Pojit Marak thanked the Provincial, his council and all those who have extended their helping hand to build the dreams of our young people and shape their lives.



DON BOSCO BENGTOLESE BAND SHINES IN NEW DELHI



It's been a second year in a row that the all-girls Don Bosco Band, Bengtol was selected by the Government of India to participate in the Republic day parade in New Delhi. It was definitely a great honour and matter of pride for the Province, particularly the Bengtol community. Their ascent to this glory re-emphasises what we have been telling our youth that they are second to none and through hard work can

compete at the highest level. I wish to congratulate the community, particularly Fr. Siby, the teachers and the girls for this achievement. Earlier, the group had performed in the Republic day and Independence day celebrations in Kajalgaon, Bongaigaon and in Guwahati. Every time they performed they had won the admiration of audience.

THE NEW PROVINCIALS' MEETING IN ROME



The day usually commenced with lauds, meditation and Holy Eucharist, presided over and animated by the General Councillors. Two times we had the lectio divina. Before the feast of the Immaculate

Our Rector Major, Fr Ángel Fernández Artime SDB, termed the assembly of the nine new Provincials as a fraternal meeting and not a training course. Indeed it truly was. The board that was put up prominently in the refectory of the community, depicting the photographs of the new Provincials with a caption, “9 Illustrious Performers.” The new Provincials came from South Asia (2), South Africa (1), the Middle East (1), Papua New Guinea (1) and Europe (4). The meeting was held at Sacro Cuore, from 2nd to 15th December, 2018.

Conception, we were given the opportunity to have a monthly recollection and make confessions. Well prepared and well animated sessions were taken by the Rector Major, the Vicar to the Rector Major, the Economer General, the General Councillors, the Secretary General and SDBs trained in Canon law, juridical matters and others, from 9.00 am upto 12.30 pm. The sessions taught the Provincials about the need to own up whatever goes on in the Province. They need to be fatherly, listening and accompanying the confreres. The twin aspects of the duty of the

Provincial - animation and governance were insisted upon time and again.

In the evenings, all the Provincials were given an opportunity to meet the Rector Major and the General council members individually. Usually the day ended with the vespers and the novena to the feast of the Immaculate Conception. Every Provincial got ample opportunity to share about the state of his own Province, the vision, dreams and goals and the strategy of the new Provincial and his team, the challenges that are present and the personal project of life. Two times, we celebrated the Holy

Eucharist in the room of Don Bosco and a Salesian Brother took us once on a guided tour to the Sacro Cuore, the Basilica built by St John Bosco, the museum, the room and the chapel of St John Bosco. During the evaluation, all the new Provincials appreciated the organization of the meeting, the well prepared input sessions, the great Salesian hospitality and fraternal sharing particularly during the meals and the opportunity to meet the Rector Major and the Councillors one by one. I truly felt that the opportunity was God-sent. It has done me tremendous good.

Fr. Januarius S Sangma, Provincial ING

THE NEW PRIEST DAY

The new Priest day was celebrated in the Provincial House on 19th February. This year the province was lucky to have Fr. Robert Basumatary as its only priest. He was ordained on 6th January at Udalguri by Bishop Michael Akasius, Bishop of Tezpur which was attended by a large number of priests, religious, sisters and the laity. The celebration started with the Holy Mass, presided over by the new priest. The Chapter members and other

Salesians from the communities of Guwahati attended the Eucharistic celebration, after which the newly ordained priest was felicitated. He expressed his gratitude to the province for the new priest's day and felt encouraged by the attendance of many confreres on the day of his ordination. Fr. Robert is now posted as the Asst. Parish Priest, Warden and Asst. Headmaster at Kumarikatta, Assam.



HORGOR POTH - ASSAMESE PRAYER AND HYMN BOOK RELEASED

The second edition of Horgor Poth (Assamese Prayer and Hymn Book) compiled by Fr Joy Kachappilly, Rector and Parish Priest of Don Bosco, Boko was released today (5th February 2019) by His Grace Archbishop John Moolachira in the presence of all Clergy and Religious who had gathered for the Monthly Recollection in the Archbishop's House. The Archbishop was full of praise for Fr. Joy and his team members who worked hard to bring out this volume and said that this book will be very useful in our Parishes, Formation Houses and Boardings. The book would be sold at a subsidized rate of Rs.100, thanks to the



generosity of Archbishop John. In fact, there was a scramble for the books and all the copies available in the Bishop's House were sold out immediately. Copies are available at Boko and Don Bosco Communications, Provincial House. We congratulate Fr. Joy Kachappilly for his initiative and for making it available at subsidised rate.

REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATIONS AT DON BOSCO INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT

70th Republic Day of India was celebrated on 26th January 2019 at Don Bosco Institute of Management (DBIM). Mr. Amal Dev Sarma, Assistant Professor of NIT Shillong and former student of St. Anthony's School and College was the Chief Guest for the function. The ceremony consisted of flag hoisting, floral tribute to Mahatma Gandhi, the father of the Nation,

singing of patriotic songs, inspiring speeches and distribution of sweets to the participants. Fr. P.D. John, Director welcomed the Chief Guest and Guest of Honour and wished everyone Happy Republic Day. One of the students, Adam R Marak, gave a patriotic speech in Hindi.

The Chief Guest elaborately enlightened the crowd on right perspective to 'patriotism'.

“The contribution made by our countrymen to the world”, he said, “is something beyond materialism and is superlatively superior. It’s not the potential

anymore but we are already a super-power in our own way”. He concluded his oratory in a very positive note saying that our nation is formed by the unification of everything that is good. The short programme concluded with the prayer hymn of Rabindranath Tagore, “Into that heaven of freedom my Father, let my country awake.” On the evening of the same day, there was a cultural evening with patriotic dances and songs.



GRAND FINALE OF ANNUAL SPORTS CONCLUDED IN UMSWAI

The Grand Finale of the Annual Sports 2019 came to a glittering end on 23rd February, 2019. Shri D Uphing Maslai, local Member of the Karbi Anglong Autonomous District Council graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Fr. Denis Solomon SDB, Principal, Don Bosco School, Amkachi, Mr. Holvis Maslai Headman, headman of Shikdamakha village, Mr. Horsing Kholar, Catholic Tiwa Literature Committee, Mr. Jeronimus Maslai, Head Catechist, Mr. Hilarius Engti, Asst. Head Catechist, Mr.

Prakash Puma, Parish Council Secretary and other guests were also present. A large number of parents and guardians also witnessed the grand show of their wards.

Speaking to the students, the Chief Guest thanked the school authorities for inviting him and graced the occasion of the ‘most important event’ in the school’s calendar that every student looks forward to. He was all praise for the athletes who performed exceedingly well in the March Past, drill display and cultural show and were very competitive in all sports events. He urged the students to excel not merely in their studies but in different co-curricular activities as these will contribute much to the success of a person and after formal education. He said that poverty should not deter anyone from achieving his or her



goals. He promised to extend his help to improve the facilities in the school.

The highlights of the day were the impressive March Past by the four houses and the Scouts and Guides, the drill display by the primary section, the Tiwa Cultural and Karbi Cultural Dances, the Aerobics by all

the students and the extraordinary gymnastics demonstration by Mary Queen.

The memorable day concluded with the prize distribution. The Red House was declared champions of 2019. At the closing ceremony when the school flag was lowered few were even seen holding back tears.

MSGR. ALBERT HEMROM ORDAINED COADJUTOR BISHOP OF DIBRUGARH



At the Bishop's house of Dibrugarh, on 24th February 2019, Msgr. Albert Hembrom was solemnly ordained Coadjutor Bishop of the diocese of Dibrugarh by the Archbishop Emeritus Thomas Menamparampil of Guwahati. There were 24 bishops from across the country and 400 priests and 2000 women religious groups and circa 35,000 faithful attended the function. He with 49 years of age becomes the youngest Bishop of

Northeast India. It was indeed a mega historical event for the diocese of Dibrugarh. He is the eldest son of six siblings, two brothers and three sisters. Bishop Albert was born on 27th February, 1969 in Konapathar in Tinsukia district of Assam, to Mr. Cyril Hemrom and Mrs. Josephine Purty. He did his schooling at Konapathar and later at Don Bosco School, Doom Dooma. After that he joined the St. Joseph's Minor Seminary, Dibrugarh. Later on, he studied at Christ the King College, Shillong and at Oriens Theological College, Shillong. He was ordained priest in the year 1999. He obtained a Licentiate from St. Peter's Pontifical College, Bangalore in 2003 and a Doctorate from the Pontifical Lateran University in 2014. He served the diocese in various capacities and was a visiting professor at Oriens theological College, Shillong from 2006-2011. He was also the Judicial Vicar of the Diocesan Tribunal and Rector of St. Joseph's Minor Seminary, Dibrugarh.

HEALTH UPDATE: FR. MILON NARZARY

There has been a steady improvement in the health of Fr Milon Narzary. He has been taken to Kerala for a naturopathic treatment. We shall continue to pray for the good health of Fr. Milon and other sick confreres of our Province.



THE LEGEND LIVES ON

On 27th December, 2018, a sea of humanity converged at the Cathedral of St John Bosco, Tezpur to bid a tearful adieu to its first Bishop, Rt Rev. Robert Kerketta, SDB, DD. Incidentally, he was the first son of the North Eastern soil, who, though very humble and simple, but deeply spiritual and a dynamic leader, got elevated to the exalted office of the Church. All the Archbishops and Bishops of the North East were present except four. They led a devout participation of innumerable priests, religious and laity to give a well-deserved final commendation. At the end of the Holy Eucharist, condolence messages that poured in from within and outside the country were read out, which paid glowing tributes to the tireless and indomitable



works and achievements of the late prelate. The Provincial of Guwahati during his funeral oration of the day which he delivered in the name of all the confreres of the Province threw light on the nobility, simplicity, holiness and the dedicated work and achievements of our dear Bishop at Dibrugarh and especially at Tezpur. He prayed that the good Lord may grant him the just reward and through his intercession, continue to bless the dioceses of North East India.

20th PROVINCIAL CHAPTER *at a Glance*



LENT SEASON

“As Lent is the time for greater love,

listen to Jesus thirst...

repent and believe Jesus tells us.

What are we to repent?

our indifference, our hardness of heart.

what are we to believe?

Jesus thirsts even now,

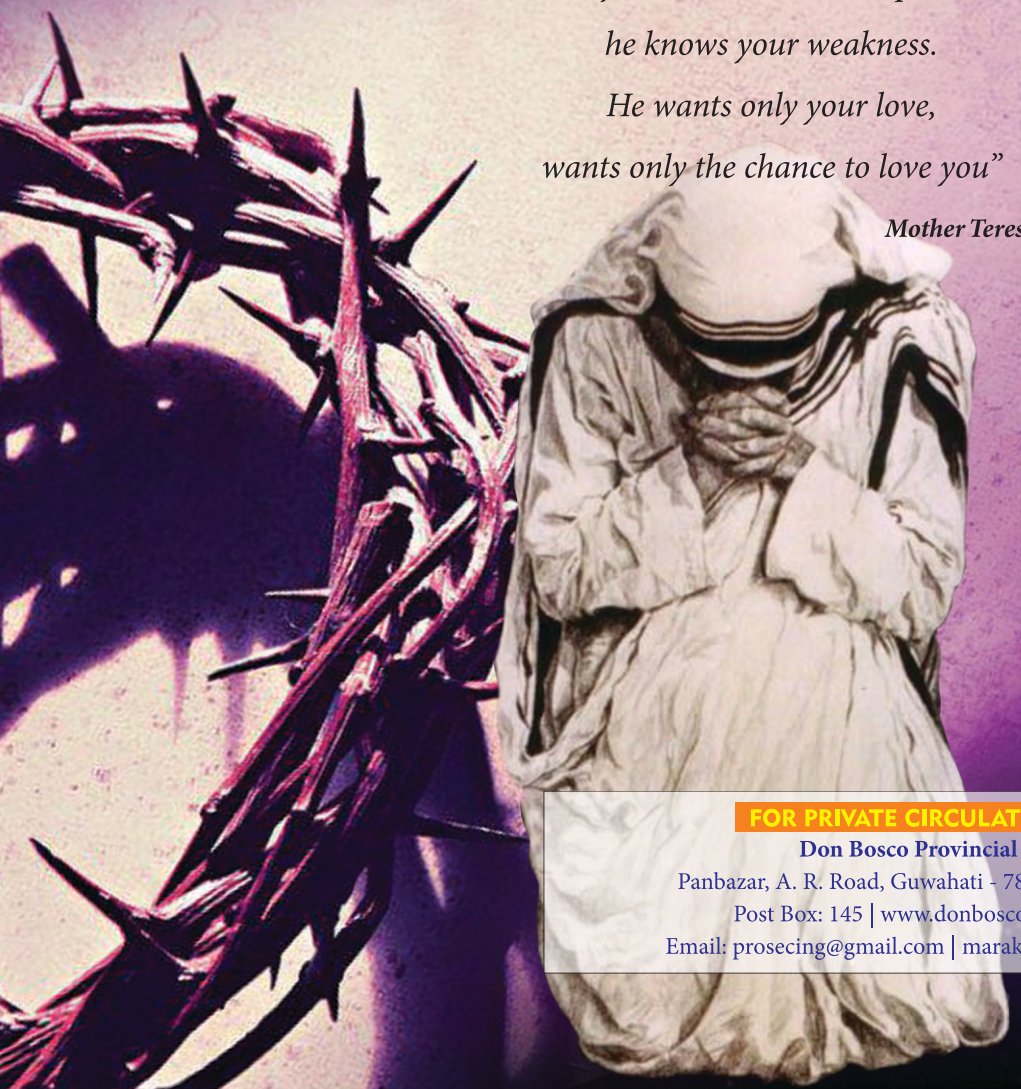
in your heart and in the poor—

he knows your weakness.

He wants only your love,

wants only the chance to love you”

Mother Teresa



FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY

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