



Our Model



Bulletin of
Claretian Missionaries, Independent Delegation of Kolkata



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Our Founder

Message from the Major Superior Feast of St. Anthony Mary Claret

“Sons of the Immaculate Heart: Be the Fire That Transforms Our Times”

Dear Fathers and Brothers,
Peace and missionary joy be with you as we celebrate the spirit and legacy of St. Anthony Mary Claret!

As we celebrate the Feast of our holy Founder, St. Anthony Mary Claret, we find ourselves standing at a moment of both promise and peril. Our world dazzles with progress yet groans under the weight of division, indifference, and ecological and spiritual crisis. These realities are not simply burdens to lament; they are signs of the times that summon us, the Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, to rekindle the fire of our missionary vocation with renewed courage and faith.

This celebration also unfolds in the Year of Jubilee of Consecrated Life, a special moment to rejoice in the gift of our vocation and the unique form of life we live within the Church. As pilgrims of hope walking the path of peace, we are called to witness that consecrated life remains a luminous sign of God’s presence and tenderness in our world today. Claret’s vision was of missionaries “all on fire with love,” whose very presence could not leave the world the same. That same fire must burn anew in us today not merely in words or projects, but in a daily fidelity to the Word of God, compassionate service among the poor, and a prophetic life of simplicity and hope. To be a Claretian today is to be a lover on mission, a man whose heart beats for God and for His people.

Our Founder’s life continues to speak powerfully to our times. The cry that stirred his heart, “forever, forever, forever” became the rhythm of his missionary passion. Every encounter, every hardship, every act of love was for him a spark in God’s great plan of salvation. He teaches us that true mission begins not with strategy, but with surrender; not with power, but with love.

For us in the Kolkata Independent Delegation, this feast renews our call to become living flames of hope and transformation within our diverse ministries:

- **Mission Expansion:** reaching new villages and urban peripheries where the Church still breathes in fragile hope.
- **Education and Formation:** nurturing young minds and hearts to become compassionate leaders rooted in Gospel values.
- **Social and Pastoral Ministries:** empowering women, youth, and marginalized communities through education, livelihood, and justice.
- **Community Renewal:** deepening fraternal life and collaborative mission so that our communities radiate joy, unity, and witness.

These are not just programs; they are the Spirit’s way of shaping our Claretian identity for this time and place. In a fragmented and polarized world, we are called to be a living flame of unity, men of the Word, of compassion, and of hope.

Let us draw inspiration from Claret’s threefold path:

- **Contemplative Depth** – cultivating an inner stillness that allows us to see Christ’s face even in the noise, confusion, and chaos of our times, and to discern His presence guiding us amid uncertainty.
- **Communitarian Spirit** – living our vocation as brothers and sisters who walk together in faith and mission, not as rivals or isolated individuals, but as companions who share one heart, one dream, and one commitment to the Gospel.
- **Prophetic Audacity** – daring to speak the truth with love, confronting injustice with compassion, and building peace with courage, following the example of St. Anthony Mary Claret who never feared to let the fire of the Word set the world ablaze.

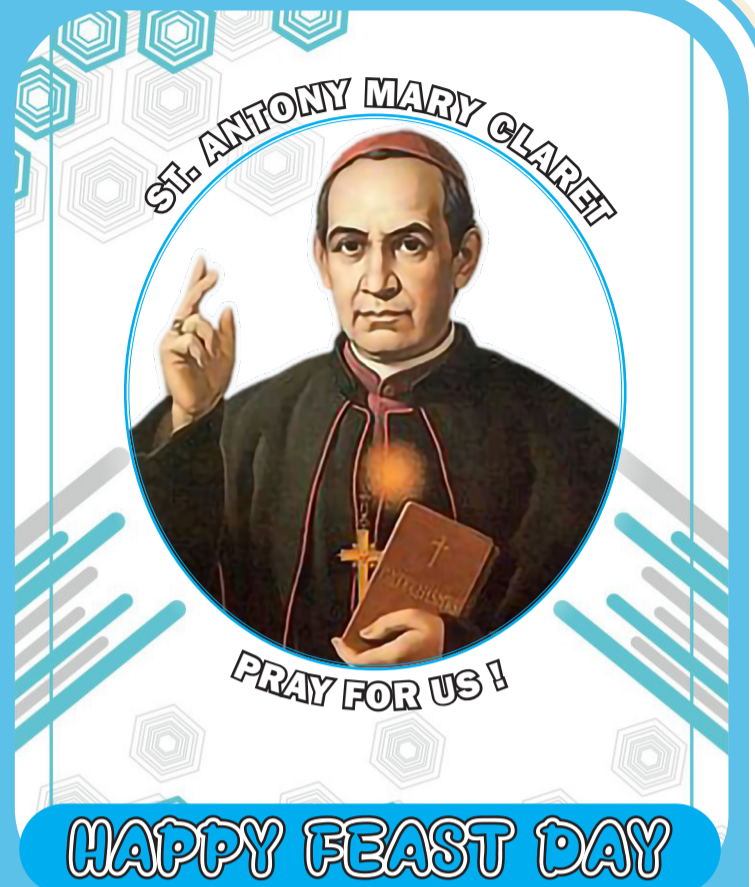
The Immaculate Heart of Mary, our Mother and Model, continues to guide us. In her tenderness, we discover strength; in her silence, clarity; and in her Heart, mission.

May this Founder’s Feast enkindle in us once again the courage to dream boldly, to love deeply, and to serve joyfully. Let us go forth together, to read the signs of our times and to respond with the fiery tenderness of the Heart that sent us.

Happy Founder’s Feast to all my beloved brothers!

May the fire of St. Anthony Mary Claret continue to burn within us and through us, lighting every heart we touch in the land of Kolkata and beyond.

Fr. Peter Johnson, CMF
Major Superior, Independent Delegation of Kolkata



HAPPY FEAST DAY

A Short Biography of St. Anthony Mary Claret

St. Anthony Mary Claret was born on 23rd December 1807, in Sallent, Spain, to a humble and deeply religious family. From a young age, he showed great devotion to God and a desire to serve others. Initially, he trained as a weaver, but feeling called to the priesthood, he entered the seminary and was ordained a priest in 1835.

Filled with missionary zeal, Fr. Claret traveled across Catalonia preaching missions and retreats, inspiring countless people to conversion and renewal of faith. In 1849, he founded the Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (Claretians), a congregation dedicated to evangelization and the service of the poor.

He was appointed Archbishop of Santiago, Cuba (1850–1857), where he worked tirelessly for the spiritual and social upliftment of the people establishing schools, promoting family life, and opposing slavery and corruption. After returning to Spain, he served as confessor to Queen Isabella II and continued to write, preach, and publish numerous religious works.

St. Claret faced many trials, persecutions, and even assassination attempts, yet he remained steadfast in his faith and mission. He died in exile on 24th October 1870, in Fontfroide, France.

He was canonized in 1950 by Pope Pius XII. Today, St. Anthony Mary Claret is remembered as a missionary, reformer, and lover of the Word of God, whose motto was: “The love of Christ urges us on.” (2 Cor 5:14)

JOURNEYING IN FAITH, SERVICE, AND MISSION

Silver Jubilee Celebration

Delegation Curia, Barrackpore

With immense joy and gratitude, the Independent Delegation of Kolkata celebrated a momentous occasion on 30th May 2025 at Claret Nivas, Barrackpore. The Delegation came together to honour the Silver Jubilee of Religious Profession of three dedicated Claretians, Fr. Antonish Lakra CMF, Fr. Antony L. CMF, and Fr. Anup Hemant Lakra CMF. The celebration was a beautiful blend of thanksgiving, fellowship, and heartfelt prayers, reflecting the deep sense of commitment and missionary zeal that these confreres have lived over the past twenty-five years.

The joyous event was graced by neighbouring religious fathers, sisters, guests, and family members, who joined to share the happiness of the day. Gratitude overflowed to God for the gift of consecrated life and the missionary witness of these jubilees, whose lives continue to enrich the Church and the Congregation.



A Moment of Great Joy and Blessing

St. Claret Church, Saharanagar

On 10th May 2025, the parish community of St. Claret Church, Saharanagar, witnessed a moment of great joy as Deacon Balamam Mandi, CMF, was ordained to the priesthood by Rt. Rev. Dr. Elias Frank, Bishop of Asansol. The solemn celebration gathered Claretians, priests, religious, parishioners, and family, all united in prayer and thanksgiving.

On the following day, 11th May, Fr. Balamam offered his First Holy Mass, expressing heartfelt gratitude to



God and to all who had guided and supported him in his vocation. The celebration was marked by deep joy, fellowship, and missionary zeal, as he stepped into his new ministry with faith and dedication.

Journey Towards Milestone

Delegation Curia, Barrackpore

On 31st May 2025, the Claretian community joyfully celebrated the Diaconate Ordination of Jackrias Ekka, CMF, and Sujit Kisku, CMF, at Claret Nivas, Barrackpore. The solemn Eucharistic celebration was presided over by His Grace, Most Rev. Thomas D'Souza, Archbishop of Calcutta.



This important milestone in their journey toward priesthood was witnessed by Delegation members, family, and the faithful, who came together in prayer and thanksgiving, entrusting the newly ordained deacons to God's grace as they prepare for their future ministry.

Missionary Sending for Service

Delegation Curia, Barrackpore

On 26th May 2025, the Independent Delegation of Kolkata organised a missionary sending prayer service for Bro. Saroj Hansda, CMF. The community came together to entrust him to God's grace as he set out on his missionary journey to the Province of Fatima, Spain. The prayerful gathering was filled with blessings, words of encouragement, and thanksgiving, marking a joyful and heartfelt send-off for Bro. Saroj Hansda.



One More Step Forward

St. Thomas Provincial House, Kerala



On 16th June 2025, a Pre-Novitiate Course was organised at St. Thomas Provincial House, Kerala, marking an important step in the initial formation of candidates discerning their Claretian missionary vocation. A total of 31 pre-novices participated in the program, which was designed to deepen their spiritual, human, and communal formation as they prepare for the novitiate. The sessions on prayer, scripture, liturgy, Claretian spirituality, and evangelical counsels strengthened their faith journey and sense of missionary commitment. The gathering fostered a spirit of joy, fellowship, and dedication, as the pre-novices took one more step forward in their vocational journey.

General Economic Animation Visit

Kolkata Delegation

It was a moment of great joy for the Kolkata Delegation to welcome Rev. Fr. George Vayelil, General Economic Consultor, for the General Economic Animation Visit from 1st to 14th August 2025. His presence brought inspiration and renewed enthusiasm as he personally engaged with members and ties, witnessing their mission work firsthand. Fr. George also met with the Delegation Council at both the beginning and conclusion of his visit, offering valuable insights, guidance, and encouragement. He expressed admiration for the delegation's growth in spiritual life, mission initiatives, and community engagement, applauding the dedication and zeal of its members. His visit left a lasting impression, motivating everyone to continue striving for excellence in service, leadership, and ministry.



Economies' Meet 2025

Divya Darshan, Nilganj

The Economies' Meet 2025 was successfully held from 11th to 13th August 2025 at Divya Darshan, Nilganj, marking an important moment for the Kolkata Delegation to renew its commitment to responsible stewardship and financial transparency. The programme began with a presentation on the Financial Vision of the Delegation by the Major Superior, setting the tone for the discussions. Rev. Fr. George Vayelil, the visitor, conducted an orientation session for all economies of the delegation, covering key aspects of economy management and the Directory of the Congregation.

Each econome presented their community's Economic Report, Vision for the Next Six Years, and a Concrete Action Plan. Fr. Jini CMF, Delegation Econome, updated participants on audit observations and rec-



ommendations, providing valuable guidance for improved financial management. The meet was an enriching and collaborative experience, inspiring economies to implement transparent, accountable, and forward-looking financial practices contributing to the delegation's growth and mission.

Superiors' Meet 2025-2026

Divya Darshan, Nilganj



The Superiors' Meet of the Independent Delegation of Kolkata for the year 2025-2026 was held from 4th to 7th September 2025 at Divya Darshan, Nilganj under the theme: "Transforming Leadership from Within: Forming Superiors with Vision, Virtue, and Vital Skills." Delegation Council members and 16 community superiors participated in this important gathering. The Major Superior delivered the Keynote Address, highlighting three core principles for leadership: Listening as a sacred act of service, Discernment through prayerful reflection, and Communion as essential for fruitful mission.

Resource person Rev. Fr. Jayaraj Veluswamy, SJ, oriented participants



on *Animating and Administering with Grace: A Missionary's Guide to Balanced Leadership Today*, appreciating Claretians' missionary

contributions, especially among the Santal people. Activities included community reports, commission presentations, discussions on social ministry, and sharing of concerns. The meet ended as a joyful and inspiring family gathering, motivating all to embrace servant leadership for the growth of the Delegation and mission.

Zonal Recollection

Claret Vihar, Basmata

The community members of Basmata, Bishrail, and Sahanagar, together with the SRA and SCJM Sisters, gathered at Basmata for a day of spiritual renewal and fraternity.



Guided by Rev. Fr. Alphonse Raj of Dumka Diocese, the recollection included prayer, reflection, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, inviting participants to reflect on their vocational journey. The grace-filled day strengthened faith, deepened fellowship, and fostered greater collaboration in God's mission.

176th Foundation Day Celebration

Claret Nivas, Barrackpore

On 16th July 2025, the Claret Nivas community in Barrackpore came together in joy and thanksgiving to mark the 176th anniversary of our congregation. The celebration was preceded by a spiritually enriching triduum, with meaningful Lauds and Vespers that prepared hearts for the day. The solemn Eucharist was presided over by Rev. Fr. Alex Ancheles, CMF, with an inspiring homily by Rev. Fr. Peter Johnson. In the evening, a moving prayer service recalled the origins and spirit of the congregation's journey. The day radiated gratitude and fraternity, concluding with a joyful fellowship meal celebrating our shared mission and heritage.



Orientation and Inaugural Mass

Nirmal Sadan, Ghatsila



Nirmal Sadan, Ghatsila, Pre-Philosophy House welcomed eighteen pre-philosophy students into the pre-philosophy course on 13th June 2025 with the Holy Spirit Inaugural Mass, presided over by Fr. Antony L, the Orientation Animator. Fr. Prasad CMF, Formator of St. Claret Seminary, Umsning, was also present to encourage the young students. The orientation focused on introducing house protocols, daily activities, and the significance of the pre-philosophy stage of formation. The program laid a strong foundation for their spiritual, academic, and community life.

Wellness and a Spirit of Service

Nirmal Sadan, Ghatsila

Pre-Philosophy House, Ghatsila organized a week-long intensive Alternative Therapy training for its students from 25th August 2025. The sessions were led by Fr. Vincent Anesthasiar, CMF, focusing on promoting health awareness and orienting students toward the integral health ministry of the Delegation. The training highlighted healthy living and equipped students with practical knowledge and skills to assist others in maintaining wellness. It was a highly enriching experience, fostering personal well-being and a spirit of service among participants.



Exciting Community Picnic

Claret Nivas, Barrackpore

Claret Nivas, Barrackpore community embarked on an exciting picnic to the seaside town of Digha on 31st August 2025. The two-day trip was filled with laughter, joy, and togetherness as priests, students, and staff came together to celebrate community life beyond the routine. The scenic beauty and refreshing atmosphere of Digha provided a perfect setting for relaxation and fraternity. The outing became a celebration of unity, leaving the community refreshed and re-energized for mission.



Enriching Short Courses

Claret Nivas, Barrackpore



Claret Nivas, Barrackpore organised a series of short courses from 2nd to 6th September 2025 at its auditorium. The sessions began with a two-day course on Meditation by Fr. Lawrence V, CMF, enhancing focus and inner peace. On 4th September, Fr. Michael Raja A, CMF, guided students in English letter writing skills. The program concluded with a two-day course on Evangelization through Multimedia by Fr. Judeson Abinesh A, CMF. The five-day initiative enriched students with spiritual, linguistic, and digital competencies, contributing to holistic formation.

Rekindling Missionary Zeal

Claret Nivas, Barrackpore



The Claret Nivas community, Barrackpore, joyfully celebrated Claretian Week from 8th to 12th September 2025 with great fervor and creativity. Each day unfolded with special themes, Lauds, Adoration, and Eucharistic celebrations that set a prayerful tone. Missionaries from around the world shared reflections, helping the community feel connected to the wider Claretian family. The celebration highlighted the enduring relevance of St. Anthony Mary Claret's life and vision amid today's missionary challenges. Distinguished Claretian priests and students enriched the week with insights, creativity, and joy.

The event became a true moment of renewal, rekindling missionary zeal, strengthening fraternity, and deepening the Claretian spirit of service and availability.

EDUCATION APOSTOLATE

ClaroMUN 2025 – Shaping Young Diplomats

St. Claret School, Barrackpore

St. Claret School, Barrackpore, hosted ClaroMUN 2025, a Model United Nations upskilling event, where over 120 students from Classes VIII–XII participated and organized the sessions. Delegates were awarded trophies for their performance, while committee Presidents received the distinctive ClaroMUN 2025 hammer memento, making the event both competitive and memorable.

Following this, selected Claretines participated in the national-level JacoMUN 2025, organized by St. James School at HHI Hotel, Kolkata, from 2nd to 4th July, after a special orientation on 1st July 2025. Their active involvement showcased their diplomatic skills, critical thinking, and leadership on a larger platform.



Caring for Our Planet – Earth Day Celebration

St. Claret School, Barrackpore



On July 11th and 18th July 2025, St. Claret School, Barrackpore, came alive with vibrant shades of green as students celebrated Earth Day with great enthusiasm, the primary section on 11th July and the secondary section on 18th July. The campus buzzed with excitement as hundreds of students arrived carrying saplings, which they lovingly planted in pots and around the school garden, adding new life and colour to the surroundings.

A group of students also visited classrooms with colourful posters and inspiring quotes, spreading awareness about protecting the environment and the importance of planting trees. The celebration reminded everyone that even small actions can make a big difference in caring for our planet.

Career Counselling for Senior Students

St. Claret School, Barrackpore

On 11th August 2025, St. Claret School, Barrackpore, organised a Career Counselling Session for Classes XI and XII. Representatives from leading institutions, including IIL-EAD, Sikkim Manipal University, SRM University, Techno India University, Mahindra University, Amity University, MIT World Peace University, and Alliance University, guided students about various avenues for higher education.



They introduced academic offerings, clarified admission processes, and highlighted scholarship opportunities. The interactive Q&A encouraged students to explore diverse higher education pathways with confidence.

The Telegraph School Awards for Excellence

St. Claret School, Barrackpore

On 30th August 2025, St. Claret School, Barrackpore, was honoured at The Telegraph School Awards for Excellence held at South City School Auditorium. The school received the Ambuja Neotia Award for Excellence in Maintenance and Eco-friendly Initiatives and the Anand Paul Memorial Award for Social Service.

These prestigious recognitions highlighted the school's commitment to environmental responsibility and social service, bringing pride to the Claretian family.



Educational Trip

St. Claret School, Barrackpore

On 19th September 2025, St. Claret School, Barrackpore, organised an educational trip to Brainware University for Classes XI and XII. The visit aimed to provide students with clarity and insight into career choices after school.

Following a welcome session, students were divided according to their

streams for a personalized experience. Science students explored healthcare career opportunities and visited various labs, including those showcasing bacterial cultures, advanced equipment, and a downscaled operation theatre. Humanities and Commerce students toured the multimedia department's photography club, hospitality management facilities, and a moot court setup.

The enriching trip offered practical exposure and broadened the students' understanding of higher education avenues, helping them make informed decisions about their future careers.



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75th Year Celebration of Bharat Scouts & Guides

St. Claret School, Barrackpore

The St. Claret School, Barrackpore Scouts & Guides Group, under the West Bengal State Bharat Scouts and Guides, celebrated the 75th Year of the movement at Puri, Odisha, from 17th -21st September 2025. Activities such as sand art, face painting, and campfires fostered teamwork and creativity. The presence of the local MLA added prestige to the event, which beautifully reflected the values of discipline, service, and fellowship.



Football Champions

St. Claret School, Bishrail

From 2nd to 4th July 2025, St. Claret School, Bishrail brought glory to the institution by emerging as champions of the CISCE Pre-Subroto Regional Tournament, held at The Future Foundation School, Baruipur. The team's remarkable skill, teamwork, and determination secured them a well-deserved spot at the National Tournament in Kochi from 17th to 19th July 2025. Competing with the top 11 teams from across India, our players showcased their grit and sportsmanship, proudly reaching the semi-finals. The journey was filled with thrilling matches, unforgettable moments, and a strong spirit of camaraderie, highlighting the school's commitment to excellence in sports. This stellar achievement is a testament to the talent, perseverance, and passion of our young athletes, inspiring the entire school community.



CISCE Inter-School Football (Under-19)

St. Claret School, Bishrail

On 30th July 2025, St. Claret School, Bishrail showcased exceptional talent and determination by lifting the title of zonal champions at the CISCE Inter-School Under-19 Tournament, held at St. James' School, Binnaguri. Riding on this momentum, the team went on to dominate the Regional Tournament held at St. Thomas Boys' School, Kidderpore, impressing everyone with their



skill, strategy, and teamwork. Their stellar performance earned three players a place at the National Level Tournament in Noida, where they made the school proud by securing the third runner-up position. The journey was marked by thrilling matches, unwavering team spirit, and outstanding sportsmanship, reflecting the school's commitment to excellence in athletics. This remarkable achievement is a testament to the dedication, perseverance, and passion of our young athletes, inspiring the entire school community to aim higher.

Fire Drill – Safety First

St. Claret School, Bishrail



On 8th August 2025, St. Claret School, Bishrail conducted a fire drill to promote fire safety and emergency preparedness among students and staff. The session trained students in the proper use of fire extinguishers and taught them how to respond calmly during emergencies. They practiced evacuation procedures, safe assembly, and teamwork under the guidance of teachers and safety officers. The drill emphasized the importance of preventive measures, alertness, and responsibility in ensuring safety. With active participation from students, the session proved to be both practical and informative, equipping the school community with the skills and confidence to handle emergencies effectively.

Green Initiative – Birthdays with Saplings

St. Claret School, Bishrail

St. Claret School, Bishrail has launched a unique green initiative to promote environmental awareness by encouraging students to celebrate their birthdays through sapling donations. Each student who contributes a sapling is felicitated during the school assembly, turning their special day into a meaningful contribution to nature. The program helps instill a sense of responsibility and care for the environment, while students and teachers actively participate in planting and nurturing the saplings. Parents have enthusiastically supported the initiative, appreciating its educational and ecological value. The celebration emphasizes the importance of sustainability and green practices in daily life, while fostering a culture of giving and community service within the school. Overall, the initiative has been a resounding success, inspiring students and the school community to protect, cherish, and contribute positively to the environment.



World Tribal Day

St. Claret School, Basmata



On 9th August 2025, St. Claret School, Basmata proudly celebrated World Tribal Day. The event was graced by Sir Christopher Kerketta as the chief guest. In his inspiring address, he emphasized the importance of preserving the rich heritage of tribal society—their culture, customs, languages, and traditional attire passed down from our ancestors.

Teacher Peter Murmu enlightened everyone with valuable insights about the significance of the day, while Sir Munilal Marandi captivated the audience and raised awareness through his soulful songs. To make the celebration lively and memorable, the Principal Fr. Antonish Lakra CMF, teachers and students participated with great enthusiasm, dressed in vibrant tribal attire. The program featured a series of traditional performances, including the Baha dance, Natwa Don, Sohrai-inspired plays, the Chotanagpur Karma dance, and the Assamese dance, which beautifully showcased the diversity of tribal art and culture.

National Sports Day

St. Claret School, Basmata

On 21st June 2025, St. Claret School, Basmata celebrated International Yoga Day with great enthusiasm and active participation from students across all classes. Under the guidance of their teachers, students performed a variety of yoga asanas, focusing on correct postures, breathing techniques, and mindfulness. The session highlighted the benefits of yoga not only for physical fitness but also for mental peace, stress management, and spiritual balance. Students learned about the importance of incorporating yoga into daily life to improve concentration, flexibility, and overall well-being. Through this initiative, the school aimed to instill a sense of discipline, health awareness, and inner calm among students. The event also encouraged students to adopt yoga as a regular habit, promoting a holistic approach to physical, mental, and emotional wellness. Overall, the celebration was both educational and enjoyable, inspiring students to embrace yoga as a way of life.



Parents-Teachers Meet

St. Claret School, Basmata

St. Claret School, Basmata organized a Parents-Teachers Meet to strengthen the partnership between home and school. The interactive sessions provided a platform for parents and teachers to share insights, discuss students' progress, and explore ways to support their holistic development. Teachers highlighted academic achievements and areas for improvement, while parents shared their perspectives and expectations. The discussions also focused on reinforcing learning, values, and overall growth at home. The meet fostered open communication, mutual trust, and collaboration between parents and teachers. Overall, it was a successful initiative that strengthened the bond between the school and families, promoting the all-round development of students.



NSS Programme

St. Claret School, Basmata

On 23rd July 2025, under the leadership of Fr. Antonis Lakra CMF and Fr. Alexis Besra CMF, the school organized an NSS outreach programme involving tree plantation, paddy planting, and cleanliness drives in nearby villages. Supported by local police personnel, the event taught students responsibility and community service.



Teachers' Orientation on Innovative Pedagogy

Claret School, Sahanager



On 12th July 2025, Claret School, Sahanager organised a Teachers' Orientation Programme focusing on innovative methods of teaching and learning. The session aimed at equipping teachers with modern pedagogical tools and approaches to make classroom learning more interactive, effective, and student-centered.

Resource persons highlighted practical strategies, shared insights on integrating technology into teaching, and encouraged collaborative learning techniques. The orientation provided a platform for teachers to reflect, exchange ideas, and strengthen their commitment to holistic education. The programme proved to be enriching and motivating, enabling the faculty to embrace creative teaching practices for the benefit of the students.

Green Day Celebration

Saint Claret School, Ghatsila

On 18th July 2025, Saint Claret School, Ghatsila celebrated Green Day with the inspiring theme "Green Today, Better Tomorrow." Each class was assigned a unique sub-theme aligned with the central idea. The students showcased spectacular cultural programs and solo performances, emphasizing the importance of vegetables, fruits, and the need to honor the hardworking farmers who grow them.



This special day aimed to raise awareness about the environment, strengthen our connection with nature, and highlight the importance of healthy living and green culture. Parents were also invited to be part of the celebration and enjoyed watching their children perform with great enthusiasm and creativity.

Patron's Day Celebration

St. John Mary Vianney, Mariampur, Bangladesh

On 6th August 2025, St. John Mary Vianney English Medium Primary School, Mariampur Mission, Ghorhaghat, Diocese of Dinajpur, Bangladesh, joyfully celebrated Patron's Day in honour of their heavenly patron, St. John Mary Vianney.



The celebration featured vibrant songs, dances, and cultural programmes, creating a joyful and festive atmosphere to honour the patron saint and strengthen the school community.

Parent-Teachers Meet

Christu Raja School, Bariarpur

On 12th July 2025, Christu Raja School, Bariarpur organised a Parent-Teachers Meet to discuss the academic progress and overall development of the students. The meeting provided a platform for parents and teachers to exchange valuable feedback and suggestions. Teachers shared detailed reports on students' performance, strengths, and areas needing improvement. Parents actively participated, expressing



their support and commitment to their children’s education. The programme helped strengthen the partnership between school and family, emphasizing the importance of collaborative efforts in nurturing the students. The meet concluded with both teachers and parents pledging to work together for the students’ better future.

Tree Plantation Drive

RC Primary School, Sarangloya

RC Primary School, Sarangloya organised a meaningful tree plantation drive in line with the Government’s environmental plan. A total of 70 saplings were planted, each dedicated in the name of the students’ mothers, symbolizing respect as well as love for nature. The initiative aimed to foster environmental awareness and responsibility among children.



Both teachers and students enthusiastically participated in planting and pledged to nurture the saplings through regular care and protection.

Proud Achievement

RC Primary School, Sarangloya

RC Primary School, Sarangloya, had a proud moment as Simran Aind, a Class V student, secured the Second Prize in the Block-level inter-school speech competition. Her outstanding performance showcased confidence and talent, bringing glory and pride to the entire school community.

PASTORAL APOSTOLATE

Sealed with the Holy Spirit

St. Claret Parish, Bishrail



On 8th June 2025, St. Claret Parish, Bishrail joyfully witnessed the outpouring of God’s grace as 90 children were sealed with the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation. The solemn celebration marked a significant milestone in the faith journey of the young members of the parish. The solemn Eucharistic celebration was presided over by Rt. Rev. Fulgence Aloysius Tigga, Bishop of Raiganj, in the presence of priests, religious sisters, and nearly 350 faithful. The event marked a profound milestone for the young faithful who were prepared spiritually and catechetically under the guidance of their parents and catechists. The liturgy was filled with vibrant participation, uplifting hymns, and deep devotion. In his homily, Bishop Tigga encouraged the confirmands to remain steadfast in faith, courageous in witness, and committed to embodying love, mercy, and service in their daily lives.

Father’s Day cum Parish Day Celebration

St. Joseph Catholic Church, Betapur



On 11th May 2025, St. Joseph Catholic Church, Betapur celebrated Father’s Day and Parish Day with great joy and gratitude, honouring the vital role of fathers in family and faith. The day’s celebration included special prayers, songs, and dances, creating a joyful and meaningful atmosphere that highlighted paternal guidance, love, and leadership within both family and community life.

Grandparents’ Day Celebration

St. Claret Parish, Bishrail

On 17th August 2025, St. Claret Parish, Bishrail, celebrated Grandparents’ Day with warmth and reverence, recognizing the invaluable role of grandparents in nurturing family and faith. The day began with a graceful procession and Holy Mass celebrated by Fr. Martin Soren CMF. Around 30 grandparents were honored for their lifelong dedication in passing down values and traditions. Prayers were offered for their continued health, joy, and blessings.



Parents’ Day Celebration

St. Claret Parish, Sahanagar



On 24th August 2025, St. Claret Parish, Sahanagar, celebrated Parents’ Day on the eve of the Feast of St. Monica. Parents were warmly welcomed with *chandan tika* and roses as symbols of love and gratitude.

The day began with the Holy Mass, offering special prayers for the health and well-being of all parents. Following the liturgy, a felicitation programme and cultural events honored their vital role in family and faith. Games, dances, and a fellowship meal added joy and togetherness to the celebration, leaving everyone with hearts full of gratitude.

Bible Seminar for Youth

St. Mary’s Church, Gazirvita



St. Mary’s Church, Gazirvita, organised a Bible Seminar for youth on 25th July 2025 on the theme “পবিত্র বাইবেলে আমাদের পরিত্রাণের আশা” (“The Holy Bible, Our Hope of Salvation”). The Diocese of Mymensingh appreciated this inspiring initiative that brought young people together in faith. Interactive discussions, input sessions, and group reflections deepened their understanding of Scripture and its transformative power in daily life.

Parish Council Workshop

St. Claret Parish, Sahanagar

On 23rd August 2025, St. Claret Parish, Sahanagar, organised a Parish Council Workshop to strengthen parish leadership. The workshop offered parish leaders and village representatives valuable opportunities to deepen their pastoral knowledge and leadership skills. Expert resource persons guided sessions on:



- The culture and traditions of the Santali people
- Christian sacraments, sacramentals, and ARICALI
- Inculturation
- Marriage and *Bhandan*
- Modern Church practices and liturgical functions

Interactive group discussions enriched the sessions, and many participants, attending such a programme for the first time, expressed great satisfaction. Gratitude was offered to God and the facilitators for their valuable contribution to building capable and committed parish leaders.

A True Expression of Compassion and Service

Claret Premaloy, Nazat



On 24th May 2025, Claret Premaloy, Nazat, in collaboration with the Missionaries of Charity Sisters, organized an Eye Camp to provide essential medical care to the poor and marginalised. Over 100 beneficiaries received free spectacles, check-ups, and medical advice for better eye health. The initiative reflected the Claretian spirit of compassion and missionary service toward those most in need.

Celebration of History, Growth, and Journey

St. Mary's Church, Sarangloya



On 8th July 2025, St. Mary's Church, Sarangloya celebrated its Mission Foundation Day with a thanksgiving Eucharist and a special prayer service. Parishioners reflected on the mission's history, growth, and commitment to service. The event rekindled the community's spirit of faith, unity, and mission, inspiring all to continue spreading love and compassion.

Free Medical Camp

Claret Ashram, Sahari

On 19th September 2025, Claret Ashram, Sahari, in collaboration with the MC Sisters, organised a Free Medical Camp to provide essential healthcare services to the local Santhal and Bengali communities. Around 150 patients received check-ups, treatment, and free medicines, along with nutri-



tious biscuits for recovery.

The initiative not only met immediate health needs but also raised awareness about preventive care. The camp was a true reflection of compassion and care, bringing healing and hope to the community. Heartfelt thanks to the MC Sisters for their generous service.

Alive with Youthful Spirit

St. James Parish, Lalpur

On 21st September 2025, St. James Parish, Lalpur, came alive with energy and joy as it celebrated Youth Day. A large number of young people participated in this vibrant day of faith, fellowship, and fun.

The program included games, cultural performances, and inspirational talks encouraging youth to be active leaders in the Church and society. The Parish Priest's motivational message inspired the young to live courageously, deepen their faith, and carry the light of Christ into the world.



St. Monica - Model of All Mothers

The Feast of St. Monica was joyfully celebrated across all parishes and mission stations of our Delegation, marked as Mothers' Day in many communities. Women participated in seminars, recollections, and cultural events highlighting St. Monica's faith-filled motherhood. Joyful activities, including games and competitions with prizes, added delight to the day. The celebration became a touching tribute to mothers' faith, strength, and loving service within the family and Church.

