

NORTHEAST MOSAIC

DEC 2025



CONGRATULATIONS



First Profession

Sr. Tabita Lama, Sr. Ashabela Hans, Sr. Albina Tuti, Sr. Samira Sangma, Sr. Angelina Dhan



Final Profession

Sr. Rebaka Kerketta, Sr. Divya Minj

Content

Editorial - Light in a Wounded World (Sr. Flora Celine SCC)	3
Message from the Provincial (Sr. Angela Narzary SCC)	5
1. The Spirituality of a Soul (Sr. Prema Chowallur SCC)	6
2. A Call to be Imitators of Hope (Sr. Madonna Victor SCC)	8
3. The Baby Jesus Next Door (Sr. Nirmala Marandi SCC)	12
4. Strength in Suffering (Sr. Suleta Narzary SCC)	14
5. A Missionary's Journey of Faith (Sr. Jenifer Soundarrajan SCC)	15
6. My First Mission Experience in France (Sr. Junali Minj SCC)	17
7. In Every Leaf, God's Beauty Gleams (Sr. Fatima Peter SCC)	18
8. I Am in the Master's Hands (Sr. Tabita Lama SCC)	19
9. The Word of God: The Source of Strength (Sr. Renisha Marak SCC)	22
10. Hearts Aflame with God's Love (Sr. Joan Silvia SCC)	23
11. Mary : The Silent Prophet of Christmas (Sr. Divya Minj SCC)	26
12. God's Merciful Love (Sr. Alisha Soreng SCC)	28
13. An Amazing God (Sr. Triveni Narzary SCC)	29
14. A Soul to Lift, A Soul to Save (Sr. Jain Sangma SCC)	31
15. A Pilgrim of Paschal Hope in Education (Sr. Tessy Thomas SCC)	32
16. Seven Years of Grace in Gunjung (Sr. Monju Basumatary SCC)	34
17. The Unanswered Questions (Sr. Sarita Kujur SCC)	36
18. The Compassionate Heart of the Paschal Hope in Action (Sr. Saverina Lakra SCC)	37
19. Formation – A Lifelong Process (Sr. Lalita Lakra SCC)	40
20. Whispers of the Dawn, the Soul Symphony of Arunachal (Sr. Polita Narzary SCC)	42
21. Synodal Community- (Sr. Madona Cyril SCC)	43
22. 25 Years of God's Blessings and Faithful Service (Sr. Siji Michael SCC)	45
23. Commitment to the Marginalised (Sr. Betsy Devasia SCC)	47
24. Blessings Flow and Never Cease (Sr. Jacinta Vazhappilly SCC)	49
25. Calm Amidst Chaos (Sr. Julita Mundu SCC)	50

Content

26. Radiant Hearts in Service (Sr. Sorita Basumatary SCC)	51
27. My Journey of Faith and Healing (Sr. Josephine Basumatary SCC)	54
28. Walking Together in the Light of the Risen Lord- (Sr. Motcha Mary SCC)	56
29. Bloom where you are planted- (Sr. Martha Hembrom SCC)	58
30. Immanuel (Sr. Smitha Thomas SCC)	62
31. A Sanctuary for the LGBTQ+ Community (Sr. Prema Chowallur SCC)	63
32. Golden Footprints (Sr. Deepa Mundadan SCC)	65
33. A conversation between St. Paul and St. Peter (Sr. Jenifer Soundarrajan SCC)	67
34. AI- in Today's Digital World (Sr. Polita Narzary SCC)	69
35. A Glimpse at the Pre-Novitiate (Sr. Esther Pophi SCC)	71
36. Whispers of Soul Pre-Novices	72
37. Budding Voices of Faith Candidates	77
38. A Tale of Growth- Adeng Yaying, Holy Cross Associate, Kaying	83
39. A Small Clipping- Jayibone Pinggam & Miss Anung Garu, Boarders, Kaying	84
40. Lives I Touch and the Minds I Shape- Ms. Lucy Yabu, Teacher, St. Mary's School, Aalo	86
41. St. Mary's School - Built On Unbreakable Trust- Lijen Sora (VIII), Aalo	88
42. A Second Home of Values and Dreams-Lijen Sora (VIII), Aalo	89
43. Guiding Lights - Risha Das (IX) & Liza Deka (IX) Barkola	90
44. My life in the Crossian family- Tanusri Dutta Nandi, Asst. Teacher, Laluk	91



Message

Editorial



Be the Light in a Wounded World
Sr. Flora Celine SCC, Barkola

As the year 2025 draws its curtain, our world appears beautiful and broken at the same time. Nations stagger under the weight of natural calamities, wars, and uncertainties; nevertheless, beneath the rubble of fear and fatigue, a stubborn and persistent hope continues to breathe. It is the Pascal hope, born out of the Cross and Resurrection.

In the recent past, we have witnessed, almost helplessly, the fury of nature and the fragility of life. Sri Lanka has been shaken by the Cyclonic storm Ditwah and torrential rains, leaving behind inundated homes, interrupted livelihoods, and incapacitated people, struggling to rebuild from scratch. The cyclone caused 500 confirmed deaths and many remain missing. Far beyond our borders, the ongoing war between Israel and Palestine and between Russia and Ukraine paint a grim and haunting nightmare in our lives. Closer home, the wounds of Manipur remain fresh, and the cries of persecuted communities in Nigeria and other parts of the world remind us that injustice still walks brazenly across the earth.

In such a context, it seems as if darkness had the final word, that history was driven only by the logic of power, vengeance, and fear. However, Christmas dares to tell a different story. In the stillness of a cold night in Bethlehem, a fragile child is laid in a manger—a baby who cannot speak, cannot command, cannot coerce, yet whose very presence proclaims a truth that no empire can silence: God is with us. The light has come into the world, not as a warrior or a ruler, but as a vulnerable infant whose tiny hands will one day be stretched out on the Cross, turning cruelty into compassion and death into life.

To believe in this Child is to walk as pilgrims and to speak as prophets of Pascal hope. As pilgrims, we journey through a world marked by conflict, climate crises, economic uncertainty, and social upheaval, yet we refuse to be trapped by cynicism. We keep walking, step by step, towards the humble cradle where God chooses to dwell in history. As prophets, we dare to name the injustices of our time and to stand with the wounded – whether in Sri Lanka, Manipur, Nigeria, or any silent corner

of Northeast India – while proclaiming that darkness does not have the last word. Pascal hope is not naïve optimism; it is the deep conviction that the God who once walked our roads still shares our journey and will, in God’s time, make all things new.

This issue of Northeast Mosaic is a small but luminous sign of that hope. The sisters who have come forward to share their reflections and experiences have walked their own pilgrim paths and raised their own prophetic voices, often in hidden and challenging circumstances. A heartfelt word of gratitude goes to each of the contributors for opening their hearts and for weaving together this mosaic of hope, faith, struggle, renewal and revival.

Dear readers, as you flip through the pages of this issue, take a gentle and contemplative walk, holding hands with each mosaic, reading each page slowly and meditatively and allowing yourselves to be disturbed by the pain they name and the hope they reveal. As we stand at the threshold of Christmas 2025, may the babe in the cradle remind us again and again that God has chosen to pitch His tent among us, here and now. May this light, once kindled in Bethlehem, shine through our Northeast and our world, and may Pascal hope lead us into a New Year of deeper faith, wider solidarity, and enduring peace.

HAPPY
Christmas
&
Prosperous New Year 2026

Provincial Message



Message

Dear Sisters,

In this joyful Christmas season, as we welcome the light of Christ into the world, our homes, and our hearts, I am grateful to be part of this year's issue of Northeast Mosaic. My sincere thanks to all contributors whose reflections and lived experiences inspire hope, deepen faith, and enrich the spirit of our community.

The Christmas season draws us into a sacred silence, inviting us to unite our hearts with the whole Church, our communities, and our Congregation in profound thanksgiving. In these holy days, we celebrate the mystery of Emmanuel—God-with-us—who comes to us in the fragile beauty of a Child, wrapped not in splendor but in humility, tenderness, and boundless love. Before the Infant Jesus in the manger, we encounter the God who stoops to meet humanity, who fills our ordinary days with divine presence, and who whispers hope into the deepest longings of our hearts.

As we contemplate this wondrous gift, we are reminded that Christmas is not merely a moment in time but a way of living—a continual welcoming of Christ into the manger of our lives, our communities, and our world. His coming renews our strength, purifies our intentions, and opens our hearts to the transforming power of His love.

In this Jubilee Year, as Pilgrims of Hope and in fidelity to our Chapter call to be Pilgrims and Prophets of Paschal Hope, the Lord invites us to journey more deeply into His mystery. May this sacred season rekindle in us the courage to walk the Gospel path with renewed faith and joyful surrender. May His life-giving grace sustain us when the road feels uncertain, and may His gentle light guide our every step.

May our lives reflect the humility of the manger, the patience of Mary, the quiet trust of Joseph, and the wonder of the shepherds who first recognized the Light that came to dispel all darkness. In this blessed season of grace, may the peace of Christ dwell richly within us, may His joy rise anew in our hearts, and may His love overflow from our lives to everyone we encounter.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and a joyful, hope-filled New Year 2026.

Sr. Angela Narzary
Province Animator.

The Spirituality of a Soul

Sr. Prema Chowallur SCC, Rainbow Home of Seven Sisters (RHoSS)

The clouds speak of the wisdom of our ancestors,
 The rivers carry the canoes of our future, the children,
 The soils holds the ashes of our past generations,
 The air whisper prayers of our forefathers/mothers,
 The spirits that hover on the cosmos murmur the spirituality of a soul.



What do I need in life? What am I seeking in life? Where am I going to and what is the path I wish to tread? These are the very fundamental questions which haunt a seeker of a spirituality.

Is my soul searching for a path never trodden? A path never walked is rough, filled with challenges and stigmas. If one wishes to walk it, s/he can navigate alone in the midst of negative waves around, though you might hear a few faint positive voices with a little affirmation which never strengthen one's fading spirit.

Some walk through the same old path which is often smoothed by many other people. This path indeed gives comfort to the feet and security to the soul. S/he is not a seeker, but a blind follower who faces no risk, no defeat nor stigma in life. If one faces risk, there is a strong institutional support offered. Life seems to be secure.



Some dare to walk alone in the midst of challenges and stigmas come what may. The typhoons are so strong on the way, never allowing them to take a step forward. They begin to drift away slowly with their broken dreams and aspirations. Eventually, they accept the defeat which leaves a stigma on them.

Some others dare to walk with deep conviction of their inner soul. But there are stones faltering on them because the way is strange; so the stones tell you the way is rough. Still daring, to go ahead alone, hearing strange voices and noises through thick dark forests. No one hears the silent cries of the silent tears. At times the silent tears wash away the pain. But the sorrow lingers in the heart of the seeker. The voice of that voiceless person is not audible to the cities and towns.

One thing that never dips them down is the spirit that s/he carries in their soul. And the passion for God and compassion for people. They begin to see the God in whom they believe alive. The God who smiles, the God who laughs, the God who suffers, the God who weeps without voice, the God who sleeps on railway platforms, inside the huge pipes, and the God who lives in the back yards.

Here is spirituality so alive and active that brings hope in oneself as well as in others, conglomeration of all spiritualities. Here is the spirituality of the prophet, Jesus, spirituality where God is always alive and active and spirituality practiced and lived. A spirituality that opens the eyes to see the need of the people, ears to listen to the cry of the poor and the earth, to be embodied by the smell of the sheep, to touch the marginalized and the excluded. This indeed was the spirituality of the Cross. The spirituality of a soul is spontaneously outspoken, extremely compassionate, and leads to action.

The Spirituality of a soul gives courage to face the storms of life, to swim bravely against the waves and to stand alone to be the voice of the voiceless with wisdom. They never deter when challenges envelop them but still peep through the clouds with hope. They can still see the fireflies glittering with songs of hope and the stars above.

This spirituality takes you beyond religiosity and rituals. The Spirituality of a soul search for those missing foot prints of those crying voicelessly- The children aborted and in dustbins and gutters, those dying with HIV/AIDS, those raped, sexually abused and killed, those ostracized and marginalized and species extinct today due to the greediness of human to amass wealth.

I join the psalmist to say (Ps: 115)

Their idols are silver and gold (Is it our religiosity, the silver and gold which gives us comfort and takes us away from the option for the poor?)

They have mouths, but they do not speak;
They have eyes, but they do not see;
They have ears, but they do not hear;
They have nose, but they do not smell;
They have hands, but they do not handle;
They have feet, but they do not walk;
Nor do they mutter through their throat.



A true spiritual person will carry the smell of the sheep as late Pope Francis said.

It is good to ask myself, what is my spirituality? Do I confuse religiosity, rituals and spirituality?

A Call to be Imitators of Hope

Sr. Madona Victor SCC, Itanagar

St. Paul urges us, “Be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love” (Eph 5:1–2).



To imitate God is to participate in His life and since God Himself is the source of hope (cf. Rom 15:13), we are called to become imitators of hope. To be an imitator of hope requires more than being optimistic. It means living with the deep conviction that God’s grace is at work even in darkness, that His plan continues to unfold through the ordinary events of life, and that no situation is beyond His redeeming love.

In the Bible, hope is not a wishful thought, but a confident, joyful expectation in God’s promises. It is based on God’s faithfulness and character, providing a firm “anchor for the soul” that gives peace and strength during hardship. This biblical hope is grounded in God’s past redemptive acts and the future promise of Christ’s return, and it inspires believers to live holy lives and engage in good works. When we think of the true source of hope, we find it in the book of Jeremiah 29:11, where we are reminded of God’s plan for us: “For I know the plans I have for you, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.” These words underscore the truth that true hope is found in a relationship with God, through Jesus Christ.

Christ Himself is the embodiment of hope that never fails. In His words, gestures, and miracles, He revealed the compassionate face of the Father. On the Cross, when all seemed lost, He entrusted everything to the Father’s will: “Into your hands I commend my spirit.” Through His Resurrection, hope triumphed once and for all. Every Christian, by virtue of his or her baptism, shares in this victory. The Risen Lord dwells within us, making us “imitators and ministers of hope” to a world tempted by despair and dissipation that lead us to disappointment and desolation. To imitate Christ is to stand before every human suffering and proclaim with the Angels’ words at the tomb of Jesus: “He is not here; He is risen.”

As we are in the Jubilee year of hope, it is good to enhance our understanding of hope according to the document of Pope Francis. The Church, in her maternal wisdom, invites us to enter 2025 as a Jubilee Year of Hope - a sacred time of renewal, reconciliation, and rejoicing in God’s faithful love. Pope Francis, in his Bull of Indiction titled *Spes Non Confundit* (“Hope Does Not Disappoint”), reminds us that “hope is the central message of the coming Jubilee... We are all called to be pilgrims of hope.” He calls us during this Holy Year of Jubilee to rediscover the joy of being forgiven, the freedom of the children of God, and the courage to begin anew; so that we become the imitators of hope in



words and deeds. The Biblical roots of the Jubilee year can be found in the Book of Leviticus 25.10, mentioning that the Jubilee Year was a time of restoration. Slaves were set free, debts were forgiven, and land was returned to its rightful owners. The very soil was given rest. It was a vivid sign that God alone is the true owner of everything, and that life must flow from justice, mercy, and trust in Him.

For us today, this ancient call still resounds:

- To restore relationships — with God, with one another, and with creation.
- To let the land rest — to slow down, to live more simply, to give space for prayer and community.
- To proclaim liberty — by forgiving, reconciling, and choosing compassion over criticism.

The Jubilee is thus not about the quantity of years but the quality of life - a time to live God's dream of peace and renewal. As Pope Francis beautifully says, "The Jubilee reminds us that God's mercy knows no limits, and that we are called to be instruments of mercy for others."

In a world wounded by wars, division, and despair, the Jubilee Year comes as a dawn of hope. Hope is not wishful thinking or naive optimism; it is the steadfast trust that God's promises are true, even when everything seems uncertain. Saint Paul writes: "We glory in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, endurance produces character, and character produces hope." Romans 5.3-4. Hope, then, is born in the crucible of struggle. It is the quiet strength that keeps a consecrated heart faithful amid dryness and difficulty. It is what keeps communities united when differences arise. It is what enables us to love when the world chooses indifference. Pope Benedict XVI, in his encyclical *Spe Salvi*, reflected: "The one who has hope lives differently; the one who hopes has been granted the gift of a new life."

Hope transforms the way we see everything like, our vows, our mission, our relationships. It calls us to become living signs of God's future, witnesses that "love is stronger than death" and that the Kingdom of God is already at work among us. The Holy Father invites us and all believers to make a pilgrimage of hope - not only to holy places but also within our own hearts. Every journey of faith is a pilgrimage from fear to trust, from fatigue to renewal, from despair to joy.

As consecrated persons and as communities, this Jubilee invites us:

- To renew our consecration with gratitude and joy.
- To rebuild our communities as places of welcome, dialogue, and hope.
- To reach out in service, especially to the poor, the lonely, and the forgotten.
- To rejoice, because God continues to do new things in our midst (Isaiah 43:19).

Let us remember that hope is contagious. When we live with hope, we awaken hope in others. Our smiles, our patience, our fidelity, our humble service - all become small seeds of hope in the soil of our world. The Jubilee Year is not only for personal renewal but also for the renewal of mission. The



Church's mission today is to carry hope to the peripheries - to the young who search for meaning, to families who struggle, to those who feel abandoned. As Pope Francis writes, "Hope is bold; it can look beyond personal convenience, the petty securities and compensations which limit our horizons, and it opens us up to great ideals that make life more beautiful and worthwhile." (Evangelii Gaudium, 86) Each of us, then, is called to be an imitator and messenger of hope — through our prayer, our witness, and our presence. Our small acts of kindness become echoes of the trumpet of

Jubilee, proclaiming freedom, mercy, and joy.

In the heart of every Jubilee celebration shines the figure of Mary, Mother of Hope (Mater Spei). At the Annunciation, she believed the impossible; at Calvary, she persevered in faith; at Pentecost, she awaited the dawn of the Spirit. As Pope Benedict XVI wrote in *Spe Salvi*, “From Mary we learn to believe in hope against hope. Her entire life was a hymn of hope fulfilled in the joy of the Resurrection.” Mary accompanies the Church in her pilgrimage through history, teaching us to trust even in silence, to wait even in sorrow, and to rejoice even in uncertainty.

As this Jubilee Year of Hope unfolds alongside the radiant season of Christmas, our hearts are drawn to the true source of hope - the Child in the manger. In the silence of Bethlehem, God enters our human story not with power or might, but with tenderness, mercy, and love. The birth of Christ is the first trumpet of the Jubilee, proclaiming liberty to captives, light to those who dwell in darkness, and peace to every heart. He is the face of the Father’s mercy, the hope that does not disappoint. Just as the shepherds went in haste to see the new born Saviour, we too are called to go forth - as pilgrims of hope, carrying the light of Christ into our communities and our world.

May this Christmas and Jubilee enable each of us to be true imitators of hope to the hopeless:

- A time to begin anew with courage and joy.
- A time to forgive and be reconciled.
- A time to rejoice, because “God is with us” - Emmanuel!

Let us, then, move forward with hearts open and hands ready, proclaiming through our lives the song of the angels: “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.” (Luke 2:14) For truly, hope has been born among us, and the Lord who makes all things new walks with us into this Jubilee Year of grace, renewal, and joy.

The Eagle and the Crow

No birds attack the Eagle except the crow. The courageous crow sits on the eagle and begins to peck. The eagle soars higher and higher to a height the crow can no longer be at that height. The crow swoops down.

We have to soar high, no matter how hurtful the pecking is.
Fly high....

The Baby Jesus Next Door

Sr. Nirmala Marandi SCC, Harmutty

This reflection draws inspiration from a simple yet remarkable widow. Once, Nirma had the privilege of making home visits during the Christmas octave. Her village was predominantly Hindu, and among them, her closest companions were elderly people. During one such visit, she encountered a prayerful widow with three children. Tragically, the woman had lost her husband to illness while she was still pregnant. Despite her suffering, she remained God-fearing and wore a radiant smile even amid trials and tribulations.

The widow's brother-in-law (Dewar) was cruel and relentless in his persecution. He refused to let her stay in the family home where she had once lived. One night, he ordered her to leave and find shelter elsewhere. At dawn, she rose with strong determination and began building a house. She gathered bamboo from the garden and started constructing a shelter on a plot of land that had belonged to her late husband.

By God's grace, Nirma—watching from afar—could sense the heaviness in the widow's heart. When love is genuine, it compels action. Nirma saw her own father walking toward the widow to offer help, and she quietly followed him. Though she spoke no words, she was deeply moved by the widow's pale face, weary body, and sorrowful eyes. She imagined the pain of being pregnant, alone, with small

children, deprived of affection, and far from her own parents.

With the help of a few kind-hearted people, the widow managed to complete her modest home within a couple of days. Trusting in God's providence, she built a small altar in one corner of the house and placed a statue of Mother Mary holding the infant Jesus. Even after settling into her new home, Dewar continued to scold her without reason.



When the time for confinement came, this resilient woman gave birth to a baby boy—outside the house, on a bed of straw, without the assistance of a midwife. The women who came to see her were awestruck by her courage.

During those days, Nirma was fond of romantic storybooks. While staying in the hostel, her parents would send her pocket money to buy stationery and sweets. She used it sparingly and stored it in an earthen dump box. One day, filled with joy, she opened the pot and found enough money to buy the books she loved and a beautiful outfit for Christmas.

But the very next afternoon, a woman sat in the yard with a baby on her lap, asking for money to buy food. Without hesitation, Nirma gave her

the money she had saved. The mother's grateful smile doubled Nirma's joy. She had sacrificed her treasure for the poor mother, without her parents' knowledge. That year, her Christmas celebration was the happiest one she had ever known.

This story is a powerful reminder of Christ's solidarity with the poor and vulnerable from the moment of His birth. Jesus entered the world in poverty, identifying with the lowly and marginalized. He invites us to show preferential love and compassion for the poor as a true expression of faith. This message calls us to extend kindness and active support to widows and the vulnerable during Christmas, reflecting the incarnation of Christ among the poor.

storytime

The Bamboo and the Storm

When storms rage, tall trees break. But the bamboo bends and sways. It may touch the ground, yet it never snaps. When the storm passes, it stands tall again. Strength is not in standing firm, but in staying flexible.

Strength in Suffering

Sr. Suletah Narzary SCC, Ambagaon

I asked for strength ,but I had difficulties making myself strong.
 I asked for wisdom, I got problems to solve.
 I asked for prosperity, I got the brain to work.
 I asked for courage, I got dangers to overcome.
 I asked for favors, I got opportunities,
 I received nothing I wanted.
 But I got everything I needed.



Over the course of my fifteen years of religious life, I have had many opportunities to experience the merciful love of the Father and to share in the suffering of Jesus on the cross. Through various events, situations, and illnesses, I have come to see myself as a precious gift of God.

As a first-year Junior, I was sent to Nongalbibra in June 2011. It was the season of Easter blessings. Every day, I accompanied the priest in the morning and evening for house blessings, which continued for a month. It was for the first time I climbed mountains and hills. As I ascended, I felt as though I were walking toward Calvary.

That first year was filled with struggle, as I did not know the local language and was unable to communicate with the people. I had a deep thirst to proclaim the Word of God, but I felt limited. However, the encouragement I received from my sisters and the local community helped me learn the language and give my best.

During a period of ill health, I was unable to carry out my ministry. I was admitted to the local hospital and entrusted to the care of two nurse sisters from another congregation, as our own sisters could not reach me due to lack of proper transport. As the treatment progressed, my body did not respond well. My hands and legs became very weak, and I feared I would not survive. There was no proper communication facility—only local means were available. At that moment of isolation, I could only call on the name of Jesus, clutching His cross. It gave me hope and strength, and I felt united with Christ in His suffering.

After completing two years in the mission, I thought I would be transferred. But I was not. I realized then that my mission there was not yet complete, and I need to continue. I was especially fearful of malaria, as many people had lost their lives to it. That same year, a priest and a nun died from the disease. I was going through an inner struggle. Yet, trusting in Divine Providence, I was able to continue my ministry for four years.

LONG LIVE JESUS.

A Missionary's Journey of Faith

Sr. Jenifer Soundarrajan SCC, Twithampui

As a missionary nun, I often reflect on the life of Mother Claudine, whose courage and unwavering faith continue to inspire me deeply. Like her, I have journeyed through seasons of misunderstanding, disappointment, and adversity. Yet, in every trial, I have discovered the profound meaning of following Jesus and participating in His Paschal Mystery.

When I first embarked on my missionary path, my heart brimmed with zeal and a burning desire to serve. I envisioned that working for the Lord would be filled with joy, gratitude, and wholehearted cooperation. However, reality unfolded differently. Misunderstandings arose—sometimes from those I served and at other times from those closest to me. Words intended to uplift became sources of pain. There were moments I felt alone, questioning whether my efforts held any true value.

Disappointments were many. Plans I had lovingly crafted failed to bear fruit. Individuals I hoped to uplift turned away. There were days when financial hardship, poor health, and limited resources tested my endurance. These privations became silent teachers, gently guiding me to rely entirely on God's providence.

Yet, amid these shadows, I found light in the example of Mother Claudine. She embraced the Paschal Mystery not as a theological concept, but as a lived experience—accepting suffering, humiliation, and loss as sacred paths leading to resurrection. Her profound trust in God inspired me to view my own crosses as invitations to grow in love and fidelity.

Through every misinterpretation, I learned compassion. Through every disappointment, I learned surrender. Through every hardship, I learned simplicity and detachment. Gradually, my mission became less about what I do and more about who I am in Christ.



Today, I understand that to follow Jesus radically, is to walk with Him through both Calvary and the empty tomb. The missionary journey is not devoid of pain, but it overflows with grace. Like Mother Claudine, I continue to say “yes” to the Lord each day—trusting that every cross embraced with love will blossom into new life.

Even when the road is rough and my heart feels weary, I have never turned back. For I know that the One who called me walks beside me, shaping my life into a living testimony of His love and resurrection. I have learned that every struggle carries within it a hidden grace, and every tear shed in love becomes a seed of new life. My journey continues as that of a pilgrim—ever seeking God’s will, walking in faith through life’s deserts and valleys. At the same time, I remain a prophet—called to bear witness to hope, justice, and compassion in a world thirsting for God’s presence.

As we celebrate the birth of Christ, the Light of the World, may His peace fill our hearts and rekindle our missionary zeal. May this Christmas remind us that Emmanuel—God-with-us—walks with every pilgrim and strengthens every prophet.

Wishing you all a Blessed and Joyful Christmas.

storytime

The Lotus and the Mud

The lotus grows in muddy waters, surrounded by dirt. Yet every morning, it blooms spotless and bright. The mud never stains its beauty. Purity comes from within, not from the surroundings.

My First Mission Experience in France

Sr. Junali Minj SCC, France



Coming to France for the first time on a mission has been a profound blessing for me. As a sister, I felt a mix of excitement, curiosity, and a touch of fear. Everything was unfamiliar—language, culture, even the rhythm of daily life.

I remember stepping out of the airport feeling small yet hopeful, knowing that this new chapter would shape me in ways I couldn't yet imagine.

It is deeply meaningful to serve in the very land where our congregation was born. Throughout my formation, we often prayed for our Mother House—the place where our story began—and for the life of our Foundress: where she was born, raised, lived her vocation, and eventually returned to God. To finally see this sacred place with my own eyes filled my heart with immense gratitude and joy.

“The Lord will guard your going and your coming, both now and forever.” (Psalm 121:8)

This verse has accompanied me throughout my journey and continues to strengthen me each day.

Upon arriving in France, I was warmly welcomed by our sisters here. Their hospitality made me feel as though I had truly come home—to the cradle of our congregation, to the very mission land that shaped our identity and spirituality.

At the same time, adapting to life here has not been easy. Coming from a country where French is not spoken, the language has been a real challenge. The culture, too, is quite different from what I am used to. People here are more reserved, and life initially felt quieter and less lively. Everything was new—the language, the food, the daily rhythm.

Yet, despite these challenges, this mission has been a time of deep learning, personal growth, and greater trust in God. I continue to discover the richness of His plans and the strength of our shared charism, which transcends both culture and language. Living in a community has given me strength. The sisters encouraged me, corrected me when needed, and helped me grow. I learned to trust the process and to remain open.

Through simple encounters with people and by participating in parish activities, I began to see France not as a foreign land, but as a mission entrusted to me.

My first experience in France was not just about adapting to a new country—it was about discovering a deeper sense of courage, faith, and openness.

I remain deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve here, in the very place where our congregation took its first steps. I carry all of you in my prayers as I continue this mission journey in France.

In Every Leaf, God's Beauty Gleams

Sr. Fatima Peter SCC, Jiribam



In every leaf, God's beauty gleams,
Beauty are the plants that are around us,
Some grow so tall and healthy
Plants that bring life and shades.

In nature's whisper, we find His voice
A symphony of love, a heartfelt choice.
Each ray of sun, each drop of dew
Proclaims His love, forever true.

I placed some seeds upon the earth,
Tiny dreams of hope and birth.
One dear plant began to rise,
Green, and glowing, beneath the skies.

But soon its leaves turned pale and dry,
Insects came and I watched it die.
My heart was heavy, full of pain
Would life not bloom from this again?

Yet every eve, I spoke with care,
Poured water, whispered gentle prayer.
I'm waiting, friend, I softly said,
"To see your fruit, though others fled.

And slow - so slow - the shoots returned
New life arose from what had burned.
It flowered bright, with fruits to give,
In every leaf, God's beauty gleams



I am in the Master's Hands

Sr. Tabita Lama, SCC, Silapathar

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish but may have eternal life." — Jn. 3:16

With a heart full of gratitude, I look back to my community life and recognize the gentle and unfailing helping hand of God accompanying me. I feel that life becomes meaningful and fruitful when it is lived for others. I consider myself blessed that God has planted me in a rich and fertile land, our Congregation, where I can grow spiritually by offering myself joyfully for His mission.

Living in community has taught me to share joys and sorrows, to accept others as sisters, and to live the kenotic love of Christ. My prayer life gains strength from these simple yet profound experiences of fraternity. I have truly felt God's closeness in moments of struggle and surrender, especially during our 15-day Orientation Programme at Chansari. Those days offered me a renewed space to pause, reflect, and rediscover the beauty of my consecrated call. The sessions, the moments of silence, the sharing with my

companions, and the gentle guidance of our formator helped me deepen my self-awareness and sharpen my desire to grow spiritually and humanly. Each day unfolded like a new page, inviting me to be molded by God's tender hands and to see His purpose even in my limitations. I realized more deeply that formation is not merely a phase, but a lifelong journey of allowing Christ to shape my attitudes, thoughts, and relationships. It was a time of inner awakening, a reminder that God works quietly but powerfully in the depths of our hearts.

The Potter and the Clay — A Journey, Being Molded

The programme began with a deeply meaningful prayer on the theme "The Potter and the Clay." This reflection helped me realize the fact that God, the Divine Potter, patiently shapes me, especially in my moments of brokenness and despair. When I place myself in His hands, I am not discarded but lovingly molded into the vessel He desires me to be. As I prayed, I felt a quite assurance that every experience - my strengths, fears, limitations, and even my unspoken longings - is tenderly held by God. Like clay that gradually takes form under the careful touch of the potter, my life is being shaped each day through challenges, inspirations, and gentle promptings of the Spirit. This theme reminded me that



transformation does not happen instantly; it unfolds slowly, through surrender and trust. The more I yield myself to God's working, the more clearly I see His purpose emerging in my life. It is in His hands that I discover not only who I am, but who I am called to become.

Growing in Knowledge and Faith

During the sessions Minor Prophets, community life, Evangelical Counsels, the General Chapter Orientation, Family Annals Vol. II, and English grammar, I learned much that strengthened my vocation. The Prophets of Israel taught me how God speaks through history, inviting His people to repentance, hope, and renewal, especially in times of crisis. Even after the fall of Israel, the Prophets proclaimed the words of comfort, assuring the people of God's abiding faithfulness.

Their courage to stand for truth and their deep sensitivity to God's voice inspired me to reflect on my own call to be a woman of hope, capable of discerning God's presence in every situation.

From the General Chapter document, I rediscovered the spirituality of the Sisters of the Cross - a spirituality flowing from the profound mystery of Jesus' death and resurrection. The Cross is not merely a symbol of suffering; it is a symbol of hope, transformation, and new life. It reminds me that every challenge embraced in love becomes a step toward greater freedom and inner maturity. The Family Annals helped me understand the roots of our Congregation and the sacrifices of our pioneers. Their unwavering trust in Divine Providence strengthens me to live my consecration with renewed zeal. Each class, in its own way, broadened my mind, deepened



my faith, and awakened within me a desire to grow in wisdom, humility, and commitment to our mission.

Inspired by Mother Claudine and Living the Evangelical Counsels

The life of our beloved Mother Claudine continues to inspire me profoundly. Her thoughts, words, and actions were always guided by the Spirit of the Lord, and she carried Jesus within her, radiating His compassionate love to all she encountered. Her example challenges me to cultivate truth, openness to dialogue, gentleness, and a heart of gratitude in every aspect of my life. Following in her footsteps, the Evangelical Counsels, namely, Obedience, Poverty, and Chastity, become more than vows; they are lived expressions of surrender to God and instruments of grace in our journey of consecration. Obedience is not simply a duty, but a joyful offering of our freedom, enabling others to grow in authentic liberty. Poverty teaches us to live with simplicity, recognizing all that we have as gift and participating in the poverty of Christ, which grounds us in dependence on God. Chastity, freely chosen out of love for Christ, invites us to love with a pure and undivided heart, dedicating ourselves fully to His Kingdom. In embracing these counsels, I am continually reminded that consecrated life is not about limitation, but about freedom to love, serve, and bear witness to God's transformative presence in the world.

A Call to Hope

Our theme, for our Orientation "Chosen to Be Prophets of the Paschal Hope," invites us to live the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection in our daily lives. To be a prophet of hope does not mean striving for perfection or having all

the right words or actions. Rather, it is a call to believe in the power of the Resurrection even amidst darkness, to hold onto hope when others despair, and to trust that life and love will ultimately prevail. Consecrated life, even in its hiddenness, is a powerful sign that God is still present, still at work, and still transforming hearts and lives. Each challenge, each cross, becomes an opportunity to witness God's unwavering love and to be a bearer of light and joy in a world longing for meaning, healing, and peace.

Embracing God's Vision

The journey of the Juniorate is not simply a phase of learning; it is a sacred invitation to be transformed by God's hands. We are called to grow in wisdom, to soften our hearts with compassion, and to walk faithfully in His ways. Formation is not about becoming someone else, but about becoming more fully who God created us to be. It is about allowing Him to shape our attitudes, our relationships, and our vocation, so that our lives reflect the beauty of consecrated love. As I continue on this journey, I place myself in the Master's hands, trusting that He will mould and renew my mind with His wisdom, fill my heart with His compassion, and guide my steps in His ways. With Mary, our Mother and first disciple, as our companion and guide, we are strengthened to say "yes" each day, especially during the season of Christmas, to live in hope, and to surrender joyfully to God's plan. In His hands, our lives are gradually transformed into vessels of light, hope, and love that reflect Jesus' Paschal Mystery.

***Wishing you all a Blessed Christmas and a
Grace-filled New Year 2026!***

The Word of God: The Source of Strength

Sr. Renisha Marak SCC, Barkola

The Bible is not just a holy book—it is the living Word of God. Through its pages, I come to know who God truly is. Every verse speaks of His love, mercy, compassion, and forgiveness. Whenever I read the Scriptures, I feel as though God Himself is speaking to me, guiding both my heart and my mind.

I have personally experienced the merciful love of God through reading the Bible. Whenever I feel sad, confused, or lonely, the Word of God becomes my comfort. I feel like a postman, always delivering letters from heaven—answers to the questions life throws on my way. The Bible is like my parents, my siblings, and my closest friend. It counsels me when I am in doubt and strengthens me when I feel weak. Sometimes, it even becomes my pillow—where I rest my

troubled heart and find peace in the midst of difficulties.

I experienced the power of the Bible most deeply in 2022, when my brother-in-law suffered total kidney failure. The doctors said he would not survive and discharged him from the hospital. With tears and trust, I kept reciting Jeremiah 17:14: “Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved, for You are my praise.” I asked my family to pray the same verse. After one month, God performed a miracle—he recovered and is still alive. It has now been three years without kidneys.

Truly, the Word of God is living, powerful, and full of mercy. It is my strength, my hope, and my life.



Hearts Aflame with God’s Love

Sr. Joan Silvia SCC, Provincialate

A Sanctuary of Peace and Purpose

Nestled in the serene locality of Joypur Kharguli, our house is a hidden gem blessed with a breathtaking view. Perched on top of a hill, it allows us to remain close to the city while enjoying the peace and charm of nature. From here, we behold the majestic Brahmaputra River, and its steady flow offers a constant reminder of Assam’s natural beauty and grace. It is truly a place where the vibrancy of city life and the calm rhythm of nature harmoniously coexist.

A Community Rooted in Mission

We, the seven dynamic and vibrant Sisters of the Provincialate Community, are delighted to share the life and mission that animate our home.

Sr. Angela Narzary, our Province Animator, leads with deep faith and unwavering trust in God. Sr. Alice Matthew, the Provincial Bursar and Sister-in-charge, along with Sr. Joan Silvia, the Provincial Secretary, efficiently attend to the administrative and pastoral needs of the Province. Sr. Josephine Basumatary, after a miraculous recovery from a kidney transplant, has gracefully resumed her active life in the community. Sr. Esther Popphi, our Pre-Novitiate Mistress, lovingly guides and molds the formees in the footsteps of our Foundress, Mother Claudine. Sr. Asha Ekka is pursuing her LLB studies in preparation for future mission needs. Sr. Angelina Dhan, the youngest member, joyfully serves the daily needs of the Provincialate community.

A Home of Hospitality and Formation

Our Provincialate is not only the administrative

center of the Province but also a warm and welcoming home—a place where every sister finds care,

companionship, and support. We cherish the gift of hospitality, especially toward sisters who come for rest or medical treatment. It is our privilege to offer compassionate care and empathetic support.

We are also blessed with excellent facilities that allow us to host a variety of programs throughout the year—retreats, renewal and formation sessions, seminars, and province gatherings. With joyful collaboration, we strive to ensure the smooth and fruitful conducting of these events, bringing inspiration and happiness to all who participate.

A vital aspect of our mission is the formation



of young girls who have responded to God's call to religious life. Through classes, spiritual accompaniment, and prayer, we nurture these young souls as they discern their vocation and prepare for a life of service to God and humanity. We are grateful to God for blessing us with thirteen Pre-Novices, seven second-year, and six first-year formees. It is a joy and privilege to witness their growth as they unfold their gifts and potential under the loving guidance of God.

Becoming Pilgrims and Prophets of Paschal Hope

In a world often chilled by indifference and uncertainty, our Chapter theme—Pilgrims and Prophets of Paschal Hope—calls us to walk with courage and proclaim with conviction. As pilgrims, we journey together in faith, embracing the joys and trials of life with trust in the Risen Lord. As prophets, we are called to be voices of hope, healing, and truth in a world that longs for light.

To be a pilgrim of Paschal hope is to walk the road of transformation—dying to self and rising with Christ. To be a prophet is to live and speak the Gospel with authenticity, revealing the merciful heart of the Father through our life witness. In our Provinciate community, we strive to embody this dual call through prayer, service, and sisterly communion.

A Time of Grace and

Renewal

Pope Francis has proclaimed 2025 as the Jubilee Year with the theme “Pilgrims of Hope.” Rooted in the biblical tradition of liberation, forgiveness, and restoration, this Jubilee invites us to rekindle our trust in God's love and mercy. It is a sacred time to renew our faith, live forgiveness, and walk together in hope.

The Jubilee Year began on December 24, 2024, with the opening of the Holy Door at St. Peter's Basilica—a powerful symbol of passing from sin to grace. We are encouraged to make pilgrimages, perform acts of charity, and seek spiritual renewal. As a community, we embrace this invitation with open hearts, allowing the Jubilee spirit to deepen our commitment to mission and communion.



As we celebrate Christmas during this Jubilee Year, the message of the Emmanuel—God with us—resonates more deeply than ever. In a world marked by conflict, fear, and division, the birth of Christ brings a radiant promise of peace, hope, and renewal. The true meaning of Christmas is not found in decorations or festivities, but in the humble cradle, the redeeming cross, and the victorious crown.

Christmas reminds us that God entered human history to dwell among us, to save us, and to fill our hearts with divine love. “But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8). This love transforms us into bearers of light—pilgrims and prophets who carry the

flame of Christ into every corner of the world.

When our hearts are touched by God’s love, we are compelled to serve, to forgive, and to bring healing wherever we go. Our community life becomes a living Gospel—woven with threads of faith, hope, and love. We see Christ in one another’s faces, and we feel His peace resting gently in our midst.

May our hearts be always aflame—glowing with divine love, radiating warmth to others, and revealing the beauty of God’s presence in all we do. As we journey through this Jubilee and celebrate the birth of Christ, may we continue to walk as Pilgrims and Prophets of Paschal Hope, bearing witness to the joy of the Resurrection and the promise of new life.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

storytime

The Candle and the Darkness

A single candle burns in a dark room. The shadows around it seem endless, yet it keeps glowing. Even a small light knows its power—to end darkness. Shine, no matter how deep the night seems.

Mary : The Silent Prophet of Christmas

Sr. Divya Minj, SCC, Sivasagar

In the quiet stillness of Bethlehem, a young woman's humble "yes" became the loudest proclamation of God's love the world has ever known. In this Christmas reflection, we look to Mary — not as a figure distant in history, but as a living model of prophetic faith. Through her courage, silence, and steadfast trust, she reveals what it means to bring Christ to the world today.

The word prophet resounds throughout the world — in speeches, in pastoral letters, in encyclicals. Yet, while the contexts may differ, the essence remains unchanged: prophets are those who dare to listen deeply to the voice of God and, in turn, allow that divine voice to echo through their lives. When we think of prophets, we often recall the great figures of the Old Testament — Isaiah, Jeremiah, and others whose words shaped salvation history. Yet the Gospel presents us with prophets whose voices were not always heard in the marketplace or recorded in great scrolls. Among them stands one who spoke but little, proclaimed God's message more powerfully than any — Mary, the Mother of God

When the angel announced God's plan, Mary responded not with fear, but with the quiet courage of faith: "Let it be done unto me according to your word." At that moment, she gave her assent to become the dwelling place of the Word made flesh. Through her humble obedience, she became the living proclamation of God's love — the bearer of salvation to the world.

As the season of Christmas dawns once more, we are invited to enter into the mystery of God's love made visible in the humble birth of Christ. In every carol sung and every candle lit, the same divine message whispers to our hearts: God is still speaking to the world. The question is are we ready to listen, and willing to be His voice?

Mary did not stand in the temple courts to proclaim her message. She did not speak in thunder or flame. Her prophecy was lived — in her obedience, in her tenderness, in her steadfast love. She proclaimed the Word of God not merely with her lips, but by bringing the Word made flesh into the world. Through her, divine love took its first breath in human form.



At Christmas, the world once again kneels before that quiet miracle — the infant Christ lying in a manger, the light of heaven shining in human eyes. And once again, we are called to be prophets in our own time: to bear Christ into the world through our compassion, our forgiveness, and our courage to love when love seems to be forgotten.

This Christmas, may we renew our call to be prophets of light and love. May our hearts, like Mary's, become a dwelling place for Christ, so that through us the world may once again hear the message of peace: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace to people of goodwill."

storytime

The Mountain and the Wind

The wind howls and strikes the mountain, trying to move it. But the mountain stands still, unmoved and silent. The wind tires and passes away. Those who stay firm in truth need no defense.

God's Merciful Love

Sr. Alisha Soreng SCC, Sivasagar

When I fall and lose my way,
His mercy calls –it does not stray
With open arms, He lifts me high,
And wipes the tears my heart may cry.

His mercy flows like endless streams,
It heals my wounds, restores my dreams.
No sin too dark, no heart too cold,
His love redeems, His grace unfolds.

He sees my faults, yet loves me still,
He shapes my soul with patient will.
Each dawn He gives another start,
His mercy lives within my heart.

The wondrous love, so deep, so kind ,
It frees my soul, renews my mind.
Forever Lord my praise shall be ,
Your merciful love has rescued me .

You heal, forgive, renew and bless ,
You clothe my soul in righteousness.
Forever Lord i,ll sing and say,
Your mercy leads me everyday.
So great your love, so pure, so true
All life begins and ends in you.



An Amazing God

Sr. Triveni Narzary SCC, Ecuador

I am delighted to share the experience of God's unfathomable love revealed to me through the mission ad extra in the lands of Ecuador and Peru. God's call is unique for each person—at times gentle and consoling, and at other times challenging and demanding. For me, clarity to respond to God's call to a distant mission emerged during a retreat guided by Rev. Fr. Shaiju, SJ, after which I moved forward with renewed trust, free from doubt and fear,



surrendering to God's guiding will. Though I travelled alone for a long distance to the city of God, I felt there was someone accompanying me invisible.

Arriving in Ecuador was an exciting sight, even though it was night I could see the statues of saints all along the road and the names of the

saints in front of the shops and on buildings. The language was hard to understand yet felt the warmth of people welcoming and receiving me with love and affections. They called me fondly Chinese, Japanese, and other Filipinos and could not believe that I am an Indian.

During the initial stage I felt awkward walking with a skirt and blouse, gradually I felt comfortable and much easier to dress up and undress.

95% of priests and religious are engaged in pastoral work, also there are many lay collaborators in different ways, for it is a Christian country and the message "every baptized person is called to live the gospel and evangelize" is taken very seriously. The means of evangelization/pastoral ministry is entirely different from India.

The diocese has the beautiful and concrete pastoral plan which is imparted to all through quarterly diocesan formation programs and monthly zonal meeting, planning, sharing and



evaluation through which it keeps updating.

We have different groups Like; Parish council members, Extraordinary ministers of communion, Catechism teachers, family formation, youth, Legion of Mary, Caritas, Evangelization group, Spiritual renovation, May Rosary group, Sacred Heart devotion, Zonal



Missionary group, Religious group, Pilgrimage of Mary, St. John Paul xxiii group and senior citizens centre with whom we get involved and walk as pilgrimage towards the new Jerusalem. In the absence of priests we celebrate Mass except the consecration in the church, and this is also done in the sub-station churches, and in funeral services.

Every group has different activities, formations, retreat, get-together and outings.

The land is fertile and blessed with varieties of fruits and abundance of sea food. People are hard working as well, they take time to relax and enjoy life.

The people are devoted to Mary, saints and are charitable. No work is considered small or big, every work is considered as important and the dignity of life.

Since it's a Christian country, the church has an important place. Also the priests and religious are respected and welcomed.

Other exciting events are celebrations of different Marian and feasts of saints. These are celebrated with pomp and show. At times I shed tears of joy during processions, feeling that I am walking in heaven along with angels and saints and participate in the celebrations with gratitude and total surrender.

I feel privileged and thankful to be part of this missionary journey.



A Soul to Lift, A Soul to Save

Sr. Jain Sangma SCC, Kaying

“For I long to see you, that I may share with you some spiritual gifts so that you and I may be mutually encouraged by one another’s faith, yours and mine.” (Rom. 1:11–12)

When a soul is drawn to God, nothing can discourage it; nothing can stop it from following Christ. Deep within every heart resounds a call — a gentle yet persistent ringing — to lift souls and to save humanity from the slavery of sin.

Today, that call takes on new meaning in our fast-changing world. We live in an era dominated by artificial intelligence and modern gadgets that promise convenience but often make us slaves to technology. Surrounded by screens, notifications, and constant connectivity, we are challenged more than ever to rediscover what it means to live the Gospel values of love, compassion, and forgiveness — wherever life places us.

To live as followers of Christ today is not easy. It is to carry the Cross — to live, die, and rise with

Him in the daily mission for the salvation of the world. It is to listen again to the cry of the poor, the lonely, and the forgotten.

We witness the paradox of our times: the young and the old-engrossed in the glow of their devices, the rich flaunting the latest phones, while the poor next door go unnoticed.

As Christmas draws near, we are invited to turn our hearts into a manger — open, humble, and ready to welcome Christ once more. The first Christmas was not celebrated in luxury, but in simplicity. Jesus was born insecure and homeless, yet surrounded by the warmth of Mary and Joseph and the humble joy of the shepherds.

This Christmas, let us be that same warmth for others. Let us bring comfort and joy through our presence — not merely through words, but through small acts of love, kindness, and service. Our little sacrifices, offered sincerely, can become great blessings for those in need. May we offer our gifts of prayer, love, and service as a reflection of the true spirit of Christmas — a celebration of God’s boundless love made visible in the Child of Bethlehem.

The Community of Kaying wishes everyone a joyous Christmas and a blessed New Year 2026!



A Pilgrim of Paschal Hope in Education

Sr. Tessa Thomas SCC, Changsari

My experience as an educator and Headmistress has been nothing short of a pilgrimage—a journey of Paschal hope. Each day brings moments of joy, challenge, and grace that draw me closer to God’s purpose for my life. Education, for me, is not merely a profession; it is a sacred calling—a ministry where faith, learning, and life intertwine to shape young hearts and minds.

As Headmistress, I am deeply engaged in the teaching ministry and the day-to-day academic life of the school. It is both a joy and a privilege to work alongside dedicated teachers who share in the mission of forming responsible, disciplined, and value-oriented students. Together, we continually remind one another of the noble duty entrusted to us—to nurture the next generation with love, integrity, and commitment.

We consistently encourage our students to grow in every aspect of life so that they may become well-balanced and compassionate individuals, capable of contributing meaningfully to society. The children’s eagerness to learn and the teachers’ unwavering dedication inspire me daily. Every child is precious in the eyes of God, and our mission is to help each one discover their own light.

Although the school does not belong to our congregation, we sisters take great joy in offering every possible support to ensure its smooth functioning. We thank God for the privilege of being channels of His wisdom and love—imparting not only knowledge but also

the values of Christ to our students, parents, and teachers. Truly, the sisters’ presence and involvement in the school have been a living witness to the Gospel.

For me, this ministry is a pilgrimage of the heart. Like pilgrims journeying toward a sacred goal, we walk together—teachers, students, parents, and sisters—learning from one another and growing as one family. It is in this shared journey that I find deep meaning and fulfillment. The school becomes a spiritual home where every person feels valued, heard, and cared for.

Like every pilgrimage, the path of education has its share of trials. We face diverse needs, emotional struggles, and external pressures. Yet, within these very challenges, we discover the hidden grace of God. Each difficulty calls us to greater patience, creativity, and faith. As sisters and educators, we are invited to be living witnesses of perseverance and hope—showing our students that even challenges can become opportunities for transformation and growth.

A true pilgrim pauses often for reflection. I too find moments to step back, pray, and discern—to realign my mission with the One who called me. In quiet reflection, in conversations with fellow teachers, or in the stillness of prayer, I rediscover my strength and joy in serving. These pauses remind me that every act of teaching, guiding, or correcting is, in truth, an act of love.

I continue to walk this journey as a pilgrim of



Paschal hope—carrying within me the rhythm of death and resurrection that shapes every life of faith. Whether in moments of struggle or in the joy of success, I see the gentle hand of God leading me forward.

Each day, as I offer my time and energy in this sacred ministry, I feel a deep sense of fulfillment. I am grateful for the opportunity to touch young lives and help shape future leaders with courage, compassion, and conviction. Above all, I strive to make Christ visible through my presence, my

service, and the joy I bring to those entrusted to my care.

Indeed, to be an educator is to be a pilgrim—walking with faith, guided by hope, and grounded in love. I remain a pilgrim in my ministry, sharing love, faith, and hope, and making Christ visible through my very being.

Sparkle with joy this Christmas and step into the New Year with renewed hope and endless possibilities.



Seven Years of Grace in Gunjung

Sr. Monju Basumatary SCC, Gunjung



Gunjung is a small yet beautiful village located in the Haflong subdivision of Dima Hasao district in Assam, about 30 km from the district headquarters. Surrounded by scenic hills, lush greenery, tea plantations, and the famous Gunjung viewpoint, the village is blessed with nature's charm and serenity.

I, along with my companions Sr. Jain Sanga and Sr. Tessa Thomas, arrived in Gunjung on 8th January 2018. Everything was new to us—the place, the people, their culture, customs, language, and way of life. Yet, we were warmly welcomed by the Jesuit fathers and the villagers, making us feel at home despite the unfamiliar surroundings.

The people of Gunjung are simple, peace-loving, and kind-hearted. They lead a very traditional life, largely untouched by modernisation. Most families depend on jhum (shifting) cultivation for their livelihood. Their food, air, and lifestyle remain organic and unpolluted. Economically, they are underprivileged, and many elderly people are illiterate and unaware of the world beyond their hills. They find it hard to adapt

to change, yet they are content with what they have.

As I was put in charge of the hostel students, I initially found it challenging to understand their mindset and background. Most of them lacked motivation and clear goals in life. Their parents sent them to school and hostel with the hope that they would “learn something,” but education was not yet seen as a path to transformation. Academically, they were average, but they showed great talent in extracurricular activities. What they needed most was constant encouragement, guidance, inspiration, and motivation.

The spirit of the Dimasa people finds its most joyful expression in their traditional dance. It is a source of cultural pride, so vital that its rhythm is instilled in children from a tender age, passed down lovingly by their parents and elders. This commitment ensures that the vibrant movements and stories of their ancestors live on, generation after generation. The pinnacle of their cultural calendar is the annual celebration of Busu Dima in January. This traditional festival



is much more than a date on a calendar—it is a heartfelt thanksgiving. Like a grand harvest festival, it is a time when every family joyfully shares the fruits of their labour, a communal act of generosity and abundance that perfectly embodies their close-knit society.

To witness this spectacle firsthand was unforgettable. The air during Busu Dima is thick with celebration—from the energetic performances of their cherished traditional dances, held in the highest regard, to the warmth of community spirit. It's a true feast for the senses, complete with the pleasure of tasting their distinctive local drink.

The Dimasa people don't just practice their traditions—they live them. Their dance and harvest festival are magnificent showcases of enduring culture and collective joy.

I am deeply fascinated by the Dimasa traditional attire. The beauty and uniqueness of their clothing truly reflect their rich culture and heritage. It is remarkable that Dimasa women themselves weave these traditional dresses for both men and women with great skill and artistry. They take pride in wearing these elegant garments on every special occasion and celebration, preserving their tradition with grace and dignity.

The villagers have their own traditional form of worship. They perform puja in the forest for almost every occasion—even when someone falls ill—rather than seeking medical help. This revealed to me how deeply their lives are rooted in their beliefs and traditions. Spiritually and morally, the students needed strong formation. Therefore, we tried to guide them through daily good-night talks,

Eucharistic celebrations, Rosary, adoration, and meditation, helping them grow mentally, spiritually, and morally.

Life in Gunjung is not without its hardships. The people face many difficulties due to the lack of proper roads, electricity, clean water, and medical facilities. Even in our community, we often struggled with these basic necessities. One of the biggest challenges was the absence of technicians or repair personnel; whenever something broke down, we had to call for help from another district.

Despite these challenges, my years in Gunjung have been a period of deep learning and growth. Living among these simple, faith-filled people has taught me patience, adaptability, and gratitude. The hardships I faced here have strengthened my trust in God and deepened my prayer life. I have learned that true joy and fulfilment do not come from comfort or convenience, but from serving others with love and depending on God in all things.

Indeed, my seven years in Gunjung have been a wonderful, beautiful journey of growth and transformation—one that I will cherish forever.



The Unanswered Questions

Sr. Sarita Kujur SCC, Gunjung

Why do I succumb to actions unwise,
Knowing I'm a creation, crafted with divine surprise?
Why do I neglect the whispers of my heart,
When truth and wisdom await , a brand new start?

Why don't I heed the call to listen and learn,
When understanding beckons , like a gentle loving yearn?
Why don't I act with purpose, a life to fulfill,
When destiny awaits , like a script waiting to be fulfilled?

Why do I turn a blind eye to pain and strife,
When peace and compassion beckon, a gentle loving life
Why don't I speak out against injustice and fear
When voiceless souls await, a champion, drawing near?

Why don't I reach out, a comforting, healing touch,
When hearts in sorrow cry, like a gentle, loving clutch?
Why do I doubt the unseen, the mysteries above,
When faith and trust await, like a gentle, loving love?



***The heart knows the way, but the mind must
choose to follow; in every moment of silence,
destiny whispers—
Will you listen?***

The Compassionate Heart of the Paschal Hope in Action

Sr. Severina Lakra SCC, Changsari

“The Cross is not a defeat; the Cross is Love. It is the Compassionate Heart of the Cross in Action, showing us that God reigns through merciful Love.” — Pope Francis

The Changsari Mission stands as a magnificent testament to the living charism of the Sisters of the Cross of Chavanod. More than just a location, it is a spiritual nerve center where faith, compassion, service, and holistic human development converge. We, Sisters—Parinal Fernando, Severina Lakra, Tessy Thomas, Punam Dungdung, and Roslina Daimary—embody the very essence of our Congregation’s mission: “to reveal the merciful Love of the Father and the liberating power of the Paschal Mystery” through tangible acts of Paschal hope and service.

We are joyful and proud to share that here, the mission’s four foundational pillars—Formation, Mercy Home, Education, and Pastoral Care—stand as a seamless expression of our charism. Dear Sisters, we are indeed delighted to share our experiences through this forum.

The Crucible of Formation — Nurturing Future Prophets

At the Changsari Community, fourteen young girls have entered the initial formation program of the Congregation in Guwahati Province. Their journey is a rich tapestry woven with spiritual awakening, growth in Gospel values, and the virtues of our beloved founders, Mother



Claudine Echernier and Father Peter Mermier.

This is a sacred period of becoming—a space where future Sisters are immersed in the love of God and Jesus, learn to interpret the living Word, and master practical skills in English and the life of the Sisters of the Cross of Chavanod. Guided by the charism of our founders and supported by focused programs in spiritual, human, group dynamics, mental, and intellectual development, Sr. Severina Lakra and Sr. Parinal Fernando accompany these candidates in preparing to reveal Christ’s redemptive love to the world.

Each day is a lesson in communal living, teaching them to transition from individual aspirations to authentic communion and to embrace the foundational challenges of religious life. Formation is a two-way journey—where both formator and formee receive invaluable gifts. Walking with these young candidates in the path of Paschal hope nurtures their faith and

strengthens their vocational call. Each session, reflection, and faith-sharing moment reminds us of the beauty and demands of this sacred calling.

Every Sister is called to be a formator—not merely by teaching, but by living the core of consecrated life with total commitment. Here, consecrated life is not a burden but a joyful, liberating response to God’s love. We continually discern and deepen our prophetic commitment, initiating the same in the young candidates who carry a deep desire to know and love Him.

The Shelter of Mercy — A Home for the Differently Abled

Perhaps the most heart-stirring ministry at Changsari is the Mercy Home—a sanctuary dedicated to serve the differently abled. This ministry powerfully manifests our core identity: revealing the Father’s merciful love in the face of profound human vulnerability.



Here, every individual—regardless of caste, creed, or physical or mental challenges—is recognized as a cherished child of God and receives dignified care. Sr. Punam Ddungdung and her team provide specialized therapy, care, and most importantly, a consistent presence of love—both at the center and in their homes. This environment reflects the fullness of life in Christ through strength, gentleness, and compassion.

We Sisters believe the very existence of this home challenges societal indifference and affirms the intrinsic worth of every human life.

The Light of Knowledge — Education as Empowerment

The ministry of education at Changsari transcends the mere transfer of facts and values. It is a vital tool of empowerment that uplifts the human spirit and ensures long-term sustenance for communities and society at large.

Beyond academic excellence, Sisters Tessa Thomas and Roslina Daimary instill Gospel values, social awareness, and practical life skills. Their dedication at the Archdiocesan school named after St. Francis Xavier equips a generation of students to become responsible citizens and agents of positive change—reflecting Christ’s mandate to heal a broken and wounded world.

Compassionate Presence of Christ — Bringing Faith to Life

The spiritual outreach of the Changsari Mission extends beyond the convent walls through vibrant activities. Though small and floating, the community of 15 faithful families radiates vibrant faith. Sisters, candidates, and priests carry out their noble tasks with great interest and availability, building spiritual bridges.



We actively strengthen the faith of the faithful and ensure that God’s merciful love reaches everyone. Our engagements include village visits, promoting reconciliation, catechism classes for children, organizing retreats, family rosaries, monthly Small Christian Community prayers, and active participation in liturgy. These communal expressions of faith allow the assembly to celebrate unity, joy, peace, and hope in the sacred mysteries.

The faithful are not merely present—they are actively engaged in creating vibrant Christian communities rooted in Gospel values. Despite their busy schedules, Paschal hope is shared through prayer, celebration, and outreach to the poor, sick, and vulnerable, as part of the SCC action plan carried out with great compassion and unity.

We Are Called to Be the Paschal Hope

The varied and profound engagements of our consecrated life—formation of young candidates, care for differently-abled children of God, strengthening parish communities, and nurturing minds through education—are not just responsibilities. They are expressions of

God’s love and our total commitment to bring Paschal hope for all.

We believe these ministries fulfill two essential calls: they are the tangible manifestations of “The Compassionate Heart of the Paschal Hope” and “in Action”—rooted deeply in the founding charism of our Congregation and the Gospel call to reach out to God’s people and accompany the vulnerable in the spirit of Christ’s mercy and compassion.

The future quality of our community ministries depends on unwavering fidelity to our charism of love and service, coupled with a commitment to ongoing formation and courageous adaptation to new challenges. Our integrated prayer life—contemplation and action—will continue to empower us to be radiant witnesses of Paschal hope in the world.



Formation- A Lifelong Process

Sr. Lalita Lakra SCC, Mendipathar

“Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 2:5)

As I journey through my consecrated life in the community, I realize more deeply each day that formation is truly a lifelong process. It is not confined to a particular stage of training or a set of spiritual exercises, but it unfolds continuously — in my prayer, in community living, in mission, and in the daily events that shape me.

Formation is the art of “Becoming,” allowing God to mold me gradually into the person He desires me to be. It is a sacred journey of transformation where my heart learns to love as Jesus loved, my mind learns to see as He saw, and my whole being learns to respond with trust to His call.

When I contemplate the life of Jesus, I find that He too lived a process of growth. “He increased in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man” (Luke 2:52). His formation happened in the ordinary circumstances of daily life — in silence, in relationships, in prayer, and in obedience to the Father’s will.

As His disciple, I am called to walk the same path.



Each experience, joyful or painful, becomes a lesson in discipleship. When I fail, He teaches me humility; when I succeed, He reminds me to be grateful; when I feel weak, He strengthens me through His grace. The Gospel becomes my living classroom, and the Lord Himself, my patient teacher.

Formed at the School of the Cross

As a Sister of the Cross of Chavanod, I find the true meaning of formation in the mystery of the Cross. The Cross teaches me that love often blossoms through suffering, that surrender brings peace, and that every challenge can become a channel of grace.

Our Foundress, Mother Claudine Echernier, allowed herself to be shaped by the Cross. Her deep trust in Divine Providence and her simplicity of heart inspire me daily. Like her, I have discovered that the Cross is not merely a symbol to venerate, but a living experience to embrace — especially when community life tests my patience, when mission demands more than I feel I can give, or when silence feels heavy.

It is there, in those very moments, that I am formed most deeply. The Cross refines my motives, purifies my heart, and draws me closer to Christ, who I loved to the end.

Formation in Community Life

Community is both the place and the instrument of my formation. Living with my sisters teaches me to accept differences, to forgive, to share, and to rejoice in the growth of others. At times,

community life becomes the mirror in which I see my limitations; yet it is also the cradle that nurtures my growth in love.

Through dialogue, prayer, and shared mission, I experience how God works through my sisters to shape me. In the joys of fraternal communion, I taste the beauty of Gospel love. In moments of tension, I learn humility, patience, and reconciliation. Each sister, in her uniqueness, becomes a part of God's ongoing work of forming me.



Ongoing Growth in the Spirit

Formation, I have come to understand, never ends. It is an unceasing conversion of heart — a process of allowing the Holy Spirit to renew me from within. The Spirit often speaks in quiet ways: through the cry of the poor, through the wisdom of my community, or through a deep peace that comes in prayer.

In my apostolate, I meet Christ in the people I serve. Their simplicity, faith, and struggles form me too. They help me to see life with new eyes, to live my vows more faithfully, and to grow in compassion. Every encounter becomes a moment of grace, shaping me into a more loving instrument of God.

Formation for Mission

The charism of our Congregation — to reveal God's compassionate love — continually invites me to deepen my formation. My mission is not only to do something for others but to be

someone for them: a presence of hope, peace, and love.

To live this mission authentically, I must be rooted in prayer and formed in the heart of Christ. Lifelong formation keeps me faithful, creative, and responsive to the needs of the times. It helps me to see my ministry not as a duty but as a joyful participation in God's saving work.

A Journey of Grace

Looking back, I see how God has been forming me patiently — through every season of life, through light and darkness, through people and events. Formation is truly a pilgrimage of grace, leading me ever closer to the heart of God.

Each day, I whisper my "yes" anew, trusting that the Divine Potter continues to shape me. I am clay in His hands — fragile yet precious,



imperfect yet chosen.

As a Sister of the Cross, I know that this journey will continue until the day I am fully transformed in His love. Until then, I walk humbly, learning each day to say with St. Paul:

"It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me." (Galatians 2:20)

Whispers of the Dawn, the Soul Symphony of Arunachal

Sr. Polita Narzary SCC, Itanagar



Where morning spills her golden light,
On peaks that gleam in silent might,
A land of mist and mountain dreams,
Where rivers chant and starlight gleams.

The Siang sings through forest deep,
It's voice a lullaby for sleep;
The moonlight drapes the valley's grace,
In silver veils and soft embrace

From Twang's calm, where Monpa kneel,
To Ziro's fields of green and teal,
The Apatani sow with care,
Their harvest hymns float on the air.

The Adi chant by waters wide,
Their legends flowing with the tide;
Nyishi horns in proud display,
Echo tales of bold dismay.

In Mishmi vales and Tangsa flame,
Dance spirits none can ever tame;
Their drums ignite the earth and sky
A fierce rhythm, a battle cry.



The Galo twirl in moonlit grace,
Their laughter lighting every space;
While painted masks and sacred eyes,
Reflect the gods in ancient guise.

Orchids bloom on rugged stone,
Like whispered prayers, softly grown;
And prayer flags on the mountain high,
Carry dreams into the sky.

Each hearth holds stories, old and new—
Of tribal drums and morning dew;
Of chants that rise with dusk and dawn,
Where man and mountain move as one.

O land of dawn, so wild, so free,
You sing of strength and unity;
A thousand voices, one refrain—
Arunachal's soul in sweet domain.

Forever glowing in the East,
A sacred song, a timeless feast,
Whispers rise from ancient stone,
Guiding hearts where dreams are sown



Synodal Community

Sr. Madona Mary Cyril SCC, Aalo

When we pierce through the mountains and valleys from Silapathar to Aalo, we feel the power of silence echoing through the gaps between the peaks. As we journey across towering mountains and deep valleys, accompanied by a cool breeze and dim light, we reach Aalo after four hours. Aalo is a developing town spread across the plains and slopes of the valleys and mountains. It enjoys a unique climate in both summer and winter, and welcomes people from Assam, Bihar, Nepal, and other states as well.

In this multicultural town, people live peacefully, undivided by differences. The greeting “Jai Jesu” exchanged in the church becomes a key that unlocks the treasure of love and joy in one another.

Yomgo and Sippu are two beautiful rivers that keep the town youthful, lively, cool, and fertile. Our Aalo community is located on the banks of the Sippu River. Within the same campus, we have the school building, a temporary church, drivers’ quarters, and the community residence.

Our community life begins in the chapel and is blessed there as we retire each night. Regularity

and faithfulness in prayer enrich and support our ministry.

We carry these blessings to our coworkers, staff, students, and the people we serve. Our community becomes synodal by having Jesus as our leader, center, and protector. Jesus, who is invisible in the Holy Communion, becomes visible through our service to humanity. Our community is Christ-centered and ministry-focused. We draw strength from the divine source each day and spend it in service. Community prayer becomes powerful not through perfect singing or eloquent words, but through mutual support, understanding, and unity.

We live in a synodal community where everyone is given space to express themselves and feel at ease. There is no hierarchy. Like ants, we all work diligently to fulfill the mission of the community. There is no deviation or compartmentalization in our ministry.

Every meal is a celebration of joy, with Jesus as the invisible guest. A positive energy binds us together and radiates outward with care, love,



concern, and serenity. Each food item on the table nourishes us through the acceptance of one another's limitations. Meals are made flavorful not just by the food, but by sharing positive and constructive experiences—and sometimes by allowing comfortable silence to exist.

We maintain an “ego-free zone” within each person's boundaries building a community united in mind and heart. Harmony and joy flourish as we honor and respect each other's presence, ideas, and opinions. By eliminating harmful words, harsh criticism, and judgmental attitudes, we infuse sweetness into our communal life. Gossip is eradicated, making our love for one another sincere and binding.

The superior, who also serves as the principal, leads the school with single-minded dedication. She reaches out to students and staff with devotion, respect, and keen interest. She fills empty spaces and compensates for what is lacking without complaint or criticism. She builds the community with more understanding and less judgment, more care and less fault-finding, more involvement and less commanding, more sacrifice and less withholding—these are the key components that unite our community.

The sister in charge of pastoral work is always ready—eyes and feet prepared—to reach out to those in spiritual need. She never complains of illness or fatigue, but is powerfully energized from within to bring Christ to the people. She

goes to them wherever they are, however they are. She accepts their nature, culture, food, and lifestyle. Content with the minimum, she thirsts to share the maximum. She searches for the faithful in the thick forests, travels all day to interior villages, and spends hours with the people—sharing her experience of God and receiving their love. She returns spiritually and physically renewed.

The sisters who work in the school are united in mind and heart. They share a deep sense of belonging and a strong concern for the welfare of students and staff. Their willingness to serve without counting the cost ensures the smooth functioning of the school.

The student sister in our community makes a unique contribution through her vibrancy, creativity, and generosity. She fills the empty spaces with her sensitivity and family spirit. With great love and interest, she helps others feel comfortable and never embarrassed.

Rules, regulations, ethics, and norms of religious life bear fruit when rooted in love. Love reigns in the hearts and lives of all. Each day, we look forward to recreation with indoor games. Peace prevails when self-control, tolerance, endurance, and patience become our way of life.

We are happy to live in a synodal community, embracing the values of synodality.



25 Years of God's Blessings and Faithful Service

Sr. Siji Michael SCC, Itanagar

The Silver Jubilee celebration of the Holy Cross Convent, Itanagar, was a day filled with joy, faith, and gratitude, marking twenty-five years of mission and service by the Sisters of the Cross of Chavanod, Province of Guwahati. The grand celebration was graced by the presence of Most Rev. Bishop Benny Varghese, Bishop of Itanagar; Rev. Sr. Angela Narzary, Provincial Superior of the Province of Guwahati; Fr. Thomas Lakra and Fr. Boniface, Parish Priest and Assistant,



along with several priests, religious, parishioners, special invitees, and well-wishers.

The program began with a warm welcome address by Sr. Sheeba K Louis, who extended heartfelt greetings to all dignitaries and guests gathered for the occasion. Sr. Veronica D Shira set the tone for the evening by highlighting the significance of the day—a moment to rejoice and give thanks for the faithful journey and mission of the Sisters of the Cross over the past twenty-five years.

The celebration opened with a creative enactment titled “A Journey of Faith and Mission,” symbolizing the growth of the Itanagar mission through the metaphor of a plant. The performance beautifully captured the story of how a small seed of faith, planted twenty-five years ago, took root and flourished into a vibrant community of service, compassion, and devotion to God.

Through moments of reflection, the audience was reminded of the tireless efforts of many who nurtured this mission—from late Bishop Emeritus Robert Kerkatta and Fr. C.C. Jose SDB to the pioneering sisters, Sr. Lissy Zacharias and Sr. Tessy Thomas, and the supportive families and well-wishers who stood by during times of challenge and growth.





A highlight of the day was the unveiling and blessing of the statue of Our Lady of Monticule, a symbol of the congregation's deep devotion and trust in Our Lady of Compassion. Sr. Angela Narzary, Provincial Superior, unveiled the statue, followed by the blessing by His Excellency, Bishop Benny Varghese. The event was marked by prayer, reverence, and the singing of devotional hymns.

The statue represents Mother Claudine Echernier's profound love for the Sorrowful Mother and her desire to place the Mother of Sorrows as the guardian of the congregation. The spiritual significance of this unveiling was reflected upon as a revelation of God's unconditional love and Mary's constant protection over the mission. The celebration continued with the consecration of the congregation, the Diocese of Itanagar, and

all associated with the mission to Our Lady of Monticule. Sr. Dorothy Hajowary led this act of entrustment, invoking Mary's maternal care upon all who carry forward the mission's legacy of faith and service.

As the community gathered in thanksgiving, words of gratitude were expressed to all who contributed to the growth of the mission over the past twenty-five years—Superiors, Sisters, priests, parishioners, students, families, and benefactors. The spirit of the celebration reflected the deep-rooted faith and unity that have sustained the Sisters of the Cross through the years.

The Holy Eucharist, the high point of the celebration, was offered as a thanksgiving sacrifice to God for His abundant blessings. In a touching symbolic gesture, twenty-five Sisters carried lighted candles, representing twenty-five radiant years of faith, service, and unwavering dedication to Christ's mission.

As the celebration concluded, the atmosphere was filled with gratitude, joy, and renewed commitment. The Silver Jubilee of the Holy Cross Convent, Itanagar, stood as a testament to God's faithfulness, the Sisters' perseverance, and the grace that continues to guide their mission of making the Good God known and loved.



Commitment to the Marginalised

Sr. Betsy Devasia SCC, WDC

At the Women Development Centre (WDC), it has become our culture to prioritize inclusive growth and equitable access to opportunities for all—especially for marginalized communities living in urban slums and among tea garden laborers. Recognizing the unique challenges these populations face—such as limited access to formal and informal education, difficulties in completing schoolwork, lack of livelihood opportunities, and inadequate housing, sanitation, and healthcare—WDC has actively implemented targeted interventions to improve their quality of life.

Our commitment to inclusive development is reflected in our Slum Project, which focuses on empowering women, children, and vulnerable individuals at the periphery of society. This initiative has brought joy and transformation through the formation of children's and women's groups, enrollment in education and savings schemes, and awareness campaigns on health, hygiene, and child protection.

One of the most impactful outcomes has



been the sustainable improvement in the education and training of girls and young women in the slum areas of Guwahati and the tea gardens of Mariani.



Key achievements under the slum interventions include:

- **22 Children's Groups** formed, fostering peer learning, leadership, and child participation.
- **22 girls enrolled** under the Sukanya Samridhi Scheme (SSS), ensuring future financial security.
- **64 children re-enrolled** in schools, with a remarkable **97% pass rate** in Secondary and Higher Secondary Board Examinations.
- **6 Child Protection Committees** established across six slums, comprising community leaders, child representatives from the Children's Parliament, and civil society organizations.
- **World Day Against Child Labour** was marked by thought-provoking drawings, showcasing children's deep understanding of the issue.

- **Sports Day at Nehru Stadium** with 166 participants, along with a quiz competition and a flower-making contest for girls and young women, brought life and energy to the community.
- The week concluded with a **cultural programme** under the theme “Listen to the Future”, inspiring the next generation.
- **Child Friendly Spaces** were created for children’s activities.
- A **Common Service Centre (CSC)** was established to provide doorstep access to government entitlements.

In the area of livelihood and income generation, 46 Women’s Groups launched small enterprises, including tailoring, detergent-making, ready-to-eat foods, liquid handwash, pickle-making, and petty shops. Additionally, a six-month Diploma in Computer Application was offered to enhance digital literacy and employability.

Through these initiatives, WDC continues to uphold its mission of empowering the marginalized and building a more just and compassionate society.



The River and the Rocks

The river meets rocks on its way, but it never stops.
It flows over, around, or through them, carving its path.
Obstacles are not walls—they are paths taking shape.
Keep flowing.

Blessings Flow and Never Cease

Sr. Jacinta Vazhappilly SCC, Barkola

People of God, live in harmony;
It's a blessing, truly marvelous!
In Christ, we are one true family
All are equal, all are free.

No more jealousy, friendships rise,
Strong in trust, with peaceful ties
Peace within, love all around,
Joy within, grace abound.

Like oil flowing down from Aaron's beard,
Like dew on Mount Hermon shed
His blessings will never end,
His promise will never bend.

He is the One who keeps me safe
Through the storms, the floods, the waves.
His love unchanging, strong and true,
His blessings flow and never cease.

It is a spiritual poem inspired by Psalm-133



Calm Amidst Chaos

Sr. Julita Mundu SCC, Silapathar

The consecrated life is a distinct vocation—a deeply personal response to God’s invitation to love and serve Him wholly, in both joy and pain. This path of discipleship isn’t without its challenges: suffering, hardship, and moments of loneliness often accompany the calling. Yet, amidst these crosses, there’s a profound inner peace that the world can’t give—a peace born from surrendering completely to God’s will.

I’ve come to realize that happiness and inner peace aren’t about the absence of trials, but the presence of Christ within the struggle. Each day’s little difficulties are invitations to enter deeply into the Paschal Mystery—to die to self and live anew in the light of hope. Every pain, betrayal, or disappointment becomes a sacred space where God silently works His plan.



The Paschal Mystery is a living reality that unfolds daily in our lives. When I embrace daily crosses with faith and love, they cease to be burdens and become bridges to resurrection. I’m reminded of the moments of darkness I’ve faced, where I’ve learned to trust like Mary, our Mother, at the foot of the Cross.

The Paschal Mystery teaches me to reorder my life and place Christ at the center. It helps me understand that beyond every Good Friday lies an Easter morning. It is in this conviction that we find serenity amidst chaos, strength in weakness, and hope in suffering.

As we approach Christmas, I’m reminded that genuine inner peace is found not in avoiding challenges or staying within familiar boundaries, but through active engagement with the world—and often by stepping outside our comfort zones. The baby in the manger is a symbol of hope in darkness, a reflection of gentleness and tenderness in a world that is violent and hateful.

The angel’s message was one of: “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace.” The manger scene encourages us to be people of peace. This Christmas, may it be a time of inner renewal, where Christ is born again within us, bringing peace amidst our trials and hope that never fades.

THE CHAOS



THE CALM



Radiant Hearts in Service

Sr. Sorita Basumatary SCC, Laluk

“Whatever you do, do it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men.” — Colossians 3:23

Greetings and blessings from the Laluk Community!

Padumoni is a small village surrounded by fields and greenery in the Lakhimpur District. Here, we experience the gentle presence of God in the beauty of nature and the simplicity of our people. The chirping of birds at dawn, the laughter of children, and the rhythm of daily life remind us each day of God’s closeness in ordinary moments.

Our Community and Its Mission

Founded by the Trinitarian Community, the



Lord has entrusted our little mission to the loving care of Sr. Marina (Animator), Sr. Gracia Antony (Headmistress of the School), Sr. Kalpana Boro, and me. Though small in number, we share our responsibilities with faith and joy amid ups and downs, striving to make Christ known and loved.

We care for twenty-four little buds in the hostel—active, affectionate, and full of enthusiasm. They come from Assam and Arunachal Pradesh, living together in harmony and learning to appreciate one another’s cultures. Their cheerful smiles and eager hearts bring warmth and energy to our community each day. We nurture them with love, ensuring their physical, emotional, and spiritual growth.

Each child receives nutritious food and spiritual nourishment, for we believe that both body and soul must grow together. On Sundays, we take turns escorting them to Harmutty Parish for Holy Mass. Once a week, we also celebrate Mass in our convent, allowing them to deepen their love for God. Recently, Dr. Binita conducted a meaningful session on hygiene, teaching the children about personal care, good touch and bad touch, and preparing the older girls for adolescence. Through such experiences, our children are learning not just academic lessons but values and habits that will guide them throughout life.

A Mission in Diversity

The people we serve come from rich cultures and varied faiths—Assamese, Bengali, Muslim,



Arunachali, Deori, Mising, and Adivasi communities. While Christians are few, our mission is not confined by religion; it is bound by love.

As St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta said in *A Simple Path* (1995): “Faith in action is love, and love in action is service.”

Every smile shared, every child taught, and every patient cared for becomes a silent expression of God’s boundless compassion.

Our Ministry of Education

In the field of education, we strive to nurture our students with strong moral values, discipline, and creativity. Our school is a budding institution of the Province, slowly growing under God’s providence and the guidance of our dedicated sisters. Though small, it carries a big dream—to form children rooted in faith, integrity, and love.

We encourage our students to believe in themselves, to discover the talents God has placed within them, and to live with courage and integrity. The school organizes various competitions and creative activities to bring out the best in every child. Each morning begins with motivational talks, inspiring stories, and reflections that lift young hearts to God.

Our teachers are dedicated and cooperative, working together for the betterment of each student. We also visit our students’ homes to better understand their backgrounds and build closer relationships with their families. This helps us to guide each child more effectively and accompany them in their learning journey.

Challenges We Face

We do face our share of challenges. The modern world’s rapid digital shift has brought both blessings and burdens. Mobile phones, though useful, often become distractions. Children are

increasingly restless, their attention scattered across screens. We strive to draw them back to simplicity, focus, and faith.

Most parents are not educated; therefore, follow-up at home is often lacking. Some parents also lack proper manners, so instilling moral values in children plays a vital role in our mission. Moreover, poor roads make it difficult for children to reach school, especially during the monsoon season.

The Healing Touch

Alongside our ministry of education, we also carry out the Healing Ministry—a mission of compassion that allows us to touch lives in their most vulnerable moments. Often, our service demands the sacrifice of time, rest, and even meals. Yet, it is precisely in these moments of giving that one discovers the deepest joy.

Sr. Marina Abraham, our Animator, is a living witness to this self-giving love. Tirelessly, she attends to the sick—rich or poor, young or old—with a heart that knows no boundaries. She draws her strength from the Lord, who sustains her in every task she undertakes. Out of deep love for the people, she often sacrifices her own meals to bring comfort and care to others. Her



gentle smile, filled with compassion, becomes a healing medicine that soothes and uplifts weary hearts.

As St. Francis of Assisi reminds us in *The Peace Prayer* (13th Century):

“It is in giving that we receive.”

The smile she shares, the touch she offers, and the prayer she whispers—all become instruments of God’s healing grace.

Finding Joy in Service

Our hearts find deep contentment in the path of service. There is joy in every sacrifice, meaning in every hardship, and peace in every act of love. Trusting and hoping in the Lord, we move

forward with our apostolate, confident that His grace transforms even our smallest efforts into blessings for others.

When we see a child’s face light up with understanding or a patient’s pain eased by a word of comfort, we know Christ is alive in our midst.

As the season of Christmas draws near, may the light of the newborn Saviour fill every heart with peace, joy, and love. And as we welcome the New Year, may His grace renew our faith, strengthen our hope, and deepen our spirit of service.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year, filled with God’s abundant grace and joy!



My Journey of Faith and Healing

Sr. Josephine Basumatary SCC, Provincialate

“My journey of faith and healing began in the quiet moments when I felt most broken. What seemed like an ending slowly unfolded into a gentle awakening – an invitation to surrender, and to rise again. Through every setback I discovered strength I didn’t know I had, grace I didn’t know I deserved. This is the story of how faith held my hand when nothing else could, and how healing found me, one small step at a time.”

In 2017, my life took an unexpected turn when I was diagnosed with kidney disease. What followed was a long journey of treatment, uncertainty, and grace. While pursuing my studies in Bhopal, I began treatment at Bansal Hospital. On returning to my Province, Sr. Annie Varghese, our former Provincial, with her deep concern and commitment, arranged for my treatment at CMC Vellore. When my health deteriorated and travel became difficult, she continued her tireless efforts and helped me find expert care under Dr. Tonmoy Das at Apollo Hospital, Guwahati, where I remained under treatment from 2021 until my kidney transplant in 2024.

As my condition worsened and dialysis was advised, an unsuccessful fistula surgery left me physically and emotionally broken. In that moment of helplessness, my faith became my strength. A simple message beside my bed—“God never shuts one door without opening another”—renewed my hope. The very next day, I received a call that changed everything: my elder sister informed me that she was a

compatible donor and was willing to donate her kidney. Despite her own health challenges, she courageously prepared herself for this noble gift. I witnessed, once again, God’s unfailing faithfulness.

The transplant process began in March 2024 and involved months of tests and preparations. Despite a temporary setback in July due to my sister testing COVID-positive, the transplant



was successfully performed on 23 August 2024. I experienced God’s healing hand through the skilled doctors, nurses, and caregivers who accompanied me throughout this critical phase. After 15 days of hospitalization and three months of strict isolation, I was discharged with renewed life and hope.

As I look back with a heart full of gratitude, I thank God for His healing grace and the precious gift of life. I express my deep appreciation to my sister, Mrs. Martha, my compassionate donor, and her family for their selfless love and sacrifice. I also extend my heartfelt thanks to Sr. Angela Narzary, Sr. Alice Mathew, Sr. Esther Pophi, and all the Sisters who accompanied me with prayer, care, and encouragement during and after the transplant. I gratefully acknowledge Rev. Sr. Elizabeth Miranda, Superior General, the Generalate community and all those who

supported me through their prayers and goodwill. Special thanks are due to Brother Rohit MOP for his generous assistance in arranging blood donors, and to all communities and individuals who stood by me at various stages of my treatment.

My journey was not easy, but God surrounded me with people who became instruments of His love. With a grateful heart, I acknowledge that this new life is a testimony to faith, sacrifice, and God’s unfailing grace.

“Looking back, I see how every tear, prayer, and quiet hope shaped who I am becoming. My journey of faith and healing is imperfect but real—held by courage, grace, and the gentle hands of a God who never let go. Today, I move forward with a renewed heart, trusting that healing is not a destination, but a sacred path, and learning to embrace each step with faith.”

storytime

The Brave Firefly

In a dark forest, a tiny firefly decided it would light up the night despite being much smaller than the other glowing creatures. Night after night, it kept shining its faint light to guide lost travelers and friends. Its small courage made a big difference. Courage isn’t about size—it’s about shining your light no matter how small you feel.

Walking Together in the Light of the Risen Lord

Sr. Motcha Mary, Delegation of Central Africa

Life is truly a pilgrimage—a sacred journey of faith, love, and service. Along the way, I have come to understand that being a pilgrim of Paschal hope is not about walking alone, but walking together—with my sisters in the community, my co-workers, and the people entrusted to my care at the dispensary (CSI).

There were moments in my mission when the



road was heavy. The challenges of administration, the shortage of staff, and the pain of witnessing patients suffer beyond our capacity to help—all of these sometimes left me feeling weary and helpless. Yet, each time, God revealed His presence through others.

Within the community, I found strength in simple moments: shared prayers, laughter around the dining table, and the quiet understanding that we were all carrying the same cross out of love for Christ. My sisters became true companions on the journey—pilgrims of hope. Together, we supported one another through trials, reminding each other that the Lord never abandons His own.

At the dispensary, I discovered that even the smallest acts can be prophetic. Working daily with nurses, mothers, and children, I witnessed hope emerging in the most fragile situations—a sick child recovering, a poor mother smiling with gratitude, a staff member rediscovering faith after years of doubt. Each of these moments whispered to my heart: “The Risen Lord is here.”

There were days when misunderstandings or fatigue led to tension among us. Yet, those very moments became opportunities to practice forgiveness, patience, and humility. I came to realize that being a prophet of Paschal hope means speaking not only with words, but with one’s life—through gestures of compassion, teamwork, and the quiet courage to love again and begin anew.

Today, as I continue my mission, I see every person as part of this pilgrimage of hope. The Resurrection is not a distant event—it is alive in our daily encounters, in our smiles, and in our shared faith. I carry within me the conviction that Christ walks beside us in the ordinary, transforming our fatigue into peace and our service into joy.

As pilgrims and prophets of Paschal hope, we are called to be living witnesses of the Resurrection wherever we are planted. The journey is not always easy, but the light of the Risen Lord guides each step. When we walk together—praying, serving, forgiving, and loving—hope becomes contagious, and new life springs forth around us.

May our hearts remain steadfast, our hands ever open, and our lives radiant with the joy of Easter

morning. For Christ is alive—and because He lives, our journey continues in the light of unending hope.



storytime

The Persistent Ant

An ant tried to carry a crumb many times its size across a bumpy path. Each time it stumbled, it stood up and tried again until finally, it reached its home. It never gave up despite the weight and the falls.

Hard work and persistence move mountains, no matter how small you start.

Bloom where you are planted

Sr. Martha Hembrom SCC, Twithampui

The cross of Christ traces for us a way of growth to receive the fullness of God's gift, enabling us to help all to open themselves to the grace of the passion of Christ, a power always at work in the world. ROL pg. 1.

We as a Community render dynamic service to the people especially in the field of Evangelization that they may receive fullness of life.

The words of St. Francis De Sales, "Bloom where you are planted" is the driving force for our existence in this place. On 13th November 2024, the present community was formed. Sr. Alice Mathew was delegated to install Sr. Annie Varghese as the community animator. We Srs. Annie, Sheela V, Jenifer and Martha make a conscious effort to bloom where God has planted us. As a birth is not our own choice so also the appointments are often not where we would like to be. We accept it as a gift from God to a particular place, people and for a specific period of time. God from all eternity chose us to be at Olive Hill Holy Cross, Twithampui in this part of the History of this Mission. We



thank God for the gift of each one with her high profile potential. St. Paul reminds us "for when I am weak, then I am strong." He prompts us that true strength comes from God, not from human ability. We rely on God's grace and power which is made perfect in our weaknesses.

Dear Sisters, there are many good things that we enjoy at Twithampui. Our campus is named Olive Hill, a beautiful name! In the beginning all of us wondered about the name and looked for Olive trees. We found none! So we bought Indian Olive plants through an online service in view of planting them in our campus. On its arrival to our surprise they were Amla Plants! We planted them with much excitement so that the campus may truly have few Olive Plants.

Twithampui is a small hillock in the District of Khowai, Tripura. It is surrounded by lush green nature and one will truly find the simplicity of life. Anyone who had been to the honking sound, hustles and bustles of life added with the polluted air of the city life would definitely enjoy the calmness and serenity of a rural belt here. The air is very pure and fresh. Away from the hubbub and tumult of life truly experiences the ever pervading presence of God woven into the creation around us. The panoramic beauty of the green mountains all around us is awesome! Our life begins with the beautiful chirping sound of the birds and the radiant sunbeams. As the evening falls we are often confronted by the reptiles, insects and our great friend 'Toke'. We do really live the Spirit of Laudato Si as we enjoy the company of multitudes of moving creatures in the night. Some of us are so attached to them





we as a community carry out our mission in deep commitment bringing faith, hope, light and transformation to the people and the children under our care.

We are blessed to be surrounded by many tribes namely- Jamatia, Debbarma, Reang, Kaipeng,

that we do not disturb them at night. Thanks to Pope Francis whose invitation to become Eco Friendly helps us to live with them.

Unlike most Communities, we are to be content with the Online Holy Mass. It was quite difficult to accept this reality in the beginning. But now we got attuned to it. We don't have to search for ways to live the spirit of poverty and a simple lifestyle. Our community is within the school building depriving the School of its space. While we occupy two class rooms as our living rooms; the chapel, reading room, refectory and kitchen are on the verandah of the school building. These privations in no way deter us in the accomplishment of the Mission. We hope for a Convent in the near future.

In the Old Testament the prophets played a pivotal role as agents of God's intervention towards humanity. Abraham as model of profound trust, righteousness, and commitment to God's will, Moses as the liberator and intermediary between God and the Israelites, Ezekiel offering powerful visions of hope and emphasizing on individual responsibility to God, Jeremiah emphasizing on internal transformation rather than stressing on external religious observances and Isaiah often called as the "evangelistic prophet" who emphasized on God's mercy, peace and the establishment of God's Kingdom and stressing that the plan of salvation was not just for Israel but intended to bring light and blessing to all nations of the world. In this prophetic spirit

Molsom etc. with each having its own customs, traditions and language. But there is a common language known as 'Kok Borok'. We make an effort to learn the language of the people to identify ourselves with them and to win their confidence. We make an effort to converse in their language or in Hindi or in Bengali when we visit their houses.

On the whole people of this locality are very simple and hardworking. They depend on edible shrubs from the forest and jhum cultivation for their daily upkeep. It is edifying to see them happy, content and caring for one another with the little they have. Women occupy themselves with animal rearing and weaving. The tribal population is fortunate to get different schemes and scholarships. The government has improved the highways and subways.

Sisters take turns to go for 'Suhrima Panda'-Rosary, thanksgiving prayers, birthday prayers etc. Prayer meetings are animated by the village leaders and they request the sisters for the gospel messages. Praying with the people deepens our own faith and we get a chance to proclaim the Word of God with conviction. Our Parish is blessed by the presence of Holy Spirit Sisters, Pallotine Sisters and the Sisters of the Cross. Even though we are in the same Parish we are quite far away in distance. Yet we have quarterly Evaluations and planning organized by the Parish Priest. Our Parish Priest Rev.



Fr. Arbok is very active. He plans everything in advance. He includes sisters in the decision making process. Under our Parish there are nearly 38 villages which need real pastoral care. Each village is far from each other. Therefore, even though we have tried, we could not reach out to all places. Sr. Sheela Rani, incharge of the Pastoral Works has managed to reach out to some of the interior villages. She returns with heart-rending stories. The stories of some of the villages are really heart wrenching. While most parts of our country are under the influence of digital technology creating a virtual and interconnected environment for communication, information sharing and commerce, a few of our villages even today suffer because of lack of proper shelter, clothing and nutritious food. We have much to do here!

Another ministry that takes our full time is the Boarding. In the beginning of this academic year we had 57 girls and 55 boys in our boardings. At the end of each day and in the breaking hours of the morning we thank God when all go well. Every day has its surprises and its own problems. With God's grace the boarding boys and girls enjoy their stay with us. They are given a well –rounded formation. Sisters accompany them in their studies and in their faith journey. Irrespective of their religion all of them join for the Rosary, prayers and other activities of the boarding. Parents are cooperative and they do not interfere in the matters of the school or

boarding. The boarders are simple and talented in co-curricular activities.

Olive Hill Holy Cross School has its own story to tell. In the year 1974, Mr. Bijoy kumar Hrangkhawl, a regional political party leader T.U.J.S, in view of imparting English education to the Children in Twithampui established a school named as T.T.L.I.P.E. In 1980 there was a conflict between Bengali and Tribal Populations of Tripura. This violent ethnic clash was primarily due to demographic changes, land alienation of tribals, economic competition, and political tensions. The State Government's plan to establish an Autonomous District Council (ADC) further triggered the General Population (Bengalis) which worsened the situation. The conflict resulted in the death of thousands of people, leaving lasting scars on the social fabric of the state. During this period this school was almost closed. The Local Community preserved and strengthened the school on its own effort since then. In the year 1982, Lt. Rev. Fr. Thomas T, an active missionary, came to Twithampui preaching the Gospel. With this then youth of the region was boosted with new vigour and enthusiasm to educate the Tribal Children and to empower them with skill and knowledge. It helped in keeping the school going. The young men who studied to a certain level served the school at different stages. The Village Community was looking for a Congregation to take up the existing school (Olive Hill Holy



Cross School), in view of improving it in number and quality. On 4th January 2016, Sisters of the Cross, Guwahati Province accepted this mission for the welfare of the Tribal Population.

On 18th January 2017 with the new academic year sisters took over the complete administration of the school and the boarding. At that time the School had just 80 students and the boarding had 41 of them. With the arrival of the sisters and with their dynamic influence on the people the number of students in the school and boarding increased considerably. Each year, although the graph rose upward with the effect of the lock down due to covid situation and because of the opening of the new schools in the region; good number of enrollment in the school is yet to be realized. We four sisters along with the staff, make a conscious effort to build up the school in quality and strength. The vibrant and skillful leaderships have brought about a lot of changes in the campus and in the dynamism of the curriculum. The school has a spacious and beautiful campus. Since the boarding and the school are in the same campus, it bubbles with life throughout the day. Parents and the teachers are supportive which make our ministry smooth going. The School Management took a few initiatives to give a fresh impetus to this long standing school. Initiation of the Musical Band in the school, Grand Parents day Celebration,

Thorough training for the students in Sports and Games, various competitions - literary, cultural, artistic and field training have brought about good impact in the society. Sisters are committed to serve and to bloom in this milieu.

Even though there were many inconveniences, hardships and challenges, sisters faced them

all with resilience like the prophets and moved forward like pilgrims after the example of our valiant Founders Mother Claudine Echernier and Fr. Peter Marie Mermier to follow our Crucified Lord. We too make God known beyond geographical boundaries and the structural places of worship. Irrespective of the religion, Sisters visit the families of students. People welcome our sisters to their homes and request for our prayers.

Despite all the challenges, we live our mission faithfully believing in the mighty power of God, we fall but rise up again and again from our discouragement, failures, broken spirit to carry forward our mission as a pilgrim who moves forward in search of the hidden plan of God at work in and around us. We continue to toil hard for the growth of this mission by employing all our abilities, strength, time and energy to witness Christ and to make Him known and loved.

God's love became flesh and lived among us to share the divine love with us. Let us celebrate God's divine love within and around us. May the Birth of Jesus bring many more blessings in our life!



**Peace and goodwill, Love and great Joy
are our wishes for you dear sisters at this
Christmas and in the New Year 2026!**

Immanuel

Sr. Smitha Thomas SCC, Harmutty

Christmas is given to us to proclaim that God is with us. The angel who announced the birth of Jesus said, "He shall be called Immanuel" (Mt 1:23). Immanuel means 'God is with us'.

God is the one who understands our needs and is near us. He is the one who wipes away our tears and lives near our sorrows and difficulties. His presence will never abandon us even in the worst days of our lives. He is God who is with us, who is love and present in all sorrows and difficulties. The love of Jesus is the love that is with us in all circumstances.

Revelation 21: 3-4 tells us about what God who is with us will do for us:

The dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them, they will be His people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away. Just like a new creation, those who live with God receive new life. All the old things pass

away from their life. They receive a new beginning. Just as the birth of Jesus brought a great change in world history, so too will a great change occur in the life of every person who dwells with Jesus. The presence of Jesus changes the meaning and purpose of life. Therefore, the presence of Jesus is very essential.

In today's world, where hatred, divisions, and increasing wars prevail, the presence of Jesus is a growing necessity. The presence of Jesus, full of love and compassion, is the solution for the confusion and difficulties of today's world.

That is why the message of Jesus's birth is still proclaimed as the great joy for all people in the world (Luke 2:10). It is the message that gives special strength and courage. May we be able to experience the presence of Jesus and receive his blessings in our lives on this Christmas occasion.

May the birth of Christ fill your hearts with Joy and Peace. Happy Christmas to all of you!



storytime

The Ant and the Mountain

An ant sought to move a massive stone blocking its path. Each time the stone shifted slightly, the ant persisted without rest. Slowly but surely, it cleared the path. No challenge is insurmountable with steady, persistent effort.

Rainbow Home of Seven Sisters (RHoSS)

‘A Gender Neutral Home’: A Sanctuary for the LGBTQ+ Community

Sr. Prema Chowallur SCC, RHoSS



Introduction:

On a poignant day in Guwahati, I witnessed the discrimination and social ostracization faced by a transgender individual on a public bus. This deeply moving experience served as a powerful reminder of my initial commitment to religious life and ignited sleepless nights of reflection on the vital importance of this new ministry I was embarking upon.

A Gender Neutral Home:

Rainbow Home is a Gender Neutral Home, one of the first of its kind in India by the Catholic Church. It walks ahead of the division of Binary in the society.

It works for the most marginalized and voiceless sections of the society who live in the backyards of skyscraper buildings which make Smart Cities of our country. The Smart People fail to hear the voiceless cry of the people who weep for recognition and inclusion in the midst of the cacophony of Bullet trains, buses and aeroplanes. Who stops a while to listen to this voiceless cry of those who are ostracized from families and society?

Rainbow Home’s Vision is to empower and integrate the transgender community and survivors of human trafficking into mainstream society, enabling them to lead dignified lives while simultaneously fostering a deep respect for mother Earth.

The Core Belief of Rainbow Home is the inherent resilience, brilliance, and transformative power within the LGBTQ+ community, which can be harnessed to reshape society and restore our connection to Mother Earth’s lost heritage.

Compassion the Cardinal Virtue:

Jesus’ response to the Pharisees and Scribes who questioned why he ate with tax collectors and sinners “Jesus answered them, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick”. Lk:5:31

This house is open for all gender and sexual minority populations. It is they who need our care and attention, acceptance and a space. They look for platforms where there is inclusion and non-violence. If the righteous say, they are people with disorder, disorientation and are sinners, they need our hearts of compassion.

Parents often reject their children’s gender and sexuality, sometimes leading to relationship dissolution. They are ostracised from their families and society. They are harassed at the work place, educational institutions, and health service institutions and in almost all common platforms. Social stigma, discrimination and rejection have made them homeless and shelterless. Using different methods of survival of the fittest they have learnt to be more resilient to survive where they are considered as sinners and outcasts.

What More Does the Rainbow Home of Seven Sisters Offer?

Rainbow Home of Seven sisters not only offers shelter but also gives psychological support. The full time LGBTQ+ friendly psychologist counsels the community members and rescued adult girls to free them from trauma, depression and dysphoria. All they need is a person who understands and accepts them as they are.

It also supports the members with medical care and education to make them self-sufficient for their future life in the society. Some of their families are also helped and supported. The staff visit the families of the community in order to empower the parents to accept their sons and daughters.

It advocates for inclusiveness in families, educational institutions and places of prayer and formation centers.

Rainbow Home has created a 'Rainbow Care' space for everyone to come and spend some time in silence and share their hearts movements in the group. This is a group ready to meet the vulnerability of the members with concern and care, to weep with them, through the night and to stand with them in the trenches, working with love to build a better world. They

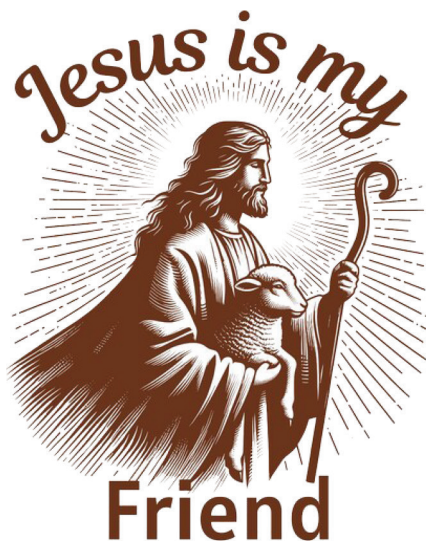
deepen their connectivity. Recognizing the collective loneliness and despair experienced by so many in our culture. Rainbow Care group is committed to CARE for each other. This sacred space is free of shame and stigma.

Conclusion:

This gender-neutral home creates spaces that are inclusive and comfortable. It encourages everyone to explore a world without socially constructed limits on what is considered acceptable behavior.

The sacred mandate of this home is to listen to each other, to embrace each other, to love each other and especially on the hard days. To tell the lonely, the depressed, the oppressed and the rejected that we are here to embrace you. The pride of this sanctuary is that it has the strength of the staff of 60% who belong to the community, working in the organization.

This sanctuary of Rainbow people, embraces and enhances respect for gender expressions, positive mental health, and mental well-being and promotes inclusion and a sense of belonging to a family where one is accepted, loved and embraced.



God Is My Best Friend

Ruchiali Kerketta, 1st Year Pre-Novice

What a wonderful friend!
 Never have I known one like You.
 Many friends come and go,
 But You, O Lord, never leave me alone.
 When I was lonely, You held my hand.
 When I was sad, You filled me with joy.
 When I stumbled, You lifted me up.
 When I felt weak, You gave me strength.
 How great You are!
 Though I have many friends,
 Only one stands above the rest
 You, dear God, my truest and best.

Golden Footprints: A Missionary's Journey of Grace and Service (1976–2025)

Sr. Deepa Mundadan SCC, Mariani

As I sit quietly at the foot of the Holy Cross, I reflect on my journey as a religious and missionary in the northern and northeastern regions of India. My heart overflows with joy and gratitude to God Almighty for the countless marvels He has worked in my life. Like Mother Mary, I sing from the depths of my heart: “The Magnificat—my soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.” In His steadfast love and mercy, He has guided me through these past fifty years, blessing me with good health, unwavering faith, and enduring love. He fulfilled the deepest desire of my childhood—to be a missionary.

During my early years, I was inspired by the Sunday catechism classes where priests and sisters from northern mission stations shared stories of their lives. From then on, I earnestly prayed to God to grant me the grace to serve as a missionary.



After completing teacher training, my elder sister Sr. Rosina met the late Sr. Ann Varicatt during a school teachers' meeting and expressed her desire to join religious life outside our home state. I had just finished my pre-degree exams and shared the same aspiration. Thus, our journey began together. Sr. Ann Varicatt took both of us to Cantonment, Trichy, and by God's grace, we completed our formation together—a rare privilege in our congregation. Mother Marie Cecile, the then Provincial of Trichy, recognized our missionary zeal and granted our request to serve in distant missions.

On January 4, 1976, we made our first profession. After ten days of home holidays, four of us—Srs. Lizy Zacharias, Gracy Mathew, Rosina Mundadan, and I—embarked on our missionary journey to the Diocese of Varanasi in North India.

I was assigned to the Ballia community, while Sr. Rosina was sent to Nautanwa. Our separation was painful, but God had a plan for me in His healing ministry. After completing nursing training, I was sent to Ambagaon in 1980 during the Assam agitation. My first missionary experience was humbling—I spent 48 hours at Rangia railway station without food due to a statewide bandh. All the shops were closed. From there, I began assisting Sr. Concelia in the dispensary, learning from her the art of compassionate nursing and care for the sick.

My memory is rich with golden moments spent in eight communities: Ballia and Nautanwa in



Uttar Pradesh; Ambagaon, Harmutty, Guwahati, Bijni, and Mariani in Assam; and Itanagar and Kaying in Arunachal Pradesh. Half of my life was devoted to serving the poor, sick, and needy through our dispensaries. Many nights were spent conducting home deliveries, one after another. Yet, the Mighty God sustained me—I never felt sick or weary. We also reached out through mobile dispensaries, traveling on foot and by vehicle across the high mountains and deep valleys of Arunachal Pradesh.

Witnessing the simple faith of the illiterate and marginalized people—who waited days for our arrival to hear the Word of God, receive sacraments, and access the medical aid—deepened my own faith. I lifted my heart in prayer, grateful to be chosen as His messenger. Wherever I went, I made it a point to learn the local language. Though challenging at first, the language of love always bridged the gap. As I grew familiar with their geography, customs, cultures, and multilingual communities, my work became more fruitful and joyful.

As the years passed, the Lord entrusted me with responsibilities of animation and administration in several communities. In 1995, I was chosen as the first Delegation Superior of Guwahati. Though the foundation years were difficult, the mighty hand of God was with us. With trust in Divine Providence, and the support of the local bishop and our Provincial from

Calcutta, we grew steadily. I thank the Almighty from the depths of my heart for His powerful interventions and the miracles He performed during our times of scarcity.

Later, the Lord prepared me for a distant mission in Tanzania. For three years, I served in one of our hospitals, caring for the poor and downtrodden from remote villages. I had the privilege of tending to HIV/AIDS patients in their final stages—many rejected by their families. The Lord gave me strength and courage to stand by them, offering words of love, mercy, and compassion. It was often heartbreaking, but deeply grace-filled.

To live the mission is to embrace the mystery of the Cross. The Lord, who called, consecrated, and sent me to continue His mission, has guided me through smooth and rough roads to reach His people. Now, I pause to rest in His presence, to reflect on the marvels He has worked in my life, and to discern what more I can offer Him in the years ahead.

Daily prayer, participation in the Holy Eucharist, and the joyful living of the Paschal Mystery within my communities continue to energize me spiritually. As I stand at the threshold of my 50th year in religious life, I feel deeply content and joyful in God's company. I surrender myself into His hands, singing His praises for as long as I live.



A conversation between St. Paul and St. Peter: Living the Paschal Mystery in the age of Technology

Sr. Jennifer Soundararajan SCC, Twithampui



Setting:

A quiet evening in heaven. The stars glisten like candles in a cathedral dome. St. Peter and St. Paul sit by the crystal river, watching the world below where screens flicker brighter than lamps and the hum of technology fills human hearts with both wonder and worry.

St. Peter: Brother Paul, look down there! The world has changed beyond what we could have imagined. Messages travel faster than our missionary journey ever did! The young religious now carry the Gospel not only in their hearts but also in their hands- through screens, phones, and digital platforms.

St. Paul: Indeed, Peter. Technology can become a new Areopagus- a place where ideas meet. Yet, I wonder, do they use it as a tool for proclaiming Christ, or has it become an idol that distracts them from His voice?

St. Peter: That is the question. The glow of the screen often outshines the glow of the candle in the chapel. Many are connected to the world but disconnected to the word. Still, I see in them great zeal- a desire to serve, to communicate love and truth.

St. Paul: Yes, zeal is their strength. But as I wrote once, “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind.” (Romans 12:2) Technology must not shape their soul; rather, their soul must sanctify its use. To live the Paschal Mystery today means dying to the lure of vanity and rising to a life of witness,

even in the digital world.

St. Peter: Beautifully said, brother! When I denied Jesus, I was swayed by fear and public opinion- perhaps similar to the “likes” and “followers” the youth chase today. But after encountering the Risen Lord, I learned that faith grows not through popularity but through personal encounter and conversion.

St. Paul: Exactly. The Paschal Mystery is not a distant memory- it is a daily reality. Every “Good Friday” moment of misunderstanding, rejection, or loneliness can lead to an “Easter morning” of new hope if embraced in faith. Even in the fast- moving world of artificial intelligence and digital ministry, Christ calls them to be authentic witnesses- humble, joyful and compassionate.

St. Peter: So, what shall we say to the young religious who navigate these times?

St. Paul: Tell them. Use technology, but do not be used by it. Let every post, message, and image carry the fragrance of Christ. Let your hearts remain rooted in prayer, your minds renewed by the Word, and your lives a living Gospel.

St. Peter: And remind them, dear Paul, that the Paschal journey leads always to joy- the joy of Christmas! For the Child born in Bethlehem is the same Lord who died and rose for us. As they prepare for His coming, May they carry his light into every digital corner and every human heart.

St. Paul: Yes Peter. May the Emmanuel – God with us – be born anew in their communities, screens, and souls.

Together they pray:

“Lord Jesus, teach your young disciples to find you in the silence behind the noise, to serve you in the world that changes every day, and to proclaim you with courage in every medium of life. May their lives reflect your Paschal love and Christmas peace.”

Christmas Blessings:

May this Christmas renew in every young religious the courage to live the Paschal Mystery amidst the challenges of modern life- to die to selfishness, rise in love, and shine as a beacon of hope in this technological world.



storytime

The Determined Seed

A tiny seed buried in rocky soil struggled to sprout. Days turned into weeks, and seasons changed, but the seed kept sending roots down and leaves up. Eventually, it blossomed into a beautiful flower where no one expected it to survive. Even in the toughest conditions, determination brings growth and success.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Today's Digital World

Sr. Polita Narzary SCC, Itanagar



In today's fast-paced world, especially for the Z Generation, technology isn't just part of life—it is life. At the centre of this digital revolution stands one of the most extraordinary creations of our time: Artificial Intelligence (AI). What was once the stuff of science fiction is now a reality, shaping nearly everything we do—how we connect, learn, work, and even think. AI is a shining example of human creativity and innovation, but it also reminds us of something deeper: the need for wisdom, humility, and a life guided by faith and values.

Artificial Intelligence is the ability of machines to think, learn, and make decisions in ways that resemble human intelligence. Today, AI powers voice assistants that speak to us, self-driving cars that navigate our roads, medical tools that detect diseases, and chat bots that respond to millions of questions every day. Companies like Google, Microsoft, and Open AI have integrated AI deeply into education, healthcare, business, and entertainment, transforming the way we live, work, and interact with the world. AI can analyze vast amounts of data, predict outcomes, and solve problems with incredible speed. In many ways, it reflects the power of human creativity—a gift from God that we are called to use responsibly for the good of others.

Yet, amidst these marvels, we must pause and reflect: Are we using this gift in alignment with God's will? AI is powerful, but intelligence alone is not enough. Machines can process information, but they cannot understand love,

mercy, compassion, or forgiveness—qualities that flow from our spiritual life and connection with God. Human intelligence becomes most meaningful when guided by faith, morality, and a heart open to divine wisdom.

The benefits of AI are immense. It increases efficiency, accuracy, and productivity across countless fields. In medicine, AI helps to detect and treat diseases earlier, giving doctors tools to save lives. In education, it tailors lessons to each student's needs, helping children learn in ways that suit their unique abilities. Businesses use AI to improve communication and logistics, while environmental scientists employ it to predict natural disasters, manage resources, and protect the Earth—God's creation entrusted to our care. When guided by spiritual values and ethical principles, AI can become a powerful ally in fulfilling God's call to serve others, protect creation, and work for the flourishing of all life.

Yet, with great power comes great responsibility. AI also brings challenges that test our conscience. Automation can affect jobs and economies.



The use of personal data raises questions about privacy and trust. Bias in AI can perpetuate injustice, and technology can be misused to spread misinformation. These challenges remind us that no matter how advanced our tools become, they must always be guided by Godly wisdom, prayer, and moral discernment.

In a fast-moving digital world, prayer and reflection are our anchors. They help us seek God's guidance in using our talents and technologies for the greater good. While AI can help us think faster, prayer and faith help us act with compassion, integrity, and purpose. Combining innovation with spiritual wisdom ensures that our creations serve humanity and honour God.

Looking ahead, AI will continue to shape our future. But the challenge for young believers is not just to keep up with technology—it is to lead it with faith, integrity, and courage. Churches, educators, scientists, and families share a sacred responsibility to nurture a generation that is not only technologically skilled but also morally and spiritually grounded. Technology should remain our servant, not our master. Our goal is not to create machines that replace humans, but to use innovation to uplift human life and glorify God.

Artificial Intelligence is more than just a technological achievement—it is a reflection of our creativity and the gifts God has given us. By combining intelligence with faith, innovation with humility, and progress with prayer, we can ensure that our creations illuminate the world for generations to come.

- ❖ “AI is a tool; let God be our guide.”
- ❖ “Innovate with intelligence, act with integrity.”
- ❖ “Let your creations shine with love and purpose.”
- ❖ “Faith and wisdom make technology a blessing, not a burden.”
- ❖ “Lead with prayer, create with care, serve with heart.”
- ❖ “Technology can assist, but God guides the soul.”
- ❖ “Combine innovation with humility, and progress with prayer.”

As Jesus said, “Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven” (Matthew 5:16). May our creations—including AI—shine as lights that reflect not only human brilliance but also divine love. When guided by God's wisdom, technology can become more than a tool—it can become a testimony of faith. If we use AI with prayerful discernment, integrity, and compassion, we can build a world filled with knowledge, justice, peace, and love—a world that mirrors God's kingdom.

We the community of Itanagar wish you a very joyous happy Christmas & prosperous new year 2026!



A glimpse at the Pre-Novitiate

Sr. Esther Phopei SCC, Pre-Novitiate

“Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” — 2 Peter 3:18

Pre-Novitiate formation is a sacred journey of discovery, transformation, and commitment. It is a time to deepen one’s relationship with God and to embrace the spirit and mission of the Congregation. This formation is not merely intellectual—it nurtures the whole person: spiritually, emotionally, psychologically, socially, and physically. It is a process of becoming—shaped by God’s grace and guided by the community toward maturity in faith and love.

Through a holistic approach, Pre-Novices grow in every dimension of life. Spiritually, they encounter God daily through prayer, the Eucharist, adoration, and reflection on Scripture. Intellectually, they explore the Church, the Congregation, and religious life, gaining insight into their call to service and community. Emotionally and personally, they are supported through personality development, counseling, and human formation, fostering self-awareness

and emotional resilience.

Community life offers further growth through co-curricular and extracurricular activities. Group games, cultural events, and shared responsibilities instill values of teamwork, love, forgiveness, and creativity. These experiences teach patience, acceptance, and the joy of unity in a shared mission.

Participation in art, music, and cultural programs nurtures self-confidence and reveals God-given talents. These expressions not only enrich personal growth but also prepare Pre-Novices to serve others with empathy and openness.

Ultimately, the Pre-Novitiate is a daily “yes” to God’s call. Through prayer, reflection, and community living, each day becomes a step in discerning His will. It is a journey of grace—a time to grow in love, understand one’s vocation, and prepare joyfully for the mission of serving God and humanity.



Whispers of Hearts

Journey with Christ

Anjuchemi M. Sangma, Pre-Novice, Second Year

Each morning, the birds sing joyfully, filling my heart with peace. In the same way, reflecting on my journey with Christ brings meaning and direction to my life. Though the path is not always easy—marked by sorrow and misunderstanding—it is also rich with growth: intellectually, spiritually, and emotionally.

Even when I stumble, I choose not to mourn the past but to rejoice in the experience. I continue to seek Christ, finding purpose in His love. God's love flows like a river—endless and unwavering—not like a flower that fades, but like a stream that nourishes forever. He gave His Body and Blood so we may live in that love.

The Ship of Life in the Sea

Shilpa Stella Basykey, Pre-Novice, First Year

Dear God,

I marvel at Your wondrous deeds in my life. Thank You for making my days shine brightly, like a diamond.

Almighty Father, Your heart is like the vast sea, and I am but a small ship, tethered by many difficulties and burdens along the shore. Yet, I know I was not created to remain there. One day, a handsome young man appeared—the Captain of the ship—Jesus, the Captain of the sea. He led me through the deep waters of my life. Along the way, He revealed the living creatures of the sea, teaching me how to relate with others through them.

He guided me over the waves of hardship and taught me not to fear. He whispered, “I love you even beyond the breadth of the sea.” At last, He brought me to the shore of His presence, where I embraced His love, mercy, and forgiveness. His gentle touch upon my weaknesses gives me the

strength to carry on.

To You, O Lord, I lift my heart: help me navigate my struggles, emotions, and inner storms. You are with me in every disturbance of my soul. You are my pillar of love, the foundation upon which I stand. You are my joy in sorrow, my comfort in tears. Above all, dear God, You are my Abba.

My life has found meaning in simply being who I am. Life has discovered its rhythm in the dance of faith. Though the steps are many and varied, You are always there to guide me. I experience Your unconditional love through my sisters in the Provincialate—their care, encouragement, and guidance fill my heart with happiness.

With deep love and unwavering trust in You, Lord, I continue my journey in religious life with joy, as a Pre-Novice of the Sisters of the Cross of Chavanod.

I love You, Lord, always. Keep me in Your pure and everlasting love.

The Beauty of Nature

Nikita Daimari, 1st Year Pre-Novice

Beautiful nature, a gift from above,
 Fills our hearts with joy and love.
 God gave it to inspire our dreams,
 Where birds soar high in sunlit beams.
 Trees stand tall, their leaves so green,
 Waters sparkle, pure and clean.
 Like kind hearts that gently give,
 Spreading love so all may live.

Flowers bloom—red, pink, yellow, white
 Dancing softly in the morning light.
 Through daily toil, life finds its way,
 Blossoming brighter every day.
 A butterfly flits with carefree grace,
 Like a stream to a river, it finds its place.
 So too does life, in gentle flow,
 Toward a home where peace will grow.
 Let us cherish this Earth, our shared space,
 And protect its beauty with every embrace

Happiness and Joy

Grikchi Momin, 2nd Year Pre-Novice

Happiness and joy—gifts from God—
 We rejoice in the life He has given,
 Loving Him always,
 And striving to help others do the same.

Be cheerful, for among all we desire,
 Our expressions speak the loudest.
 True happiness lies in thinking of others,
 Not just ourselves.

Find someone to make happy today,
 And in doing so,
 You will discover a peace that lasts.
 Happiness that words can't describe.



My Mother

Victoria Gorh, 1st Year Pre-Novice

When I was in my mother's womb,
I caused her pain.
She carried me for nine long months,
Enduring every kick and strain.

She gave me life—
I was born into this world.
She fed me, nurtured me,
And watched me grow.

She became my first teacher,
Guiding me with gentle words.
How can I ever repay her
For all she has done?

There are many teachers in life,
Each born of a mother's womb,
Guiding us through lessons
Of life and of Mother Earth.
Now, the earth too is my mother—
She nourishes me with fruits and
grains,
With vegetables and all I need
To grow and thrive each day.

And where do these blessings come
from?
From God, the Creator,
Who is present in all things,
Providing for me through His creation.

So I say: God is my mother too—
Dwelling in the heart of my own
mother,
Loving, nurturing, and ever-present.
Thank you, Mother.



The Lovely Nature

Susita Kharia, 2nd Year Pre-Novice

Beautiful, beautiful, beautiful—
Oh, what a lovely sight!
When I gaze upon nature's wonders,
My heart takes flight like a butterfly.

When the cool breeze brushes my skin,
I feel as though I'm soaring in the sky.
When trees sway in harmony,
I long to dance beside them.

When birds sing in joyful chorus,
I'm inspired to learn anew.
When flowers bloom in radiant hues,
A smile blossoms on my face.

And when I see a butterfly
Gliding through the garden air,
I can't help but pause and admire.
How beautiful is the creation!

Dear friends, let us never destroy nature
Let us cherish and protect it,
Be nourished and nurtured
For it is a precious gift from God.

Personal Growth

Longsola Easter, 2nd Year Pre-Novice

Sometimes, the hardest thing in life is simply to decide. There are many paths to change, but the best choices are those that come from the heart.

When I begin to doubt myself, I think of a beautiful plant rooted in rich soil. Though it faces storms and challenges, it stands firm, drawing strength from within. It accepts what comes and grows with courage.

In the same way, I must accept what life brings. Like the plant, I must trust the process. Time flows like water. Days pass, friends may come and go, and moments fade. But through it all, personal growth remains in my hands.

So I must not waste time. I must examine my spirit. I must have faith. I must know who I am, what I am, and what I am doing. My life should not be planted on shifting ground, but in good soil—firm and deep—so I may stand strong like a pillar.

That is what true personal growth means.

A Life Like a Guitar

Monica Timungpi, 2nd Year Pre-Novice

“To be an instrument to others is to embrace the challenge of life—for life is a race.”

Hello everyone, I'm Monica Timungpi, a second-year Pre-Novice. I would like to describe life as being like a guitar—an instrument that produces both sweet and sometimes discordant sounds, much like our own experiences.

A guitar, with its six strings, creates vibrations that form music. Each note and key represents a part of our character. The way we play and care for the guitar determines the sound it produces. In the same way, our lives reflect how we nurture our values and actions.

Life gives us everything we need. When we play the right chords—when we live with kindness, love, and joy—we bring smiles to others and attract them with our positivity. Just as a guitar draws people in with its melody, our lives can inspire through our thoughts and actions.

However, there are times when life feels out of tune. Perhaps the way we live disturbs others, just as a guitar played carelessly can produce unpleasant sounds. But this doesn't mean we are lost.

Our lives, like a well-played guitar, can become instruments that draw others closer to God. Though the journey is hard, it is never hopeless. Be an artist to others. Live fully, without clinging to what is unnecessary. Life always offers a second chance.

Thank you.

My Experience in the SCC Congregation

Doli Dabbarma, 1st Year Pre-Novice

Our provincialate garden is a place of beauty, filled with a variety of flowers that bloom each year with fresh, vibrant leaves. Their colors, grace, and quiet attentiveness bring joy to the soul. I feel blessed to witness this beauty—a reminder from God of the many gifts He has placed in our lives. I pray that I may be worthy of the trust He has given me, growing with life and energy under the loving care of our divine Gardener.

As I begin my journey in religious formation, I thank God deeply for my parents. Though they are Hindu, they had the faith and openness to send me to this beautiful Congregation. Life, to me, is a symphony composed by God—woven with love, grace, and providence. Every moment, every breath, and every encounter is a note in the melody of His blessings.

I strive to see each person as a blessing from God. Gratitude, I've learned, is not just about saying “thank you,” but about recognizing His goodness—even in the midst of challenges. This awareness fills my heart with peace and purpose as I continue my path in the SCC Congregation.

Nature's Glows

Cheana Mery M. Sangma, 2nd Year Prenovice

Rising in the morning,
I gaze through my window
And behold nature's gentle glow.
A drop of dew rests on a petal,

While mountains and valleys
Speak in silent beauty.
One day, I paused to wonder:
How does nature speak?

The birds chirp, the leaves sway,
Even the tiniest particle in the air
Echoes and vibrates through the world.
Perhaps that is how nature is formed.

And if I were a small particle,
I need not be anything grand
Just shine like a star
At twilight's edge.

If I were a shadow of nature,
I would still belong
Radiating peace,
Whispering life beyond words.
Who can truly comprehend
The quiet brilliance of nature's glow?

Whispers of Hearts

My Journey to the Holy Cross Sisters

Bomsi Gadi – Candidate

My path to joining the Holy Cross Sisters began with a simple yet life-changing encounter at church. I was noticed and approached by a Sister after I did not receive Holy Communion. When she asked why, I replied sincerely that I had never been baptized. That moment sparked a deeper connection. Seeing my openness and genuine spirit, the Sister not only initiated the process of baptism but also posed a momentous question: “Are you interested in joining the Congregation of the Sisters of the Cross?” Feeling a strong pull towards this way of life, I immediately said yes.

This affirmative answer led me to Changsari, the home of the community. Before arriving, I imagined that the Sisters lived a high-standard, perhaps even luxurious life. However, upon my arrival, I was struck by the reality—the Sisters lived a surprisingly simple lifestyle. This simplicity, far from being disappointing, was accompanied by immense warmth. I found them to be incredibly good, loving, caring, and understanding.

I feel very happy here, enjoying ample opportunities to learn new things—from new songs to the life of Jesus, and even reading and learning new phrases from the Bible. Humbly, I admit that sometimes doubts arise about continuing on this path. Yet, despite these occasional moments of hesitation, I remain joyful and continue to discern and grow within the loving embrace of the Holy Cross Sisters community.



A Heart Aflame in Assam: Call to the Holy Cross

Sabet Horo – Candidate

For me, every encounter with the Sisters is a moment of deep happiness, a sentiment that speaks volumes about the peace and inspiration I find in their presence. “I feel happy when I see the Sisters.” This happiness is rooted not just in their kindness, but in a profound spiritual awakening—the joy of loving Jesus and knowing Him more and more. The Sisters are instrumental in this journey, gently guiding me to understand Christ more intimately and to draw closer to His presence.



The Spark of Vocation

A recent event served as a powerful catalyst for me. I had the privilege of witnessing the Final Commitment ceremony of two Sisters, a moment when they fully consecrated their lives to God through perpetual vows. “I felt so happy when I saw two Sisters making their final commitment to God. At that moment, a deep desire emerged within me, and I thought, ‘When will I become a Sister?’”

This experience was more than just witnessing a ceremony; it was a profound moment of grace. A long-held attraction to religious life solidified into a fervent desire. I felt the Holy Spirit stirring within me, using the faithfulness of others to illuminate the path for my own future.

The Journey of Faith: My Vocation Story



Betiya S. Marak – Candidate

My journey to religious life is a beautiful testament to God’s gentle yet persistent call and the courage to respond. My story begins not in a grand cathedral, but in a very simple setting.

The desire to become a Sister was already planted in my heart, though the path was unclear. The moment of revelation arrived unexpectedly when Sisters from a congregation visited my home while I was busy preparing curry in the kitchen. I happily welcomed them and offered greetings. When they asked me about joining, I was taken aback and did not know how to respond. I returned to the kitchen, carrying some confusion in my mind.

I then overheard my parents’ conversation with the Sisters: “We are ready to send her.” Hearing those words sparked an immediate, powerful feeling within me—a clear pull to join. With sudden courage, I stepped forward and declared, “Yes, I shall join.” Everyone rejoiced at my decision.

I began my journey with that congregation, spending two months in the formation house. However, a detour awaited me. During a holiday break, I felt a strong conviction that this was not the path meant for me. Yet, the desire to follow Jesus remained unshakable. Guided by faith and supported by my parents, I went to my parish, where I met the Holy Cross Sisters. Sharing my deep longing with them, I found the welcoming door I had been seeking. This led me to Changsari, the place where my true vocation began to blossom.

A Deepening of Faith

At Changsari, I am learning not just the theory of faith in classes, but also through the very lives of the Sisters around me. My understanding goes beyond reciting prayers and knowing commandments—it is about deeply loving God’s creation, my companions, and my neighbors.

I acknowledge the continuous, challenging work of faith—the move from mere intellectual knowledge to true repentance—to become a committed, renewed person who loves God more closely. I strive to embrace sincerity in my daily work and the willingness to face life’s challenges and carry the daily crosses.

Above all, I draw immense inspiration from the life of our foundress, Mother Claudine Echernier. She inspires me to live a life fully dedicated to loving God and never turning away from Him.

Joyful Discovery at Changsari

Tumika N. Marak – Candidate

My heart is full of joy and gratitude for the experiences I have with the Sisters of the Cross at Changsari. Since joining the community, my days have been rich with opportunities for growth—in faith, knowledge, and practical skills.



Growing in Faith and Knowledge: I am learning the rhythm of prayers and immersing myself in the Word of God. A significant part of my formation is discovering the inspiring life and spirit of our foundress, Mother Claudine Echernier. Beyond the spiritual, I am also expanding my horizons by learning practical skills such as cooking, improving my English, and engaging in songs and other co-curricular activities.

Vocation: An Ever-Burning Desire: My desire to become a Sister has been deeply affirmed by the experiences I have witnessed. Seeing two Sisters make their Final Commitment ignited a powerful fire within me, strengthening my resolve to follow the same path.

The recent orientation program, held from October 14th to 29th, with five junior Sisters and their junior mistress, Sr. Madona Victor, was another source of happiness. My companions and I enjoyed recreation together, learning new rhymes, action songs, and dances—moments that highlight the joyful, communal spirit of the congregation.

Finally, a powerful source of daily inspiration comes from watching the stories of saints every Sunday. These stories inspire me to dedicate my life to Christ and to become a Sister.

“If anyone is magically going to appear and just suddenly make your life better, just know that person is always going to be you.”

Brianna Pastor

A Heart Full of Joy

Sibika Chandiguria – Candidate



My time at Changsari has been a period of joyful growth and discovery.

Learning and Growing: I am embracing many new skills that enrich my life and vocation. I am learning to pray in English and actively working to improve my reading and writing abilities. At the same time, I am deepening my faith by studying the Word of God.

Inspired by Our Sisters: A significant part of my happiness comes from the environment of love and care provided by the Sisters at Changsari and in the province. I feel immense joy and gratitude when the Sisters bring or send fruits, sweets, and other necessities.

During the Golden Jubilee Celebration of our Sisters and the Final Profession of two Sisters at the provinciate, I was deeply touched by the large gathering of Sisters. Witnessing their dedicated lives filled me with inspiration and a strong desire to become a Sister myself.

Finding Joy in My Call

Bero Tigga – Candidate



My journey to the Holy Cross Sisters began unexpectedly, but today I feel deep contentment and happiness.

I am thrilled to have gained many friends and to be warmly welcomed by the Sisters. This sense of belonging is strengthened by the spirit of mutual support: “we help each other among us.” This value makes me feel truly happy and settled.

Growing in Faith and Commitment: I am seizing every opportunity to learn and grow. I diligently study the Word of God—the foundation of my faith—while also learning hymns and action songs. This blend of spiritual education and joyful expression makes my formation vibrant and fulfilling.

A significant moment for me was visiting the provinciate. Seeing the large gathering of committed Sisters filled my heart with immense happiness and ignited a powerful vocational desire. Witnessing their collective dedication made me ask, “When will I become a Sister like them?” This strong aspiration is a clear sign that my sudden arrival has led me to the right place.

Embracing the Path

Enalin Marak – Candidate

My goal in life is simple yet profound: to become a good Sister. I find deep happiness in the community, shared with my companions and the Sisters.

Spiritual Growth and Learning: At Changsari, I am dedicating myself to a rich program of formation that touches every aspect of my life. It helps me build a strong spiritual foundation by learning to pray, sing praises to God, and practice meditation. Alongside this, I focus on intellectual and moral growth by reading the Word of God, improving my English, and absorbing the values of life. The study of the life of Mother Claudine Echernier provides me with a tangible example for my journey—to love Jesus more ardently and to carry daily crosses with love and patience. I now see life’s challenges not as burdens, but as opportunities to be embraced with joy for the salvation of the world. This perspective transforms daily struggles into acts of profound love and sacrifice, reflecting the true spirit of the Sisters of the Cross.



Finding Home and Heart

Suntali S. Marak – Candidate

My initial days at Changsari were marked by homesickness, a natural feeling when leaving family behind. However, as the days passed, I grew comfortable with my new friends and the Sisters.

Care and Comfort in Community: The warmth and care provided by the Sisters of the Cross have been central to my adjustment. The Sisters are “good and concerned about us and take care of us.” This nurturing environment has allowed me to focus on personal and spiritual growth.

A Rich Learning Experience: I am embracing a wide array of skills and values—learning that is both practical and foundational:

- **Language and Communication:** I am learning English and training myself “to read well, loud and clear,” building crucial communication skills.
- **Life Skills:** My formation includes cooking, cleaning, and learning how to save and manage resources wisely.
- **Personal and Spiritual Growth:** Deepening my character and faith by learning to pray and practicing values such as kindness and respect.
- **Joyful Expression:** Songs, dance, art, and games ensure a balanced and happy formation period.

My journey shows how a supportive community can transform feelings of loss into belonging, paving the way for profound personal and vocational development.



Stepping Forward: Journey from Tripura to Changsari



Mina Molson – Candidate

My journey from Tripura to Changsari beautifully captures the mix of joy and challenge. I was “so happy” to arrive and join the Sisters of the Cross.

Overcoming Homesickness: Starting this new way of life brought moments of sadness, as I naturally missed my parents and family. Fortunately, I found great support from the Sisters and companions. Their kindness and active help turned the community into a comforting, supportive family.

Growth in Faith and Knowledge: I am diligently using this time for growth. My formation focuses on both practical skills and spiritual deepening—learning to read English well, immersing myself in prayers, reading the Word of God, and drawing inspiration from the lives of saints through books and films.

I deeply feel that the path of my vocation involves sacrifices and challenges, but the unwavering support of the Sisters makes the journey beautiful and fruitful.

The Persistent Whisper

Saulina S. Marak – Candidate

My arrival at Changsari was marked by mixed feelings of happiness and sadness, a bittersweet transition into a new way of life. Yet, the Sisters made me feel at home, secure in their loving presence, guidance, and prayers.

A Profound Moment of Grace and Commitment: The most pivotal moment occurred during the Golden Jubilee celebration and the Final Profession of two Sisters. Meeting many Fathers and Sisters, including my own parish priest and Sisters who offered encouragement, reinforced the breadth of support for my vocation.

When the Litany of the Saints was sung and the Sisters making their commitment lay prostrate—a gesture of total surrender to God—I felt something deeply spiritual and transformative happening within me. This strengthened my call to religious life.

Through these powerful experiences, the Sisters at Changsari provide opportunities to “learn more about Jesus.” My heart has been touched by the grace of God, a guiding force in my vocation.



A Tale of Growth

Adeng Yaying, President, Holy Cross Associates, Kaying



“I have come so that they may have life, and have it to the full.” – John 10:10

Recalling the life we lived in the past, I am deeply grateful for the guidance that I and my fellow lay members have received from our sisters. From the time we came into contact with the sisters here in Kaying, our lives have been enriched and transformed.

We began to share our sufferings with the sisters through counseling and attentive listening. They taught us to be strong enough to face the daily challenges of life, standing with us in moments of pain and lifting us through their valuable prayers. They helped us realize how strong we truly are, and they strengthened those who were weak in faith.

The sisters have been our guides. As we learned more about our Mother Foundress, Claudine Echernier, she became our source of inspiration in living virtues. Her love for Jesus, her love for neighbour, and her dedication to the mission have

deeply inspired us. With this inspiration, we have learned to imitate Jesus and to offer prayers for souls in need of salvation.

We have nurtured this spirit through regular gatherings on the 20th of every month. This day has been set aside so that we never miss the learnings shared during these gatherings. These meetings have kept us united, given us time to pray together, listen to one another’s difficulties, and plan for the coming month. Truly, these gatherings have had a profound impact on our lives.

The sisters have been instrumental in encouraging us to live a life of holiness. We have learned to say ejaculatory prayers and daily rosaries with our families. Our understanding of life has deepened, and our faith in Jesus has grown stronger than before. We are filled with zeal to work for the Church whenever needed, even supporting the sisters in their moments of difficulty over the past four years.

We have also come to know more about the Holy Cross of Christ. Just as Mother Claudine considered the Cross her book and her glory, we too have embraced it. The Cross has become for us a source of love and hope for the hopeless, and a promise of future glory. By receiving and living the little crosses of life, we inherit eternal life.

We have become resilient and are joyfully learning more about our faith as Holy Cross Associates. At present, we are only 14 in number, but we hope to welcome more members so that together we may bring more souls to Jesus.



A Small Clipping

Jayibone Pinggam and Anung Garu , Holy Cross Girls Hostel, Kaying, Arunachal Prades



We had earlier stayed in Kaying Valley Hostel, but it is our first time living with the sisters (Sisters of the Cross of Chavanod) in the Holy Cross Girls' Hostel. On the very first day, it was difficult for us to manage the schedule. We realised that we were different from each other—we belonged to different religions, languages, and traditions.

After about a month, we began talking to each other, becoming friendly and close. We started sharing our thoughts and feelings. As time passed, we discovered many new things by living in the hostel.

Firstly, we learned to manage our belongings—our clothes, washing them, drying them, and taking them back from the drying sheds. We had to be quick enough to stay with the group. At times, we felt like soldiers under training. Occasionally, we

were reprimanded by our warden sister, and as a group, we had to listen to the elders. Their words touched our hearts.

Secondly, discipline became the most important lesson for us. It is essential for every student to achieve academic and personal goals by maintaining proper behavior everywhere. We learned to work hard in our studies, and during free time, we engaged in manual work, which kept us healthy, strong, and wise.

One of the most important lessons we learned was the value of food. At home, we were used to eating anything at any time, often becoming chubby, lazy, and careless. In the hostel, however, we were allowed to eat only at specific times and only what was provided. Nothing extra. This discipline made us healthier and stronger, ready to challenge others





in sports, games, and co-curricular activities both in the hostel and at school.

Our school teachers began to look up to us for activities. We learned how to stay clean, how to sing, and how to take part in prayers and lead the Mass hymns. We also deepened our understanding of our faith, its customs, and traditions.

We became honest and truthful, learning to be persons of value and personality—standing for truth and justice. We had always heard that school is a temple of learning, but we realized that a hostel is also a temple of learning. Staying in the hostel gave us opportunities we would not have had otherwise.

We also had time to teach our juniors—our younger sisters—the things we had learned when we were small like them. We became changed persons, and our parents noticed this transformation. They began appreciating the Sisters because of the

positive changes in our behavior.

Now, when we go home during holidays, we behave more maturely. We have learned to appreciate corrections and accept the guidance of our Sisters here in Holy Cross Girls Hostel, Kaying. They are a source of inspiration. If others were asked to write about hostel life, they too would not deny the values they have learned here.

Living in the hostel has made us fine persons—compassionate and affectionate towards ourselves and others. We began to heed the needs of others and care for the next person. The Sisters have taught us to be loving, kind, and generous in whatever we do. They have also taught us to be leaders, confident in doing things with courage.

During this Christmas, we would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas.

May it be a bright and peaceful year ahead.

Lives I Touch and the Minds I Shape

Ms. Lucy Yabu, Teacher, St. Mary's School, Aalo



Teaching is not just a profession—it is a vocation, a calling that shapes lives as much as it influences the world around us. My experience at St. Mary's School has been nothing short of a transformative journey both for my students and for myself. Reflecting on my years here, I realize that this institution has molded me into the educator I am today, all while creating a warm, nurturing environment that fosters growth, knowledge, and personal development.

When I first walked into St. Mary's School, I was filled with a mixture of excitement and nervous anticipation. As a new teacher, I wondered if I would be able to meet the expectations of the administration and the students. However, I soon realized that this school was a community—a place where each student's individuality was valued, and where relationships formed the cornerstone of the teaching and learning process.

From day one, I was welcomed with open arms by the St. Mary's family. There was a sense of love and oneness that made me feel comfortable, despite

the initial challenges of adjusting to a new environment. St. Mary's School is unique in that it fosters an atmosphere of collaboration and integration rather than competition. Here, the well-being of the students is always the highest priority.

What truly makes St. Mary's School special are its students—the very heart of the St. Mary's family. Each day, I am surrounded by curious minds that inspire me to be my best. The students come from diverse backgrounds, each bringing their own perspectives, experiences, and dreams. One of the greatest joys of teaching here is the opportunity to witness the growth of each student, both academically and personally.

Over the years, I have come to realize the importance of creating a student-centered classroom. I learned that each student has their own unique learning style, and my role as an educator is to find ways to meet those needs. The administration and



principals have always encouraged innovative teaching methods, allowing me to grow as a teacher. Our principal has been my strength and pillar; with her support and encouragement, I have been able to accomplish my work with confidence.

One of the most valuable lessons I have learned is the power of encouragement. Every student is “gifted” and has the potential to succeed, but it often takes a little motivation to help them realize their abilities. By creating an environment where mistakes are seen as opportunities to learn, I have watched my students develop greater self-confidence and resilience. This approach has not only improved their academic performance but has also helped them grow into more compassionate and empathetic individuals.

Teaching has taught me that education goes far beyond textbooks and grades—it is about building lasting relationships. I have also learned how essential it is to maintain open communication with families.

As I reflect on my time at St. Mary’s School, I am filled with gratitude for the experiences, lessons, and memories that have shaped my career. I have learned to handle challenging situations in constructive ways, slowly fostering patience within myself.

In the end, it is not just about the subjects we teach or the grades our students receive. It is about the lives we touch, the minds we shape, and the positive impact we leave on the world.

A Heart for Service: My Growth at Changsari

Silina Surin – Tetenbari Parish, Assam



My time at Changsari has been marked by a vital realization: gaining a deeper knowledge of Jesus. I have a “great desire to love Jesus and to serve His people.” This is the beautiful, driving force of my vocation.

The support I receive from the Sisters is essential to my happiness; they are “so good to us and ready to help.” Equally important is the companionship among us. While moments of sadness naturally occur, my companions quickly “cheer me up,” reinforcing the strong sense of family and mutual care in the community.

Holistic Learning for Vocation: I am embracing a broad range of skills and values:

- Learning to live happily with companions while accepting individual differences.
- Building a spiritual foundation through prayer and reading the Word of God.
- Understanding core values and practicing good manners in daily life.

My journey is a beautiful combination of deep spiritual longing and practical, communal growth, paving the way for a life dedicated to Christ and His people.

At the end, we the Candidates of Changsari Community wish all our beloved Sisters:

“A grace-filled Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2026.”

Built On Unbreakable Trust

Lijen Sora (VIII), St. Mary's School, Aalo

The story of St. Mary's School, Aalo, began in 2007. Founded and run by the Congregation of the Sisters of the Cross of Chavanod under the guidance of the Bishop of Itanagar, the school has built a strong foundation centered on its motto: "Knowledge for Service." This inspires students to use what they learn to serve society meaningfully.

St. Mary's creates a nurturing environment where teachers not only impart knowledge but also mentor students whose minds need healing and guidance. The Sisters play a vital role in preparing students to become the torchbearers of the future. They teach moral values through value education, helping students shape strong character and fostering an atmosphere filled with knowledge, learning, love, and unity.

Each school day begins with inspiring rituals. The morning assembly features prayers, hymns, and the school anthem that awaken the mind. Thought-provoking quotes and morning speeches introduce fresh perspectives, while fun activities like random questions and cheerful rhymes fill the assembly with joy. Though standing under the morning sun may be tiring, students quickly appreciate the chance to soak in vitamin D and enjoy the lively start to their day. The principal's motivating words inspire everyone to face the day with enthusiasm.

Throughout the year, St. Mary's celebrates various festivals every month. These occasions are filled with excitement and provide students opportunities to practice and showcase their talents under the careful guidance of dedicated teachers. Each event is not just a celebration but also a learning

experience where students embrace knowledge, joy, and the spirit of sharing.

The school offers a wide variety of co-curricular activities, including sports, literature, quizzes, and singing competitions. These activities help students discover their talents and interests. By participating actively in these events, students explore their potential and begin shaping their futures.

Over its 19-year journey, St. Mary's has been led by many inspiring figures such as Sr. Priya Antony, Sr. Siji Michael, and Sr. Roselin Topno. Currently, Sr. Catherine Timungpi guides the school. The St. Mary's family stands united through trust, love, fidelity, and togetherness—values nurtured by dedicated teachers, devoted Sisters, and bright students.

Being part of St. Mary's is both a privilege and a rare opportunity. Here, students gain knowledge and values that empower them to spread goodness and integrity wherever they go.



A Second Home of Values and Dreams



Lijen Sora (VIII), St. Mary's School, Aalo

My school is a metaphor for the world
Because it is full of unpredictability.
It has everything a person needs,
My school experience
Will remain in my memory forever.

I never knew who Magdalena was,
But I have sung her name a thousand times.
Once, Five little ducks went out to play,
But we never knew where they vanished.

Like a sunflower chasing the sunlight,
We seek the light of knowledge.
We embrace the values of charity, honesty, and
fidelity,
Which comes from value education.

All that we are taught is
That we can create miracles through knowledge,
To give mankind hope for tomorrow,
And embrace all as one family.

We whispered prayers in the morning,
We whispered prayers at noon and in the evening,
To keep our hearts in tune,
For God hears the little heart's prayer.

Schooling is a golden period, we say,
Even though some feel trapped,
Until they realize that school is heaven
Concealed by rules and challenges.

My school is my second home,
With family love in every place.
I have countless companions there,
Whom I will forever cherish.

With love, unity, and joy,
I grew in peace and harmony.
I have spent ten years
In the embrace of St. Mary's Aalo.



Guiding Lights that Brightened our Lives



Liza Deka & Risha Das (IX), Holy Cross High School, Barkola

Risha: Liza, isn't it beautiful how our voices grew up together in the same corridors? We started as classmates, but somewhere between the morning assemblies, last-minute assignments, and those quiet conversations no one else noticed, we became co-authors of the same journey.

Liza: Absolutely, Risha. Holy Cross didn't just give us an education—it gave us a family. Do you remember how your connection with the school began even before you were admitted?

Risha: Oh yes! In 2010, when the school first opened, my parents admitted my brother here. I was just a newborn then. My mother often told me how she carried me to the school, and the Sisters received me so lovingly. Four years later, when I finally got my own admission, I gave my first test to Sr Priya Antony, our principal. Since everyone already knew me, I wasn't scared—but I did feel a little nervous because Sister Priya was strict, though very caring too.

Liza: That's such a sweet beginning. My first day was different—I walked in holding my parents' hands, staring at the garden full of flowers and the huge playground. But inside the classroom, the cries of little children made me cry too!

Risha: (smiling) Oh, I can imagine that scene.

Liza: And then Sr Fatima Peter came to me, smiled, and said, "Don't cry, your mother has only gone for a while. Until she returns, I will be your mother." That line stayed with me forever. She wasn't just a teacher—she was family. Even though she was later transferred, her love still lives in our hearts.

Risha: Yes, the Sisters have always been more than teachers. Sr Priya Antony, for example—she was strict but never frightening. Her discipline was like gentle guidance, and her motherly side made us feel at home. When she was transferred, it felt like losing a part of our childhood.

Liza: And then came Sr Alice Mathew. She was so calm and kind, always smiling. Instead of being strict, she guided us with love. She corrected us patiently and reminded us of our potential. Honestly, she felt more like a friend than just a principal.

Risha: I'll never forget Sr. Sarita Kujur either. She was like the doctor of our school, always helping us when we felt weak or sick, and like a friend who understood us. Her transfer left a big gap, but her care will always remain with us.

Liza: After her, we met Sr. Rinisha Marak and Sr Usula Kujur. At first, we were curious about them, but soon we realized how supportive they are. They guide us patiently during school programs and never let us struggle alone.

Risha: And then Sr. Phillis John joined when we were in class 5. She's so sweet and friendly, yet ensures discipline. Her gentle nature makes her very special to us.

Liza: We can't forget Sr. Jacinta Vazhappilly, our manager. She's kind, loving, and always teaching us values. Her warmth feels like a mother's presence.

Risha: Finally, Sr. Flora Celine. She entered our lives in class 7 as our principal and English

teacher. She has been our mentor and friend ever since—removing our fear of speaking on stage, motivating us, and guiding us through challenges. She truly became the solution to our problems and a light in our journey.

Liza: Truly, each Sister has touched our lives in a unique way.

Risha: Yes, we owe them so much. Thank you, dear Sisters, for educating us, guiding us, and shaping our future.

Liza: We feel proud and blessed to be part of the Holy Cross family. These memories and lessons will stay with us forever.

My Life in the Crossian Family

Tanusri Dutta Nandi, Asst. Teacher, Holy Cross School, Laluk



As I look back on my journey as a pioneer teacher of Holy Cross School, Laluk, I am filled with pride and gratitude to God Almighty for His unique blessing. Officially our school began its tough journey on May 2, 2022 with a modest strength of 40 young learners from class Pre-Nursery to Class. I, with limited resources but unlimited determination, now have grown into a vibrant and nurturing school up to Class V. This progress is a testament to the hard work of our dedicated sisters, staff and the trust of our parents and the enthusiasm of our children.

At Holy Cross School, we believe in providing

a strong foundation academically, morally and socially .Our aim is to help every child to grow with self confidence, discipline and compassion. As we continue to expand we remain committed to maintaining high standards of education and a safe, supportive environment for all learners.

I express my heartfelt gratitude to our Holy Cross sisters who ventured in opening a missionary school in this locality and everyone who has supported us throughout this remarkable journey. Together, let us continue to guide our children towards a brighter future.



BOARDING



BOARDING



FORMEES



LAY ASSOCIATES





CONGRATULATIONS

Golden Jubilee



50 Years

Sr. Deepa Mundadan



Silver Jubilee

25 Years

Sr. Angela Narzary , Sr. Samoni Basumatary

PILGRIMS OF HOPE

