Inauguration of St. Michael’s Nursing Hostel

A new hostel block for the Krishiya Seva Niketan nursing training school, christened as “St. Michael’s Nursing Hostel” was formally inaugurated on March 14, 2016, by the Rt. Revd. Dr. Probab Kanto Dutta. Present at the ceremony were three of our friends from the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas, USA. Principal Nursing officer, Sanghita Gorai, the hospital staff; the nursing staff and the trainees also attended the inauguration service.

The foundation stone for the St. Michael’s Nursing Hostel was laid on Dec. 10, 2014 by our Bishop, in the presence of our friends from Charleston, USA among others. The Diocese of Durgapur, St. Michael’s Church, Charleston, USA and the KSN Nursing Training School supported in the construction of the building.

Earlier, KSN had 75 trainees. With the expansion of the hostel, an additional 25 students can now study nursing as resident trainees. As per government regulations, the maximum number of students at the centre should not exceed 100.

KSN offers General Nursing and Midwifery training. It is the only school of its kind in Sarenga that offers tribal girls the opportunity to study nursing. The students who have graduated from the KSN Nursing Training facility have often been lauded for their humane approach, irrespective of having less exposure to high-tech modern gadgets and state-of-the-art medical facilities.

Optometrist Ashami Kar while Sanjay will be entering data into the clinic’s database. Both Anita and Sanjay joined the Durgapur Centre at its inception in 2006. The promising duo are indeed the rising stars and pride of the centre. They have excelled in martial art form Taekwondo as well as in playing the violin and guitar. Anita, moreover, is a dancer trained in Bharatnatyam. Anita intends to be a nurse and the DWFCS has plans to enroll her in the KSN Nursing School for her training.

Sanjay, who received his Baptism and Confirmation from The Rt. Revd. Dr. Probab Kanto Dutta, looks forward to taking up the mantle of priesthood. The Diocese and the DWFCS supports him all the way in this decision and will enroll him in a Theology school.

Trishik Ganguly

Confirmation at Cathedral

Confirmation is a monumental milestone in the life any baptised Christian. On 27th March, 2016, Manju Tudu and Anne Sanjukta Laikuram Lippert were Confirmed by The Rt. Revd. Dr. Probal Kanto Dutta.

This serene service was conducted at the St. Michael’s & All Angel’s Cathedral on Easter Sunday, lending to the ceremony an extra-special aura. Assisting the Bishop was Revd. Samuel Halder, Presbyter-in-Charge of the Cathedral. All congregational members, friends and family members of the candidates witnessed the grand service.

Both Manju and Anne Sanjukta had received their Baptism at the hands of the Bishop on 20th of December, 2015. Moreover, it is with great joy that we would like to mention Manju, who is a student at Durgapur Child Study & Development Centre (DCSDC), had accepted the Lord as her Saviour, of her own free will.

Sanjay, who received his Baptism and Confirmation from The Rt. Revd. Dr. Probab Kanto Dutta, looks forward to taking up the mantle of priesthood. The Diocese and the DWFCS supports him all the way in this decision and will enroll him in a Theology school.

Ankita Bhattacherjee

Ordinations

This Easter Sunday, 27th March, 2016, witnessed another grand affair in the St. Michael’s & All Angel’s Cathedral, Durgapur. Revd. Deacon Sandipan Sinha was ordained as a priest. Shyamal Mahara, Rajamani Murmu and Bipin Hansda were ordained as Deacons.

Rvd. Sandipan Sinha was ordained as a Deacon in 20th September, 2015 after completing his study of Theology in April, 2015. He is now the Presbyter-in-charge of St. Paul’s Church, Bumpur.

Shyamal Mahara was a former evangelist for the Diocese. He has been stationed in Malda, at St. John’s Church, Baldahura. Revd. Deacon Mahara is now actively involved in the ministry of the Baldahura Child Development Centre and St. Michael’s Safe Home.

It is indeed a matter of great joy for the Diocese to have more people come forward and work in the ministry. When Bishop Dutta had taken over the initially turbulent Diocese of Durgapur, he had started with only twelve priests. Today the number of priests has expanded to twenty-four – all of them theologically trained from reputed seminaries. Furthermore, three candidates, including a woman, are studying Theology at present.

Samuel Halder

Baby Steps towards Success

The child development centres of DWFCS, Diocese of Durgapur, have produced phenomenal success stories. One look at the most recent triumphs and there will be no room for doubt about the talent-pool that these underprivileged kids from the local slums and distant villages are.

Anita Karmakar and Sajay Hansda are prime examples. Recently, having taken the 12th Std. exams, these two were on a three-month long break when they were inducted into the Good Shepherd Eye Clinic. Anita is to assist Herzlich Gladstone, and Sajay to assist Om Prakash in their respective fields.

Sandipan Sinha

Vol.: One Hundred and Ten • March - April 2016 • Monthly newsletter of the Diocese of Durgapur • Donation: Rs. 5/-
As much as most-people are scared by the term ‘feminism’, it most-definitely does not refer to a notion of female supremacy. In its most basic form, feminism is a cry for equality, for freedom from female-oppression. It is the urge to be recognised as man’s better half, or rather his equal half, and not his inferior half.

While it is a major demand worldwide, the Church has only recently come around to this notion. However, CNI hasn’t been very about embracing this idea and giving it the shape of reality in its own way. As a proud member of CNI, it makes me really glad to see that women are given similar chances as men. Our women get to serve the Eucharist, and we don’t have to take up the veils to dedicate ourselves to god. We can compete with men in the Theological arena as their equivalent, as priests!

In his essay, ‘Why Men Oppress Women: The psychology of male domination’, Steve Taylor, who is a psychology lecturer at Leeds Metropolitan University, UK, talks about man’s need for power, which fuelled by testosterone has traditionally led him to enforce distortions of class, cast, colour and more on his fellow human beings; which has led him to conquer cities and states and countries since times immemorial.

It is this need for power that has also led to the oppression of women, who have always been looked upon as the weaker sex. The hunter-gatherer mentality has given way to the rape-culture in our society.

It is this debasement of women that needs to stop. The church, especially The Diocese of Durgapur, has been very instrumental in promoting this notion of female equality. The Diocesan Women’s Fellowship for Christian Services (DFWCS) is a prime example of this. Led by our bishop’s ‘better half’ Mrs. Rita Dutta, it has been a major force in turning around the lives of several marginalised children and women. The greatest manifestation of the Diocese’s efforts in creating a better world where everyone is equal is seen in the Anti-human trafficking project.

The power of women who come together to serve other women and men alike, is the manifestation of the goodness and the generosity of mother earth herself. It is to this end that the oppression of women needs to stop and a fellowship forged where women are not revered or mistreated, but looked upon as man’s equal.

Ankita Bhattacherjee

Editorial

A Champion of Feminism

On a Mission Trip to the States last year in July, The Rt. Revd. Dr. Probal Kanto Dutta, visited San Antonio, Texas and established a relationship between the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas and the Diocese of Durgapur. As a further step in this partnership, a team of three namely Fr. David Chalk, Kaitlin Reed and Mrs. Valerie Kirk visited the Diocese of Durgapur recently from the 6th to the 16th of March, 2016.

This trip was designed for the representatives of the Diocese of West Texas to get a better understanding of both the ministerial and social development life and work of the Diocese of Durgapur. As part of their mission trip the team started their visit with paying their respects at the tomb of Mother Teresa at the Missionaries of Charity in Kolkata. Following which the team visited the historically rich Bishop’s College in the ‘City of Joy’.

After this their visit was laced in form of witnessing special cultural shows and visiting diocesan project areas in Durgapur, Purulia, Malda and Sarangpur.

At Purulia the team saw the activities at the Community Study Centre Purulia, visited the St. Mary’s Sewing centre at the Uffmanpur village and the rapidly developing St. Peter’s School Purulia. At Malda the team’s visit to the St. Michael’s Safe Home and Baldhura Child Development Centre was a great time of learning and experience sharing for all. In the forest region of Sarangpur, the team visited the Khristiya Seva Niketan (KSN) Hospital, the Church at Kuchlaghati village and the KSN Nursing Training School. The team also participated in the inauguration function of the newly constructed Hostel block for KSN Nursing School.

On the 9th of March the team conducted a retreat for Diocesan clergy and institutional heads on the theme of ‘integrating the seen and the unseen’. A total of 32 individuals participated in the retreat. Fr. David Chalk shared the Word of God, during the Sunday morning sung eucharist service of the St. Michael’s & All Angel’s Cathedral at the Diocesan Bhavan campus in Durgapur.

We are really thankful to God for this newfound friendship between the Diocese of Durgapur and the Diocese of West Texas. May God be instrumental through the lives of the people of these two dioceses in reaching out to the less fortunate sections of our society and in building the Kingdom of Lord here on earth.

Trishikh Dasgupta

A Step in Partnership

Expansion of St. Martin’s Hostel, Purulia

Located in the village of Uffmanpur, Purulia, the St. Martin’s Hostel is a beacon of hope for the surrounding marginalised community. The hostel, constructed in October 2011, served to provide boarding and lodging to the children who otherwise have a bleaker future.

The centre presently caters to 64 children, out of which 20 are residents of the hostel. In December 2015, the plans to expand the hostel were put into motion and construction of the building was started.

The children at the Uffmanpur centre specialise in handicrafts and dance. Moreover, the local community is very supportive of the Diocese’s efforts to aid in the development of these children and are very excited about this expansion which will allow more kids to board at the hostel. Over here we also recognise the constant prayer and support of The St. Martin of Tours Episcopal Church, the Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan and other overseas friends, who have made this possible.

Ishwar Majhi Makes DCSDC Proud

Former resident of the Durgapur Child Study and Development Centre (DCSDC), Ishwar Majhi, has made the centre proud by securing himself a job as an assistant technician at leading car-manufacturing company Nissan. Ishwar has also joined DCSDC as a Taekwondo trainer.

Ishwar Majhi had specialised
in martial art form Taekwondo while he was a student at the DCSDC and has won several prizes at district and state level.

An accomplished artist and a dynamic participant in all the activities organised by the centre, Ishwar Majhi is a pride and cherished member of the DCSDC. He completed high school and joined Nissan. DCSDC is very glad to have one of its own return to the fold as a teacher. It is indeed a matter of immense pride for the Diocese and DCSDC in particular.

Retreat for Clergy & Institutional Heads

As part of the newly forged alliance between the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas and The Diocese of Durgapur, three representative from the former Diocese – Fr. David Chalk, Kaitlin Reed and Mrs. Valerie Kirk – visited Durgapur from the 6th to the 16th of March, 2016.

A one-day retreat was organised for the clergy and the institutional heads of the Diocese of Durgapur on March 9, 2016, to cement the bonds between the two dioceses. The retreat was centred on the theme of integrating the seen and the unseen. The sessions during the event included prayers, Bible study, personal witness, "the reveal: who we are" and group-sharing.

The retreat was helpful in providing the 32 attendees with an opportunity to retrospect and to ponder about the seen and unseen factors in their daily lives and to relate it to their jobs through a new perspective. The retreat also provided an opportunity for the West Texas Team to meet and to share their experiences with the clergy and the institutional heads of the Diocese of Durgapur. They, in turn, learned about the possible ways for a fruitful partnership in the future.

At the end of the retreat, a crucial session was organised to talk about the next steps that should be taken in order to further strengthen our bond. Exchange trips for cross-cultural learning and various other possibilities for children ministries, health programmes, educational endeavours, community development projects, micro-financing & Self-Help Groups, building of Churches, music ministry, addiction counseling and scholarship plans were discussed about and suggested during this session.

New VP of St. Peter's School

The succession plan of the Diocese of Durgapur, under the visionary leadership of our highly capable leader, The Rt. Revd. Dr. Prabul Kant Dutta aims to train and install people of merit into the right profile, to carry forward the work of the Diocese. With this vision, on April 12, 2016, Mr. Louis Lippert was appointed as the new Vice-Principal for St. Peter's School, Durgapur.

Mr. Lippert was the former Teacher-in-charge and was later promoted to the position of the Headmaster at St. Michael's School, Raniganj. A member of St. Michael's and All Angels Cathedral, Durgapur, Mr. Lippert has a wife and three daughters. The Diocese wishes Mr. Louis Lippert all the best in his future endeavours and invokes God's blessings on him and his family as he takes such a major step in his career and life.

A Sight of Success

On 26th of February, 2016, a group of highly trained eye-specialists from the Good Shepherd Eye Clinic and Hospital (GSECH), led by renowned eye surgeon, Dr. Phalguni Mitra, visited Kalinagar in Durgapur to set up a medical camp. GSECH's resident ophthalmist, Mrs. Ashtami Kar and trainee Anita Karmakar who is a student at the Durgapur Child Study and Development Centre – assisted Dr. Mitra.

Around 100 patients were screened and 17 selected for cataract surgery at the GSECH, scheduled for March, 2016. All the 17
operated patients have completely recovered their eyesight and have gone back to their regular lives.

The Good Shepherd Eye Clinic has been a blessing to the community in and around the Diocese of Durgapur. This Government-approved facility has been stacked with a state-of-the-art operation theatre, a ward with 20 beds, two private rooms, a consultation segment, an administrative block and a highly advanced mobile medical van.

Hundreds of residents from the surrounding slums and far-off villages have received their eyesight back through the outpatient consultations, mobile medical camps, eye surgeries, distribution of medicine and eyewear conducted by the Good Shepherd Eye Clinic & Hospital. **Anita Karmakar**

**Finance Officer** – consisted of distributing bed sheets and pillowcases to the children at the DCSDC residential hostel. The officials from the HP Durgapur Regional Office were very glad to work together with the DCSDC kids and with the DWFCS. They were also very excited to find an institution like the DCSDC, which caters to the needs of underprivileged children from the slums of Durgapur. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. expressed an interest in partnering with us again in the future for their CSR act. **Sangita Lippert**

**Stewardship Programme**

Carried by the congregation were blessed and then borne in a procession to the cathedral, after which mass we celebrated mass.

On March 24, we celebrated Maundy Thursday with the washing of the feet by Revd. Samuel Halder. The altar was also stripped and covered in a black cloth in preparation for Good Friday. Good Friday was a solemn affair. A two-hour service was held, starting at 10 a.m. The seven words of Christ from the cross were read by our Bishop, The Rt. Revd. Dr. Probal Kanto Dutta, Revd. Samuel Halder, Mr. Louis Lippert and Mr. Trishikh Dasgupta.

On 26th, we observed Easter vigil and held a service at 6 p.m. in expectant rising of our savior. 27th March was Easter, which was celbrated with the usual fanfare. A graveyard service was held at 6 a.m. at Sagarbhanga Cemetery, followed by mass at 8.30 a.m. Making this day extra-special was the confirmation of two young members of the cathedral during the morning service and the ordination of priests and deacons in the evening.

We wish all our readers a Happy Easter and invoke God's blessings on everyone throughout the year. **Anamika Dasgupta**

**HP CSR unites with DWFCS**

Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd., Durgapur, on 31st March, joined hands with Diocesan Women's Fellowship for Christian Service's (DWFCS) to aid in the mission for development. As part of their CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) endeavour, officers from HP visited the hostel campus to extend their help towards the kids in the Durgapur Child Study and Development Centre (DCSDC).

The effort, led by Mr. Niranjan Sengupta - the Chief Regional Manager – and Mr. Kamlesh Kumar – the Finance Officer – consisted of distributing bed sheets and pillowcases to the children at the DCSDC residential hostel. The officials from the HP Durgapur Regional Office were very glad to work together with the DCSDC kids and with the DWFCS. They were also very excited to find an institution like the DCSDC, which caters to the needs of underprivileged children from the slums of Durgapur. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. expressed an interest in partnering with us again in the future for their CSR act. **Sangita Lippert**

**Holy week at the Cathedral**

The most sacred time of the year for any Christian, Holy week is a period when we remember and commemorate the Passion and Resurrection of Christ our Saviour. Holy week at St. Michael's & All Angel's Cathedral was celebrated with great piety and reverence this year.

Palm Sunday, which fell on 20 March, marked our entry into the Holy Week. A procession of palms marked this day. Palms leaves and branches, carried by the congregation were blessed and then borne in a procession to the cathedral, after which mass we celebrated mass.

As part of this ongoing campaign, a Stewardship Programme was held from the 8th to the 10th of April, 2016. The secretaries and treasurers from all the pastorates of the Diocese of Durgapur came together to participate in this event. Revd. Saras Mondal, who led the event, spoke in a lively manner about the Word of God. He spoke about the importance of God in our lives and how it is only God's word that can open the doors of our hearts.

The administrator for the Diocese, Mr. Subrata Gorai, spoke about the expenditures of the Diocese in his speech. He explained about the efforts undertaken by the Diocese for the expansion of the Kingdom of God.

Rt. Revd. Dr. Probal Kanto Dutta, our Bishop, spoke about the Diocese's journey from its inception to its present success. Revd. Mondal, in conclusion lauded the Diocese's transformation and ended the session by invoking God's blessings on everyone present. **Sumanta Naru**

**ICSE Affiliation for All Saint's Church School**

All Saint's Church School, Kharagpur, was recently affiliated to the board for Indian Certificate of Secondary Education (ICSE), New Delhi. In the recent past the school was about to be shut down due to huge amounts of debt. However under the visionary leadership of our beloved Bishop, The Rt. Revd. Dr. Probal Kanto Dutta, Mrs. Susmita Bhownick was appointed as the lady principal of the school. She was instrumental in regularising the lease with Indian Railways, which helped in clearing the debts and in allowing the school to remain operational. Today we are happy to report the ever-growing success of this school, which has become a bastion of education for the people of Kharagpur. **Ankita Bhattacherjee**

**Expansion of Mission Primary School Bankura**

Mission Primary School Bankura recently witnessed the construction of a new building on 30th March, 2016. The new wing of the school was inaugurated by The Rt. Revd. Dr. Probal Kanto Dutta, Bishop, Diocese of Durgapur and Chairman of the school. It was his vision that came to fruition on this day; his vision to see the children of the area have access to the best of education, starting from Kindergarten to attending college.

This newly built extension houses the school library, a computer laboratory and classrooms equipped with smart-boards. The inauguration programme was attended by Revd. Debojit Das, Associate Presbyter, Bankura pastorate, the students of the school and their parents. Mr. Kamakhya Biswas, Secretary of the school, gave an inspiring speech during the event. The school currently has
Sewing to Success

March, 2016.

A branch of the St. Mary's Sewing Centre, Durgapur, the centre at Simonpur was started on November 15, 2014. The aim was to help local girls and women in the Uftinapur area by providing them with vocational training. Once these girls complete their 6-month training, they are certified to get jobs in the open market or to start their own micro-business ventures.

Ankit Bhattacharjee

The Fight Against Human Trade

The Anti Human Trafficking (AHT) Programme, under Diocese of Durgapur, humbly accepts this would love wonderful opportunity to greet the readers of “Deep – The opportunity to greet the of the Almighty on you and invoke the blessings of the Almighty Lord and pray. The Anti Human Trafficking Programme of Diocese of Durgapur is serving the Almighty Lord and the least among us and we hope to continue doing so with God’s blessings and with all your support and prayer.

Anita Karmakar

Recipe: Garlic Cheese Toast

Ingredients (240 ml cup used):
- 6 slices of bread (any bread)
- 2 to 3 tsps soft butter
- 1.5 to 2 tsp garlic minced or finely chopped
- ¼ to 1 cup grated cheese (I used mozzarella)
- Salt (optional)
- Oregano as needed
- Red chili flakes or coarse crushed pepper as needed

Instructions
- Make garlic butter by whisking together

With all your support and prayer, The Anti Human Trafficking Programme of Diocese of Durgapur, Purulia, appeared for their Diploma Examination in Sewing and Design. The 6-month course is offered by highly acclaimed sewing institution, Usha International School.

There were 15 students in the first batch who appeared for the examinations. This is the second batch of five students who appeared for their examination in March 1, 2016, five students from our St. Mary's Sewing Centre at Simonpur, Purulia, appeared for their Diploma Examination in Sewing and Design. The 6-month course is offered by highly acclaimed sewing institution, Usha International School.

Because of hard labour throughout the past years and campaigning in schools, villages, ashrams, madrassas and through other methods/techniques of awareness building this has been possible.

On 19th Mmarch 2016, the first ever school-awareness campaign through eEssay writing on human trafficking was conducted at MSK Balas School in of Dhanok GP, Kalijagyan Block. The essay writing competition was initiated after noticing the success of pamphlet and leaflet distribution in the past. This was done to analyse the learnings and the perception of the local students about human trafficking. There is a strong reason behind creating awareness through essay writing on human trafficking. This has proved to be successful in the past through verbal interactions with the students and distribution of pamphlets/leaflets.

This was mainly to analyse what these students had learnt and what were their cries about human trafficking. Secondly, moreover, through this activity we plan on prompting and motivating people to think, discuss and enquire more about human trafficking, and thereby increasing their knowledge. We were quite amazed happy to see that these students had learnt a lot during these past three projects the three years of the project years. Now we are happy that they can and can now keep themselves safe from traffickers.

Till 31st March, the school-awareness campaign through essay writing has been conducted in four schools. The essay-writing competition had been conducted in four schools as on 31st March, 2016 - On 18th mMarch at MSK Balas Ravindra Bidyapith, on 22nd Mmarch at Baghon Kalitala Bidyapith (Higher Secondary).S of Kalijagyan block, on 22nd 22nd march March at Purumgan S.C. High School (H.S), Kalijagyan block and on 28th March at Dudhunda Aloe Tirtha Vidyapith (H.S), Hemtabad block - covering 402 students.

With all your support and prayer, The Anti Human Trafficking Programme of Diocese of Durgapur served the Almighty Lord and the least among us and we hope to continue doing so with God’s blessings and with all your support and prayer.

Anita Karmakar

On 10th January, 2016 the people of Bankura pastorate organised a re-union of the batch of 1980’s at Central Church. It was a re-union to celebrate the memories of youth and to share the challenges of adulthood and life as we know it now. This programme awakened the lost youth in all our hearts. Hundreds of people took part in this program where they shared their experiences and relived the memories of their youth. Many old friends, who had stayed apart due to misunderstandings, became friends once again. Team-building activities were organised to break-ice and foster feelings of friendship among the attendees.

The excitement among those present was palpable as they made merry and praised the Lord for blessing them with such a wonderful day. Gifts were distributed among the participants at the end of the day.

As the attendees left, at the close of the day, the joy – at having re-lived their glorious youth – was evident on their faces.

Pankaj Pande

As an ex-student of Theology and subsequently as a minister of the Lord, I have been blessed by Him and provided with a great opportunity to work among the youth. It was this work of mine that led me to meet the batch of 80.

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Instructions
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With a fork - butter and minced garlic. Preheat the oven to 190 c or heat a pan on stove top.
- Butter the bread (both sides for pan toasted). Toast in the oven for 12 mins or until golden. Or toast it on both the sides on a pan.
- Sprinkle the cheese and then herbs or chilli flakes. Bake it again for 3 mins or until golden. For pan toasting, Cover with a lid and toasting till the cheese begins to melt off.

Serve garlic cheese toast hot.

Rita Dutta

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