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Anugrahavani

The Newsletter of CMI St. John's Province
Bijnor Vol.XXXIV-No. 1, August 2024





BE PILGRIMS OF HOPE



Fr Davis Varayilan CMI

Provincial Superior

Pope Francis has announced that the Church will celebrate a Jubilee Year in 2025, with the theme “Pilgrims of Hope,” a relevant theme in the present context of the world which is plagued by a profound crisis in hope because we hope for earthly happiness rather than eternal one, and we hope to achieve this by human ingenuity, rather than by the grace of Christ. The Dicastery for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life is inviting all consecrated men and women to participate in the Jubilee of Consecrated Life to be celebrated in Rome from 8-9 October 2025 and nationally in home countries on 2 February 2025. The theme is “Pilgrims of Hope : On the Path of Peace” with a special focus on listening to the cry of the poor, care of creation and solidarity with all our brothers and sisters.

Since our life is a journey from God and tends towards God (NA 1), from our heart to the heart of God, it is a sacred journey, a pilgrimage. We are on a pilgrimage towards our homeland (Heb 13 :14). Pilgrimage is a powerful symbol of the itinerant condition of our human existence in this world. Jesus was born as a pilgrim, and from the very beginning until the very end of his earthly life, he always seemed to be on the road or on the verge of moving on with no place on earth to call his home. Jesus' pilgrimage was from the Centre to the geographical and existential peripheries, to the places where the most vulnerable, the poorest and the forgotten are to be found rather than to the Jerusalem temple. Christian pilgrimage means keeping our eyes, minds and hearts fixed on our goal, which is Christ, and set out every day anew. Jesus Christ is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and end.

The Christian existence is a pilgrim existence. It began with Abraham, the father of believers (Gen 12 :1), then continued through Moses (Ex. 3 :7-8), the Prophets (Is. 6 :8; Jer.1 :7) Jesus Christ (Gal. 4 :4) and finally Jesus gave the apostles the mission mandate, to go and be his witnesses to the ends of the earth (Mt. 28 :19; Mk.16 : 15; Lk.24 : 17; Jn. 20 :21; Acts. 1 :8). Hope lies in our readiness to go forth from our own comfort zone in order to reach all the “peripheries” in need of the light of the Gospel (EG 20). In this pilgrimage of life, there are two kinds of people : evangelizing people who care for the co-pilgrims and worldly people who pass by (FT 70), a Good Samaritan and an indifferent bystander. Hope for us and others depends on our daily decision “whether to be Good Samaritans or indifferent bystanders” (FT 69). The response is for us to become a neighbour to everyone in need and to recognize that the whole world is our neighbourhood.

The tendency among the consecrated persons today is to exit the way of the pilgrimage and settle down for a secure job, a secure place and a comfortable life. Consequently, they tend to be more inward-looking rather than outward and forward-looking. When we do not come out of ourselves, out of our campuses and reach out to the people, especially people in the geographical and existential peripheries, we turn out to be a worldly person, living for ourselves instead of an evangelizing person. As pilgrims on earth, let us hope for a cosmic human family and journey as fellow pilgrims sharing the same flesh, as children of the same earth which is our common home, each of us sharing with others our uniqueness, our beliefs and convictions and move forward towards the fullness of the Kingdom of God or “a New Heaven and a New Earth” (Rev 21 :1).

ORDINATIONS/PROFESSION

Congratulations & Prayerful Wishes

The Newly Ordinated Priests



Fr. Joyal Joy Vezhaparamban CMI was ordained on December 30, 2023, at St. Thomas Church, Malayattoor.



Fr. Lijo Manjoor CMI was ordained on 27 December 2023 at St. Mary's Church Elamgulam.



Deacon Bro. Amal Mannusseril CMI



Deacon Bro. Arun Eyyalil CMI



Bro. Josemon Thakadiyil CMI



Ph.D. Triumph : Milestone Achieved !

Congratulations to Fr. Joe Philip CMI on achieving a significant academic milestone!

Fr. Joe Philip CMI has successfully completed Ph.D. in English Literature from the National Institute of Technology, Uttarakhand, with his dissertation titled **"Subaltern Resistance in the Selected Works of Mahasweta Devi."** Well done on this remarkable achievement!

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION & MEDIA



Inter School Sports Meet 2023-24

The 8th Inter-School Sports Meet was held on October 27 and 28, 2023, at Maria School, Jaspur. Convened by Fr. Jomon Thaiparambil and committee members Fr. Bino Palatty and Fr. Majo Kolanjeril, the event saw active participation from all 11 schools in the province with the strength of 585 students.

St. Joseph's Academy, Ghaziabad emerged as the champions, with St. Joseph's School, Jahangirabad taking the runners-up trophy. The competition was intense, showcasing exemplary sportsmanship and talent.

Special thanks go to the managers, principals, and bursars for their cooperation, ensuring smooth logistics and coordination. The Jaspur community, including Rev. Fr. Mathew Pedikkattukunnel, Fr. Jomon Thaiparambil, Fr. Ajomon Parasseril, and Fr. Mathew Karakkunnel, provided excellent arrangements and accommodations. The sports meet celebrated athletic prowess and fostered unity and teamwork among the schools in the province.



Annual General Body Meeting

The Annual General Body Meeting of the Department of Education was held on Tuesday, November 21, 2023, at St. John's Ashram, Najibabad. The meeting was attended by the majority of the Managers, all Principals, and a few Bursars from our schools. We were honored by the presence of Rev. Fr. Suresh Mathew OFM, Cap., the Chief Editor of Indian Currents weekly, who served as the distinguished resource person for the day.

The session commenced with Rev. Fr. Shaiju Njezhoongan, the Secretary to the Department of Education, introducing Rev. Fr. Suresh Mathew to the gathering. The Provincial, Rev. Fr. Davis Varayilan, extended a warm welcome by presenting a floral bouquet to Rev. Fr. Suresh Mathew.

Fr. Suresh Mathew shared profound insights on "Education for Transformation," "Pastoral Prudence in Administration," and "Tips for Educators." He passionately urged the gathering to mould our students into future individuals of Character, Conscience, Competence, Compassion, and Commitment, emphasizing the true essence of education. Additionally, he underscored the significance of prudence in administration and stressed the necessity of meticulous documentation for every facet of the institution and its activities.

This event marked a significant opportunity for our educational leaders to glean valuable insights and perspectives, setting a tone of inspiration for the future endeavours of the Department of Education.

In the afternoon session, Rev. Fr. Davis Varayilan, Provincial Superior, addressed the gathering, urging everyone to step out of their comfort zones and make a difference. Following this motivational address, Fr. Shaiju Njezhoongan presented a concise report on the academic year 2023-24. Expressing gratitude, he extended thanks to all Managers, Principals, Bursars, Teaching, and non-teaching staff across our educational institutions for their dedicated services and the fruitful results achieved. Special acknowledgment was given to the principals for successfully displaying the CMI Education Vision Statement in all educational institutions. A heartfelt thank you was conveyed for the wholehearted cooperation that has propelled our educational institutions to new heights.

Moving forward, Fr. Shaiju Njezhoongan, the Secretary to the Department of Education, unveiled plans and proposals for the upcoming academic session 2024-25. In a collaborative spirit, he invited the participation of all Managers, Principals, and Bursars, highlighting key objectives to be achieved in the forthcoming academic year.

Following the insightful presentation by Fr. Shaiju Njezhoongan, the Secretary to the Department of Education, the floor was opened for sharing and discussions. Fr. Shaiju shared a brief update from the education mission in Ghana, sourced through Fr. Shibu Mandaly. The update highlighted the academic advancements and the commencement of the new academic session in our schools in Ghana. Fr. Jomon Thekkekudiyil provided an overview of the academic proceedings at the school in Dhangadi, Nepal, shedding light on the achievements and challenges faced.

To moderate the discussions, Fr. Shaiju Njezhoongan invited Fr. Davis Varayilan, the Provincial, to facilitate the conversation fruitful and meaningful. The deliberations resulted in the following decisions :

- ❖ Fr. Denny Madavana was selected as the convener for the Inter-school Cultural Meet 2024-25.
- ❖ Fr. Bejoy Pallickamalil and Fr. Moses Vazhayil were appointed as committee members for the Inter-school Cultural Meet 2024-25.
- ❖ The potential venues for the Inter-school Cultural Meet, Gadarpur, or Khathauli, were suggested, with a final decision pending a thorough assessment of facilities by the department.
- ❖ The proposal from the Department of Education to organize an inter-school basketball tournament in memory of late Rev. Fr. Raymond Mancheril received unanimous support and approval. The decision was made to hold the first Fr. Raymond Memorial Basketball Tournament in the month of April 2024,



extending invitations to schools within the Bijnor diocese. The venue will be decided by the department.

Finally, Fr. Shaiju Njezhoongan expressed heartfelt gratitude to the gathering for their active participation and the fruitful discussions that emerged. Subsequently, all the principals reconvened at 4:30 pm for the business session and academic planning. The Secretary to the Department of Education presided over the gathering and initiated the discussion. The meeting primarily focused on the need for changes in textbooks and delved into the year plan for the upcoming session, 2024-25. The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm, signifying the end of a productive and collaborative session.

Principals' Meet at Ghaziabad

The Principals' Meeting for academic planning for the 2024-25 session, hosted by the Department of Education, St. John's Province, Bijnor, was convened on 9 December 2023, Saturday. The meeting was held at St. Joseph's Academy, Ghaziabad, from 9:30 am to 6:00 pm, with participation of our principals representing all our schools across India and Nepal.

The initial two sessions before noon were dedicated to the introduction and training on a new online application designed for staff appointments within our institutions. Mr. Jeeno Mathew, CEO of Lofty Technologies, served as the resource person for the training session. Fr. Shaiju Njezhoongan Raphael, Secretary to the Department of Education, extended a warm welcome to Mr. Jeeno Mathew and his team.

During the training sessions, all the principals actively engaged in hands-on experiences with the new online application, utilizing their laptops. The functionalities and procedures of the Lofty mobile application, designed for the management, staff, and parents, were explained comprehensively. The aim was to ensure its seamless, effective, and systematic use on a daily basis for the smooth management of our educational institutions.

Discussions and deliberations related to the curricular and co-curricular activities for the academic year 2024-25, along with a business meeting addressing the syllabus, were conducted from 3:00 pm to 5:45 pm. Presided over by Fr. Shaiju Njezhoongan, Secretary to the Department of Education and Media, the meeting witnessed active participation and engaging conversations from all principals. It was collectively agreed that the final set of syllabus and the academic calendar for the session 2024-25, as deliberated in the meeting, will be promptly finalized and communicated to the schools by the Secretary to the Department of Education at the earliest convenience.

The Department of Education extends its sincere appreciation to Fr. Jose Chittooparambil, Superior of Sanjo Bhavan, Ghaziabad, for his generosity in welcoming and accommodating all the principals for the meeting. My heartfelt gratitude goes out to Fr. Peter Vallikavumkal, Principal of St. Joseph's Academy, Ghaziabad, for his cooperation and meticulous arrangements that contributed to the successful execution of the meeting in the school's conference room.

Special thanks are also due to Fr. Biju Pananchickal and Fr. Majo Kolanchery for their selfless services in ensuring the elegant arrangements for food and accommodation.

Excellence in Education : ISC & ICSE Board Achievements

Department of Education is pleased to present the detailed report on the ICSE and ISC (Classes X and XII) board exam results for our students across all schools for the academic session 2023-24. At the outset, I express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to Rev. Fr. Davis Varayilan, President of the Society, for his constant guidance and support in fostering the holistic development, growth, and achievements of our schools.

Hearty congratulations and appreciation to all our school principals for their dedicated efforts in bringing significant academic laurels to our institutions. The department is happy to express sincere gratitude to our managers for their unwavering support in promoting and executing academic excellence in all our schools.

We acknowledge and appreciate the invaluable contributions of our religious sisters, whose collaboration has been instrumental in this significant achievement. Congratulations go to all our committed teachers, whose dedicated tireless efforts and support in the classrooms have significantly contributed to the remarkable achievements of all our students.

Finally, the department recognize and appreciate our students for their hard work and dedication, as well as their collaboration with their parents and teachers, which has led to these remarkable board exam results. Your achievements make us all—parents, teachers, school management, and the entire institution—immensely proud. Congratulations to everyone involved!

Following are the ICSE (Class X) Board Exam results of our schools for the session 2023-24 for your reference :

SL. NO.	NAME OF THE SCHOOL	NAME OF STUDENT	HIGHEST %
1.	Maria School, Jaspur	Yuvraj Singh	98.60%
2.	St. Mary's School, Nagina	Sparshi Bishnoi	98.20%
3.	St. Mary's School, Gadarpur	Prachi Yadav	98.00%
4.	Carmel School, Chamba	Pranay Juyal	97.80%
5.	St. Joseph's Academy, Ghaziabad	Aditya Pritam	97.80%
6.	St. Joseph's School, Jahangirabad	Bhavishya Kumar	97.40%
7.	St. Thomas School, Khatauli	Ravikant	96.80%
8.	Sacred Heart Academy, Maigalganj	Kaushlendra Singh	93.00%
9.	Mount Carmel School, Champawat	Prachi Joshi	91.80

Following are the results of ISC (Class XII) Board Exam results of our schools in the session 2023-24 :

SL. NO.	NAME OF THE SCHOOL	NAME OF STUDENT	HIGHEST %
1.	St. Joseph's Academy, Ghaziabad	Aaryan Chouhan	97.00%
2.	St. Thomas School, Khathauli	Pragya Ahlawat	96.75%
3.	Carmel School, Chamba	Rushil Gargash	96.00%
4.	Maria School, Jaspur	Kushagra Mahashwari	95.25%
5.	St. Joseph's School, Jahangirabad	Sanika Sirohi	94.50%
6.	St. Mary's School, Nagina	Mohd Adnan Shamsi	92.50%
		Samra Itfal	92.50%
7.	St. Mary's School, Gadarpur	Palak Ganda	90.00%

Department congratulates all the top scorers from the schools under our society. A special note of appreciation to the management, staff, and students of Sacred Heart Academy, Maigalganj, for achieving a 100% pass rate with their first batch of ICSE (Class X) students.

Hearty Congratulations to **Master Aryan Chouhan (97%)** of St. Joseph's Academy, Ghaziabad, for being the ISC (Class XII) topper among our schools, and to **Master Yuvraj Singh (98.60%)** of Maria School, Jaspur, for being the ICSE (Class X) topper. Congratulations & appreciations to the management, staff, and students of St. Joseph's Academy, Ghaziabad, and Maria School, Jaspur, for achieving the top ranks among the schools in our society in the ICSE and ISC Board Examinations 2023-24.

Opening of New School at Laharpur

The new Sacred Heart School in Laharpur had its grand opening ceremony on April 22, 2024, marked by the Vidhyarambh ceremony. Rev. Fr. Davis Varayilan CMI, Provincial, presided over the event, guiding the students as they wrote their first letters and graciously inviting them into the world of knowledge and wisdom. Rev. Fr. Claudius from the Diocese of Lucknow conducted an orientation session for the parents, encouraging their cooperation with the school management for the bright future of all students.



The department takes this opportunity to congratulate and appreciate Rev. Fr. Austin Thenkudam, the Manager, for his hard work in coordinating the construction of the school building, and Rev. Fr. Benoy Vazhayil, the Principal, for his efficient leadership and unwavering support in bringing together the teaching and non-teaching staff to ensure the smooth start and operation of the school from this academic year 2024-25. The department wishes Sacred Heart School, Laharpur, all the very best and a bright future.

Value Education Program 2024-25

The Department of Education organized a value education program from April 15, 2024, to May 15, 2024, designed for all students across our schools. The program was facilitated by our scholastics under the guidance of the priest-in-charges, Rev. Fr. Ajomon Parasseril and Rev. Fr. James Veluthan. The aim of the program was to instill essential values in our students' educational journey.

The department is grateful to our scholastics, Fr. Ajomon Parasseril and Fr. James Veluthan, for their wholehearted efforts in traveling to all our schools to effectively conduct the value education program. We also extend our heartfelt thanks to the management, staff, and students of our schools for their enthusiastic cooperation and support, which ensured the smooth execution of the program.



DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE



A meeting of Administrators and Bursars was organized by the Department of Finance on March 25, 2024, in the Provincial House. Around 20 members from our institutions and stations participated. The meeting commenced with an inaugural address by Fr. Provincial. Fr. Joseph Ponmany, the financial councilor conducted the sessions, focusing on the fundamental rules to be followed in accounting and documentation. The meeting was concluded by noon.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL APOSTOLATE

BAL Diwas



Chavara Seva Samaj celebrated BAL Diwas on November 14th across Nagina, Nathewali, and Najibabad circles, featuring a vibrant array of activities. Children participated enthusiastically, showcasing their talents through dance performances and singing songs, spreading joy and highlighting the importance of their rights and well-being. The event, graced by Fr. Cyriac, Director CSS, and Fr. Pauly, Deputy Director CSS, along with gram Pradhan, ward members, and villagers, fostered a spirit of togetherness and community involvement. CSS celebrated National Children's Day with our 600 underprivileged Children of Bijnor and Slums of Ghaziabad.

Disables Day Celebration



Differently Abled Day Celebration on 3 December 2023 : We at CSS celebrated Differently Abled Day (JaHo 2023) in two of our centers – Nathewali and Ghaziabad. Together, around 200 participants were present. CSS organized various competitions for the disabled at both locations.

Christmas Celebration



CSS celebrated Christmas with around 350 people in attendance. It was a colorful celebration, with our tailoring girls presenting various programs. CSS shared the peace and joy of Christmas with the people of Najibabad.

Staff Training Program



CSS arranged a three-day training in December 2023 for the staff on Mahila Mandal, SHG, and FPO. The trainers were Rev. Fr. Jayson, Director of PGSS, Mr. Atul and Mr. Sharvan.

Prathiksha Agrifarm Nathewaly Training



Prathiksha Agrifarm Producer Company Nathewali is a women empowerment program of CSS supported by NABARD. It operates on a business model through which dairy and its products are marketed directly under the brand name Prathiksha Agrifarm. The direct beneficiaries are around 1,000 women or families. Prathiksha Agrifarm has started its training in milk collection and paneer making.

Ekta Mahila Sangharsh Mandal



CSS introduced Mahila Mandal in all our villages to foster peace and harmony, education, self-sustainability, and development. This initiative aims to empower them to stand up together for their rights.

Alternative Medicine

Rev. Fr. Vijay Payyappilly CMI is providing valuable service to the people of North India through alternative medicine. He serves a minimum of 130 patients every week in various locations such as St. Mary's Hospital Najibabad, Maria Bhavan Nathewaly, Sanjo Bhavan Ghaziabad, and Faridabad. He has been rendering his services for the past 11 years.



Slum Development Project



CSS, in collaboration with the Italian Bishops Conference, has undertaken a project on Slum Development in Ghaziabad. The project includes 12 non-formal classes with 260 students, 2 computer classes with 60 students, health awareness programs, medical camps, sustainable training, and more. Additionally, CSS distributes rations to 60 disabled families every month at St. Joseph Academy, Ghaziabad.



International Women's Day

On March 6th, 2024, CSS celebrated International Women's Day with the aim of raising awareness among women about their contributions to society. Attendees included women and girls from 30



Foota, 40 Foota, Nai Basti Ashram, Bombay Colony, and Ghaziabad. The celebration was also held in Nagina, Najibabad, and Nathewaly circles.

Self-Help Group (SHG), Champawat

In Champawat, a Self-Help Group (SHG) named "Prarthana" has been initiated in Silingtok village. This empowering initiative aims to foster community support and financial independence among its members, thereby contributing to the socio-economic development of the village and its residents.

Chavara Seva Samaj Empowers Community through Sewing Machine Distribution and Skill Certification



On April 12, 2024, Chavara Seva Samaj facilitated the distribution of sewing machines at the CSS Najibabad Main Centre. The event was presided over by Fr. Davis CMI, Provincial and President, and Fr. Cyriac Thomas CMI, Director. A total of 65 out of 83 students received sewing machines, and all 83 participants were awarded certificates.

Following this, on April 15, 2024, a similar distribution event was held at St. Mary School, Nagina, also led by Fr. Davis and Fr. Cyriac Thomas. In this event, 76 individuals received sewing machines, and 102 participants were awarded certificates. These initiatives aimed to empower the community by providing essential skills and tools for self-sustainability and self-employment.

Awareness Program on HIV/AIDS and Menstrual Hygiene

On April 20, 2024, Chavara Seva Samaj facilitated an awareness meeting that was notably successful in raising awareness about HIV/AIDS and menstrual hygiene. The session provided valuable health education and practical advice, significantly contributing to the well-being of the women and their families. The total number of beneficiaries was 39 from Self-Help Groups (SHGs), reflecting robust community involvement.



International Labour Day Celebrations in Amroli and Aligarh



On May 4, 2024, International Labour Day was celebrated in Amroli and Aligarh. The event witnessed the participation of 40 students and teachers from St. Mary's School, Nagina. Mr. Alok Kumar served as the resource person, guiding activities and discussions focused on the significance of labour rights and the contributions of workers.

Slum Development Initiatives and Educational Support



On May 4, 2024, as part of a Slum development project, a visit was organized at Jeevan Dhara School, Bombay Colony, Ghaziabad, led by Fr. Biju, General Counsellor, along with 15 counsellors from all the CMI Provinces. Fr. Cyriac Thomas, Director of Chavara Seva Samaj and Fr. Pauly, Deputy Director of Chavara Seva Samaj, also participated in the initiative. This initiative aimed to address and improve conditions within the slum community, benefiting a total of 150 individuals.

Additionally, on the same day, free study materials were distributed to 200 non-formal students from slum communities at St. Stephen School in Ghaziabad. This effort aimed to support the education of children from underserved communities.

Inauguration of Pratiksha Agrifarm in Nathewaly



The inauguration of Pratiksha Agrifarm in Nathewaly took place on May 6, 2024, at Maria Bhavan, Nathewaly. The event was graced by the Chief Guest, DDM Bijnor, the Guest of Honour, LDM, and Fr. Davis Varayilan CMI, Provincial Superior served as the president of the program.

The inauguration marked a significant step forward in promoting agricultural development in the region. By establishing Pratiksha Agrifarm, the community has embarked on a journey towards enhancing agricultural practices, fostering innovation, and ensuring sustainable growth. The initiative holds promise not only for the local economy but also for empowering farmers and fostering resilience in the agricultural sector.

NEWS UPDATE FROM STATIONS

CARMEL SCHOOL, CHAMBA

Beginning of New Academic Session



Well-begun is half done. Carmel family entered into the new academic session 2024-25 on 18th March 2024. The day started with special assembly and prayer session. The manager of the school Rev. Fr. Thomas Appanchira CMI inaugurated the new academic year.

Value Education Programme



Under the able leadership of Rev. Fr. Ajomon CMI and brothers, value education seminars were conducted on 15th and 16th of April for the students of class V to XII to inculcate moral values.

Investiture Ceremony



With the motive to nurture leadership quality among the students, the school elected student's council for the academic year 2024-25 on 16th April 2024. The investiture ceremony of the newly elected office bearers was held on 22nd April 2024.

Vidhyarambh



The tiny tots in the Nursery class started their journey to the world of wisdom with the ceremony of Vidhyarambh. The students were blessed with the presence of Rev. Fr Sebastian, the manager of All Saint's School New Tehri, Dr. Rajesh, the MD of Masiah Hospital Chamba, Rev. Fr. Bino Johny Palatty CMI principal of the School, Rev. Fr. Anil CMI, the bursar of the school, Rev. Sr. Nirmala DST the vice principal of the school, Rev. Sr. Sherly DST the Principal of KG section and teachers.

World Athletic Day

World athletic day was observed on 7th May under the leadership of Literature Club and Arts Club. Special assembly was conducted on the day and to mark the occasion the students performed Zumba dance.

Red Cross Day

Red Cross Day was observed in the school under the leadership of Maths Club and Arts Club on 9 May 2024. A documentary about the origin and services of Red Cross Society was shown to the students. A seminar on the topic Health and Hygiene was conducted for the girls of classes IX to XII. Dr. Prathishta the Medical Officer of Government Block Hospital Chamba, animated the seminar.



Felicitation Function for the ICSE & ISC Toppers 2023-24



MOUNT CARMEL SCHOOL, CHAMPAWAT

Annual Day Celebrations

The school Annual Day was celebrated with the theme "Relationship" on November 29, 2023. It was a display of artistic perfection, leadership skills, discipline and organizational acumen. The guests who graced the occasion included Honourable District Magistrate, Shri. Navneet Pandey IAS, Chief Guest, Fr. Davis Varayilan, Provincial Superior, St. John's Province, Bijnor and President of the St. John's Society, Shri. Hemant Kumar Verma, ADM, District of Champawat, Mrs. Shivani Pasbola, Senior Judge, Champawat, Shri. Bharat Joshi, Block Education Officer and Chief Education Officer in charge, Mrs. Tanuja Verma, Public Prosecutor, Lieutenant Colonel Nitin Kumar Chaudhary, Lieutenant Colonel Ajay Pandey from Indian Army, Shri. Hemant Kumar and Shri. Chandrashekhar C. Patil, Deputy Commandants SSB, Mrs. Chandni Bansal, District Head Solar Energy. Mrs. Nidhi Upprethi, Director, Horticulture, Rev. Fr. Shaiju, Councillor and Secretary for Education St. John's Province Bijnor, Rev. Fr. Cyriac Councillor and secretary for Social Apostolate and Hospital Ministry, St. John's Province Bijnor, Rev. Fr. Dr. Joseph Ponmany, Councillor and secretary for Finance and Agriculture, St. John's Province Bijnor besides Rev. Fathers, Rev. Brothers, Sisters, Parents and other distinguished guests.



I Phase of the Boundary wall construction

The construction work of the I Phase of the boundary wall was completed in the month of November 2024.

Christmas Celebrations

Christmas was celebrated on December 22, 2024 in the school. Students enthusiastically



participated in the Christmas card making and Christmas tree competitions. Christmas Play and carol singing marked the celebration of Christmas.

Construction of the First Floor of the KG Section

In order to fulfill the requirements of the classrooms for the ISC classes the construction of the First Floor of the KG Section started on February 01, 2024. We will be able to get six additional classrooms for the school after the completion of the building.

Science Exhibition

Students under the leadership the teachers conducted a science exhibition on February 07, 2024.

Canonical Visitation of Fr. Provincial

Fr. Provincial Made his canonical visitation of the mission station from February 8 to 09, 2024.

Jubilee Celebration of Sr. Shelli, Principal

The Silver Jubilee of Rev. Sr. Shelli Devassy FHGS, Principal was celebrated on February 10, 2024. Fr. Provincial Presided over the Eucharistic Celebration.

Affiliation and Upgrading of the School to ISC

Mount Carmel School Champawat was given affiliation for ISC and classes have started for the same with 11 students in the I batch in the academic year 2024-2025.

Inauguration of the New Academic Year

The new academic year started on March 18, 2024 with an intake of 386 students on roll.

Welcome and Farewell

Fr. Jomon Thekkekudiyl joined our community on March 25, 2024. Fr. Jibin Edapulavan left for Mariashram Jaspur after having served the community and the institution as the Bursar and Administrator for over two years. We thank Fr. Jibin for the selfless services and wish him all the best and God's blessings in his future ministry.

Value Education Classes

Our Scholastic conducted the value education classes of our school from May 01 to 03, 2024.

World Environment Day

The World Environment Day was marked with different competitions like Skits, Essay writing, Quiz, fancy-dress etc. and planting of trees and saplings.

First Communion

Five children received First Holy communion on June 30, 2024. Bishop Ignatius D'Souza, Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Bareilly Presided over the Eucharistic Celebration. Frs. Mathew Pedikkattukunnel, Joji Velikkakath, Ajomon Parasseril, Jibin Edapulavan and Denny Peedikathadathil concelebrated.



CHRIST SCHOOL, MAJRI GRANT, DEHRADUN

Canonical Visitation of Fr. Provincial on 21-22 February 2024

Fr. Davis Varayilan, during his visitation addressed the school assembly. He also had meetings with the sisters, the teaching staff, and the support staff.

Blessing of the First Floor

Blessing of the first floor of the new school building by Fr. Davis Varayilan, Provincial on 16 March 2024.



Visit of Archbishop Leopoldo Girelli, Nuncio

On 30 March 2024 Archbishop Leopoldo Girelli, Nuncio visited the ashram at Majri Grant and spent about an hour with the local community.



Vidhyarambha Ceremony

On 4 April 2024, the school celebrated the Vidhyarambha ceremony for the new batch of nursery students. This auspicious event marked the beginning of their educational journey. The ceremony was conducted with traditional rituals and a warm welcome for the young learners and their families.



Farewell and Welcome



The local community on 15 April 2024 gave a send-off to Fr. Thomson, who has been transferred to Khatauli. Fathers from Rishikesh, Srinagar, Jwalapur, and Clement Town also joined the function. The farewell programme at the school was conducted on 18 April 2024. Fr. Biju Pananchickal our new principal also was welcomed at the same occasion. Everyone appreciated Fr. Thomson's committed service as the principal of Christ School for a long period of five years.

Visit of Bishop of Meerut

Rev. Bishop Bhaskar Yesuraj visited the Majri CMI community for the first time since assuming the office of the Bishop of Meerut on 30 April 2024.



ST. JOSEPH ACADEMY, GHAZIABAD

Primary Section Annual Function, Sports Day 2023-24



St. Joseph's Day (Patron Saint's Day 19 March 2024)



Farewell of Class 12th (Batch 2023-24)



Feast Day Celebration 23-03-2024



New Academic Year Begins-Prayer Session (18 March 2024-25)



Parent's Orientation Program-01-04-2024



K.G Section Inauguration of Cultural 06-04-2024



Winners of Folk Dance Competition, Juniors 06-04-2024



Investiture Ceremony and Inauguration of Cultural Activities. Folk Dance Competition, Juniors and Seniors 10 April 2024



Saturday 20 April 2024, Bagless Day, English Hand Writing 1-5, Drawing Competition



Hearty Welcome to our New Principal Rev. Fr. Moses Vazhayil 20-04-2024



Classical Solo Dance Competition for Sub Juniors, Juniors 27-04-2024



Happy Labour's Day Celebrations 01-05-2024



CISCE Zonal Karate Championship, 04-05-2024



Welcome of Rev. Fr. Moses & Farewell of Rev. Fr. Peter 06-05-2024



Classical Solo Dance Competition for Seniors, Super Seniors 11-05-2024



EXHILARATING UPDATES FROM JEEVAN DHARA ASHRAM



In recent times our Ashram campus, while continuing to be an oasis of prayer and spirituality, has become a beauty spot in Garhwal with different kinds of beautiful flowers, appearing one after another. For example, in last October to December it was full of flourishing marigolds and chrysanthemums, in January it was the turn of primula, which in February were replaced by geranium and winter jasmine.

The latest and fascinating item of news is that for the whole month of April 2024 our front yard was a single bouquet of flowers of all hues, shapes and scents. It displayed varieties of roses, petunia, lilliums, amaryllis, agapanthus, daisies, fuchsia, and what not! It was like a month-long open flower-show. Visitors from far and wide flocked to enjoy it's refreshing beauty and fragrance. Its architect Fr. Tom Mundadan and his faithful helpers Briju and Sunil, whose hard work and constant care made it a reality, deserve congrats! Bravo!!

The visiting sadhakas for the current year so far have been more or less 90, staying here for shorter or longer periods of time, benefitting from the cool, quiet, pure and prayerful atmosphere. Worth special mentioning is a group of seven Holy Cross Sisters from Raipur : the Mother Provincial, her council and secretary. They came here to make their annual retreat, guided mostly by the ashram team. A special feature of the retreat was the gracious and active presence of Fr. Provincial Davis Varayilan for two days.

The above said retreat was an eye-opener for us : In order to cope with the changed and changing circumstances of the Ashram affairs, we may induct some of the gifted members of the Province as non-resident members of the ashram team of preachers and teachers. Volunteers are welcome.

From 20 October 2023 to 20 March 2024 Acharya Thomas was away in Ghaziabad and Kerala. He took part in a three-day get-together of those 70 and above years old members of our Congregation, convened by Fr. Prior General in the Generalate, Kakkanad, Kochi. The first of the kind in the Congregation, it was an interesting and beneficial event, attended by more than 70 of the invitees.

Taking the two months of January and February 2024, Fr Tom Mundadan, in his official capacity as the Provincial



auditor, went about visiting all the houses of the Province, and creditably completed the first round of his visitation. We must appreciate his dutifulness and hardworking character, proved by the almost continuous and arduous journeys in the severely cold winter months, and that too while doing the usually boring task of checking the accounts! Congratulations, Tom, and prayerful best wishes.

It so happened that in the months of January and February 2024, Fr Varghese Kaitharan, our director, was the only member in the Ashram, like a solitary bird or a happy hermit in the Himalayan ranges! He gracefully accepted the solitude and enjoyed the serenity. May God bless him!

A Fruitful 25 Years at Jeevan Dhara Ashram

Fr. Thomas Kochumuttam successfully completed 25 years at Jeevan Dhara Ashram. He arrived at the ashram on June 3, 1999, and has since led a hermit life, helping people spiritually. Over these years, he conducted retreats, classes, counseling, and provided spiritual direction. Thousands of people experienced the silent, serene, and spiritual atmosphere he cultivated at the ashram. He dedicated these 25 years entirely to God and His people, spending his time in the confessional, writing spiritual books, guiding individuals, and praying for the world.



On June 8, the Jeevan Dhara community celebrated the Silver Jubilee of his stay at the ashram, as well as his send-off. People from neighboring communities were invited. Alongside a large gathering of priests and religious from various nearby communities, Bishop Vincent and Bishop John Vadakkal were also present for the celebration. The



program began with the Holy Eucharist, with Bishop Vincent as the main celebrant.

During the felicitation program, Fr. Varghese Kaitharan, our director, welcomed everyone to the gathering. Bishop John Vadakkal released Fr. Thomas Kochumuttam's latest book, *Chinthayum Keerthanavum*, and Fr. Davis Varayilan introduced the book. Felicitation speeches were delivered by Bishop Vincent Nellaiparambil, Sr. Pushpaji, and Bishop John Vadakkal.

In his thanksgiving speech, Fr. Thomas Kochumuttam emphasized the importance of the ashram and its role in the spiritual growth of people from all walks of life. The program concluded with an Agape feast. It was a day of blessings for Jeevan Dhara Ashram.

MARIA SCHOOL, JASPUR

Farewell

Fr. Ajomon, was given a farewell on 24th April 2024 from Maria Ashram, Jaspur. He completed one year successfully



as Bursar and taught students in the school. His remarkable ministry as a preacher, visiting the houses and conducting the prayers has been remembered as something extraordinary and exceptional to parishioners in Jaspur. He is being appointed as the spiritual Director, Agra, and Regional seminary. Maria Family wish him all the best for the future ministry.

Our new member, Fr. Jibin, joined the community on 18th April 2024 as the Bursar in Maria Ashram, Jaspur.

Maria Hostel Students were given a grant farewell. Girl's hostel, which was run by the St. John's Society, at Maria Ashram Jaspur, in collaboration with the SD sisters, had to be closed due to the unfavorable situations happening around the society in the present days. Fr. Provincial, asked to shut down the hostel, based on the circular issued by the Bishop of Bareilly. All the students were moved to their own parishes. Fr. Superior informed each and every parent about the matter in advance. After the examination all the students went back with their parents to their respective home. On the

recommendation of the Local Community and with the approval of the Provincial and the Construction committee the existing hostel will be used for ladies' staff accommodation.

Graduation Day

On 13th March 2024, in Maria School, Jaspur, for the first time conducted the Graduation Day for the UKG students. A number of 125 students participated for the ceremony. All the parents



attended the ceremony with much enthusiasm and zest. Parents appreciated the management for the new venture taken by the school. Children were adorned with a cap and gown and presented with a certificate to acknowledge their “completion of nursery or Pre-school. Fr. Vivian from Maria Assumpta, Kashipur was the chief guest. He addressed the parents and students with his input session. Fr. Mathew Jacob (Manager), Fr. Jomon Thaiparambil (Principal) and Fr. Ajomon (Bursar) were present for the ceremony.

Vidyarambham Ceremony 2024-2025



Vidyarambham a Ceremony was held on Sunday, 14 April 2024. Fr. Sabu Kootunkal, former manager was invited as the chief guest of the day. Fathers and sisters formally introduced the toddler to the world of writing and learning.

Bagless Day & Value Education Program



First bagless day was colorful with many activities, competitions, funny games, craft, sports and games, club meetings and value education program. Value education was well conducted by the brothers. Students were fully engaged in different activities.

Investiture Ceremony & Inauguration of LCA



Investiture ceremony was conducted on 30th April 2024 along with LCA inauguration. All the four houses performed a program each on the inauguration day. House meetings were held on this day.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL, LAHARPUR

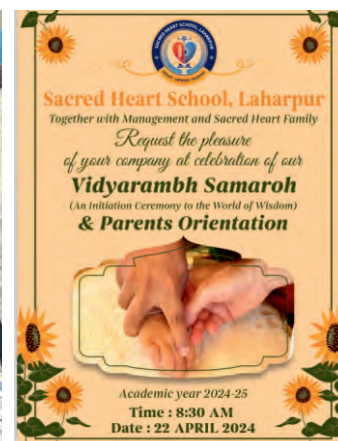
Under the Merciful Care of Sacred Heart.... Educate-Empower & Enlighten

Though the classes started at Sacred Heart School, Laharpur on 12th of April 2024 with familiarizing activities making students welcoming and comfortable in their new atmosphere and classrooms; we had a formal inauguration of the academic year 2024-2025 on 22 April with the VIDYARAMBHAM- An initiation Ceremony to the World of Wisdom. True to the motto, "EDUCATE- EMPOWER- ENLIGHTEN," there was a prayer service organized by the teachers to invoke God's blessings to illumine the young minds. The lighting of diya added a spiritual touch, creating an atmosphere of tranquility and positivity. Our Chief Guest Rev. Fr. Davis Varayilan CMI, Provincial ushered in the New Academic Session and requested everybody to be part of this family and congratulated all for choosing this particular institution to mend and to define the future of their children.

Rev. Fr. Claudius D' Almeda, the principal and the Parish Priest at Sacred Heart Inter College, Sitapur : enlightened the parents with his



orientation talk and highlighted the sacrifices and pains of all the parents to give good education to their children. He also added that this institution remains the same or will impart better education as therein Sitapur where all the dreams of getting admission to make an unwavering future for their children, and he assured the parents that the school will nurture the creative talents and holistic growth of all its students with the concerted efforts of the School Management, teachers and parents. Rev. Fr. Austin Thenkudam CMI, the manager dwelt upon the role of the parents in educating the children and their contribution to the school on behalf of their children.



The ceremony and the Holy Tradition of the Indian VIDYARAMBHA ceremony created a spiritual experience and environment for the parents and all the participants. All the fathers and sisters from neighbouring communities blessed us with their presence, prayers and support. The ceremony concluded with the singing of the National Anthem, instilling a sense of unity, pride, and belonging among all present followed by refreshments. Thanks to the Department of Education and all our fathers and brothers for the sincere prayer and genuine and wholehearted support.

ST. JOSEPH'S STUDY HOUSE, MEERUT



Our Guests and Visitors : We were honoured by the visits of eminent guests and our fathers at different occasions. Gaur sir visited us on Christmas to share the joy and happiness of Christmas, Henry the brother of Bro. Alex our aspirant, Fr. Jijo Puthussery, our newly ordained priests Frs. Joyal and Lijo besides many of our fathers and brothers from our province.

Fr. Provincial made the Canonical visitation of the house on January 24, 2024.

Examinations : Brothers had their pre-board examinations from January 12th to 30th. The Board exams of the +2 going brothers got over by 6th of March.

Celebrations : We celebrated the feast of St. Kuriakose Elias Chavara on 10th February. Around 35 religious and priests from the nearby communities joined in the celebration. To exchange Christmas greetings our brothers visited Bishop's house and all the neighboring communities on 24th December.

The brothers took various duties and responsibilities during the Episcopal ordination of Bp. Bhaskar Jesuraj.

Mission Experience : The first-year brothers (+1, at Meerut) after their annual examination had their one-month mission exposure and mission experience programme at Nathewali and had their ashram experience at Jaiharikhal.

Awards and accolades : The Brothers participated in the All-Christian carol-singing competition conducted by YMCA, Meerut in connection with Christmas and bagged second prize.

Fr. Jomon Karikunnel, our rector successfully defended his doctrinal thesis in English literature and was awarded Ph. D. by HNBU University, Garhwal.

Training and Formation : Fr. Anoop Pynadath CMI conducted an orientation programme on "Call and Mission and a counseling session for the brothers in the last week of November.

Fr. Antony Thaliyady, the former formation coordinator preached the monthly recollection.



SACRED HEART ACADEMY, MAIGALGANJ

Art & Science Exhibition

Sacred Heart Academy organized an Art & Science Exhibition on 20th December, 2023. It was well organized by the School Management as well as the staff members of Sacred Heart Academy. The exhibition commenced at 9:30a.m at the arrival of the chief guest Mr. Amit Singh Bhadoria (SHO of Maigalganj Police Station) at our school campus. He was given a warm welcome by the school Band team. Robotics and AI also introduced in our school during the art and science exhibition.



Inspection for the Permanent Affiliation and Upgrade Affiliation of Sacred Heart Academy, Maigalganj



Inspection for Affiliation Upgrade and Permanent affiliation of Sacred Heart Academy took place on 9th, 10th and 11th of February 2024 by Mr. Mervin West. The Council has approved our application for Affiliation Upgrade and Permanent Affiliation on 12th and 13th March 2024 respectively. Sacred Heart Academy, Maigalganj can now admit students for the ISC Examinations to be conducted from 2026 onwards. We sincerely thank Rev. Fr. Provincial and Councillors for their encouragement and whole hearted support.

One Day Seminar on “CMI Vision of Education.” 26th February, 2024

Sacred Heart Academy organized a one-day seminar on “CMI Education Vision” for the teachers of our school. The seminar focused on Human values, Spirit of founding fathers, St. Chavara's vision of education, Educational Traditions and Our Rich Cultural Heritage.

The program started at 11:00 am with the welcome address by Rev Fr. Abin K A. Rev. Fr. Martin Mallathu CMI (Gen. Councillor for Education and Media Communication) the resource person started the program with the question-answer session based on CMI Vision of Education. The topics discussed by him were Current Trends, technological developments, NEP, Church teachings, recent CMI policies such as CMI Child Protection Policy and CMI Environment Policy and legal Frameworks. Finally, he suggested teachers to read in order to enhance knowledge and skills.



Teachers' Orientation Program 9th April, 2024

Sacred Heart Academy Maigalganj organized one day teachers' orientation program for teachers. The resource person of the day was Dr. Fr. Prashant, the principal of Sacred Heart Degree College, Sitapur. In his orientation, he stressed the importance of “Value Based Education” for the teachers in our school. It creates a strong learning environment that enhances academics achievements and develop student's social and relationship skills that last throughout their lives. The positive learning environment is achieved through the positive values modeled by staff through the school. He also laid emphasis on “Waste Management” especially how to manage plastic. He also had an interactive session with the teachers encouraging them to “Change yourself, the World will be changed”.



ICSE Board Result 2023-24 (First Batch)

ICSE board result 2023-24 was rewarding experience for Sacred Heart Academy, Maigalganj. 27 students appeared for the board examination as the first batch and all of them came out with flying colors. Since the school obtained approval from the Board, New Delhi to start ISC, parents are hopeful to send their ward in our school for their higher studies.

Computer Training for the Under Privileged



Non-formal computer Literacy Program has started for the students of nearby village at St. Mary's School, Nagina as a new social reach out endeavor. The class is conducted on every day in the afternoon from 3 pm to 5 pm. Mr. Jai Kumar, school computer teacher is giving them necessary training of the basic computer knowledge. The programmed is aimed at to improving the living standards of downtrodden children living in adjoining villages closer to school.

Cricket Tournament

Fr. Peter Memorial Zonal Cricket Tournament was held on 7th November in our school ground. Rev. Fr. Biju, the co-coordinator of Bijnor Diocese inaugurated the Match during the school assembly.

Art, Craft & Science Exhibition 2023-24



To bring out and prosper the creative talents of our students, school organized an art, craft and science exhibition on 10th November 2023. The programme was inaugurated by Mr. Sangram Singh, CO Nagina. Fr. Shaiju, the principal, presided the meeting. Students prepared various working and non-working model on various subjects. Various projects put on display by the students received great appreciation from the parents and the people who visited.

Annual KG Fest Barbeque 2023-24

ANNUAL KG FEST "BARBEQUE" was held on 18th November 2023 Saturday at 4.30 p.m at the School ground. Our Chief Guest was Mr. Manoj Kumar Paras, MLA Nagina and Guest of Honor was Rev Fr. Davis Varayilan CMI, President St. John's Society Najibabad. Wonderful and dynamic presentation of programs by the kindergarten students had a great appreciation from the parents and audience.



AI and Robotics (Artificial Intelligence in students' lives)

AI AND ROBOTICS programme was introduced by Try Fi Academy Haridwar, Uttarakhand in the school assembly. Two days program was conducted by Try Fi resource persons in school Auditorium for students.



Carol Song Competition

Under the leadership of Mr. Joyal, our Music Teacher and our students participated in the Carol Singing Competition held at Christ University, NCR Campus, Ghaziabad on December 22, 2023.

Feast Celebration

On December 3rd, we celebrated the Feast of Rev. Fr. Shaiju our Principal the patron Saint of St Francis Xavier.

Christmas Celebration 2023-24



The Christmas Day celebration was held on 23rd December, our Chief Guest was Rev. Fr Sabu Thomas CMI, the Manager of St Mary's School Najibabad. The story of Christmas was depicted through an engaging and entertaining skit, enhancing the festive spirit. The entire event was filled with enthusiasm and joys, touching the hearts of all who were present.

On the occasion of Christmas celebration, a social commitment collection gathered by the students and teachers of St. Mary's School, Nagina, was contributed to the residents of Palana Bhawan, Dodrajpur in the presence of the Manager, Vice Principal, staff representatives and students.

New Admission

New admissions from Nursery to Classes 1 to 4 were open for registration on 16th March. Registration were made through online module of the school website.

Republic Day Celebration

On 26th January, Republic Day celebration was organized. The Chief Guest was Rev. Fr. Taizan, the Director of Minor Seminary, Najibabad. At the same time, there was a Friendly Basketball Match competition between school staff and students. Fr. Taizon and Fr. Shaiju played as referee. Teacher's team won the Match. And students played well.

Farewell to the ISC Batch

Farewell was organized for class 12th by the students of class 11th. Rev. Fr. Davies Varayilan CMI was the Chief Guest of the



Day. Father emphasized the importance of the education and how to lead a good life when they move out from the school campus. The students shared their memories and experience of school life at St. Mary's School.

Valedictory Day KG 2025

KG students graduating ceremony and farewell was organized. Rev. Fr. Francis from Diocese of Bijnor. He also conducted an awareness class to the parents of UKG on the topics parental consequences, needs of the child, advantages and disadvantages of the coming generation of the world etc.

Reopening Day 2025

Welcoming students to the new academic session was on 16th March. Reopening day started with a prayer services. Students reached in the school campus with full of determination, dedication and a positive mindset. The same day we celebrated the Birthday of Rev Fr. Anoop Pynadath, our manager.

Feastal Greetings

We the school management celebrated the feast of Rev. Fr Anoop CMI with full of love and happiness.

Bagless Day Activities KG 2025



Co-curricular activities for kids were conducted on Bag-less day of all Saturdays'. They also conducted different sports items.

ST. JOHN'S PROVINCIAL HOUSE, NAJIBABAD

Feast of St. Kurikose Elias Chavara and the reception of the Newly Ordained Priests

We celebrated the feast of St. Kurikose Elias Chavara and the reception of the Newly Ordained Priests on 04 February 2024. It was a special day of God's blessings on our Province, as two of our newly ordained priests, Fr. Joyal Joy and Fr. Lijo Mathew were given a solemn reception to the Provincial house. Fathers and Sisters from nearby communities were present to witness and celebrate this joyous occasion. The atmosphere was filled with joy and heavenly delight as all gathered to support and pray for the Feast of St. Kurikose Elias Chavara and the reception of the Newly Ordained Priests.

Newly Ordained Deacons, St. John's Province, Bijnor

Bro. Amal Mannusseril and Bro. Arun Eyyalil were ordained as deacons this year for St. John's Province, Bijnor. Bro. Amal was ordained a deacon on 11 February 2024 at Matha Maryam Church in Bhopal and Bro. Arun in Bangalore on 21 March 2024. These ordinations marked significant milestones in their spiritual journeys and it was a joyous occasion for CMI St. John's Province, Bijnor. Both ceremonies were attended by numerous faithful who gathered to support and pray for the newly ordained deacons. These events strengthen our faith and commitment in serving the Church.



Province Day and Jubilee Celebrations

The Golden and Silver Jubilee of Priestly Ordination and Religious Profession of fathers was organized at St. John's Provincial house, Bijnor on 10 April 2024. Fr. Mathew Vazhappilly and Fr. Jose Koottungal celebrated the Golden Jubilee of their Priestly Ordination, while Fr. Biju Vadakkal and Fr. Joby Mazhuvanchery celebrated the Silver Jubilee of their Priestly Ordination. Additionally, Frs. Bino Johny Palatty, Jim Manakkattu, Denny Madavana and Sijo Muthanattu celebrated the Silver Jubilee of their Religious Profession. It was a heartfelt occasion filled with joy and gratitude to celebrate their dedicated service to the Church and community.



The Province Day celebrations began with a solemn Eucharistic celebration led by Rev. Fr. Provincial and the Councilors on 11 April 2024. It was a time to honor and celebrate the rich heritage and collective achievements of our province's members. On this day, we also had discussions and a talk by Fr. Prasant Palackappilly on the topic of CMI Environment Policy. These consecutive days of celebration fostered a sense of unity and deepened our bonds as a community dedicated to serve with love and devotion.

Perpetual Profession

On 25 May 2024, we joyously celebrated the perpetual profession of Brother Nibin Veshnal, a significant milestone in his spiritual journey in serving God and his people. May Brother Nibin's perpetual profession be a beacon of light and hope for all who seek to follow the footsteps of Jesus Christ.

ST. JOSEPH'S STUDY HOUSE, NAJIBABAD

Blooming Buds Najibabad to Nagina



We completed our first year of formation successfully and are into our intermediate studies at Nagina. We reached Nagina on March 30th just before the Easter. We have already begun our classes. Seven of us have taken arts and one has taken commerce.

Christmas Celebration

This year, we made a crib with the theme of "Living Water." We performed a small skit, dance, and wishing song at the Provincial House, Kallheri, Premdham and Chavara Seva Samaj.



Onam to Holi

We celebrated Onam in Provincial house with delicious meal enjoying the peace and harmony. Decorating the surroundings

with lights and chirag, Diwali was a memorable and a night of blessing. We were genuinely concerned and tried our best to commemorate the month of rosary beautifully. Holi was a colorful event.

Day of our Beloved Father

We celebrated the feast and birthday of Fr. Rector, inviting the provincial house community to study house.

Chilling Moments

We had a trip to Kanatal to experience snowfall. It was our third wish on the Feast of Epiphany. We also visited Tehri Dam.



SACRED HEART MONASTERY, SITAPUR

Golden Jubilee – Fr. Mathew Vazhappilly

Golden Jubilee of the Priesthood of Fr. Mathew Vazhappilly was formally inaugurated on 27 December 2023 with Holy Mass. We thanked the Lord for the manifold graces and blessings showered in his life. On the same day Bishop Gerlad John Mathias, Bishop of Lucknow congratulated him as he joined here for breakfast on his way to Gola, Lakhimpur. The jubilee celebration was followed by community day celebration in the evening in which the members from nearby communities also were invited.



NOC – B.Sc. (Computer Science) and M.Com.



Sacred Heart Degree College, Sitapur obtained NOC for the courses B.Sc. (Computer Science) and M.Com. programmes. As the college celebrates the Silver Jubilee, the introduction of these programmes is expected to perpetuate the memory of Silver Jubilee.

Rev. Dr. George Athappilly CMI – Faculty of Sacred Heart Degree College

Veteran computer scholar and senior computer scientist, Rev. Dr. George Athappilly joined the Department of Computer Science at Sacred Heart Degree College on February 28, 2024. We and the students warmly welcomed him.



Celebration of 25 Years of Sustained Struggle

Silver Jubilee is indeed a momentous landmark for any institution as it symbolizes the growth, development and accomplishments achieved through years of hard work, sincere dedication and strong commitment despite many difficult and challenging situations of the preceding years.

Sacred Heart Degree College, Sitapur celebrated the completion of its Silver Jubilee on the **23rd of March 2024** with great enthusiasm, excitement and exuberance. On this auspicious occasion, the College thanked God for the favour that He has bestowed, for the constant guidance He has shown and for the countless blessings the students have received through the College during these past 25 glorious years of meritorious service to the cause of education. A thanksgiving jubilee mass was offered by Rev. Fr. Davis Varayilan, Provincial along with former managers, Principals and the community at 7 am. In his homily, he said that Jubilee is a time to remember the past with gratitude and embrace the future with hope.

The formal programme commenced at 11.00 am with a prayer song and a welcome dance followed by a lamp lighting ceremony in the beautifully decorated college quadrangle.

The dignitaries present on the dais were the President Most Rev. Gerald John Mathias, Bishop of the Diocese of Lucknow, Chief Guest Shri. Suresh Rahi, Hon'ble Minister of the state of Uttar Pradesh, Guests of Honour – Most Rev. Albert D'Souza, Archbishop Emeritus, Agra, Rev. Dr. Davis Varayilan, Provincial, St John's CMI Province, Bijnor, former managers and principals. The Celebration was also attended by invited guests, as well as teachers (***past and present***), the alumni and students of the College. Rev. Dr. Prashant, Principal of the college formally extended a heartfelt welcome to the guests.

The momentous occasion gratefully remembered the Late Rev. Fr. Gerard Perazzini OFM, the founder of the college. Fr Davis Varayilan expressed gratitude on behalf of St. John's Province, recollecting that Fr. Gerard, 'The Little Capuchin' of Sitapur, as he described himself, was a passionate missionary, a man of great vision, a trend setter in the educational field, a social reformer, and a friend of the poor and the sick. Fr Gerard maximized the divine within, and optimized the people around him therefore he was able to read the signs of the times, to know the joys and hopes and griefs and anxieties of the people of Sitapur and had the courage and determination to respond to their need which resulted in the birth of Sacred Heart Degree College. He also recalled all other significant names with respect to the establishment and nourishing of the college, viz., Archbishop Albert D'Souza for his openness and welcoming attitude, Late Bp. Patric Nair for his instrumentality in taking up this mission, Bishop Gerald John Mathias for his continued support and guidance, all the fathers of Lucknow diocese for their cooperation and support, Miss Treasa for collaborating with Fr. Gerard in establishing the college, the congregation of Carmelite Religious for taking up the initial struggles to establish and manage the College, sisters of CSC congregation for their collaboration in the administration of the college along with the CMIs, the Holy Cross sisters for their concern and support, all the managers and the principals of this college for the last 25 years especially Rev. Dr. Joseph Kappalummackal, Rev. Dr. Chakochoan Kalapura and Rev Dr. Jose Nedumpara the principals from other provinces. It was followed by formal floral tribute paid to the late founder by the dignitaries.

Rev Dr. Johnny Purakkat, Manager of the college highlighted the milestones of the 25-year journey of the college and presented major goals of the draft Institutional Development Plan (IDP). Thereafter, Archbishop Albert D'Souza formally inaugurated the function. Both the president and the chief guest delivered their benedictory address. The Minister in his message recollected and praised the contributions of Fr. Gerard. Felicitations were offered by Rev. Dr. Jose Nedumpara, former Principal, Dr. Tripta Verma, former teacher, Dr. Honey Khan, alumnus, Mr. Prakhar Srivasatava, Chairperson, Students Council. Rev. Dr. Sajimon Philip, Vice Principal proposed the vote of thanks.

The grand celebration of the Silver Jubilee of our college was a spectacular event that left an indelible mark on the hearts of guests, teachers and students. The programme was concluded with the college anthem and national anthem at 1.30 pm and all the guests were invited for Lunch.

Inter-School Painting Contest



The Inter-school Painting Contest, was an initiative by the Sadharmyam Research and Dialogue Center, aimed to foster appreciation for cultural heritage among students, build up a rapport with local schools, and provide aspiring students with a platform to showcase their talents. The event was held at the campus of St. Theresa's convent School on October 8th in commemoration of Gandhi Jayanthi. Students from eight schools in the vicinity participated in the competition. Dr. D.S. Bhisht, Head of the Department of Art and Painting from HNBGU, graced the occasion as the chief guest. The day concluded with a prize distribution ceremony in the afternoon.

Mariam Vandana : A Garhwali Christian Devotional

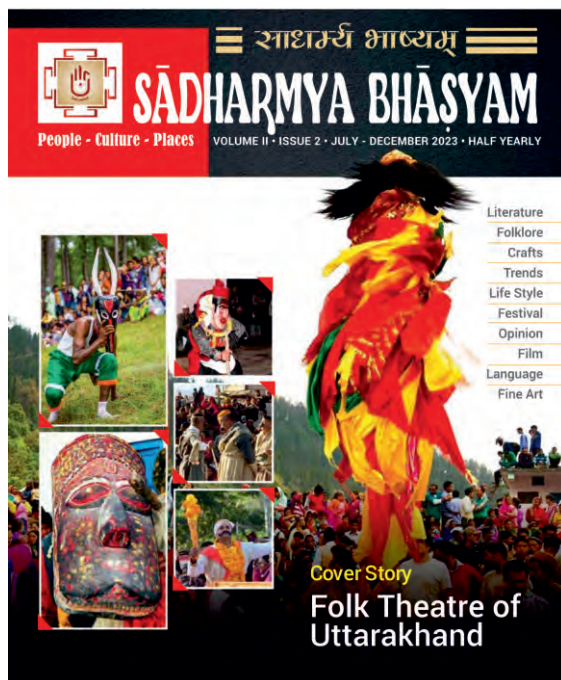
The evangelization and mission become more meaningful and purposeful when the faith is more rooted and interpreted within the specific cultural, social and historical context. This calls forth a meaningful adaptation of cultural symbols and images within missionary environments. The creation of a musical album dedicated to Mother Mary in the Garhwali language and folk tradition exemplifies this endeavour.



While numerous hymns honour Mother Mary in diverse languages, this particular hymn in the Garhwali dialect, set to the rhythmic Garhwali music tradition, holds a distinct and profound significance. Sincere gratitude to the entire team involved in creating this album and congratulations for this outstanding contribution to the church as well as the rich cultural heritage of Uttarakhand.

Sadharmya Bhasyam

The July-December edition of *Sadharmya-bhasyam* was released, featuring a notable cover story. The issue delved into the rich traditions of Uttarakhand's folk theatre, exploring its unique features and forms. Drawing insights from esteemed figures of folk theatre of Uttarakhand the issue presented a comprehensive data of this cultural heritage. Sadharmyam extends heartfelt appreciation to all who contributed and supported to this endeavour.



GHANA MISSION

News from CMI Marreit School and St. Mary's CMI House

1. Fr. Anoop Vadakkumchery after completing his service at Ghana left for India at the end of January 2024. Fr. Sebastian Chowaran assumed his responsibilities at the beginning of May 2024. Currently, Fr. Sebastian is familiarizing himself with the environment and surroundings.



2. CMI Marriet School concluded its second term with a total of 185 students and 16 staff members comprising teachers, kitchen staff, and drivers. The third term commenced on 06/05/2024.



3. Progress on the construction of the school building is underway. The pillars for the classrooms have been erected, and we anticipate commencing the concreting for two classrooms shortly.

Upcoming Feast Days and Birth Days of Our Fathers and Brothers

BIRTHDAYS

Bro. Puthenkadu Stafhan	04 August
Fr. Vazhayil Moses	06 August
Fr. Cheyazhath Anil	07 August
Fr. Kochumuttom Thomas	07 August
Fr. Chundattu Sony	08 August
Fr. Chakkanatt Lijin	07 August
Fr. Elamthuruthy Shaji	09 August
Fr. Palachuvattil George	10 August
Fr. Pedickattukunnel Mathew	12 August
Fr. Poovathumkudy Michael	13 August
Fr. Kizhakayil Cyriac	15 August
Bp. Vadakel John	17 August
Fr. Makkolil Bobby	19 August
Fr. Mundadan Tom Varghese	21 August
Fr. Pallickamalil Bejoy	25 August
Bro. Amal Tomy Vattukalathil	25 August
Fr. Paulachan Kochappilly	29 August
Fr. Sabu Koottumkal	31 August
Fr. Cyriac Kalampatt	08 September
Fr. Puthussey Pauly	09 September
Bro. Amal Mannusseril	17 September
Fr. Pynadath Jemerson	20 September
Fr. T. A. Antony	21 September
Bro. Josemon Thakadiyil	22 September
Fr. Jomon Thekkekudiyl	28 September
Fr. Biju Vadakkel	06 October
Fr. Biju Karukappilly	08 October
Fr. Saviour Menachery	09 October
Fr. Josin Kaithakulam	13 October
Bro. Joe Paul Manavalan	25 October
Fr. Nithin Airukattu	26 October
Fr. John Nambiaparambil	28 October
Fr. Lijo Manjoor	28 October

FEAST DAYS

AUGUST 08

Fr. Bino Palatty

AUGUST 28

Fr. Augustine Keemattam

Fr. Augustine Parakkal

Fr. Austin Thenkudam

Bro. Arun Parathanathu

SEPTEMBER 21

Fr. Mathew Karakkunnel

Fr. Mathew Vazhappilly

Fr. Mathew Thenamkalayil

Fr. Mathew Thadathil

Fr. Joji Velikkakathu

Fr. Mathew Valiyakanadathil

Fr. Mathew Peedickattukunnel

Fr. Mathew Kurisumoottil

Fr. Joby Mazhuvanchery

Fr. Rinu Vayalilparambil

Bro. Amal Mannusseril

SEPTEMBER 29

Fr. Tomy Appanchira

Fr. Michael Poovathumkudy

Fr. Vijay Payyappilly

Fr. Sabu Koottumkal

OCTOBER 09

Fr. Denny Peedikathadathil

Fr. Jomat Kalapurackal

Bro. Evin Kaitharath

OCTOBER 18

Bro. Amal Tomy Vattukalathil

FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS (R.I.P)

Let us remember our Departed souls :

Mrs. Mariyakutty Pathrose (age 96), mother of Rev. Fr. Peter Vallikkavumkal.

Mrs. Thresia (age 90), aunt (father's elder brother's wife) of Fr. George Kachappilly.

Mr. Devassykutty (age 85), first cousin of Fr. Jose Padayatty.

The aunt (father's elder brother's wife) of Fr. Jemerson Pynadath.

Mr. Devassy Painadath (age 78), beloved father of Fr. Viju Painadath.

The sister-in-law (age 69) of Fr. George Chalbham.

Mrs. Alice George (age 72), aunt of Fr. Bino Palatty.

Mr. Kurian Thomas (age 69), brother-in-law of Fr. Josin Kaithakulam.

Mrs. Mary Jose Muttath (age 64), sister of Fr. Mathew Vazhappilly.

Mrs. Alphonsa (age 53), beloved mother of Dn. Amal Mannusseril CMI.