

Baruipur News

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Bishop's House, Baruipur, P.O. Kolkata-700 144, India

December, 2011

Christmas is the season of love. That is why we exchange greeting cards and gifts at Christmas. St. John in his Gospel tells us, "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son that whoever believes in Him may not be lost, but may have eternal life." St. Ignatius of Loyola in his "Spiritual Exercises" says two things of love. First, "love ought to manifest itself more by deed than by words" and second, "Love consists in a mutual communication between two persons."

Paulo Coelho, in his famous novel Zahir, tells us how love travels in circles.

"One morning, a farmer knocked loudly on the door of a monastery. When Brother Porter opened the door, the farmer held out to him a magnificent bunch of grapes.

'Dear Brother Porter, these are the finest grapes from my vineyard. Please accept them as a gift from me.'

'Why, thank you! I'll take them straight to Abbot, who will be thrilled with such a gift.'

'No, no. I brought them for you.'

'For me? But I do not deserve such a beautiful gift from nature.'

'Whenever I knocked on the door, you opened it. When the harvest had been ruined by drought, you gave me a piece of bread and glass of wine every day. I want this bunch of grapes to bring you a little of the sun's love, rains beauty and God's miraculous power.'

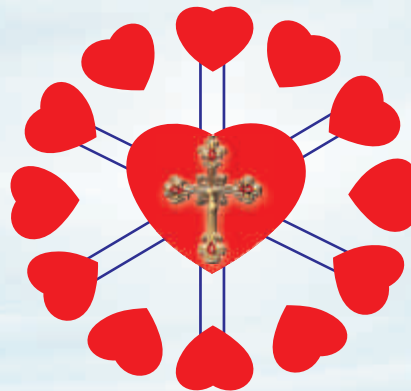
Brother Porter put the grapes down where he could see them and spend the whole morning admiring them: they really were lovely. Because of this, he decided to give

Circle of Love

the present to the Abbot, whose words of wisdom had always been such a boon to him.

The Abbot was very pleased with the grapes, but then he remembered that one of the monks was ill and thought: 'I'll give him the grapes. Who knows, they might bring a little joy into his life.'

But grapes did not remain for very long in the room of the ailing monk, for he in turn thought: Brother Cook has taken such a



good care of me, giving me only the very best food to eat. I'm sure these grapes will bring him great happiness.' And when Brother Cook brought him his lunch, the monk gave him the grapes.

These are for you. You are in close touch with the gifts Nature gives us and will know what to do with this, God's produce.

Brother cook was amazed that the beauty of the grapes and drew his assistant's attention

to their perfection. They were so perfect that no one could possibly appreciate them more than Brother Sacristan, who had charge of the Holy Sacrament, and whom many in the monastery considered to be truly saintly man.

Brother Sacristan, in turn, gave the grapes to the youngest of the novices in order to help him understand that God's work is to be found in the smallest details of Creation. When the novice received them, his heart was filled with the Glory of God, because he had never seen such beautiful bunch of grapes. At the same time, he remembered the day he had arrived at the monastery and the person who had opened the door to him; that gesture of opening the door had allowed him to be there now in the community of people who knew the value of miracles.

Shortly before dark, he took the bunch of grapes to Brother Porter.

'Eat and enjoy. You spend most of your time here all alone, and these grapes will do you good'

Brother Porter understood then the gift really was intended for him; he savoured every grape and went to sleep a happy man. In this way the circle of happiness and joy always wraps around those who are in contact with the energy of love.

May the Circle of love be complete in you at this Christmas. Let us remember that love is never self-centered. Love thinks of others. I wish you a Merry Christmas.

+ Salvadore Lobo

Blessing and Inauguration of Shanti Rani Church at Amgachia



On 17th November, 2011 Bishop Lobo blessed and inaugurated a newly built church at Amgachia. It was a historical day for the Catholics of Amgachia, a substation of Thakurpukur parish in Baruipur Diocese as they witnessed the encouraging presence of the Bishop of the diocese along with 23 priests, many more religious, benefactor and a good number of fellow parishioners from Thakurpukur. The church is dedicated to Mother Mary as 'Shanti Rani Church'. The Parish priest, Rev. Fr. Panneer Selvam with the cooperation of the local Catholics of the village went ahead with the planning and execution of constructing a new church since a year and a half. The new church is built in the same place where the old dilapidated church once stood before.

On the occasion, the Bishop inaugurated and blessed the Church by cutting the ribbon and unveiling the engraved stone followed by Eucharistic celebration. The Celebration was so meticulously planned that it put the people in true devotion and prayer. The entire celebration was in Bengali and the

choir from the Parish helped the people pray melodiously. The Bishop, during his homily, appreciated the tremendous efforts put in by Parish Priest described of him as not only one who is a visionary but also as one who makes his vision a reality. After the mass, the Catechist, moved by emotions, appreciated the strenuous effort of various people especially of Parish Priest and narrated to the faithful a brief history of the presence of the Catholics at Amgachia. He broke into tears when he said "our parish priest Fr. Panneer Selvam was our savior". The Parish Priest, on his turn thanked God for His powerful presence and support and



went on to express his special gratitude to all the benefactors for their sacrifice and generosity and to everyone who worked to actualize this plan. He made a special mention of thanks to Mr. Banik Mondal, the catechist who toiled day and night tirelessly. The generous contribution of the small number of Catholics of Amgachia who are



mostly daily labourers is remarkable and praiseworthy. After the Mass everyone partook of the *agape* that was arranged by the people of Amgachia. The Hindu and Muslim brethren of the village too came forward to help and support. The Parish Priest, with his innovative methods, motivated the parishioners and friends to lend their helping hand generously and thus managed to collect more than fifty percent of the total cost, the other part coming from the diocese. It is in fact a matter of surprise that the project could be completed within such a short span of seven months.

It was indeed a day when everyone was filled with the grace of the Lord and astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well" - Mark 7:37.



The Old Dilapidated Chapel

Witnessing to the King in Thakurpukur



The Sacred Heart Parish, on 20th November 2011, was reminded of the words of Pope John Paul II when he announced the year of Eucharist, "This year let us also celebrate with particular devotion the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, with its traditional procession. Our faith in the God who took flesh in order to become our companion along the way needs to be

Contd....Pg.3

Gosaba Grotto inauguration



Contd....Pg.3

Contd. from Pg.2

Witnessing to the King in Thakurpukur

everywhere proclaimed, especially in our streets and homes, as an expression of our grateful love and as an inexhaustible source of blessings."

Several hundred Roman Catholics from Thakurpukur and its substations came together to partake in Holy Mass and participate in the Holy Eucharistic procession on November 20, 2011. Fr. Soosaiappan, director, Palli Unnayan Samiti, Baruipur presided over the Holy Mass that started at 2.00 pm. In his sermon, Fr. Soosaiappan, drew the attention of the devotees gathered towards the teachings of Christ and invited to see Jesus in everyone we meet. After the Mass the Holy Eucharist was carried in a monstrance under a canopy with the accompanying people. The people sang, prayed and adored during the long procession that stretched from the Parish church to *Abhilasha* Loreto Convent. The



annual Eucharistic Procession gives an opportunity for the Catholics to publicly profess their love, faith and belief in Lord Jesus Christ. The blessed Sacrament was then enthroned on a specially decorated altar on the first floor balcony of the convent where everyone could easily look upto. The devotional hymn and adoration and the final blessing from above was all a heavenly experience for the people including children who chose to walk the long distance for their faith.

Contd. from Pg.2

Gosaba Grotto inauguration

The Catholics of Gosaba and its substations had a double celebration of the Feast of Christ the King as well as the inauguration of a new grotto dedicated to Our Lady on November 20, 2011. Fr. Pradeep offered the solemn Holy Eucharist at 2.00 pm concelebrated by Fr. Parimal Kanji, the Parish Priest. The procession with the Blessed Sacrament accompanied by people singing and praying went upto the Gosaba Bazar and came back to the church. After the final benediction Fr. Pradeep Roy blessed the grotto, dedicated to our Lady. There had been a grotto earlier in the vicinity of the present one. The grotto had developed an irreparable crack after which Fr. Parimal Kanji, driven by the love for the Mother, wanted to build a completely a new grotto. He sought the people's contribution for the same. The people of Gosaba too for the love of their beloved Mother contributed almost one third of the total cost. The lovely couple from Belgium i.e. Mr. & Ms. Gaby and Rosa VROMANT made up for the rest.

Baruipur : Christ the King of Hearts

Five parishes including Canning which is 26 km far came together on November 20, 2011 at the Cathedral to make the Feast of Christ the King a grand celebration. Holy Mass, procession with the Blessed Sacrament and benediction marked the day as the annual feast, marking the end of the liturgical year, was celebrated with much pomp.

People in colourful dresses and joyful faces, coming from various parishes and substations gathered together in Holy Cross High School compound at 2.00 pm. Bishop Salvadore Lobo presided over the solemn holy Eucharist that was concelebrated by Fr. Augustine E., Fr. Sandeep Mondal, Fr. Charles Montu Kanji, Fr. Joseph Naik C.M., Fr. Sebastian Robert and Fr. Arup Bor. The Bishop, in his homily, invited everyone to be the soldiers of Christ

wearing the armour of light. After the Holy Eucharist the people under various groups filed themselves to accompany the Blessed Sacrament in Procession. The procession came out of the school and proceeding through the narrow streets, came on to the Kulpi Main Road and ended in the cathedral. The people were all along dancing and singing *kirtans* as they proceeded to make their great King known and loved. Children dressed in white preceded the Blessed Sacrament to pay their homage and obeisance with flowers for their King of kings. Fr. Charles Montu Kanji then through *bhajans* and prayers brought the people into a prayerful mood. Bishop then gave the solemn blessing and the programme of witnessing to the Lord of lords ended at about 7.00 pm.

– Fr. C. Sebastian Robert MSFS

Feast of Christ the King at Bamanpukur

The Sunday school children of Catholic Church, Bamanpukur arrived for morning Holy Mass unusually early on 20th November 2011. It was because the Feast of Christ the king. The children with help of Meena Biswas and Moyna Naskar had some early preparations for this Feast. Festoons and placard with Bible Quotations were made. After a good liturgy in the morning all the faithful joined for Corpus Christi procession at 3.00 pm. Rev. Fr. Francis Baraik explained in his homily the origin of this Feast with biblical background and church's history dated back in 1925. The three hour long procession ended in the church with final blessing of the Blessed Sacrament. A special thanks to Rev. Fr. Francis Baraik for his liturgical service extended to our people at Bamanpukur.

– Fr. Francis Makhhal

In Your Charity Pray ...

Kindly pray for Ms. Pramila Haldar, mother of Fr. John Babu Haldar, C.Ss.R. After a brief bout of various illnesses she died on 21st November 2011 at 8.30 pm. She was 83 years old. Her funeral service was held at 12.00 pm on 22nd November, 2011 in Basanti. RIP.

About People and Events

- The proclamation commission of the diocese, led by Fr. Alope Kanji and Fr. David R., conducted a day of animation in view of *Regional Jishu Mahotsab* for all the priests and religious of the diocese on November 14, 2011 from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm. Bishop Lobo gave a warm welcome to all the resource persons and introduced the topic of discussion for the day. Most Rev. Stephen Lepcha, Bishop of Darjeeling and Chairman of the Regional Proclamation Commission gave a key-note address outlining the purpose of the celebration of *Yesu Mahotsav*. Fr. Subhash Barui, Secretary of Regional Proclamation Commission along with Sr. Christy Sheila, SMI led the group in prayer and animated within the participants the love for proclamation of the gospel.
 
- The heads of various committees for the celebration of *Regional Jishu Mahotsab* met along with Most Rev. Stephen Lepcha and the directors of various dioceses for Proclamation on November 15, 2011 from 9.00 am till 1.00 pm in preparation for the grand celebration. Thakurpukur parish has been chosen as the venue of the celebration that is to be held from March 26-28, 2011.
 
- Rev. Br. Robert Thiaw, the Assistance General, Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel along with Rev. Br. P.T. George, Provincial Superior, Ranchi Province paid a three day visit to the community of St. Montfort's Sr. Sec. School, Balarampur, Baruipur from 3rd to 5th November 2011. Br. Robert was on his last leg of his visit to India and he was extremely delighted to meet and interact with Rt. Rev. Salvadore Lobo, a few priests and religious in the diocese. Before his leaving for Rome, he also paid homage to our beloved Blessed Mother Teresa of Kolkata as a part of thanksgiving to God for the beautiful experience he cherished in India.
- Five persons attended the programme at Chetana from November 3-11, 2011 as part of theology course for BCC animators.
- Mrs. Joke Jansen, Chairperson of *Stichting Actie Calcutta (SAC)* along with her husband and Mr. Peter Rooimans, secretary of SAC along with his wife paid a visit to Bishop on October 28. SAC has been sponsoring education of some children since the inception of the diocese. This time they want to change their focus as with *the Right to Education Bill* of the Parliament, sponsorship is no more seen as important. SAC will focus on certain aspects of development. After spending some time in Bishop's House they visited DSA sisters at Kalikanan where they have financed building of a primary school. They were happy with the work Sr. Santwana, DSA has been doing at Kalikanan. They assured Sr. Santwana DSA help to complete the building.
- About 20 persons of the *Bhalobasa* group paid a visit to Baruipur Diocese on October 24, 2011. A warm welcome was given to them at *Dishari*, Baruipur. They were very happy to interact with the Bishop. This year *Bhalobasa* group celebrates 20th anniversary of their foundation. *Bhalobasa* was in fact born twenty years ago under the aegis of Fr. Orson Wells when Sr. Emilia, DSA and Bishop Linus Gomes, SJ accompanied to Morapai a group led by Fr. Armando Zappolini. Since then they have grown so much and help children's education in many dioceses in India. The diocese is grateful to them for their selfless service and wishes them well.



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| 09 | Fr. Indrajit Sardar |
| 15 | Fr. Faustine Brank |
| 15 | Fr. Tony D'Souza, SFX |
| 18 | Fr. James K. Mathew, SDB |
| 21 | Fr. Pankaj Kumar Pati |
| 23 | Fr. Sebastian T.J., C.M. |
| 25 | Fr. Jerome Francis, S.J. |
| 26 | Br. Basant Kishor Toppo |



Ordination Anniversary

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|----|------------------------------|
| 03 | Fr. V. Jeyaraj, SJ |
| 06 | Fr. Arup Bor |
| 07 | Fr. Henry Crasta |
| 23 | Fr. M.C. Francis, SDB |
| 27 | Fr. Joshi Mayamparampil, CMI |
| 29 | Fr. Parimal Kanji |

Intentions for Apostleship of Prayer

General : Peace among All Peoples. That all peoples may grow in harmony and peace through mutual understanding and respect.

Mission : Children and Youth. That children and young people may be messengers of the Gospel and that they may be respected and preserved from all violence and exploitation.



BCC awareness programme at Kochpukur

The BCC animators' team consisting of Sr. Bimala, DSA, Mr. Akhil Naskar and Mr. Dipankar Sardar conducted a half day awareness programme on BCC to the people of Kochpukur under Baruipur Parish on 13th November 2011. The programme that started at 2.30pm and ended at 7.00 pm. Consisted of Bible procession, seven-step Bible sharing and explanation and ended with the Holy Eucharist celebrated by Fr. John Britto. The people were very touched by the way Jesus could speak to them in the community. Ms. Aloka Das, the catechist of the small substation took active interest and was able to mobilise the people to make this programme a successful one.

Ordination of Rev. Fr. Durlov Bar A NEW GRACE



Wednesday, November 9, 2011 was yet another day etched in the memory of the people of Baidyapur. That is when they witnessed a son of their own in the person of Fr. Philip Durlov Bar receive the grace of ordination. Every person comes into this world with a special mission assigned to him/her by God Himself. This mission becomes clearer to us on the course of our living and in turn we respond to it with our lives. In this response the world rejoices and the Church is enriched and God becomes alive in the lives of His people. The Diocese of Baruipur was blessed with such a great response on this occasion.

The ordination ceremony started at 10.30 am with an entrance processional dance performed by the girls of Baidyapur parish. Bishop Salvadore Lobo along with about thirty priests offered the holy Eucharist and conferred the sacrament of ordination. Fr.

Subrata Kanji, Parish Priest, who was also the commentator and emcee saw to the minute details of the liturgy. The altar and the *pandal* in front of the parish school premises were beautifully decorated. The whole atmosphere, with the presence of so many religious, friends and relatives, was so solemn and heavenly as the diocese received A NEW GRACE FROM THE ALMIGHTY. After the Mass, Fr. Durlov thanked one and all for their help, support and presence and invited, on behalf of his family, to share a fellowship meal in his house.

Fr. Durlov was born on 26th October 1978 as the 6th child to Mr. Sachin Bar and Mrs. Selina Bar in Baidyapur. He has 3 brothers and 3 sisters. After his primary education in Sacred Heart Primary school, Baidyapur he was in the boys' hostel in Khari where he completed his High school studies. As an aspirant he

finished his Higher Secondary education in Gobindapur Ratneswar High School in Baruipur. In the auspicious year 2000 he joined the Diocesan Seminary and pursued his Graduation & Philosophy studies in St. Aquinas College in Gopalpur, Orissa, theology studies in Morning Star Regional Seminary, Barrackpore and a degree of B.Ed. in St. Xavier's College, Kolkata. He was ordained a deacon for the Diocese of Baruipur on the 23rd February 2011 and was appointed at Basanti for his Ministry. Fr. Durlov is an amiable, energetic person who exudes confidence. As teacher, he has great love for his students.

The diocese wishes Fr. Durlov all the best and God's choicest blessings as he begins his priestly ministry in the parish of Basanti as teacher in St. Xavier's High School and as curate in Catholic Church, Basanti.



This issue of Baruipur News is sponsored by Mr. Subrata Ganguly of Church Art

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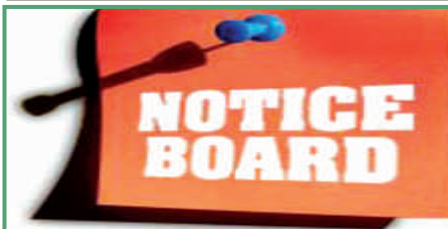




*In every gleaming candle flame,
May joy shine out anew...
In every ringing Christmas bell,
May there be blessings for you.
May Christ be at the centre and bless
your circles of love.*

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Bishop Lobo, Priests, Religious and
people of Baruipur Diocese



- Recollection for Priests in the diocese will be held from the evening of 6th to the noon of 7th December, 2011.
- Christmas Get-together for priests and religious working in the diocese will be held on Thursday 29th December, 2011 from 10.00 a.m. in *Palli Unnayan Samiti, Baruipur*. RSVP: Fr. John Britto Mobile no.: 9903809440
- There is a change in the date and venue of Recollection for catechists of the diocese. *Paribar Jyoti's* animation programme for catechists will be held on 13th December and the recollection will be held on 14th December 2011 in *Paribar Jyoti*.
- BCC Animators' Training Programme will be held from December 2-4, 2011 at Dishari, Baruipur.
- Fr. Philip Durlov Bar has been appointed as Assistant Teacher in St. Xavier's High School, Basanti and as curate in Catholic Church, Basanti with effect from December 3, 2011.

BISHOP LOBO'S PROGRAMME FOR DECEMBER, 2011

Date	Day	Time	Place	Programme
01	Thu	06.30 a.m. 02.30 p.m.	Gangarampur	Silver Jubilee celebration of Sr. Ann David M.C. Goes to New Delhi
02			Ghaziabad	Work at NISCORT
03	Sat	p.m.		Returns to Baruipur
04	Sun	10.30 a.m.	Dishari	Governing Board Meeting of Education Commission
05	Mon	05.00 p.m.	Kolkata	ABCD Advisory Committee meeting at Seva Kendra
06	Tue	p.m.	Dishari	Priests' recollection
07	Wed	a.m.	Dishari	Priests' recollection
08	Thu	09.30 a.m.	PUS	Visitation
09	Fri	09.30 a.m.	PUS	Visitation
10	Sat	10.00 a.m.	Kolkata	Meeting of Regional Laity Commission at Seva Kendra
11	Sun		Kolkata	Meeting of Regional Laity Commission at Seva Kendra
13	Tue	04.00 p.m.	Kolkata	Governing Board Meeting of Boys Towns of W.B. at ABP's Hse
14	Wed	10.00 a.m.	Baruipur	Meets Youth leaders of the diocese at Bishop's House
15	Thu	03.30 p.m.	Baruipur	Finance Committee meeting
18	Sun	11.00 a.m.	Cathedral	Mass for novices of Apostolic Carmel
19	Mon	04.00 p.m.	PUS	Meeting of Governing Board
22	Wed	09.00 a.m.	PUS	Christmas gathering for poor children of the locality
24	Sat	10.30 p.m.	Cathedral	Christmas Vigil & Mass
25	Sun	08.00 a.m.	Gangarampur	Christmas mass at Infant Jesus Church
26	Mon	04.00 p.m.		Goes to Bangladesh
27	Tue		Bangladesh	
28	Wed	07.00 p.m.	Bangladesh	Silver Jubilee of Mr. Dipak & Mrs. Seuli Gomes Returns to Baruipur
29	Thu	10.00 a.m.	PUS	Christmas Gathering