

CNI E NEWS



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2026



info@cnisynod.org



facebook.com/cnisynod



YouTube

youtube.com/@cnisynod



cni_synod_official

MODERATOR'S MESSAGE

EDITORIAL

DEVOTION

NEWS FROM CNI SYNOD

NEWS FROM CNI SBSS

DIOCESAN NEWS

Moderator's Message

3rd September - Sadhu Sunder Singh Day Theme: "Shining the Light of Christ in Simplicity and Service" Bible Verse: "For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain."— Philippians 1:21

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

It is with great joy that I extend my greetings to all as we observe Sadhu Sunder Singh Day on 3rd September 2026, remembering one of India's most remarkable witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This year's theme, "Shining the Light of Christ in Simplicity and Service," beautifully reflects the life and ministry of Sadhu Sunder Singh, whose unwavering devotion to Christ continues to inspire believers across generations.

The Apostle Paul declares in Philippians 1:21, "For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain." These words were not merely a confession for Paul; they became a living reality in the life of Sadhu Sunder Singh. Having encountered the risen Christ in a life-transforming experience, he surrendered everything to follow his Lord. Rejecting worldly recognition and comfort, he embraced a simple lifestyle, travelled tirelessly, and proclaimed the love of Christ with humility, courage, and compassion.

Sadhu Sunder Singh reminds us that the true power of Christian witness does not lie in wealth, influence, or position, but in a heart wholly surrendered to Christ. His life teaches us that simplicity is not weakness but strength, and service is not a burden but a joyful expression of God's love. He carried the Gospel not only through his words but through his life of prayer, sacrifice, forgiveness, and care for others.

In today's world, marked by materialism, division, and self-centeredness, the Church is called afresh to reflect the light of Christ through lives of humility and faithful service. Our witness becomes meaningful when we love without

discrimination, serve without seeking recognition, and remain steadfast in our commitment to the Gospel. Every Christian family, congregation, and institution has the privilege and responsibility of being a light in society by demonstrating Christ's compassion and truth.

As we honor the legacy of Sadhu Sunder Singh, let us not simply admire his life but seek to imitate his Christ-centered faith. May his example encourage us to deepen our relationship with God through prayer, to serve our neighbors with genuine love, and to boldly share the hope of the Gospel wherever God has placed us.

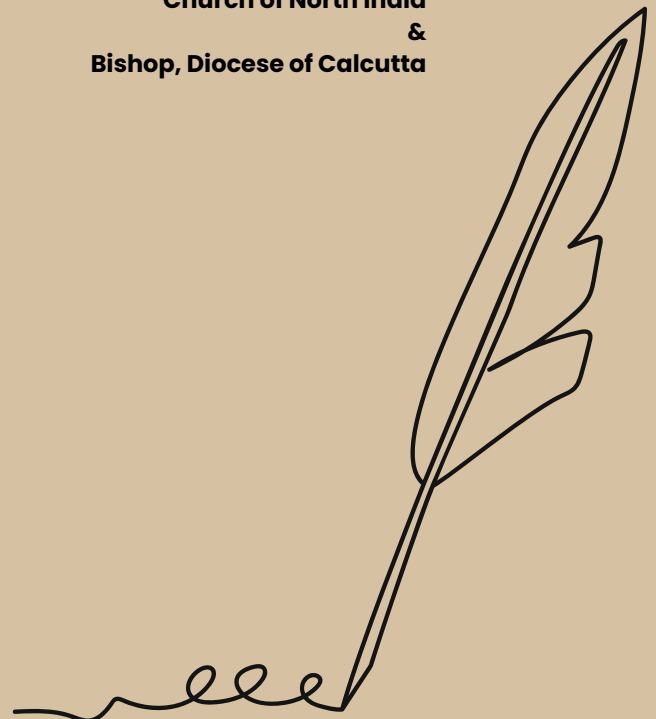
I pray that this observance will renew our commitment to discipleship and inspire a new generation of believers to shine the light of Christ with simplicity, humility, and sacrificial service.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit strengthen us to live faithfully for His glory.

God bless you all.

Yours in His service,

The Most Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning
Moderator,
Church of North India
&
Bishop, Diocese of Calcutta



"CONTINUING RELEVANCE OF SADHU SUNDAR SINGH"

"For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain." — Philippians 1:21

There is a comfortable way to remember Sadhu Sundar Singh, and there is a true but uncomfortable way. The comfortable way paints him in soft colours: a saffron robe, a wandering saint, a gentle miracle-worker who makes for a very good Sunday School story. The true way is harder to sit with. Sundar Singh did not simply wear the clothes of a sannyasi as a costume of contextualisation. He walked away from inheritance, comfort, caste privilege, and the safety of institutional Christianity. He further walked into Tibet, into hostility, into disappearance without a grave. If we are honest on this day, we must ask whether we are prepared to remember him rightly, or only conveniently that suits our privilege.

The Church today is, in many places, a comfortable church. We have buildings, committees, hierarchies, anniversaries, and diaries full of programmes. None of this is sin in itself. But Sundar Singh's life stands as a rebuke to every form of Christianity that has made its peace with comfort and privilege as a sign of respectability. He renounced what the world calls security. We, too often, defend security and many times even defend caste privilege, class privilege and religious privilege inside the very body that claims to be one in Christ. A church that asks "to live is Christ" cannot simultaneously protect the arrangements of this world that Christ came to overturn. In other words, we as church protect what Christ rejected, namely oppressive privilege.

Sundar Singh's radicalism was not eccentricity; it was fidelity. He refused to let the Gospel be domesticated into an import or a private comfort. He insisted that Christ could be known in genuinely Indian terms. By adopting the strategies of sitting under trees with sadhus, living without the protection and control of mission campuses and missionary bungalows, Sundar Singh exposed how much of colonial Christianity was inherited rather than the living Christ. Such an exposure is still needed in the church today. Wherever our worship, our leadership structures,

our theological imagination remain borrowed rather than incarnate and wherever the poor, the Dalit, the tribal, the woman, the outsider still wait at the threshold of full belonging, Sundar Singh's memory challenges us and hold us accountable.

Sundar Singh read the verse "to live in Christ" as a directive or even a command. Paul did not write it from a pulpit but from a prison, having already lost everything the world counted as gain. Sundar Singh understood that this is not a text for framing on a wall; it is a text for the road and a text to be practised. It asks the congregation a direct question: what have we been unwilling to lose for the sake of Christ's presence among us?

Let this day, then, not become another event in the church calendar, observed and filed away. Let the life of Sundar Singh unsettle us. Let it ask, every diocese, every congregation, where we have chosen the missionary bungalow over the open road; where we have chosen institutional survival over prophetic risk; where we have preached simplicity while practising accumulation, and preached unity while tolerating hierarchy along lines the Gospel already condemned at the cross.

Sadhu Sundar Singh disappeared into the Himalayas and was never found. Perhaps that, too, is instructive. The measure of a Christian life is not always the monument left behind, but the trail of costly obedience walked while alive. On this day, may the Church of North India ask not merely to admire his sacrifice, but to imitate Sundar Singh in simplicity, in service, and in the same fearless saying, with complete sincerity, that to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

The Revd. Dr. Samuel Mall

Assistant Professor of Christian Theology
Bishop's College, Kolkata &
Member, NICR Editorial Board

RISKING LIFE FOR JESUS

For me, to live is Christ and to die is gain (Philippians 1:21)

As we meditate on Paul's one of the most profound statement in Philippians 1:21, "For me, to live is Christ and to die is gain", we remember the spiritual experiences of one of the greatest servants of God Sadhu Sundar Singh. The charismatic life of Sadhu Sundar Singh continues to inspire and create curiosity among the faith community. Personally, I remember that someone gifted me biographical books on Sadhu Sundar Singh during my early teenage life. Very naturally, as a teenager what attracted me the most was the adventurous life of Sadhu Sundar Singh, and his readiness to risk his life for Christ. This helped me spiritually and built strong love for Christ. I would encourage you to not only read books on Sadhu Sundar Singh but buy them and gift to the younger generation.

Sadhu Sundar Singh was born on 3rd September 1889 to a Sikh family in Punjab. He was deeply influenced by his mother's religious life, and right from very young age he studied Sikh and Hindu scriptures and philosophy passionately. Though he studied at one of the Christian schools he hated the name of Jesus and Christian faith much. He even burnt a bible publicly to demonstrate his antagonism to Christian faith. His mother's death when he was only fourteen further disturbed him and made him restless. Out of spiritual restlessness he decided to end his life, but that very night he received Jesus' vision, which transformed his life. He was severely persecuted by his family, but that did not deter him from following Jesus. His family even tried to kill him by poisoning him but God saved him miraculously. Sadhu Sundar Singh's life and Paul's statement helps us to illuminate our spiritual life. I have identified three points.

Firstly, Sadhu Sundar Singh was a mystic. Mysticism stresses on deep personal spiritual experience with God. This we are lacking sometimes in our relationship with God. We may be very well versed with all the scriptural and doctrinal theories, but we don't have that deep personal communication with God. Jesus also wants us to have with him deep personal relationship. His teaching in John 15 that he is true vine and we being branches is basically deep mysticism. Jesus further states we cannot do anything apart

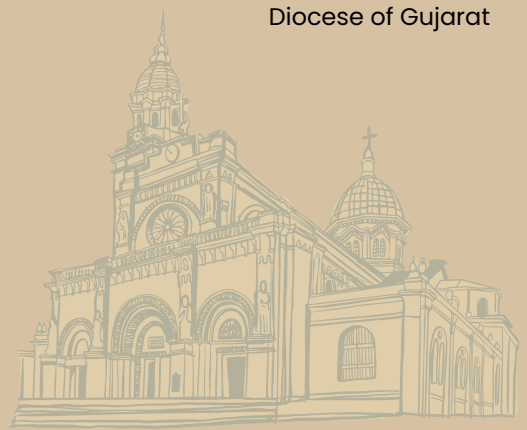
from him reflects deep connection with God in our daily life. This does not mean that we forget to live daily practical life, but our mystic experience with God helps us to live daily life which is totally led by Christ values. People around us notice visible changes in our life. Let us have that mystical experience in our lives, which many of us as said earlier are lacking.

Secondly, Sadhu Sundar Singh passionately travelled extensively to remotest areas, particularly in treacherous Himalayan region barefooted to share Gospel, and so he was called as "An Apostle with the Bleeding Feet". The high risks involved in such travelling did not discourage him. Just as Paul said, for me to live is Christ. He totally dedicated his life to Jesus. He adopted a simple life-style of a traditional Hindu sadhu so that he can relate and contextualize with the common people of India. He helped to give a strong Indian identity to the Christian faith. Sadhu Sundar Singh today reminds us to take calculative risk to live out for Jesus. Let our faith not get limited to merely a theory or comfortable environments. We are to live daily for Christ.

Thirdly, Sadhu Sundar Singh died only at the age of 39 or 40 attempting to travel to Tibet to share Gospel. Just as Paul said that for me to die is a gain. How can death be a gain? For those who believe in Jesus truly, death is a reward as it reflects that they have lived out a fruitful life. They have not wasted their life living a purposeless life. It also means that they have entered eternal life. All most all of us are afraid of death because we are not sure where will we be after the death. People like Sadhu Sundar Singh are sure that since they have lived their life with Jesus they are going to be in right place. Whatever we do none of us would escape the earthly death. See that just like Paul and Sadhu Sundar Singh we can declare that for me to die is a gain.

Let us have mystical experience of connecting with God. Let us live-out each moment of our life for Jesus. Let us boldly declare that death for me is gain in Christ.

The Revd. Sanjay Malaviya
Diocese of Gujarat



SHAPING HOPE INTO SKILLS

For many young people in Punjab, the future can feel uncertain. Unemployment, limited opportunities, and a lack of awareness about skill development, including vocational, job-related, and



technical skills, can leave young people vulnerable to substance abuse and other challenges. In communities where the pressure is already high, simply telling young people to “stay away” is not always enough. They also need something meaningful to move towards.

It was against this backdrop that CNI SBSS Amritsar Project strengthened its efforts to engage young people through constructive activities such as career counseling, sports events, national days celebrations, and leadership training. At the village level, these activities, along with regular counselling sessions, created spaces where young people could openly share their concerns, hopes and struggles, including mental health challenges and the risk of substance abuse. Through these interactions, SBSS encountered a group of young people who were looking for direction and an opportunity to build something of their own.

Rather than seeing them only through the lens of the challenges around them, SBSS saw their potential.

Ten young people (seven women and three men) were identified and encouraged to learn skills that could help them become economically & socially independent. They were offered three-month vocational training in tailoring, beauty parlour services and hair cutting. What began as a training opportunity gradually became something more – a chance to regain confidence, discover their abilities, and imagine a different future.

The training gave them more than technical skills. It gave them a role to play within their communities. As they developed their skills, the young people began to see how their knowledge could become a source of livelihood as well as a way of supporting others. Their new abilities positioned them not merely as beneficiaries, but as potential “Resource Persons” who could share what they had learned, encourage others and contribute positively to their communities. The first group of ten youth successfully completed their three-month courses. Five of them have already taken their first steps towards earning, working parttime alongside local professionals. Their journey was celebrated when the Rt. Rev. Manoj Charan, Bishop of the Diocese of Amritsar, awarded them certificates and prayed for their bright future. Their next aspirations

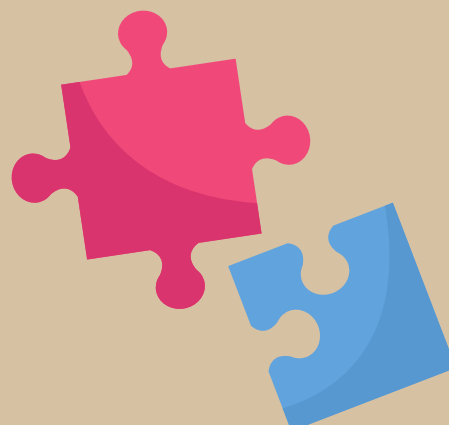


are to strengthen their skills, build sustainable livelihoods and, for some, eventually establish work of their own. As their confidence grows, so does their capacity to inspire others around them.

For more stories from the field, please visit www.cnisbss.org
You can also reach us at:

   /cnisbss

*Communication and
Documentation desk
CNI SBSS*



TWO-DAY WRITERS' WORKSHOP

The Two-Day Writers' Workshop, jointly organised by the Synod of the Church of North India (CNI) and ISPCK, concluded successfully on 14–15 July 2026 under the inspiring theme: "Writing Faith, Shaping Lives: Christian Communication for a Changing World."



The workshop was inaugurated by The Most Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Moderator of the Church of North India and Bishop of the Diocese of Calcutta, who also delivered the keynote address, inspiring participants to embrace Christian writing as a vital ministry in today's changing world. The gathering began with a warm Welcome Address by The Revd. Dr. D. J. Ajith Kumar, followed by a Word of Felicitation from The Rt. Revd. Dr. Silvan S. Christian, Deputy Moderator of the Church of North India and Bishop of the Diocese of Gujarat, and Mr. Subrata Gorai, Treasurer of the Church of North India, extended greetings to all the participants. Dr. Sandeep Chowdhry, General Secretary, ISPCK shared the purpose and vision behind organising the workshop, highlighting the need to nurture effective Christian communicators for the Church and society.

We also gratefully acknowledge the presence and encouragement of Bishop Andrew Rathod, Bishop Ramson Victor, Bishop S. K. Nanda, and Bishop Denzil Peoples, whose support added great value to the event. The workshop was conducted by The Revd. Dr. Binod Peter Senapati, Principal of Satyaniketan School of Theology, Nagpur, CNI Synod. The resource persons, The Revd. Dr. Swarup Bar, Dr. Ella Sonawane, and The Revd. Fr. Monodeep Danielled engaging and insightful sessions on a wide range of topics, including: The purpose and power of devotional writing, Using



language that encourages and challenges, Identifying audiences, communication platforms, and the frequency of communication, Reading Scripture in community through the perspectives of biblical characters, Writing devotionals for the Christian seasons of Advent, Lent, Easter, and Christmas, Common English grammar and writing mistakes, Newsletter and magazine writing, including practical newsletter preparation, "Called to Write, Sent to Serve"—embracing writing as a ministry and mission. The workshop provided participants with valuable knowledge, practical



skills, and renewed inspiration to communicate the Gospel faithfully and effectively through the written word. It was a meaningful and enriching experience that strengthened the Church's mission and vision of equipping believers to engage the changing world with clarity, creativity, and conviction. We thank God for His guidance throughout these two days and express our sincere gratitude to all the organisers, speakers, church leaders, and participants who contributed to the success of this memorable workshop. The workshop was concluded with closing prayer and benediction by the Rt. Revd. Silvan S. Christian, the Deputy Moderator of the Church of North India and the bishop of the diocese of Gujarat. "Writing with faith, serving with purpose, and proclaiming Christ through every word."

The Revd. Dr. Binod Peter Senapati
Communication Secretary CNI Synod

CONFIRMATION SERVICE HELD AT CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, ALIGARH

A solemn and joyous Confirmation Service was held on 2nd August 2026 at the Church of the Ascension, Aligarh, and bringing together members of the congregation, church



leaders, families, and well-wishers for a memorable occasion of faith and commitment. The service was graciously led by The Most Revd. B. K. Nayak, Bishop of the Diocese of Agra and Former Moderator of the CNI Synod, who administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to the confirmation candidates. During the service, Bishop Nayak delivered an inspiring sermon, encouraging the newly confirmed members to remain steadfast in their faith, deepen their relationship with Christ, and actively participate in the life and mission of the Church. He reminded the congregation that Confirmation is not merely a ceremony but a lifelong commitment to Christian discipleship and faithful service.

Adding to the spiritual significance of the occasion, The Revd. Ashwin Plomer, Vice-President of the Diocese of Agra, shared a biblical reflection on the meaning and importance of Confirmation. Drawing from the Holy Scriptures, he explained that Confirmation is a public affirmation of one's faith in Jesus Christ and a commitment to live according to God's Word through the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit.

The occasion was also graced by the presence of Mr. Alex Barlow, Property Manager, ADTA, Diocese of Agra, whose presence added to the significance of the celebration.



On behalf of the Church of the Ascension, the Bishop and distinguished guests received a warm and heartfelt welcome. Members of all church wings—including the Pastorate Committee, Men's Fellowship, Women's Fellowship, Youth Fellowship, Sunday School, Choir, and the congregation—joined together with great joy and enthusiasm to honour and welcome the Bishop into their midst.

The service was marked by reverence, thanksgiving, and celebration as the congregation witnessed the confirmation of the candidates, reaffirming their commitment to Christ and His Church. The worship, prayers, and fellowship reflected the unity and vibrant spirit of the parish. The Confirmation Service concluded with prayers for the newly confirmed members, followed by a time of fellowship, leaving the congregation encouraged and inspired to continue serving God faithfully.

Department of Communication,
Diocese of Agra, CNI



DYFC CANNING ZONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE HELD AT ST. MARK'S CHURCH, SAJNEBERIA, BASANTI PASTORATE

The DYFC Canning Zonal Youth Conference was held with great enthusiasm, spiritual fervour, and active participation at St. Mark's Church, Sajneberia, Basanti, on 21st

The programme commenced with the presentation of floral bouquets to the Bishop and other distinguished

service of both the Church and society. His message challenged the young people to become faithful disciples and responsible Christian leaders in today's world. The conference also featured Bible-based discussions, a leadership development session for youth, group activities, and a vibrant cultural programme. During the interactive session, the Bishop spent quality time with the young participants, answered their questions, and shared valuable spiritual guidance. His warm interaction and pastoral blessings deeply inspired and encouraged everyone present. The DYFC Canning Zonal Youth Conference at St. Mark's Church, Sajneberia, concluded on a joyful and hopeful note. All participants expressed their gratitude and confidence that the conference would play a significant role in fostering spiritual renewal, Christian unity, and leadership development among the youth of the Diocese



June 2026. The conference was organized by the Diocesan Youth Fellowship Committee (DYFC), Diocese of Barrackpore, CNI, and brought together a large number of young people from various Pastorates across the Canning Zone. The conference was graced by the presence of Rt. Revd. Subrata Chakrabarty, Bishop, Diocese of Barrackpore, as the Chief Guest.

guests, followed by an opening prayer, worship songs, and the reading of the Holy Scriptures. In his inspiring address, Bishop Subrata Chakrabarty encouraged the youth to build their lives on the teachings and example of Jesus Christ. He urged them to remain steadfast in their faith and to dedicate themselves to the



KAKDWIP ZONAL DWFCS WOMEN'S CONFERENCE HELD

The Kakdwip Zonal DWFCs Women's Conference, comprising the Kakdwip, Panchamkhanda, and Khari pastorates, was held on 28 June 2026 at the Kakdwip Pastorate. Organized by the Diocesan Women's Fellowship for Christian Service (DWFCs) of the Diocese of Barrackpore, the conference was a spiritually enriching and inspiring

gathering attended by 120 women from various Pastorates, who participated with great enthusiasm and dedication. The conference was graced by the presence of Rt. Revd. Subrata Chakrabarty, Bishop of the Diocese of Barrackpore, as the Chief Guest. Other distinguished guests included Mrs. Florence Supriya Chakrabarty, President of the

DWFCs, Mrs. Susmita Pramanik, Secretary of the DWFCs, and several other church leaders. The programme commenced with prayer and congregational worship. In his inspiring sermon, Bishop Subrata Chakrabarty highlighted the vital role of women in Christian life and ministry. He emphasized that women make an invaluable contribution to

the growth of both the Church and society, and that through their faith, service, and spirit of sacrifice, the Kingdom of God continues to be strengthened and expanded. Mrs. Florence Supriya Chakrabarty, President of the DWFCS, and Mrs. Susmita Pramanik, Secretary, also addressed the gathering. They encouraged the women to remain united in Christ, cultivate a life of prayer, and become even more actively involved in ministries of service and community outreach.

The conference featured a variety of inspiring programmes, including thematic discussions, personal testimonies, special musical presentations, drama, and cultural



performances, all of which enriched the spiritual experience of the participants. The entire conference was organized smoothly and successfully under the able leadership and coordination of Revd. Pabitra Ghosh, Priest-in-Charge of the Kakdwip Pastorate. The gathering concluded with thanksgiving, leaving the participants spiritually encouraged and renewed in their commitment to Christ and His mission.

FAITH FORWARD' – KEORAPUKURZONAL YOUTH CAMP HELD AT AKRA, METIABRUZ PASTORATE

The Keorapukur Zonal Youth Camp, titled "Faith Forward," was held with great enthusiasm, spiritual fervour, and active participation at the Akra CNI Church of the Metiabruz Pastorate. The camp was organized to encourage young people to move forward in faith, deepen their relationship with Christ, and develop



the youth to cultivate unwavering faith, pursue spiritual growth, and embrace Christian leadership with confidence and commitment. The event was graced by the presence of Rt. Revd. Subrata Chakrabarty, Bishop of the Diocese of Barrackpore, as the Chief Guest. Other distinguished guests included Revd. Dr. Surajit Sarkar, Vice-President of the Diocese, Mr. Suklayan Haldar, Diocesan Secretary, and several clergy members. The guests were warmly welcomed by Revd. Subrata Mallick, Priest-in-Charge, and members of the local congregation, who honoured them with the traditional Bengali gamcha as a symbol of respect, love, and hospitality. In his inaugural address, Bishop Subrata Chakrabarty spoke about the many social, moral, and spiritual challenges confronting today's youth. He encouraged the young participants to remain firmly rooted in God's Word, to cultivate a consistent life of prayer, and to place their complete trust in Jesus Christ, emphasizing that unwavering faith in God is the true source of strength and guidance in every circumstance. Following the Bishop's message, Revd. Dr. Surajit Sarkar, Vice-President of the Diocese, and Mr. Suklayan Haldar, Diocesan Secretary,



also addressed the gathering, encouraging the youth to remain faithful to Christ, actively participate in the life of the Church, and dedicate themselves to Christian service. The camp featured a series of inspiring workshops, interactive sessions, group activities, and fellowship, all designed to strengthen the spiritual lives of the participants and equip them for effective Christian witness and leadership. These sessions encouraged the youth to grow in faith, develop a heart for service, and live as faithful disciples of Christ. The "Faith Forward" Youth Camp proved to be a spiritually enriching and memorable event. It not only strengthened the faith of the young participants but also marked another significant milestone in the youth ministry of the Diocese of Barrackpore, inspiring a new generation to move forward in faith and serve Christ with dedication and joy.

as future Christian leaders. The theme verse for the camp was Hebrews 11:1: "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." Centered on this biblical message, the programme challenged



CELEBRATION OF 55TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. PETER'S CHURCH BARUIPUR PASTORATE

The 55th Anniversary of St. Peter's Church, under the Baruipur Pastorate, was joyfully celebrated on 5th July 2026.



The special occasion brought together clergy and believers in a spirit of thanksgiving, worship, and Christian fellowship to commemorate the church's long and faithful witness to the Gospel. The celebration was graced by the presence of Rt. Rev. Subrata Chakrabarty, Bishop of the Diocese of Barrackpore, as the Chief Guest. He was accompanied by Mr. Suklayan Haldar, Secretary of the BDC. Clergy from various pastorates and a large number of faithful also participated in this joyous celebration. In his inspiring message, Bishop Subrata Chakrabarty preached from Numbers 17:6-11, reflecting on the miraculous budding of Aaron's staff.



He explained that although Aaron's rod was dry and lifeless, it became a symbol of life through God's divine power. Likewise, when God's presence and blessings rest upon a church, a congregation, and the lives of believers, they are renewed with new life, hope, fruitfulness, and spiritual vitality. The Bishop encouraged the congregation to remain faithful to God's calling and to continue bearing fruit for His Kingdom. Following the Bishop's sermon, Mr. Suklayan Haldar, Secretary of the BDC, delivered an encouraging address, appreciating the church's long-standing ministry and urging the congregation to continue serving Christ with faith, unity, and dedication. Under the leadership of Revd. Tridip Gayen, Priest-in-Charge of the Baruipur Pastorate, together with the Assistant Priest,

anniversary service included special prayers, congregational hymns, and the reading of Holy Scripture, commemorating the significance of the church's foundation and ministry. The entire celebration was conducted in a reverent and festive atmosphere, filling all those present with renewed spiritual enthusiasm and reinforcing the message of unity in Christ. The anniversary served as a joyful reminder of God's enduring faithfulness throughout the church's history and inspired the congregation to continue its mission with hope and commitment.



INAUGURATION OF THE NEWLY CONSTRUCTED SADHU SUNDAR SINGH CHURCH AT RANIGARH, BASANTI PASTORATE



On 19th July 2026, the newly constructed Sadhu Sundar Singh Church at Ranigarh, under the Diocese of Barrackpore, was inaugurated in a solemn and joyful atmosphere. The inauguration ceremony was graced by the presence of the Chief Guest, The Most Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Moderator of the CNI Synod and Bishop of Calcutta along with the Bishop of the Diocese of Barrackpore, Rt. Revd. Subrata Chakrabarty; the Diocesan Secretary, Mr. Sukalyan Halder, clergy from various pastorates, and heads of different educational institutions. The Most Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Moderator of the CNI Synod and Bishop of Calcutta formally inaugurated the newly constructed church building by cutting the ribbon, followed by prayers and the reading of the Word of God. In his message, he emphasized that a church is not merely a building but a centre for worship, prayer, service, and Christian witness. The Priest-in-Charge of Basanti Pastorete, Revd. Jayanta Mondal, along with the Assistant Priest, representatives of the Pastorate, senior members of the church, and members of the women's and youth organizations, warmly welcomed all the distinguished guests by presenting them with flower garlands. The special choir of the church enriched the spiritual atmosphere of the occasion with their inspiring musical presentation.

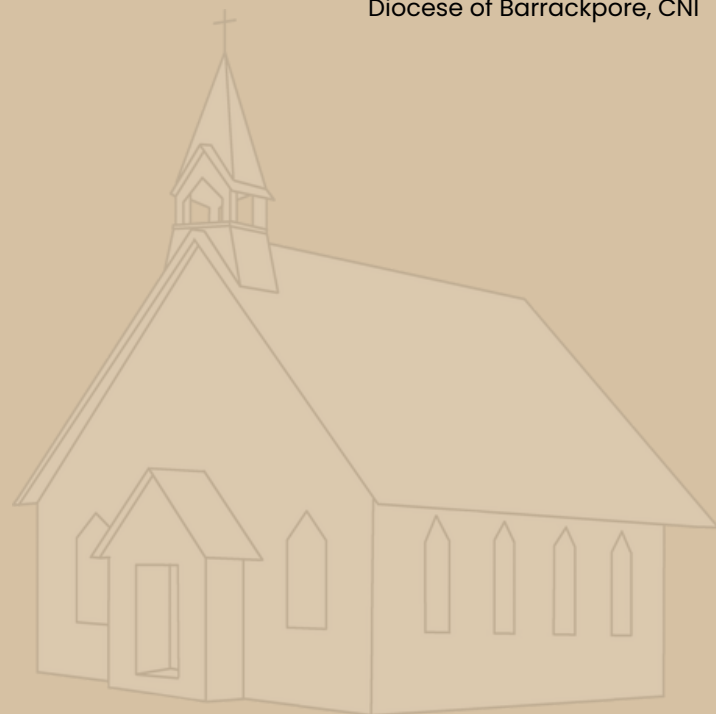


The Bishop expressed his hope that this new place of worship would, in the days to come, become an important centre for the proclamation of the Gospel, spiritual growth, and service to the people of the surrounding area. The inauguration was a glorious and memorable day for the Diocese of Barrackpore. The presence of the Most Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Moderator of the Church of North India, made the occasion even more significant and unforgettable. The programme concluded with prayers and the pronouncement of blessings.

Sukalyan Halder

Secretary, BDC

Diocese of Barrackpore, CNI



8TH ANNIVERSARY OF BISHOP'S HOUSE - 24 HOURS CHAIN PRAYER

On 24 July, 2026 Bishop's House 24 hour Prayer chain celebrated its 8th anniversary in Bishop's House Chapel. Prayer warriors were joined by Pastors and Clergy of the city in a Thanksgiving Worship. The Most Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning Moderator, Church of North India and Bishop of Calcutta preached the message and blessed the newly joining and older prayer warriors. The reading was taken from Acts 4:23-31. In his message the Moderator thanked the prayer warriors for their work of prayer every Friday in Bishop's House and the continuance of the 24 hour prayer chain. He said the prayers had blessed our Churches, Diocese and the CNI. He shared the good news we had received from all round that Clergy from our Diocese were doing well here and abroad. He talked about the story of St. Thomas and King Gondaphorus and told us to keep on building our home in heaven with acts of charity. We were greatly inspired to continue to pray like the widow who came to the judge again and again. The Celebrations came to a close with a time of fellowship and refreshments for all gathered.



The Revd. Andrew Simmick

OSMOND MEMORIAL CHURCH – FAITH, FUN AND FELLOWSHIP

On 25th July 2026 the Women's North India and Bishop of Calcutta Fellowship of Osmond Memorial Church organised a get-together with the theme "Faith, Fun and fellowship. The Most Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Moderator, Church of

North India and Bishop of Calcutta offered a prayer on the occasion. At this time The Most Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, blessed and dedicated the new Church vestry

The programme brought together the women of the Churches of the Diocese of Calcutta. The programme paved a way for meaningful worship, a time fellowship, learning from each other and recreation. The programme reflected the spirit of Christian unity and love in the Bible-based games, quizzes, and fellowship activities. This encouraged active participation and strengthened friendships among the participants. The programme concluded with the vote of thanks and Benediction by The Most Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning.



The Revd, Sourav Roy
Presbyter

162ND FOUNDERS' DAY CELEBRATION OF ST. JAMES' SCHOOL

On Saturday, 25th July 2026 St. James' School celebrated 162nd Founders' Day. The Chief Guest was The Most Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Moderator of the Church of North India and the Bishop of Calcutta.



The Worship began with the Processional Hymn- "For all the Saints" at 9:00a.m. in St. James' Church, followed by the Invocation,

the Founders' Day Prayer and the Remembrance Day Prayer. The buglers played the Last Post and this was followed by the melodious songs rendered by the Junior School Choir, the Middle School Choir and the Senior School Choir. The Offertory Prayer and Intercessory Prayers were read too.

In his message, the Moderator called us to walk in the path of humility, just as Jesus' disciples did, and to hold fast to the truth that He taught us. Saint James reminded us that greatness comes when we step beyond our comfort zones and pursue nobility with humility so that we may become a gift to society and work towards its renewal.



Academic Honours were presented by the Moderator to the toppers of the ICSE and ISC examinations. The Worship ended with the School Song and the National Anthem.

Dr. T. H. Ireland

Principal/Secretary
St. James' School, Kolkata

ST. SAVIOUR'S TAMIL CHURCH - ONE-DAY FAMILY ENRICHMENT RETREAT

On 18th July 2026 St. Paritosh Canning, Moderator, Saviour's Church (Tamil Church of North India and Congregation) Bishop of



organized a One-Day Family Enrichment Retreat on the theme, "A Family: Rooted and Growing in Christ" based on Beyond Vision 2025 as envisaged by The Most Revd. Dr.

Calcutta. Over 80 participants across the Diocese from the various Churches attended the Retreat. The Most Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning inaugurated the Retreat and

delivered the keynote address. Through meaningful Biblical illustrations drawn from the lives of two families in Scripture, he highlighted God's design for building strong and Christ-centred families. He encouraged the gathering to reflect God's nature in this changing world so that others may be drawn into the Kingdom of God. The Worship session, led by the singing team, prepared the hearts for a blessed time of fellowship and learning. Mrs. Shinola Shekhar and Pastor J. J. Joshua, the speakers for the two sessions that followed shared thought-provoking messages that

Retreat

were firmly rooted in the Word of God. They challenged participants to remain grounded in Scripture while navigating the various challenges of family life through the guidance and empowerment of the Holy Spirit. A special question-and-answer session allowed participants to engage with the speakers and seek practical Biblical guidance. It was encouraging to receive positive feedback from the participants, many of whom expressed that the retreat had strengthened and enriched their family relationships and spiritual lives, making it a wonderful occasion of fellowship, learning, and unity in Christ. The programme concluded in fellowship and lunch for all gathered.



The Revd. Biswajit Biswas,
Presbyter In-charge

83RD FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATION OF ST. THOMAS' DAY SCHOOL –

On 26th July 2026 St. Thomas' Day School celebrated its 83rd Founder's Day in a Thanksgiving Worship in St.

of the Founder, Bishop Bryan, whose commitment to providing quality education rooted in Christian values

cultivate hearts of love and selflessness, stressing that it is through our actions and concern for others that we leave a lasting impact on the world and honour the ideals upon which the school was founded. The celebrations concluded with a time of fellowship and dinner for all gathered.

Charles William Ringrow
Programme Coordinator
Diocese of Calcutta



Thomas' Church. The Most Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Moderator, Church of North India, Bishop of Calcutta and Chairman – Board of Governors presided over the worship. Distinguished Guests, members of the Governing Body, Heads of Institutions, Alumni, Parents, Staff members, and Well-wishers attended the programme. The Most Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning in his message for the occasion reflected on the vision and dedication

continues to inspire generations of students and educators. Through a moving and thoughtprovoking story about the Apostle St. Thomas, he emphasized the true meaning of charity, reminding everyone that genuine acts of kindness, compassion, generosity, and service towards others are among life's greatest virtues. He encouraged all present to



125TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF REVD. C. C PANDE MEMORIAL CHURCH

On 9th August 2026, the 125th Anniversary Celebration of God's Faithfulness was held at Revd. C. C. Pande Memorial Church under the Diocese of Durgapur, formerly known as Christandanga Village Church, under Bankura Pastorate. The year-long celebration will continue through March 2027. The Worship Service was presided over by The Rt. Revd. Sameer Issac Khimla, Bishop of the Diocese of Durgapur, assisted by Revd. Subhendu Soren, Presbyter-in-Charge, Revd. Abhijit Mahata, and Revd. Krishnapada Das. The congregation was greatly blessed by the Bishop's presence and the sharing of God's Word from Matthew 11:25-30, reminding everyone of Christ's loving invitation: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

The Bishop encouraged the congregation to surrender every burden to Jesus and to walk with Him in faith, obedience, and trust. A symbolic tree plantation added special significance to the occasion, representing growth, hope, continuity, and a commitment to future generations. As the Church journeys towards its 125th anniversary, may it continue to grow in faith, service, fellowship, and witness, giving thanks for God's unfailing faithfulness and looking forward with hope to the years ahead.



WORLD DAY AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING OBSERVED ACROSS THREE DISTRICTS OF DINAJPUR, MALDA AND BANKURA

On 30th July 2026, the Anti-Human Trafficking (AHT) Program of the Diocese of Durgapur (CNI) observed the World Day Against Human Trafficking through awareness rallies and community programmes at Hemtabad (North Dinajpur), Baldahura (Malda), and Sarenga (Bankura) in collaboration with local police, civil administration, health officials, educational institutions, and community members. At Hemtabad, the programme was organized with the support of the Hemtabad and Kaliaganj Police Stations, the B.M.O.H.s of Hemtabad and Kaliaganj Blocks, coaching centre teachers, students, and local residents. Revd. Sudhir Hembrom, Diocesan Treasurer and AHT Overseer, and Revd. Santosh Mardi, Mr. Tuhin Ghosh and AHT Field



Team of Kaliaganj Chapter participated in the rally. Plant Saplings were distributed to students as a symbol of hope and a safer future. An awareness rally was also held with students of the Maheshpur Ideal Coaching Center, while another rally took place at Baldahura, Malda where Revd. KishantoTudu, Presbyter-In-Charge along with Mr. Shyamal Kisku, Mr. Rabi Hembrom, Mrs. Phulin Hansda and participants of Safe Home participated in the rally, spreading awareness among the village residents of Baldahura Village. At Sarenga, Revd. Swapan Dorman Vice President), Revd. Sandipan Sinha (AHT Interim Coordinator), Revd. Pankaj Pande (Presbyter-in-Charge), Revd. Simon Mandi, Mr. Sandip Singh along with Members of the Pastorate Committee, Women Fellowship, Youth, Sunday School and Church Congregation participated in the rally. Students, teachers and staff from Sarenga High School, K. S.N.

Nursing Training School, St. Michaels School and E.S.E. Project also joined the program and the awareness rally. The programmes united people from all walks of life to promote vigilance, protect vulnerable communities, and

strengthen the collective fight against human trafficking. People were made aware of the dangers of human trafficking, the tricks used by traffickers, and the importance of protecting women and children. The programme received a positive response from the local people.



CELEBRATION OF TRIBAL AND ADIVASI SUNDAY



Under the Diocese of Durgapur (CNI), all the pastorates celebrated Tribal and Adivasi Sunday on 9th August 2026 with joy, prayer, and thanksgiving. The day was observed to honour the rich culture, traditions, faith, wisdom, and contributions of the Indigenous Peoples of India. Special prayers and worship services were held in the churches, giving people an opportunity to celebrate their unique identity and heritage. The celebrations also highlighted the importance of protecting Indigenous

languages, customs, traditional knowledge, and community values. The day reminded us that every community is a valuable part of God's creation. It encouraged unity, respect, dignity, and mutual understanding among people from different backgrounds. Through this observance, the Diocese of Durgapur reaffirmed its commitment to stand with Indigenous communities, support their rights and dignity,

and celebrate their important role in building a more just, peaceful, and inclusive society.



DIOCESE OF DURGAPUR CELEBRATES THE 80TH INDEPENDENCE DAY

The Diocese of Durgapur celebrates the 80th Independence Day of our nation with a renewed commitment to hopeful living. This celebration is a solemn reminder to work together for a society where justice, equality, dignity, and peace prevail. Let us have the courage to become agents of change, challenging injustice and building a society where every person can live with dignity and hope.

The Revd. Sandipan Sinha
Communication
Department
Diocese of Durgapur



DIOCESE OF DELHI CELEBRATES CHRISTIAN LIFE AND EVANGELISM MISSION SUNDAY

"Expect great things from God, attempt great things for God" – William Carey

It was not only these words but even William Carey's life, the way it was lived, what he endured and the tremendous contribution he made for the growth of modern missions that the Diocese of Delhi widely celebrated 16th August as Evangelism Sunday. The Diocese of Delhi's Christian Life and Evangelism Committee spearheaded the celebration across all the church services and Sunday School classes in the diocese. The Committee's members and their representatives participated in the church services. A special video clip was made on the life and contribution of William Carey in both Hindi and English which was played out in all

the churches. Through this even the Sunday Schoolchildren learned about William Carey and how the Gospel has been preached through mission



and evangelism efforts over the years. The theme of the sermons focused on – 'Sent in Christ, for a nation filled with healing and hope.' was mission and evangelism. All highlighted the past missionary efforts in India,

including William Carey's efforts as the father of modern evangelism, and challenged the congregation to be a part of missions and evangelism by being the salt and light in their interactions with others. The gist of the overriding message – what does it mean for us to live a Christian life on mission? Also, each of us, every Christian is tasked and called to carry forward Christ's message to the world. The mission of the church is to be the light in the dark world. All were encouraged to become God's true witnesses. The intercessory prayer asked for God's love and truth to shine across the land and draw many into God's hope, peace, and salvation. The



leader prayed for pastors, evangelists, missionaries, church planters, every believer who shares God's Word in India, and specific mission organizations across the land. Prayers called out to the Lord to let hearts be opened to receive the good news of Jesus Christ and break through fear, confusion, and spiritual darkness so that many may be drawn into the Lord's hope, peace, and salvation. Supplication was made that the Lord in His mercy may bring light to India. Intercession was made for pastors, evangelists, missionaries, church planters, and every believer who shares the Word of God in India and that the Lord may shine through us for His glory. The role of mission agencies and Christian organizations remembered in prayer included: Mission India; India Missions Association; Missions India Navajeevodayam; Bible Society of India; The India Mission for Evangelism; Youth with A Mission India; Operation Mobilization India;

Gospel for Asia; and Evangelical Fellowship of India, FMPB, Vishwani, IEM, etc. Special songs were sung on the theme. For instance, at the heritage St. James Church, Delhi the young people sang "carry your candle." Each of us stands to make a difference. As seen from the life of William Carey – 'One ordinary person surrendered to God can make an extraordinary difference.'

Aruna Jacob

President

Diocese of Delhi Christian

Life & Evangelism Committee



DIOCESE OF DELHI'S BUNIYAD – CHRISTIAN FOUNDATION COURSE 2025–2026

A key aspect of the Diocese of Delhi's vision states 'To grow in the Word of God' and its mission statement as well as the objectives give much emphasis on developing a robust line of Lay Leadership. Amongst various other steps taken to develop the Lay Leadership has been the Buniyad course that was started by the Delhi Diocesan Religious & Education Committee (DDREC) in 2024. It continues to gain in popularity and now it marks the successful completion of the BUNIYAD – Christian Foundation Course 2025–2026. The course's objective is to strengthen the Christian faith, biblical understanding, and spiritual foundation of believers across the Diocese of Delhi. BUNIYAD has been conducted in Delhi in a structured manner comprehensively covering theological and ministerial subjects. The 2025–2026 session significantly marked an exciting milestone. The course was extended to the Haryana Region in response to the zeal and enthusiasm of church members from there. The fervor was evident as 130 candidates participated from the state, in the course with the commitment and dedication required to successfully complete the programme. Certificates were awarded to the candidates who successfully completed the BUNIYAD – Christian Foundation Course 2025–2026, recognizing their commitment to learning and growing in the Word of God.



successfully complete the programme. Certificates were awarded to the candidates who successfully completed the BUNIYAD – Christian Foundation Course 2025–2026, recognizing their commitment to learning and growing in the Word of God. Pastors for their time and efforts in conducting the various classes. Our Bishop, the Rt. Revd. Dr. Paul Swarup has been a big support and guide in ensuring the success of this program.

Revd. Varun Savio Alfred
Registrar,
Buniyad Course



CHRIST CHURCH CO-ED SCHOOL DIOCESE OF JABALPUR, CNI A DECADE OF FAITH, LEARNING AND EXCELLENCE

What began as a vision has steadily blossomed into a vibrant centre of learning, character and opportunity. Christ Church Co-Ed School, Saliwada, Jabalpur, established in 2017 under the Board of Education, Church of North India, Jabalpur Diocese, under the able leadership of our Bishop and Chairman, Rt. Revd. Ajay Umesh James, is proudly celebrating its Decade Year 2017–2026



The school's journey is not measured merely by classrooms, examinations or academic results. It is reflected in the confidence of a child stepping onto a stage, the discipline of a young athlete on the field, the curiosity of a student presenting a science model, and the determination of a cadet learning the values of leadership, discipline and service. Over the years, the students of Christ Church Co-Ed School have participated enthusiastically in interschool competitions, sports, quizzes, debates, elocution, science exhibitions and cultural activities, bringing recognition and laurels to the institution. The school's commitment to holistic education is especially visible on the sporting field, where students have distinguished themselves in athletics, football, basketball, karate, skating and other disciplines. A notable sporting achievement came at the recent Narmada Karate Championship, where in the school's young karate practitioners secured an impressive 6 Gold, 6 Silver and 13 Bronze Medals. These medals



represent far more than victories; they reflect discipline, perseverance, courage and the determination to keep improving. Another significant milestone was the establishment of the school's NCC Unit, formally raised on 8 November 2025 with the support of the 1 MP Artillery Regiment NCC, Jabalpur. Through training in drill, physical fitness, map reading, teamwork and leadership, the NCC initiative is helping nurture responsible, confident and disciplined young citizens. The school also encourages scientific curiosity through Science Exhibitions, where in students explore practical solutions relating to environmental protection, pollution control, aquaphonics and sustainability. Alongside science and sports, equal importance is given to communication and confidence through Hindi and English debates, elocution and public-speaking activities. Learning extends well beyond the classroom. Educational visits, Summer Camps, Food Fests, Annual Athletic Meets, School Band activities, Scouts and Guides, cultural programmes and Annual Functions provide students with opportunities to discover their talents, develop friendships and acquire valuable life skills. At the heart of this journey are the teachers, whose dedication transforms opportunities into meaningful learning experiences. Through workshops, inhouse training and continuous professional development, the school remains committed to equipping its educators to meet the evolving needs of contemporary education. As Christ Church Co-Ed School completes its first decade, its journey continues to be guided by a simple yet profound belief: "Education is not only the pursuit of knowledge; it is the shaping of character, discipline and humanity."

Shitij Cyril Jacob

Principal

Christ Church Co-Ed School

Diocese of Jabalpur



MODERATOR'S VISIT TO THE DIOCESE OF LUCKNOW, CNI

On July 27, 2026, The Most Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Moderator, Church of North India received a "joyful" reception at the Varanasi Airport at the commencement of his first visit to The Diocesan Head Office in Prayagraj, Diocese of Lucknow, CNI. A convoy of vehicles of The Rt. Revd. Morris Edgar Dan, Bishop, Diocese of Lucknow, Office Bearers and other Officers, Members of the Executive Committee, Presbyters, Principals, and members of congregations Diocese of Lucknow, escorted him as he drove down to Prayagraj accompanied by distinguished Guests Mr. Raghav Naik, Secretary Indian Church Trust, (ICT) Kolkata and Revd. Asha Kiran Paricha, Assistant Priest St. Paul Cathedral, Kolkata for a one day program in the Diocese.

On July 28, 2026, the Day of his visit he participated as the Head of the Church Of North India and the Chief Worshipper in A Special Thanksgiving Worship Service, organized on the theme. "We Thank Thee, O' Lord" to thank the Lord for the Restoration and beautification of The All Saints' Cathedral, undertaken by the Pastorate Committee. He was welcomed by Rev. Dr. Vinita Eusebius, Presbyter In charge, in the Beautiful, Historic and Monumental Cathedral. A very meaningful and contextual ORDER OF WORSHIP was prepared by Revd. Eusebius and was followed to worship The Lord. The foundation of All Saints" Cathedral was laid on April 10, 1871 by Lady Elizabeth Muir w/o Lt. Governor, Sir William Muir. The Chief Architect & Planner was Sir

designed the Victoria Memorial and the very famous Gateway of India in the then Calcutta. The Cathedral now is 155 years old and has suffered the inevitable structural and material degradation caused by environmental exposure and aging. This has lead to structural vulnerabilities like oxidized iron, beams collapses, and material corrosion. There was heavy water leakage from the roof when it rained, the stones on the floor were loose and shaky and had lost all the shine and luster. The marble at the altar needed immediate setting and grouting. Instant intervention was urgently needed. The congregation has taken upon herself the mammoth task of renovation and on the completion of the first phase of restoration our



Respected Moderator very kindly blessed the fruit of the work and also committed the plans of future repairs into God's hands so that God's house will look majestic and will be presented to Him "In splendour without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish". He appreciated all that the small congregation could achieve and said that he is present to ensure that through this dedication service Lord Jesus Christ be glorified, who is the Chief Cornerstone of the Church. He preached on the famous miracle by Jesus where he cured a paralyzed man who had been sick for 38 years, told him to pick up his mat and walk, and performed the act on the Sabbath day (John 5:1-15). The Honorable Moderator also participated in a grand welcome program organized in his honour by The Girls' High School and College, on behalf of The Rt. Revd. Morris Edgar Dan, Bishop, Diocese of Lucknow. The hall of Girls' High School and College. A 165 years old Institution which is not just a legacy, but a living establishment of accumulated values, Community impact and historical privilege was tastefully decorated in the Pontifical colors: Purple and white. Floral welcome was accorded to The Respected Moderator and the Distinguished Guests Mr. Raghav Naik, Secretary Indian Church Trust, (ICT) Kolkata and Revd. Asha Kiran Paricha, by the Rt. Revd. Morris Edgar Dan, Bishop, Diocese of Lucknow and Principal, Girls' High School Revd. Dr. Vinita Eusebius. Blooms were also presented by Mr. Suresh Jacob, Aguest from the Synod and by Office Bearers and Officers, Members of the Executive Committee, Presbyters, Principals, and Managers from the Diocese. The Chief Guest was welcomed by presentation of Vibrant and thrilling presentations including a graceful, elegant, and fluid dance presented by the students of GHS followed by capturing and stunning Lyrical welcome. The Bishop extended a warm welcome to the Moderator and in his introductory words he said that the Moderator is appointed as a Devine choice and not by chance. S o he Thanked His Grace for his August Presence and exhorted the Priests, ExCo members, Guests and Office Bearers to make the best use of the time they are going to have in the group meetings which will be held after lunch. He further thanked His lordship for calling the post lunch m eetings, providing an opportunity of learning to the participants. The Respected Moderator responded to the welcome expressing his heartfelt Thanks for the Program organized by the College. He highlighted the process, vision, and salient features of the ministry of Teachers in the Diocesan Schools. He elaborated on the school and learning life of Jesus which prepared Him for the pastoral actions and collaborative ministry.

The Mesmerizing and Enchanting program closed with a fellowship lunch. The Moderator then met the Priests, Executive Committee members and Principals in their respective group meetings and reviewed with them the initiatives undertaken in their respective Churches, Deaneries, and Schools to carry forward the Priorities of the Church of North India. The meetings provided an opportunity for dialogue and mutual learning, enabling participants to exchange best practices and strengthen their commitment to the effective implementation of the Mission Priorities of CNI through their Churches and Institutions. Even after the close of the Program the Respected Moderator met people's representatives and others till late in the evening and journeyed back to Synod Office, New Delhi in the Morning of July 29th, 2026. This report is submitted with heartfelt gratitude to His Grace, The Moderator of the CNI, and the Distinguished Dignitaries for their visit to The Diocese of Lucknow.

The Revd. Dr. Vinita Eusebius

Presbyter In Charge,

All Saints' Cathedral

&

Principal, Girls' High School & College, Prayagraj

