



Link

Vol. XXX

No. 07

JULY 2026

Pastor's Corner

The Silent Kitchen - A Cultural Warning from America to India



When the Kitchen Falls Silent, the Family Begins to Break • Did you ever imagine that a quiet kitchen could change a nation's future? It happened in America — and it could happen in India too, including

in our religious communities, if we don't learn the lesson in time, writes Er. M. S. Stephen from Chennai.

1. What America looked like in the 1970s: • Grandparents, parents, and children lived together. • Every evening, families ate home-cooked meals at the dining table. • Food was not just nourishment—it was a source of bonding and shared values.
2. The 1980s Onward: The Cultural Shift: • The rise of fast food, takeaways, and restaurant culture replaced home-cooked meals. • Parents became too busy with work; children turned to pizza, burgers, and processed food. • The voices of grandparents faded, family bonds weakened.
3. Ignored Warnings, Painful Results: • Experts had warned: "If you outsource your kitchen to corporations and family care to governments, families will fall apart." No one listened—and the predictions came true.
4. The Collapse of traditional family life in the U.S.: • In 1971, 71% of American homes had traditional families (parents + children). • Today, it's just 20%. • What's left? Elders in old-age homes, Youth in rented flats, alone, Marriages breaking, Children battling loneliness.

5. Divorce Rates in the U.S.: • 50% for first marriages • 67% for second marriages • 74% for third marriages.
6. This isn't just a coincidence. It's the Cost of a Silent Kitchen: • Home-cooked food carries more than calories: A mother's touch • A grandfather's wisdom • A grandmother's stories • And the magic of shared mealtimes • But now, food comes from Swiggy & Zomato. • The kitchen dies, and the home becomes just a house—not a family.
7. Health Fallout: A Growing Crisis • Fast food addiction in the U.S. led to: Obesity, Diabetes, Heart disease • The health industry thrives on this preventable decline.
8. But It's Not Too Late—We Can Still Reignite Our Kitchens • Japan still cooks and eats together—and they live the longest. • In Mediterranean cultures, food is sacred—and so are relationships.
9. India's Warning Bell: Don't let the Kitchen Die • Rising reliance on outside food • Declining family mealtimes • Increasing loneliness and health disorders.

What You Can Do Today • Light your kitchen stove again. • Cook a meal. • Call your family to the dinner table. Because bedrooms make a house, but kitchens make a family.

A Final Thought: "Do you want to build a home—or run a lodge? The choice is yours."

God bless. + Lumen, CSC



Wounds we do not Name!

As Pastors entrusted with a parish, we urge Catholic families under our care to pray together, to say the Rosary as a family, to be regular at Sunday Mass, to participate actively in the parish activities and so on. There is no doubt these are good and necessary things. We do well to insist on them. The question, however is, is that enough?

If we are radically honest about this, we perhaps will acknowledge that our family ministry steers clear of some of the most difficult but vital terrains of family life: domestic violence and the trauma it inflicts on every member of the family, marital infidelity and its devastating consequences etc. Our family ministry seems to consider it perfectly fine to sidestep those burning embers of despair, social stigma and humiliation many families have to put up with on account of unfortunate situations like childlessness, a differently abled child, an alcoholic father, an addict son, a wheelchair-borne member, an unfaithful spouse or a penniless bank account. Families going through such situations today have less places to reach out to for support. Gone are those days when uncles, aunts, in laws and other relatives visited often and were a support. Today's nuclear families are more isolated and unconnected. Pressures of modern living only helps to make matters worse. The fact that families don't readily come to parish authorities seeking help adds yet another layer of difficulty. Everyone likes to show the world, at least for as long as it is possible, that theirs is a happy and contented family.

Crushed by domestic problems and finding no help in sight, some families are ready to go to any extent. There are Catholic families who, trapped in such conundrum, have consulted the Ochai, as a last resort. Some have even drifted back into the earlier dispensation in search of solace and peace. When their desperate search for a straw to cling on to and stay afloat comes to naught, they know they have come to the end of the tether. Some even contemplate the unmentionable.

Do these things figure in our family ministry as must-do areas of engagement? If all the help they get from us is our

repeated exhortation to pray, come to church and pay up..., well, that's not much, surely. Thereby aren't we, without words, telling our faithful, 'you see, our faith works best at Christmas melas and state level conventions, but, I'm sorry, it is quite impotent in situations such as these'. Who can blame them if they begin to look askance at our embroidered vestments and gold-plated vessels?

It isn't easy even to detect the families that suffer from this malaise. If we only associate it with the shabbily dressed, grumpy, angry and unapproachable bloke that disappears from the premises the moment the Priest says, *'ite missa est'*, we might be in for surprises. The truth could be that the gentleman at the ambo whose reading of the epistle is so impressive for its impeccable diction and unction could also have given his wife a black eye the previous night.

We have a tendency to hold in high esteem families that are regular with church attendance, respond well to our appeals for collections and contributions, take part actively in the programs of the parish, and of course, are friendly with us; those that smile at us, shake our hands, come around us, and occasionally invite us over for food. We like to think of them as model families. In fact, they need not necessarily be. The 'everything's fine' demeanor they exhibit could actually be a put on.

And how daringly different our family Ministry would be if we at least attempt to deal with this vitiated atmosphere that has invaded some of our homes, an atmosphere characterized by chronic conflict, bitterness, addiction, insensitivity, emotional cruelty, helpless children, financial recklessness and so on.

We will continue to exhort our families to prayer and to the Holy Eucharist. Prayer is powerful, the Holy Eucharist is the source and summit of Christian life. Alongside these fonts of grace and power, may we also devise ways and means to bring the healing balm of Christ upon these unnamed but real wounds that fester in some of our families.

J. Pulinthanath, SDB

Tribute

The Diocese of Agartala mourns the passing away of
Fr. Clement Nampui Amo CSC,
the Parish Priest of Kathalcherra.

He was diagnosed with advanced pancreatic cancer
 and succumbed to it within two months.

*You are gone from our presence Fr. Clement,
 but not from our hearts!*

We pray for the repose of his soul
 that God may grant him eternal rest.

RIP Fr. Clement.

1957 - 2026

KAMARANGA PARISH

Youth Fellowship: Building Community in Faith



Kamranga (Tripura), 31 May 2026 — The youth of the parish gathered for a three-day fellowship and formation program from 29–31 May 2026, organized by the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) during the summer vacation. Around 55 young people participated in the event, which aimed to strengthen faith, fellowship, and leadership. The program began with a prayer service and a welcome by the Parish Priest, Fr. Ivan D'Silva, SVD. Participants were divided into four groups to encourage active involvement. Sessions included "The Role of Catholic Youth in the Church," awareness on drug abuse and mobile-related crimes, and an interactive workshop on Leadership and Faith Formation led by Fr. Ivan D'Silva. Indoor and outdoor games, cultural programs, and a Rosary candlelight procession enriched the experience. Participants appreciated the meaningful sessions and opportunities for fellowship. The parish hopes to organize similar programs during future summer vacations to continue forming and empowering its young leaders.

Fr. Ivan DSilva, SVD

AMBASSA PARISH

Sharing the Jubilee Joy with the Poor



As our Diocese celebrates the Pearl Jubilee, many of our parishioners could not be present at the central celebration. To bring the joy of the Jubilee into every home, we distributed rice, potatoes, dal, and oil, simple gifts to bring smiles to their faces and to share the blessings of this milestone in a different way. On June 5th, we began this initiative with the faithful of Manoram Para, where 30 families were blessed to benefit from this help. We, the Fathers of Gondatwisa, have resolved to extend this small gift to every village, so that the Jubilee may be celebrated not only in one place but in the hearts of all our faithful.

Fr. Praveen Kumar

Parish Feast & Spiritual Renewal



A month-long spiritual preparation took place to celebrate the parish feast of Holy Spirit Parish Ambassa. About 30 retreat preachers were invited to the parish in May. They visited every family in the parish, prayed and gave spiritual counselling for four days. The parishioners were invited to three days of retreat in the parish. Many were healed and renewed spiritually. At least 300 participated in the Parish Sabha gathering. Rev. Fr. Arun Fernandes O.F.M. Cap. dealt with Catholic family and marriage in interactive manner, Fr. Nabin Lakra SVD re-iterated the importance of village leadership in the church and Fr. Arun Minj SVD presented the comprehensive parish report with its achievements and progress throughout the year. The

Bible quiz, group singing and dancing brought unity and harmony among different communities of the parish.

At least 100 received confirmations from Bp. Lumen Monteiro CSC in the feast day Holy Eucharist. The celebration concluded with short felicitation of the guests, prize distributions and lunch at 2pm.

Fr. Arun Minj SVD

Deanery level Women Leadership Animation Program



Ambassa Deanery women leaders organized leadership animation and training on 7th of June at Holy Spirit Church, Ambassa. There were more than 60 women leaders participated the program from Ambassa and Kamranga parishes. The resource personnel Mrs. Madhusmita Choudhary, Vice Chairman Tripura women Commission highlighted various women welfare related Govt. schemes, atrocities on women and POCSO Act. Sr. Veronica B.S, Secretary Women Commission, Diocese of Agartala re-iterated the implementation of various livelihood support schemes and importance of women leadership in the Deanery. Mrs. Agnes Darlong emphasized the initiative and team work among

women leadership in the parishes. The animation program ended with lunch at 2:30pm.

Fr. Arun Minj SVD

CHALENGTA PARISH

Installation of the new Parish Priest and Farewell to the Outgoing Parish Priest



Chailengta: The installation of Rev. Fr. Binoy John CSC as the new Parish Priest of St. Joseph Parish Chailengta, was solemnly celebrated with a Holy Eucharist presided over by Bishop Lumen Monteiro C.S.C. During the ceremony, Bishop Lumen formally entrusted Fr. Binoy, C.S.C. with the pastoral care of the parish and called upon the faithful to extend their wholehearted cooperation, prayers, and support to their new shepherd as he begins his ministry among them. The occasion was also marked by a heartfelt farewell to the outgoing Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Jayaseelan, C.S.C. Parishioners expressed their sincere gratitude for his

dedicated service, spiritual leadership, and selfless commitment to the growth and welfare of the parish community. Many recalled with appreciation his tireless efforts in strengthening the faith life of the people and fostering unity within the parish. The celebration concluded with felicitations, words of appreciation, and a fellowship meal shared by the clergy, religious, and faithful, making the occasion a memorable moment of thanksgiving, transition, and renewed hope for the parish community.

Fr. Ajith Philip, C.S.C.

Pearl Jubilee celebrated



St. Joseph Parish Chailengta, joyfully celebrated the Pearl Jubilee of the Diocese of Agartala and the Episcopal Jubilee of Most Rev. Bishop Lumen Monteiro, C.S.C. on 14 June 2026. The occasion marked a significant milestone in the journey of faith, evangelization, and service rendered by the Diocese over the years. The celebration commenced with a solemn Holy Eucharist presided over by Most Rev. Bishop Lumen Monteiro. A large number of priests, religious, and faithful from various communities participated in the thanksgiving service, making the occasion a vibrant expression of faith and unity. A felicitation program followed the Holy Mass, during which parish representatives, church organizations, and well-wishers conveyed their heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to the Bishop. Mementos and tokens

of appreciation were presented as expressions of love, gratitude, and respect. The celebration concluded with a fellowship meal shared by all, fostering a spirit of communion and joy among the participants.

Fr. Ajith Philip, C.S.C.

TWITHAMPUI PARISH

First Parish Feast celebrated



The faithful of St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Twithampui, joyfully celebrated their first Parish Feast on 13 June 2026, with great devotion and enthusiasm. The highlight of the celebration was the Solemn Holy Eucharist presided over by Most Rev. Bishop Lumen Monteiro, CSC, Bishop of Agartala. During the Mass, thirty candidates received the Sacrament of Confirmation. In his homily, Bishop Lumen Monteiro presented St. Anthony of Padua as a model disciple and an inspiration for every Christian. He encouraged the faithful, especially the newly confirmed candidates, to imitate the saint's deep faith, love for God's Word, humility, and commitment to serving others. After the Holy Mass, a felicitation program was organized in honour of

Bishop Lumen Monteiro, CSC, recognizing his dedicated and selfless service to the Diocese of Agartala as he celebrates his Pearl Jubilee. Parishioners expressed their gratitude and offered prayers for his continued ministry and good health. Another significant moment of the day was the blessing and inauguration of the newly erected parish presbytery. The faithful rejoiced at this milestone in the life of the parish, seeing it as a sign of growth and progress in the local Church. The celebrations concluded with a fellowship meal, bringing together parishioners in a spirit of unity, joy, and thanksgiving.

The Parish Secretary

DEPACHERRA PARISH

New Motha inaugurated at Toisama



Christ the King Parish, Depacherra received a new *Motha* to the Catholic fold from Toisama Mission Hathai, on 8th May 2026. St. James is the patron Saint of their *Motha*. The faithful of Depacherra Parish experienced a joyful day of faith as they welcomed 18 families into the Catholic Church. The Parish Community gave a warm welcome to our Bishop Lumen Monteiro and to the Parish Priest Fr. Lawrence Darlong. Welcome to all the faithful who came from the other *Mothas* to celebrate this joyous moment. It was a moment of grace and joy for the faithful to welcome the 83 new members to the Catholic Church. The Bishop encouraged and strengthened the new members as they journey with the Catholic faith. After the Mass the new *Motha* organized a short felicitation

program for the bishop on his Pearl Jubilee, with the cutting of cakes and a short cultural program that was followed by a delicious lunch.

Fr. James Kaipeng

BAGBASA PARISH

Students of Sunday classes



Holy Cross Parish Bagbasa organized an examination for students of Sunday classes. A total of 105 students participated in the Sunday class examination. The parish comprises 16 *Mondolis*, and Sunday catechism classes are held in all villages. Last month, a training session was conducted for Sunday catechism class teachers at the Parish Centre, with the attendance of 28 teachers. These teachers conduct catechism classes every Sunday and maintain records accordingly. We express our gratitude for their dedication and sacrifices. Prizes were awarded to the students who secured 1st, 2nd, and 3rd positions. It is truly encouraging to observe the diligent efforts of the Sunday class teachers, students, and their parents, as well as their generous support. We extend our appreciation to the Catechism Classes Organizing Team. Father Lancy CSC, the Parish Priest, distributed the prizes to the winners and thanked all the teachers for their generous time and regularity.

Mr. Romeo Halam

JAMPUJALA PARISH

Convention on Digital Evangelization



15 young people from the Parish and neighboring mission centers participated in a two-day Convention on digital evangelization and media skills held on June 6–7. The program concluded with the formation of the parish's first Youth Media Team to support faith-based communication and evangelization through digital platforms. Organized by Rosary Parish in collaboration with the Commission for Social Communication, the Convention aimed to equip young Catholics with media skills for evangelization. The theme, "*You are the light of the world*" encouraged participants to use digital platforms to share the Gospel and promote faith-based communication. Fr. Bala Showry, Assistant Secretary of the Commission, served as the resource person. The program was conducted under the guidance of parish priest Fr. Babu Paul and Assistant Priest Fr. Vysak. The two-day program focused on practical media formation. Participants received training in mobile videography, short-form video production, graphic design using Canva, and the creation of faith-based digital content for social media platforms. The Convention concluded with the commissioning of 15 young people as the founding members of the Parish Youth Media Team. The new team will support parish communication initiatives.

Fr. Bala Showry

BODHJUNGNAGAR PARISH

Triple Celebrations



Unlike any other Sunday, the 7th of June 2026, was a special Sunday in St. Andre Parish. It was the Lord's Day with Triple-Celebration: The Solemnity of Corpus Christi; Diaconate Ordination; and Green Sunday. The day began with the arrival of our Bishop Lumen Monteiro CSC, and Provincial Fr. Abraham KJ CSC. They were warmly and affectionately welcomed by the Parish Fathers, Sisters, Catechists, Children and the Faithful. 30 Holy Cross Priests and 50 Formees come to pray for the Deacons. In addition, a large number of faithful had come from different *mothas* of the Parish, to witness the spiritual-event. The Festive Holy Mass was solemnly presided over by our Bishop during which, he ordained two newly Perpetually Professed Holy Cross Religious as Transitional Deacons. Concelebrating with the Bishop, Fr. K J Abraham CSC presented the Candidates to the Bishop Ordination. Fr. Jilson Tom CSC was the commentator for the Ceremony. The Diaconate Ordination was followed by a short felicitation program, which was MC'ed by Fr. Joe Paul CSC. The program came to a close with a festive meal. Earlier, prior to the Mass, Green Sunday was celebrated. To mark the occasion, the Bishop and the Provincial planted a sapling each, blessing the earth with their hands and manual service. The presence of many religious women from other Congregations, and the relatives of the Deacons, added joy to the Day.

Fr. Mariaraj, CSC

KHUMULWNG PARISH

Installation of new Parish Priest



In a spirit of prayer and thanksgiving, the faithful of the Parish gathered in large numbers on 7 June 2026, to witness the installation of Fr. Clement Quadras, SVD, as their new Parish Priest. The Holy Mass was presided over by Fr. Nabin Lakra, SVD, Vice-Regional Superior of the SVD Northeast Region, who was delegated by Bishop Lumen Monteiro, CSC, to conduct the Rite of Installation. After the homily that was delivered by the outgoing PP Fr. Maxim Rodrigues, SVD, the Rite of Installation was solemnly carried out. Fr. Clement Quadras, SVD, was formally entrusted with the pastoral care of St. Alphonsa Parish in the presence of the faithful, marking the beginning of his ministry among the people of Khumulwng. At the end of the Mass a short felicitation program was held to honour and thank Fr. Maxim Rodrigues, SVD, and Fr. Prem Nag, SVD, for their dedicated service and valuable contributions. The new PP expressed his heartfelt gratitude to God, and the parishioners for their warm welcome.

Fr. Komal Bara SVD

CATHEDRAL PARISH, AGARTALA

Eucharistic Adoration Chapel blessed

Agartala, June 12, 2026: On the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, Agartala, marked a significant milestone in its spiritual journey with the blessing and inauguration of a permanent Eucharistic Adoration Chapel. The chapel was solemnly blessed and inaugurated by Bishop Lumen Monteiro, CSC, in the presence of priests, religious, and parishioners of the Cathedral Parish. After the inauguration and blessing ceremony, the Blessed Sacrament was solemnly exposed for Eucharistic Adoration, which was led by Fr. George S., Parish Priest of the Cathedral.



The faithful then participated in a solemn Holy Mass presided by Bishop Lumen Monteiro. In his message, the Bishop encouraged parishioners to make regular visits to the Blessed Sacrament, spend time in prayerful adoration, and offer prayers of thanksgiving. He emphasized that Eucharistic devotion is a powerful source of spiritual renewal, peace, and strength for Christian living. The Adoration Chapel will serve as a place of prayer and encounter with Christ for the faithful of the Cathedral Parish and the wider Diocese of Agartala. The parish community expressed its heartfelt gratitude to Bishop Lumen Monteiro for his presence, guidance, and blessings on this joyous occasion.

Mrs. Jaba Debbarma

BAIJALBARI PARISH

Installation of new Parish Priest



Baijalbari: On 21 June 2026, St. John Paul II Parish Baijalbari, witnessed the installation of Fr. Merkush Ishwary, S.D.B. as its new Parish Priest by Most Rev. Lumen Monteiro, CSC. The ceremony took place during the Holy Mass which was attended by clergy, parish council members, and lay faithful from all the *mothas* of the Parish. As part of the installation rites, Fr. Merkush made the Profession of Faith and received the keys of the church and tabernacle. During the Mass, 24 children received their First Holy Communion. The celebration concluded with a felicitation program during which the new PP was welcomed, the former PP Fr. Paul Panachikal was thanked and the Bishop was felicitated on the Pearl

Jubilee. The whole program ended with a fellowship meal.

Fr. Derrick Augustin

MOHARPARA PARISH

Installation of new Parish Priest



On Sunday, 28 June 2026, the faithful of Moharpara Parish gathered in large numbers for a grace-filled and memorable parish program marked by Holy Eucharist, felicitation, and fellowship. The celebration was especially significant as it combined the formal welcome of Rev. Fr. Jayaseelan, CSC, with the farewell and heartfelt thanksgiving to Rev. Fr. Arbok, CSC, after his dedicated years of service to the parish. During the holy Mass, the Bishop officially installed Fr. Jayaseelan, CSC, as the new Parish Priest. At the same time, the parish community took the opportunity to express profound gratitude to Fr. Arbok, CSC, who has served the Parish for the past six years. His simple lifestyle, pastoral dedication, and untiring service, including the strengthening of faith life in the various centres and chapels were greatly appreciated. A felicitation program

followed, during which parishioners, leaders, and well-wishers expressed their appreciation, gratitude, and good wishes through speeches and gestures of love. Fr. Arbok was honored for his generous ministry among the people, while Fr. Jayaseelan was warmly welcomed into the parish family with prayers for wisdom, strength, and fruitful pastoral service. The celebration concluded with a sumptuous meal. We pray that the Lord may abundantly bless Fr. Jayaseelan, CSC, in his new responsibility as Parish Priest, and Fr. Arbok, CSC, in the mission at Twidu Parish.

Fr. Sahaya Lourdu, CSC

News from Across the Diocese

2nd Diocesan Level Sanitation and Cleanliness Drive 2026



Agartala, 6 June 2026 — The Agartala Diocese Youth Commission (ADYC) organized the 2nd Diocesan Level Sanitation and Cleanliness Drive across the Diocese under the theme, “Our Community, Our Responsibility.” Youth from various parishes actively participated in cleaning public areas and conducting awareness campaigns on cleanliness and responsible waste management. The initiative promoted environmental responsibility, community participation, and the spirit of service among young people. It highlighted the importance of individual responsibility and collective action in building cleaner and greener communities.

Mr. Sachlang Jamatia

Inauguration of the new academic year at Jeevadhara Diocesan Seminary



The academic year 2026–2027 at Jeevadhara Diocesan Seminary began on 16 June with the Holy Mass. This year, the seminary has ten seminarians, including five new entrants.

Rev. Fr. Clement Quadras, SVD, the Rector, introduced the theme, “Rooted in Christ, Formed for Mission,” while Most Rev. Bishop Lumen Monteiro encouraged the seminarians to remain faithful to prayer and studies. SVD Frs. Nabin Lakra, Clement Quadras, and Komal Bara concelebrated the Mass. The celebration concluded with a cake-cutting ceremony, marking the joyful beginning of the new academic year.

Fr. Komal Bara, SVD

16th Diocesan Pastoral Council Meet



The Diocese of Agartala held the 16th Agartala Diocesan Pastoral Council (ADPC) on 26 June 2026 at St. Joseph’s Hall, Agartala, with 95 representatives of the clergy, religious, and laity. The meeting was presided over by Most Rev. Bishop Lumen Monteiro and coordinated by Mr. Rajulal Debbarma. The Council reflected on three themes: understanding the Catholic *sui juris* Churches, strengthening Christian families, and promoting love for the Word of God. In his concluding address, Bishop Lumen Monteiro encouraged greater unity, evangelization, and missionary spirit, while also sharing updates on the Diocese’s growth to 30 parishes serving around 55,000 faithful.

Fr. Derrick Augustin

2 YCS Students from Agartala at the XX National Council in Mangalore



Daina Darlong and I, Udis Darlong, had the privilege of representing the YCS YSM Agartala Diocese at the XX National Council & XXIX Study Session of YCS/YSM India, held from 23rd to 30th May 2026 at St. Joseph's Engineering College, Mangalore, Karnataka.

The program brought together delegates, youth leaders, and animators from across India, providing a valuable platform to exchange ideas and strengthen our commitment to the YCS/YSM movement. Highlights included the inaugural Holy Mass, regional cultural exhibition, exposure visit to White Doves, and engaging study sessions on leadership, social responsibility, and climate change. The National Council deliberated on the future direction of YCS/YSM India and formulated action plans for the coming years. The Cultural Night beautifully celebrated India's diversity through traditional songs, dances, and cultural presentations, fostering friendship and unity among participants.

The program concluded with a Thanksgiving Holy Mass and closing ceremony, leaving us inspired to serve with renewed dedication.

The National Council and Study Session were a truly enriching experience that deepened my faith, enhanced my leadership skills, and broadened my understanding of the YCS/YSM mission. I am grateful for the opportunity to represent the Agartala Diocese and the Northeast Region, and I look forward to applying the

knowledge and inspiration gained in my continued service to the Church and society.

Ms. Udis Malisa Darlong

News from JUST

Green Sunday Celebration Promotes Environmental Awareness in Tripura



Jana Unnayan Samiti Tripura (JUST), in collaboration with the Diocese of Agartala, celebrated Green Sunday on 7 June 2026 across 16 Schools and Parishes in Tripura to promote environmental conservation and climate action. The program aimed to encourage students and communities to take active responsibility for protecting nature and creating a sustainable future. The theme this year is "Inspired by Nature. For Climate. For Our Future." A total of 4,700 saplings were procured from the Forest Department and planted in school and parish campuses and surrounding areas. Bishop Lumen led the drive from Bodhjunnagar Parish. The plantation drive witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, teachers, school management committees, community members, and JUST staff. The event highlighted the importance of trees in maintaining ecological balance, improving air quality, conserving biodiversity, and combating the effects of climate change. Awareness sessions were conducted to educate students about environmental challenges such as global warming, deforestation, and pollution. Participants were

encouraged to adopt eco-friendly practices and contribute to environmental protection through small but meaningful actions in their daily lives. Students actively planted saplings and pledged to care for them, recognizing their role as future custodians of the environment. Through Green Sunday, JUST continues to nurture environmental consciousness among young people and communities, contributing to a greener, healthier, and more climate-resilient Tripura for future generations.

Robert Lushai

Our Distinguished Guests

- Fr. Philip Kattakayam from Muzafarpur, Bihar
- Sr. Angela SCC, Provincial Superior from Guwahati
- Sr. Alice SCC, Economer from Guwahati
- Fr. Joachim Kullu SVD, from Bangladesh

Bishop's Program for July 2026

- 05: Establishment of new Parish & Installation of new PP @ Twidu
- 07: Clergy Meet @ Agartala
- 07-09: AGBM of NEDSSS @ Guwahati
- 12: Establishment of new Parish & Installation of PP @ Damcherra
- 15: Gokulnagar School Program
- 16: Feast of Mt. Carmel @ AC Gokulnagar
- 19: Establishment of new Parish & Installation of new PP @ Ganganagar
- 21-23 August: Mission Appeals in Parishes, USA