

Sharing



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Rev. Fr. Jaison Thomas



Rev. Fr. Thsipongkiu James



Rev. Fr. Joseph Mariadhas

JUBILARIANS



Rev. Fr. Anto Chawaran



Rev. Fr. Patrick Neikhalo

*Happy 25 Years
of your Faithful
Service*



SHARING

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The Sharing is published quarterly by the Diocese of Kohima. All the news, articles, questions, reader's reactions, etc. are to be addressed to the Editor. Your articles, news item could be submitted through Whatsapp and mail attachment. Please include your name and mailing address.

(FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY)

BISHOP'S PROGRAMME

June - September 2026

June

1	Mon	Dimapur – GSS Vestition
2	Tue	Kohima – Consulters meeting
3	Wed	Kohima
4	Thu	Kohima
5	Fri	Kohima
6	Sat	Kohima – Pastoral visit to Cathedral Parish
7	Sun	Kohima – Pastoral visit to Cathedral Parish ; Corpus Christi
8	Mon	Kohima – Pastoral visit to Cathedral Parish
9	Tue	Kohima
10	Wed	Kohima – Jotsoma – Mass of the Sacred Heart
11	Thu	Dimapur – NEISSR GB meeting, Peace Channel GB meeting; GSS
12	Fri	Dimapur – GSS; Kohima – Meeting with the Brothers in Regency
13	Sat	Jakhama – St. Joseph College (Autonomous) Jakhama, GB meeting
14	Sun	Kohima
15	Mon	Kohima
16	Tue	Kohima
17	Wed	to July 20 – In the US for MCP

July

10-13		First Vocation Camp - Tuensang
21	Tue	To India
24	Fri	to 30 July – Kerala: Medical follow up
31	Fri	Kohima

August

1	Sat	Kohima
2	Sun	Kohima
3	Mon	Kohima
4	Tue	Dimapur – Vianney day celebration
5	Wed	Dimapur – Vianney day celebration, Consulters meeting
6	Thu	Kohima
7	Fri	Retreat
8 - 12		Retreat
13	Thu	Kohima
14	Fri	Kohima
15	Sat	Kohima: Independence Day, Feast of the Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary
16	Sun	Kohima
17	Mon	Kohima
18	Tue	Kohima
19	Wed	Kohima

20	Thu	Kohima
21	Fri	Pftusero - Pastoral visit
22	Sat	Pftusero - Pastoral visit
23	Sun	Pftusero - Pastoral visit
24	Mon	Pftusero - Pastoral visit
25	Tue	Pftusero - Pastoral visit
26	Wed	To New Delhi
27	Thu	Jalandhar
28	Fri	Jalandhar
29	Sat	Jalandhar
30	Sun	Jalandhar – New Delhi
31	Mon	Return from New Delhi

September

1	Tue	Kohima
2	Wed	Kohima
3	Thu	Kohima
4	Fri	Guwahati - North East Pastoral Conference
5	Sat	Guwahati - North East Pastoral Conference
6	Sun	Guwahati - North East Pastoral Conference
7	Mon	Shillong – North East Bishops Council
8	Tue	Shillong – North East Bishops Council
9	Wed	Shillong – North East Bishops Council
10	Thu	Kohima
11	Fri	Kohima
12	Sat	Dimapur – Graduation- NEISSR
13	Sun	Kohima
14	Mon	Kohima
15	Tue	Jakhama :St. Joseph College (Autonomous) - Pastoral visit
16	Wed	Jakhama :St. Joseph College (Autonomous) - Pastoral visit
17	Thu	Kohima
18	Fri	Kohima
19	Sat	Dimapur – Blessing of Vincentian Prayer Centre
20	Sun	Kohima
21	Mon	Jalukie, St. Xavier Seminary, P. visit
22	Tue	Jalukie – St Xavier College, P. visit
23	Wed	Jalukie – Farm – Pastoral visit
24	Thu	Kohima
25	Fri	Kohima
26	Sat	Dimapur – SABS Profession
27	Sun	Kohima
28	Mon	to October 02 – Propaedeutic Rectors meet – Mt. Tabor
29	Tue	Kohima – Mt. Tabor
30	Wed	Kohima – Mt Tabor



Shepherd's Voice

Dear Friends,

The Encyclical *Magnifica Humanitas* of His Holiness Pope Leo XIV invites us to rediscover the grandeur and dignity of the human person, created in the image and likeness of God. In a world marked by rapid technological advancement, social divisions, and growing uncertainty, the Holy Father reminds us that every human life is a precious gift from God, endowed with an inherent dignity that no circumstance, achievement, or failure can diminish.

As Christians, we are called to marvel at God's wonderful creation. Human beings are not merely products of nature or instruments of productivity; we are beloved sons and daughters of God, created for communion with Him, with one another, and with the whole of creation. The Holy Father urges us never to allow technology, material progress, or economic interests to overshadow the sacred value of the human person. True progress is measured not by what we possess or produce, but by how faithfully we uphold human dignity, promote justice, and foster fraternity.

The Encyclical also calls us to be responsible stewards of God's creation. The earth and its resources are gifts entrusted to our care, to be used wisely and shared justly. Respect for creation,

concern for the poor, and responsible use of resources are essential expressions of our gratitude to the Creator. Pope Leo XIV further invites us to promote the common good through solidarity, mutual responsibility, and peace. In a world marked by division and conflict, we are called to become builders of communion, reconciliation, and hope,

Human beings are not merely products of nature or instruments of productivity; we are beloved sons and daughters of God

witnessing to the Gospel through lives of service and love.

At this critical moment, I earnestly urge all the faithful of our Diocese to pray fervently for peace in our world. The ongoing conflicts and violence in many parts of the globe continue to inflict untold suffering upon countless innocent people. In a special way, let us remember our brothers and sisters in neighbouring Manipur, where prolonged unrest has brought pain, displacement, fear, and loss of life. Let us implore the Prince of Peace to touch hearts, restore trust among communities, and guide leaders towards justice, dialogue, and lasting peace.

We are in the month of June, during which we have special devotion to the most Sacred Heart of Jesus, reminding us of the total love of God symbolized by the heart. The



encyclical *Magnifica Humanitas*, emphasizes that human beings are fundamentally defined by their capacity to love and build relationships, noting: "No computational system, however sophisticated, can create a heart that gives itself"

I encourage every family, parish, school, and institution in our Diocese to reflect upon the teachings of this Encyclical and to cultivate a deeper appreciation for the dignity of every human person, a greater sense of responsibility towards God's creation, and an unwavering commitment to peace and fraternity.

May Mary, Queen of Peace and Mother of the Church, intercede for us. May she help us to cherish God's gifts, respect the dignity of every person, and become faithful witnesses of Christ's love in our world.

Yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Dr. James Thoppil
Bishop of Kohima



Most Rev. (Dr.) James Thoppil
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P.B. No. 519, Kohima
Nagaland - 797 001, India

Sharing: April - June 2026

From the Editor's Desks

Dear Readers,

LET LOVE REIGN

“Above all, put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.” (Colossians 3:14)

The months of May and June remind us that love remains the strongest force that sustains humanity. In May, we celebrated **Mother's Day**, honouring the women whose sacrifices, faith, and unconditional love nurture families and shape society. In June, we celebrate **Father's Day**, giving thanks for fathers who guide, protect, and reflect the compassionate heart of God.

June also invites us to contemplate the **Sacred Heart of Jesus**, the perfect expression of God's infinite love and mercy. The Heart of Christ, pierced for humanity, continues to proclaim that love is stronger than hatred, mercy greater than vengeance, and hope more enduring than despair.

This message finds a timely echo in Pope Leo XIV's first encyclical, *Magnifica Humanitas* (25 May 2026), which calls the world to safeguard human dignity amid rapid

technological advancement. The Holy Father reminds us that every progress must serve the human person and promote the common good.

Yet, as we celebrate love and human dignity, our hearts remain burdened by the continuing unrest in neighbouring Manipur. The loss of innocent lives, including Church leaders and countless others, is a painful reminder of the devastating consequences of division and violence. At this critical moment, Christ's words challenge us anew: *“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God”* (Matthew 5:9).

The love of a mother, the strength of a father, the compassion of the Sacred Heart, the Holy Father's call to uphold human dignity, and our yearning for peace all converge into one urgent message: **Let Love Reign.**



In our families, let love reign over selfishness. In our communities, let love reign over division. In our society, let love reign over violence and hatred. For where love reigns, Christ reigns; and where Christ reigns, hope is never lost.

Rev. Fr. Gwatilo Alex Tep



Dr. Fr. Stephen Touthang Inspires Students at LHSS, Kiphire

Students and faculty at Loyola Hr. Sec. School in Kiphire were treated to an inspiring session 13th and 14th March by the multi-talented Rev. Fr. (Dr) Stephen Touthang, a renowned motivational speaker and musician. The event, held at the Loyola campus, featured both a captivating musical performance and a powerful motivational talk aimed at guiding students towards their future aspirations.

The assembly began with Dr. Touthang's musical piece, which deeply resonated with the audience, creating an electric atmosphere that stirred the entire gathering. Following this vibrant opening, Dr. Touthang engaged Class 10 and Class 12 students in a motivational session, focusing on the critical role of education in achieving one's dreams.

He challenged the students with a fundamental question: "What is the most important duty of a student?" His unequivocal answer emphasized studying, directly linking academic effort to the realization of life goals. Dr. Touthang stressed that a lack of dedication to studies often reflects an absence of dreams or purpose.

In a thought-provoking segment, he encouraged students to identify their "enemy." He defined this not as a person in the conventional sense, but "any person or material that disturbs, distracts, or disconnects you from your study." He cautioned that even a close friend could inadvertently become an obstacle if they lead one



to waste time, control their actions, or deter them from their academic pursuits. He firmly asserted that hard work is the cornerstone of success and urged students to cultivate clear dreams and dedicate their time relentlessly to achieving them.

Dr. Touthang illustrated his philosophy with anecdotes from his own remarkable journey. His academic achievements are extensive, including a Doctorate in Education from Rajiv Gandhi (Central) University, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh, multiple Master's degrees in English, Education, and Sociology, and an M. Ed. He has also cleared the National Eligibility Test (NET) conducted by the University Grants Commission (UGC). Beyond his academic prowess, he specializes in Teachers' Effectiveness Training (TET) and conducts orientation programs for educators. A prolific author, he has penned six books, including "Substance Abuse," "Dare to Dream," "Career Planning Resources," "The Illuminati and the Music Industry," "Meta-Siazing," and "Pedagogy of English Language," with another title forthcoming.

A particularly resonant piece of advice for the young audience

touched upon personal relationships, with Dr. Touthang recommending that romantic relationships be postponed until educational and career dreams are fulfilled.

The event commenced with a warm welcome from Rev. Fr. Marius Patton, Vice Principal of Loyola Hr. Sec. School, Kiphire, who introduced Rev. Fr. (Dr) Stephen Touthang and Fr. Philip CS. Rev. Fr. Thomas Toretciu, a classmate of Dr. Touthang, formally introduced him to the stage, and a student representative delivered a heartfelt vote of thanks.

Prior to his visit to Loyola, Fr. Stephen also extended his inspirational message to St. John School, Kiusam, and Little Flower Hr Sec, School, Pungro, where he demonstrated his musical talent and conducted motivational sessions for both students and teachers. His visit left a lasting impression, reinforcing the importance of diligent study and unwavering focus on one's aspirations.

- Fr. Marius

**WHERE WORDS FAIL
MUSIC
SPEAKS** 



Blessing and Handover Ceremony of New Ambulance

Words of appreciation were shared by Mr. Anand Mathew Stanley, AGM and Regional Head of South Indian Bank, Kolkata, who



On 18 March 2026, St. Joseph Pain and Palliative Care Centre marked a significant occasion with the Blessing and Handover Ceremony of a new ambulance, generously sponsored through the CSR fund of South Indian Bank. The program began with a prayer service led by the candidates, invoking God's blessings on the vehicle and all those who would benefit from its service. The ceremony included the felicitation of guests and the formal handover of the ambulance. Most Rev. Dr. James Thoppil, Bishop of Kohima, blessed the ambulance and offered prayers for the safety and well-being of patients, caregivers, and healthcare workers. Addressing the gathering, he commended the Centre's dedicated service and commitment to providing compassionate care to the sick and those in need of palliative care. He also expressed his sincere appreciation to South Indian Bank for their generous support through the CSR initiative, which made the procurement of the ambulance possible and will greatly benefit the patients and the wider community.

expressed his joy in supporting a healthcare initiative that directly benefits the community. The new ambulance will enhance the Centre's ability to provide timely transportation for patients requiring palliative care, medical consultations, and emergency referrals.

The program concluded with a vote of thanks by Sr. Teris MSJ, Administrator and Superior of St. Joseph Pain and Palliative Care Centre. The event was a memorable occasion that reflected the spirit of collaboration and service, while marking an important step in strengthening the Centre's healthcare and patient care services.

- Correspondent



Two-Day Retreat at St. Jose Church, Sitimi

St. Jose Church in Sitimi organized a two-day retreat on 20th and 21st March 2026 under the theme "Renew Us O Lord." The programme drew parishioners from the community who gathered for prayer, reflection and spiritual deepening.

Rev. Fr. Thomas Toretikiu served as the retreat preacher. His talks focused on "Raising Resilient, Respectful Children in a Catholic Home" and "How do I apply St. Joseph spirituality into my life?" He also reflected on the sacraments and other Catholic values, encouraging families to nurture faith at home and live the example of St. Joseph through humility, obedience, and trust in God.

On the opening day, Rev. Fr. Satheesh welcomed the preacher, the community, and all participants, setting a prayerful tone for the retreat. He invited everyone to open their hearts to spiritual renewal during the two days.

The final day included the Sacrament of Reconciliation, giving parishioners an opportunity for confession and spiritual cleansing. This was followed by the celebration of Holy Mass, which brought the retreat to its liturgical climax. After the Mass, a community meal was served, allowing participants to share fellowship and conversation.

At the conclusion of the programme, Mrs. Florence, the women's



president, pronounced a vote of thanks. She expressed gratitude to the preacher, the priests, and all who contributed to organizing the retreat, acknowledging the effort that made the event meaningful for everyone present.

The retreat provided parishioners with time for reflection, prayer, and community bonding, aligning with the theme “Renew Us O Lord” as participants left encouraged to strengthen their faith and family life.

- Correspondent

Annual Sports Extravaganza at St. John School, Kiusam

The distinguished gathering included Rev. Fr. Philip Magh, Principal of Loyola Hr. Sec. School, Kiphire; Rev. Fr. Marius Patton, Vice



St. John School, Kiusam, today celebrated the inauguration of its Annual Sports event with significant enthusiasm on 31st March 2026. The ceremony was honored by the presence of Shri Kevilhokho Rio, North East Contractor (NEC), Nagaland, who served as the chief guest. He was accompanied by special guests Shri Neibulie Rio and Shri Tsemy Tep, an engineer from NEC.

Principal of Loyola Hr. Sec. School; Rev. Sr. Lucy; Sir Simon Anar; alongside various public leaders, pastors, parents, and other invited guests.

In his inaugural address, Chief Guest Shri Kevilhokho Rio underscored the paramount importance of sportsmanship, emphasizing the values of teamwork, focus, and excellence. He urged students to cultivate discipline and develop their

skills, highlighting the significant contributions of sports and games to both mental and physical well-being. He further encouraged the students to identify their talents and pursue excellence in their chosen endeavors.

The program began with a welcoming address by Rev. Fr. Thomas Toretkiu, Principal of St. John School, Kiusam, who conveyed his gratitude to the Chief Guest and his accompanying team with a presentation. Fr. Thomas also extended profound thanks, on behalf of the Kohima Diocese and the Kiusam area, to Shri Kevilhokho Rio’s team and particularly to Shri Thepfusatuo Rio, currently in Dimapur. He commended their invaluable contributions to the Kiusam region, specifically acknowledging their generous efforts in constructing a beautifully paved road, which has substantially improved connectivity, and their crucial support in leveling the school ground and implementing a vital drainage system. Fr. Thomas reaffirmed the school’s dedication to fostering holistic, all-round development in conjunction with academic excellence.

Rev. Fr. Philip Magh, in his exhortation, commended Fr. Thomas Toretkiu, Headmaster Sir Adani David, the school staff, public leaders, and parents for their steadfast support. He observed the remarkable growth in both student enrollment and academic quality at St. John’s School, Kiusam, over the couples of years, attributing this success to the unity and strength of the community.

Mrs. Catherine adeptly emceed the event, which featured a prayer

dance, a welcome song, and the unfurling of the school flag. A key moment was the lighting of the sports torch by the chief guest, followed by a dynamic march past conducted by the four school houses, which Mrs. Catherine eloquently narrated. The program also included a drill display, cultural dances, and a special performance by the nursery students.

Sir Adani David, the Headmaster, concluded the formal proceedings with a vote of thanks, expressing gratitude to all esteemed guests, dignitaries, and parents for their presence and unwavering support.

- Sir David

Kiphire Witnesses Profound Good Friday Observance, Divine Mercy Novena Begins



St. Peter's Parish in Kiphire on 3rd of April concluded a deeply affecting Good Friday celebration, marked by an "extravaganza" enactment of the 14 Stations of the Cross, meticulously orchestrated by the Catholic Youth of Kiphire. The event provided parishioners with a uniquely spiritual and immersive experience, tracing Jesus' journey to the cross through powerful theatrical

presentations and contextualized reflections.

The solemn enactment commenced from the lower grounds of the parish, following a winding, zigzag path that led participants up to the church. The journey culminated inside for the Liturgy of the Word, the Veneration of the Cross, and Holy Communion. At each of the fourteen stations, a designated leader presented scripture reflections, drawing parallels between the historical narrative and contemporary life, which resonated deeply with those present. Attendees described the experience as emotionally impactful, commending the youth for their compelling portrayals.

Rev. Fr. Thomas Toretciu presided over the event, delivering both an introduction and a concluding address. Following the three-and-a-

celebration drew a large congregation, many of whom were visibly moved by the spiritual intensity of the experience.

Immediately following the Good Friday service, the Divine Mercy Novena commenced, signalling nine days of prayer that will culminate on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 12th. This novena, a preparatory devotion for the Feast of Divine Mercy, entails specific daily prayer intentions as revealed by Jesus to Saint Faustina Kowalska. Parishioners departed in silence, carrying the reflections of the day.

- Paul Kurak

North East Contractor's Generosity Paves Way for St. John School in Kiusam

A significant step towards educational advancement and community development was taken today in Kiusam with the official Land Cutting Ceremony for St. John School. The event, held on April 6, 2026, was graced by dignitaries and community leaders, marking the beginning of a new chapter for the Tikhir area.

Shri Teisovilie Rupreo, North East Contractor, officiated the program, emphasizing the opportunity to contribute to the local community's well-being. "May God's blessing be upon this ground today and years to come, as the ground itself bears witness to the faith, sacrifice, and determination of an entire community. He said, let on this ground be a stepping forward into a future defined by education,



excellence, and the love of God,” Rupreo stated during the ribbon-cutting.

Rev. Fr. Philip Magh, Parish Priest and Principal of Loyola Hr. Sec. School, Kiphire, hailed the day as a “red-letter day” for St. John School. He extended heartfelt appreciation from the Bishop and the Diocese of Kohima to North East Construction for their substantial contribution in leveling the ground. “Your contribution is our vision, resources, prayers, and labor toward making this institution a reality,” Fr. Magh added, acknowledging the collective effort behind the project. He also applauded Shri Thepfusatuo Rio and

Shri Teisovilie Rupreo for their leadership.

Mr. L. Y. Tokim, TGBA President, representing public leaders, underscored the profound impact of humanitarian service. “You may be a millionaire, wealthy in assets, rich in knowledge and wisdom, but a help rendered to mankind is the greatest gift,” he remarked. He lauded the Catholic Church for its dedicated service and recognized Rev. Fr. Thomas Toretkiu, Centre In-charge, for his hard work, and Rev. Fr. Philip for his collaborative spirit with NEC. Tokim highlighted that this contribution would be remembered for generations in the Tikhir area.

The ceremony included a Prayer of Blessing led by Rev. Fr. Kokto Kurien, Director, NCYM – Kohima, Nagaland, who invoked divine guidance and protection for the project. Earlier, Rev. Fr. Thomas Toretkiu welcomed everyone, setting a tone of unity and gratitude. He expressed optimism for the school’s future, acknowledging NEC’s contribution as a sacred milestone for faith, education, and community in the Kiusam Area. Mrs. Catherine competently compered the program, fostering a spirit of oneness and grace throughout the proceedings.

- Mam Catherine

Blessing and Inauguration of MSJ Convent, Chümoukedima

The blessing and inauguration of the newly constructed MSJ Convent at Chümoukedima, Nagaland, was held on 7 April 2026. The convent was built with the generous support of the Italian Bishops’ Conference under the guidance of the Diocese



of Kohima. It serves as the residence of the Medical Sisters of St. Joseph (MSJ), who are actively engaged in the ministry of St. Joseph Pain and Palliative Care Centre.

The blessing ceremony was solemnly conducted by Most Rev. Dr. James Thoppil, Bishop of Kohima. The Eucharistic celebration and inauguration were presided over by the Bishop in the presence of Rev. Mother Merina MSJ, Superior General of the Medical Sisters of St. Joseph Congregation, and Rev. Sr. Divya MSJ, Provincial Superior of MSJ Nirmala Province. Sisters from various MSJ communities, including Aluva, Itanagar, and Nongstoin, also participated in the joyful occasion.

The formal gathering commenced with a warm welcome address by Rev. Sr. Divya MSJ, Provincial Superior of Nirmala Province. A special session titled “Remembering the Milestone” was presented by Rev. Sr. Cicil Therese MSJ, Councillor for Formation and Mission of Nirmala Province, highlighting the journey, vision, and efforts that led to the realization of the new convent. Rev. Mother Merina MSJ, Superior General, felicitated the gathering and expressed her gratitude to all who contributed to the project and the mission of the congregation. The vote of thanks was delivered by Sr. Teris MSJ, Superior and Administrator of St. Joseph Pain and Palliative Care Centre, who acknowledged the support and presence of all the dignitaries, benefactors, and well-wishers.

The event was graced by the presence of priests, religious sisters, benefactors, neighbours, and well-wishers who gathered to witness and celebrate this significant milestone. The newly inaugurated convent marks an important step in

strengthening the mission and presence of the Medical Sisters of St. Joseph in Nagaland.

The celebration concluded with a thanksgiving gathering and fellowship meal, offering an opportunity for all present to express gratitude to God for His blessings and to rejoice in the growth of the congregation’s mission in the region.

- Correspondent

Holy Family Church, Phuyeqa Blessed



The faithful of Holy Family Church, Phuyeqa, a small Catholic community of 11 families under St. Francis of Assisi Church, Lazami, joyfully celebrated the Blessing and Dedication of their newly constructed church. The solemn Eucharistic Celebration and the Rite of Blessing were presided over by Most Rev. Dr. James Thoppil, Bishop of Kohima.

Prior to the Eucharistic celebration, the Donors’ Memorial Stone was unveiled by Mr. Y. Vikheho Swu, Former Minister, Government of Nagaland and Managing Director, Okusa Toyota Pvt. Ltd., Nagaland, in recognition of the generous benefactors whose support made the construction of the church possible.

In his homily, Bishop James congratulated Rev. Fr. Paul Inashe, the Catholic community of Phuyeqa, the parishioners of Lazami, the Sisters of Charity, and all the benefactors for their sacrifice and dedication. He reminded the faithful that while a church building is a visible sign of God’s presence, the true Church is the community of believers. Quoting St. Paul, he emphasized that every Christian is a living temple of God and is called to bear witness to Christ through a life of faith, holiness, and service.

The Bishop encouraged the faithful to make the newly blessed church not merely a place of worship but a vibrant centre of prayer, communion, and evangelization. He urged the community to remain steadfast in the Catholic faith and to proclaim the Gospel primarily through the witness of their daily lives, becoming true “Christ-bearers” in society.

The celebration concluded with a felicitation programme, honouring the benefactors and all who contributed to the construction of the church, followed by a fellowship meal that brought together clergy, religious, benefactors, and the faithful in a spirit of thanksgiving and communion.

- Correspondent

St. Luigi Church, Bhandari Village Celebrates Silver Jubilee



St. Luigi Church, Bhandari Village, joyfully celebrated its Silver Jubilee with a two-day programme held on the 10th and 11th of April 2026, marking 25 years of faith and witness in the village.

The first day of the celebration began with the Blessing of the Jubilee Pandal by Rev. Fr. George Antony, the Parish Priest. This was followed by the Holy Eucharist celebrated by Rev. Fr. Victor Renthungo. After the Holy Eucharist, Rev. Sr. Rose Chumbeni SABS gave the exhortation.

The second day commenced with the Blessing of the Jubilee Monolith by Most Rev. Dr. James Thoppil, Bishop of Kohima. The Jubilee Monolith was unveiled by Shri Achumbemo Kikon, the MLA of the region. This was followed by the Holy Eucharist celebration led by Most Rev. Dr. James Thoppil, during which 20 people also received the Sacrament of Confirmation. After

the Mass, a short Felicitation Programme was held, followed by the Jubilee Feast.

The event was an inspiring witness to faith and collaboration. Though there are only four Catholic families within Bhandari Village, the grand celebration was made possible through the active support and unity of the entire Parish community.

- Fr. Thomas Megorickho

Catechism Teachers Animation for Jakhama Region



A two-day Catechism Teachers Animation Programme was successfully conducted at Phesama for the Jakhama region, comprising the parishes of Phesama, Jakhama, and Kidima, from 11th to 12th April 2026. A total of 33 participants attended the programme. The sessions were vibrant and engaging, featuring input classes, group dynamics, action songs, and catechetical games. Several resource persons were invited to deliver meaningful and enriching sessions.

On the first day, the input sessions were led by Fr. Sabu Chenackal, who spoke on *"Hierarchy of the Church, Catechism Teachers as Models of Prayer, and Basic Knowledge of the Liturgy of the*

Mass." Fr Kokto Kurian gave input sessions on, *"Classroom management with love and discipline"* and *"Working together: Parish, Parents, and Catechism Teachers."* Fr. Anthony Loyola conducted sessions on *"Understanding Children at Different Age Levels"* and *"Skills for Preparing and Presenting Catechism Lessons,"* which also included practical components.

On the second day, Mr. Marcus Dzüvichü animated sessions on *"The Role of Catechism Teachers in*

Children's Faith Formation" and *"Being a Living Example as a Catechism Teacher."* Sr. Rita Kera MSMHC facilitated both theoretical and practical sessions on *"Liturgical Signs, Symbols, and Gestures"* and *"Making Bible Learning Interesting and Engaging."*

Participants expressed their appreciation for the enriching experience, highlighting the opportunity to learn new methods, gain fresh insights, and actively engage through innovative activities, games, and songs. Many also suggested that such programmes be conducted regularly and extended over more days to further benefit catechism teachers.

- Correspondent

2nd YCS Convention of Kohima Diocese Held at Kohima



The 2nd YCS Convention of Kohima Diocese was successfully held from 10th to 12th April 2026 at the Mary Help of Christians Cathedral under the theme, “*Gen-Z for a Self-Sustaining World.*” Over 200 students and 16 animators from seven parishes across the diocese participated in the three-day programme.

The convention began with the Holy Eucharist celebrated by Most Rev. Dr. James Thoppil, who described the youth as “Gen Z pilgrims of hope for a holistic life and a sustainable world.” The inaugural session included a welcome address by Sr. Mariyam Chothe Khiyang, YCS Coordinator of Kohima Diocese, a short address by Mr. Jonas Yanthan,

CAN President, and a motivational talk by Dr. Rosou Ronald Pohena, President of NCYM. Members of NCWA were also present on the occasion.

On the second day, Holy Mass was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Lawrence Khing, Vice Principal of NEISSR. Rev. Fr. Kokto Kurian, YCS Chaplain of Kohima Diocese, delivered the thematic session on the role of youth in building a sustainable society. Adv. Jimmy Padang, former YCS/YSM National President, conducted sessions on the essence of YCS and cell meetings, while Mrs. Neisovonuo Anna, former YCS Coordinator, spoke on the relevance of YCS in today’s context. The day also featured a vibrant

Talent Night. Sr. Monica Khangchian FMA, Coordinator of YCS/YSM Northeast, addressed the gathering and encouraged the participants.

The concluding day coincided with Divine Mercy Sunday. The Holy Mass was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Rozu Anthony Dukru, Parish Priest of Mary Help of Christians Cathedral, Kohima. A major highlight of the closing programme was the induction of the new YCS Kohima Diocesan Executives, who took their oath during the concluding Mass.

The convention concluded successfully, strengthening unity among the youth and renewing their commitment to the values and mission of YCS. - *Correspondent*

Orientation-cum-get-together programme held with North East Constructors at Zinki-River Camp

A heartfelt community get-together and orientation programme for the North East Constructors (NEC) road construction team was held at Zinki river Camp, Kiusam Sunday

12th April, under the theme “**One Team, One Goal**”. Hosted by St. John Catholic Church, Kiusam, the event brought together NEC managers, supervisors, and workers

with local church members to foster encouragement, solidarity, and spiritual support for the team building vital road connectivity in the Tikhir region.



The programme commenced with a welcome address by Shri Teisovilie Rupreo, in-charge of NEC at the site. He expressed gratitude for the community's gesture, noting that many workers are far from home and working under commitment.

The gathering featured a prayer dance by children of St. John Church Kiusam (SJCK), followed by party games, special item by Simon Anar and group song presented by the women of the SJCK. The event created space for interaction between the construction team and local youth, women, and men who came together to pray for the workers' safety, morale, and wellbeing. Church members emphasized their intent to encourage, support, and respect the leadership of NEC while promoting mutual cooperation among all ranks.

Addressing the gathering, Rev. Fr. Thomas Toretkiu, Priest in charge, lauded the NEC team's contribution to the region. "Truly your team is a blessing to our Tikhir area, giving us a road connection which a generation will never forget," he said. Reflecting on the company's structure, Fr. Toretkiu noted, "NEC has a system: a leader who leads, and workers who cooperate. Supervisors and managers translate that direction into plans. And at the foundation, we have workers who

execute, who deliver, who cooperate with leaders to get the job done."

He further acknowledged the human challenges faced on large projects, citing issues like drunk driving, internal misunderstandings, and human imperfection. "Therefore, in such a big company, teamwork with trust, responsibility, and rectification is demanded. These values come from God, called faith," he said. "Honesty, sincerity, and responsibility are not company slogans but personal tools." Quoting scripture, he added, "As Jesus says, 'Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them' (John 7:38). Our life here on earth is a process from error to refine ourselves and be gone to God. Let us do our best where and whatever we do, let us do for the common good."

The orientation-cum-get-together was described as a historic moment for NEC, with the St. John's community extending mental, moral, and spiritual support to the workforce. The programme highlighted the importance of unity between the construction team and host community, stressing that infrastructure growth must be matched by mutual respect and shared purpose.

The event concluded with the words of thanks from Shri Akho and a mass prayer for the safety and success of the project and all personnel involved. A sumptuous meal was served to all attendees, ending the day on a note of fellowship and gratitude. *-Samuel Kurak*

The 54th Annual Sports Meet Held at Loyola Higher Secondary School, Kiphire

The 54th Annual Sports Meet of Loyola Higher Secondary School, Kiphire, was joyfully inaugurated on 16th April 2026 at 9:00 AM with great enthusiasm and vibrant participation. The theme for this year's sports meet was "*Victory through Effort*," emphasizing perseverance and dedication.

The Annual Sports Meet was graced by the Special Guest, Col. Rajiv Sharma, Commandant of the 30th Battalion Assam Rifles, Kiphire Town. He was accompanied by his wife, Major Shikha Satsangi (Retd.), a former officer from the Judge Advocate General branch of the Indian Army.

The event was skillfully compered by Mr. Marcus and Mrs. Meribeni, who guided the proceedings smoothly.

The programme began with an invocation prayer led by Sr. Alice, the Vice Principal, seeking blessings for the success of the event. This was followed by the opening remark delivered by Rev. Fr. Philip, who warmly welcomed the gathering and highlighted the importance of sports



in shaping character and discipline through sports.

The official inauguration took place with the unfurling of the flag by the Special Guest, marking the formal commencement of the sports meet. A well-coordinated drill display by students of Classes 5, 6, and 7 added color and energy to the program.

The March Past was one of the highlights of the day, featuring the

Scouts and Guides, the four houses, Class 12 students, and two junior contingents. Their synchronized movements and discipline reflected the spirit of teamwork and dedication.

In his address, the Special Guest inspired the students with motivating words. He emphasized the value of hard work, stating that “we don’t believe in shortcuts, but we believe in efforts.” He encouraged students to work diligently, reminding them

that consistent effort makes difficult tasks easier. He further added, “A true winner is the one who refuses to quit,” leaving a lasting impression on everyone.

The occasion was graced by the presence of Rev Fr. John Poji the principal of St Xavier Hr Sec School, Shamator, Rev Fr. Thomas Toretkiu, the principal of St John School, Kiusam Town. Church Council of St Peter’s Church, Kiphire, Alumni, School Managing Board, representative from USSC, KASU, Parents and well wishers.

After officially declaring the sports meet open, an exhibition Tug of War match was held between Alumni & Parents versus Teachers, with participation from the Special Guest in both male and female categories. The friendly competition brought excitement and joy to the audience. The winners were awarded medals as a token of appreciation.

The inaugural programme concluded on a high note, setting the tone for a spirited and energetic sports meet ahead. **-Fr. Marius Patton**

St. John Catholic Church, Kiusam, visited Thuonokynu Village

Members of St. John Catholic Church, Kiusam, visited Thuonokynu Village on 18th April 2026 for the first time, where community members and public leaders gathered for a heartfelt occasion. The visit fostered warm conversations and deep reflection on the Catholic faith, described as a tree planted that will bear abundant fruit and blessings for generations.

The gathering also honored the death



anniversary of Late Y. Ahusi John, beloved father of Tsusu Mary. Prayers were offered in remembrance, followed by the

blessing of the cemetery of her late mother, Relushe Aleisha.

Later, blessed the new homes of Tsusu Mary and Maringkiu. The

event highlighted unity, faith, and shared Legacy among residents and visitors.

Attendees expressed gratitude for the beautiful place and its wonderful people, thanking all for the meaningful faith sharing. A community meal was served to all.

-Samuel Kurak

CELEBRATION of the 'YES' to the Lord in CARMEL



CMC Sanjoe Province, Dimapur - Nagaland celebrated the Vestition and First Profession of seven novices alongside the Silver Jubilee of four sisters on 18 April 2026, marking two profound moments in the journey of consecrated life. The solemn Eucharistic celebration was presided over by Most Rev. Dr. Linus Neli, Archbishop of Imphal, with sixty concelebrating priests, making the occasion deeply prayerful, vibrant, and truly memorable.

The Archbishop beautifully reflected on these two milestones as expressions of the same call lived at different stages. The novices, radiant with hope, embody the

springtime of vocation—their generous and courageous “YES” marking the beginning of a sacred journey with the Lord. The Silver Jubilarians, on the other hand, stand as living witnesses to fidelity, celebrating twenty-five years of walking closely with Christ in trust and perseverance.

Drawing from the call of Abraham, he reminded all present that consecrated life is a journey into the

unknown: “Leave your land... go to the land I will show you.” It is a path without a visible map or “GPS,” where God gently leads day by day, phase by phase. The call demands trust, surrender, and unwavering commitment. Once given, the “YES” becomes irrevocable—a covenant of love that calls one forward without turning back, echoing the Lord’s own warning about looking behind. A striking reminder was drawn from the story of Lot’s wife: she did not look back out of mere curiosity, but out of attachment—an inability to let go of what she had left behind. That backward glance cost her everything, and she became a pillar of salt. In the same way, a

vocation can slowly lose its vitality when it is weighed down by undue attachments, compromises, and half-hearted surrender. When the “yes” is no longer lived with freedom and trust, it risks hardening into routine and disappointment—no longer radiating joy to others, nor experiencing it within.

The celebration thus became a powerful witness to both the joy of beginning and the grace of perseverance—a reminder that the journey of consecration, whether at its dawn or after many years, is always sustained by God’s faithful guidance and love. **- Correspondent**

The Annual Sports Meet Held at JYMS, Phelungre

The Annual Sports Meet 2026 of John Yesong Memorial School (JYMS), Phelungre, was inaugurated with great enthusiasm and vibrant participation on Thursday, April 23, 2026, at the school campus.

The inaugural programme commenced with an invocation offered by Shri Imkong, Pastor of Phelungre Baptist Church, invoking blessings for the successful conduct of the event. Rev. Fr. Marius Patton, Principal of JYMS, delivered the salutation, warmly welcoming the distinguished guests, staff, students, and attendees.

The occasion was graced by Major K. C. Babu, Company Commander of ‘B’ Company, 30 Assam Rifles, Phelungre, who attended as the Special Guest. The programme



featured a disciplined and colorful March Past by the four school houses, followed by the oath-taking ceremony, where participants pledged to uphold the spirit of sportsmanship and fair play. Cultural elements added vibrancy to the event, including a lively dance performance and a special appearance by the LKG and UKG students, which drew warm appreciation from the audience.

In his inaugural address, Major Babu underscored the vital role of sports in shaping young minds. He emphasized that sports are not merely about winning medals but about fostering discipline, teamwork, resilience, and character. Encouraging students to actively participate, he highlighted the lifelong values that sporting activities instill.

As part of his engagement, the Special Guest also distributed stationery items and sweets to the students, adding joy to the occasion. In a symbolic gesture marking the formal opening of the meet, Major Babu declared the sports meet open by tossing a football into the sky, drawing cheers from the gathering.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Sir Chothrili, Head Teacher of the school, who expressed gratitude to the Special Guest, organizers, staff, and students for their contributions to the success of the event.

The inaugural ceremony set an inspiring tone for the days of athletic competition ahead, reflecting the school's commitment to holistic education through sports and co-curricular activities.

-Fr. Marius Patton

Blessing and Inauguration of the New SABS Provincial Administrative Block

The blessing and inauguration of the New SABS Provincial Administrative Block was held on 25th April at 4:00pm. The ceremony was

solemnly blessed by Most Rev. James Thoppil, the Bishop of Kohima in the gracious presence of many priests, religious, friends, benefactors and well – wishers. The occasion was richly blessed by the prayers offered by Most Rev. Bishop James Thoppil, invoking God's abundant blessing upon all those who would live and work and appreciated the efforts of everyone who contributed towards the completion of the building. Rev. Mother Joyce Thekkumkattil, the Provincial Superior did the honour of cutting of the ribbon, marking the formal opening of the new administrative block. This was followed by the blessing of the commemorative plaque by Bishop James Thoppil. The gathering marked a memorable and joyful occasion for the Corpus Christi Province Dimapur as the new block stands as a symbol of growth, unity and dedicated service to the mission of the Congregation.

Following the blessing ceremony, a solemn Holy Mass was celebrated with deep devotion and gratitude to God for His providence and guidance all through. The program



concluded with a sincere notes of thanks from Provincial Superior, Sr. Joyce Thekkumkattil and shared a moments of joy, fraternity and togetherness with a fellowship dinner. The entire event was marked by prayerfulness, sharing and gratitude.

- *Correspondent*

Compound Levelling of St. John School, Kiusam on Full Swing

Six heavy machines were deployed at the St. John School, Kiusam Town compound on 27th to 30th April to level and cut the ground. The extensive earthwork was made possible through the generous support of North East Constructor, whose contribution has drawn heartfelt appreciation from the local community.



Members of the St. John's community said the initiative will significantly improve the school campus, creating safer play areas and space for future facilities. "A generation will not forget this enormous contribution to the Tikhir area," said a school representative. "We sincerely appreciate this selfless act that directly benefits our students."

Special gratitude extends to Shri Thepfusatuo Rio, Shri Nebulie, and the entire North East Constructor team for their commitment to the project. Their intervention comes at a crucial time as St. John School continues to grow as a promising educational hub for children from near and far.

Known for its beautiful environment and kind-hearted people, the school has long been a center of learning in the region. Community members emphasized that the upgraded grounds reflect a shared vision: "Today, we give our time, energy, and sacrifice for your greater tomorrow."

Local leaders believe the leveled compound will enhance both academic and extracurricular activities, reinforcing St. John School's role in shaping future generations. The project stands as

a testament to how private initiative and community spirit can come together to strengthen education in remote areas of Nagaland.

- *John Aven*

**If you light a lamp
for somebody,
it will also
brighten your path**

BUDDHA

Ursuline Franciscan Sisters of NE Province celebrates Profession Day

The Ursuline Franciscan Sisters of the North East Province marked their Profession Day with a solemn and joyous celebration at Assisi Higher Sec. School, Dimapur. Centered on the theme "Consecrated to Love and Serve," the event reflected the Sisters' commitment to their vocation of faith and service.

The Eucharistic celebration commenced with a heartfelt welcome by Rev. Sr. Juliana Pereira, Provincial Superior of North East Province. She warmly welcomed the dignitaries, priests, Sisters, and the people of God gathered for the occasion. In a special way, she expressed deep gratitude to the family members of the sisters- especially the parents- for encouraging and fostering vocations to the religious life, and for joyfully offering their daughters as a generous gift to the Church.

The Eucharistic celebration was led by Most Rev. James Thoppil, Bishop of the Diocese of Kohima, and concelebrated by 55 Priests.

In his homily, Bishop James congratulated the newly professed Sisters in the name of the Church and highlighted few points that in today's world, many voices call, seek our attention and offer different ways of living, which may not always align with God's call, but these sisters have chosen to listen to the voice of God. He emphasized that



the quality and commitment of religious life depend on whose voice we follow; by their profession, the Sisters have chosen to stand for God and uphold His values. He encouraged them to remain in God's love and bear fruit through faithful service, even amid difficulties and challenges. Through their profession, he told them that they have made themselves fully available to the mission of the Church, responding generously to Christ's call: "I chose you to remain in my love and bear fruit."

During the Eucharistic celebration, five novices made their Temporary Profession, while nine Sisters pronounced their Perpetual Profession. In a profound act of surrender and devotion, the Sisters professed the evangelical counsels of poverty chastity, and obedience—offering themselves fully to God and the service of His people. Despite coming from diverse cultural and regional backgrounds, their unity in mission was a testament to their shared dedication to love and serve.

Following the religious ceremony, a felicitation program was held in honor of the newly professed Sisters. Highlights of the ceremony included a welcome for the Bishop and Parish Priest Fr. John P. M, a greeting song by choir, and introductions of the

newly professed by the novices. Sr. Juliana Pereira as the head of the institution offered her congratulations, praised the Sisters for their faithful and courageous response to God's call.

Representing the newly professed, Sr. Vilitoli Mary expressed gratitude to all gathered, specially to their formators, supporters, and those who had contributed to making the event memorable. Mr. Veikho the parent of one of the newly Professed Sisters, offered words of thanks on behalf of all the parents. The celebration concluded with a "fellowship meal", bringing together families, clergy, and the faithful to extend their best wishes to the newly professed. The entire day was marked by an atmosphere of joy and spiritual renewal. The Ursuline Franciscan Sisters expressed their deep gratitude to God for this grace-filled celebration and to all those who helped make the day truly memorable, inspiring and blessed.

- Correspondent

*Serve Him
by serving
His people.*



CEDOK Felicitates NBSE Toppers in Kohima

The Commission for Education, Diocese of Kohima (CEDOK) felicitated NBSE rank holders from Catholic schools, along with institutions that achieved 100% pass results, at a grand function held at the Golden Jubilee Hall, Cathedral Campus, Kohima, on May 1, 2026.

A total of 36 rank holders (24 HSLC and 12 HSSLC) were honoured on the occasion, along with 13 schools that recorded 100% results (11 HSLC and 2 HSSLC). Marking a significant milestone in the educational progress of the state, Catholic schools registered zero dropout at the HSLC level for the second consecutive year, with all enrolled students appearing for the board examinations and achieving an impressive overall pass percentage of 91.3%. The toppers were presented with certificates, mementos, and cash awards.

Dr. Tseilhoutuo Ato Rhütso, Honourable Member of the Nagaland Legislative Assembly from Kohima Town Constituency, graced the occasion as the Special Guest, while Elias T. Lotha, Transport Commissioner, Government of Nagaland, attended as the Guest of Honour.

Sharing his personal life journey, Dr. Tseilhoutuo Ato Rhütso exhorted the students to embrace discipline and perseverance during their formative years. He encouraged them to make sacrifices in the present to secure a brighter future, cautioning that the higher secondary stage is a period of greater freedom that must be used wisely. He further urged students to aspire to become responsible global citizens, grounded in strong values,



and reminded parents that investing in education is far more valuable than the cost of ignorance.

Speaking as Guest of Honour, Shri Elias T. Lotha emphasized that success is not an individual achievement but the result of the collective efforts of dedicated teachers and supportive parents. He encouraged the students to aim higher, dream bigger, and continue learning, while also reminding them to use their talents for the greater good and contribute positively to society.

Ms. Shreya Singh, HSLC 3rd Rank holder from Holy Child School, Burma Camp, spoke on behalf of the awardees. She shared her journey of success and expressed gratitude to the organizers for recognizing the hard work and dedication of the students.

The programme was enlivened by vibrant cultural presentations, including dances, songs, and choreographies performed by students from various Catholic schools in and around Kohima.

The awards were presented by the dignitaries, including Rangumbuing Nsarangbe, Secretary & Chairperson (Addl. Charge),

NBSE, and Jonas Yanthan, President of the Catholic Association of Nagaland, along with the Special Guest and Guest of Honour.

Earlier in the programme, Rev. Fr. Dr. Jacob Charalel, Secretary, CEDOK, delivered the welcome address, greeting the dignitaries, toppers, parents, and well-wishers. He highlighted that the Catholic Church, through its widespread network of schools across all districts of Nagaland, continues to uphold education as a primary mission.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Rev. Fr. Renthung Victor, Joint Secretary, CEDOK and Principal of Holy Cross Higher Secondary School, Dimapur. He expressed gratitude to all participants and invited the gathering to a fellowship lunch.

- Rev. Fr. Dr. Jacob Charalel
Secretary, CEDOK



Parents' Day-Cum-Science Lab Inauguration at St. Xavier Hr. Sec. School, Meluri

St. Xavier Hr. Sec. School, Meluri, celebrated its Parents' Day - Cum - Inauguration of the Science Laboratory on 4th of May, 2026. The programme was graced by Shri. Z. Nyusietho Nyuthe, Hon'ble MLA & Advisor, NSDMA, NRE, GoN as the Chief Guest. Khone of class III and Medosa of class VI gracefully hosted the programme with confidence and poise, earning appreciation from the audience.

The celebration commenced with a prayer led by Rev. Fr. James Ezung, invoking God's blessings upon the school community and all those gathered for the event. Rev. Fr. Tomy gave the welcome speech and extended a cordial welcome to the guests, parents, teachers and students. In his address, he highlighted the indispensable role of parents in the upbringing and education of children. Concluding his speech, he shared an inspiring quote, "parents are like kites; they hold you up for a while, but you need to learn to fly on your own."

A major highlight of the day was the inauguration of the newly established science laboratory. The occasion was especially significant as St. Xavier Hr. Sec. School became the first institution in Meluri district to introduce the Science Stream at the higher secondary level.

The cultural segment added colour and vibrancy to the celebration. Students entertained the audience with a variety of performances. The talents, creativity and confidence of the students were highly appreciated by parents and guests.



Speaking on the occasion, Rev. Fr. Jacob, Secretary of the CEDOK, emphasized the Catholic Church's commitment to providing quality education to every child, irrespective of whether they come from remote villages, towns or cities. Referring to a student of St. Paul school, Noklak who emerged as a top performer in the recent declared HSLC exam, he stated that such achievements demonstrate the dedication of Catholic Church in bringing quality education to even the most remote corners of society. He added that the Catholic Church continues to strive to provide a strong educational foundation for all students and thereby contribute to the educational progress of the state.

Addressing the gathering, Shri. Z. Nyusietho congratulated the school on its remarkable achievement and encouraged students to work hard and strive for excellence. Referring to Ephesians 6:1–2, he reminded the students to obey and honour their parents and exhorted them on the importance of listening to their advice and guidance.

The chief guest also encouraged parents to support their children and instill in them strong moral and spiritual values. He observed that children today learn more from examples than from words. He said that parents should no longer rely solely on instructions and advice but

should teach their children through their own exemplary life. Stressing on the importance of parental influence, he added that students are a reflection of their parents.

In a special gesture of encouragement to the first batch of science students, the chief guest announced that every student who secures first division in the upcoming board examinations 2028, would receive a cash award of ₹ 10,000. The announcement was greeted with loud applause and excitement from students and parents alike.

The celebration ended with a school anthem leaving the participants on a joyful note, inspired and hopeful for a bright future. - *Correspondent*

Orientation and Motivational Session Held at Loyola Higher Secondary School, Kiphire



Loyola Higher Secondary School, Kiphire, conducted an orientation and motivational session for students

of Classes 10, 11, and 12 on Thursday May 8, 2026 —. The program aimed to equip students with strategies for academic success as they prepare for board examinations.

The session began with Rev. Fr. Philip Magh, Principal of Loyola Hr. Sec. School, welcoming the resource person, staff, and students. Rev. Fr. Marius Patton, Vice Principal, led the opening prayer. This was followed by the traditional lighting of the lamp, symbolizing the dispelling of ignorance. Teachers were then introduced to the Class 11 students, who were attending their first day at the senior secondary level.

The resource person for the session was Rev. Fr. Thomas Toretciu, who spoke on the theme "*How to Succeed in Life?*" Summing up his message in one word, he said success comes through *hard work*, practiced via the 3Rs: Read, Write, and Recite.

Fr. Toretciu stressed consistency in studies and urged students to invest 4 to 5 hours daily in focused academic work to excel in NBSE HSLC and HSSLC examinations. To reinforce his point, he reflected on the journeys of Nagaland's 2026

NBSE toppers — Aman Kumar, HSLC Topper 2026; Keleno Thorie, HSSLC Arts Stream Topper

2026; Shreya Debnath, HSSLC Commerce Stream Topper 2026; and Menguhaankum Chang, HSSLC Science Stream Topper 2026.

Students listened to interview clips of the toppers. Fr. Toretkiu then evaluated key elements behind their success: consistent studying, spending quality time on each subject, conceptual understanding, motivation, and strong support from family and teachers.

He also advised students against comparison with peers. “Never compare yourself to others. Study at your own pace and always believe in yourself,” he said, strongly recommending self-belief as essential to achieving one’s goals.

The day concluded with a prayer over the students, seeking guidance and strength for the academic year ahead.

Teachers noted that the session was timely and practical, especially for Class 11 students transitioning to a new academic phase. Students said the real-life examples and the 3Rs framework gave them clear, actionable steps to improve their study habits. The school plans to follow up with regular mentoring to help students stay consistent.

- Sr Tresa SABS

St. John Church Celebrates Mother’s Day with Joy and Gratitude

St. John Church marked Mother’s Day on Sunday, 10th May, with a heartfelt celebration that honored the selfless love and sacrifice of mothers



in the parish community. The day began with a special Eucharistic celebration offered for all mothers, both living and deceased, presided over by Rev. Fr. Thomas Toretkiu.

In his homily, Fr. Thomas reflected on the spiritual significance of motherhood, saying, “Mothers are the image of God where we experience the love of God. God could not be with us in physical form, but sent mothers to us so that we experience His love through them.” He also briefly traced the origin of Mother’s Day, noting its roots in honoring maternal devotion and its growth into a global celebration of gratitude.

Following the Holy Mass, a short felicitation program was held on the church grounds. Fr. Thomas led a special prayer and imparted his blessing upon all mothers present. The community expressed its appreciation with thoughtful gifts presented to each mother as a token of love and respect.

The celebration was filled with memorable moments. Fathers and children of the community came together to dedicate a special song to mothers, drawing smiles and tears from the congregation. Adding excitement to the event, a “Best Mother of the Year” lottery was drawn, recognizing one mother for her exemplary witness of faith and service in the family and community.

The entire program was smoothly compered by Mr. James Khiungju, Subedar Major, who kept the gathering lively and engaged. Parishioners of all ages participated, making the occasion a true family celebration.

The day concluded with fellowship and refreshments, leaving everyone with unforgettable memories. Parishioners expressed deep gratitude to Fr. Thomas Toretkiu, the organizers, and volunteers for making the day meaningful.

The Mother’s Day celebration at St. John Church not only honored mothers but also reminded the faithful of the divine love reflected through them, strengthening the bonds of family and community in faith.

- Samuel Kurak

New Family Welcomed into the Catholic Church at Phuvkiu

Christ King Church, Phuvkiu, joyfully welcomed a new family into the Catholic Church during the Holy Eucharist celebrated on 10th May 2026.

The family of Mr. L. Musangba Hubert, Mrs. Kipila Roseline, and their three children—Azhupu Vincent, Zarihya Zachariya, and Satsuvo Pascal—were formally received into the Catholic faith by



Rev. Fr. Jacob Malkias, SAC, Centre-Incharge of Christ King Church, Phuvkiu.

Their reception into the Church was the fruit of the dedicated efforts and prayers of the local Catholic community and the priests serving in the village. Over a period of more than three months, the family faithfully attended Sunday Masses, underwent catechetical instruction, learned the prayers of the Church, and deepened their understanding of the Catholic faith and its teachings.

The occasion was marked by great joy and thanksgiving as parishioners

warmly welcomed the family into the Catholic community. As a sign of fellowship and acceptance, members of the congregation greeted them with flowers and handshakes following the Eucharistic celebration.

The community expressed profound gratitude to God for guiding the family on their faith journey and bringing them into full communion with the Catholic Church. The faithful rejoiced in witnessing this important spiritual milestone and pledged their continued prayers and support for the family.

- Correspondent

Mother's Day Celebrated with Joy and Gratitude at Christ King Church, Phuvkiu



Christ King Church, Phuvkiu, joyfully celebrated Mother's Day on 10th May 2026, bringing together more than 145 mothers from the parish in a heartfelt tribute to their invaluable role in family, society, and the Church.

The celebration was dedicated to honouring mothers for their selfless

love, countless sacrifices, and unwavering dedication in nurturing their children and fostering peace, unity, and love within their families. The occasion provided an opportunity for the faithful to express gratitude for the remarkable contributions of mothers, whose commitment and perseverance continue to strengthen both family life and the Christian community.

Sharing: April - June 2026

On behalf of the entire Catholic community, Rev. Fr. Jacob Malkias, Centre-Incharge of Christ King Church, and Mr. Andrew Shulikiu, the Church Secretary, conveyed their heartfelt congratulations and appreciation to all mothers. In recognition of their tireless service and sacrifices, the mothers were honoured with gifts and prizes as tokens of gratitude and respect.

The celebration was further enlivened by a variety of entertaining and engaging programmes specially organized for the mothers. The activities created an atmosphere of joy, relaxation, and fellowship, making the day a memorable occasion for all present.

- Correspondent

Orientation and Motivational Talk at St. Xavier Hr. Sec. School, Shamator

With the intention to achieve academic excellence from the start of the year, St. Xavier Hr. Sec. School, Shamator, organized an orientation and motivational talk for students of Classes 10, 11, and 12 on Saturday 16th May 2026.

The resource person, Rev. Fr. Thomas Toretikiu, outlined key elements for success in life and examinations, emphasizing hard work, consistency, and a strong grasp of both concept and content while studying. He urged students to dedicate 5 to 6 hours daily to their studies if they aspire to top the NBSE HSLC and HSSLC examinations.

To reinforce his message, Fr. Toretikiu screened interview clips of



previous toppers, highlighting that their common technique for achievement was encapsulated in the mantra: 'Believe and Achieve.' Addressing the students directly, he encouraged Classes 10 and 12 to work hard with focus, while urging Class 11 to begin the academic year well and maintain momentum.

He also advocated the 3Rs method — Read, Write, and Recite — as an effective study strategy. Stressing self-reliance, Fr. Toretkiu encouraged students to develop the habit of making their own notes and to prioritize textbooks over teacher-dictated notes, stating that personal note-making builds confidence and ensures better understanding. He further reminded students to pray to God for guidance in achieving their dreams and aspirations.

Adding weight to the session, Rev. Fr. Philip Magh of Loyola Hr. Sec. School, Kiphire, and former principal of Holy Cross Hr. Sec. School, Dimapur and Queen Mary Hr. Sec. School, Mokokchung, shared his wide experience with the students. He advised them that topping the HSLC and HSSLC requires hard work and investing more time in studies.

Earlier, the programme commenced with words of introduction and a

warm welcome by Rev. Fr. John Poji, Principal of St. Xavier Hr. Sec. School, Shamator.

The motivational session concluded with a prayer of blessing for all students, leaving them inspired to adopt disciplined study habits and strive for academic excellence in the upcoming board examinations.

-Fr. John Poji

Twenty-Five Children Receive First Confession and Holy Communion at Christ King Church, Phuvkiu



Christ King Church, Phuvkiu, joyfully celebrated the reception of the Sacraments of First Confession and First Holy Communion by twenty-five children of the village on 17th May 2026.

Following months of catechetical preparation and formation in the Catholic faith, the children were initiated into these important

sacraments, marking a significant milestone in their spiritual journey. Under the guidance of three dedicated catechism teachers, the children learned the fundamental teachings of the Catholic Church, its basic prayers, and the significance of the sacraments. Through prayer, instruction, and spiritual preparation, they readied themselves to receive Jesus Christ into their hearts for the first time through the Holy Eucharist.

Dressed in white garments symbolizing purity of heart, mind, and body, the children participated reverently in the sacred celebration. The Sacraments were administered by Rev. Fr. Jacob Malkias, Centre-Incharge of Christ King Church, who welcomed the children and encouraged them to remain faithful disciples of Christ throughout their lives.

To assist the children in receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time, Rev. Fr. Neni Mathew, Assistant Priest of St. Paul Parish,

Pungro, joined Fr. Jacob Malkias in hearing their confessions. The celebration was marked by prayerful devotion and deep spiritual significance.

One of the most touching moments of the day was when the children, accompanied by their parents, came forward to receive Holy Communion. The sight of parents

guiding their children to the altar filled many with emotion and joy, witnessing their sons and daughters take an important step in their growth in faith and their relationship with Christ.

At the conclusion of the celebration, Fr. Jacob Malkias distributed certificates and rosaries to the children as tokens of remembrance and encouragement in their Christian journey. The children, parents, catechists, and the parish community joined together in thanking God for His abundant blessings and for the grace bestowed upon the young communicants.

- Correspondent

Sisterhood Day Celebrated with Gratitude and Thanksgiving

James Thoppil, Bishop of Kohima, who reflected on the significance of the day's triple celebration and the life-giving presence of the Holy Spirit in the Church.

In his homily, Bishop James described Pentecost as the **birthday of the Church**, when the Holy Spirit transformed fearful disciples into courageous missionaries. He emphasized that the Spirit, once given only to selected individuals, is now poured out upon the entire Church, empowering every believer for mission. Drawing parallels between Babel and Pentecost, he explained that while pride brought division, the Holy Spirit brings unity, communion, and understanding among peoples.

The Bishop reminded the faithful that the Holy Spirit is the soul of the Church, calling every Christian to

On the occasion of Sisterhood Day, Bishop James expressed the Diocese's heartfelt gratitude to the Religious Sisters for their generous and selfless service in education, healthcare, pastoral ministry, social outreach, and evangelization. He acknowledged their unwavering commitment to living their respective charisms and encouraged the faithful to appreciate and support their invaluable contribution to the mission of the Church.

Following the Eucharistic Celebration, a **felicitation programme** organized jointly by the **Catholic Association of Nagaland (CAN)**, **Nagaland Catholic Women Association (NCWA)**, and **Cathedral Catholic Youth Movement (CCYM)** honoured the Religious Sisters serving in the Diocese. The programme, hosted by **Mr. Victor Kevilhouthie Yhome**, Secretary General of CAN, featured a special musical presentation, greetings from **Smti. Ruokuoheü Roselyn**, President of NCWA, a special presentation by the CCYM, and words of gratitude from **Rev. Sr. Ruokuoleü Rita, MSMHC**, on behalf of the Religious Sisters. The programme concluded with a prayer led by **Rev. Fr. Loyola Antony**, Director of the Family Commission, Diocese of Kohima.

- Correspondent



The Diocese of Kohima celebrated **Sisterhood Day 2026** with great joy and gratitude on the Solemnity of **Pentecost**, which also coincided with the **Feast of Mary Help of Christians Cathedral, Kohima**. The Eucharistic Celebration was presided over by **Most Rev. Dr.**

become witnesses of Christ through lives marked by love, forgiveness, peace, and service. "We are anointed so that we may be sent; we are filled so that we may flow; we receive fire so that we may give light," he said, urging everyone to remain open to the Spirit's guidance.

Cultural Day Celebration at St. Joseph Palliative Care Centre

On 31 May 2026, St. Joseph Pain and Palliative Care Centre joyfully celebrated Cultural Day with the participation of sisters, patients, patients' attendants, staff members,

and well-wishers. The celebration provided a meaningful opportunity to appreciate the rich cultural diversity within the Centre's community.

The program began with a prayer, followed by cultural performances showcasing the traditions, music, dances, and customs of different communities. Participants dressed in their traditional attire, adding color and vibrancy to the occasion and highlighting the beauty of unity in diversity.

The celebration was graced by the presence of special guests, Ma'am Amongla, Headmistress of North Town Hr. Sec. School, Rev. Fr.



Chacko, and Rev. Fr. George Rino, Parish Priest. In her address, Ma'am Amongla explained the meaning of traditional attire and how it represents the culture, identity, and heritage of different communities. Rev. Fr. Chacko encouraged everyone to respect and appreciate diverse cultures, while Rev. Fr. George Rino emphasized the values of unity, harmony, and mutual respect.

Sr. Teris MSJ, Administrator and Superior of St. Joseph Pain and

Palliative Care Centre, delivered the vote of thanks, expressing gratitude to all the guests, participants, and well-wishers for making the celebration a success.

The program concluded with fellowship and joyful interactions, leaving everyone with cherished memories and a renewed spirit of togetherness.

Christ King Church, Phuvkiu, Celebrates Green Sunday and Cultural Day



Christ King Church, Phuvkiu, observed Green Sunday and Cultural Day with great enthusiasm and commitment on 31st May 2026, highlighting the importance of environmental stewardship and the preservation of cultural heritage.

During the Green Sunday celebration, Rev. Fr. Jacob Malkias, SAC, Centre-Incharge of Christ King Church, exhorted the faithful to recognize their responsibility as stewards of God's creation. He emphasized the need to protect and preserve the environment by keeping the church campus and the village clean, green, and free from plastic waste. He encouraged the community to take concrete steps towards safeguarding nature for future generations.

Responding positively to the call, the entire Catholic community pledged

to work together in caring for the environment and maintaining a greener and cleaner surroundings. As a symbolic gesture of their commitment, representatives of the Catholic Association of Men (CAM), Catholic Women Association (CWA), Catholic Youth Movement (CYM), and Missionary Childhood Association (MCA) planted four trees within the church campus. The organizations also pledged to nurture the trees and actively contribute towards the upkeep of the campus and its environment.

In preparation for the celebration, community members gathered on the



previous day for a cleanliness drive, thoroughly cleaning the church premises as

part of their commitment to the ideals of a "Clean India" and a "Clean Campus." The initiative reflected the community's collective effort to promote environmental awareness and responsible citizenship.

The observance of Green Sunday served as a meaningful reminder of the Christian duty to care for creation and protect Mother Earth. Following the environmental programme, the community celebrated Cultural Day, showcasing and appreciating their rich cultural heritage, traditions, and customs. The occasion provided an opportunity for the faithful to reconnect with their roots and celebrate the values handed down through generations.

- Correspondent

Four Brothers Vested at Good Shepherd Seminary, Dimapur

The Vestition Ceremony of four seminarians was solemnly celebrated at Good Shepherd Seminary (GSS), Dimapur, marking an important milestone in their journey towards the priesthood. The Holy Eucharist was presided over by Most Rev. Dr. James Thoppil, DD, Bishop of Kohima.

The four seminarians vested during the celebration included three brothers from the Archdiocese of Imphal and one brother from the Diocese of Kohima. The ceremony was attended by priests, religious, family members and friends, who gathered to witness and pray for the candidates as they entered the next stage of their priestly formation.

In his welcome address, Rev. Fr. Jaison Thomas, Rector of Good Shepherd Seminary, warmly welcomed the Bishop, clergy, religious, parents, benefactors, and the faithful. He explained that the cassock is bestowed upon seminarians who have been found worthy of admission to the next stage of formation, signifying their deeper commitment to discerning God's call to the priesthood. He described the vestition as a visible expression of the candidates' desire to draw closer to Christ and His altar. He further reminded the congregation that the white



cassock is not merely an external garment but a symbol of being "clothed in Christ."

During the Eucharistic celebration, Bishop James exhorted the candidates to wear the cassock with humility, dedication, and fidelity, allowing their external sign of commitment to be reflected in an authentic life of discipleship and service. He also encouraged the faithful to pray earnestly for vocations and to support young men responding generously to God's call.

The solemn celebration concluded with a fellowship meal, bringing together the Bishop, priests, religious, seminarians, families, and the faithful in a joyful spirit of thanksgiving and communion. **- Correspondent**

Bishop James Thoppil Makes Pastoral Visit to Mary Help of Christians Cathedral Parish

As part of his official pastoral ministry, Most Rev. Dr. James Thoppil, Bishop of Kohima, made a three-day pastoral visit to Mary Help of Christians Cathedral Parish, Kohima, from 6 to 8 June 2026, strengthening the faith of the parish community through the celebration of the Eucharist, administration of the Sacraments, interaction with the faithful, and visits to the parish institutions and religious communities.

The pastoral visit commenced on 6 June with the Bishop's visit to St. Peter's Church, AG, where he celebrated the Eucharist and met the parish community. On 7 June, he visited St. Mary's Cathedral Higher Secondary School and Little Flower School, interacting





with the students, teachers and staff, encouraging them to pursue academic excellence rooted in Christian values. Later in the evening, he visited St. Paul Chong Hasang Church, Jotsoma, where he met the faithful and encouraged them in their journey of faith.

The highlight of the pastoral visit was the Sunday Eucharistic Celebration at Mary Help of Christians Cathedral, during which Bishop James conferred the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion upon the candidates. Reflecting on the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, the Bishop reminded the faithful that the Eucharist is the heart and centre of Christian life—the greatest gift Christ has entrusted to His Church.

Drawing from the Scripture readings, Bishop James developed his homily around the theme “Remember, Receive, Become.” He invited the faithful to remember God’s abiding presence and providence, just as the Israelites remembered God’s care in the wilderness; to receive Christ with living faith in the Holy Eucharist, recognising His real presence in the Bread of Life; and to become what they receive by living as one Body in Christ. He emphasized that participation in the Eucharist is not a private devotion but a communion that unites believers with Christ and with one another, calling them

to become His living presence through love, mercy and service, especially towards the poor and those in need.

The Bishop further encouraged the faithful to remain close to the Church, the guardian of the Eucharist, and to allow the Holy Eucharist to transform their daily lives. He reminded them that every Eucharistic celebration strengthens believers for mission, making them instruments of Christ’s compassion, reconciliation and hope in the world.

On 8 June, Bishop James concluded his pastoral visit with a visit to the FMA Novitiate, Kohima, where he celebrated the Eucharist and met the novice sisters and the community, encouraging them to deepen their relationship with Christ and remain faithful to their vocation. Throughout the visit, the Bishop also spent time meeting the parish priests, religious communities and parish members, fostering communion and encouraging them in their shared mission of building vibrant Christian communities.

The pastoral visit concluded with renewed enthusiasm among the faithful, who expressed gratitude for the Bishop’s fatherly presence, pastoral guidance and inspiring message centred on the Holy Eucharist as the source and summit of Christian life. - *Correspondent*

NAGALAND CATHOLIC YOUTH MOVEMENT ACTIVITIES FROM APRIL - JUNE, 2026

1. Veneration of 11th NCYM Convention Cross: *The 11th NCYM Convention Cross continues its spiritual journey across the Diocese of Kohima, serving as a symbol of faith, unity, and spiritual renewal. As it travels through different parishes, the faithful, especially the youth, gather in prayer and reflection, seeking God’s blessings and preparing their hearts for the 11th NCYM Convention.*

The images are presented below, highlighting the prayerful celebrations and warm reception of the Convention Cross across the Diocese.





2. Young Catholic Students (YCS) 2nd Convention 2026 on the theme “Gen-Z for a Self-Sustaining World”: The 2nd YCS Convention was held from 10th–12th April, 2026 at the Mary Help of Christians Cathedral, Kohima, on the theme “Gen-Z for a Self- Sustaining World” with the participation of 183 delegates, comprising 93 female students, 74 male students, and 16 animators.

This convention marked a significant milestone for YCS, as it was organized after a gap of 11 years and 4 months. The 1st YCS Convention was previously held from 3rd–6th October 2014 at Green Village Khonoma.



3. Seminar on ‘My Catholic Faith’: On 18th April 2026, a seminar on “My Catholic Faith” was held for the LFS and FCC hostellers. The session was led by **Rev. Fr. Kokto Kurian, Director, NCYM** who guided the participants in deepening their understanding and appreciation of the Catholic faith.

4. The Office of NCYM fondly bid farewell to Rev. Sr. Mariyam and expressed sincere appreciation for her dedicated service as the Diocesan Youth Lady Animator (DYLA) from 2021-2026. The Office also warmly welcomed Rev. Sr. Josephine Kath, MSMHC, as the new DYLA, and looks forward to her leadership and accompaniment of the youth.



5. Green Sunday Observation by NCYM:

On 31st May 2026, Green Sunday was observed across the parishes and churches by the youth of the Diocese. The observance promoted environmental awareness, sustainable living, and a deeper appreciation of the beauty and sacredness of God's creation.

6. Seminar on 'Faith & Doctrine' held at St. Joseph's Parish, Tadubi on 6th of June, 2026. Rev. Fr. Kokto Kurian, Diocesan Youth Director (DYD), NCYM deliberated on the topic.



7. 20th National Council & 29th Study Session of YCS/YSM was held from 23rd to 30th May 2026 at St. Joseph's Engineering college, Mangalore, Karnataka. YCS/YSM National Council 23rd - 30th May 2026.

Attended by Ruokuokezo Augustine Yhome, Matilda Keneikhrienuo Theunuo and Sr. Josephine Kath



NCYM Upcoming Activities

1. **The 11th NCYM Convention Cross continues its spiritual journey across the Diocese of Kohima, serving as a symbol of faith, unity, and spiritual renewal. NCYM 11th Convention** will be held at **St. Peter's Parish, Pungro** from 22nd – 25th January, 2027.
2. Two-Day Youth seminar at Holy Family Parish, Pftusero from 25th – 26th July, 2026
3. 11th NCYM Outreach Programme @ St. Maria Goretti Parish, Zubza, on 28th June, 2026.

- General Secretary, NCYM

Sharing: April - June 2026

9. Acknowledgements:

The Office of NCYM extends its heartfelt congratulations to the following individuals for bringing laurels to our community through their remarkable achievements.



Ms. Kekhriesenuo Kiewhuo, a passionate Catholic youth from St. Dominic Savio Parish, Chiephobozou, and a correspondent with Hornbill TV News, Nagaland, was chosen to attend the renowned SelectUSA Investment Summit in Washington, D.C., USA, in May 2026

Regina Razousinuo (Former NCYM President) Associate NCC Officer (Senior Wing) of St. Joseph's College (Autonomous), Jakhama from 1st Nagaland Battalion



NCC-Kohima under NCC Group-Kohima on being awarded with the prestigious Director General NCC Commendation Card and Medal for the third time for her utmost sincerity, dedication and exemplary performance in the National Cadet Corps on 21 March, 2026, at a Felicitation Programme held at NCC Group Headquarters, Kohima.

Dr. Kekhrieseno Christina, former NCYM Spokesperson and currently serving as NCYM Advisor, Associate Professor, HoD of Sociology Department, Kohima College, Kohima conferred with the prestigious **Higher Education Meritorious Service Award** on **29th April, 2026** for her utmost sincerity and dedication in the Teaching Profession during the **Government College Principals Annual Conference 2026** held at Hotel Japfu Conference Hall, Kohima.



May their Souls Rest in Peace!

22nd March, 2026: Rev. Sr. Mary Rose Thepa (91 Years) the First Superior General of MSMHC Congregation.

23rd March, 2026: Mr. Namzongong Jacob (57 Years) the beloved elder brother of Rev. Sr. Rachel Leuheile CMC (Doimukh, Arunachal Pradesh).

11th April, 2026: Rev. Fr. Job Kallarackal, SDB.

15th April, 2026: Mrs. Devadoss the elder sister of Rev. Fr. Jesudass (Brazil).

7th May, 2026: Rev. Sr. Clara Pampadayil FMA. She was the superior of LFS Kohima from 1997-2000.

7th May, 2026: Mr. William Yanthan (Served as a teacher at Don Bosco School Lakhuti for 17 Years).

9th May, 2026: Mr. Joseph Haokip (70 Years) the beloved Father of Rev. Sr. Mary Grace FCC (St. Mary's Convent Seyochung).

23rd May, 2026: Mr. Stephen Chambathil (62 Years) the maternal uncle of Rev. Fr. Sajimon (Parish Priest, Queen Mary Church, Mokochung).

28th May, 2026: Mr. Siiratho Dominic (6 Years) the beloved nephew of Rev. Sr. Rosy Poji MSMHC (Mary Hill Convent, Jalukie).

28th May, 2026: Mrs. Zienuo Zita (82 Years) the beloved mother of

former CAN Secretary Ms. Rokonino Marina (SFS Parish, Kohima).

7th June, 2026: Rev. Sr. Pauline Mathew MSMHC (78 Years).

17th June, 2026: Mrs. Rosamma Sebastian (75 Years) the beloved elder sister of Rev. Sr. Deepa Mathew FCC (Clare Bhavan, Dimapur).

19th June, 2026: Mr. Abraham Santsuo Humtsoe (the eldest surviving son of one of the first Pioneer Lt. Peter Shanpano Humtsoe of St. Mary's Church Lakhuti).

19th June, 2026: Rev. Sr. Jenette CMC (83 Years) Sanjoe Province of Dimapur.

23rd June, 2026: Mrs. Kuozeii Lucy Vizo (106 Years) the beloved Mother of Rev. Fr. Solomon Vizo (Don Bosco Hostel, Science College, Jotsoma).

25th June, 2026: Rev. Fr. Charles D'Souza (75 Years), the Parish Priest of St. Paul Church Phesama.

SACRED HEART: *The Heart That Would Not Stop Loving*



Br. Khumtang Y Tikhir (Henry)

Ordained a Deacon for the Diocese of Kohima on 17th June, 2026 at Oriens Theological College, Shillong

The devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus stands among the most cherished spiritual traditions of the Catholic Church. It originated in the 17th century through the mystical experiences of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, a Visitation nun in Paray-le-Monial, France. Between 1673 and 1675, she received visions of Christ, who revealed His Heart burning with love for humanity, yet wounded by indifference and sin. Jesus expressed His desire that people come to know and love His Heart and requested the establishment of a feast in its honour, along with frequent



reception of Holy Communion, especially on the First Fridays of each month. With the support of her spiritual director, St. Claude de la Colombière, the devotion gradually spread throughout the Church and became a powerful expression of God's boundless love for humanity.

What began as a private revelation eventually became a universal celebration. Pope Clement XIII approved the feast for certain dioceses and religious communities in 1765, while Pope Pius IX extended it to the entire Church in 1856. Later, Pope Pius XI deepened its theological significance by highlighting themes of reparation and consecration to the Sacred Heart. Through these developments, the Feast of the Sacred Heart evolved into one of the great solemnities of the Catholic liturgical calendar.

The Solemnity of the Sacred Heart is celebrated nineteen days after Pentecost Sunday and always falls on a Friday, recalling Christ's sacrificial love revealed on the Cross. The month of June is traditionally dedicated to the Sacred Heart, and the faithful observe the month with special devotions, novenas, First Friday observances, processions, and acts of consecration. These

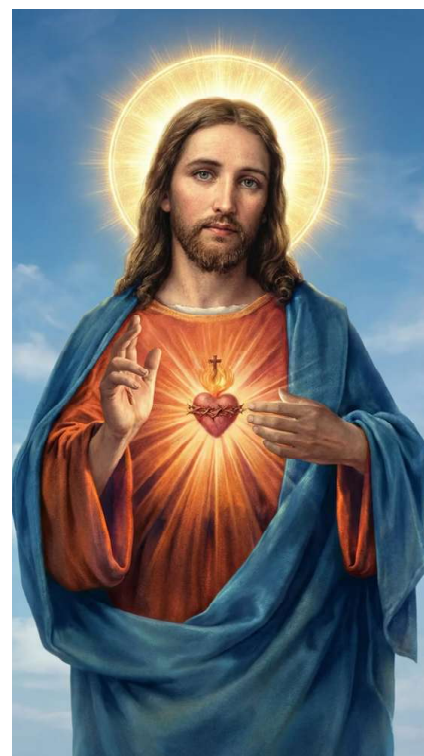
practices invite believers to renew their relationship with Christ and to experience the transforming power of His love.

Yet the Feast of the Sacred Heart is not celebrated in a world free from suffering. The contemporary world continues to be marked by violence, conflict, and division. The pain experienced in places such as Manipur, where ethnic violence has caused displacement, destruction, and deep human suffering, reminds us that the message of the Sacred Heart remains urgently relevant. Christ's Heart was pierced amid the violence of Calvary, yet what flowed from His wounded side was not vengeance but mercy and love. The Sacred Heart therefore challenges believers not to allow suffering and hatred to harden their hearts. Instead, they are called to become instruments of compassion, healing, and reconciliation. The Sacred Heart invites all Christians to pray for those who suffer, stand with the displaced and grieving, and resist responding to hatred with further hatred. Through prayer, solidarity, and forgiveness, believers participate in Christ's mission of restoring peace and unity.

Ultimately, the Sacred Heart is far more than a devotional

image. It is the enduring symbol of a God whose love never ceases, even when that love demands sacrifice. In a world often shaped by power, conflict, and self-interest, the Sacred Heart proclaims the revolution of divine tenderness. As the Church celebrates this feast, all the faithful are invited to return to the Heart of Jesus through the Eucharist, reconciliation, prayer, and acts of love. Following the example entrusted to St. Margaret Mary, may every Christian hear anew Christ's invitation: **"Behold this Heart which has so loved humanity,"** and respond with lives transformed by His mercy and love.

SACRED HEART OF JESUS,
HAVE MERCY ON US.





Meet Jules Rimet: The devout Catholic who helped create the FIFA World Cup

Catholic Frenchman Jules Rimet served as the president of FIFA for 33 years.

- By Francesca Pollio Fenton, June 9, 2026, EWTN News

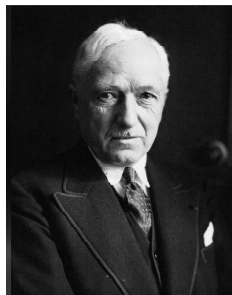
As the world prepares for the spectacle of the 2026 FIFA World Cup — the first World Cup jointly hosted by the United States, Canada, and Mexico — billions of fans will once again gather around a game that transcends language, politics, and borders. Yet few realize that the tournament's origins are intertwined with the Catholic faith.

The FIFA World Cup is one of the most-watched sporting events with roughly 5 billion people tuning in to the tournament that brings together soccer's best athletes from around the world.

This year's men's tournament will take place from June 11 to July 19 and will be held in all three host countries. The last time the U.S. hosted a World Cup was in 1994, while Mexico has hosted the event in 1970 and 1986, and this will mark the first time Canada will host the prestigious soccer tournament. The 2026 FIFA World Cup is the 23rd edition of the quadrennial international men's soccer tournament.

Long before the World Cup became the globe's most-watched sporting event, its founder, Jules Rimet, was shaped by a vision deeply influenced by his faith and a belief in the dignity and unity of humanity.

Rimet was born on Oct. 14, 1873, in the village of Theuley in France to a devout Catholic family. He was known to have a heart for the poor and was inspired by Catholic social teaching.



In 1891, Pope Leo XIII issued the encyclical *Rerum Novarum*, which addressed the harsh conditions, poverty, and labor exploitation brought on by the Industrial Revolution. This encyclical inspired Rimet to help create an organization that provided social and medical aid to the poor. He was 17 years old.

The Catholic Frenchman also had a love for sports and believed it could unite people from all different races and social classes. At 24 years old he started a sports club called Red Star, which was open to anyone regardless of social class. He also included soccer in the club despite the sport being looked down upon as being only for Englishmen and the lower class.

Sharing: April - June 2026

In 1904, Rimet helped establish the Fédération Internationale de Football Association — International Federation of Association Football, or FIFA. After serving in World War I, he returned to FIFA and became its president in 1921.

Nine years later, the first World Cup was held in Uruguay. He viewed the World Cup as an opportunity to bring nations who may be at war together, promote universal fraternity and solidarity among all people, and prevent future global conflicts. He also worked hard to professionalize soccer so that working-class athletes could earn a living doing what they loved.

Rimet served as the president of FIFA for 33 years. From 1930 to 1970, the championship trophy was named the Jules Rimet Trophy.

He died in 1956 and was nominated for the Nobel Peace prize due to his part in creating the World Cup tournament.

In the book "A History of Football in 100 Objects," Rimet's grandson, Yves, remembered his grandfather as a "humanist and idealist who believed that sport could unite the world. Unlike many others in his time, he realized that, to be truly democratic, to truly engage the masses, international sport must be professional."

Thousands flock to national Eucharistic procession in Boston

"It was a beautiful moment to see the people of God sort of show up for Jesus."

By Matt McDonald, June 28, 2026 EWTN News,

Jesus in the Eucharist visited the streets of America's most historic city Saturday, drawing thousands of people on a sunny morning in Boston.

The procession, which lasted two hours and 15 minutes, went by portions of the Freedom Trail, a 2 ½-mile-long red line of paint and bricks begun in 1951 that helps visitors find many of the most famous sites in the city, including many associated with the American Revolution.



Boston Archbishop Richard Henning pointed out to the crowd before the procession began that they would be walking by some of the most historic places in the country. But then he added: "We will make history."

"Because this will be the first time that we journey along the Freedom Trail as the people of God, led by our Lord and savior, Jesus Christ," Henning said.

A National Eucharistic Pilgrimage official estimated the crowd at 2,500 to 3,000. Archbishop Henning said later that whenever he turned around from the front he could never see the end of it in the back.

Boston Archbishop Richard Henning during a Eucharistic procession in Boston, June 27, 2026. The event was part of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage taking place up and down the East Coast. | Credit: Bryce Vickmark

Jason Shanks, president of National Eucharistic Congress, which oversees the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage, said the crowd in Boston was the largest since this year's version up the East Coast began May 24 in St. Augustine, Florida.

"It was a beautiful moment to see the people of God sort of show up for Jesus, and you could really hear their voices," Shanks said during a press conference Saturday afternoon at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross in the South End of Boston.

Hymns and prayers through a portable loudspeaker were led by Polish, Latino, Vietnamese, and Cape Verdean groups, among others, along with English speakers.

A Catholic prays during a Eucharistic procession in Boston, June 27, 2026. The event was part of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage taking place up and down the East Coast. | Credit: Bryce Vickmark

Participants experienced the sights and sounds of the city. When Archbishop Henning spoke at the beginning, near the visitors center on Boston Common, he occasionally competed with a jackhammer on nearby Tremont Street.

The beginning point was about a two-minute walk from where another group of organizers was setting up a Hare Krishna festival, and about a three-minute walk away from where St. John Paul II celebrated Mass on Oct. 1, 1979 before an estimated 1 million people in the pouring rain.

Saturday's procession included a portion of the route on Commercial Street that the canonized pope took in an open vehicle through the North End more than 46 years ago.

The procession also proceeded from the top of Old South Meeting House, the former Congregational church (now museum) where the Boston Tea Party began in December 1773, and on a house in Charlestown, near where the Battle of Bunker Hill took place in June 1775.

The walk began on Boston Common at about 10 a.m. amid sunny skies and with the temperature at 72 degrees, with a slight breeze. It turned warmer as the morning went on. Unseasonal fog covered large portions of Boston Harbor near the North End, but procession route remained clear, with high visibility.

The faithful march through Boston during a Eucharistic procession, June 27, 2026. The event was part of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage taking place up and down the East Coast. | Credit: Bryce Vickmark

Participants said the first three decades of the Joyful Mysteries of the rosary on waterside sidewalks along Commercial Street, near



where the molasses flood of January 1919 killed 21 people after a poorly constructed tank collapsed during a thaw.

As the rosary blared out over an artificial turf field along the harbor, players on a women's softball team occasionally looked away from a team huddle to watch. A short distance to the north, sunbathers on the outfield grass of a Little League field also took notice.

EWTN News spoke with several participants, including some who noted that the United States is about to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence on July 4.

Nancy Goggin, a parishioner of Immaculate Conception and St. James in Stoughton, which is southwest of Boston, was asked why she came.

"Because I love our Lord. And I just think it's really such a beautiful thing to celebrate our 250th anniversary of the country in this way," Goggin said. "To process with Jesus through the Thirteen Colonies is so important."

English Puritans who wanted to purify the Church of England from all Catholic influences founded Boston in 1630 and laid out Boston Common, where the Eucharistic pilgrimage began, in 1634. Goggin was asked what the Puritans would make of a Catholic procession of the Blessed Sacrament.

Goggin, who was passing out rosaries as a member of the World Apostolate of Fatima, said she is a descendant of an English Separatist Puritan who sailed to the then-new Plymouth Colony in the early 1620s, not long after the Pilgrims arrived.

"They came here for religious freedom, and they came here to worship God," she said. "And so I think it's really fitting."

Asked what she hoped will come from the Eucharistic procession, she corrected the question.

"It's not 'come from it.' It's happening," she said. "There's a resurgence in the Catholic Church that is so beautiful. So many people are entering."

A Catholic prays with a rosary during a Eucharistic procession in Boston, June 27, 2026. The event was part of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage taking place up and down the East Coast. | Credit: Bryce Vickmark

Tho Dinh, 57, who lives in Quincy, attended with a contingent from St. Ambrose, a Vietnamese parish in Dorchester, which is the largest section of Boston.

He told EWTN News he left Vietnam as one of the Boat People after Communist North Vietnam took over South Vietnam, spending three years in a refugee camp in Malaysia and then six months in the Philippines learning English and American culture before coming to Boston in September 1991.

"We have to worship God and thank God for all the blessings we have," Dinh said, explaining why he came for the procession.

He said a Eucharistic procession far from church has different meaning from ordinary parish worship.

"It's community, so it's more connection. It's unity of the Church, so it's good," he said.

"We hope for peace in the world. And we pray for peace, and people unified with each other," Dinh said. "We hope for a better future for young children. And people coming back to the Church."

Valentina Zamora, 15, a member of St. Anthony's in Everett, whose parents are from El Salvador, said she hoped the faith would become "stronger than it already is" because of the procession.

She also told EWTN News the outdoor setting, which included the grass and trees and hills of Boston Common, was a good place for it.

"Because this is what God created, so it would be nice to hear more about God in his creation," she said.

Marice Moline, 57, of St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Winthrop, said the procession offers people a chance to see Jesus in the Eucharist who might not otherwise see him.

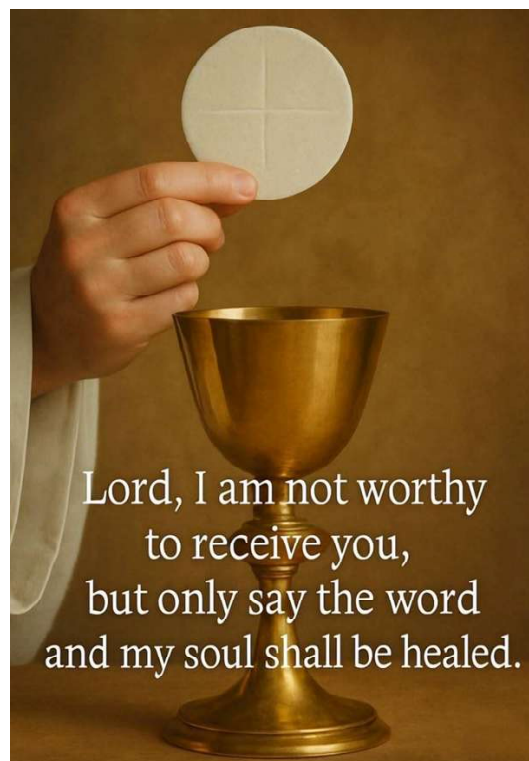
"It's an opportunity for public display of Christ," Moline said.

"To remind people that there's hope. To remind people that there's something greater in the world than themselves right now," she added.

Filomena Brandao, 69, of Randolph, who told EWTN News she came to the United States from Cape Verde alone at age 22, said she came to the Eucharistic procession in Boston partly out of patriotism.

"Because we're celebrating independence — 250 years. All the history, all the stories. As an immigrant, I wanted to experience it much more," said Brandao, who now has a husband, four children, and six grandchildren.

"We have a lot to thank God for," she said.



5 powerful moments of faith at the 2026 FIFA World Cup

By **Francesca Pollio Fenton**

June 20, 2026 (Updated June 23, 2026), EWTN News



The 2026 FIFA World Cup began on June 11 — making history as the first World Cup jointly hosted by the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

The FIFA World Cup is one of the most-watched sporting events with roughly 5 billion people tuning in to the tournament that brings together soccer's best athletes from around the world.

Despite only being a little over a week into the soccer tournament, the name of Jesus has already been made known many times from several of the athletes and teams as they compete on this global stage.

Here are five powerful moments of faith we've seen at the World Cup so far:

1. Croatian team shares the importance of their Catholic faith

Ahead of Croatia's first match against England, two members of the team took part in a press conference where they discussed the role their Catholic faith plays in their lives.

EWTN News correspondent Mark Irons was in attendance and asked Kristijan Jakia and Igor Matanoviae what Catholicism means to the team

and if prayer and faith is important to them in their own lives.

I think faith is very important in my life. When you pray to God, it's like a feeling that someone is listening to you, and that gives me a lot of strength," Matanoviae said.

Jakia added: "We are a country in which we are Catholics and in which faith means the path in our lives. I think faith represents the entire national team. Faith simply means everything in our lives."

2. Players from Curaçao and Germany join in prayer after competing against one another

The national team from the country of Curaçao — which is a Caribbean island with a population of 150,000 — made history by qualifying for the World Cup for the first time. By qualifying, the island nation set a Guinness World Record as the smallest country by population to ever reach the global men's tournament.

Despite losing to Germany in their first match 7-1, the players and coaches were visibly emotional realizing the achievement the team had accomplished. In a moment of gratitude, several of the athletes joined on the pitch for a moment of prayer. They were then joined by German players Jonathan Tah and Felix Nmecha — both outspoken Christians.

In a postgame interview, Nmecha said: "During the game, we are opponents, but after the game we are all Christians and we are brothers... In our faith, we all believe that Jesus is glorified through the game and that's why we came together and simply prayed together."



3. Lionel Messi thanks God after making history

Argentina went up against Algeria on June 16 in Kansas City, Kansas, where over 69,000 fans watched history unfold at the feet of the famous Argentinian player Lionel Messi.

During the 3-0 victory against Algeria, Messi recorded the first FIFA World Cup hat trick — when a single player scores three goals during one game — of his career. Additionally, Messi made history by tying former German soccer player Miroslav Klose's record for most men's World Cup goals scored at 16.

After the game, Messi, a devout Catholic, said: "I can't ask for more than what I received. As I've said many times, thank God that he has given me so much and everything that comes now is a blessing."

4. Team USA shares a moment of prayer after historic win against Paraguay

On June 12, the men from the United States started their World Cup journey on a positive note with a 4-1 victory over Paraguay. After the game, defender Mark McKenzie led the team in a moment of prayer on the field.

Leading into the tournament, several of the U.S. players were vocal about their faith. Star winger Christian Pulisic is known for leading several of his teammates in a Bible study he calls "Bible Time" and has discussed the important role reading Scripture plays in his daily life.

Goalkeeper Matt Freese recently spoke to Sports Spectrum's "What's Up" podcast and discussed how his faith and career are intertwined.

"God's given me so many opportunities within this game and within my career. I still have a role to play in that. I still have to do my part and take that opportunity and do something with it," Freese said.

He also shared that he's a listener of Father Mike Schmitz's "Bible in a Year" podcast.

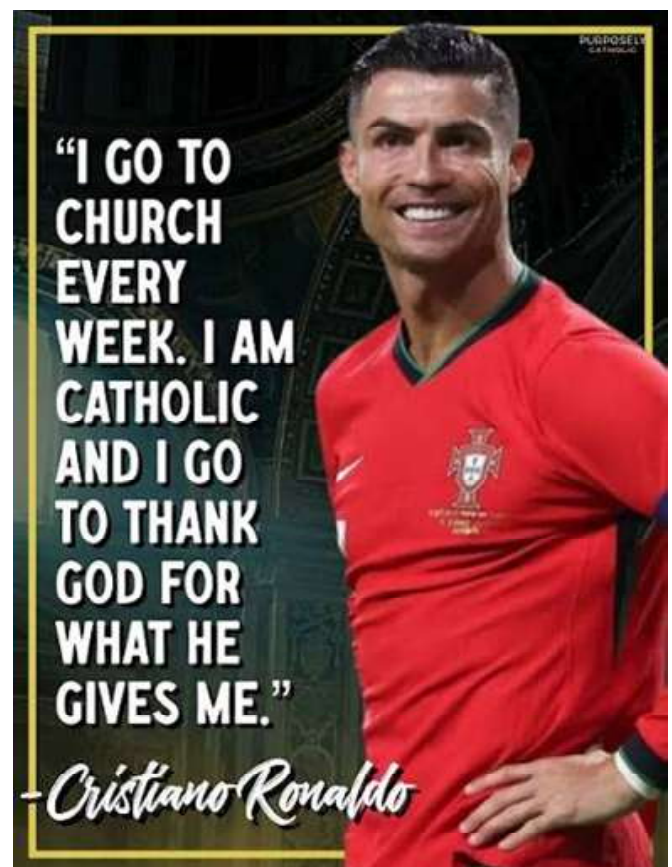
"Right now I'm listening to 'Bible in a Year' by Father Mike Schmitz. It's been fantastic and it kind of makes me able to — even when I'm on the road or even if it's a busy stretch — make sure I'm spending some time every day, hopefully every day, [with Scripture]," he said.

5. Felix Nmecha honors Jesus in post-goal celebration

German midfielder Felix Nmecha honored Jesus by making a powerful gesture after scoring the first goal in Germany's 7-1 victory against Curaçao on June 14.

After scoring the goal, Nmecha knelt down on one knee and made the gesture of taking off a crown from his head, placed it on the ground, and then pointed up to the sky. This "crown down" gesture, as it has been called, symbolizes that every gift, every victory, and every moment of glory belongs to Christ.

In a postgame interview, Nmecha said: "It was an incredible blessing to score my first goal for Germany and for it to be so fast. All the glory I give to God, because he is the one who has given me this talent and the opportunity to be here living this dream."





Fiat Mission at Jerusalem
Retreat Centre Thrissur from
13th-18th April, 2026

Governor of Nagaland
Visit to Mary Help of
Christians Cathedral,
18th April 2026



Children Singing during
Bishop's Pastoral Visit at
Mary Help of Christians
Cathedral

Bishop with GSS Brothers
and Staff on 12th June,
2026



Sharing Extends Heartfelt Tribute to Fr. Charles D'Souza



With deep sorrow, we remember with gratitude
a dedicated Jesuit priest, an inspiring educator
and a compassionate shepherd who served
God and His people with love and fidelity.



Fr Charles D'Souza SJ



Born:
20.11.1951



Joined:
14.07.1971



Ordained:
28.04.1981



Final Vows:
31.07.1988



Died:
25-06-2026



*Well done,
good and faithful
servant.*

*Enter into the joy
of your Lord.*

– Matthew 25:23

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|---|-------------|
| • Headmaster, Asst PP, Loyola School, Jakhama | 1981 - 1986 |
| • Superior, Headmaster, Parish Priest, St Paul's, Phesama | 1986 - 1995 |
| • Superior, Headmaster, Parish Priest, Sacred Heart, Chizami | 1995 - 1998 |
| • Superior, Headmaster, Parish Priest, Good Shepherd, Gunjung | 1998 - 2000 |
| • Superior, Headmaster, Parish Priest, Loyola School, Monai, Kathalguri | 2000 - 2003 |
| • Headmaster, Parish Priest, St Xavier's, Mushalpur | 2003 - 2006 |
| • Regional Superior, Jesuit House, Guwahati | 2006 - 2012 |
| • Superior, Headmaster, Parish Priest, Nazareth School, Pfutsero | 2012 - 2014 |
| • Headmaster, Parish Priest, Good Shepherd School, Gunjung | 2014 - 2017 |
| • Rector, Headmaster, Parish Priest, Loyola School, Jakhama | 2017 - 2020 |
| • Superior, Jagriti, Guwahati | 2020 - 2021 |
| • Rector, Headmaster, Parish Priest, St Paul's, Phesama | 2021 - 2026 |

*Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon him.
May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

