



দীপ  
দ্যা লাইট



DEEP  
The Light



Vol.: 217

Monthly Newsletter of the Diocese of Durgapur (CNI)

Nov. - Dec. 2025



Topic : Christmas, Theme : A Christmas of Faith : Celebrating the Gift of Eternal Life.

Christmas is more than lights, gifts, and celebrations—it is the season when heaven touched earth through the birth of Jesus Christ. As a Christian father, I am reminded that the true meaning of Christmas is rooted in faith a faith that sees God's love even in humble places like the manger of Bethlehem. When Jesus entered the world, He brought with Him the greatest gift humanity could ever receive: **\*\*the gift of eternal life\*\***. John 3:16 proclaims this promise with certainty, reminding us that everyone who believes in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life. This faith is not just a belief in our minds; it is a living trust that guides our families, shapes our children, and strengthens our homes. In a world full of uncertainty, Christmas invites us to rediscover hope. The shepherds trusted the angel's message, Mary trusted God's plan, and Joseph trusted God's guidance. Their faith helped them experience the miracle of Christmas. As families gather this season, may we teach our children to hold on to this same faith. Let Christmas be a time

when we celebrate not just the birth of Jesus, but the eternal life He brings to all who believe.



Rev. Krishnapada Das  
Diocese of Durgapur  
CNI

FOR UNTO YOU A CHILD IS BORN...



Wishing you all Merry Christmas & Happy New Year-2025

### International AHT Conference at Diocese of Durgapur

Diocese of Durgapur, CNI in Partnership with United Society Partners in the Gospel (USPG) hosted a Global Conference on Anti-Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery from 3rd to 8th November 2025 at Durgapur and Malda. Where global and Indian delegates were brought together from various parts of the world and state of West Bengal for one mission to combat the social evil practices of India particularly in deifferent regions of West Bengal. The Inauguration was graced by the esteemed presence of The Most Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Moderator, CNI, The Rt. Revd. Silvans Christian, Deputy Moderator, Revd. Dr. D. J. Ajith Kumar, General Secretary; Mr. Subrata Gorai, Treasurer, and The Rt. Revd. Sameer Khimla, Bishop of Durgapur Diocese. Adv. Fernandas Raja, General Secretary, CSI and representatives from USPG - Revd. Canon Dr. Duncan Dormor, General Secretary, Revd. Canon Dr. Peniel Rajkumar, Director for Global Mission; and Revd. Davidson Solanki, Regional Secretary, the inauguration of the conference commenced with the feet washing ceremony by DWFCS followed by inaugural program at Odeum Hall, St. Michael's School, Durgapur.

On 3rd November, the conference commenced with an inaugural worship service. From 4th to 5th November sessions included sharing expectations, theological reflections, best practices from various regions, and presentations on concepts and legal frameworks. Participants engaged in group work, cultural exchanges, and action planning to combat modern slavery.

On 7th November, the USPG team and delegates visited AHT project areas in South Dinajpur, witnessing community initiatives like spice making, bamboo craft, and sewing, and interacting with families and church leaders.

The conference concluded on 8th November with a Holy Eucharist Service led by Bishop, Rt. Rev. Sameer Isaac Khimla, followed by feedback and future planning. Overall, the event was a great success, strengthening global partnerships and expressing deep gratitude to USPG for their unwavering support.







## Annual Day of Prayer and Thanksgiving Worship Celebration.

The Diocese of Durgapur celebrated the 2025 Annual Day of Prayer and Thanksgiving Worship Celebration from Friday, November 28 to Sunday, November 30. The three-day event was filled with worship, Bible study, revival sessions, and fellowship. The theme reminded all believers to be awake in spirit, for the time of salvation is near.

Friday, November 28, began with the arrival of guests and registration at 1:00 PM. In the afternoon, the foot washing ceremony was held as a symbol of tradition and service. The choir of Bankura Church led the songs of praise and worship for the opening ceremony. The main speaker at the opening ceremony was Right Rev. Sameer Isaac Khimla. The choir of Bankura Church led the songs of praise and worship. The day ended with a session of praise and worship led by Pastor D. Rao and team.

On Saturday, November 29, the day began with a worship song led by the choir of the Bankura church. Rev. Dr. Samuel Mall guided the participants in Bible study, encouraging them to think deeply on the Bible. The revival session and worship were again led by Pastor D. Rao and the team, which brought about spiritual renewal. After lunch and refreshments, as the evening began, Pastor Rao and his team conducted another heartwarming worship session, where a short sermon led by the Bishop of the Diocese of Dooars, CNI, Right Reverend David Roy, revived all present. At night, the Shalom Band brought everyone together in a lively community fellowship dance, marking a day filled with gratitude, renewal and celebration of faith. The day concluded with a bonfire dance, which created a beautiful atmosphere of gratitude and unity.

The final day, Sunday, November 30, began with the traditional foot washing and a grand procession. The procession ended at St. Michael's School from the Cathedral. The highlight of the event was the annual Day of Prayer and Thanksgiving Service, where the Right Rev. David Roy preached the sermon and the Right Rev. Sameer Isaac Khimla served as the prayer leader. The theme of the event was "Awake, for the time of salvation is near." At the end of the event, our Bishop gave the vote of thanks, followed by the vote of thanks by the Diocesan Secretary, Rev. Samuel Halder, followed by fellowship and farewell. ■











## Bishop's Meditation

### Topic : Christmas, Theme : A Christmas of Faith : Celebrating the Gift of Eternal Life.

A Christmas of Faith - Celebrating the Gift of Eternal Life Christmas is more than lights, gifts, and celebrations—it is the season when heaven touched earth through the birth of Jesus Christ. As a Christian father, I am reminded that the true meaning of Christmas is rooted in faith a faith that sees God's love even in humble places like the manger of Bethlehem. When Jesus entered the world, He brought with Him the greatest gift humanity could ever receive: **\*\*the gift of eternal life\*\***. John 3:16 proclaims this promise with certainty, reminding us that everyone who believes in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life. This faith is not just a belief in our minds; it is a living trust that guides our families, shapes our children, and strengthens our homes. In a world full of uncertainty, Christmas invites us to rediscover hope. The shepherds trusted the angel's message, Mary trusted God's plan, and Joseph trusted God's guidance. Their faith helped them experience the miracle of Christmas. As families gather this season, may we teach our children to hold on



The Rt. Rev. Sameer I. Khimla,  
Bishop, The Diocese of Durgapur (CNI)

to this same faith. Let Christmas be a time when we celebrate not just the birth of Jesus, but the eternal life He brings to all who believe.

## Munna Pal Basuli, assistant teacher at Mission Girls School, Bankura, wins Umlingla Pass

Munna Pal (Basuli), an assistant teacher of Bankura Mission Girls School under the Diocese of Durgapur, has created history by conquering the 19,024-foot Umlingla Pass in Ladakh. Riding a bike with three companions, she braved the -10 degree Celsius temperature and hoisted the Indian flag in triumph. The school president, Bishop of the Diocese of Durgapur congratulated her. The campaign spread awareness about the prevention of Thalassemia and promoted "Safe Drive Save Life". The Diocese of Durgapur, along with the school's teachers, education staff, students and the school management committee are overwhelmed by her achievement. Teacher Munna Pal Basuli said in an interview that inspired by her family, she promise to continue her social service and trekking projects, urging the youth to fight diseases like leukemia. Her achievement has been recognized by the India Book of Records. ■



## Confirmation at St. Peter's Church, Chittaranjan

Chittaranjan, November 9, 2025 — With immense joy and gratitude, St. Peter's Church, Chittaranjan, witnessed a deeply moving Holy Confirmation Service on Sunday morning at 9:00 AM. The sacred occasion was officiated by the Rt. Rev. Sameer Issac Khimla, Bishop of the Diocese of Durgapur, who delivered a heartfelt sermon that inspired the congregation and emphasized the importance of faith and spiritual commitment. The highlight of the service was the confirmation of three devoted candidates — Rohan Khalkho, Benjamin Masih, and Tripti Das — who publicly affirmed their faith and dedication to the Christian journey. Their commitment was met with warm applause and blessings from the church community, marking a significant milestone in their spiritual lives. Supporting the ceremony with devotion and guidance was Rev. Kamal Badal Khalko, Priest-in-Charge, whose leadership helped make the day a memorable one for the parish. The service was enriched with hymns, prayers, and a spirit of unity, leaving the congregation uplifted and strengthened in their faith. The event not only celebrated the candidates' spiritual growth but also reaffirmed the church family's collective commitment to nurturing faith and fellowship. It will be remembered as a day of joy, renewal, and divine blessing in the life of St. Peter's Church. ■



## Ecumenical Santal Mohasobha at Santal Mission Pastorate, Shyamadi

The Ecumenical Santal Mohasobha was held at Santal Mission Pastorate, Shyamadi, from 30th October to 2nd November, under the gracious presence of the Honourable Bishop The Rt. Revd. Sameer Isaac Khimla, Bishop of the Diocese of Durgapur. The theme for this year's Mohasobha was "Wake up, Arise, and Christ will shine on you" (Ephesians 5:14), calling believers to spiritual awakening and renewal in Christ.

The four-day Mohasobha began with a solemn opening worship service, invoking God's blessings upon the entire event. Throughout the program, powerful sermons, Bible teachings, and motivational messages were delivered by the invited guest speakers. Each session was filled with vibrant praise and worship, traditional Santal songs, and deep moments of prayer.

The speakers—The Rt. Revd. Francis Hansda, Mr. Joy Raj Eric Tudu, Revd. Roshan Hansda, and Revd. Anil Kisku—shared inspiring messages from God's Word that encouraged the believers to strengthen their faith, live in unity, and rise up as children of light. Bishop Sameer Issac Khimla's pastoral guidance and spiritual leadership added great inspiration and direction to the entire Mohasobha. The Ecumenical Santal Mohasobha witnessed the joyful participation of nearly \*500 people\* from various denominations and nearby regions. Men, women, and youth gathered together to worship, learn, and celebrate their common faith. The spirit of ecumenism and fellowship was beautifully reflected in every activity and interaction.

The Ecumenical Santal Mohasobha at Shyamadi was a blessed and memorable event. Through the theme "Wake up, Arise, and Christ will shine on you," believers were reminded of their call to live as witnesses of Christ's light in the world. The event strengthened Christian unity among the Santal believers and renewed their spiritual commitment to serve God and the community faithfully. ■







## Confirmation Service at Central Church, Sarenga Pastorate

On Sunday, 23rd November 2025, a special and blessed confirmation service took place at the Central Church of Sarenga Pastorate. The programme became even more meaningful with the presence of our Honourable Bishop of the Diocese of Durgapur, Rt. Rev. Sameer Issac Khimla. During the service, Bishop Sir mainly focused on the true purpose of Confirmation. He explained how both the participants and the congregation share a similar role—standing together in faith, supporting one another, and committing themselves to the life and mission of the Church. He also reminded everyone that at the time of confirmation, we must wait for the presence and guidance of the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us to grow in faith. On this blessed day, 30 candidates received confirmation after preparing and learning for the past eight months. Their dedication was appreciated by all. More than 300 members of the congregation received Holy Communion, making the service spiritually rich and joyful. After the confirmation, the candidates shared a fellowship lunch with Rev. Pankaj Pande, Presbyterian-in-Charge, Rev. Simon Mandi, and our Bishop Sir. This moment of togetherness added warmth and unity to the occasion. Along with the confirmation programme, the Pastorate Committee also distributed prizes for the Annual Sunday School Sports, encouraging the children for their participation and achievements. Overall, the day was filled with blessings, learning, unity, and spiritual growth, making it a memorable day for the entire Sarenga Pastorate. ■



## Youth Beacon

**Topic : Christmas, Theme : A Christmas of Faith : Celebrating the Gift of Eternal Life.**

Christmas reminds us that God's greatest gift is not wrapped in ribbons, but in love—Jesus Christ, who came to bring us eternal life. In the quietness of Bethlehem, heaven touched earth, and hope was born for all people. This season calls us to strengthen our faith, to trust God's promises, and to remember that His love continues to shine even in our darkest moments.

The Bible says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16). As we celebrate Christmas, may this truth fill our hearts with gratitude and purpose. Let us walk in faith, share God's love, and embrace the eternal life offered freely through Christ.

■ (Jonathan Nyss)

## Editorial

**Topic : Christmas, Theme : A Christmas of Faith : Celebrating the Gift of Eternal Life.**

This invites us to enter the quiet mystery of the Incarnation, where the eternal Word gently steps into human history to restore our brokenness and lead us toward salvation. In the simplicity of the manger, God reveals a love so profound that, as St. Athanasius beautifully expressed, Christ 'became what we are so that we might become what He is,' lifting humanity into the hope of sharing in His divine life. The Church Fathers saw this holy night as the dawn of our eternal destiny, when the light that conquers darkness first shone in the world. St. Irenaeus reminds us that 'the glory of God is a human being fully alive,' a promise fulfilled in Jesus who heals, renews, and reconnects us with the Father. Thus, Christmas becomes more than a celebration rather it becomes a proclamation of God's boundless love and His gift of eternal life, offered to all who receive the Christ-child with faith and gratitude. ■



Rev. Dn. Babul Sardar  
Diocese of Durgapur (CNI)

## Confirmation Service at Burnpur Christ Church

A solemn and joyous Holy Confirmation Service was held at Christ Church, Burnpur, on Sunday, 16 November 2025, in the presence of the Right Reverend Bishop. The service commenced with the Order of Confirmation, followed by the Bishop's inspiring message on three key biblical responsibilities: the duty of parents and godparents to guide a child in faith from baptism onward, the sacred act of confirming one's belief through prayer and the laying on of hands, and the congregation's role in welcoming and spiritually nurturing the newly confirmed members. He also expressed concern about the declining participation of young people in church life, urging the congregation to reflect on how they might better support and engage the youth in their spiritual journey. After the message, each candidate publicly affirmed their faith, and the Bishop blessed them individually by laying his hands upon them and presenting each with a copy of the Holy Bible. The newly confirmed candidates then received Holy Communion for the first time, and a special song presented by the group added a joyful and memorable touch to the service. ■







## WOMEN'S VOICE

**Topic : Christmas, Theme : A Christmas of Faith : Celebrating the Gift of Eternal Life.**

Christmas is not merely a season of festivity; it is a profound celebration of faith and the eternal life promised through Christ. For women, this holy season carries a unique depth, shaped by their roles both in the biblical narrative and in the living traditions of families today. At the heart of Christmas stands Mary, a young woman whose courage and trust in God changed the course of history. Her willingness to embrace divine purpose, despite uncertainty, reflects the strength of women who continue to nurture faith within their homes and communities.

Women have long been the bearers of hope, keeping traditions alive through acts of love—teaching hymns to children, preparing meals that bring families together, and ensuring that the warmth of Christmas reaches every corner of the household. These quiet acts embody the eternal gift of Christ: selfless service and compassion. In celebrating Christmas, women remind us that eternal life is not only a promise for tomorrow but a reality lived through kindness today.

Amid challenges and responsibilities, women often carry the weight of sustaining families and communities. For them, Christmas becomes a moment of renewal—a reminder that eternal life is not earned through perfection but received as grace. In the humility of the manger, women see a God who chose vulnerability and love, affirming their own struggles and triumphs.

From Mary to modern women of faith, Christmas calls us to celebrate life beyond material gifts. It is about nurturing souls, strengthening communities, and embracing eternal values of justice, mercy, and peace. Women, as leaders in faith and family, remind us that eternal life is not distant but present in every act of love, forgiveness, and resilience. Christmas, seen through their eyes, is a celebration of courage, nurturing, and unwavering faith—a reminder that eternal life is both a promise of heaven and a gift we begin to live here and now.



Color the picture, Just for the Children



## Bible Quiz 157

1. Which Psalm describes the Glory of God's Word ?
2. Which Angel of the Lord Spoke to Zechariah ?
3. What we have to do to put on Christ ?

### Answer of Bible Quiz 156

- 1) The Valley of Sorek
- 2) Seven
- 3) 12

Name of those who submitted the Correct Answer

**Brajendra Sanial**

Please send answer of Bible Quiz in this no. -9064863735

## Awareness Program on Social Issues Held at Bankura Municipality

An awareness program was organized by Bankura Municipality in collaboration with local dignitaries to address pressing social issues affecting the community. The event was attended by ASHA workers, Self-Help Group (SHG) members, and Community Service Providers (CSPs).

The program focused on critical topics including human trafficking, child marriage, child labor, child trafficking, and illegal migrant laborers. The event was graced by notable guests, including Mr. Hiralal Chattaraj, Vice Chairman of Bankura Municipality, along with senior officials.

Key speakers included Rev. Shubhendu Kr. Saren, Vice President of the Diocese of Durgapur, Mr. Raja Moses, AHT Project Coordinator, Rev. Abhijit Mahata, Rev. Krishnapada Das, Mr. Sandip Singh, Soma Das, Krishna Khan and Mr. Swarup Kumar Das.

The program aimed to educate participants on the importance of preventing social evils and promoting community welfare. ■







**MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
The virgin will be with Child and be give birth to a Son,  
and they will call Him 'IMMANUEL' - which means,  
"GOD WITH US".  
**- Hemant Marandi**

May the joy of Christ's birth fill our heart and  
home this Christmas and throughout the  
next year 2026  
**- Raja Moses**

May the true spirit of Christmas Shine in your heart  
and illuminate your path in the  
New Year-2026  
**- Kundan Kr. Singh & Family**

Merry Christmas, May Jesus the Light of the World  
bring you Love, Hope and Warmth this Season.  
**- Ruth Pugh**

***Wishing all of you a Christmas filled with the  
warmth of friendship, the joy of giving, and the magic of  
cherished traditions. May the New Year be the Year of  
happiness, health and prosperity***

<b>— ESEP Durgapur Team—</b>	<b>— ESEP Sarenga Team—</b>	<b>— ESEP Ranibandh Team—</b>
Rajarshi Chakraborty Manjushree Kisku Meri Masih Sophia Saviour Lakra	Swapan Satpati Subhash Chandra Dule Shipra Bhaduli Sumita Murmu Laxmi Majhi Sanaka Gorai Supriya Mandi,	Raju Mahata Prodyut Malla Bithika Kisku Tapasi Hembram Ajit Tudu Mamoni Soren
		Binod Bihari Hansda Subrata Soren Ilaboti Kisku Purnendu Besra Shyamali Hansda Hirulal Majhi
		Rumika Mandi Mamoni Kisku Malati Soren Namita Mandi

***Rev. Samuel Halder wishes you***  
The nicest things happen at Christmas, as bells ring and carols are  
heard, there are bright decorations and fun celebrations and love  
is an everyday word. Good wishes and smiles are abundant,  
the whole world seems different and new, the nicest things happen  
at Christmas -- May the nicest things happen to you.  
**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year**

Wishing you and your familya blessed Christmas and  
a prosperous New Year 2026, May the Joy of this  
Festive Season Fill your hearts.  
**Babul Sardar**

"Merry Christmas and a wonderful new Year Ahead"  
May your heart and home be filled with all of the  
Joys the festive season brings.  
**From Tarun Pal & Family**

Wishing your a joyful Christmas filled with Peace, Love  
and happiness. May this festive season bring Blessings to your  
home and brighten your days with hope and warmth  
**Clarence Emmanuel**

A little smile, a word of cheer, a bit of love  
from someone near, a little gift from one  
held dear, best wishes for the coming year  
Merry Christmas!  
**Kosturi Nayak**

**Wishing you a blessed and Joyful  
Christmas**  
**Astami Mondal**

Sending you all my love this Christmas. You  
make the Season brighter Just by  
being in my life.  
**Raj Mukherjee**

May the miracle of Christ's birth bring you  
Peace, Love and renewed faith.  
Marry Christmas !  
**Miss Sumita Lohar**

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David  
a Saviour which is Christ the Lord" - Luke 2:11  
Warmest wishes for a wonderful Christmas and  
a Happy New Year ahead  
**Debonmita Biswas**

We wish you a glittery, Sparkle, Joyous Christmas.  
May you feel the Warmth of your Family's Love, and may  
peace and hope fill your life throughout the year  
Merry Christmas  
**Mr. Niraj Lal & Family**





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