



## Pastor's Corner

### Magnifica Humanitas = Magnificent Humanity

*Why Pope Leo XIV's "Magnifica Humanitas" Could Change the Way Catholics View AI, Human Dignity and the Future of Humanity. Here is a short synopsis by A Catholic Connect Reporter.*

synopsis by A Catholic Connect Reporter. +Lumen, CSC

For those unfamiliar with Vatican language, an encyclical is one of the highest forms of papal teaching. It is a formal letter written by the Pope to guide Catholics — and often the wider world — on important moral and social issues.

In this case, Pope Leo XIV chose to address one of the biggest questions of modern life: artificial intelligence and the future of human dignity. Far from being just a theological text for scholars, *Magnifica Humanitas* is a direct response to the rapidly changing digital age. It asks humanity a profound question: *Will technology serve people, or will people become servants of technology?*

#### Why "Magnifica Humanitas" Is So Significant



The encyclical was signed on 15 May 2026 — exactly 135 years after Pope Leo XIII issued *Rerum Novarum*, the historic Church document that addressed workers' rights during the Industrial Revolution. Pope Leo XIV believes artificial intelligence represents a transformation just as powerful as the Industrial Revolution once was.

The document repeatedly warns that technology is "never neutral" because it reflects the intentions of those who create and control it. The Pope raises concerns about misinformation, surveillance, job loss, digital addiction, AI warfare, and the concentration of technological power in the hands of a few corporations. Yet the encyclical is not anti-technology. Instead, it calls Catholics to ensure that innovation remains rooted in compassion, truth, justice, and human dignity.

#### Has the Church Done Something Like This Before?

Yes — throughout history, the Catholic Church has responded to major global changes. During the Industrial Revolution, *Rerum Novarum* defended workers against exploitation. Later popes addressed war, poverty, capitalism, environmental destruction, and global inequality.

But *Magnifica Humanitas* is unique because it directly confronts artificial intelligence, digital culture, and what the Pope calls the danger of building

a "new Tower of Babel" — a world driven by power, control, and pride rather than human solidarity. The document marks one of the Church's strongest interventions yet into the ethical debate surrounding AI.

#### A Simple Breakdown of the Five Chapters

##### Chapter 1: A Dynamic Approach Faithful to the Gospel

*Faith in a Changing World:* Traces Catholic social doctrine from Pope Leo XIII to today, showing how faith responds to changing historical challenges.

##### Chapter 2: Foundations and Principles of the Social Doctrine of the Church

*Principles That Must Never Change:* Core values: human dignity, solidarity, subsidiarity, justice, common good, and universal destination of goods.

##### Chapter 3: Technology and Dominance: The Grandeur of Humanity in Light of the Promises of AI

*Understanding AI:* Here, Pope Leo XIV explains AI as a tool requiring vigilance, rejects transhumanism/posthumanism, affirms human moral responsibility and grace.

##### Chapter 4: Safeguarding Humanity at a Time of Transformation

*Truth, Work and Freedom:* Addresses misinformation, democracy, education, digital addiction, unemployment, and the dignity of work.

##### Chapter 5: The Culture of Power and the Civilization of Love

*War, Power and Human Responsibility:* Criticizes autonomous weapons, warns against war and political realism, calls for peace, diplomacy, and justice.

#### What Does This Mean for Catholics Today?

The publication of *Magnifica Humanitas* is not merely informational — it is a call to action. Pope Leo XIV urges Catholics to remain "profoundly human" in a digital world. That means using technology responsibly, protecting truth, defending the dignity of workers, resisting online hatred, and ensuring that human relationships are never replaced by algorithms. Catholics are also encouraged to become informed about AI, ethics, digital culture, and social justice. The Pope makes it clear that faith cannot remain silent while technology reshapes society.

#### A Hopeful Vision for the Future

Despite its warnings, *Magnifica Humanitas* is ultimately a hopeful document. Pope Leo XIV believes humanity still has a choice. The world can either build a digital civilization rooted in greed and control, or one guided by compassion, truth, and the dignity of every human person. His message is simple but powerful: technology should never diminish humanity — it should help humanity flourish.

At a time when the world is rapidly changing, *Magnifica Humanitas* may become one of the defining Catholic documents of the modern age — not because it fears the future, but because it calls humanity to shape that future with wisdom, faith, and responsibility.



## EDITORIAL

J. Pulinthanath, SDB

### MH: A Landmark Document

When we here in Agartala were busy taking down the banners and hoardings of the Pearl Jubilee celebrations of the Diocese and of Bishop Lumen's episcopacy, far away in Rome, Pope Leo had just gifted to the world Magnifica Humanitas (Magnificent Humanity), an encyclical of utmost importance; indeed, a landmark document of the modern times. He was reiterating in greater detail and with absolute thoroughness his message for this year's World Communications Day celebrated a week ago on 17 May. The message centred on the need to protect human dignity in today's technological age.

The overarching subject of the encyclical released a week later, on 25 May 2026, may be said to be 'safeguarding the human person in the time of artificial intelligence'. Leo points out truths, that everyone, even people like us who may not yet be into AI in an extensive manner, need to pay attention to.

The Pontiff reminds a world seemingly mesmerized by the power and ruthless efficiency of AI, that being human is a precious thing, even with its vulnerabilities, weaknesses and limitations. In the world of AI, these may be bugs that adversely affect profit and productivity. But in the Christian world view, they are part of what enables us to grow and love.

The Pope calls AI, a "valuable tool", one that needs "measured and vigilant approach". With speed and ease that far outdoes human beings, there is always the temptation to let AI do the thinking for us. It is a dangerous to surrender our faculties and ourselves into the hands of technology thus.

AI that fakes emotions and warmth can trick us into thinking we are engaged in real relationships. They are so tricky that gradually we lose desire to cultivate real human relationships and continue to live in the illusory make-believe world, imagining it to be the real one.

Leo points out the dangers of countries using AI as a weapon for domination, exclusion, war and profit. He pleads for human conscience with technology.

The Pope also cautions against power of AI being vested in few wealthy private hands and not in the hands of the governments. He points out that such dangerous monopolies of power do not augur well for common good or the good of all.

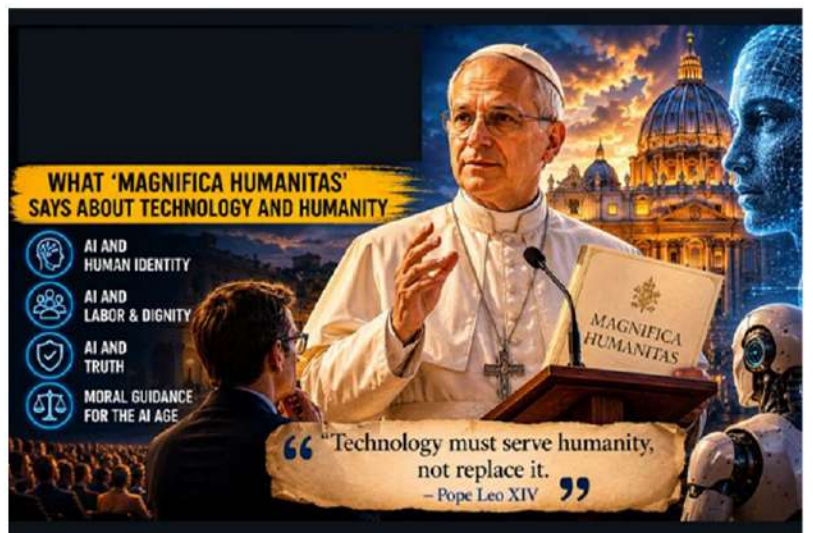
Pope Leo has spoken with outstanding clarity on a topic of great importance to humanity's present and future. Just like 135 years ago, during the Industrial Revolution, Pope Leo XIII, through his encyclical Rerum Novarum, spoke out boldly of the Rights of Workers, present-day Pontiff has reminded the world of human dignity and its grandeur which AI with all its speed and efficiency is no match for.

It is evident the Pope has the global canvas in his mind. He is addressing the whole world simply because the topic of his encyclical encompasses the whole world. Not paying heed to the encyclical, thinking that it only concerns those global-level players and not us small fries that operate at the local level would be a mistake because what is global in this case is also truly local.

Instances abound. Think of Gemini and Chatgpt, Swiggy and Zomato, Amazon and Flipkart, Alibaba and Meesho. They have all infiltrated into the innermost part of our homes and hearth, even in places that we earlier used to refer to as 'remote' areas. We are not aware perhaps that automated systems and virtual interactions already control quite a bit of our lives even in a place like Tripura.

In other words, the global dynamics could very well be in operation under our nose too. In our own society and work places, institutions and offices, parishes and monodis it might be visible too. Are the tech-savvy grabbing all the limelight, while those vulnerable – economically, educationally, are kept on the fringes or at the mercy of those who call the shots?

Magnifica Humanitas urges caution. We cannot let technological prowess hijack our precious humanity, despite its 'heartache and the thousand natural shocks that flesh is heir to'.



**TWITHAMPUI PARISH**

**Canonical Erection of  
St Antony of Padua Parish Twithampui**



The Diocese of Agartala witnessed a historic and joyful occasion on 17th May 2026 with the official erection of St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Twithampui, by Bishop Lumen Monteiro CSC. The solemn celebration was attended by priests, religious, and faithful from different parts of the diocese, making it a memorable event in the life of the local Church. The newly erected parish was bifurcated from Immaculate Conception Parish, Moharpara, to meet the growing pastoral needs of the Catholic faithful in the region. Rev. Fr. Amalraj was officially appointed as the first Parish Priest of St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Twithampui. The Holy Mass and the rite of erection were marked by deep faith, enthusiasm, and gratitude. The people expressed immense joy and thanksgiving as their long-cherished dream of having a separate parish became a reality. A special moment of the celebration was the felicitation program organized in honor of our Bishop who celebrates the Pearl Jubilee of his episcopal ministry. A cake-cutting ceremony amidst applause and songs, expressing gratitude for the bishop's dedicated years of and pastoral service to the Diocese of Agartala. Special thanks to Rev. Fr. Arbok CSC, the Parish priest of Moharpara, all the priests, religious, parishioners, benefactors, and volunteers who contributed to the successful organization of this blessed occasion.

Fr. Amalraj

**IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY PARISH  
SUKNACHARI**



The inauguration of the new parish and installation of the first parish priest of Suknachari Parish was on 19th May 2026 by Bishop Lumen Monteiro in the presence of priests, religious sisters and lay people. Our bishop was very solemnly welcomed at the gate with dance and Music. At the beginning of the

Holy Eucharist the decree of the erection of the new parish was announced and the people responded to it with a loud applause. After the Homily Bishop installed Fr. Sebastian Odackal, CMF, as the first parish priest of Suknachari Parish. Fr. Antony Balan the PP of Karbook Parish, Fr. Bala Shawry the assistant, Fr. Lawrence, the Chancellor of the Diocese and PP of Depacherra, Fr. Derrick from Depacherra, Fr. Martin from Sindhukpatar, Fr. Viki from Twikarmaw, and Sisters from Depacherra and Karbook were present to solemnize the event. After the Holy Eucharist there was a felicitation program in which our bishop's pearl Jubilee too was celebrated.

With a sumptuous fellowship meal, the day's event concluded. The mission is in the peripheries and we request your prayers for its growth and development.

Fr. Derrick Augustin

**TUIKARMAW PARISH**

**Annual Parish Sabha**



St. Mary's Parish Tuikarmaw, Annual Parish Sabha, 2026. Theme: "Family that prays together stays together" Venue: St. Lawrence Church, Hatipacha. Date: 18 - 19 April, 2026. The St. Mary's Parish Tuikarmaw, annual Sabha held on 18th April, 2026 was a resounding success. The event, brought together Parishioners from various Mondolis.

Day 1: The event commenced with registration, lighting of the Lamp and a Welcome Song. The PP Fr. Jerome Chorei CSC, gave the keynote address focusing on the theme " Family that prays together stays together". The next session was followed by reports presented by President / Secretary from each Mondolis. The afternoon session included "The Council Election", The new leaders were listed are Shri. Dhanajoy Reang (Secretary), Asst. Secretary (Shri. Subarna Marak) and Treasurer (Shri. Tamas Marak). The evening prayers were led by Hatipacha, followed by supper, Group Song and Dance Competition by different Mondolis.

Day 2: The second day began with morning prayer followed by breakfast. Bishop Lumen Monteiro CSC was welcomed with bouquet from gate. The Holy Mass was presided by Most Rev. Lumen Monteiro CSC. 24 lay faithful received their Confirmation and first Holy Communion. After the Mass our Bishop Lumen was felicitated with a traditional Garo Dress followed by Prize distribution.

The Annual Parish Sabha was a testament to the power of hope and community. It was a time to reflect on their spiritual life, foster meaningful connections, and embark on a path of renewed to follow the Christ.

Mr. Jagadish Uchoi

**Bible Vacation for Children**



On 20th April, we have a children's meet in the Parish. 130 members attended, including their animators. Children were happy to attend the program. They had activities like Bible, Singing, sessions and outdoor games.

Mr. Jagadish Uchoi

**KATHALCHERRA PARISH**

**Parish Feast: A grace-filled Moment**



The faithful of Kathalcherra Parish gathered with great joy on 26th April 2026 to celebrate the Feast of the Good Shepherd, a day marked by gratitude, faith, and communion. The presence of Most Rev. Lumen Monteiro CSC, made the celebration deeply meaningful. Despite not being in the best of health, his decision to be with his people reflected his enduring love and pastoral commitment. A special highlight of the day was the heartfelt acknowledgment of his remarkable 30 years of service as Bishop of Agartala. From nurturing just 9 parishes to vibrant 30 parishes, and from 11,000 to over 55,000 faithful, his visionary leadership has borne abundant fruit. The steady growth of diocesan clergy further echoes his guiding motto, "Lead us onward," a call he has lived with dedication and missionary zeal. Another grace-filled moment was the administration of the Sacrament of Confirmation to 83 adults and the first Holy Communion of 38 children.

The people of Kathalcherra Parish extend their heartfelt congratulations and gratitude to their beloved Bishop for his tireless service, fatherly care, and unwavering commitment. As he continues to shepherd the Diocese, the community prays that God blesses him with good health, wisdom, and renewed strength to lead His people in faith, love, and unity.

Fr. Clement Amo, CSC

**BAGBASA PARISH**

**Installation of new Parish Priest**



Holy Cross Parish Bagbasa witnessed a joyful and emotional celebration on 3rd May as the parish community gathered for the installation of the new

Parish Priest Fr. Lancy CSC. The installation ceremony was led by Fr. Alfred CSC, Administrator of the Holy Cross North East Province, during the Sunday Holy Eucharistic. The Holy Eucharist was prayerfully celebrated in the presence of eight Holy Cross priests, six religious Sisters from three Congregations, and nearly 250 faithful who filled the church with devotion and joy. The occasion became a beautiful moment of thanksgiving, farewell, and welcome for the entire parish family. Fr. Alfred officially installed Fr. Lancy CSC as the new Parish Priest of Bagbasa Parish. The faithful also warmly welcomed Fr. Newton as the new Principal of the School. Parishioners expressed their happiness and assured both priests of their prayers and support as they begin their new responsibilities. At the same time, the community bid an emotional farewell to Fr. Tarun, CSC, the former Parish Priest, and Fr. Ajith CSC. The faithful sincerely thanked Fr. Tarun for his generous service and leadership. Fr. Ajit was lovingly appreciated for his dedication to the people, especially for his valuable contribution in the field of education and his closeness to the community. The parish youth, along with the faithful, added warmth to the celebration through heartfelt songs dedicated to Fr. Ajith and Fr. Tarun. A special welcome was also extended to Fr. Akhsi CSC, as he joined the parish community.

Fr. Newton Basumatari CSC

**Sunday Class Teacher Training**



On the 9th of May, Holy Cross Parish Bagbasa organized a one-day Catechism class as part of a teacher training program. 26 participants from 15 villages attended the program. The workshop commenced with the Bible Enthronement, followed by an inaugural address by Fr. Lancy CSC, the new Parish Priest. He articulated the purpose of the workshop and emphasized the noble nature of this mission. It is our duty and responsibility to educate our children in the villages regarding God, the Word of God, faith, and the Sacraments. Failure to dedicate time to our children through Sunday catechism sessions may hinder their understanding of faith. Catechist Julian conducted a session on how to conduct Sunday catechism classes. Fr. Lancy led a practical session on adopting innovative approaches and creating an engaging atmosphere for Sunday classes. The participants were divided into five smaller groups each assigned with a specific topic. After each presentation, an evaluation and feedback session was done. A brief overall evaluation was conducted, and participants expressed their satisfaction with the workshop. They also proposed to organize similar programs in the future. Lunch was provided to all the participants.

Catechist Julian Halam

**KARBOOK PARISH  
Vacation Bible School (VBS)**



The Vacation Bible School (VBS) was held from 16th to 19th May with the theme "Faith in Action." Around 120 students enthusiastically participated in the four-day spiritual and educational program. The VBS aimed at nurturing the faith of children through various Bible classes, action songs, group activities, games, competitions, and value-based learning sessions. The children were guided to understand how faith can be practiced in daily life through prayer, kindness, service, and love for one another. Each day was filled with joyful participation as students engaged in creative activities, faith-sharing sessions, and team-building games. The entire program was coordinated by Fr. Bala Showry, Assistant PP, whose dedicated leadership and guidance ensured the smooth and successful conduct of the VBS. The active involvement and support of the parishioners added great strength to the program.

The concluding day was marked with a short closing ceremony during which certificates of participation were distributed to all the students in appreciation of their active involvement. The parish priest thanked all the teachers, volunteers, parents, and parishioners for their wholehearted cooperation and encouraged the children to continue living out the message of "Faith in Action" in their families, schools, and communities.

Fr. Bala Showry

**AMBASSA PARISH  
Spiritual Renewal at Holy Spirit Parish**



We celebrate parish feast on Pentecost with parish sabha every year. We are celebrating the Pearl Jubilee of our parish establishment this year. We decided to celebrate these great events by cherishing the faith-growth of the parish. We organized one week of spiritual renewal program with three days of retreat in the parish. A Team of 28 retreat preachers from Kerala, Karnataka, Meghalaya and Tripura were invited to the parish. The Team was divided into ten groups and sent to every family in all the sub-stations. They visited the families, gave spiritual counselling and invited people to the parish Church for three days of retreat. At least 700 parishioners attended the retreat. It was wonderful experience of spiritual renewal.

**Seminar for Hostel Boys & Girls**

There were about 200 boys and girls of St. Arnold Hostel attended the three days Seminar program. The resource personnel from Kerala and Meghalaya



spoke on the adolescent behavior, drug abuse and misuse of social media. The hostel boys and girls were excited and edified by the talks. It was a carrier guidance talk for them that has given them orientation and direction for future.

Fr. Arun Minji SVD

**POPE LEO XIV PRESENTS  
MAGNIFICA HUMANITAS  
THE CHURCH'S RESPONSE TO THE CHALLENGES OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**



In his first social encyclical, *Magnifica Humanitas*, Pope Leo XIV offers a Church perspective on artificial intelligence, urging the world to ensure that technological progress serves human dignity, solidarity and the common good.

**A CALL FOR RESPONSIBLE AND ETHICAL TECHNOLOGY**  
The encyclical calls for artificial intelligence and all emerging technologies to be placed at the service of humanity and warns against their misuse in ways that threaten peace, justice and human dignity.

**KEY THEMES OF MAGNIFICA HUMANITAS**

<p><b>AT THE SERVICE OF HUMANITY</b> Technology must promote the integral development of every person and the well-being of all.</p>	<p><b>DISARMING TECHNOLOGY</b> Strong appeal to free technology from logics of domination, exclusion and violence, including in warfare, algorithms and data use.</p>	<p><b>MORAL DISCERNMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY</b> Every technological advance must be guided by ethical discernment, transparency and public responsibility.</p>
<p><b>NO ONE LEFT BEHIND</b> AI and digital progress must be accessible and beneficial to all, not just a privileged few or powerful interest groups.</p>	<p><b>BUILDING A CIVILISATION OF LOVE</b> A call to work together to create a more just, fraternal and hope-filled human society.</p>	<p><b>INSPIRED BY FAITH AND SCRIPTURE</b> Rooted in the Gospel and the dignity of the human person, with the example of figures like Nehemiah as a guide.</p>

**A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY**

The encyclical invites governments, institutions, technologists, educators, communities and individuals to collaborate so that technology contributes to peace, the common good and the common home.

- Ensure technology supports education, work and human development.
- Promote inclusion and protect the most vulnerable.
- Guard human freedom, privacy and the dignity of every person.
- Foster global cooperation for a just and sustainable digital future.



**CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF INDIA  
UNITED IN WITNESS**

### Agartala Diocese Scoops Top Honors At N.E. India Women' s Conference



The Agartala Diocese Women's Commission achieved remarkable success at the Northeast India Women's Conference held on 9th–10th May under the theme "Empowered Women in Faith, Service and Unity." The conference began with a Holy Mass celebrated by Auxiliary Bishop Dennis Panipitchai, encouraging women to become missionary disciples through prayer, service, and holiness.

Various resource persons conducted sessions on leadership, women's empowerment, education, social justice, sustainability, and media literacy.

The 22-member delegation from Agartala Diocese brought great honour to Tripura by winning several awards:

- Overall 1st Prize for best and timely reporting
- 2nd Prize for activity impact sharing
- Mrs. Girtunnei Halam won 1st Prize and Mina Jamatia won 3rd Prize in individual testimonial presentations.

The conference concluded with a cultural evening celebrating the rich traditions of Northeast India, inspiring participants to continue serving society with faith and unity.

— Mrs. Rita Uchoi

### Diocese Level Training of Trainers



The Family Commission of the Diocese successfully organized a two-day Diocese Level Training of Trainers on 9th and 10th May at St. Joseph Hall, Agartala. The program brought together 46 participants from various parishes of the diocese with the aim of strengthening family ministry at the parish level and preparing committed leaders to animate family apostolate in their respective communities. The training program was guided by Fr. George Jarain, Regional Secretary, Family Commission, who served as the resource person. Through his enriching inputs, practical guidance, and interactive sessions, the participants were encouraged to deepen their understanding of Christian family life and pastoral responsibilities towards families.

During the two-day training, special emphasis was given to the formation of Parish Family Cells so that families may receive

regular pastoral care and accompaniment. Sessions were also conducted on organizing Marriage Preparation Courses for young couples preparing for the sacrament of marriage, helping them to understand the sacredness and responsibilities of Christian married life. The participants also reflected on the importance of Family Values in today's society and the need to preserve Christian values within the family. Another important topic discussed was Family Visits, where the participants learned practical ways of reaching out to families, listening to their struggles, and strengthening their faith through pastoral presence. A meaningful session was dedicated to understanding the family as the Domestic Church. The sessions encouraged the participants to promote prayerful and united families rooted in Gospel values.

At the end of the training, a Core Team for the Family Commission was formed to coordinate and guide the family ministry activities within the Diocese of Agartala. The newly formed Team will work closely with the diocesan Secretary and parish units to implement the initiatives discussed during the training. The program concluded with gratitude to the resource person, participants, organizers, and all those who contributed to the successful conduct of the training.

Fr. Amalraj, Secretary Family Commission

### Seminar on Responsible Social Media Use held at St. Joseph School, Gokulnagar



The Diocese of Agartala Commission for Social Communication organized a motivational and awareness session on the theme, "Are You Using Social Media or Is Social Media Using You?" at St. Joseph School, Gokulnagar on 12th May. The session was conducted by Fr. Bala Showry, Assistant Secretary of the Commission for Social Communications. He spoke to the students about the responsible and meaningful use of social media in daily life. Important topics such as responsible social media use, managing screen time, online privacy and security, avoiding misinformation, and creating a positive digital footprint were discussed during the programme. The students actively participated and showed great interest throughout the session. Fr. Bala Showry encouraged the students to use social media wisely for learning, communication, and personal growth, while remaining careful about its negative effects.

The school authorities thanked the Commission for Social Communication for organizing the timely and meaningful programme for the students.

Fr. Bala Showry,  
Asst. Secretary of Social Communications

## JUST distributes Climate-Resilient varieties of Seed to Progressive Farmers



In a significant initiative to strengthen sustainable agriculture and enhance farmers' resilience against climate change, JUST conducted a two-day seed distribution program on 12th and 13th May across five villages—Shibuhari, Poangmog Bari, Kamlaipara, Tingoria, and Thirthamukh—under the Ompi and Karbook Blocks of Gomati District. The program benefited more than 150 progressive farmers who had earlier participated in training sessions on climate-resilient agriculture organized by JUST. During the program, farmers received a variety of climate-resilient, high-yielding seeds carefully selected to suit the changing environmental conditions and local agricultural needs. The initiative aimed to promote sustainable farming practices while improving food security and increasing the income opportunities of rural farming communities. The distributed seeds are expected to help farmers adapt to unpredictable weather patterns, irregular rainfall, and other climate-related challenges affecting agricultural productivity. Alongside seed distribution, the program also encouraged the adoption of organic farming techniques and environmentally friendly cultivation methods to reduce dependency on chemical inputs and preserve soil health. Farmers expressed their appreciation for the support and shared optimism about achieving better yields and improved livelihoods through the use of these improved seed varieties and modern climate-resilient practices. The program reflects JUST's continued commitment toward empowering rural farmers, promoting sustainable agriculture, and building resilient communities capable of overcoming the growing challenges posed by climate change while ensuring long-term agricultural development in the region.

## JUST organizes 6-day Field Exposure Program for Holy Cross College Students



In an effort to provide practical learning and grassroots exposure to future social work professionals, JUST organized a six-day field exposure program for 26 students along with the Head of Department and Professors of the B.S.W Department of Holy Cross College in the Karbook subdivision of Gomati District. The program aimed to help students understand the realities of rural life, social structures, and community dynamics through direct interaction and immersion within village communities. During the exposure visit, the students stayed in the villages among the local people, enabling them to closely observe the day-to-day lifestyle, culture, traditions, and challenges faced by rural families. The students visited various villages across the subdivision and actively interacted with community members to gain firsthand knowledge of their socio-economic conditions, livelihood practices, and development needs. As part of the program, the participants also visited local schools, met village leaders and community representatives, and took part in several project activities implemented in the area. These engagements provided valuable insights into rural governance, education, community participation, and development interventions at the grassroots level. The exposure program created an opportunity for students to bridge classroom learning with real-life experiences and deepen their understanding of rural Tripura and its diverse communities. Faculty members appreciated the initiative for enhancing students' practical knowledge, communication skills, and social sensitivity, while the students described the experience as highly enriching, educational, and transformative for their future careers in social work and community development.

Robert Lushai

### Our Distinguished Guests

- Archbishop Anil Couto of Delhi Archdiocese
- Archbishop Victor Henry Thakur of Raipur Archdiocese
- Archbishop Victor Lyngdoh of Shillong Archdiocese
- Archbishop Linus Neli of Imphal Archdiocese
- Archbishop Dominic Lumon, Emeritus of Imphal
- Bishop Thomas Pullopillil of Bongaigaon Diocese
- Bishop Stephen Rotluanga of Aizawl Diocese
- Bishop Albert Hemrom of Dibrugarh Diocese
- Bishop Benny Varghese of Itanagar Diocese
- Bishop Ferdinand Dkhar of Jowai Diocese
- Bishop Denis Panipitchai Auxiliary of Miao Diocese
- Bishop Joachim Walder Auxiliary of Aizawl Diocese
- Fr. Emmanuel CSC, Vicar General from Rome
- Fr. Varghese Vellikakam, VG of Imphal
- Fr. Carvalho SFX, Regional Superior of Pilar from Delhi
- Sr. Dr. Helen, SAB, Director General of CHAI from Hyderabad
- Sr. Monica, HFN, Principal St. Xavier's Special School from Goa
- Sr. Angela Maria, FSM Provincial from Bangalore
- Fr. Paul Melwin, OFM Cap, V. Provincial from Bangalore
- Fr. Vincent Monis, OFM Cap, Delegate from Mizoram
- Sr. Maya Poshna, MSMHC Provincial from Guwahati
- Sr. Pushpa Gomes, CSC, Area Coordinator from Dhaka
- Bro. Santosh CSC, Provincial Superior from Bangalore
- Fr. Lawrence D'Almeida, CSC, Provincial Superior from Bangalore
- Fr. Gaspar, CSC, Provincial Superior from Trichy
- Fr. George Thomas, MSFS, Provincial Superior from Guwahati
- Family Members & Friends of Bishop Lumen from Goa & Mumbai & USA
- Fr. Xavier Alangaram SVD, Mission Secretary from Bonn, Germany
- Fr. Jeevan Kennedy SVD, Regional Superior from Guwahati
- Mar Prince Anthony Panengaden, Archbishop of Shamshabad

### Bishop's Program for June 2026

- 02: Clergy Meet @ Bishop's House Agartala
- 06: Final Profession @ Holy Cross Agartala
- 07: CSC Diaconate Ordination @ Bodhjungnagar Parish  
Green Sunday plantation program
- 12: Feast of the Sacred Heart @ SFX Cathedral
- 13: Parish Feast, Twithampui
- 14: Installation of new PP @ Chailengta
- 21: Installation of new PP @ Baijalbari
- 28: Installation of new PP @ Moharpara