

# Bishop's 16th Consecration Day Service

Ankita Bhattacharjee: 23rd September, 2018, marked an auspicious day in the calendar of the Diocese of Durgapur. On this day the whole congregation and the project staff came together to celebrate the 16th Consecration Day of Bishop Dutta. He was ordained into Bishopric on the very same grounds, but only under a makeshift tent back on the 21st day of September in the year of our Lord 2003. The Diocese has come a long way since then; 21 new churches including a Cathedral has been built,

numerous institutes and projects have been initiated and the Diocese has grown into 181 churches spreading across 38 pastorates comprising of 29,750 congregational members. Back then there were only 12 priests managing this geographically mammoth predominantly Tribal diocese and today there are 24 of them, theologically trained from reputed seminaries from within and beyond borders. The bilingual ordination service was attended by all the clergy of the Diocese, Staff members, parish-

ioners of the different churches in the Diocese, members of the Diocesan Executive Committee, family and friends of our Bishop, the Rt. Revd. Dr. Probal Kanto Dutta. We wish him all the best in his ministerial life and may he grow in love and peace in accordance to the will of God, serving his Maker with his, mind, heart and soul. The atmosphere was very devotional and prayerful. Every one participated equally in this prayer gathering. The happy occasion was concluded with communal lunch. ■



## Two New God's Warriors Anointed as Priest and Deacon

Rev. Rabindranath Ray: On 23rd September 2018 Bishop Rt. Rev. Dr. Probal Kanto Dutta anointed Sirshendu Pramanik as priest and Saraswati Roy as Deacon at St. Michael's and All Angels Cathedral. All the priests and members of the Diocese were present at this auspicious moment. Rev. Samuel Halder started the program with a call to worship. Rt. Rev. Dr. Probal Kanto Dutta preached the word of the Lord and highlighted the importance of the Lord in front of the assembly. Former

Bishop, Rt. Rev. Anil Kumar Tirki, assisted Bishop Dutta in the service. Rev Manobananda Halder carried the cross at the beginning of the ceremony. Rev. Sandipan Sinha carried Bishop's staff. Rev. Sumanta Naru, Rev. Samiran Sinha, Rev Samuel Halder, Rev. Pankaj Pandey spoke the Word of the Lord and served the Lord's supper. Rt. Rev. Dr. Probal Kanto Dutta offered our sacrifice to the Lord. Both Ms. Roy and Rev. Pramanik thanked the Lord because He had chosen them for His service. They were overwhelmed

with the love that the diocese showered upon them on that day. They promised to the congregation to lead them in the path of the Lord and to seek Him always. ■



# Editorial



## PEACE & HARMONY

- Atin Chakraborty

People all over the world had thought that with advancement in science, in medicine and education, there would be a peaceful revolution in all the developing countries. It was thought that the big powers, having seen the destructiveness of nuclear and other weapons, would try to resolve their differences in a peaceful manner and the whole world would devote its energies to reform and change to provide a better life to the people, especially towards the eradication of poverty and economic backwardness. This dream has dimmed considerably. We find that the use of nuclear energy for a military is increasing. Those who want to use nuclear energy only for peaceful purposes are going ahead directly. Consequently today there is a crisis not only in our country but even in the developed and rich countries. Whenever there is any such difficulty, although it hits everyone, it is much worse for poorer or weaker nations. We in India, face a critical situation.

The constitution of

India does not officially obey any religion and allows its citizens to choose or change their religion at any time. However, there are some religious groups that spread their religion to the extent that brings unrest in the peace and harmony of the country.

In India, it is common for a person to discriminate on the basis of race and religion, although the constitution gives everyone the right to equality. This discrimination sometimes distorts social equilibrium, which inhibit peace. Lack of education and lack of good employment opportunities lead to unemployment, which ultimately increases poverty and enhances the rate of crime in the country.

Peace and harmony demand that we should meet the challenges. There is need for unity and for commitment; not to a party, not to a particular person but to the nation as a whole. At this time, it is necessary that we should cultivate a nationalistic attitude.

If we want peace and harmony in the country, we will have to see that there is peace and harmony in the world as well. ■

## Convenor Retreat

Kakoli Paswan: Mankar Grace centre played host to a two-day Women's Retreat from 18th - 19th September, 2018. This retreat was organised by Rt. Rev. Dr. Probal Kanto Dutta. 9 women from different pastorates of the diocese took part in this programme. It was started by a evening worship at 5 p.m. Rev. Sumanta Naru discussed the importance of retreat. In the first session he taught about "Identity in Christ". Rev. Rabindranath Ray spoke on "A guide for Convenor in the Order of St. Luke".

The second day retreat began with morning worship. Mrs. Sutapa Singh conducted this ses-

ion. Then Rev. Rabindranath Ray taught us about the "Essence of Prayer and Prayer of Protection". Rev. Sumanta Naru conducted the second session where he discussed the "Eight Steps of Healing Ministry". During the third session Rev. Ray spoke about "Developing a Ministry Team". The participants discussed their roles in the fourth session. In the evening the organisers prayed for those who were sick. The participants acknow-

ledged that this retreat was very beneficial for them. They have learned how to guide their teams as advisors and what methods to use when praying for the sick and how to use holy oil. They have pledged to regularly visit the sick at their home and to pray for them. This ministry will enable each one of us to spread the kingdom of God on earth through our lives and work which we dedicate to our Lord. ■



## Drawing Competition at Kaliaganj

Tuhin Ghosh : A drawing competition was organised at Kaliaganj Manmohan Balika Vidyalaya on 28th of last month. About 100 students from classes IX and X participated in this competition which was organised to make the students aware about human trafficking. After trafficking the result of human life is shown by picturing it through the splashes of colours. For the sake of money people tend to sell girls; they are imprisoned, and their organs are also cut from their bodies.

The Anti Human Trafficking Program of the Diocese if the Diocese of Durgapur had earlier raised awareness in these parts. This competition was to help them determine the effect of their efforts. Finally, the first second and third place awards were handed out. Mrs. Soma Chakraborty, the Head Mistress of

the school, said that the painting the issues of human trafficking helped the students understand human trafficking and its effects better. She praised the programme's efforts and encouraged the Diocese representatives to continue their efforts. ■



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1 Cross + 3 Nails = 4 given





## Prayer Reflection

Rev. Sumanto Naru : The Lord said to Moses, "Bring me seventy of Israel's elders who are known to you as leaders and officials among the people. Have them come to the tent of meeting, that they may stand there with you. I will come down and speak with you there, and I will take some of the power of the Spirit that is on you and put it on them. They will share the burden of the people with you so that you will not have to carry it alone". God, our Creator, believes in His expectation. We do not know when and how to work. But he does his job to take the medium of his children forward. On September 10th, Sumita Lohar gave a rosary to a teacher at her school because the teacher was disturbed by an evil spirit.

Sumita came home from school with the same teacher on that day. In the evening, she began to feel pain on the left side of her body which worried her parents. Sumita's

calls her sister and sister gave her medicines which did not help. The local prayer leader Mr. Nelson's also prayed over her, but, to no avail. Her parents were very worried. When her brother Sanjay came home and heard everything, he asked everyone to calm down. He took his sister to the next room and began praying with Holy Oil. During that time Sumita displayed a whole range of emotions. After praying for an hour Sanjay asked Sumita to drink water. After drinking water, Sumita vomited, and something went out of her. Sanjay then asked her how she felt, to which Sumita replied saying she didn't have any pain. Everyone was relieved. We thank the Lord for using his children to perform miracles. Sanjay's prayer and blessings brought the healing of our Lord on his sister. Through Sanjay and Sumita the Lord showed us his Grace. ■



## Daily Prayer Ministry at DUC

Subrata Gorai : We feel that prayer must undergird all aspects of a Christian's life and of the church. The purpose of the Prayer Ministry is to encourage members to grow in loving fellowship with the Heavenly Father through a meaningful life of prayer. Our desire is to become more like Christ and to glorify the

Father in our personal and church life as we surrender to His will and make our requests known in the Name of Jesus. That's why we organized a daily Prayer Ministry starting at 9 am and ending at 11 am; and in the evening from 6 pm to 8 pm. The Prayer Ministry seeks to follow the teachings of Jesus and to lead God's people into a life

of prayer that builds up the Church, individually and corporately, and that accomplishes God's purposes and brings glory to Him at

home and around the world. There are numerous opportunities for everyone to participate in the Prayer Ministry, attending

a special prayer meeting or joining the Prayer Team which meets for prayer and planning. ■

## Meeting on Human Trafficking

Tuhin Ghosh: On 29th September, a meeting was held by the Anti Human Trafficking Programme in Panishala Junior School, Dinajpur, to discuss about human trafficking prohibition and child marriage prohibition in the Constitution of India. Principal of the school, Sub-inspector Joy Bhattacharya of Kushmondi Police Station, Bipul Ojha from District Legal Service, Mr. Dev Sharma, Headmaster of Karanchi Panchayat, Imam Animul Islam of local masjid were present at this meeting. Raja Moses, Rev. Samuel Mahara were also present at this meeting which was attended by about 300 people. Rev.

Samuel Mahara inaugurated the meeting.

According to Mr. Joy Bhattacharya of Kushmondi Thana "Human Trafficking is a burning topic now a days"; he pointed out the ways by which traffickers sell human beings and wanted to create awareness about this issue. He also informed the gathered audience that the police station is always open for them and they can feel free to come and ask for help. He praised Diocese of Durgapur for our initiative in

creating awareness about human trafficking.

Bipul Ojha highlighted how girls are trafficked to other countries for child marriage and spoke about how people who get addicted to drugs after migrating for work and are found missing as they are trafficked to other countries.

The meeting concluded on a positive note with attendees promising to take active part in this war to prevent Human Trafficking ■



## Festival of Light

Subhasis Das : On 7th October, 2018, Raniganj Wesleyan Methodist Church, under the Diocese of Durgapur, had organised a Festival of Light to worship and praise the Father. More than 100 members of the congregation participated in this worship. The Festival was inaugurated by the acting priest of the congregation Rev. Rabindranath Ray. Lay preachers Mr. Samarendra Kobiraj and Mr. Subrata Nag collaborated with him. Rev. Ray preached the Word of the Lord and said

that we are the light of the world and our families are the house of our lights. He also told us to act as the Light to people who are still in the dark in order to glorify the Lord. He spoke about how we should serve as an example of our Almighty Father's love. After prayer the

priest lit a candle from which the congregation lit theirs. Then they started a procession, accompanied with hymns, to Christian Para Mission Chapel. The prayer service was concluded at the chapel with a prayer and a hymn of praise. ■

