



The Church of Bangladesh

NEWSLETTER

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Volume 5

MESSAGE *from the Moderator*



We would be praying for you all so that God may guide us and lead us and show us the stop of the pandemic and it's catastrophic. I just wondered that during our struggles you people helped us, but in your bad days how can we people help you accept sincere and unceasing prayers for you to God Almighty.

Dear friends at home and abroad,

Very warm greetings from the Moderator of the Church of Bangladesh. How are you all doing? We the people of the Church of Bangladesh have been keeping well by the grace of God. So far the Coronavirus pandemic situation in Bangladesh and the death rate and the contamination rate have been decreasing. But I am not saying that it won't return and happen a huge. The Government has been warning us that in the winter season it may again cause the pandemic situation to deteriorate.

Friends, we are very sorry to hear that in Europe and America this pandemic situation and the second waves have been deteriorating you and the states and countries have been declared lockdown again for months, the schools and universities again all have been closed down. The Christian communities have started thinking that they may not be allowed to the Churches to worship at Christmas!. We too have been thinking the same and thinking that many of our people will be suffering from food, shelter, and warm clothes in the winter season since it has just started. In India, it has been still continuing with the worst situation and topmost in the world and they are our closest neighbors.

We would be praying for you all so that God may guide us and lead us and show us the stop of the pandemic and it's catastrophic. I just have wondered that during our struggles you people helped us, but in your bad days how can we people help you accept sincere and unceasing prayers for you to God Almighty.

May God bless us all!

The Most Revd Samuel Sunil Mankhin
Moderator & Bishop of Dhaka Diocese
Church of Bangladesh.

Greetings from Barishal Diocese



From February 2020 the whole world has faced the challenge of COVID 19. Due to COVID 19 the global economy has collapsed, businesses closed down, people lost their jobs and still losing, struggles increased, families have broken down, worship places emptied, creation renewed, the relationship continued. In spite of all these, God's grace is continuing and life enrolling.

When God and we as God's co-worker work together then life moves on. Due to COVID 19 when many are suffering then many front-liners like doctors, nurses, health workers, social workers etc are ready to serve those suffering people by keeping them in risks of being affected. As the body of Christ, we the Barishal Diocese could not keep silence to response to the need of suffering people. As a body of Christ we are the front-liner to be with the suffering people. Because, Jesus Christ who is the head of the church, never kept quiet when people suffered. We are thankful to God to allow us to stand for the needy people. Let us all continue to be with the suffering people all over the world to bring peace and happiness to all in this present time of crisis.

May God bless us.

Rt Rev Shourabh Pholia.

Bishop of Barishal Diocese.

Greetings from Kushtia Diocese



Greetings from Kushtia Diocese! We are very pleased to tell you that Kushtia Diocese is doing well by the grace of Almighty God even amidst the pandemic.

During the period Kushtia Diocese organized a Catechist seminar to develop their knowledge and skills. All the Catechists of Kushtia diocese participated in a sermon competition. It was very encouraging for them and it is helping to develop their sermon quality.

Being the Bishop of Kushtia diocese, I was able to make a few pastoral visits at Rajshahi and Bollobhpur deaneries. The congregations of both deaneries are still safe. We also arranged a few women's and youth seminars for both deaneries with maintaining all health precaution and social distance.

Moreover, I am trying to compose the history of the Church of Bangladesh with the kind encouragement of the present Moderator Bishop Samuel S Mankhin and trying to get assistance from the elders and experts of the Church of Bangladesh. Even in the Corona pandemic, I was able to meet at least seven individuals and organized a few workshops for this purpose. The elders are cooperative to assist the assignment. I am requesting your prayer too.

We are grateful to you all for your prayers for Kushtia diocese.

Best wishes and prayers

Rt Rev Hemen Halder

Bishop of Kushtia Diocese.

Mission Support Programme-MSP4

The three days training workshop for catechists was held



The three-day training workshop was held for catechists from 14th to 18th September 2020, at the Meditation and Conference Center at Savar. The theme was 'How to conduct training and preach in their congregation especially how to raise awareness of the congregation' with the blessings and grace of the Lord.

The Rt. Rev. Samuel Sunil Mankhin, the Moderator of the Church of Bangladesh and Bishop of the Dhaka Diocese was present in this training workshop. 15 catechists from Dhaka, Haluaghat, Madhupur Deanery and Chittagong City Pastorate, The Dean of Dhaka Deanery Rev. Immanuel Mollick, Rev. Bhanu Chishim were present in the Program. A total of 25 people including Rev. James Duke Baroi, all the priests of Dhaka Deanery and the Program Head of the project Mr. Paul Subrata Malakar participated in the event.

The Rt. Rev. Samuel Sunil Mankhin, Rev. John Probhudan Hira and Paul Subrata Malakar conducted the program. Hope the catechists will be able to spend a better time returning to their workplaces from the workshop, preach the topics discussed, prepare new topics, and stay with the family through family visits at special times.

In the evaluation session of the workshop, the participants expressed their views and made a special request to organize such training workshops to enhance their skills in the future too.

The theme of the three-day training workshop was how to conduct training and preach in their congregation especially how to raise awareness of the congregation.

Training on Trainers was held

From last 5th to 6th October 2020, we have been able to conduct "Training on Trainers" at Savar, Meditation and Conference Center on the Bible School and Brigade curriculum of MSP4. The training was attended by 26 deanery representatives from all the deaneries of the Church of Bangladesh and the convener of the technical group, Rev. Simson Mazumder. A total of 31 people including Kakoli Raksham and Paul Subrata Malakar participated in the event.

A total of 20 topics were discussed in the ToT. Rev. Simson, as the Convener of the Technical Group of the project, was the moderator of the training. Miss Kakoli Raksham. Paul Subrata Malakar was in overall charge. All participants in the training were provided with training modules, Bible school curriculum and draft guidelines for conducting Bible school activities, subject-oriented handouts.



At the training evaluation session, participants expressed their views and made special requests to organize such training workshops to enhance their skills in the future too. At the end of the session, Rev. Simson thanked everyone for their active participation. Mr. Paul Subrata Malakar, expressed his gratitude to all. He hopes that the training will enrich the congregation's Bible school activities.

The Church of Bangladesh has long lacked a universally accepted curriculum. The MSP4 project takes care of the religious and moral education of the children and presents a curriculum for the church.

Participants have the opportunity to practice two-day lessons individually and in groups from pre-primary to fifth grade using different materials. These deanery delegates will train Bible school teachers working in parishes in their respective deanery in the year 2021.

News of the Brotherhood and Sisterhood

St. Paul's Brotherhood, Oxford Mission, Barishal

The two Fathers of the St. Paul's Brotherhood, Barishal are in good health and are working for the mission through the period of Corona lockdown and special closing of the educational institutes in between regular meditation prayers.

Christo Shebika Songho Jobarpar-CSS

Moderator Rt. Rev. Samuel S Mankhin visited Christo Shebika Songho Jobarpar-CSS, Barishal. Sisters are constantly praying to the Most Almighty God to save the country from this perilous time. During the COVID-19 pandemic, different activities of the CSS-Jobarpar were active.

Most of the teachers, Sisters, Fathers are praying online and trying to maintain relationships with the members of the entities.

Some institutions and school students are open differently using online services.

In some cases, the teachers are going to students' homes for health awareness, mainly the sisters are busy for praying and distributing the necessary relief in crying need.

With thanks and gratitude to the Oxford Mission and to the friends and solidarity with who died due to COVID-19 and condolence for the bereaved family members.



St. Mary's Sisterhood, Haluaghat

There are now five sisters in the Saint Mary's Sisterhood. They pray seven times a day. They stopped going outside because of the Corona virus outbreak. However, they are continuing their daily activities. Superior Sister Mira is currently very weak.

Please Pray for;

- Sister Mira's recovery
- Brotherhood and sisterhood of Jobarpar and Haluaghat
- All students, school and institutions of the church at the time of COVID-19 pandemic
- May the Almighty God soon remove the corona virus from the world.

*Moderator Rt. Rev.
Samuel S Mankhin
visited Christo Shebika
Songho Jobarpar-CSS,
Barishal.*



Workshop on History of the Church of Bangladesh



From 12th October to 15th October Meditation and Conference Center at Savar, Dhaka a workshop on the history of the Church of Bangladesh was organized by Bishop Hemen Halder. On the evening of 12th October, the Honorable Moderator of the Church of Bangladesh, Rt Rev Sunil S Mankhin inaugurated the workshop by pressing a computer button. Earlier, Bishop Hemen Halder welcomed the Honorable Moderator and all present with a bouquet of flowers. The workshop started with a short prayer by Rev Amit Mollick. The workshop was attended by Rev Santi Mondol, Rev Immanuel Mithu Mollick, Rev Monindra Boidya, Rev Simson Mazumder, Rev Promosh Chambugang, Rev Benedict Bhanu Chisim, Rev Amit Mollick, Mr. Lipton Chiran, Mr. David Anjan Hira, Mr. Iffraim Hembrom.

During the inauguration of the history workshop,



Honorable Moderator Right Rev Samuel S. Mankhin said that although the Church of Bangladesh is a small Church, it has a diverse history, which is very important to record. We thank Bishop Hemen Halder for volunteering and spending huge time to work on it. However, overall and accurate history will not be written at a single try. Someone will have to start. Many more things need to be included in the history books. We all have a lot of responsibilities and time to add or subtract. In particular, the contribution of our predecessor Bishop James D Blair during the War of Independence in 1971, the history of the establishment of the Theological College of Saint Andrew, the relationship of the Church of Bangladesh with neighboring Churches and other religions, friendship should be recorded.

Mr. Prodip Chand Mondal, Secretary to the Moderator and Mr. Jones Loton Roy, Information and Documentation Secretary spoke about the importance of writing the history of our Church.

Rt Rev Hemen Halder collected the history of the parishes of the Church of Bangladesh with a long effort and initiative. It is to be mentioned that the chapter on the compilation and composition of history was started by the then retired Hon'ble Moderator Bishop Michael S. Baroi under the charge of the then Publications Department of the Church of Bangladesh.

St. Andrew's Theological College, Dhaka



St Andrew's Theological College is in a good shape. Our college is continuing its daily life as like as it was before COVID-19.

celebrate wedding anniversary of our staff Mr. Suvojit Mondal and Mrs. Sraboni Biswas.

Online Seminar: We attend few international online seminars through Zoom Meeting, organized by "Asian Theological Academy".

Cleaning Campaign: We did Cleanliness Campaign our college residence on 8-10 October 2020.

Regular Class for Internal Students: Our Regular classes for internal students are going on smoothly 6 days in a week. Teachers are coming regularly to take their classes.

BCS Contact Seminar: We arrange a contact seminar from 20-26 September 2020 for the BCS students as their exam will be held on this coming November. Students came from different parts of Bangladesh.

Result: We sit for online finale exam under Sermapore University and they published result on 15 October 2020. We are very happy to inform that this year we also achieved 100% passed with a great result even in this Pandemic time.

Celebration: We did celebrate our staff and students Birthday last month. We also did





SHALOM arranged a two days training on Micro Entrepreneurship Development at Haluaghat. The training course facilitated by Mr. Shahidul Islam, Deputy Manager, Youth Empowerment Support, SDF. Honorable Member of Parliament (MP) of Mymensingh Mr. Jewel Areng distributed course certificate to the 30 participants.

SHALOM has started Regional Development Committee Meeting

Recently, SHALOM has done Regional Development Committee (RDC) Meeting in SHALOM Haluaghat and Jobarpar area.

SHALOM Haluaghat Regional Development Committee meeting was held on 29th August, 2020 and Mr. Sujit Rema was the Chairperson of the meeting. Mr. Sourendrow Mondal, Area Coordinator present at the meeting and shared details activities, reports of the area and expect everybodys cooperation to implement the program. 'Transformation of Socio-Economic Conditions of the Under Privileged Communities through Adaptive Sustainable

Interventions', 'Integrated Food Security for Aboriginal Communities' (IFSAC), and Micro Finance program is implementing in this area.

SHALOM Jobarpar RDC meeting was held on 12th September, 2020 and honorable Chairman Rt. Rev. Sourabh Pholia, bishop of Barishal Diocese present at the meeting. Mr. Rithu Sarker represented SHALOM as an Area Coordinator of SHALOM Jobarpar. Poverty Reduction and Community Resilience Project (PRCRP), and Micro Finance program is implementing in this area.

SHALOM is slowly implementing regular planned activities in different area within the COVID-19 situation.



CMCY Christian Ministry to Children & Youth



CMCY is still providing monthly cash support along with educational materials who are living at their own home during COVID-19

CMCY runs its childcare programs for the poor, vulnerable children and school-drop-out youths so that they may have basic needs and proper guidance to blossom with their God given potentials for getting a sustainable bright and prosperous future.

CMCY accomplishes the children care programs through its residential hostel programs, day care centers and vocational training centers that build up a God loving world, where everyone would be educated and empowered.

Due to the COVID-19 infection, CMCY helps project children are living along with their families, in September and October, CMCY distributed food support as cash gift of BDT one thousands to 974 children. At the same times, 2375 Children of Compassion International Bangladesh received 14 kg, lentil 2 kg, salt 2, kg, onion 2 kg, potato 5 kg, detergent powder and 4 soaps from the projects. Benefited project children also received possible education materials and sanitary items. Through mobile calls, video calls and taking supports from the Church of Bangladesh personnel, CMCY tried the level best to maintain regular contacts and controls with the children to support them to grow up holistically. CMCY is much grateful to Almighty for keeping its beneficiaries' safe and sound in time of the Corona pandemic. Receiving upon the government order on opening the educational institutions, CMCY is ready at once to open all projects.



Education Programme



The schools moving forward considering the COVID-19 context.

As a result of the corona, the period of closure announced by the government has been extended to October 3, 2020. Schools in the city are taking classes online and teaching lessons according to the syllabus. For the annual exams, the teachers are preparing the online method among the students.

Since it is officially said that the schools in the rural areas are closed keeping in view the fact that the students are studying at home, the teachers are going home and inquiring

about the students and helping them to learn according to the syllabus. By doing this, they are continuing their studies at home.

Teachers are always explaining to students and parents how to interact with themselves and others, to wash their hands and face, to keep distance, to wear masks. At this time, our friend Mrs. Rosemary of Switzerland, is standing by the poor students of St. Thomas' Community School. With the monetary support the distribution of relief materials was arranged. Relief supplies were delivered on September 12, 2020. Among them were rice, pulses, flour, oil, sugar, potatoes, onions, salt, hand sanitizer, mask, and toys are noteworthy. Honorable Chairman Rt. Rev. Samuel S. Mankhin, Education Coordinator Mrs. Monita Mankhin, Parish Priest Rev. Simson Mazumder and other members of the compound and teachers were present on the occasion.

Christian Mission Hospital, Rajshahi



After dedicated COVID-19 services have been over at Christian Mission Hospital (CMH) at Rajshahi, the hospital has now started disinfecting the hospital along with a phase to increase its capacity for restarting its clinical services for common people.

In this hospital the corona services continued for long five months, 15 April-15 September 2020 and the hospital admitted 129 confirmed COVID-19 and 732 corona suspects; it additionally handled 445 outdoor patients and collected 381 PCR test samples. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) done between Church of Bangladesh (COB) and Bangladesh Ministry of Health was in effect to help this hospital work in this special crisis. Locally Rajshahi Medical Hospital (RMCH) was supervising the COVID-19 activities at CMH. A bunch of 35 CMH staff additionally participated in corona care, side by side with the government doctors and

nurses, making it a brilliant example of GO-NGO partnership in patient care.

Now CMH Board of Trustee (BOT) has decided that as the corona partnership services are successfully over with government, Christian Mission Hospital would have a special time for undertaking some improvement initiatives. The improvement plan is such designed that the hospital would re-open all clinical services in a 'better' shape from January 2021.

The hospital improvement plan reflects long term community needs. It will facilitate patient-friendly efficient, professional and quality clinical services. It will not only increase overall security, reduce annual maintenance, enhance government compliance with women and children prioritization, but also improve in-house critical care facilities. Further it will enhance hospital self-sustainability.



Bollobhpur Hospital

Dear Friends,

Greetings from us all at Bollobhpur Hospital. I wonder if I ever told you about our Geriatric ward for long stay patients, how commonly known as the G ward; Here we try to provide what is hard to find anywhere in the country, that is care for the elderly infirm who no longer have anyone to care for them, for those needing terminal care, and also several disabled and handicapped patients who have not found a refuge elsewhere.

Let me introduce you to our inmates:-

Now all in their late seventies and eighties,

Filomina; bed ridden following a stroke,

Dukhi; Who was previously a village midwife and now bent double with spinal disease;

Tuktuki; blind from chronic diabetes, and also crippled following stroke.

Lily; also disabled and blind, an educated women who used to teach children.

Shobha; a senior graduate nurse, whose brain no longer works properly, and so frail that the wind could blow her away.

Joya; who spent most of her life at the Oxford mission in Barisal, and now very aged bedridden and blind, sent to us for terminal care;

Abha; who spent her working life as a busy midwife, never married and now will end days with us here.

Chobi; also a nurse by profession, now blind and mentally disturbed.

And in the male section:-

John; who never married and after spending years teaching students at the Church's trade school, has chosen to come to us for care.

Robert; alone in the world, his only daughter away working in France and who also has become mentally unstable.



Roby; deaf as a post. who found his way here when his elder brother was receiving terminal care from us.

Gopal; with his severely asthmatic wife Ava, now incapable of caring for themselves.

And not so old in years, but needing total care :-

Iti Rani and Shikha; both spastic from birth, and also deaf and dumb Khuki very active with every one's affairs.

They are all beautifully cared for day and night by our our 1st year student nurses, a wonderful chance for them to learn basic nursing care.

We give them tea and snacks twice a day, and three meals of rice and curry. They have fans keeping them cool during the day, and mosquito nets to sleep under at night.

In the morning they are bathed and have a change of clothes, and in the afternoon they are taken out in the wheel chairs to enjoy the fresh air.

It gives us great pleasure to be able to offer this service.

Thank you all for your continued interest.

Sr. G M Rose,
Director Bollobhpur Hospital.

Clinic Based Community Health and Nutrition Program

Vitamin A plus campaign start up

The national Vitamin A plus campaign started across the country, aiming to feed Vitamin A capsules to children aged between six and 59 months. Our Nurses and health workers involved in the campaign were given surgical masks and they will have to follow all hygiene rules to stay safe from Corona Virus. The campaign continued till October 2020, according to a handout from the



Nurse Nomita Rema feeds Vitamin A capsule to the children at Purbobaromari, Netrokona.

Institute of Public Health and Nutrition. Children aged between six and 12 months will be given blue capsules while those aged from one to five years will be fed red capsules according to the usual EPI (Expanded Programme on Immunization) schedule, EPI activities are conducted in eight sub-blocks of each ward on two days of six working days of the week in collaboration with the local Govt.

A CBCHNP training workshop on accounts maintenance & reporting held

On 5th- 6th October 2020, a training workshop on accounts maintenance & reporting was arranged for nurses of CBCHNP, Barishal Diocese at St. Mary's Church, Jobarpar. Honorable Bishop Shourabh Pholia, Dean of Jobarpar deanery, Rev. Santi Mondol, Diocesan Manager Mr. Swithin Malakar, Diocesan Area Coordinator Mr. Luke K. B. Sarker were present in the training program. Honorable



Bishop Pholia encouraged them to reach more needy people through their services. He said, "You are the hands of Jesus Christ. Whenever you touch a patient remember that Jesus is touching them through you. When Jesus touched them they were healed. Therefore, go door to door to the patients who are waiting for someone to help them. With your presence let them see Jesus' presence". Mr. Malakar and Mr. Sarker are doing their follow up visit after the training program and checking the accounts, facing difficulties and helped them how to maintain their accounts at the clinic. They visited Koligram Clinic on 21st October 2020.

We are happy to get a doctor Dr. Ananda Kirtonia for Koligram clinic; he will visit twice a month at the clinic. He will bear his cost for next six months. We are so thankful for his commitment and heart to serve poor people through the clinic.



Swarupantor (Umoja) workshop on envisioning the targeted people and Church leaders held



Workshop on envisioning the targeted people and Church leaders was held on 17th of August, 2020 at St. Andrew's Church, Purbabaramari, Birishiri, Netrokona. Rev. Romeo Chambugong, (Parish Priest), Mr. Philip Mondol, (Programme Coordinator), Mr. Jotish Rema, (Area Coordinator), Mrs Nomita Rema, (Clinic In charge), Mr. Sudarson Mankhin, (Project Manager, Shalom) who attended the workshop and gave their valuable times with encouragement and cooperation to achieve the purpose of the training.

Rev. Romeo Chambugong, shared the Word of God on the main theme which was, "Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me (John 15:4). He said that we cannot produce without relationship with the Jesus, so today; every believer in Christ must connect with him to bear fruits through our

lives.

Mr. Philip Mondol facilitated about the process, vision, purpose/benefits, steps of Umoja, how to set up Umoja programme and lead Bible study weekly in the Church. The different examples and practical actions were taught to motivate them to be active in leading Umoja groups to bring the change among them.

Participants are trained through the practical actions as groups (Men, Women & youth) and participated actively to learn on how to identify local challenges, local resources, lead Bible study, and also can bring solutions for their benefits as community. Participants were motivated and committed themselves to practice the learning from the workshop in their local Church and Umoja group.

Online and Physical Worship

Due to COVID-19 Pandemic, we did Worship service only online during last few Months. Now by the Grace of Almighty God situation is little better here in Bangladesh. That is why we opened our Church for physical worship from October 2020. So, we are having both Physical and Online service too. Our congregations are very happy to have this both options. Those who still fear from the COVID-19 they are also able to attend through online and who those wants to come and join Church Physically, they are joining regularly.



We gave baptism to two kids during this Pandemic time. The work for God's Kingdom is continuing even in midst of this situation.



St. Andrew's Church, Mirpur also started to solemnize wedding. We did five wedding ceremony by last two months and many more are coming for this continuing month and the next month too.

For some Engagement and Death Remembrance Day, we did prayer meetings at few homes of our Congregations.

The Retreat Cum Conference Centre is getting back its usual condition



The Retreat Cum Conference Centre is getting back its usual condition after a long break due to pandemic situation. From last March, 2020, this Conference Centre was needed to shut down as per the declaration of govt. After 5 months of complete shutdown, the 1st whole day program was held by a company in August. Basically from September, rents for programs are increasing gradually. 2 seminars held in September and 4 seminars held in October though it is not as like as last year. And in all programs, participant number is maintained in a limited way (within 50) to follow proper social distance and safety measures. Even we are maintaining more hygiene system in meeting room, dining hall, dormitory and other living rooms.

As a sub institute of Church of Bangladesh, this Retreat Cum Conference Centre is very well known from 2003. It attracts all for its infrastructure and natural beauty. During lockdown, we never compromise to let down its natural beauty. All the staffs are taking care of this institute even though they wouldn't get full salary as there was no income from seminars of critical 5 months. We also minimize the cost as much as possible. Finally, the tough situation is improving from September. And now we are hoping to get more reservation on coming days.

2020 was started with a hope but Covid-19 ruined it. But our spirit with God's love is also overcoming the barriers of the pandemic. Now it's time to take precaution and lead the normal life with safety.

KUSHTIA DIOCESE

The Honorable Bishop of the Kushtia Diocese, Reverend Hemen Halder, has been in regular contact with all the Deans, Priests, Catholics and all the members of the Diocese during the Kovid-19 period and has been conducting all the activities of the Congregation smoothly.

Bollobhpur Deanery

Youth seminar was held



A three-day youth seminar was held on October 21, 22 and 23 at Bollobhpur Parish. All the young men and women of the parish took part the youth seminar. The theme was “Then he went up and touched the bier they were carrying him on, and the bearers stood still. He said, “Young man, I say to you, get up!” (Luke 7:14). Speakers were Bishop Hemen Halder, Rev Anil Murmu and many more.

Monthly meeting was held

On September 30, a monthly meeting was held with all the staff of the church of Saint Andrew of Vabarpara Parish. In that meeting, sermon competition was held with the catechists. The motto was “Do not let anyone despise your youth; but in words, manners, love and purity is the ideal of the child (1 Timothy 4-10 verses). And the jury consisted of the Honorable Rt. Rev. Hemen Halder, Jessica Suparna Halder and Rev Martin Hira Mondal.

Rajshahi Deanery



A monthly meeting was held on October 8 at the Rajshahi Dean Office with all the Deanery staff. A publicity contest was held with the catechists at the meeting. The motto was: “Let no one despise your youth; But be the standard of the faithful in words, in the use of flour, in stopping and in purity (1 Timothy 4-12). The first was Mr. Polash Mondol and the second was Mr. Samuel Hembrom. And the judges were Dean Reva Billiam Sarder, Rev Philip Biswas, Rev Ashish Mondol, Rev Adhir Gathia and Mr. Nripendranath Ghosh. On October 30, a one-day women’s seminar was held at Farm Maria Parish, chaired by Dean Rev William Sarder.

Brother Eric, of the Taize Brother from Mymensingh visited Kushtia Diocese recently.



On October 21, a total of nine guests, including Brother Eric, visited St. John’s Cathedral, Church Mission School from Haluaghat Brother Hood, and left after lunch.



Inter-denomination Bible School Seminar was held

On the 12th of September an inter-denomination Bible School Seminar was held at St. Joseph's church, Shikarpur. The Theme of the program was from Proverbs 6:16-19 "Six things the Lord hate ... ". Mrs Suchitra Behera, spoke to the children how they can keep their eyes, tongue, hands, feet, heart and attitude towards others clean in a godly way. She used various pictures to encourage the children to be a good steward of the body and mind God has given us.

The children loved learning and singing the hymn "Be careful little eyes what you see". The Dean of Jobarpar denary Rev Shanti Mondol, Parish priest Rev Uzzal Biswas, Rev Michael Soren from Chourkhuli taught the children many more action songs. A Bible quiz and memory verse recitation competition was conducted, and the children thoroughly enjoyed in the Bible engagement task.

We are thankful to Bangladesh Bible Society & Scripture Union Bangladesh for providing various coloring Bible story books and gifts for our children. The diocese is also thankful to Mr James Baidya and Mr Pallabh Baidya for all the support that they have given for this seminar. The reason for conducting such seminars is to give some moral support and encouragement to the children during this lockdown period.

Bible Distribution to the people of local parish



As last two months this month Barishal Diocese has distributed the Word of God among its members in Khulna Deanery. Rev. Monndra Baidya has distributed them to Christ the King Church, Khalishpur on 6th September after the Holy Communion Service.

He also distributed them in St. Michael's Church, Gollamari, and Khulna on 13th September after the church service. Through this initiative seeds of the Word of God was showed everywhere. The Word of God is the light of our way and life giving. In this time of crisis Scripture gives us strength and hope for life.