



# BHARAT KI JEEWAN

SSCC INDIA (BROTHERS)

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## DSDI BIDS FAREWELL TO FR. RADHELAL AND BRO. RINKU

Fr. Radhelal Jatwar, ss.cc., had been a member of DSDI community for the last two years. He had been assigned both as an Assistant Director and treasurer of DSDI. During his two years of



service in the community, Fr. Radhelal also shouldered upon himself other additional responsibilities of DSDI ministries and activities. After two years of his service in DSDI, he has now been called by the Regional Leadership to serve in St. Damien of Molokai Play School in Danga Dighila - Kolkata as a member of Sacred Hearts Formation Community.

As part of his initial formation in the Congregation, Bro. Rinku Nayak had been assigned to DSDI community for one year as a *regent* in order to integrate himself into DSDI community life and to the ministries and activities of DSDI. After one year of experience in DSDI, Bro. Rinku has now been promoted to theological formation in Sacred Hearts Formation Community in Danga Dighila – Kolkata.

In the event of their transition to Sacred Hearts Formation Community in Danga Dighila, DSDI community and the DSDI co-workers organized a farewell program on June 26, 2020 to express their gratitude to Fr. Radhelal and to Bro. Rinku. Fr. Ajith Kumar, the Regional Superior and our SS.CC. Sisters were also present at the program. On behalf of DSDI family, the Director Fr. Ajit Baliar Singh and the co-workers expressed their thanks and gratitude to Fr. Radhelal and to Bro. Rinku for their dedicated service and contributions to the life and ministries of Damien Social Development Institute.



In the evening, the DSDI religious community organized a “mission commissioning” prayer service for Fr. Radhelal and Bro. Rinku as a reminder that they were being sent on mission by the community. As a sign of that mission commissioning, the community director Fr. Ajit Baliar Singh placed the statue of Our Lady Queen of Peace on the heads of both of them and commissioned them on mission.

As Fr. Radhelal begins his new ministry in St. Damien of Molokai Play School and Bro. Rinku begins his formative life in Sacred Hearts Formation Community in Danga Dighila, the DSDI religious community and the DSDI co-workers remain grateful to them and wish them God’s blessing for their happiness and fruitfulness.

- **Alexis, SS.CC.**

## GRATITUDE TO BROS. AROCKIA AND ROBERT

***“Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today and creates a vision for tomorrow”.***

The day was mellow, but there was something rich in the air, as that Sunday, June 28, 2020, an emotional farewell was organized, followed by cultural programs, to honor our brothers Arockia and Robert, for their memorable stay at the Sacred Hearts Seminary in Dangdighila, Kolkata.



The community was filled with words of gratitude and thanksgiving for all that they have done for us and for this community. We were there to celebrate the joy of service. The beautiful moments you brothers spent with us in this community. We will never forget all your valuable contributions. You have been there to help us; you did all the work selflessly.

Nigel Hamilton says, *“Thanksgiving is a time of togetherness and gratitude.”* Therefore, our thanksgiving for these two of our brothers were the gifts of love, joy, peace and happiness that we gave them. They were also filled with words of gratitude for each member of the community. Our Regional Superior also expressed words of appreciation and encouragement for their new mission in the new communities.

My personal experience of these two brothers says that this gratitude unlocks the fullness of life and turns what we have into enough for more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos in order. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home and a stranger into a friend. Therefore, their presence was more joyful and an encouragement for us all.

- **Suraj, SS.CC.**

## RECONSTRUCTION OF COUDRIN HOSTEL BOUNDARY WALL- CHOUWAR



A portion of Coudrin Hostel, adjacent to Trinath Leprosy Colony, boundary had been damaged by the cyclone FANI in May 2019. The whole stretch of wall had fallen down which was causing lots of nuisance in the hostel campus by stray animals and by the patients of the leprosy colony. Coudrin Hostel is a DSDI educational project where the college –going students are provided with bed accommodation and food so that they are able to go to a nearby college for their higher secondary and bachelor degree education. Within the hostel campus is the Damien Clinic which treats the leprosy patients of Trinath Leprosy Colony.

In order to provide a safe environment to the hostel campus and to the students themselves, the fallen boundary wall was

reconstructed in June – July 2020 which is now complete. Due to Covid – 19 pandemic lockdown situations, all educational institutions remain closed until the Government announces their reopening. We look forward to the reopening of our Coudrin Hostel for the students; but for now we abide by the Government regulation in order to contain the virus. We thank our friends and benefactors of Damien Social Development Institute (DSDI) whose generous contributions have made this boundary wall reconstruction project possible. We remain grateful to them!



- **Alexis, SS.CC.**

## My Experience in Damien Social Development Institute

First and foremost I am grateful to God for his invitation to this SSCC family. In my childhood I had a lot of desires and when I was a boy there was only one desire that was to become an army man and then when I became an adult I loved to become a priest without knowing the differences between religious priest and diocesan priest.



I entered St. Damien seminary in Bangalore in 2014 for the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, with a lot of expectations. Among many expectations some expectations were successful and some expectations were unsuccessful due to some situations. But anyway I learnt many things being staying in the Damien seminary especially I learnt music which I never expected or thought of. I

stayed in St. Damien seminary Bangalore for five years. I enjoyed my life being there with my companions by doing different things. I accomplished my B.A. and philosophical studies. After finishing my studies I was promoted to do my regency in DSDI (Damien Social Development Institute) where the social works are being done. Though DSDI is in Orissa my own state, I had never been there before so it was difficult for me to do my ministry. I was hesitant, I mean I was not happy to go there but thinking of my own future, I went to DSDI. When I came to DSDI, I did not feel good to stay there but when I got familiar with the people, those who were around me I felt at home. Gradually people became so close to me that I started talking with them, that's what made me to feel more at home.

DSDI is a social institution is in Phulnakhara, Bhubaneswar, Orissa. Fr. Ajit Baliar Singh is the director of DSDI, Fr. Radhelal is the assistant director, finance in charge and development director Fr. Alexis Nayak and staff members. As I was sent here, I had to work there with the Fathers and all the teachers and staffs for the development of the DSDI by reaching out to the poor people to bring them up and make them independent in their livelihood. I went with fathers to help the poor children in their education giving them study material for their study that was the great help on behalf of the

DSDI. There are six leprosy colonies in Bhubaneswar-Cuttack where I helped them in doing various things. That was the biggest challenge for me. There was also health care camp where I worked with the doctor and DSDI staff members in distributing medicine to the people. And I was also in charge of the Choudwar boy's hostel where higher secondary and graduate students are studying. The students were so obedient to me that they listened to my words without arguing and doing their own jobs. I really enjoyed with them staying together, playing, working, teaching them songs, games, dances, music etc. I contributed my time and energy to make the students learn or cultivate some qualities which will help them in their studies or study lives. Indeed it was a challenge for me but I enjoyed in every work. It was also a wonderful experience for me to do my ministry in that hostel. It was also a good experience to help the poor children in their studies. These are the works where I was much involved in doing my ministry. Besides this I was also helping in the cathedral for playing music, singing songs, taking initiative to do the readings etc.

Our life is so beautiful if we know how to enjoy. In our day today lives we may face challenges, difficulty and hardship and what is needed is to recognize our weaknesses and move forward without looking back. It is also very important to have passion, commitment and enthusiasm to work for the poor people.



- **Rinku Nayak ( 1<sup>st</sup> year of Theology)**