



# BHARAT KI JEEWAN

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## **The Priest needs the Priest**

I am very happy to share my experiences from the meeting of young brothers (Priests) that took place between April 24-26, 2023, in Puri, Odisha, at **Ishopanathi Ashram**.



We began our first day with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist presided over by **Father Umakant ss.cc.**, Coordinator of the Ongoing Formation Commission. He stressed in his homily that *"we are called to live our lives with an attitude of brotherhood and valuing our call to be children of the Sacred Hearts family."* Our meetings began with the welcoming words of **Father Ajith Kumar**, our Regional Superior, who told us that this meeting is not for "information", but that it was time to speak to oneself to strengthen

the other brother, to renew friendship, to bear witness to the presence of Christ, growing in the discipleship community with the quality of burning hearts, of disciples on the road to Emmaus encountering Christ in all situations of life.

For this reason, the brothers, having these basic attitudes among ourselves, made possible the climate of openness to share our life with other brothers (priests). We were able to share our joys, weaknesses, difficulties in entering the "Sacred Land" of enlightenment, openness, thought and mutual gratitude as a mutual gift. The resource person told us that: *"we need another brother priest to build the life of a priest as disciples, to grow in newness of life, to have a place for spiritual combat and a **sacrificial***



*tuning-in point* for our mission and spirituality." He ended the talk by saying that "a priest needs another priest to have the three "H" words, which are "Head, Heart and Hands" to work together."

"Gratitude is the song of noble souls", said San Alberto. Bearing this in mind, we brothers express our gratitude to our Provincial Government, the Regional Government, the OF Commission and the resource person for giving us time to meet and share our life with each other in order to renew ourselves.

By- Fr. Suraj Kumar Sonwani sscc

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### **EASTER DAY CELEBRATION**

It was a day to be joyful, happy and to dance as our Lord Jesus rose after defeating death, overcoming the power of evil. The day began with a cheerful smile on the faces of each Christian people. We also cherished this great event. This day brought more happiness to our life, because before two or three years the corona pandemic had brought more havoc, tension, worries, disappointments, sadness and terrible death in our world, now we were able to celebrate this holiday. We thank God for keeping us safe and healthy.

In the early morning when the sun came out, there was an energetic moment in each one of us, we were preparing to celebrate this Easter with more excitement. The Nayapally community joined the celebration at the **Maa Velankini Church**, a mass centre located in a place called Salisai. We had the chance to enjoy mass with our beloved Bishop **John Barwa SVD** who made this day more beautiful and meaningful. After the Mass we were welcomed by one of the families with our Bishop for breakfast. It was a kindness of the family that treated and fed us very well; we all appreciated their welcoming heart. Shortly after finishing our breakfast, we wished the family a good life and then said goodbye to our Bishop John Barwa, who was franker and more jovial at breakfast.

After saying goodbye to the bishop, we returned to our community in Nayapally. Then we were preparing to go to the next program in the community of the sisters. The program was better not because of the food but it was a day to celebrate the birthday of our sister **Griniya Joshi**. We started her birthday with prayer, spending time in the chapel and also to enjoy the Lord's Day. We pray for her, her family and her future ministry. After finishing our brief moments of prayer, we went to enjoy the food that was prepared for all of us. We all had enough food to fill our stomachs and soft drinks to quench our thirst. After finishing our lunch, we move on to the next program, to relax and spend time with brothers and sisters. It was a game organized by **Sr. Vandanana** called BINGO game. We all participated in this game, divided into seven groups made up of five or six members in each group. We all enjoyed this beautiful game that brought us closer for a while and connected us as a family; we all got different funny awards which made us laugh and say ha ha ha ..... What an interesting game!

After the game, the Nayapally community returned home to once again share Easter with our students. We had prepared a cake and coffee for the students. At the celebration we invited **Fr. Ajay Singh** to say something about Easter and also to talk about the student life as it should be. After saying a few words about Easter and about the student life, Fr. Ajith thanked everyone and wished them a bright future.

Now if we say that the picture was closed, the day was finished, then we would be wrong. The most important thing for us, as SSCC brothers, to enjoy the family spirit, was not yet over. It was done when our Fathers and Brothers from the **DSDI** and **Choudwar** community joined the celebration. We celebrated dinner and once again wished each other a joyful and happy Easter!

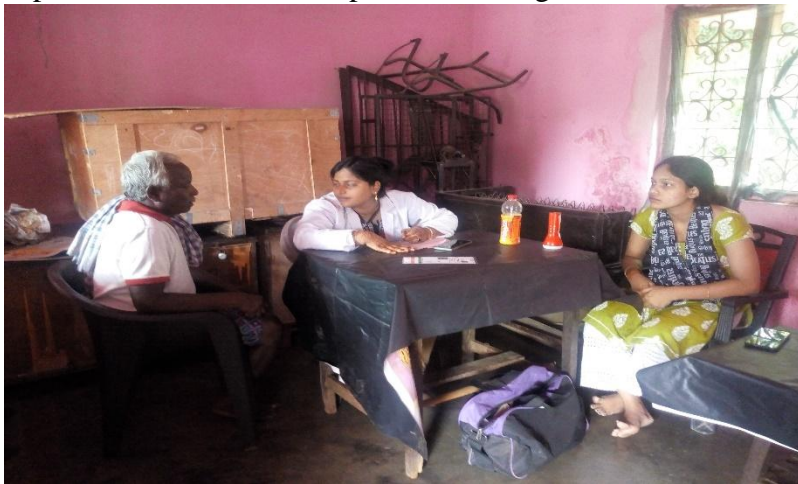
Bro. Dildhar Jatwar

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### **DSDI News –in- Brief**

### **Free Eye Treatment Camps**

A free eye treatment camp was organized by Damien Social Development Institute (DSDI) on April 25, 2023. The camp had been organized in Bondho Sahi - Haridaspur urban village, Ward



No. 4 in North Bhubaneswar in collaboration with Modern Eye Care and Super Specialty Clinic, Cuttack. The villagers are mostly uneducated or undereducated farmers and daily wage workers who, as they say, have no time to go to hospitals for their eye treatment although many of them who are above 40 years of age suffer from vision related issues. With information obtained from social service workers who work

in the grass-root level of these villagers, the free treatment camp had been organized bringing the eye care service to the door steps of the villagers.

A team of doctor, assistant and a coordinator of the program under-took the screening and testing of patients diagnosing the vision related issues. There were 30 patients who availed the eye testing and treatment service. 11 patients were diagnosed having cataract





issues and were taken to the hospital for surgery free of cost.

The free eye treatment camp was graced by the presence of Mrs. Suchitra Parida, IIC - a police officer in-charge of Pahalo Police Station. She expressed her delight being with us and with the patients. She expressed her gratitude for taking such an initiative and bringing the service to the



poor village people who are unable to go to the hospitals and avail the treatment. She also encouraged and requested us to carry out such camps in other urban villages of Ward No. 4 too.

Another free eye treatment camp was organized in Ramakrishnapalli Leprosy Colony, Bhubaneswar on April 26, 2023 by Damien Social Development Institute (DSDI) in collaboration with Modern Eye Care and Super Specialty Clinic, Cuttack.

A pre-awareness session was held with the leaders of the leprosy colony in order to make them aware of the importance of vision and caring for their eyes by treating issues related to their vision. For, many patients in the leprosy colonies are not aware of the eye related issues nor do they take good care of their eyes.

On the day of eye treatment camp, there were 20 patients who were screened and tested by a team of doctor, nurse and an assistant. Of the 20 patients, 7 patients underwent cataract surgeries free of cost.



By. Fr. Alexis Nayak ss.cc

### THANKSGIVING FOR FR. SUMIT



Our brother, Fr. Sumit, is preparing to leave for Rome on Tuesday 25th April to begin his studies in Scriptures. During this previous week we have had different celebrations to thank him for his service in the community of Dum Dum and in the church of St. Damien, throughout these 6 months that he has shared with us.

Last Thursday, April 20th, the communities of brothers from the Kolkata area gathered in Dum Dum to share a moment

of prayer, in which we carried out the tradition of imposing the Queen of Peace on Fr. Sumit, asking that she watch over him and accompany him in his new mission. We ended the celebration with a joyful fraternal dinner.

In addition, this Sunday, 23 April, we celebrated a Mass of thanksgiving in St. Damien Church, presided by Fr Sumit. The parishioners thanked him for his love and service during these months.

We wish our brother all the best in his new mission. Let us pray for him that this time of study will be enriching for his service as a religious and priest. May the Sacred Hearts be with him.



By- Bro. Juande ss.cc.



Youth gathering at ludru Parish



### **Fr. Philip in Philippines**



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The region of India thanked Fr. Felipe Lazcano Hamilton ss.cc for his service by carrying out various responsibilities. He helped the members of the region in various stages of their formation as SS.CC religious. The CAP (The Conference of Asian Pacific) appointed him as the novice master of an international novitiate in Philippines. Brothers from Kolkata area gathered to wish him all the best with prayer and dinner in dangadinghilla community for splendid spiritual journey in the novitiate.

We also thank Iberian province for sending him to the needs of the congregation. Once again thanks to Fr. Fefe

-Nahshon,ss.cc