



### Maiden Christmas at Dangadighila

The evening was very pleasantly unusual. The Sacred Hearts Seminary premise at Dangadighila, Kolkata, West Bengal, India was colourfully glittering with the resplendence of the beautifully and artistically decorated lights. The winter breeze of the evening was defused with the warmth, passion, enthusiasm and



excitement of the tiny taught of St. Damien Play School and that of the St. Damien Spoken English Coaching Centre. We all witnessed electrified moments on the 21st of December, 2019, when the children descended on the stage with their innocence and cuteness to set up a power packed cultural celebration to mark a maiden Christmas Celebration in the campus.

While the children made it a forum to manifest their talents and took it as an accession for entertainment, the Sacred Hearts Seminary and St. Damien Play School their own intention and agenda behind this celebration. This celebration was an opportune time



to reach out to our, a rather, unfriendly and hostile (for the want of words and language) neighbourhood with the power of contagious vibe and all-encompassing Christmas joy.

Fr. Felipe Lazcano Hamilton, SSCC., warmed everyone up with his Spanish and English-welcome- action-

song. In the welcome address and opening remark Fr. Tishwar Nayak, SSCC., explained to gathering, especially to the parents, the aim and purpose of the SSCC presence in the area. He emphasized on the collaboration of the parents and urged them to join their hand so as

to strengthen the educational ministry and other social outreach programmes the Congregation is envisioning in the area.

In the menu of the cultural events, from the very outset, we were served with a dance by the Play School children. They shook their legs, twisted their waists, lifted up their hands, swayed their body and jumped up to the melody track of 'jingle bells, jingle bells...' for the first time ever. It brought butterfly in the stomach of the parents and a lot of smile and laughter to the entire gathering. Brothers conducted numerous fun games which was coupled with amusing dance steps of the children and brothers. Fr. Balakrishna Singh,SSCC., the head of St. Damien Play School gave away the prizes to the children those who came victorious in various games that were conducted by the brothers. Followed by this the historical celebration was concluded with a pack of sweets and snacks.



- By Tisheshwar, SS.CC

## Annual Outing and Exposure

DSDI community had organized a four day annual outing and exposure program for our co-workers to Kolkata from January 3 – 6, 2020.

Our trip to Kolkata began with our train journey from Bhubaneswar on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2020 with lots of fun and joy. We had carried with us necessary food and snacks for the journey which we shared among ourselves as one family. We returned to Bhubaneswar with the same spirit on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020.



Our four days of outing and exposure took us to Our Lady of Bandel Shrine, Victoria Memorial Park, Science City, Eco Park, Belur Math and Daskhineswar Temple. These are all historical, scientific, recreational and cultural – religious sites. Hence, for our co-workers, our visits to these sites were recreational, historical, religious and cultural in nature.

As part of our outing and exposure, we also spent a half day being with the physically and mentally challenged persons, who are being cared by the Daughters of Charity Sisters in the Immaculate Conception Church, Serampore where our two Brothers Umakant and Arul serve. As persons working with DSDI ministries, our co-workers were very much

excited about interacting with these differently able persons and were grateful for having spent some moments with them.



DSDI community and our co-workers would like to thank our Brothers Umakant and Arul for making all the necessary arrangements for our local transportation, accommodation and food in the parish church in collaboration with the Daughters of Charity Sisters.

*By Alexis Nayak, ss.cc.*

## ECO-SPIRITUALITY IN PATNA

*“ But ask the animals, and they will teach you, the birds of the air, and they will tell you; ask the plants of the earth and they will teach; and fish of the sea will declare to you, who among all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? In his hands are the life of every living things and the breath of every human being.” (Job. 11:7-10)*

As the scripture gives beautiful explanation about the goodness of the Nature and the



creator, we, the second years of theology students from Morning Star College, went to Patna , Bihar, to have an experience of Eco-spirituality. We had good and enjoyable days in a place called *Taru - Mitra*.

In the first day of our classes we had an introduction about the place, the nature and the

Christian understanding of Eco- Spirituality. When we were studying about Eco-Theology, we understood the meaning of nature, and its benefits for human life? This Eco- Spiritually gave broader understanding of relationship between God and his creatures. What I realized is that God is able to speak, teach and provide food, oxygen, and all other necessities of human beings through our mother earth.

We know that the Lord is the creator of everything and he is exalted through nature. I personally experienced that God has authority over the whole creation, so we can run to him, when things around us begin to frighten us, when natural world terrifies us. We need to go to the supernatural God who alone can command the storms of our life, and the nature and they must obey. Through this course I came to know the importance of natural farming, planting and cultivating vegetables, fruits etc. As the book of Isaiah tell us “ *For you shall go out in and be led back in peace, the mountains and hills before you shall burst into song and the trees of the field shall clap their hands*”. This all are truly our experience of Eco-spirituality. Therefore, let us take the responsibility to take care of the environment, of the plants, trees so that our Eco-system will run well, so that all human beings could enjoy the beauty of the creation. We also visited many historical places. I thank the Lord for all these opportunities that he has given to us.



- By Suraj, SS.CC



## NEWS IN PICTURES



**Cardinal Patrick  
D'Rozario, Archbishop of  
Dhaka celebrating Mass  
in St. Damien of Molokai  
Parish, Kolkata**

**Local Superiors of  
the Region meeting  
in Kolkata**

