



2020

Half Yearly News Letter

# Diocese Of Jabalpur

Church Of North India
Jabalpur

# Is it Grown or

Covid 19 Challenge

To Church And Her Ministry







Hews Retter

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Thought

If you want to go quickly, go alone. If you want to go far, go together. -

African proverb

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Rev. Ipe Joseph

Dear Readers of the News Letter,

We are happy to reach you after a period of six months. This July-December issue is a double volume of our News Letter. Due to COVID-19 pandemic we were restricted from organizing people together to prepare materials and getting the News Letter printed on a regular schedule. We are sure that you will understand the limitations.

COVID-19 has brought us to a world order which we call the "new normal" situation. A new normal is a state of affairs to which an economy or society or even church settles down following a crisis. This situation will be much different from the earlier situation. A "new normal" situation demands from us new ways of going about in our lives and relating to others. The great challenge we are facing is to adjust our total life activities to the new normal brought about by the pandemic. The most affected area of human life due to the impact of the new normal is the "relationship" among people. The relationship between teachers and students, company executives and their staff, Pastors and Parishioners and even among the members of the same family have changed drastically. We do not yet know as to when these relationships will be restored to the original form!

Yet, in the midst of these limitations, as a Diocese, we were able to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of CNI and that of our own diocese. We have learned the efficiency of the media and virtual techniques as alternatives to coming together physically. We need to think of these virtual media facilities as God-given gifts.

The three Acts enacted by the Central government will take away from the farmers the agricultural market and make it a profit making source for the big companies. There is no mention of "Minimum Support Price" (MSP) anywhere in these three Acts. The essential commodities are no more protected. The farmers are smart enough to read this great danger and hence they are fighting for their life and justice. This struggle has to be supported by all who believe in dignity and freedom of life and the sanctity of agriculture which is the life stream of humanity.

In this issue, in addition to the Bishop's Messages, we have several articles and plenty of pictures as usual. Mahila Sabha Sing Song report and pictures, Savita Joseph's report about the distribution of kits by DWFCS, Role of Youth and Today's Church by I Thangadurai, Report of Satna Youth festival by Rev. S. Parve, Report of Workshop- on Counselling by Rev. Nilesh Singh and Rev Shubha, report of sesquicentennial celebration founders day 2020, CNI 50 years celebration, Silver Jubilee St Paul's Church Gokalpur. This issue has lots of pictures of the events which has made it more interesting and attractive.

Editorial Team Malcolm, Nikhil, Rev Bruce and Ipe wish all of you happy reading and pray for God's protection for you at this COVID times.

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# Bishop's Message



Most Rev. Dr. P C Singh Moderator CN1 and Bishop Diocese Of Jabalpur

Dearly Beloved in Jesus Christ,

Many things happened in the past six months. In the midst of the pandemic our Lord held our hands and guided us through the valley of the shadow of death, God's name be praised!

It was in March 2020 that we went into the struggle of the pandemic starting with the lockdown. We were shut in our homes unable to participate in our regular life activities, jobs and even worship services. As time passed we learned to live with the pandemic and observe the protocols strictly taking care of our safety and health. We became accustomed to the use of virtual strategies in attending our worship, office activities and other transactions of life. We do not know when this pandemic will end; but we are sure that "we shall overcome!".

Many things happened in the past six months. 27th September was CSI Day. The ecumenical miracle which was born in the year of our independence is completing 73 years of witness upholding Lord Jesus' dream as its motto, "That they all may be one". CSI is our sister Church and our partner in the "Communion of Churches in India". I requested all the churches of CNI to uphold the Moderator, other officers, 25 Dioceses and all mission activities in intercessory prayer on 27th September.

29th November was the date of the finale of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of CNI. Due to the pandemic big celebrations were postponed. Thanksgiving services were held all over CNI Churches. The Diocese of Jabalpur on 13th December 2020 celebrated its Golden Jubilee by conducting a thanksgiving Service at Christ Church Cathedral. Along with me the Rt. Rev. Bijay K. Nayak, Deputy Moderator, CNI, Synod and the Guest Speaker the Rt. Rev. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Bishop, Calcutta Diocese gave leadership in the thanksgiving service.

Rt. Rev. Paul Dupare, Bishop, Pune Diocese, Rt. Rev. P. K. Patole, Bishop, Bombay Diocese, Rt Rev B. B Baskey, Bishop, Chhotanagpur Diocese, Rt. Rev. M. U. Kasab, Bishop, Marathwada Diocese, Rt. Rev. Dr. Peter Baldev, Bishop Lucknow, Diocese, Rt. Rev. Sharad Gaikwad, Bishop, Nagpur Diocese, Rt. Rev. Manoj Charan, Bishop, Bhopal Diocese were also present.

We celebrated Christmas in a simple way this year. In my message I exhorted all members to rediscover the real meaning of Christmas and share the joy of Christmas with those who could not afford.

We are concerned about the Farmers' protest against the new acts promulgated by the Central government. These acts will take away whole of agricultural activities from the hands of the farmers and give them in the control of big companies. Let us hope that the government will open their eyes and respect the rights and livelihood of farmers.

We hope that we will be able to open our schools and other educational institutions without delay and resume regular classes. I wish you a new year of hope and challenges.

Most Rev. Dr. P. C. Singh





# INCARNATION: "The Word became a human being and full of grace and truth, lived among us"(John 1.14)

Greetings and Christmas wishes

I have selected the theme of incarnation this year because of specific reasons. God's incarnation happens in human crisis. God's compassionate heart feels pity on the helpless human situation and decides to descend in the midst of human beings to save them and redeem them. The key words related with incarnation are God's love and compassion for God's world, situations of darkness, sin and suffering in which the world is plunged into, God's decision of becoming a human being and live with God's people to save the world from these precarious conditions and restore them to glory. In the midst of this pandemic what we need most is Jesus Christ our Immanuel! Here we have Christmas again, the great event of "God coming to stay with us".

When we reflect on the first Christmas we can see that, the time of the birth of Jesus was full of suffering and oppression. The people of God were under the oppressive rule of the Romans. Augustus Caesar has already ordered creation of an Aadhaar identity for all people under Roman rule, probably to enhance Roman tax. The Priests and Pharisees used religion to oppress people with literal observances and rituals, even forgetting the kernel of the Mosaic Law of serving the Lord with all their heart, spirit and might and loving their neighbor as themselves. Almost for four hundred years, there were no prophets to guide them in the light of God. So, people were in darkness. Joseph travelled with his pregnant wife Mary in the dusty roads from Nazareth to Bethlehem, 100 miles, only to be rejected; "There is no room in the inn". In that cold night all they had was a manger for the baby to be born.

Similarly, the year 2020 was a period of crisis, suffering, death and depravity for people all over the world. COVID-19 overpowered the whole world. I looked at the statistics last week. All over the world 755 lakh were affected. 16 lakh

died. The first case in India was detected on 30th January 2020. Till last week I crore people were affected and out of that 1.45 lakh died. Corona virus may not go way for many more months. European countries are in the grip of the fear of a new wave of Corona virus. Due to the attack of Corona virus we were locked down for several months. COVOD-19 protocol put restrictions on our movements, social behaviour and people's gathering of all kinds . Religious worship services, and spiritual activities are the most affected sectors of our life . Now many countries are easing the COVID restrictions . There are several vaccines available now. However, their use is limited and their effectiveness is yet to be proved. Thus the whole world is in deep crisis. We are yearning for deliverance and healing. In this context the message of Christmas receives new significance. Incarnation becomes so real in our lives.

Christmas Brings God close and intimate to us. God with us means God enters into intimate relation with us. In the Old Testament, God was known only through the mediators like prophets and priests. No one ever saw God. In Jesus, God became accessible to us in a most familiar form. His disciples saw him, travelled with him, lived with him, ate with him and spread the message of the Kingdom with him. The same Jesus Christ is with us today and that is the good news.

We have a strong message here. All of us are suffering one way or other. Jesus has come to comfort us and strengthen us. As followers of Jesus Christ we have to play his role now. This Christmas season let us make a conscious effort to be with someone who is lonely, rejected, immobile or orphaned so that we will be the "presence of Jesus Christ – God with us"- for such persons. May be in our own family or even at the place of our work we can do this "God with us" service.

Incarnation gives dignity to human body. In fact, when Jesus took up the human body ,God sancti-





sanctified it and made it holy. Many people believe that physical matter is somehow inferior to the spiritual world. This leads such people to neglect their bodies and ignore the responsibilities and earthly duties. They seem to live only for the 'other world'. Let us not be misguided by such people. The holy God was willing to take up a physical body in the person of Jesus. It means that, for God, our physical body is sacred and he sent his son to redeem our physical body also.

What is the message for us here? Jesus took up our physical body and lived a sinless life. As followers of Jesus we must keep our body sinless by not indulging in sensuous life. Our body is the temple of God. So we do not have any right to violate the body of others in any way.

The incarnation means that God is willing to get involved in human affairs.

Listen to what Joyce Meyer says: God has a beautiful plan for your life. And He wants to lead you each step of the way. That is why one of the names of God, Emmanuel, means "God with us." God wants to be intimately involved in our lives. He wants us to know His voice and follow Him. In fact, He wanted to be with us so strongly that He sent His Son, a part of Himself, to physically walk the earth. That baby in the manger was God and He is still with us today. Father George Calciu says, "Christ did not come to explain human suffering or to eliminate it. Rather, He came to fill human suffering with His presence."

Here again, incarnation gives a strong message for his followers. If God wants to get involved in human lives, especially in human crisis, as workers of the Kingdom of God we cannot stay away from getting involved in all human situations and needs to resolve them and transform them. Incarnation is the highest expression of the sacrificial love of God. When we see problems like Corona pandemic in our communities, we shouldn't ignore them as the problems of other people. Christ took upon himself all the problems of the world including our sins and redeemed us.

As followers of Jesus Christ we need to be sensitive to the needs of the world around us and empathize with others and serve them. We need to cooperate with the community and the government to keep others and ourselves safe by observing all restrictions of COVID protocol.

### Many Blessings of Incarnation

It will be much comforting for us to list some of the many blessings of incarnation. Jesus is with us to strengthen us and uphold us in the middle of this great pandemic. He is with us in the midst of our brokenness and frustrations. He has come to heal and restore the broken hearted. "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised" (Luke 4:18). It is only through the death and suffering of a real human being that our sins will be atoned or covered for ever. This makes incarnation inevitable. The book of Leviticus(17.11) says that, "it is the blood that makes atonement". This blood was that of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is these blessings which keep our life going forward in the middle of this present crisis. These blessings are much more powerful than the pandemic which will go away after some time.

### Our Response to Incarnation

God is calling us to imitate Jesus Christ because in him we have a true model of human being. "For the love of Christ compels us...those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for him who died for them and rose again" (2 Cor. 5:14-15). True godliness is lived out in a mutually loving experience with God. This world now needs much godly actions from the faithful. It is time that we give up our lethargy, laziness and indifference and get involved in strengthening the world, healing it and transforming it.

Finally, let me reassure you. Do not be disheartened. Look up to the Baby in the manger. He is our Immanuel. He is our hope. He is with you always.





# **Greetings of New Year**

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope". Rom. 15.23

On the Christmas morning the theme for my message was Incarnation and its urgency in the present situation when the whole world is plunged into deep crisis due to the pandemic. Today, I have chosen an equally important theme namely, "A new year of Hope". However, I am unable to say anything about "hope" without reviewing the "hopeless" situation of our world today. We have seen how COVID-19 has become a devastating pandemic attacking the very fabric of our personal, family, educational, economic, social and religious life. Millions have become victims of the virus and many thousands lost their lives. The first round of the virus attack is not finished; but the second round has already started in Europe. This time the virus has undergone mutation and become several times more powerful. We have read last week that UK is the epicenter of the virus and all flights to that area were cancelled. We have to admit that our situation is very dark, cloudy and threatening all forms of life. Here I am standing before you speaking to you about "A New Year of Hope" in the midst of hopeless conditions. You have to believe that I am sharing the word of God with great conviction in what I am going to say. Generations have shown us that the world has survived all plagues and pandemics by sheer hope.

God promises and He fulfils the promises. Please allow me to repeat our key verse today which tells us about God's promise: "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope". Rom. 15.23. Our hope is based on the Promise of God, God's assurance, and God's accompaniment. "Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" Hebrew 11.1 "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the

Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God." 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Again Paul says: More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.( Rom.5.5)

We know that life is impossible without hope. Our hope for a better job, good house, good family, success in business, children placed in good positions and good health. Psychologists say that these goals and the activities to reach these goals and new dreams in our lives are the major components of hope. Hope and resilience are both stable, psychological traits that can act as protective factors against adverse situations. Studies have found that hope is positively correlated with life satisfaction and serves as a buffer against the impact of negatives. So it is always healthy to cultivate an attitude of optimism and hope in our everyday life. It is here that we are empowered by fasting, prayer, meditating on the word of God, caring for others and involving in activities of healing and transformation.

There is a direct relationship between hope and adverse situations in life. Imagine a beautiful picture drawn on a piece of canvas. The adverse situations in our life is the canvas on which God draws the beautiful picture of hope. Let me try to explain this with the help of two cases. Abraham was 100 years old and Sarah's womb was dry. The situation was adverse to bear a child. It was simply impossible. On that canvas of impossibility God draws a picture of the gift of a child to the old couple, Isaac. The other case is that of the people of Israel at the bank of Red Sea. The mighty army of the Pharaoh was behind





them to annihilate them. In front was the deep sea. The canvas was hopelessness and despair. God draws the picture of hope by dividing the sea in front of them. History of the faithful has shown that it is in adverse situations that God intervenes with the gift of Hope. So let us not be frightened and disheartened. God is drawing a beautiful picture of hope on this canvas of the pandemic.

In the 13th chapter of the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians Paul tells us that there are three things that last for ever. They are Faith, Hope and Love. Of these hope and faith are twin sisters. They always stay together. In the 11th chapter of Hebrews there is a long description of the many stories of people in whose lives these sisters worked together. By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death: "He could not be found, because God had taken him away." For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God. And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. Moses regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward. By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible. By faith he kept the Passover and the application of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel. By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. In all these cases we can see that it was the hope in God that motivated these people to act in faith.

Faith is the springboard which helps us to take this powerful leap. Only those who have strong faith in God can take this great leap into darkness. Such people have accomplished their lives. My dearly beloved people, in this New Year we are challenged to take this leap into the darkness. We are supported by the testimony of faith of many people who have taken the leap. They all were motivated by their simple faith affirmation of hope. "I do not know what the future holds for me. (it is dark and nothing could be seen) but I know who holds my future". May God Almighty prepare all of us to take this great leap of faith and hope in this New Year.

Most Rev. Dr. P. C. Singh









# WORKSHOP ON COUNSELING FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

The Lord gives strength to His people; the Lord blesses His people with peace. Palms 29:11

The Church of North India organized a three days Synod Level Workshop on 'Counselling for Mental Health and Wellbeing' for the Presbyters. The programme mainly focused on making the ordained ministers aware of it and equip them with skills and methods to derive personal strength as well as motivate his/her congregation members towards mental health which would impact the physical, social and economical wellbeing.

### DAY 1 (10th November, 2020)

The Workshop began with the Key note address by Rev. Shalish Dennis Lall, General Secretary, CNI Synod. He shared in his Key notes few points like Understanding Key concepts of Bible and Mental Health, Mental health in India and Response of the Church. Here he emphasized that the Church needs to integrate faith with the fabric of mental healthcare.

In the Opening Session, Rev. Shirley Lall, Director Programmes, CNI Synod welcomed all participants and shared the importance of this Workshop. She spoke on Life in its fullness: Holistic Health & Wellbeing. She started the session by asking question like "How are you?" The answer is Fine. But she said "behind this answer there are so many problems". Why do we talk about wellbeing? Wellbeing is: A state of being Healthy and Happy. Wellbeing life in fullness should be there especially in physical, emotional, mental, spiritual, economic work place and social & societal.

#### DAY 2 (11th November, 2020)

The second day started with Morning worship. The Bible reading was taken from Philippians 4:6-7 inspiring Reflections by various Dioceses, followed by the intercessory prayer, the worship ended with Lord's Prayer and Benediction. The Second Session of the day was taken by Rt. Rev.Manoj C. Charan Bishop of the Diocese of Bhopal on Physical Fitness and Mental Health. He shared the importance of Physical Fitness and Mental Health. He continued in sharing how we have to be fit in our body and mind.

The Third Session was taken by Rev. Dr. Vinita Eusebius, Principal, Girls' High School & College, Prayagraj. She discussed about Mental Health: Children, Adolescents and Youth. The term adolescence is derived from the latin word adolescere meaning, "grow up." The growing age of human beings from childhood to manhood or womanhood:

from 14 to 25 in males

from 12 to 21 in females.

What is Mental Health?

Mental health includes: Emotional, Psychological, and Social wellbeing.

It affects how we think, feel, and act. It also helps determine how we handle stress, relate to others, and make choices.

Mental Health is important at every stage of life, from childhood and adolescence through adulthood.

The Fourth Session was taken by Dr. Atmesh Kumar, Psychiatrist St. Stephen's Hospital, New Delhi on Identifying Mental Health Concerns.

#### What is mental illness?

He defined mental illness as an illness of the brain that causes disturbances in thinking, behaviour, energy or emotion that make it difficult to cope with the ordinary demands of life. He shared so many things with the examples, stating we need to understand the importance of mental health. We should be able to identify mental health problems of self & others.... to take appropriate measures to give answers to the questions.





# WORKSHOP ON COUNSELING FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

The Fifth Session was taken by Rev. Anita Christy, Director, Diocesan Counseling Centre, Diocese of Gujarat. She discussed on Mental Health and the Elderly.

She mainly highlighted about the Mental Health in Elderly:

- Maintain contact with family and friends
- Continue activities that have brought pleasure, but adjust for limitations.
- Deal with health issues by adapting and accepting
- Find comfort in memories of past and engage in activities in present.

### How to help?

- Build rapport
- Be genuine in relationship
- Remember they are person with mental illness
- Build trust by demonstrating care and concern.
- Assist when necessary
- Give them task they can do

### Biblical way to help

- Psalm 91 (to speak with individual name)
- Mirror therapy
- Praise therapy
- Talk therapy

#### How to counsel

There are 7 stages of counseling

- Rapport building
- Listening
- Responding
- Focusing on issues
- Goal setting
- Termination / Ending session
- Follow up

The Sixth Session was taken by Ms. Tamanna Ruth Edwards, Head of Psychology and innovation at mind piper, a Mental Health Organization. She discussed on Therapies/Skills to foster Mental Health and Wellbeing. She started with different Therapies and made us understand the situation with the solutions.

### DAY 3 (12th November, 2020)

The day started with the Moring worship. The Worship was led by various Dioceses taking part by giving the reflections. The worship ended with Lord's Prayer and Benediction.

The Seventh Session of the day was started by Dr. Priya John, General Secretary on Mental Health and Women. She discussed about various things on Mental Health and Women.

The Eighth Session was taken by Rev. Anita Christy, Director, Diocesan Counselling Centre, Diocese of Gujarat. She discussed on Emotional Wellbeing: dealing with Anxiety, Stress, Depression.

### Anxiety

Anxiety is an emotion characterized by feelings of tension, worried thoughts and physical changes like increased blood pressure. As the name suggests it has an unrealistic irrational fear.

#### The Remedy

- Praver
- Medicine
- Counseling
- Psychotherapy
- Positive thinking
- Mirror Therapy
- Relaxation Therapy

### Depression:

Depression is a common mental disorder that presents with depressed mood, loss of interest or pleasure, feelings of guilt or low self-worth, disturbed sleep or appetite, low energy, and poor concentration

#### Treatment:

Depression is treatable

Support

Scripture





# WORKSHOP ON COUNSELING FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Family Counseling Friends Prayers

How to come out of Depression biblical way

- · Search for God and call for God
- Prayer 1 Kings 19:11; Philippians 4: 2 Samuel 22:7
- In my distress I called to the Lord. Psalm 42:5
   Psalms 43:5.
- Hope in God Psalms 77:11, 12.
- Praise Therapy 100 Praises
- Thanksgiving to God.
- Paul & Silas praising God. Acts 16:5
- Jonah in Belly of whale prayed & promised God (Jonah 2:1)
- · Mirror Therapy
- Isaiah 41:15 Philippians 4:13
- · Relaxation Therapy
- Philippians 4:6-9 with Thanksgiving tell the Lord.
- Music King Saul.

The Ninth Session was taken by Rev. Shirley Lall, Director Programmes, CNI Synod on 'Aam Nuskhe, Khas Jeevan ke iye'

The Tenth Session was taken by Dr. Atmesh Kumar, Psychiatrist St. Stephen's Hospital, New Delhi on Dealing with Sickness and Bereavement. The Eleventh Session was taken by Ms. Tamanna Ruth Edwards, Head of Psychology and innovation at mind piper, a Mental Health Organization. She discussed on Therapies/Skills to foster Mental Health and Wellbeing. She started with different Therapies again and made us understand the situation with the solutions. She also gave some tasks to identify and find the solution.

The vote of thanks was offered by Ms. Angel Masih.

After the sessions, The Most Rev. Dr. P. C. Singh

Moderator, CNI Synod has addressed the distinguished Guests and the Participants regarding Envisioning a Better Future.

The workshop ended with closing prayer, Lord's Prayer and benediction by The Most Rev. Dr. P. C. Singh,

We would like to Thank our Moderator, The Most Rev. Dr. P. C. Singh, our Diocesan Secretary Rev. Bruce Thangadurai for giving us this opportunity to be part of this three days workshop on 'Counselling for Mental Health and Wellbeing'.

We would like to thank Rev. Mrs. Shirley Lall for these three days Workshop on 'Counseling for Mental Health and Wellbeing' making lively sessions with various resource persons. We would also like to thank them for providing us the materials which were presented in the sessions, which will help us to do our ministry more effectively.

We learnt so many things in this workshop, to motivate the congregation members towards mental health which would impact the Physical, Social and economical wellbeing.

We would like to thank God Almighty for His continual guidance in our lives.

Rev. Subha Venkataram Rev. Suhendra Nilesh Singh



















# Sesquicentennial Celebration Founders Day 2020

1st November 2020 was an historical day in the life of both the Schools Christ Church Boys' Senior Secondary School and Christ Church Girls' Senior Secondary School as both the schools celebrated 150 years of its Glorious existence the chief guest of this occasion was The Most Rev Dr P.C. Singh, Moderator Church of North India, Synod and the speaker for this occasion was Rev. S Dennis Lall, General Secretary Church of North India

The Christ Church Cathedral, geared up for the Founder's Day commemoration Service jointly organized by the Christ Church Boys' Senior Secondary School and Christ Church Girls' Senior Secondary School. This traditional of Thanksgiving Service was started in 1892 remembering our Founder and all those who have contributed to the development and progress of both the institutions.

The procession of the flag bearing Captains and House Captains of both the schools to the Chancel was followed by an hour long service. The Bible Lessons were read out by the Principal of the Girls' School, Mrs. P. Thangadurai and the Principal of the Boys' School, Mrs. L. M. Sathe. The Founder's Day message was delivered by the Rev. S Dennis Lall, General Secretary Church of North India. He advised the students to be committed and persevering in their actions.

A 'Collect' remembering the Founders, former Chairman, Secretaries. Headmasters, Headmistresses Teachers and Old Students was read out by the Presbyter, the Rev. B. Thangadurai. The Cathedral echoed with the Processional Hymn Lead us Heavenly Father followed by the School Hymn. "We Thank Thee Now Our Father O Son of Man... and other hymns which were rendered melodiously by the congregation.

On this occasion a plaque was dedicated in the Church by The Most Rev Dr P.C. Singh, Moderator Church of North India, Synod. signifying the contribution of the schools in the society. A memento from both the Schools were presented to The Most Rev Dr P. C. Singh, Moderator Church of North India, Synod, First lady of the Synod and the Manager of Christ Church Girls' Senior Secondary School Mrs. Nora Singh, the Guest speaker Rev. S Dennis Lall and to Mr. Suresh C Jacob the Manager of the Christ Church Boys' School.

A Special song was also rendered by the staff of both the Schools which was composed by Ms. Shristi Sathe and written by Mrs. L. M. Sathe, Principal of Christ Church Boys' School.

After the Commemoration Service, the Members of the Management Staff, and Prefect Councils of both the schools assembled in front of the Christ Church Boys' School Principals office to unveil an obelisk.

This obelisk was unveiled by The Most Rev Dr P.C. Singh, Moderator Church of North India, Synod in the presence of Rev. S Dennis Lall, General Secretary Church of North India, Principals of all the Schools under the Board Of Education Church of North India, Jabalpur Diocese ,local Pastors and the staff of both the Schools.

It was a time for all of us to thank the Almighty God for all the Blessings which we have received by which our school has flourished and blossomed to reach new heights. We pray that the blessing of Lord Almighty may continue to be there in both these schools in the years to come.





# करोनाकाल में ग्रामीण कलीसियाओं के मध्य सेवा

याकुब के पत्र में वर्णित पद है कि कर्म बिना विश्वास अधूरा है । यदि हम विश्वासी हैं तो अपने विश्वास को कार्यों में परिणीत करना आवश्यक है । मसीही महिला सेवा संगति जबलपुर डायोसिस ने माननीय मॉडरेटर दि मोस्ट रेव्ह, डॉ. पी.सी. सिंह एवं सिनोड की प्रथम महिला श्रीमती नोरा सिंह के नेतृत्व में करोना काल में ग्रामीण कलीसियाओं की सुधि लेने हेतु अभियान के तहत जबलपुर डायोसिस के ग्रामीण क्षेत्र जो मण्डला जिले के आदिवासी एवं दूरस्थ व दुर्गम स्थानों में हैं, का भ्रमण किया गया तथा रोजगार खो चुके व बड़े शहरों से पलायन कर गांवों में पहुंचे लोगों को खाद्य सामग्री वितरित करने का बीड़ा उठाया ।

इस श्रृंखला में दिनांक 27/07/2020 को जबलपुर उायोसिस की महिला सेवा संगति की महिलाओं ने एक ट्रक सामग्री और पासवनों को साथ लेकर पादरी पटपरा के सेन्ट ल्यूक चर्च इन विल्डरनेस को कूच किया, वहाँ पर पहुँचकर प्रत्येक ग्रामीण परिवारों को राशन की सन्पूर्ण किट प्रदान की तथा इस किट में चांवल, आटा, शक्कर, चायपत्ती, साबुन, तेल का पैकेट और विकास आशा केन्द्र के द्वारा बनाये गये मास्क, चादरें एवं उनके द्वारा उपलब्ध कराये गये सेनेटाईजर उन्हें प्रदान किये गये । हमारा काफिला वहीं पर मानादेही महाराजपुर के लोगों को भी उनके पासवान के माध्यम से सभी कलीसियाई परिवारों को किट प्रदान की गई ।

सभी लोग काफिले के साथ रतनपुर और देवरी परसाटोला तथा सेन्ट स्टीफन चर्च अमरपाटन जिला सतना में भी यह किट वितरित की गई । इस कार्य में रेव्ह, अजय उमेरा जेम्ल, रेव्ह, ब्रुस थंगादुराई, रेव्ह, शुभ, श्रीमती पूनन डेनियल, श्रीमती सविता जोसफ, श्रीमती प्रेरणा जॉली शाह, श्रीमती मोनिका रूबिन व यूथ अध्यक्ष श्री पीयूष पॉल सिंह व उनके साथियों ने विशेष योगदान प्रदान कर इस कार्य को सफल बनाया । आप सभी को इस सराहनीय कार्य के लिये में धन्यवाद देती हूँ ।









### Isaac A. Thangadurai

# The Role of Youth in Today's Church

Today's youth play an important role in the growth of the Church, the body of Christ. Teaching young people in the church to grow in their relationship with the Lord prepares them to serve Christ in all they do. As a result, this nurtures the congregation and allows the church to flourish.

Serving young people cannot only prepare them to become future leaders, but also allow them to contribute to the church. This is seen many times in the Bible, as God often used young people to do great things.

1 Timothy 4:12 says, "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity."

Youth is the backbone of the church and its congregation who has always played a vital role in the upliftment of the community, as a majority of the population of our society comprise of youth. Our church youth fellowship is said to have come into existence somewhere in the 1980' and thereafter has flourished to what we witness today as the Christ Church Youth Fellowship.

In the 21st century, with the whole world going digital and reaching great heights through technological advancement, it is our youth who have helped us keep pace with this fastmoving world through their knowledge and skill and helped us stay connected with the body of Christ especially when our nation was under lock-down due to COVID-19 pandemic.Regular online church services were possible due to the efforts of our youth who came forward to render their technological knowledge and help even during these trying times.

Our church youth fellowship is full of young talents. Be it sports, be it sharing the word of the Lord or be it singing for his glory. We have budding instrumentalists and singers who have used these gifts of talent for God's glory. We had recently conducted intra church badminton competition in which our youth excelled. We also had participated in a series of song competitions during Christmas time and won many trophies and prizes in all the events we took part in.

The youth this time decorated the church for Christmas in a way never done before. The handmade decorations were full of lights this year which made our already beautiful church look extraordinary. All of this was possible just because of our youth who put their heart and soul to make our church look breath-taking.

This year, due to the COVID-19 regulations we could not have our Carol rounds as we used to always have, but still, we overcame this hurdle by coming up with an innovative idea of conducting virtual carol rounds. This was set up by our youth and with the cooperation of our pastors i.e. Rev. Bruce Thangadurai and Rev. Subha Venkatram Gadi it was made possible. The Parishioners could not only see the choir singing carols but could also interact with them just as they would during normal carol rounds.

Just as the Youth of our Church had contributed during these difficult times through their active participation and wholehearted efforts, I'm sure Youth all around the world have done the same and played their part in the functioning of their church. Generations may come and go but the role of the Youth in serving God and His people will continue and they will always remain a witness to His glory.







St. Mary C. N. I. Church Satna Youth Fest









### 50 YEARS OF JOURNEY OF UNITY, WITNESS AND SERVICE

The Church of North India was inaugurated in the ceremony of Unification of Ministries and inauguration of Union on 29th November, 1970 in Nagpur according to the plan of Church Union in India and Pakistan – 1965.

Six Churches of diverse traditions namely,

- The Council of Baptist Churches in Northern India
- 2. The Church of Brethren in India
- 3. The Disciples of Christ
- 4. The Church of India
- The Methodist Church (British and Australasian Conference)
- 6. The United Church of Northern India.

Thus they were unified into one Church, which is known as the Church of North India on November 29, 1970 in Nagpur.

The Church of North India is

A United and Uniting Church

A Witnessing Church

An Ecumenical Church

A Worshiping Church

An Episcopal, Presbyterian, and Congregational Church

A majority of Dalit and Tribal membership

A Post-denominational Church

A Growing Church

A Royal Priesthood of all believers.

The Objects and Purposes of CNI are - To proclaim by word and deed the gospel of Jesus Christ, who is the Lord and Master of the Church.

After a great blessed journey of 50 years of UNITY, WITNES & SERVICE CNI now entered into the finale of the celebrations. The inaugural celebration was held at All Saints Cathedral, Nagpur on 27th 28th & 29th November 2019 with the participation of all 27 Dioceses.

2020 was a very challenging year for all of us as we experienced many difficulties due to the pandemic (COVID 19). Novel Corona Virus changed the entire atmosphere of our life. On the 29th November, 2020 CNI Golden Jubilee Celebration has given space to all Dioceses and Churches to celebrate the Jubilee celebration in their own respective places by organizing thanksgiving services for all God's blessings and His faithfulness towards the Church of North India.

We the members of the Diocese of Jabalpur were privileged to celebrate through a Service of Thanksgiving at Christ Church Cathedral on 29th November 2020 at 10:30 am.

The theme of our Service was to give thanks to God for His gift of hope through this difficult year, and His faithfulness through fifty years of our journey together as the Church of North India.

The following was the order of Thanksgiving Worship

Before we began the Service, we all stood in silence for two minutes to pay homage and to honor all who gave their lives while serving those infected by Novel Covid-19 virus, and those who died due to infection and for the bereaved.

We commenced our worship by singing Hindi song "Aaj ka din yohova ne banaya he"

- The collect for the CNI Day said by: Mrs. Nora Singh
- · The Ministry of the Word
- The Old Testament Reading by: Mrs. Poonam Daniel
- The Responsive Reading from the Psalms by: Mr. Piyush Paul Singh
- The New Testament Reading by: Mr. Clemence James
- The Gospel Reading by: Rev. Ajay Umesh James
- · Special song by the Diocesan Choir:
- The Sermon by: The Most Rev. Dr. P. C. Singh Moderator, CNI Synod, Bishop Diocese of Jabalpur. (Summary of the sermon is given below)
- The intercession: Prayers for the World and the Church

Mr. Neeraj David, Rev. S. Nilesh Singh, Mrs.





### 50 YEARS OF JOURNEY OF UNITY, WITNESS AND SERVICE

Preeti Thangadurai, Mrs. Jasmine Gee, Mrs. Ekta Peters, Rev. Rahul Rohan Kumar, Mrs. L. M. Sathe, Rev. Daniel Nath, Mr. Atul A. Abraham, Mr. Shitij Jacob, Ms. Neeta Jacob, and Dn. Ashwani Massey.

- Remembering the inauguration of the Church of North India by: Mr. Suresh C. Jacob
- · Ministry of the Sacrament
- · The Holy Communion
- Our Commitment to God's Church by: The Most Rev. Dr. P. C. Singh
- Blessing was pronounced by The Most Rev. Dr. P. C. Singh

After which The Doxology sung by all.

- . The closing Hymn: O God our help in ages past
- · The closing Prayer
- · The Parting salutations

### The Golden Jubilee Message

The message on this occasion of Golden Jubilee celebration was brought by The Most Rev. Dr. P. C. Singh Moderator, CNI Synod, and Bishop Diocese of Jabalpur.

He said that the Golden Jubilee Celebrations were not cancelled but postponed to next year, 2021 when this pandemic will allow us to celebrate and enjoy and faithfulness of 50 years united and uniting journey. Due to the COVID protocol we were not able to gather to celebrate. On this occasion of golden jubilee celebration Bishop said, "I would like to congratulate all the 22 lakhs members of CNI covering 26 states and 27 Dioceses". The following were the main points of Bishop's message:

Theme: Envisioning the future of CNI

First of all we have to refresh our memory in thanksgiving to God who has led us all these 50 years. We thank God our Lord Jesus Christ who gave us the call for Unity through His high Priestly prayer, "that they may be one". We thank God the Father who gave the Church leaders who gave us the spirit of Unity. We thank him for those Church leaders who participated in the union consultation and round table conference

starting from 1929. We praise God's holy name for those pioneers who were the members of the negotiating committee constituted in 1951 through 1965. We thank God for bringing together the six denominations from different traditions to come together as one Church in unity of Christ's love. We praise God for enabling us to have the inaugural celebration of Golden Jubilee in a large way in Nagpur last year 29th November 2019. Now it is time to look up to God to grant us newer visions for the long term of another 50 years and a short term for another years. Those priorities will certainly we founded on the word of God as well as responding to the challenges of our time. I wish to list some of them.

### 1. Refining our mission statement.

The Mission Statement of CNI is - The Church of North India as a United and Uniting together is committed to announce the Good News of the reign of God inaugurated through death and resurrection of Jesus Christ in proclamation and to demonstrate in actions to restore the integrity of God's creation through continuous struggle against the demonic powers by breaking down the barriers of caste, class, gender, economic inequality and exploitation of the nature.

We need a revise a new vision a mission restatement. We need to include newer things because the times have changed. The only mission statement should be relevant for another fifty years and it should be include themes like the post Covid challenges and virtual Churches. We need to appoint a group of experts from all the field of articulation a Mission statement.

### 2. Revising the priorities of our Church

We know that our Mission priorities were articulated only the period of 2011 – 2020 we are crossing the time limit

Our mission present priorities are

- Evangelism and spiritual revival
- Congregational renewal
- Restructuring the structure
- Education liberation and social inclusion





### 50 YEARS OF JOURNEY OF UNITY, WITNESS AND SERVICE

- Building communities of healing reconciliation
- Protection of life and livelihood for the fullness of life

These priorities were also well written however their content needs to be revised.

New priorities like making use of our digital blessings, Virtual spirituality Coping with the pandemics, and reconstruction Church communities also need to be included. For the purpose of revising the old priorities and introducing new priorities in the Diocesan level, Synod level workshop will be an effective method.

3. Extension of the governance at all level:

All our Churches and organizations have enough rules in our constitution and rule books. They are to be observed with full compliance. Many Churches and Dioceses have a problem because they do not follow the rules and regulations. Transparency and accountability are two key words of effective Governance. The capacity building of people is another important agenda we need to take up. Training in the capacity building, human priorities and potentials can be developed to their maximum. We have to make conscious efforts to include the Youth, Women, Dalits Tribal as well as all the church workers within the category of capacity building. Self reliance in economy and human resources are necessary for the Church today. Due to various reasons economic and human support from our partners abroad are diminishing day by day. We have to be self reliant and self supportive. We have enough human resources. All we need is to develop them through capacity building. If all our members contribute their might we will be able to support our Churches. We can build up income generating projects with our own resources. I can go like this. I need to stop somewhere.

What the Church of North India needs is Spiritual Renewal.

People say that any organization or movement, if not renewed within a spare of after 40 years of this existence will perish. We have crossed that time. Renewal can come only when we rediscover the word of God. All should go back to the regular habit of reading and studying the Bible. All should start the habit of going on knees repenting fasting and praying. God is Lord of listening. So be encouraged believing that all things happen with God's knowledge and God's plan. We do not ask God questions about the pandemic Covid-19. All we want is His protection at this difficult time. We know that he is with us holding our hand.

Finally, Friends, the Christmas is coming soon.

This year the Christmas is going to be much different from the many Christmas seasons we have celebrated in the past. Due to limitations imposed by the pandemic we will have to observe Christmas in a limited way in the way. Yet, we will have to make a decision to revisit the basics of Christmas. That is remembering the humility of Mighty God in becoming humble human being. There are other basics which are the Joy and Peace which Angel brought to us. No Corona virus can take them away from our hearts and homes. I wish you all a blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year. 2021 will be filled with lots of hopes and blessings, lots of challenges and lots of the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, May the Almighty God Bless us, May the Almighty God use us, so we will become a true diokonia for the Church of North India and

Let us attempt great things for God, and in hope expect great things from God.

community at large.

May God Bless us and use us for His Glory. Amen.

Even though, we gathered in the midst of COVID restrictions - most of us virtually - the Golden Jubilee Thanksgiving Service has left in our hearts an ever shining golden experience. We are ever thankful to God.







### 7TH GROUP SING SONG COMPETITION

The Annual Group Sing Song Competitions of Jabalpur Diocese CNI, started seven years ago with the vision and initiative of Mrs. Nora Singh, as President DWFC and first lady of the Diocese, as an occasion filled with enthralling music, enabling the coming together of churches of several denominations for praise and worship through singing.

The ongoing epidemic has cast a shadow on this year's activities with a limit on numbers and attention to social distancing. In keeping with such precautions, the DWFC restricted the event to churches of the Diocese and the Christ Church institutions.

The 7thGroup Sing Song Competition, with the theme of 'Christmas Celebration', was held on 6th December 2020 at the Mary George Hall of Christ Church Girls' Sr. Sec. School, Jabalpur. The occasion was graced by the presence of our Moderator The Most Reverend Dr. P.C.Singh.

The function commenced with Praise and Worship by the Diocesan Youth Choir, and the Opening Prayer by Rev Ajay Umesh James.

The Most Rev Dr. P. C. Singh was invited to initiate the Lamp Lighting Ceremony. The esteemed Judges for the event, Mr Rajan Meshram and Mrs Monica Stanley Rao, were invited next, followed by the Pastors, the Heads of Institutions, Presidents of Women's Fellowship of the churches, and executive members of the DWFC. Thereafter all the members present participated in the lighting of the lamps.

This was followed by a beautifully synchronized Welcome / Prayer dance performed by the teachers of our schools.

The stage was now set for "The Group Sing Song Competition". The event witnessed enthusiastic participation of four of our local churches and six of our institutions. Soon the air was filled with the melodious voices of singers and great performances followed one after the other, completely mesmerizing the audience. The competition was clearly very tough and the task of the judges very difficult.

This was followed by 'Jhalkiyan', in the form of skits on the theme of Christmas. All the four churches enacted the nativity play transporting the audience to another place and time.

Fancy Dress came next, followed by Fashion Show. These events brought variety and beauty to the occasion and were enjoyed by all. And then came the declaration of results. With beating hearts and bated breaths the audience waited to hear the results. Finally the names of the winners were declared amid much rejoicing by the winning team and cheering by the audience.

This was followed by a 'Vote of Thanks' given by Mrs. Nora Singh, the 1st Lady of Synod, CNI and the Diocese of Jabalpur.

The event concluded with a closing prayer by Rev. Bruce Thangadurai and Benediction by The Most Reverend Dr. P. C. Singh.

It was a very enjoyable evening conducted successfully through the teamwork of the DWFC, supported by keen interest and lively participation, and an appreciative audience.

The Group Sing Song Competition is a much awaited annual event and continues to carry forward the vision of praise and worship through singing.











# JOURNEY OF FAITH OF FIFTY YEARS OF JABALPUR DIOCESE, CNI

Any journey takes lots of time and does not often guarantee 100 % success. But when we look at the Diocese of Jabalpur we will find that this Diocese is a Diocese with a difference which has grown in heaps and bounds and which has progressed day by day. Though there were times when this Diocese had a tough time when part of the Diocese were bifurcated from Chhattisgarh and the Diocese area became very limited but the blessings of the Lord Almighty and the support and love of the people along with the able and visionary Bishop Most Rev Dr P. C. Singh our Diocese has been able to grow and flourish as one of the most vibrant and outstanding Diocese of the Church of North India. The success story of the Diocese of Jabalpur is not hidden from any one.

JOURNEY OF THE EARLY DAYS

Prior to the inauguration of the Church of North India a Diocesan Consultative Committee was appointed by the Inaugural Committee of the Church of North India on Saturday the 6th September 1970. The task of the Diocesan Consultative Committee was to carve out a new diocese. In its first historical meeting held on 24th September 1970 the Committee worked out as too how to unite the four namely the Chhattisgarh and Orissa Church Council of the United Church of Northern India, the Nagpur Diocesan Council of the Church of India, Pakistan, Burma and Ceylon, Nagpur Church Council (Seoni Section) of the United Church of Northern India and the Convention of Churches of the Disciples of Christ existing in the area as proposed to become the Diocese of Jabalpur of the Church of North India. After the inauguration of CNI on 29th November 1970 at Nagpur the task to constitute the new diocese of Jabalpur was intensified and the Consultative Committee met several times under the able leadership of Bishop S. K. Patro, who was installed the first Bishop of Jabalpur Diocese in an impressive service held in the Cathedral Church of Christ, Jabalpur on Sunday December 13, 1970. On the same day 40 ordained ministers representing four different traditions were unified into one ministry of the one united church. Thus a new Diocese was born and constituted.

The Diocese of Jabalpur on 13th December 2020 celebrated its Golden Jubilee by conducting a thanksgiving Service at Christ Church Cathedral. The Chief Guest was The Most Rev. Dr. P. C Singh, Moderator CNI Synod & The Bishop, Jabalpur Diocese, Guest of honour was The Rt. Rev. Bijay K. Nayak, Deputy Moderator, CNI, Synod and the Guest Speaker was The Rt. Rev. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Bishop, Calcutta Diocese.

Along with them we also had the following Bishops of CNI, Rt. Rev. Paul Dupare, Bishop, Pune Diocese, Rt. Rev. P. K. Patole, Bishop, Bombay Diocese, Rt Rev B. B Baskey, Bishop, Chhotanagpur Diocese, Rt. Rev. M. U. Kasab, Bishop, Marathwada Diocese, Rt. Rev. Dr. Peter Baldev, Bishop Lucknow, Diocese, Rt. Rev. Sharad Gaikwad, Bishop, Nagpur Diocese, Rt. Rev. Manoj Charan, Bishop, Bhopal Diocese.

On this occasion The Moderator of CNI Synod and the Bishop of the Diocese of Jabalpur The Most Rev Dr P.C.Singh dedicated an obelisk in the Jabalpur Diocese office which is a Hexagonal structure on which the names of the Six churches which united as one Church of North India in 1970 is written.

A thanksgiving service was held at Christ Church Cathedral, CNI, Jabalpur in which all the Bishop along with the members of the Diocese of Jabalpur gave thanks for the blessings bestowed on Diocese. In this thanksgiving service a 200 page Souvenir was released by The Most Rev Dr P.C.Singh & The Rt. Rev. Bijay K. Nayak, Deputy Moderator along with all the Bishops. This Souvenir has the complete history of all the Churches, Institution, Social organization and Hostels under the diocese of Jabalpur. Along with this a Diocese calendar and a Hymn Book for the



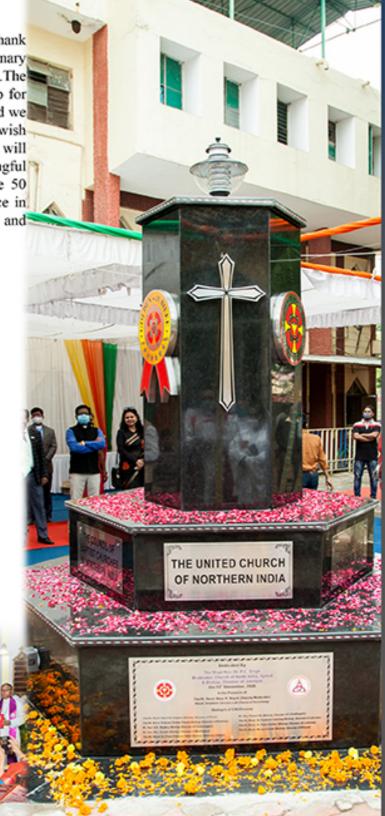


# JOURNEY OF FAITH OF FIFTY YEARS OF JABALPUR DIOCESE, CNI

Diocese of Jabalpur.

As members of the Diocese of Jabalpur we thank God for giving us such a vibrant and visionary Bishop who has really motivated all of us. The farsightedness and the vision of our Bishop for the Diocese of Jabalpur is commendable and we all are proud to have a Bishop like him. We wish and pray that this celebration of the Diocese will be a time of great significance and a meaningful opportunity to give thanks to God for the 50 years journey of Unity, Witness and Service in the Diocese of Jabalpur. May God bless and continue to lead and guide our Diocese.

Rev Bruce Thangadurai Secretary, Diocese of Jabalpur





Church Of North India





# सेंट पॉल्सचर्च सी एन आई गोकलपुरजबलपुर रजत जयंती उत्सव

सेंट पॉल्सचर्चगोकलपुर का आरंभ माननीय पासवानस्वर्गीय रेव्ह. डॉ. बैन्जमीनरुबिन और उनके सहयोगियों के प्रयास से रांझिक्षेत्र मे हुआ है। इस कलीसिया ने बहुत से उतार चढ़ाव के साथ आज के स्वरूप को प्राप्त किया है। दिनांक 25 दिसंबर 2020 को इस कलीसिया ने अपने गौरवशाली 25 के सफर को पूर्ण किया है।

इस विशेष अवसर को माननीय मॉडरेटर दी मोस्ट पी. सी. सिंग एवं सिनोडकी प्रथम महिला माननीय श्रीमती नौरासिंग की उपस्थिति ने दिनांक 27/12/2020 को अति गरिमामय बनाया है। सेंट पॉल्सचर्चगोकलपरधन्यवादित जबलपुरडाईसिस के उपाध्यक्ष रेव्ह. अजय उमेश जेम्स, सचिव रेव्ह. ब्रूसथगादुरई, रेव्ह. एस. नीलेशसिंग, रेव्ह. पी. डेविड,रेव्ह. वेंकटरामगडी, अश्विनी कलीसिया व गणमान्य सदस्यों का जिन्होने अपनी उपस्तिथि के दवारा इस कार्यक्रम को और कलीसियाकी गौरवमय यात्रा के 25 वर्ष के गवाह बनने के लिए। इस अवसर पर मॉडरेटर साहब के शिलालेख का अनावरण भी किया गया। डस रजत जयंती पर्व मेकलीसिया के सभी सदस्यों का योगदान महत्वपूर्ण रहा।

रेव्ह. राहुल रोहन कुमार प्रेसबिटरइंचार्ज .सेंट. पॉल्सचर्च, सी. एन. आई गोकलपुर







The Circle represents the symbol of eternity and never ending existence. It also symbolizes heaven because of its perfect symmetry and its unvarying balance.

The circle is Yellow in colour in which the whole badge is enclosed and is a symbol of happiness, hope, optimism, as well as creativity.

Olive Branch in the outer circle is a symbol of peace to the World.

God is the head and centre of all plans, and the Mitre symbolizes that the Bishop is the leader of the Diocese and he has to lead the diocese with two things, the Word of God which symbolizes the Cross and the Crozier which symbolizes the pastoral care.

Cross, the principal symbol of Christ, recalling the suffering, sacrifice Crucifixion of Jesus Christ and the redeeming benefits of His Passion and Death.

A Crozier is a Bishop's pastoral staff and it is a sign of nurturing and leading keeping a watch over his whole flock, sustaining the weak and faltering, confirming the wavering faith, and leading back the erring ones into the true fold.

Lotus is the National Flower of India which helps us to be indigenous. The lotus is also the symbol of purity rising in all its own pure beauty out of mud beneath the water. It also symbolizes (Soul) in the Indian culture.

The Chalice symbolizes that worship and sacrament are at the centre of Christian living. God must be the centre of our lives.

The sign of the Alpha and the Omega, meaning Christ existed before anything else and will exist after all else ceases. He is the first and the last the beginning and the end.

The symbol of Trinity symbolizes God the Father is our protector, God the Son is the Saviour of mankind, and God the Holy Spirit is the Preserver of the church. The colour of the Trinity symbolizes the following: Red stands for the Holy Spirit to whom we must still look for guidance and the Blood that was shared on the Cross. Green which is a symbol of hope and perseverance. Purple is the colour associated with royalty and celebrates Christ's resurrection and sovereignty.

