

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF WEST BENGAL

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2026

Message

On 29 August 2026, the leader of RSS Mr. Mohan Bhagwat spoke at New York Madison square garden audience that India's destiny is to demonstrate to the world that unity and diversity can coexist propagating an exclusionary vision. His speech has drawn lot of criticism among many leaders of India. One of the MP said "hypocrisy and duplicitousness, speaks of Mr. Bhagwat faith harmony in a country that protects individual freedom and embraces pluralism while RSS and BJP were: dismantling liberal democracy and crushing individual freedom in India. Churches are burnt and Christians are persecuted.

The leader of the Christian faith Lord Jesus said in John 17 that they all may be one. In John 10:10 Jesus says I have come that they may have life and that they may have it more abundantly. The arms of Jesus are open for all. Whoever accepts him as Lord and savior, Jesus embraces them.

-The Rt. Revd. Dr. Probal Kanto Dutta



Teacher's Day celebrated

Teacher's day is celebrated annually on September 5 in India to commemorate the birthday of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, the country's first Vice President and former President scholar philosopher and Bharat Ratna awardee, who was born on this day in 1888. When Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan assumed office as the second



President of India in 1962, his students approached him to seek permission to celebrate September 5 as a special day. He instead requested them to observe September 5 as Teacher's Day to acknowledge the invaluable contribution of teachers to the society. Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan once stated that "teachers should be the best minds in the country". St. John's school celebrated the day with cultural program performed by the students. All teachers were given gifts and food from the management side.

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St. Michael' eye clinic organizes free eye camp for tribal

On 12 September, St. Michael's Eye Clinic organized a one-day free eye clinic for poor tribal of five villages in Balurghat. One hundred tribal came for this clinic. All people had their eye tested and were given free eye glasses. Members of St. Michael's Chapter of the Daughters of the King volunteered their service for the full day.



Second OSL Health & Healing conferences

Psalm 147:3 says "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds". The Anglican Church of West Bengal organized a second Health & Healing conference at St. Thomas Church, Kalikapur on Sunday 20 September. One hundred and thirty people attended the conference. All lessons were from the OSL booklet. The topic taught at the healing conference were Healing at the Pool (John 5:1-17), The faith of the centurion (Luke 7:1-10), Jesus restores a demon

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possessed man (Luke 8:42-48, Jesus raises Jairus daughter from the dead (Luke 8:49-56), Jesus heals a mute man (Matt 9:32-34) & Faith of a Canaanite woman (Matt 15:21-28).

The program started with praise and worship by the worship team. Everyone joined in the praise and worship. At the end of the program everyone joined in the confession of their sins and prayers were offered for healing.

Ezekiel Topno a young man who came to attend the healing conference wanted to commit suicide as his wife left him and started living with another man. He was very disturbed and was looking for peace. The prayer team prayed for him and he got peace and comfort in the name of Jesus

We are thankful to Dr. Mike Sabback for sponsoring this program.



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From bonded labour to freedom

Half a century after India outlawed bonded labour through the Bonded labour system (Abolition) Act (BLSA) 1976 the system survives in farms and factories, brick kilns, workshops and other workplaces where debt becomes a leash, nor always physical, and freedom a rumor. Millions remain trapped within it – in conditions akin to modern slavery. Keya Phan was one of the few who got out. But escape she would learn is not the same as freedom, or justice. The farm took his childhood dreams.

St. Michael's Safe home rescued Keya Phan from the grip of these mafia gangs and brought her to a more meaningful place at St. Michael's Safe House. Keya was taken away with the promise of a job that would help her family. She spent almost three years in the farm and did not get any money or freedom. Keya was sent by her parents believing she would earn enough to return home. She as behind locked doors, when she realized that would not be easy to get out.

The days settled into a punishing rhythm of labor and hunger. Keya says that she would get only two to three breads a day. They would not even give enough water to drink.

When she was brought to St. Michael's Safe house, she found the courtyard filled with joy and laughter of playing children. But six-year-old Keya stood quietly by the gate. Soon the children of the safe house made her comfortable and she became friends with others. Today Keya has found a safe house, food, shelter, clothing and a school to go to. Keya did not want toys but wanted a miracle to happen in her life which would give her a better life.



Sanchita's dream is fulfilled

Sanchita Soren one of our sponsored children, after passing her college has now got admission to a teacher's training college. It was Sanchita's dream to be a teacher.

Having lost her father when she was six years old, her mother worked as daily labor. Sanchita was sponsored by the Anglican Church of West Bengal and that is how she could do her schooling and now will be doing her Teacher's training course for two years. After she finishes her training she can be a teacher.



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UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS

Wednesday, 7th October

Arrival of Mr Palmer Haigler from USA

Saturday, 10th October

Youth conference at St. Thomas Church

Sunday, 11th October

Stewardship Sunday
Induction of Daughters of new St. Michael's Chapter.

Monday, 12th October to
Wednesday, 14th October

Building of new toilets for St. Michael's Church

Thursday, 15th October

Physio therapy Camp.

Every Thursday Home Festival in different houses.
Every Thursday and Saturday the Eye Clinic is open.
Healing prayer every evening at 6 p.m. onwards.