



Church of Christ the King
Park Circus
Kolkata, India.

KINGDOM

COME & BE SENT


**For the gift of diversity
in the Church**
THE HOLY FATHER'S
PRAYER INTENTIONS



This month's parish faces:
Sashi, Dorris, Christopher,
Cheryl, Teresa, Agatha

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY



One in Christ

■ LYNETTE BAIN

25 January 2024 – The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, commonly known as Christian Unity Octave, was celebrated in Kolkata (and in many parts of the world) 18 - 25 January.

Week-long ecumenical worship services, among the various Christian denomination churches came to a close with a prayer service and Mass at Church of Christ the King, Park Circus, Thursday 25 January 2024 at 6:00 p.m. organised by the Ecumenical Cell of the parish.

The parish clergy, visiting clergy of various denominations and laity entered the Church in a procession to the altar. The welcome message was given by the Revd. Basil Bimal Mandi, Parish Priest of Christ the King and Secretary, Commission for Ecumenism, Calcutta Archdiocese. A short introduction on 'How the Unity Octave came into existence', by the Revd. Sheeraj Mohanty of St. James Church, followed.

The service began with the Invitation Prayer led by Ms. Lynette Bain, followed by the Litany

of Praise & Thanksgiving by Ms. Linda Sen, Prayers of Confession by Ms. Sandra Singh, as the choir led by Abel, sang melodious hymns on unity and love, throughout the service. A Gospel reading by Ms. Michelle Selwyn was followed with an inspiring sermon by Pastor Veda Murthy, who emphasised on "Intercessory prayer being the wheels of the Church." The Prayers of Intercession was then read in Bengali by Ms. Anita Mondal and Dr. Sudip Dasgupta, ending with the Affirmation of Love, by the congregation.

Holy Mass was celebrated by the Vicar General of Calcutta Archdiocese, Very Revd. Dominic Gomes, Fr. Basil Mandi and curate Fr. Kishore Munda. The Reading was by Rajan Raphael, Responsorial Psalm (sung beautifully) by Charles Sassoon and Gospel proclaimed by Fr. Kishore, followed by a solemn

consecration and Holy communion

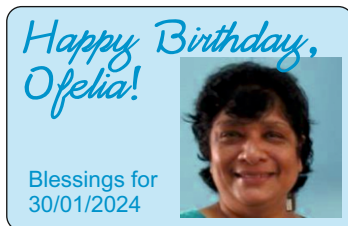
A sincere vote of thanks was proposed by Fr. Basil who deeply expressed his appreciation and gratitude to Fr. Dominic Gomes, Fr. Gnaana Peppin, and other clergy as well as all the Christian denomination churches, who made the effort to attend the services of Christian Unity Octave Week. He made a special mention to Lynette for meticulously organising the day's service, not forgetting the choir led by Abel & Michelle, Mala, Rajan, Charles and Sandra, the faithful parishioners and other guests who graced the occasion.

Amidst the joyful ambiance of fellowship and refreshments at the Mother Teresa Hall, the invitees and clergy were regaled by Fr. Dominic who with his

Continued on pg. 2

BIRTHDAYS

02.01.2023 Shantanu Chetri
04.01.2023 Ria Serena Arokianathan
16.01.2023 Sneha Jessica Manna
21.01.2023 Jessica Sharma
30.01.2023 Ofelia Kaisar



DEATHS

22.12.2023 Marie Morris
03.01.2024 Sunita Mallick
11.01.2024 Michael Gomes
17.01.2024 Evelin Albada

UPCOMING EVENTS

28.01.2024 Couples/Family Day
04.02.2024 Parish Family Dinner

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ALTAR SERVERS

Completed your First Holy Communion?
Become an altar girl or an altar boy!

To join, contact Ms. Trinella Currie @ 7439267281

FACES photos credit:
Kylie Ambrose

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guitar started strumming the hymn, 'Bind us together Lord,' and 'They will know we are Christians,' creating a sense of Christian bonding. The evening ended with a prayer by the Revd. Asish Sarkar followed by the Revd. Martin Pakhare.

It is wonderful to see so many people from different churches coming together to celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The event showcased the unity, peace, love, harmony and understanding among different Christian denominations giving hope for further flourishing of this spirit in Kolkata and beyond.

PARISHIONER WINS ICYM LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Diocesan Youth Convention 2024

■ SYBIL DAVID

14 January 2024 - The Diocesan Youth Convention presented by the Indian Catholic Youth Movement (ICYM) Kolkata was held in Sacred Heart High School and St. Agnes School, Kharagpur from 12th-14th January 2024.

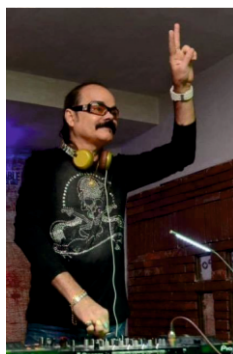
The Convention was an extraordinary journey for the youth, each day filled with activities and prayer helping them feel the presence of God and joy to the fullest. The theme was "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."

The youth immersed themselves in soul-stirring Praise & Worship, experiencing the divine in Holy Eucharist and Taizé Prayer. Growth was fuelled with Leadership Sessions and Workshops, culminating in a vibrant cultural evening, unleashing their talents in inter-parish contests.

Austin Smith Funeral

■ JOSHUA RAJAK

18 January 2024 - The funeral service of veteran DJ Austin Smith who passed away on 15 January was held today at 3:30 p.m. at the Church of Christ the King. Revd. Sandip Michael Biswas, pastor of St. Thomas Church, Middleton Row and Fr. Dipak Gomes SJ concelebrated the funeral Mass in a packed church, which saw rich tributes by family and friends, including MP Derek O'Brien, who knew Austin over 3 decades.



The oldest Open Quiz in India.
Church of Christ the King | Kolkata

It was a unique experience for all who attended. Early morning - 5:30 a.m. - awakening, followed by rituals and meditation. With the many inter parish competitions - like a garba gala - and enjoyable cultural programs, there were also Confessions. This was totally a spiritual moment for all the youth, and it definitely was a healing point for all. There was also a session with Mr. Derek O'Brien and Br. Enoch Kumbanaden who gave us the meaning of life and taught us how can we become better humans, while also being successful. On the last day of the convention we had a session with the Diocesan Youth Director I, Father Sandeep Michael Biswas discussing ICYM parish units and ZEXCO.



Senior ICYM member from Christ the King parish Ms. Meshal Mondal, won a "lifetime achievement" award.

The concluding Mass was celebrated by Most Revd. Thomas D'Souza, Archbishop of Calcutta.

"It was definitely an experience - the prayer services to the sessions by different people, competitions and even the action song dances. Also, I met new people and made friends from other parishes," said Christ the King ICYMer, Joshua, "It was a very good start to the year 2024."



What did the lawyer ask when someone started talking about God's will? "Was it notarised?"

■ REVD. FR. BASIL MANDI

Sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit

■ VIENNA GONSALVES

7 January 2024 - Parishioners of Christ the King Church at the 8 a.m. Mass witnessed the Sacrament of Confirmation being conferred on 25 persons, mostly children and young people (including a blind boy) with a lone elderly man, supported on crutches.

His Grace Archbishop Thomas D'Souza concelebrated the Mass along with parish priest the Revd. Basil Mandi, and curates Frs. Jothiraj Babu and Kishore Dominic Munda.

The day was also symbolic with the Feast of the Epiphany which was explained beautifully by His Grace during the Homily. After this, the Prayers of the Faithful were read by a confirnee, and then the Archbishop proceeded with the renewal of baptismal vows. The children held lit candles as they renounced Satan and all his empty promises. As the Archbishop blessed each child the proxy godparents, Mr. Oscar Currie and Ms. Teresa Currie, placed a hand on the child's shoulder.

After Mass there was a small get-together arranged in Mother Teresa Hall where Certificates of Confirmation, duly signed by the Archbishop were handed over to each candidate in person by him.

These candidates received their instructions throughout the year and were ready to receive the Sacrament, which they did with eagerness and with full participation. The children had been regular at Sunday School, received all their inputs from the teachers, and were guided excellently by Mrs. Glynis Vincent and Mrs. Vienna Gonsalves, who were able to witness the fruits of their labour.

It was a day to remember as the candidates were truly filled with the Grace of the Holy Spirit and received blessings in presence of their family and relatives.



Christmas Time and Easter Time highlight the central mysteries of the Paschal Mystery, namely, the incarnation, death on the cross, resurrection, ascension of Jesus Christ, and the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. The Sundays and weeks of Ordinary Time, on the other hand, take us through the life of Christ. This is the time of conversion and living the life of Christ. Ordinary Time is the longest season in the Church's year. Comprising thirty-three weeks, it is divided into two sections; one short and the other very long. The weeks between the Christmas and Lenten seasons are the shorter part of Ordinary Time while the weeks between Pentecost and the Advent season form the long stretch. The word 'ordinary' comes from the word ordinal which means 'counted'. Each week is known by a number, e.g. the 10th Sunday in Ordinary Time. The use of the term Ordinary Time in our liturgical calendar distinguishes it from the other seasons—Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter—which focus on particular aspects of Christ's life: his birth, suffering, death and resurrection. Ordinary Time celebrates Jesus' teaching and ministry. It gives us time to reflect on how we live as Christians. We have thirty-three weeks to examine and 'order' our lives while we focus on a particular Gospel, in a three-year cycle, and to enter it deeply. We are presently in Year B, the year of the Gospel of Mark.

- Year A – The Gospel of Matthew
- Year B – The Gospel of Mark
- Year C – The Gospel of Luke

The weekday Masses are organised in a two-year cycle: Year I (odd years) and Year II (even years). The first readings and the gospels of weekdays are read in continuity, so that one day's reading follows the next. In this way we are enabled, over time to enter deeply into the spirit of the readings.

GREEN, the colour of Ordinary Time, tells us much about its significance in the Church's life. It is the rich colour of growth and new life. Ordinary Time deserves to be lived extraordinarily - in the depths of our own hearts, in our families and in the worshipping community. It is important for us to immerse ourselves deeply in the spirituality of Ordinary Time because it contains the essence of who we are in the 'everydayness' of our Christian lives.



Fr. Basil B. Mandi

FEEDBACK! We can't live without it!

We welcome your letters!
Send your bouquets or brickbats to
kingdomcke@gmail.com or WhatsApp 7439267281



Chandannagar fun!

■ VIENNA GONSALVES

12 Jan 2024 - Around 85 parishioners of Christ the King went on picnic to Sacred Heart Church, Chandannagar. an annual parish event no one likes to miss.

Two buses which left for the venue around 8 a.m. and reached the picnic spot where a warm welcome was given to all by the parish priest, Fr. Joy Cyprian D'Souza, pastor of the church. Chandannagar is an old French colony and the church is a heritage monument which is rich in architecture situated along the banks of the ganga attracting people from afar.

The breakfast was tasty and warm, all that we needed on a cold winter morning. There were a number of group games organised after breakfast which was played by people of all age groups.

Everyone had a wonderful time laughing and enjoying themselves while playing the group games. Next was lunch which was an elaborate menu missing out nothing - from salad, papad and fish fry to nolengur rossagulla - and everyone ate to their hearts content. Games continued and parishioners also paid a visit to the church and the Jora Ghat.

The return bus journey was fun with music and parishioners dancing their heart out with no one breaking a sweat, as the fun must go on! All enjoyed the day and the Laity cell members who organised this picnic for the parishioners must surely be thanked.



Relic of St Thérèse visits parish

■ FARRELL SHAH

4 January 2024 - The Relic of St Thérèse of Lisieux also known as Teresa of the Child Jesus or the Little flower of Jesus was exposed at the Church of Christ the King on from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.



It was a wonderful spiritual experience for those who attended and joined a service with prayers, Rosary recitation, etc. The pastor of Christ the King Church, Revd. Fr. Basil Mandi read a short account of the life of St Thérèse, as her popular quotes and a song were shown on the church's digital displays.

After the Christ the King exposition, the relic will travel to 25 other locations in the archdiocese before being taken to Asansol Diocese. Relics are the mortal remains of saints and blessed. The journey of the relics of Saint Thérèse, began three decades ago, and has visited nearly 70 countries since.



SVP Christmas Fellowship

23 December 2023 - SVP CKC conference had Christmas fellowship for 23 beneficiaries and casuals, along with our Spiritual Director Fr. Jyoti Raj Babu and Members. Parish Priest, Fr. Basil Mandi, blessed the gathering. Tea, biscuits and fellowship was followed by Christmas hampers of 1 lb Christmas cake, 2 kg rice, 1 kg atta, 500 gms sooji, ½ litre mustard oil, ½ kg each of sugar and dal, 2 kg potatoes, and a shawl. An additional 6 casuals got some rations. There was a giveaway of good reusable clothes. On Sunday 24 December 2023, we distributed dressed chickens to 15 poor families of beneficiaries and casuals. The SVP also packed several boxes of good clothes for ladies, men, children and household for a Midnapore Church, as part of the mission of reaching out to the needy with a spirit of caring and sharing.

- SSVF-CKCC

31 December 2024 - Church of Christ the King celebrated a Thanksgiving Mass at 6.30 p.m. presided over by Father Dominic Gomes, Vicar General Calcutta, Father Basil Mandi, and Father Arul Raj. Fr. Dominic's homily was about how to start the new year in God's grace and the service concluded with the Parish Priest thanking all the different parish cells for their contributions to the parish throughout the year.

01 January 2024 - Mary, Mother of God Feast was celebrated on New Year's Day at all the parish Masses.

17 January 2024 - Father Basil Mandi, the Parish Priest featured in a video clip promoting the Bible Convention organised by CCRS, ARC, etc. Archbishop Thomas and VG Father Dominic Gomes were also featured.

21 January 2024 - The Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVP) held a jumble sale at the Mother Teresa hall.

22 January 2024 - The Priests of Church of Christ the King all attended the Diocesan Priest's Meeting 2024, at Progolloy, Barasat, 22 - 25 January. Fr. Dipak Gomes SJ filled in during their absence.



22 January 2024 - Ms. Sammi Jahan, Councillor Ward 64, visited the Church of Christ the King and was felicitated.

22 January 2024 - West Bengal Chief Minister, Ms. Mamata Banerjee, visited Church of Christ the King, as part of her "Sanhati Rally" promoting harmony and unity among all citizens.



Ideas for What to Give Up for Lent, for TEENAGERS

(LENT: Wed, 14 Feb, 2024 - Thu, 28 Mar, 2024)

With the three pillars of Lent - **Prayer, Fasting, Almsgiving** - in mind, here's some suggestions for meaningful ways for kids, teens - and even adults - to observe Lent this year.

Teen Fasting Ideas

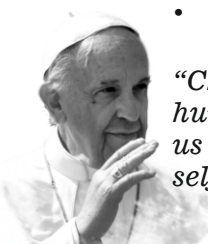
- Give up playing a favourite game
- Fast from social media for a day
- Give up a favourite snack
- Drink only water at school
- Go without headphones/air pods for a day

Teen Prayer Ideas

- Pick a relative each day and pray for that person
- Call a grandparent after church and discuss the Gospel/homily
- Go to bed 5 minutes early and spend extra time talking with God
- Choose a Mass intention you hear, to pray for during the week
- Go to confession

Teens Almsgiving Ideas

- Put some money in the collection bag during the offertory
- Identify an article of clothing you can donate to the SVP Jumble Sale
- Support the archdiocese Campaign against Hunger and Disease by taking an envelope or box home from church
- Give a smile to someone you pass who may be living on the street (instead of ignoring them)
 - Support a business that advertises in *Kingdom*



"Charitable giving makes us more human, whereas hoarding risks making us less human, imprisoned by our own selfishness"

- Pope Francis

JUMBLE

By Agnes Chiramal

NIGIVR _ _ _ _ _

RETOHM _ _ _ _ _

MIMLUCAAET _ _ _ _ _

IMTAF A _ _ _ _ _

But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found _ _ _ _ _ with God."



Send us a WhatsApp with the solved Jumble, and you could win a New Testament*.

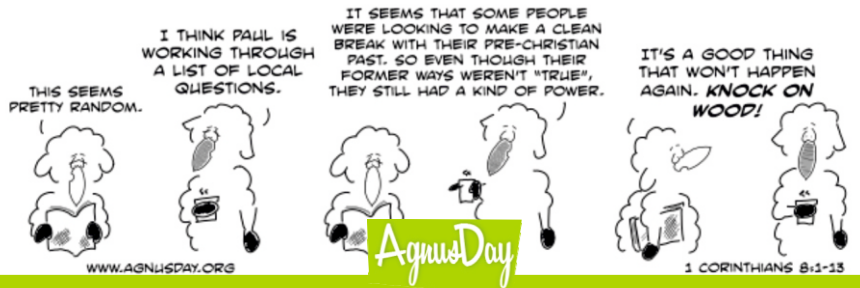
[7439267281](https://www.whatsapp.com/message/7439267281)

RES AMET CHRISTIANA

By Isabella Valentina Patrao



Mary is often seen wearing a crown full of twelve stars in Catholic art. The description of Mary as a lady "clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars" in the Book of Revelation serves as the inspiration for this depiction.



LittleElves

FOCUS ON OUR ALTAR SERVERS

KAREN GOMES

Age: 16

Altar Server since: 2015

Post: Senior Server



Meet **Karen Gomes**, a bright student from Loreto House in Class 11. Not only dedicated to her studies, but Karen also serves as an altar server, bringing a sense of devotion and responsibility to her school community. Interviewer **Christina Dey** asked Karen a few questions.

Christina: What are your hobbies or interests?

Karen: I find joy in both immersing myself in books and expressing my creativity through drawing.

Christina: Do you have any favourite TV shows, books or movies?

Karen: I cherish 'The Chosen' as my favourite series because it allows me to explore into the teachings of Jesus and explore profound aspects of life.

Christina: Why did you decide to join Altar Service?

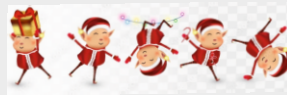
Karen: I chose to join the Altar Service because I felt a profound connection to Jesus and a strong desire to serve Him at the altar.

Christina: What does your family think of you being an Altar Server?

Karen: My family provides unwavering support, encouraging my involvement in retreats and various Church activities.

Christina: How do you like to spend your weekends?

Karen: My weekends are filled with Altar Service meetings, attending mass, and enjoying quality family time through movie nights.



SketchUp!

Shantanu Chetri



*Our trust with destiny, forever sustained.
On this day, let unity reign,
As the Republic echoes, a resilient refrain*

By Caroline Janet Sequeira



UNITY IN DIVERSITY

*In the dawn of freedom's light we stand,
A nation strong, a united band.
Republic Day, a tale unfolds,
Of courage, dreams, and stories untold.*

*Tri-color waves in the azure sky,
Symbolizing hope that will never die.
Beneath, a land of diversity,
United in spirit, a harmonious glee.*

*From every region, language,
and creed,*

*We emerge as one, in our shared deed.
In the heart of democracy, we find our way,
A proud celebration on Republic Day.*

*With rights and duties intertwined,
A sacred bond, forever bind.
For every citizen, a voice to share,
In the tapestry of freedom, we declare.*

Through challenges faced, and triumphs gained,

CookYum

■ NICOLE VINCENT



Chocolate Walnut Cake

Ingredients:

- Sifted cocoa for preparing the pan
- 1 cup butter room temperature
- 1 1/3 cups sugar
- 3 eggs room temperature
- 1 2/3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/3 cup cocoa
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup vanilla yogurt room temperature
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2/3 cup walnuts coarsely chopped
- 6 ounces' bittersweet chocolate chopped

Instructions

- Preheat the oven, cream butter and sugar.
- Add eggs slowly. Sift Dry ingredients
- Once creamy fold in the dry ingredients and yoghurt slowly.
- Fold in all the remaining flour mix.
- Pour in the melted chocolate mix nicely.
- Pour into the greased tin, bake at 180° C, till done and skewer comes out clean.



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here! Call or WhatsApp 7439267281 for details.



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Our Community Paper

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Publication Team:

Editorial Team: Trinella Currie, Agnes Chiramal, Caroline Sequeira, Isabella Patrao
Writers: Abeera Luna, Ria Serena Arokianathan, Jennifer Dey, Christina Dey, Sneha Jennifer Manna, Shantanu Chetri, Joshua Rajak, Sybil David, Kylie Ambrose, Oliver Currie
Admin Team: Ofelia Kaiser, Prienna Gonsalvas, Nigel Vincent, Fr Dominic Munda, Mohit Pradhan
ASCC Advisor: Farrell Shah
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