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Editorial Team

Fr. Paul Ngaoni
 Fr. T.S. Dominic
 Fr. Soni Thomas
 Fr. Stanislaus Chinliankhup
 Fr. Athanasius Mung
 Fr. K.C. James SDB

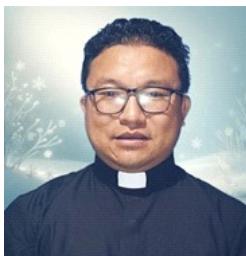
Fr. Salew Joseph
 Fr. James Ringjuangam Kamei
 Sr. Archana Roveinai FCC
 Mrs. Justina Thoinu MCWO
 Ms. Diana Leivon MCYO
 Mr. Michael Tungthang RVA

Chief Editor

Fr. Ningmei Thomas
 Contact us : 8416092022
 Email: socomedimp125@gmail.com

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Editorial



Faith and the Future: The Church in the Age of Artificial Intelligence

Pope Leo XIV, in his first Mass for Catholic social media influencers, reminded us that human dignity must be protected online as the world faces the growing “challenge” of Artificial Intelligence (AI). His call echoes deeply at a time when technology, once a tool, is fast becoming a defining force in human life.

We live in the era of Artificial Intelligence. As Bill Gates observed, “The work in artificial intelligence today is at a really profound level.” Indeed, AI’s progress is astonishing, what we see today is merely the tip of an iceberg. Hundreds of new tools emerge daily, each transforming how we live, work, and even think. Though AI is still in its infancy, its reach already extends across every field of life. Companies race to innovate, often without knowing where this path may lead. AI is no longer optional, it is here to stay.

Yet the Catholic Church has always met the tides of change with wisdom and courage. From the printing press to radio and television, the Church has never shied away from progress. Each technological advancement has been embraced as an opportunity to proclaim the Gospel more effectively. Pope Francis showed how social media can amplify messages of love and hope. Likewise, AI now stands at our doorstep, as a new instrument that, when rightly used, can enhance our ministry, making it more efficient and impactful.

Across dioceses and religious communities, seminars are already being held to help priests, religious, and lay faithful understand AI’s growing influence and how it can serve the Church’s mission in pastoral care, evangelization, and administration. Imagine tools that analyze Scripture or Church documents, aiding in the preparation of talks; AI systems that help pastors understand the needs of their congregations; or virtual assistants offering spiritual support around the clock. These innovations could help ensure that no one feels forgotten in their faith journey.

However, as Pope Leo XIV cautions, while AI may assist, it can never replace the sacred human presence. He recently declined the creation of an AI avatar of himself, warning that in the digital realm, we risk losing our humanity. “The danger,” he said, “is that the digital world will follow its own path and we will become pawns, or be brushed aside.” He said rightly, “Artificial Intelligence cannot replace human touch in medicine.” The Pope also reminded medical professionals that healing, like ministry, is more than science; it is compassion, presence, and the human touch, just as Jesus reached out to the leper with love and tenderness (Mark 1:40-42).

Therefore, as we navigate this new frontier, we must remain anchored in our mission. AI tools must remain faithful to the Magisterium, ensuring that technology serves the Gospel, not the other way around. Let us, then, embrace AI with discernment. Let us cultivate digital literacy, adopt hybrid ministry models, and share our experiences to grow together. Above all, let us remember that technology should enhance human connection, never replace it. The Church, steadfast in faith and guided by the Spirit, will continue to be a light in this digital age, reminding the world that while intelligence may be artificial, love and compassion remain profoundly human.

-Fr. Ningmei Thomas

**Most Reverend
Dr. Linus Neli, D.D.
Archbishop of Imphal**

Phone : 08837270018 (P), 09233122716 (O)



Archbishop's House

Mantripukhri, Imphal - East
Manipur - 795 002
India

e-mail : linusfrneli@gmail.com



SHEPHERD'S VOICE

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The month of October holds a place of deep devotion in the life of the Church, as it is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. This tradition dates back to Pope Pius V, who established the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on October 7 in thanksgiving for the victory of Christian forces at the Battle of Lepanto (1571). Through this Rosary, we journey with Mary, our Blessed Mother, as she leads us to contemplate the life, passion, and resurrection of her Son, Jesus Christ. The Rosary is not merely a repetition of prayers but a meditation that fills our hearts with peace, strengthens our faith, and draws us closer to God's love.

This Rosary month invites every family, parish, and community to take up the Rosary daily. In a world scarred by conflict and division, our prayer becomes a cry for peace and reconciliation. Let us implore the Lord for healing in our state, for wisdom and integrity among our leaders, and for unity among people of all faiths. May our Blessed Mother Mary intercede for us so that harmony, compassion, and mutual respect may prevail in our land.

As pilgrims of hope in this Jubilee Year, let us walk with Mary, who always points us to her Son, Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Under her tender care, may our hearts be renewed in faith, strengthened in charity, and filled with the joy of the Gospel.

May the Rosary be our light in moments of darkness, our comfort in trials, and our path toward holiness and peace.

With my episcopal blessing,

+ *Linus Neli*

+ Dr. Linus Neli
Archbishop of Imphal



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN EVERYDAY LIFE: HOW AI IS TRANSFORMING WORK, EDUCATION, AND SOCIETY

-By Dr. Alex Paul Kamson, Head AI/ML, AI Health Highway India Pvt Ltd, Bangalore, India



We live in a time where technology is not just a tool but a partner shaping how we live, work, and think. From the moment we wake up to the time we go to bed, Artificial Intelligence quietly influences our daily routines. An app recommends the fastest route to work, a self-driving car makes travelling comfortable, a robotic vacuum cleaner eases daily household chores, a chatbot answers our questions instantly, and a streaming service seems to know exactly what we want to watch. AI has moved from a futuristic concept to a powerful force woven into modern life.

Before exploring its impact, it helps to understand what AI is. Artificial Intelligence is the simulation of human intelligence in machines, enabling them to learn, reason, and make decisions while improving through experience. Unlike traditional automation, which follows fixed rules, AI adapts to new situations, making it more dynamic and versatile. Robotics focuses on building physical machines, which may or may not use AI. For example, a factory robot arm assembling cars is automation, but when paired with AI, it can detect defects, adjust movements, and predict maintenance needs. This distinction matters because AI extends far beyond physical machines, powering recommendation engines, voice assistants, fraud detection systems, and medical diagnostics.



AI Disruption



AI is no longer just a buzzword. In education, smart platforms personalize learning by adapting lessons to each student's pace and style, like having a private tutor for every learner. Hospitals use AI to analyze medical scans faster and sometimes more accurately than humans, detecting diseases like cancer earlier. Governments apply AI to improve public services, from predicting traffic patterns to easing congestion to using chatbots for instant citizen support. AI is making essential services more efficient, accessible, and responsive. For instance, the images used in this article are generated with ChatGPT and nano-banana.ai to illustrate how AI can assist in everyday tasks, serving as a practical example of its use in reducing human effort.

At the same time, AI is reshaping the job market. Routine roles, such as data entry clerks, customer support agents, and factory line workers, are increasingly replaced by intelligent systems that work faster and with fewer errors. Yet, AI is creating new jobs like AI trainers, data analysts, machine learning engineers, and ethicists who ensure AI is used responsibly. Teachers may now be supported by AI teaching assistants, and doctors can rely on AI to process patient histories, freeing them to focus on personalized care. The challenge is ensuring workers can reskill and grow into roles that AI cannot replace.

This transformation is disruptive because it challenges how we learn and work. Traditional classrooms are shifting to blended learning, where AI tools complement teachers by providing instant feedback and tracking progress. Workplaces are evolving with remote collaboration platforms and AI assistants handling repetitive tasks, allowing employees to focus on creativity and innovation. Just as the industrial revolution transformed farming and manufacturing, AI is redefining education and employment today, but the pace of change is faster than ever. Societies that adapt quickly will benefit the most.

Ethical Concerns

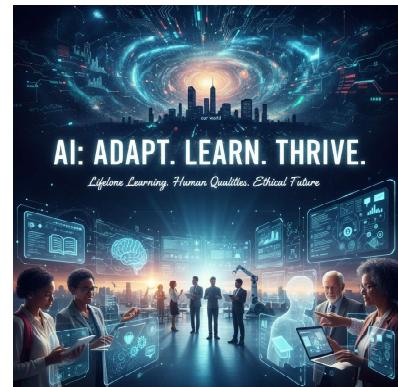
AI offers tremendous opportunities, but it also comes with risks affecting work, creativity, and daily life. Jobs that rely on repetitive tasks, from driving to customer service, are increasingly at risk. Even highly skilled professions face challenges. AI-generated art, music, and writing can replace human creativity, reducing opportunities for artists and designers. In education, generative AI tools can complete assignments or write essays, which may limit critical thinking and independent learning. Unequal access to AI tools and training could widen social and economic gaps.

Beyond work and education, AI raises ethical and safety concerns. Deepfakes, fake voices, and manipulated images can spread misinformation and fraud, undermining trust. AI systems inherit biases from their training data, which can influence hiring, lending, and law enforcement decisions. Accountability is often unclear when AI gives incorrect medical advice or when an autonomous vehicle causes an accident. Additionally, AI constantly collects personal information from digital interactions, putting privacy at risk. While AI has enormous potential, it can also create societal risks if left unchecked.

Adapting to AI

Artificial Intelligence is changing our world faster than any technology before it. The question is how we can keep up and thrive.

Lifelong learning is the first step. A single degree or skill set is no longer enough for a career. Teachers who rely solely on old textbooks would struggle in classrooms that now use interactive digital platforms. By taking online courses, attending workshops, or experimenting with free AI tools, anyone can stay prepared for new opportunities.



It is also crucial to focus on human qualities AI cannot replicate, such as creativity, empathy, and ethical judgment. AI may detect illnesses early, but only a doctor can comfort patients and explain treatment with compassion. Strengthening these qualities ensures AI becomes a partner rather than a replacement.

AI at a basic level

Understanding AI at a basic level can make life easier. You do not need to be an engineer to benefit. For instance, AI can draft email replies, leaving you to edit only a few lines. Digital literacy allows you to decide when to trust AI, when to question it, and how to use it effectively in personal and professional life.

Flexibility is essential. As workplaces adopt AI tools, those who resist may feel left behind, while those who embrace experimentation can find new ways to save time and improve results. A marketing team, for example, may use AI to draft campaigns quickly, freeing them to focus on creative ideas that make a real impact.

Ethics must remain a priority. Privacy, fairness, and accountability are essential for AI to benefit society. Social media recommendations, for instance, can influence what we see daily. Responsible AI use helps prevent misinformation and bias, shaping a future that benefits everyone.

Finally, adapting to AI requires a shift in mindset. Instead of fearing machines taking jobs, view AI as a tool that opens new possibilities. Like the invention of the calculator, which expanded the work mathematicians could do, AI frees us from repetitive tasks so we can focus on innovation and creativity.

AI is evolving rapidly and shows no signs of slowing. Staying curious, continuing to learn, and approaching change with an open mind will not only help us keep up with AI but also discover ways to thrive in a world shaped by the intelligence we create.



CATHOLIC NEWS

Archbishop Discusses Ongoing Manipur Crisis and Church's Relief Efforts in UK Podcast

London, August 22, 2025: (Source: ACN UK- Catholic Connect)

Archbishop Linus Neli, the archbishop of Imphal provided an update on the enduring crisis in the state during the latest episode of the Break the Silence podcast released on August 22. Speaking in London with John Pontifex of Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) UK, the archbishop reflected on the tragic ethnic conflict that erupted in May 2023, its devastating impact on local communities, and the continuing struggle to restore peace and stability.



Archbishop Linus recalled how violence between the majority Meitei community and the minority Kuki tribal group displaced tens of thousands and left deep divisions. "We are trying to come back to normal life, but there are difficult obstacles to overcome," he said, noting that although active violence has subsided due to buffer zones enforced by armed forces, mistrust among both the communities and political uncertainty remain. The Archbishop explained that the conflict's second anniversary in May 2025 was marked with starkly different narratives: the Meitei community observed a "Remembrance Day", while the Kuki community called it "Separation Day".

He added that significant political changes have occurred in Manipur. "The state's Chief Minister resigned in February this year amid widespread public discontent, prompting the imposition of President's Rule by the central government," Archbishop Linus said. "Negotiations continue among political leaders, social groups, and religious representatives to achieve a lasting settlement," he added.

Despite these efforts, the humanitarian situation remains dire. Archbishop Linus revealed that more than 60,000 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) are still living in relief camps or temporary shelters, two years after the outbreak of violence. "Some have gone back, perhaps 10,000; but most cannot return because of destroyed homes, insecurity, and lack of livelihood," he said. The prelate added that the diocese of Imphal has maintained continuous outreach to everyone affected by the conflict, providing food, education support, counselling for women, and assistance for children at risk of exploitation and drug abuse.

Addressing perceptions that the cause of the violence was primarily religious, the Archbishop clarified that while many churches were burnt during the initial unrest, the conflict is rooted in ethnic and land disputes rather than direct Christian persecution. "Both the communities are suffering because of the conflict," he noted, though acknowledging the disproportionate impact on Christians belonging to the minority Kuki community.

Looking ahead, Archbishop Linus emphasised the urgent need for political resolution and equitable justice to ensure lasting peace. He also outlined key priorities for rebuilding in the areas affected by the conflict, including housing, schools, sanitation, electrification, and places of worship.

The Archbishop urged continued solidarity, stressing that without swift action to address land issues and basic human aspirations, Manipur's displaced population risks enduring prolonged hardship.



'America's Nicest Judge' Frank Caprio Dies at 88

Providence, R.I., August. 20, 2025 (Courtesy-CNA): Judge Frank Caprio, the beloved Providence jurist affectionately known as "America's Nicest Judge," passed away on Aug. 20 at age 88 after battling pancreatic cancer.

A devout Catholic, Caprio was celebrated for his compassion and mercy during nearly 40 years on the Providence Municipal Court, where his televised show "Caught in Providence" won worldwide acclaim for its humane judgments and heartfelt stories. His signature phrase, "Your case is dismissed," became a symbol of empathy and fairness.

Born in 1936 to Italian immigrants, Caprio rose from humble beginnings, inspired by his father's lessons on compassion and justice. He earned his law degree while teaching and became a judge in 1985, serving until 2023.

Beyond the bench, Caprio was active in civic life, serving on the Providence City Council, in the Rhode Island National Guard, and supporting educational and charitable causes. He established multiple scholarships honoring his father, Antonio "Tup" Caprio.

Diagnosed with cancer in 2023, Caprio credited his faith and prayer, especially a 2024 pilgrimage to Lourdes, for sustaining him.

He is survived by his wife Joyce, their five children, seven grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Rhode Island Governor Dan McKee ordered flags flown at

Pope Leo Announces Theme for 2026 World Day of Peace

Vatican City, August. 27, 2025 (Courtesy: Vatican News) Pope Leo XIV has chosen "Peace be with you all: Towards an 'unarmed and disarming' peace" as the theme for the 2026 World Day of Peace, celebrated annually on January 1. The Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development explained that the theme calls humanity to reject violence and war, embracing peace grounded in love, justice, and empathy.



The Vatican highlighted that true peace must be unarmed, not based on weapons or fear, and disarming, capable of resolving conflicts and fostering trust and hope. The biblical greeting of the Risen Christ, "Peace be with you" (Jn 20:19), serves as a universal call to all people—faithful and non-faithful alike—to build a humane and peaceful future.

Coinciding with the announcement, the Vatican Publishing House (LEV) released a new book, "And Let There Be Peace! Words to the Church and the World", compiling Pope Leo XIV's first public addresses, emphasizing his vision for global peace.



Pope Leo XIV Declares Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati Saints

Vatican City, September 7, 2025 (Courtesy- Catholic Connect): Tens of thousands of faithful gathered in St. Peter's Square as Pope Leo XIV presided over the solemn Mass of canonisation for Pier Giorgio Frassati and Carlo Acutis, calling them “models of holiness, service, and joy” for today’s youth.

Saint Carlo Acutis (1991–2006), the first millennial saint, was known as the “Cyber Apostle of the Eucharist” for using digital media to spread devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. A gifted young programmer from Milan, he created an online exhibition of Eucharistic miracles and lived a life of deep faith, simplicity, and charity. His miracles of healing in Brazil and Costa Rica paved the way for his sainthood.

Saint Pier Giorgio Frassati (1901–1925), dubbed the “Man of the Beatitudes,” was a Turin-born student and social activist who dedicated his short life to prayer, the poor, and Catholic Action. Known for his love of mountain climbing and joyful spirit, he died at 24 while serving the sick.

Their canonisation highlights the Church’s call to holiness in everyday life. St. Carlo’s feast is on October 12 and St. Pier Giorgio’s on July 4.

Lessons from Saint Carlo for Today’s Generation

Dominican priest Fr. Patrick Mary Briscoe summarised three lessons from the life of Saint Carlo:

- 1. Take the Church’s teaching seriously.** Carlo studied the faith deeply and even taught catechism as a teenager.
- 2. Include others.** He created a sense of belonging for everyone, especially those who felt left out.
- 3. Live fully, love deeply, keep Christ at the centre.** Carlo loved technology, games, and sports, but his heart belonged to Jesus.

The five most striking quotes of St. Carlo Acutis are:

1. “The Eucharist is my highway to heaven.”
2. “To always be close to Jesus, that’s my life plan.”
3. “Sadness is looking at ourselves, happiness is looking towards God.”
4. “All people are born as originals, but many die as photocopies.”
5. “Our aim has to be the infinite, not the finite. The infinite is our homeland.”

Seven must-know facts about St. Pier Giorgio Frassati:

- **Man of the Beatitudes** – Praised by Pope John Paul II as a model of the Gospel Beatitudes.
- **Catholic Action and Service** – Active in Catholic Action, the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and Dominican spirituality.
- **Mountain Climber** – Loved hiking and climbing, famously calling the mountains “my way to heaven.”
- **Passion for the Poor** – Gave his possessions and time selflessly to the sick, needy, and marginalised.
- **Prayer and Sacraments** – Deeply devoted to daily Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, and the Rosary.
- **Died Young** – Contracted polio through service to the poor and died at 24 in 1925.
- **Beatified in 1990** – Declared Blessed by Pope John Paul II, who named him patron of youth and young adults.

For young Catholics worldwide, Pier Giorgio stands as a shining witness that holiness thrives not in withdrawal from the world but in engaging with it—bringing faith, joy, and justice into every corner of daily life.

Both saints are remembered on the dates they “entered eternal life,” and they continue to inspire young Catholics across the globe. Acutis is revered for his deep devotion to the Eucharist and his creative witness of faith in the digital age, while Frassati, described by St. John Paul II as a “man of the Beatitudes,” is remembered for his vibrant spirituality and dedication to charitable works.

Prominent Christian Activist Charlie Kirk Shot Dead at Utah College Event,



USA

Salt Lake City, September 11, 2025: Charlie Kirk (31), born 14 in October 1993, a well-known conservative activist and a close ally of US President Donald Trump, was shot dead by 22 year old Tyler James Robinson during an event at a Utah college on September 10, 2025. Kirk, widely recognised for his strong advocacy in pro-life dialogue and his outspoken defence of faith and family values, was deeply admired in Christian circles and beyond. President Trump confirmed

Kirk’s death, describing him as a “great, and even legendary” figure.

Kirk’s assassination has drawn widespread shock, particularly among communities where his defence of life, faith, and family values made him a respected voice. Known for his deep Christian devotion, he often spoke passionately on issues central to faith-based ethics and cultural dialogue.

Mary is the Solution: Although he was not a Catholic, during a July 16, 2025, episode of “The Charlie Kirk Show” on “Real America’s Voice,” Kirk explained that he believes Protestants do not venerate or talk about Mary enough. He said that Mary was clearly important to early Christians. She was the vessel for Jesus Our Saviour, He said that “Mary is the solution” to “toxic feminism in America.” Kirk said. “Have more young ladies be pious, be reverent, be full of faith, slow to anger, slow to words at times. Mary is a phenomenal example, and I think a counter to so much of the toxicity of feminism in the modern era.”

One of His Last Messages: One of Charlie’s last messages was on the Gospel: “Jesus Christ was a real person, He lived a perfect life. He was crucified, died and rose on the third day and He is Lord and God over all.”

What He Wanted to Be Remembered For: In one interview, when asked how he wished to be remembered, he replied: “I want to be remembered for courage for my faith. The most important thing is my faith.”

His Family: He is survived by his wife, Erika Frantzve Kirk, whom he married in May 2021. Together they had two children: a daughter born in August 2022 (about 3 years old) and a son born in May 2024 (about 1 year old). His wife and children were central to his life and legacy.

A Legacy of Leadership and Advocacy: He founded Turning Point USA in 2012 online with Bill Montgomery, starting as a small campus-based movement. Over his career, he built TPUSA into one of the fastest-growing youth activist organizations in America, expanding to thousands of chapters nationwide and raising tens of millions of dollars. He also authored several books and became a prominent media personality with a daily talk show and frequent appearances across conservative platforms.

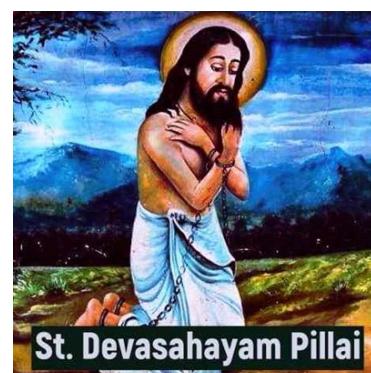
Pope Declares St. Devasahayam Patron of the Laity in India

New Delhi, September 20, 2025 (CCBI): Pope Leo has officially declared Saint Lazarus Devasahayam as the Patron of the Laity in India, following a petition by the Conference of Catholic Bishops of India (CCBI). The decree, issued through the Dicastery for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments on July 16, 2025, confirms the new patronage.

The solemn proclamation will be made on October 15, 2025, during a Eucharistic Celebration at St. Mary’s Cathedral, Varanasi, coinciding with the national meeting of CCBI Laity Commission secretaries.

Cardinal Filipe Neri Ferrão, CCBI President, invited all dioceses and parishes to celebrate the event and promote devotion to the saint, expressing hope that his life will inspire India’s laity “to grow in love for God and serve the Church and society.”

Saint Devasahayam (1712–1752), born Neelakanda Pillai in Tamil Nadu, was a Hindu convert who embraced Christianity and was martyred for his faith. Beatified in 2012 and canonized by Pope Francis in 2022, he remains a shining model of courage, faith, and justice.



Pope Leo XIV: 'It's going to be very difficult to discover the presence of God in AI'

Vatican City, September 22, 2025(Catholic News Agency-By Victoria Cadiel): Pope Leo XIV revealed in his first interview since being elected pontiff that it's going to be "very difficult to discover the presence of God" in artificial intelligence (AI), noting that he recently refused a proposal to create an avatar of himself.



He pointed to the loss of humanity in the digital realm and warned that "extremely wealthy" people are investing in AI and "totally ignoring the value of human beings and humanity."

"The danger is that the digital world will follow its own path and we will become pawns, or be brushed aside," he warned. "I think the Church needs to speak out in this regard," he stated.

During the interview, held on July 10 at Villa Barberini, the papal residence in Castel Gandolfo, and published on Sept. 18 in the Spanish-language book "Leo XIV: Citizen of the World, Missionary of the 21st Century," Pope Leo made it clear that the Church "is not against technological advances," but the "incredible pace" at which the technology is developing is "worrying."

"In the world of medicine, great things have happened thanks to AI, and in other fields as well," he said in the book. "However, there is a danger in this, because you end up creating a false world and then you ask yourself: What is the truth?"

However, he noted the problems created by AI fabrications in an era plagued by deepfakes (AI-created images, videos, or audio recordings) and even spoke of a personal case in which he was the victim of a fake video.

The Holy Father warned of the "great challenge" of fake news because "the temptation is for people to believe it, and they believe it because there seems to be a need in some people to receive it."

"Why are all these people consuming this fake news? Something is going on there. People want to believe in conspiracies, people want to seek out all these false things, and that is very destructive," he added.

Similarly, he also revealed that someone recently asked him for permission to create an artificial version of himself, so "that anyone could go to a website and have a personal audience with 'the pope,' and this pope created by artificial intelligence would give them answers to their questions. I said, 'I'm not going to authorize that.' If there's anyone who shouldn't be represented by an avatar, it seems to me, it's the pope," he emphasized.

NEWS OF THE ARCHDIOCESE

Vianney Day 2025 Celebrated with Prayer, Fellowship, and Jubilee



Imphal, August 4, 2025: The clergy of the Archdiocese of Imphal celebrated Vianney Day 2025 on August 3–4, honouring St. John Mary Vianney, patron saint of priests.

The festivities began Sunday evening with live music by young priests and an inspiring talk by Fr. John Parvis, Principal of St. Joseph's College, Ukhrul, on "Shepherds After God's Heart: The Legacy of St. John Mary Vianney for 21st-Century Priests." The evening concluded with adoration led by Fr. Solomon Thezii and a fraternal meal.

Imphal Diocese Launches Handloom Training for Displaced Women

Singngat, August 6, 2025: The Diocesan Social Service Society (DSSS), Imphal, in partnership with Manos Unidas, launched a 30-day handloom weaving training for 67 women from internally displaced and disadvantaged communities at St. Joseph's School Hall, Singngat. The programme aims to enhance livelihood security and empower women affected by recent violence.

Participants received weaving kits and materials, and were guided by skilled local weavers and senior artisans. DSSS Field Manager Thomas Paupi noted that the initiative focuses on sustainable livelihood development and will monitor progress to extend support where needed.

Monday morning featured the Holy Eucharist presided over by Most Rev. Dr. Linus Neli, D.D., Archbishop of Imphal, followed by breakfast, games, and sports, fostering priestly fraternity.

The celebrations culminated Monday evening with a Jubilee of Priests and Bishops, including a talk by Archbishop Linus Neli, adoration led by Rev. Fr. Ngashanmi SDB, and a fellowship Jubilee meal, blending spiritual reflection, prayer, and joyful community fellowship.



Fr. Athanasius Mung, Parish Priest of St. Thomas Parish, emphasised that the programme restores dignity and self-reliance to displaced families, while Sr. Mary SH highlighted the growing Catholic community seeking refuge and support at Singngat.

This initiative, coordinated by Miss Mary Grace, marks a key step in equipping displaced women with traditional skills to rebuild their lives and foster resilience.

MCYO joyfully celebrated the 10th National Youth Sunday

Imphal, August 10, 2025: The Manipur Catholic Youth Organisation (MCYO) joyfully celebrated the 10th National Youth Sunday at St. Joseph's Higher Secondary School, Sangaiprou, under the theme "You also are my witnesses, because you've been with me" (John 15:27). Over a hundred enthusiastic youths from various parishes gathered for the celebration, hosted by St. Paul's Parish, Sangaiprou.

The event began with a solemn Holy Mass presided over by Rev. Fr. Varghese Velickakam, Vicar General of the Archdiocese, and concelebrated by Rev. Frs. Ningmei Thomas, William Veilouni, and Jacob Darsongam. Fr. Varghese, in his homily for National Youth Day, urged the youth to remain hopeful, faithful, and committed amid social, moral, and economic challenges. Drawing from the Sunday readings, he emphasized trust in God's promises, unity, and spiritual readiness. He called the youth to keep their "lamps lit" through faith, love, and responsible living. After Mass, Rev. Fr. Jacob led an animation session featuring resource person Mr. Gopen Moses, who shared his inspiring entrepreneurial journey, and Mr. Napoleon Rongmei, DFO Kamjong, who motivated the youth to rise above limitations. The day was filled with joyful fellowship, sports, and competitions in basketball and volleyball, where MUCYA Women's Team emerged double champions, while Vianney Home Boys and CYF Lamphel claimed victories in the men's categories. The celebration concluded with a prize distribution, heartfelt thanks to the host parish, and a shared meal, marking a memorable day of faith, unity, and youthful joy.



Assumption Parish Marks Feast Day with Faith and Joy



Luangchum, August 15, 2025: Assumption Parish, Awangkhul (Luangchum), celebrated its annual feast day with great joy and devotion, marked by a profound spiritual milestone. Most Rev. Dr. Linus Neli, Archbishop of Imphal, was warmly received on the evening of 14 August with songs, music, and cultural dances presented

by the parishioners.

The following day, Archbishop Linus presided over the solemn Eucharistic celebration, concelebrated by seven priests. During the Mass, he administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to 108 faithful, comprising both youth and adults. In his homily, the Archbishop reflected on the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the parish's patroness, urging the faithful to deepen their faith, remain open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and witness courageously to Christ in today's world. He

reminded the newly confirmed that Confirmation is not merely a ritual, but a personal strengthening of faith and commitment to the Church's mission.

The celebration, which began with a welcome

address by Rev. Fr. T. S. Dominic, Parish Priest, concluded with a fellowship meal, marking a day of unity, gratitude, and renewed spiritual fervour for the entire parish community.

Feast Day Celebration of St. Mary's Parish, Tuibuang

Tuibuang, August 17, 2025: The Feast Day of St. Mary's Parish, Tuibuang, was joyfully celebrated with great devotion and thanksgiving. His Grace Most Rev. Dr. Linus Neli, D.D., Archbishop of Imphal, presided over the solemn Holy Eucharist as the main celebrant and administered the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation. A total of 119 faithful received their First Holy Communion, while 103 received the Sacrament of Confirmation, making 199 faithful blessed through the sacred rites. Rev. Fr. Lourdhusamy, the Parish Priest, along with seven concelebrating priests, joined in the thanksgiving celebration.

The day was marked by fervent prayers, vibrant participation, and heartfelt gratitude to God for



His abundant blessings upon the parish community.

Church Empowers Manipur Violence Victims with Livelihood Training

Singngat, August 21, 2025: The Catholic Church, through the Diocesan Social Service Society (DSSS), Imphal, and the Italian Bishops' Conference, held a marketing skills training for 54 young IDPs at St. Thomas Parish, Singngat, on Aug. 20–21.

Resource person Obed Paogoulian Singson urged participants to harness Manipur's natural resources and make use of government schemes for small enterprises.

Participants said the training boosted their confidence to rebuild livelihoods through better financial and customer management. DSSS Regional Manager Thomas Paui affirmed the



Church's continued mission to restore dignity and hope.

Since the 2023 ethnic unrest, which left over 260 dead and 60,000 displaced, the Church has provided shelter, rations, and livelihood support to affected families across Manipur. Catholic Church Continues to Support Victims of Manipur Violence.

Imphal, August 22, 2025

The Feast of Our Lady, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Cause of Our Joy, was joyfully celebrated at the Missionaries of Charity, Mother Teresa's Home at Mantripukhri, Imphal, with deep devotion and spiritual fervor. Archbishop Linus Neli was the main celebrant, joined by Rev. Father James, the Secretary to the Bishop, the Sisters, and all the inmates of the home.

In his homily, Archbishop Neli said: "We must rejoice always with Our Lady, who truly sang the Magnificat in her life, with all her heart and whole strength, forgetting all her problems and pains." He also shared his personal experience with Mother Teresa, saying that she had the special gift of reading the mind and heart of people.

(He cited an example about two seminarians: to the one who wanted to become a priest, she said, "Brother, you do not have the vocation to be a priest." And to the one who did not want to be a priest, she said, "Brother, you have the vocation to priesthood.")



The celebration concluded with the cutting of the feast-day cake and a fellowship meal. The community gave thanks to God for the abundant blessings. Some inmates sang a song for the Archbishop, and he blessed each one and distributed sweets to everyone."

Seminarians' Annual Retreat Concludes with Holy Mass



Imphal, August 23, 2025: The Seminarians' Annual Retreat, held from August 17 to 23, 2025, concluded with a solemn Holy Mass presided over by His Grace Most Rev. Dr. Linus Neli, Archbishop of Imphal. The week-long retreat, animated by Fr. Anil Kumar, OFM Cap., provided the seminarians with a time of spiritual renewal, reflection, and deepened commitment to their priestly vocation.

Children's Annual Retreat Held at St. Anthony's Parish, Laii

Laii, August 24, 2025: A two-day Children's Annual Retreat was held on August 23–24 at St. Anthony's Parish, Laii, drawing about 250 enthusiastic students. The retreat featured sessions of talks, activities, confessions, and the celebration of the Sacraments, helping children rediscover their identity as children of God.

The faith-filled event included moments of deep spiritual renewal, with many moved to tears during the Eucharistic Adoration. The retreat



was animated by Rev. Fr. Denis, Rev. Fr. Paul Ngaolouni, Sr. Alphonsa FCC, and Sr. Jessica FCC, with assistance from Sunday School teachers.

Claretian Centres Canonically Elevated to Parish Status in Manipur St. Thomas Parish at Laipharok Maring Village



Laipharok, August 24, 2024: A historic milestone was marked for the Church in Manipur and for the Claretian Missionaries of Northeast India with the canonical erection of St. Thomas Parish, Laipharok, Maring Village, and the blessing of its new presbytery by Most Rev. Dr. Linus Neli, Archbishop of Imphal. On this solemn occasion, Rev. Fr. Jonah Medarshang, CMF was installed as the first Parish Priest. The celebration was graced by Most Rev. Dominic Lumon, Archbishop

Emeritus of Imphal, and Rev. Fr. Joseph Mappilaparambil, CMF Provincial Superior of the Claretians, together with priests, religious, and faithful.

The day witnessed the administration of First Holy Communion to 63 faithful and Confirmation to 20 candidates, along with exhortations from the Archbishop on faith, discipline, and spiritual growth. The celebration concluded with a felicitation programme and a fraternal community meal.



Book Release: A Guide to Catholic Social Teaching

Imphal, August 30, 2025: His Grace Most Rev. Dr. Linus Neli, D.D., Archbishop of Imphal, released a new book titled *A Guide to Catholic Social Teaching*, authored by himself. The first copy of the book was presented to Rev. Fr. Varghese Velickakam, Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Imphal. The publication serves as a valuable resource for deepening the understanding of the Church's social doctrine and its application in today's world.

Holy Rosary Parish, Purul Holds Annual Retreat 2025



Purul, September 4, 2025: Holy Rosary Parish, Purul, held its Annual Parish Retreat from August 28 to September 4, 2025 at Koide Village, led by Fr. Sabu Chenackal from Kohima Diocese and his team. The week-long retreat offered the faithful a time of deep spiritual

renewal through inspiring preaching, adoration, prayer sessions, and personal reflection. It was a grace-filled experience that strengthened faith, deepened communion with God, and left the parish community united in gratitude and joy.

Celebrating Faith and Talent – 2nd Annual Catechism Competition 2025

Chingmeirong, September 7, 2025: Finally, the most awaited moment arrived for the Sunday School Children as the day of the 2nd Annual Catechism Competition was set.

With the intention of helping children deepen their knowledge of the Bible and grow in their spiritual life, the Catholic Youth Fellowship (CYF) of Mary Immaculate Parish, Chingmeirong, Imphal, organized the 2nd Annual Catechism Competition on 7th September 2025 at Don Bosco Centenary Hall, Chingmeirong.

The programme began at 10:00 AM, following the celebration of the Holy Mass with Rev. Fr. Vincent SDB as the main celebrant.

Objectives of the Competition:

1. To foster an interest in reading and learning about the Bible and the lives of its characters.
2. To instill in youngsters a zeal for studying their faith and the teachings of the Church.
3. To provide a platform for young participants to witness their faith and showcase their talents.

The programme was graced by the presence of Most Rev. Dr. Dominic Lumon DD, Archbishop Emeritus of Imphal as the Chief Guest and Rev. Fr. Albert Tirkey SDB, Parish Priest of Mary Immaculate Parish, as the Guest of Honour.



The occasion was further blessed by the presence of nearly 400 members, including 193 Sunday School children from the four participating schools:

1. Nirmalabas Sunday School - 28 Children 2. Holy Trinity Sunday School - 48 children 3. Divine Mercy Sunday School - 60 children 4. Mary Immaculate Sunday School- 57 children.

Also present were religious fathers and sisters from various parishes, youth leaders from different organizations such as the Presidents of MCYO, IUCYO, St. Joseph Cathedral, Holy Trinity Parish, St. Peter Catholic Church, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, PPC and their executives, along with the Men & Women Society of the Parish.

The Competition featured 5 major events:

1. Choir Competition
2. Skit Competition
3. Choreography Competition
4. Bible Passage Reading
5. Bible Character Acting

The event witnessed a vibrant and spirited atmosphere as all four teams competed passionately, delivering outstanding performances while maintaining a spirit of healthy competition. After an inspiring showcase of knowledge, creativity, and faith, Nirmalabas Sunday School emerged as the overall winner. We look forward to organizing many more such events in the future, encouraging our young faithful to remain ever engaged with the Word of God.

Holy Cross School Inaugurates Basketball Court, Honours Meritorious Students

Kakching Khunou, September 9, 2025: Holy Cross School, Kakching Khunou, Lamyengching marked a new milestone with the inauguration of its basketball court and the Meritorious Award Ceremony 2025.

The event was graced by Chief Guest Rev. Fr. Bonio Frederick, Principal of St. Joseph's Higher Secondary School, Imphal, and Guest of Honour Dr. Jotin Okram, Officer-in-Charge, Waikhong Police Station. Priests, councillors, PTAB members, teachers, and parents also attended the celebration.

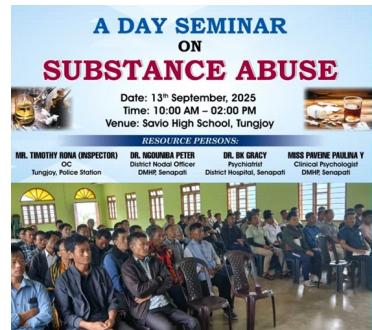
The programme began with a prayer dance by students, followed by the blessing and inauguration of the court, envisioned as a space for building character, teamwork, and leadership. Cultural performances highlighted the students' talents, while eight achievers were felicitated for their success in district-level Painting and Science Competitions.

The event received warm appreciation from dignitaries and parents alike, commending the school's holistic vision of nurturing excellence in academics, arts, and sports.



Seminar on Substance Abuse Held at St. Dominic Savio Parish, Tungjoy

Tungjoy, September 13, 2025: A one-day seminar on Substance Abuse was organized at St. Dominic Savio Parish, Tungjoy, for Church and village leaders from Tungjoy, Tunggam, and Saranamai villages. Resource persons included Mr. Timothy Rona, Inspector and OC, Tungjoy Police Station; Dr. Ngouniba Peter, District Nodal Officer, DMHP Senapati; Dr. B.K. Gracy, Psychiatrist, District Hospital Senapati; and Miss Paveine Paulina Y, Clinical Psychologist, DMHP Senapati. About 80 participants attended the programme, gaining valuable insights into the dangers of alcohol, smoking, and drug abuse, and the need for community awareness and prevention.



Blessing & Dedication of New Church at Maiba

Liyai, September 18, 2025: The Blessing and Dedication of the newly built St. Peter Church, Maiba, under Christ the King Parish, Liyai, was held on September 18, 2025. The solemn celebration was presided over by Most Rev. (Dr.) Linus Neli, Archbishop of Imphal, who led the Blessing Ceremony and Holy Mass, concelebrated by 17 priests.

Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Jerome SJ welcomed the faithful, joined by six religious sisters, members of SDCU and PNCM, about 40 catechists, and



delegates from neighbouring churches, including Jakhama, Nagaland. The event marked a joyful milestone in the faith journey of the Maiba Catholic community.

St. Claret Parish Erected at Lungthulien, Pherzawl District



Lungthulien, September 21, 2025: Continuing the missionary zeal of the Claretians, St. Claret Mission Centre, Lungthulien, was canonically erected into a full-fledged parish by Archbishop Linus Neli. Rev. Fr. James Domai, CMF, was installed as the first Parish Priest, with Rev. Fr. Munda Agustush, CMF, as Assistant. The Archbishop also blessed the newly built presbytery in the presence of clergy, religious, laity, and well-wishers. The solemn Holy Eucharist was concelebrated

with Rev. Fr. Dr. Joseph Mappilaparambil, CMF, Provincial Superior of the Claretians and Rev. Fr. Dr Ngaoni Paul, chancellor of the archdiocese of Imphal and Rev. Fr. Jonah Medarshang. The celebration included the First Holy Communion of 18 children and Confirmation of 11 candidates, and was marked by ecumenical participation of other Christian denominations. Established in 2022, the mission has since been serving the remote community through evangelisation, education, healthcare, and social outreach. With its elevation to parish status, the Claretians reaffirm their mission of nurturing faith and building resilient communities in Manipur.

The 2nd Men's Camp 2025 Held at Liwachangning

Pallel, September 21, 2025: St. Pauls' Parish, Liwachangning hosted the 2nd Men's Camp 2025 from September 19–21 under the theme "Pilgrims of Hope." A total of 167 members from different fellowships participated in the three-day camp marked by spiritual renewal, fellowship, and brotherhood. The sessions were animated by Rev. Fr. Bonio Frederick, Rev. Fr. Ignatius Gangmei, Rev. Fr. Nicholas Kamei, Rev. Fr. Louis Khongsai, Rev. Fr. Joseph Thohrii, and Rev. Fr. Benjamin Kodai Kaje.

Highlights of the camp included workshops on faith and Christian living, a solo singing



competition, Bible Quiz, and a Choreography Competition that creatively conveyed motivational messages. New Executive Members of St. Paul's Men Society were elected during the gathering, and it was announced that St. Thomas Church, Purumtampak will host the next Men's Camp.

Carpentry Training Launched for IDPs in Singngat, Manipur



Singngat, September 25, 2025 (Courtesy-Catholic Connect): The Diocesan Social Service Society (DSSS), Imphal, in partnership with Spanish NGO Manos Unidas, launched a 60-day carpentry training programme for Catholic Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) at St. Thomas Parish, Singngat. The initiative aims to equip participants with carpentry skills to generate income and achieve financial self-reliance.

Seventeen beneficiaries received carpentry

toolkits and practiced building a library rack under the guidance of experienced carpenter T. Benjamin Zou, an IDP himself. The launch event included a prayer, speeches from DSSS Field Manager Thomas Paupi and Fr. Joseph Muan, and highlighted the importance of gratitude, skill development, and community support.

The programme coincided with the completion of a month-long weaving training, where 67 IDP women showcased traditional Zou shawls and mufflers, demonstrating how skill-building initiatives are empowering displaced families.

Local leaders, parish council members, youth, and Pa John, chief of Munpi, who donated land for IDPs, attended the launch, which concluded with refreshments and interactions between participants and guests.

St. Paul's Parish, Sangaiprou Celebrates Jubilee of Catechists

Imphal, September 28, 2025: St. Paul's Parish, Sangaiprou, joyfully observed the Jubilee of Catechists at the St. Joseph's Higher Secondary School Auditorium, gathering parishioners, Oja Dangmei Simon, the Parish Touring Catechist and 14 Local Catechists from various unit churches. The occasion also marked the Silver Jubilee of Oja Simon Dangmei, honouring his 25 years of dedicated service as touring catechist. The celebration began with a solemn Eucharistic Mass presided over by Fr. Ningmei Thomas, concelebrated by Frs. Bonio and Joy Kurian. A felicitation programme followed, featuring performances by students of Sneha Bhavan, St. Xavier's Hostel, and Mahabali Catechism Centre. The Parish community expressed heartfelt gratitude by presenting gifts to the Silver Jubilarian and all catechists. Around 400 faithful attended the meaningful celebration, making it a memorable day of thanksgiving and appreciation for the ministry of catechesis.



Three-Day Parish Annual Retreat at Tungjoy



Tungjoy, September 28, 2025: The Three-Day Parish Annual Retreat at St. Dominic Savio Parish, Tungjoy, animated by Rev. Fr. (Dr.) Gravious Augustine and Rev. Fr. Soni Thomas, concluded with a solemn Holy Mass. The retreat, marked by prayer, confession, and reflection, drew parishioners from far and near.

Parish Priest Fr. Solomon Thezii thanked the

catechists, St. Savio Church members, choir, prayer groups, generous sponsors, and all parishioners for their contributions. He also acknowledged the ministry of confessors Rev. Fr. Ngaolouni Paul, Rev. Fr. Jerome Vaigas, and Rev. Fr. Shikho John. "May the merciful God, who has begun good works in us, continue to guide us in the days to come," Fr. Thezii said in his closing message.

Vianney Mission Centre Elevated to Parish; New Presbytery Blessed

Gangluan IV (Pinjang), September 30, 2025: His Grace Most Rev. Dr. Linus Neli, D.D., Archbishop of Imphal, solemnly presided over the celebration as the Chief Celebrant and blessed the foundation of the new Boys' Hostel. On this momentous occasion, he officially elevated Vianney Mission Centre to a full-fledged parish in the presence of Most Rev. Dominic Lumon, D.D., Archbishop Emeritus of Imphal, over 25 priests including Rev. Fr. Ngaoni Paul, chancellor of archdiocese of Imphal and Rev. Fr. Francis Tinglung SDB, numerous religious sisters, and around 1,500 faithful.

The event also witnessed the installation and appointment of Rev. Fr. Nicholas Kamei as the first Parish Priest, followed by the hoisting of the parish flag and the traditional Ho-Hoing (Huai Kaumei) ceremony. A solemn Holy Mass was then celebrated by Archbishop Linus, concelebrated by Archbishop Dominic Lumon and the priests, with hymns beautifully rendered



by the students of Vianney Friendship School. The newly elevated parish community of Pinjang (Gangluan IV) also rejoiced in the Blessing of the New Presbytery and the Silver Jubilee of the First Religious Profession of Rev. Fr. Joshua Gangmei SDB, and Rev. Fr. Philip Kamei SDB.

Following the Holy Mass, a felicitation programme featuring songs, cultural performances, and words of gratitude from the jubilarians and community leaders was held. The celebration concluded with a common meal shared in joy and thanksgiving.



Imphal, September 25, 2025: Archbishop Linus Neli, D.D., attended an interfaith celebration organized by the Jamaat-e-Islami

Hind, Manipur Branch, in collaboration with the Interfaith Forum, held at the Manipur Press Club, Majorkhul, Imphal on September 25, 2025. The event brought together leaders and representatives of various faith

communities to promote peace, harmony, and mutual understanding among different religions in the state.

Youth Camp at Makhan

Makhan, September 28, 2025: The Mao Catholic Youth Organization (MCYO) organized a Youth Camp at St. Xavier's Parish Makhan under the theme "Faith Over Fear" (2 Timothy 1:7; Psalm 56:3). The camp brought together young Catholics from various parishes for prayer, formation, and fellowship.



The main celebrant of the Holy Eucharist was Most Rev. Dr. Linus Neli, D.D., Archbishop of Imphal, who exhorted the youth to live courageously in faith and trust in God. During the celebration, 124 faithful received the Sacrament of Confirmation, strengthening their bond with the Church and commitment to Christian witness.

The resource persons included Rev. Fr. Dr. Manoj Churuliyil Abraham, SDB, Sr. Sania Josephine, FMA, and Shri Barnabas Chalai, Assistant Commandant, Border Security Force. Through inspiring talks, group sessions, and spiritual activities, the camp deepened the participants' faith and unity. The event concluded with a thanksgiving Mass, encouraging the youth to live out their faith with confidence and joy.

Pilgrimages to St. Joseph's Cathedral Mark Jubilee Celebrations

Imphal, August 30 & September 6, 2025: As part of the ongoing Jubilee Year celebrations, St. Joseph's Cathedral, Mantripukhri, became a centre of grace and renewal through two spirit-filled pilgrimages marked by faith and youthful enthusiasm.

On August 30, the Sisters and students of Auxilium Convent, Maram, led by Rev. Sr. Susngi Pasqualina, FMA, made a meaningful pilgrimage to the Cathedral. The event began with a joyful



march accompanied by hymns and the Jubilee flag, culminating in a Solemn Holy Eucharist celebrated by Rev. Fr. Ningmei Thomas, APP, St. Joseph's Cathedral Parish, which deeply inspired all present through heartfelt participation and prayerful singing.

A week later, on September 6, about 130 youth from St. Joseph's Parish, Tadubi, led by Rev. Fr. John Shikho, Parish Youth Coordinator and

Assistant Parish Priest, along with Rev. Fr. Augustine, SDB, undertook a pilgrimage under the theme “Pilgrims of Hope.” The Holy Eucharist was solemnly celebrated by Fr. Jacob Darsongam, MCYO Youth Director, at 11:10 a.m., enriched by well-prepared liturgy, choir, and a generous offertory. The programme

concluded with a Jubilee prayer, words of gratitude from Catechist John (Kaibi) and Miss Athia, and a joyful photo session.

Both pilgrimages proved to be moments of grace, faith renewal, and joyful communion, leaving the pilgrims spiritually strengthened and ever more committed to their journey of faith.

WOMEN COLUMN

Spiritual Animation Programme at Pangmoul



Pangmoul, August 17, 2025: The Manipur Catholic Women Organization (MCWO), together with the Parish Women of Pangmoul, organized a one-day Spiritual Animation Programme at St. Vincent De Paul Church, Pangmoul Parish. Faithful from Kangpokpi, Molkon, and Pangmoul Parishes came together to deepen their faith and renew their Christian life.

The programme began with a welcome by Rev.

Fr. Philip, Parish Priest, and a session of praise and worship. Mrs. Justina Roel, President of MCWO, highlighted the purpose of the gathering. Rev. Fr. Soni Thomas, Spiritual Director of MCWO and Director of DSSS, gave the first session on the Word of God and later continued his talk after lunch. The Holy Eucharist, celebrated by Rev. Fr. Philip, concluded the morning session.

In the afternoon, Sr. Roveinai Archana FCC delivered a powerful talk on “Rooted in God’s Love – The Treasure that Transforms Our Life”. The programme ended with a vote of thanks by Dr. Alice and prayers led by Rev. Fr. Philip. Participants returned spiritually renewed and inspired.

Women Spiritual Animation Programme

Churachandpur, August 24, 2025: The Manipur Catholic Women Organization (MCWO) organized a one-day Spiritual Animation Programme at the Divine Retreat Centre, Zoumun Mission Centre, with 420 participants from six parishes—Kholian, Thanlon, Tuaitengphai, Churachandpur,

Tuibong, Singngat, and Zoumun on 24th August, 2025

The programme began with the Rosary and confession, followed by a welcome address from Rev. Fr. Rakesh Albert, Assistant Principal of Don Bosco Higher Secondary School and APP. The resource team comprised Rev. Fr. Soni



Thomas, Spiritual Director of MCWO, who spoke on the power of God's Word and bearing one another's burdens; Sr. Roveinai Archana FCC, Director of Women and Children Mission, who shared on "Rooted in God's Love – The Treasure that Transforms Our Life"; and Mrs. Justina Roel, President of MCWO, who emphasized generosity.

The day was spiritually enriching, with participants testifying to physical healing and renewed faith. The programme concluded with the Holy Eucharist, a vote of thanks by Mrs. Anna Neiboi Gangte, Chairperson of KCWUM, and a fellowship meal lovingly prepared by the Kuki Catholic Women Union Manipur.

Leaders' Training Programme at Pallel



Pallel, August 30, 2025: The Parish Leaders' Training Programme on the theme "A Woman is a Carrier of Faith" was held on August 30, 2025, at Khuninglung Community Hall, Pallel. It was organized by the Manipur Catholic Women Organization (MCWO) in collaboration with the Maring Catholic Women's Society (MCWS), with the aim of empowering women leaders and strengthening their roles in family, Church, and society.

Thirty-six participants from three parishes and 15 unit church leaders took part. The main resource persons were Sr. Archana Roveinai

FCC, Director of the Women and Children Commission, Archdiocese of Imphal; Mrs. Justina Roel, President of MCWO; and Mrs. Sarita, Secretary of MCWS.

Sessions addressed themes such as Who is a Woman?, Why Women's Associations are Not Progressing, Women's Position in Family, Church, and Society, and The Call to be Generous Women. The programme provided an enriching platform for reflection, sharing, and learning. Participants expressed that the training was informative, motivating, and helpful in strengthening their leadership and faith journey.

Training of Trainers for Women Leaders Held at Mantripukhri

Imphal, August 31, 2025: A one-day Training of Trainers (TOT) for 30 Women Leaders from the four valley parishes of the Archdiocese of Imphal, Holy Trinity Parish (Lamphel), Mary Immaculate Parish (Chingmeirong), St. Joseph's Cathedral Parish (Mantripukhri), and St. Paul's Parish (Sangaiprou) was held on August 31, 2025, at Christ Jyoti School Auditorium, Mantripukhri. The programme was organized by the Manipur Catholic Women's Organization (MCWO) and hosted by the Women Society of St. Joseph's Cathedral Parish.

The training was animated by Diocesan Resource Persons Mrs. Jacinta Awungshi and Mrs. Lydia Ngoruh, who led the participants through sessions on leadership, faith formation, and mission planning. The newly elected MCWO President, Mrs. Justina Roel, was introduced during the programme and shared her reflections with the group. The participants



took part in the interactive sessions, which included group discussions and a Spiritual Conversation exercise to strengthen the mutual support among women leaders and to deepen the Catholic faith within their local communities.

One-Day Leaders' Training Programme



Senapati, September 1, 2025: A one-day Leaders' Training Programme on the theme "A Woman is God's Masterpiece" was held at Mao Poumai Community Hall, Senapati, organized by the Manipur Catholic Women Organization (MCWO) in collaboration with the Poumai Naga Catholic Naotumai Me (PNCNM).

Thirty-eight participants from four parishes and 20 unit church leaders attended. Resource

persons included Sr. Archana Roveinai FCC, Director of Women and Children Commission, Archdiocese of Imphal; Mrs. Lotus, Vice President of MCWO; and Mrs. Kaisa, Secretary of PNCNM.

Sessions addressed themes such as "Who is a Woman?", "Why Women's Associations are Not Progressing", "Women's Role in Family, Church and Society", "Generous Women", "Empowerment Mission", "Forgiving Heart" and "Women as Messengers of Faith". The programme inspired participants to embrace their God-given dignity and contribute actively to family, parish, and community life.

Leadership Training Programme at Bishnupur

Bishnupur, September 6, 2025: A Parish Leadership Training Programme was held on September 6, 2025, at St. Ignatius Parish, Lamlanghupi, for women leaders of St. Ignatius and St. Xavier parishes. Thirty-two participants, including 14 unit church leaders, attended with great enthusiasm.

The resource persons were Sr. Roveinai Archana FCC, Director of the Women and Children Commission, Archdiocese of Imphal, and Mrs. Justina Roel, President of the Manipur Catholic Women Organization (MCWO). The sessions addressed key topics such as Who is a Woman?, Women's Association Challenges, Women's



Position in Family, Church and Society, Generous Women, Women Empowerment Mission, Forgiving Heart, and Women as Messengers of Faith.

The programme provided valuable insights and motivation, inspiring participants to embrace their leadership roles with renewed commitment. They pledged to share their learning with their unit churches to strengthen women's associations and contribute actively to parish life.

Women Leaders' Training Held at St. Paul's Parish, Liwachangning



Pallel, September 21, 2025: St. Paul's Parish, Liwachangning (Chandel District) hosted a training program for women leaders on September 14, 2025, with 25 participants. The sessions were animated by Mrs. Ch. Cicilia and

Mrs. Lydia Ngoruh from the Imphal Archdiocese resource team, who imparted valuable lessons aimed at strengthening family faith life, fostering unity, and encouraging greater participation of women in the mission of the Church. The program, organized by the Parish Women Society, was well appreciated by the participants for its practical insights and spiritual enrichment.

St. Anthony's Parish Women Organization Holds Third Seminar

Laii, September 20, 2025: The 3rd Parish Women Organization Seminar of St. Anthony's Parish, Laii was held on September 19–20 on the theme "Women, Source of Faith." About 100 delegates participated in the two-day program, which featured talks, interactions, and cultural competitions.

Resource persons Rev. Fr. Solomon, Sr. Paulcy Nakhuru CMC, and Sr. Athini Lily DSFS spoke on topics such as the role of women in Church



and family life and the Catholic woman as a model mother. The seminar concluded with the election of new executive members, marking a fruitful and spirit-filled gathering.

Vailankanni, October 1, 2025: The VII National Women's Conference, Jubilee for Women, and Pilgrimage of Hope was held at the Shrine Basilica of Our Lady of Health, Vailankanni, from 29th September to 1st October 2025. Organized by the CCBI Commission for Women under the guidance of the Conference of Catholic Bishops of India (CCBI), the three-day event was held under the theme "You are precious in my eyes, and honoured, and I love you" (Isaiah 43:4). Over 1,400 women from across India, including 19 representatives from the Archdiocese of Imphal, participated in this grace-filled gathering of faith, renewal, and hope.

The Archdiocese of Imphal made significant contributions to the national event. Mrs. Justina Roel, President of the Manipur Catholic Women's Organization (MCWO), spoke on



Atrocities of Manipur; Mrs. Alice, General Secretary of MCWO, moderated the Cultural Programme; and Sr. Archana Roveinai FCC, Director of the Commission for Women and Children, led the Responsorial Psalm. The North East Region, including Manipur, also animated the Holy Mass with devotion and cultural richness. For the participants, the experience was a deeply moving pilgrimage of faith, and they expressed heartfelt gratitude to God, the bishops, clergy, religious, and their families for their prayers and support.

YOUTH COLUMN

Youth Animation Programme Held at Mary Immaculate Parish, Chingmeirong



Chingmeirong, July 20, 2025: The long-awaited Youth Sunday celebration brought together around 110 enthusiastic youths at Savio Hall after the Holy Mass for a vibrant day of prayer, fellowship, and formation. The event, organized by the Catholic Youth Forum (CYF) of Mary Immaculate Parish and graced by Rev. Fr. Albert Tirkey, SDB, Parish Priest and Director of Bosco Mangal, and Rev. Fr. P.F.

Vincent, SDB, Administrator of Don Bosco, Chingmeirong, along with representatives from NERYC, MCYO, IUCYO, St. Joseph Cathedral, and Sacred Heart Church, featured a rich blend of spiritual and interactive activities. The Jesus Youth team led moments of praise and worship, personal testimonies, fun games, and sessions on Gospel reflection, pro-life awareness, and faith renewal. The programme concluded with a short felicitation, a joyful action song, and Benediction led by Fr. Albert Tirkey, leaving participants spiritually uplifted and inspired to continue their journey of faith and evangelization.

National Youth Day Celebrated at St. Dominic Savio Parish, Tungjoy



Senapati, August 17, 2025: The youth of St. Dominic Savio Parish, Tungjoy, joyfully celebrated National Youth Day under the theme "Youth: Pilgrims of Hope for a New World." The celebration, graced by Rev. Frs. Jacob Darsongam (MCYO Director), Titus Zimik, Solomon, and Patrick, brought together 191

youths and 27 catechist trainees in a spirit of faith, fellowship, and joy. Fr. Jacob's inspiring session on the Sacraments and vocation deeply enriched the youth, while Fr. Titus in his homily urged them to live with open hearts, unity, and compassion, reminding all that "the heart is meant to love, not to lock." The day featured lively sports and cultural events, fostering friendship and enthusiasm among participants. The celebration stood out as one of the largest youth gatherings in Manipur, strengthening faith, community spirit, and joyful service in the Church.

Manipur Hosts Regional Catholic Youth Gathering under the theme "Pilgrims of Hope"

Churachandpur, September 23, 2025: The North Eastern Regional Youth Commission (NERYC-ICYM NE), in collaboration with the Manipur Catholic Youth Organisation (MCYO), organised the Catholic Youth Meet 2025 at Don Bosco Higher Secondary School, Churachandpur, and Good Shepherd Parish, Lamka. Held from September 20 - 22, under the theme "Pilgrims of Hope", the gathering brought together Catholic youth from Churachandpur, Pherzawl, Moreh, and neighbouring regions, fostering faith, friendship, and inspiration after the challenges of 2023.

The Meet drew over 400 young participants from multiple parishes, including seven priests, Sr. Wansuk Lyngdoh RLYA, NERYC President Mr. Jonah Huimingam, four resource persons, and 12 MCYO executives. The inaugural programme was led by MCYO, setting a prayerful and lively tone. Newly elected executives of the Churachandpur District Catholic Youth Organisation (CDCYO) took



their oath of office, pledging to serve youth faithfully in Christ. A Host Night showcased songs, dances, and cultural performances, celebrating the rich traditions and creativity of the Kuki-Zo communities.

Throughout the gathering, participants engaged in sessions on faith, contemporary societal concerns, and youth leadership. Fr. John Barman, MSFS, encouraged youth to face challenges with trust in God, while Fr. Paul Lelen and retired BSF Deputy Commandant Mr. Andrew Lalpi addressed societal issues and opportunities for young people. A career guidance session by Mr. Chris Leonard Barnard of Insights IAS Coaching, Guwahati, further empowered participants to plan for their futures.

Creative and cultural activities, including a Choreography Competition, ice-breaking exercises, and faith-sharing sessions, highlighted the leadership, enthusiasm, and unity of the young Catholics. Holy Masses animated by parish choirs and Adoration services offered moments of spiritual reflection, prayer, and gratitude.

The gathering concluded with a final Mass that united all participants in celebration and thanksgiving. The Meet proved to be more than an event—it was an experience of empowerment, fellowship, and renewed hope, leaving lasting memories of prayer, music, learning, and joyful companionship.



ESSENTIAL CATHOLIC TEACHINGS (7a)

By Fr. Sebastian Chelat

The Son of God Becomes Our Brother

“You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that by His poverty you might become rich” (2 Cor.8:9). Through the centuries humanity in its sin and sorrow needed desperately the Savior that God had promised through the prophets. When God’s gift of a Savior came, it was a far richer fulfillment of the promises than anyone could have hoped for. “But when the time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman (Gal.4:4).

This chapter speaks of the good news of Jesus, of how He who was born on earth as our Savior as fully human as we are, our Brother, but is also our God. He is nonetheless but one Person, the eternal Son of God. He suffered the humiliations and limitations of humanity; but in His humanity He bore the saving gifts that were needed to heal our infirmities.

1. *Who is Jesus Christ?*

Jesus Christ is the Savior of the world. He is the eternal Son of the Father, who in time became truly a man, that in our humanity He might save us from sin and from the bitter effects of sin, and might enable us to share His divine nature.

This central teaching of Christianity, that in Jesus Christ the true God really became man, is called the mystery of the Incarnation.

2. *What does it mean to say that Jesus is the eternal Son of God?*

To say that Jesus is the eternal Son of God is to say that He has from eternity the same nature as the Father. He is literally “one in being” with the Father. He is what the Father is: “Light from Light, true God from true God” (Nicene Creed). With the Father, He is the wisdom and love that made the world and keeps it in being. Yet He is a person distinct from the person of the Father; He proceeds from the Father eternally, perfectly mirroring the splendor of the Father.

MESSAGE OF ARCHBISHOP FOR WORLD MISSION SUNDAY-2025

Dearly Beloved People of God,

On 19 October 2025, the global Catholic community will once again come together in prayer and solidarity to celebrate World Mission Sunday, a sacred occasion that renews the Church's universal call to mission (cf. AG, 35). With the theme, "Missionaries of Hope Among all Peoples", we are reminded that Christian mission is essentially a proclamation of hope; hope grounded in the redemptive death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

In a special way, this day speaks powerfully to the Church in Manipur, a Church born through the selfless labour of missionaries from beyond its borders. Today, we rejoice in seeing sons and daughters of our own land stepping forward as missionaries of hope, walking faithfully in the footsteps of Christ, "the Divine Missionary of Hope". Amidst the challenges and social turmoil that affect our ability to worship together and live in communion more fully, we are reminded that we are not alone (cf. Jn 16:32). Our mission flows from Christ's salvific mission that marks the eternal springtime of hope.

Pope Leo XIV's motto, "In Illo uno unum" (In Him who is One, we are one) chosen for his papal ministry reflects perfect communion of the Trinity: "Christ is our Saviour and in Him, we are one, a family of God, beyond the rich variety of our languages, cultures and experiences". The urgency of mission and hope in today's world demands our attention on Pope Leo's remarks that "our world wounded by war, violence, injustice and division needs to hear the Gospel message of God's love and experience the reconciling power of Christ's grace". He insists on a spirit of missionary discipleship among all baptised persons and the urgency of "bringing Christ to all people". Pope Leo thus perfectly aligns with the theme chosen by Pope Francis for the 2025 World Mission Sunday: "Missionaries of Hope Among all Peoples" and encourages fidelity to that theme in action and prayer.

The message for World Mission Sunday (WMS) 2025, outlines three essential dimensions of our missionary Identity:

1. In the Footsteps of Christ, Our Hope: Amid persecution, challenges, and our own human limitations, the Church continues her mission with resolute confidence. Inspired by the love of Christ, we are called to hear the cry of suffering and wounded humanity and to journey like Christ, through the streets of the world. Truly, this Church of Christ is "not a static Church, but a missionary Church that walks with her Lord through the streets of the world" (Pope Francis, Homily, Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, 27 October 2024). Guided by the Holy Spirit, she brings the light of the Gospel to every corner of the earth, personifying hope, healing, and peace in a world longing for redemption (WMS, 2025, No.1).

2. Christians, Bearers and Builders of Hope: As followers of Christ, we are called to walk with people in their joys and sorrows, to bring light into darkness, and to echo the hope of the Gospel in every situation. As Gaudium et Spes reminds us, "the joys and hopes, the grief and anguish of the people of our time... are the joys and hopes, the grief and anguish of the followers of Christ as well" (Gaudium et Spes, 1). Through presence, compassion, and witness, Christians become signs of God's love, sowing seeds of hope in the soil of everyday life. "Impelled by this great hope", Christian communities can lead the way toward a renewed humanity in a world that, even in its most "developed" regions, suffers from confusion, isolation, neglect of the elderly, and a growing unwillingness to help those in need (WMS, 2025, No.2).

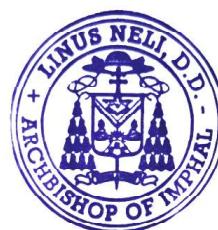
3. Renewing the Mission of Hope: In a world often gripped by distraction and despair, Christ calls his disciples to be "artisans" of hope, through prayer, action, and fidelity, to restore the broken fabric of human dignity. Indeed, "the person who hopes is a person who prays", for prayer is not only the foundation of mission, but its lifeblood (WMS 2025, No.3). Through prayer, we nurture the flame of hope that God has placed within us, allowing it to grow into a powerful fire that brings light and warmth to those around us, expressed through the real, meaningful actions and gestures that prayer itself inspires.

Praying Manipur

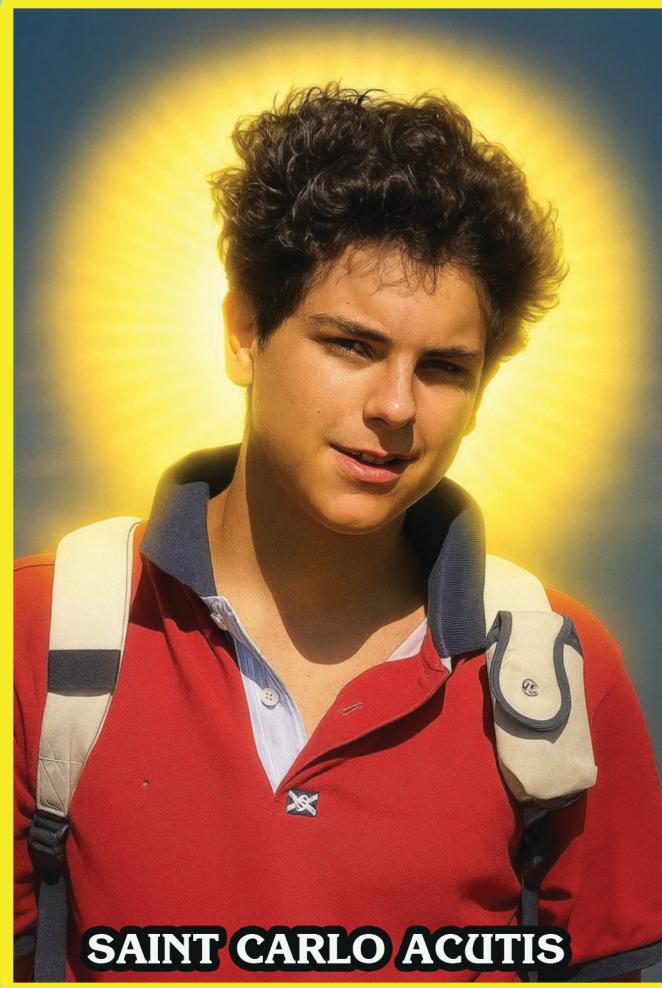
The Church in Manipur is presently walking a difficult path, marked by struggle and division. Communities are wounded, and many faithful feel the weight of discouragement. Yet, even in the midst of such trials, we find strength and hope in the enduring words of St. Paul: "We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed" (2 Corinthians 4:8-9). These words resonate the resilience of a Church that, though bruised, refuses to lose heart.

This is a time for renewal. We are called to reaffirm our undivided commitment to Christ and His mission. In the midst of our struggles, prayer becomes our lifeline, our most powerful form of solidarity and spiritual resistance. Through fervent prayer, we not only find healing and unity but also actively participate in the Church's primary mission: to proclaim the Gospel and make Christ known. Each baptised Christian, regardless of background, shares in this missionary call (cf. Matt 28:19-20). Now, more than ever, the light of Christ must shine through our witness of faith, hope, and love. Manipur needs this light. The world needs it. As we walk this missionary road, let us do so with courage, compassion, and an unflinching faith that God is at work even in the darkest valleys; bringing life, healing, and peace.

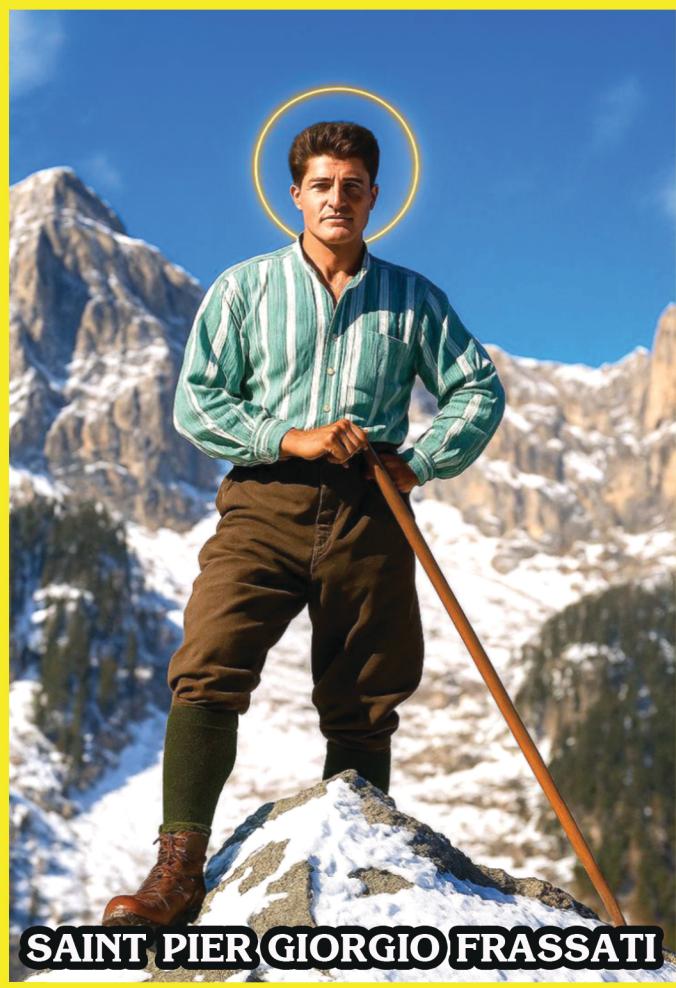
As "Missionaries of Hope Among all Peoples", especially here in Manipur, let us recommit ourselves fully to Christ's call to serve, heal, and proclaim the Gospel. May our witness bring peace, unity, and transformation to our land. With courage and compassion, let us go forth, missionaries of hope to every heart, every village, every corner of Manipur and beyond.



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 + Dr. Linus Neli, D.D.,
 JCD Archbishop of Imphal



SAINT CARLO ACUTIS



SAINT PIER GIORGIO FRASSATI

St. Carlo Acutis

Beatified : Oct. 10, 2020

Canonized : Sept. 07, 2025

St. Pier Giorgio Frassati

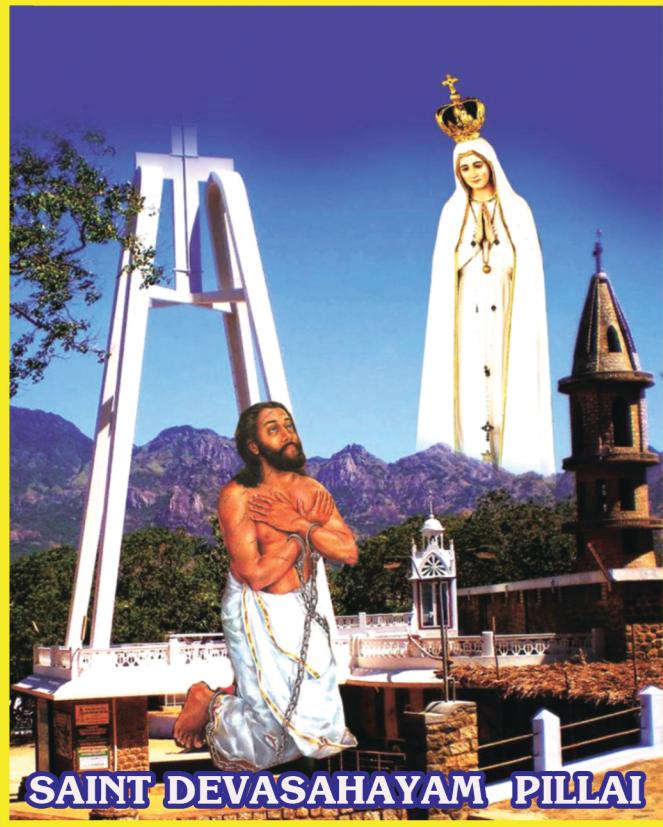
Beatified : May 20, 1990

Canonized : Sept. 07, 2025

St. Devasahayam Pillai

Beatified : Dec. 2, 2012

Canonized : May 15, 2022



SAINT DEVASAHAYAM PILLAI