

The *Search* Mar - Apr, 2017  
YCS/YSM National News Letter

Book 37

Vol: 2



**YCS Asia Climate Summit & Extraordinary Council  
“Protecting our Common Home; Students Taking Action to  
Protecting Creation and Build Sustainable Peace”**

**IT'S YOUR CALL .....**

MY DEAR FRIENDS IN YCS/YSM INDIA

It's often said that the path you chose the path you tread. It is we who make a choice and utilise the time given to us for a good cause or waste the time by doing irrelevant things. Our summer vacations are beginning. Most of you may have made your plans already to spend your summer vacations fruitfully. Every summer we make plans to utilise our summer vacation for a good purpose but sometimes end up wasting a lot of time on unnecessary things. This year when you plan your holidays, sit back and plan, evaluate your past and see where exactly you failed to utilise your time and make a good plan. This will definitely help you to do something fruitful.

Evaluation is a very important part of our day to day life. The more we evaluate ourselves the more we come to know about our own mistakes and we get a chance to overcome those mistakes. Being a YCS/YSMer I have learnt to evaluate each and everything that I do and it has helped me to plan better.

During this summer, YCS/YSM is organising the 2nd NATIONAL CONVENTION in KOLKATA. This is going to be a great experience for all those who are going to attend this. At the national level they will know more about the movement and get a wonderful exposure.

Through the various study sessions we will get clarity on various issues like family life, values, nationalism, morality, self respect etc. Through the methodology of the movement 'see, judge and act' we will be able to focus better in our day today life. The theme of the convention is BELIEVE BEGIN and BECOME. Let's also start believing in ourselves because to believe in any thing we first need to believe in ourselves and once we start believing in ourselves we begin our journey we choose and as a result we become that person that we always wanted to be.

This convention will be a great experience and will always be remembered. All of us who are going to be there will share our thoughts and change our lives.

Hoping for your presence in the 2nd NATIONAL CONVENTION .

LET YCS/YSM LIGHT SHINE

*Natasha Ann Louis*

Next issue is special issue of the 2nd National Convention. We request you to send your articles before 10th June 2017. - Editor



## GIVE TIME



Vacations are at hand and maybe most of you have been busy visiting your friends, families, etc. It is wonderful to experience this joy of visiting our loved ones after one whole academic year. I too keep awaiting the two months of vacations to visit my native place.

But just like how I always mention lets not 'generalise'. It's not everyone that spend their vacations visiting their loved ones. Modernised world bombards our mind and body with thoughts and feelings that dislike the idea of meeting, getting together, reuniting or visiting.

Riya loved visiting her granny's place which was hours away from her home. The thought of just being at her native place delighted her. Even though her parents delayed the travel due to the long tiring journey, Riya forced them to visit. At her granny's place she sat with her grandparents, listening to stories, played with cousin's and had a hearty time. Time passed, Riya grew up to be a teenager, she had her own mobile phone, she was a part of all trendy social networking sites. She still did wait for her vacations to come. But this time the reason was different. This time, Riya wanted to spend her vacations partying with her friends, watching movies, etc. In the whole of sixty days, Riya couldn't find one day to visit her native place or spend time with her own family.

Well, may be most of you have connected yourselves with Riya, haven't you? Of course, technology gives us happiness, immense happiness. But can this happiness be compared to the joy and mirth we see on our and on our family's faces? I guess no. Our families today have not much time to spend with each other. Our parents have a lot of work load and we are busy with our projects and school work. Try and compare these two situations- The conversations we have with our family at the dinner table and the conversations we have with our family in front of the TV's. Which is better? Yes, technology is good but not to an extent where we place our families to be secondary.

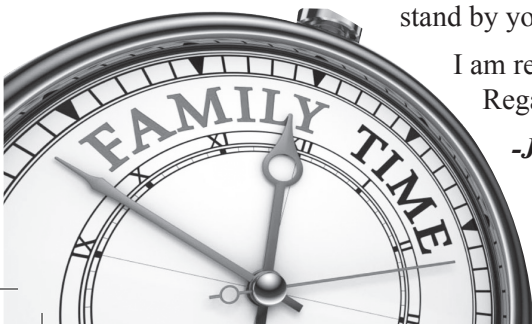
Another thing to be noticed is that, today it is very difficult to express our love and feelings towards our parents. Our speech and expressions have been transformed into messaging and emojis. Therefore we stumble before we pour out our feelings towards our own family.

My dear friends, the solution lies within yourselves. It is only you who know your family! It is only you who love your family! You have to find the solution all by yourself. Think of the ways to find time to spend with your family and loved ones. Let's not rely on technology to express with them. Find time. Meet them. Talk to them. Be live witnesses to those precious smiles that return to you. Because, it is your loved ones, especially your parents who will stand by you no matter what.

I am ready to give my time to my family! Are you?

Regards,

*-Jesvita Princy Quadras, National Convenor*



# DON'T LOSE HOPE TRUST IN GOD

*Search*



My dear friends in YCS/YSM

I hope you are doing well. I'm sure that most of you are planning for vacations. Most of you have finished your exams and waiting for the results. I wish you all the best and good luck!

As the holy word says, "The Lord will make you go through hard times, but he himself will be there to teach you, and you will not have to search for him anymore" (Is. 30:20)

Once a girl was seeking admission in a college. She wished to study medicine and she had passed her previous grade. She thanked God for that because she worked hard and God had answered her prayers. Unfortunately, she had to drop her ambition because of some family issues. Now she wanted to take admission in a college to do graduation. All her friends were settled in colleges. Days went by. It was beginning of June, colleges were ready to reopen. She got frightened and nervous as she was not admitted in any college where she applied. With her mom and dad she went to many colleges for admission but in vain. She cried to God seeking his help. "God, where have you been, I have no choice, my friends have already got admission to the course they opted but I stand alone with no support. I see many youngsters and elders with many recommendations to the college principals and for me, you alone are my everything" she prayed. People said that they would pray for her, some said that she was not blessed, some others sympathized saying, the Lord will help her. She cried aloud asking God to answer her prayers. Her last hope was in God. The last college she had applied which was a Christian college and students dreamt to get admission there. That college is one of the good colleges in the country! And also ranked top in the state. There was just one week left for reopen and she was waiting for the interview.

With her mom, she met the vice principal. Vice Principal said, "Sorry, admissions are closed and we have no more seats". She was put into a very bad situation that her friends and relatives were ready to mock at her. She continued her interaction with God, "God, come down, work a miracle for me. I trust in you, in you alone". On the next day, she received a mail from the college asking her to meet the vice principal on the following day. The vice principal once again disappointed her. She said, "My dear, we are sorry, your application is missed in the college online registrations. Unless I get your application I cannot help you. We are sorry"

Each and every time she faced challenges and disgrace. She felt cheated and lonely. But she did not lose her hope in trusting God. She continued to pray, "Father, I'm tired of this, please help me, I'm losing my hope, there is no one to encourage me. Come Lord ...tell the people that you are there for me!" She prayed and decided to meet the vice principal for the last time. This time she got a shock! a shock of happiness, a shock of fulfillment, a shock of excited hope. The vice principal said that they found her application form and she has admitted her in college and told her to pay the fees.

The girl and her mom were literally in tears. She was admitted in the college, she dreamt about. She stood as a blessed child among all who were against her. They felt happy for her and blessed her. One more surprise awaited for her, she also got the courses she wished which the college had just begun that year and she was the first batch.



# Search

My dear YCSYSMers, we may have come across such situations or may have experience hard times. Some get disheartened, some lose hope. But one thing we have to pay attention is that God is always with us, always there, for us to guide us. He may make us to go through hard times but he himself will be there to give us success. The only thing we should do is to trust him to the fullest, to praise and thank him, to love him blindly and put our hope in him. So as the girl stood lonely and in disgrace, we would also be humiliated and cheated at times, remember everything happens according to the will of God and in which he is there with us always.

As I conclude, we should all stand as living testimonies to our God. When we finish our vacations and begin a new academic year, let us all trust in the Lord. 'Heaven and Earth will pass, but the words of our lord God will remain' and I wish you all the very best for the new academic year. May the Lord our God shower his blessings upon us. I'm ready to hold his hand and to face the upcoming challenges and ready to receive his blessings .....Are you?

Long live YCSYSM! See you at Kolkata during the YCS/YSM National Convention.

**Raichel Patricia, National Secretary.**

YCS /YSM has brought me from a cycle to a plane. I used to be so scared and frightened to mingle with others, but now like a plane, I can fly anywhere and do anything. It's like a ladder, I love it.

**Darren Joshua Lyke, Sacred Heart High School, Hyderabad**

YCS/YSM is a movement that brings the students together to learn about Christ and to experience Christ in our life and to share the word of GOD to others.

**Ignatius Dkhar, North East**

**It's been a great honour and I feel lucky to be a part of YCS/YSM in my life.**

**M**y friends used to say, that somewhere they have found themselves. In the same way YCS/YSM and its way of life has helped me to find who I am. It has been a great platform to unlock and discover all my capabilities through YCS. Building 'self' is not an easy process for an individual. According to me, knowing and building one's 'self' is a very hard thing. One's self should be strong to face all the challenges and difficulties in their life.

I am happy that I have used all the opportunities given by YCS/YSM to create my own self which is strong enough to face all the challenges in my life.

Through cell meetings, group sharing, leadership trainings and through other activities YCS /YSM has made me a good leader and a guide to others. Today I can motivate many young people to take up responsibilities. Apart from saying the changes that took place in my life, I value the experience that I have acquired from all the people who had been before me as a teacher, motivator, guide, well-wisher. Some of them were like my parents who taught me. I am lucky that I got this platform to transform my life.

I feel I am still at the beginning and still have a long distant journey to travel in my life...

**V.M.Ebin Navis, Former Nexco (TN)**



## IYCS ASIA CLIMATE SUMMIT AND EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL

Assumption Church, Antipolo City,  
Phillipines.  
March 13-19, 2017.

.....

The IYCS ASIA CLIMATE SUMMIT AND EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL was held at Assumption Church, Antipolo City, Philippines from 13-14 March 2017. Seven Countries of Asia participated in the program. The program begins with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist on Day 1 where IYCS ASIA Chaplain, Fr. Serge Maniba was the main celebrant together with Fr. Chetan Machado, National Chaplain of YCS/YSM India as the concelebrant. In the homily Fr. Serge Blessed all the participants and encouraged them to utilise the time given to them and reflect together for the future of IYCS Asia. After the Mass, Richard, General Secretary IYCS conducted the welcoming sessions where all participants joyfully interacted and get to know each other through various activities. Participants at the end of this session shared their happiness and viewed that though we came from different countries, as YCS, we still have a lot of similarities and this connection makes us more united.

Richard then continued with the introduction to the session and sharing session. In this session questions were asked to all like who are we? What do we do? Where are we? All the participants were convinced with the answer that WE ARE YCS. We are students

working to make the world better through self transformation and life improvement using the SEE-JUDGE-ACT and change others through our actions. Richard further touched about the importance of Review Of Life and how YCS members need to live with it as their way of life.



**Jimmy Pdang**

As we entered SEE part, In the afternoon all National Movements presented the current situations of the environment in their own respective countries as an overlook at the Asian Situation. At the outset we are living in an environment rise with water pollution, air pollution. Land pollution, industrial pollution and an increasing alarm of Global warming and climate change. All these put a danger to the earth that we are living today and to humanity in particular. With some of these identifications we feel that we must do something to protect mother earth so as to protect ourselves.

In the exposure part all delegates visited the Ecological Friendly School and witnessed the beauty of God's Creation in the form of



# Search

varieties of blooming flowers, humble little insects, colourful butterflies, birds, animals and the fresh air supplied to us by the wonderful living trees inside the small park maintained by school students with the help of school authorities.

As days moved on we entered into Judge Part. In this, Br Christopher Garit from the Marist Congregation spent his time with delegates



to reflect on the protection of our Common Home and particularly about the personal and missiological reflection on the “*Laudato Si*”. He emphasized that *Laudato Si* is a call for all people of good will to give praise to God by healing the wounded creation (mother earth). People are not the masters of creation and God does not give us the power of dominion over the earth but the power to take care the earth and protect it. Hence it is our responsibility to restore balance in our common home.

Workshop on other aspect of IYCS Global Campaign was conducted and case study was given to each delegate to reflect. Delegates were asked to put themselves into the situation as per the scenario they are getting and expressed without speaking who they are. Delegates were then divided into groups and each group discussed each topic and topics were environment, education, peace and conflict and to suggest concrete solutions.

Several exercises were conducted to make the delegates go deep into the reflection part such as Climate Negotiation games- reflection on

the current political and economical scenario of countries on the reduction of global warming. International climate courts where delegates were divided into two parties, old and new generation and both parties presented their case against each other on the effects of climate change, the court then ordered both the parties to prepare various action plans to restore back the environment.

Coming to the Action part, delegates were asked to sit with in their own sub-regions and prepare action plans for tackling climate change and preservation of the environment. After reflecting and gathering on the needs and concerns to take actions against ecological crisis all sub regions decided to love and respect God’s creation and to encourage students through Review Of Life to take educational initiatives and to integrate environmental practices in all YCS activities, to promote value-based education utilizing social media, to incorporate environmental concerns into various YCS trainings and to implement tree plantation projects and environmental advocacy in all aspects of YCS life and missions.



An exposure visit was also organised and delegates visited the Avocado Residence the house co-owned by IYCS and IMCS and the IYCS office situated near the residence.

The historic extraordinary council of IYCS Asia was held on Day 5 where certain legal



# Search

matters and finances were discussed apart from the discussions on the future of YCS Asian Coordination and IYCS Properties situated in Manila. After a long session, on the consensus of decisions the council formed an Interim Coordination Team for the year 2017-



2018 until the IYCS Asian Council. The team composed of Mr. Stevenson (Philippines), Mr. Jimmy (India), John and Jessica (Taiwan), Fr. Serge (IYCS Asia Chaplain). With the guidance of an Advisory Board composed of Fr. Serge Maniba, Former members (Teresa Mourad, Manoj Mathew, Ha Ngo) and Cyril Lituanas (SCAP). Miss Althea has been identified to be the Secretary and voted by all National Movements.

Regarding about the two properties, all delegates witnesses the bad conditions of both the house and office and National Movements are of the view that Philippines are not familiar to them so the decisions either to sell and buy new property or to renovate would be difficult for them to decide. The Council created a committee consisting of Fr. Serge, Fr. Aloysius (Malaysia), Loucille (PHL) and Althea (PHL) to do the research and assessment within three months and the committee then will send a proposal to all

the National Movements to present the big picture and an online voting will then take place since the council has decided to adopt Rule 5A of IYCS Statutes. The Council has a consensus for the adoption of the solidarity fee and the amount would be \$50. In relation with legal matters and finances a Board has been constituted for SEC registration and bank signatories for IYCS-ASIA Account are Fr. Serge Maniba (Chaplain) and Frence Boiser (National Coordinator of SCAP). The council ended with the adoption of the Final Statement.

Not to forget that everyday delegates gathered together in the garden every morning for the morning prayer and evening for the holy mass and each day sessions were concluded with a social evenings and entertainment from all sub-regions. The program was further enlightened with special dinners with former members and invited guests.

The IYCS Asia Climate Summit/extraordinary Asian Council Meeting was concluded with a thanksgiving Mass on the beautiful morning of the last day and immediately after Breakfast, delegates departed with joyful heart and tons of experiences. ♣



YCS/YSM has played a very important role in my life. It gives me oxygen to be alive and sustain in this world. The only reason for my growth/position in the society. I can proudly shout and say that I am a YCSer.

***Vijay Raj Gabriel, Ex YCS, Chennai***



# Revitalize the YOUTH MINISTRY



I have spent the last 29 years of my priestly life, mainly with the youth ministry. As the first Regional Youth Director of MP, I have given my contribution to stabilize the youth commission in MP and Chattisgarh by establishing a Regional Youth Center (in Vidisha, which was later shifted to Khandwa) and spreading the ministry

**'the only ministry which will bear fruit is from our work with youth. When I say youth, I also mean the thousands of young students who are in our colleges and schools.'**

by persuading bishops to appoint a director for the youth ministry. During that time, we had launched the youth magazine Vikalp. From its humble beginnings as

a quarterly, it grew into a monthly magazine with 5000 subscribers. Today, it has again become a quarterly newsletter of the youth commission, runs with subsidy from dioceses. I was also one of those who was very actively involved in the formation of the National Youth Commission with Archbishop Abraham as its chairman. After leaving the official responsibility as Regional Youth Director, I did not give up my youth ministry. I continued my animation work for youth, both in the rural and urban

areas. The present work which I do through USM is only an expansion and fullness of the work which I had been doing among Catholic youth. Through this movement,

**Fr. Varghese Alengaden**  
USM, Indore

we influence and train thousands of young people of all faiths and cultures.

When I heard about the CBCI meeting in Guwahati, Assam, in February 2010 where the bishops would be discussing the youth





ministry, I thought of placing some of my concerns about the youth ministry and my proposals to make more vibrant to bear lasting fruit. I wrote these reflections to the chairman of the youth commission after my third visit to the Kandhamal mission in Odisha to study the impact of communal violence.

In face, I wanted to write some of my concerns and observations about the youth conventions which are held regularly at the national level. One such national convention was held in Cuttack in Odisha a few months before the Christians were attacked in Kandhamal region. Though mega event was conducted in Cuttack, with more than a thousand youth, there were many complaints about its organization, the behavior of the priests and young people aired by local persons

associated with the event. After every youth convention at least some genuine young people feel disillusioned by the way it was organized.

In the fast changing socio-political context, the only ministry which will

bear fruit is from our work with youth. When I say youth, I also mean the thousands of young students who are in our colleges and schools. The following suggestions may be useful:

1. Have clarity of vision, goals and policies for the youth ministry. The vision should be based on our deep experiences about the power of youth force, the possibilities of using their maximum energy and talents for giving leadership in society. It is important to be aware of the negative forces which affect youth in society and the an ability of our youth animators and directors to meet these challenges.

2. We need to be clear about what we expect our youth to be. Just making them docile, pious boys and girls will not work. Youth may stay with us for some time to

sing in the liturgy and other celebrations. Have we done an evaluation of what the youth does after they get opportunities and benefits from us? How many students from our educational institutions have given outstanding contribution to society and recognized their contribution by the whole society? What has happened to the number of youth who attended our national and international meetings? What are their contributions to the Church and to the larger society? Despite special privileges and concessions given to our Catholic youth how much do they influence society in their work place and give leadership? Let us not be complacent because of their presence in the Church functions. The question is how are they giving leadership in society and influencing it?

3. Thousands of youth were brought to Odisha during the last youth convention. Did any of the youth directors or national youth commission ever think of getting some of our youth from different parts of the country to go to Khandhamal both



# Search

for exposure and serve as volunteers in the relief camps and the reconstruction of the villages as non Christian students do while they are in the colleges as part of the NSS program? Since they had been to Odisha for a mega event they could have been organized to do this service actively in small groups. This can be done even now, since many houses of the villagers have not been rebuilt? Why don't the bishops who gather in Assam give a call for such a creative venture? The national youth commission can organize this great work in collaboration with the local bishop and priests. Youth would be happy to collaborate with this adventurous work. They need to be motivated with genuine spirituality.

4. It is good to introspect the impact of Anti-church attacks on youth? How much do they know about it? In what way have our youth directors and commissions given them awareness to it?

5. It is important to evaluate the impacts of the various youth events at the parish, diocesan, regional and

national levels with a larger vision frame, i.e. their responsibility and commitment to the Church and to the nation by these youth leaders.

6. The YCS/YSM has a powerful vision and spirituality. My own priesthood has been enriched by the vision and spirituality of YCS/YSM. Unfortunately, our animators themselves are not aware of its spirituality. To which I hardly find this powerful movement active in any of our schools where we go. The youth movement in most of the places (as I travel widely all over India) is reduced to holding a yearly convention and meetings abroad. Spiritual growth of the youth and formation of vision of life are missing in its dynamics. Gathering them for a Holy Mass with special singing and rosary procession once a month

is not youth ministry.

7. The selection of youth animators is also an important thing. Being a young priest is not the criterion by which one should be appointed youth director. The director and animators should be mature both in age and wisdom to guide and train youth to face the difficult world. The stability of their job is also important. This job is not to be a part time or short time affair. It should be a full time job with permanency. The directors and animators need serious training and exposure before they take up the job. ❖

(continued)

***YCS/YSM is organising the 2nd National Convention to train and educate students and animators. Our focus is to create leaders with values.***



"I have seen the Lord" and she told them that he had said these things to her! (Jn 20 :18) – Mary Magdalene



see...

**The Earth:**

The rifles are vomiting bullets. The Hawkers (war planes) are roaring in the sky. The bombs are showering fire. Human bombs are exploding shimmering blood. Ambulances running around and the sirens are ringing. Earth is crumbling down due to natural calamities; Eco system is degrading due to human selfishness; Sea waters are rising and small islands are marooning; Vegetation is depleting as industries are emanating thick black smokes; Flora and fauna is disappearing from the face of the earth.

**Humans:** Some are killing; some are getting killed; some are fuming with anger; some are crying; some are crumbling under heap of stones and mud ; some are trying to revive the hearts ; some are breathing their last ; some are carrying the dead ; some are looking up to the sky their tears dried up ; some are wondering whether this is the plan of God.

Some are hoarding money while some are spending lavishly ; some are over eating, drinking while some are starving ; some are making merry while some are depressed ; some are exposing their skins while some are trying to cover themselves with what little they have ; some feel secure while some are always insecure. Feel the scent of Resurrection ...!

**God:** Someone says ‘My God’ is the strongest and all must surrender to him; another says My God is the merciful and you need to bow before him; someone says there is no God and don’t fool the people in the name of God; someone is creating a God who would fit into the present system to make a lot of wealth. Altogether, all seem to be using God for their own reason and according to their own understanding.



judge...

In this situation where do you find Liberation;

where do you find Resurrection; where do



**Fr Charles Menezes**  
IYCS Chaplain

you find salvation? Does anything of it make sense to you?

I am the resurrection and life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live. (Jn 11:25)

What does life consist of?  
**For the secular world**

**Power/ Boss over**

I am the boss and you must obey me - « All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me » (Mt 4 :9)

**Ego/ Self justification**

I am big and I know everything – « Do you not know that I have the power to release you, and power to crucify you? « (Jn 19:10)

## Money/ Property

Money rules the world. With money anything can be done – « For where your treasure is, there your heart will also be » (Mt 6:21)

## Secular Knowledge/ Wisdom

I know everything and I am the master – ‘the knowledge man possesses tends to make one proud’ - “Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up” (1 Corinthians 8:1).

## Security/ People around

I have my people around me and that is enough for me. I am secure with them – « I will pull down my barns and build larger ones.....You fool for this very night your life is being demanded of you » (Lk 12 : 18-20)

## Arguments/ Justification

I am always good – « I am not like others ..... » (Lk 18: 11-12)

## Beauty/ Showy

I am the most beautiful – « Your beauty should not come from outward adornment .....it should be that of your inner self » – (1 Pet 3: 3-4)

## Business/ Busy

I am a too busy person –« Do not worry about tomorrow....today's trouble is enough for today » (Mt 6: 34)



## For Jesus

### Sacrifice

I must die that you may have life – « Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit » (Jn 12: 24)

### Loosing oneself

Die to yourself and you will have life in heaven – « For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it » (Mk 8:35)

### Servant Leadership

I have come to serve and not to be served - “If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all.” (Mk 9: 35)

### Humility

Be merciful and humble of heart – « Blessed are the meek for they will inherit the earth » (Mt 5:5)

### Good Samaritan

Help the poor. He is your neighbour – (Lk 10:25-37)

## Cross

Carrying your Cross is the only way to achieve heaven – « Come to me all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest » (Mt 11:28)

## Death

Die to this world and live for eternity – « Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life » (Jn 12:25)



Are you ready to die to your - SELF, your Ego ; self-centeredness ; Self-

justification ; Sin ; wretchedness ; possession ; people ; power ; worldly knowledge – that you may have life?

Are you ready to die for others and - Be a Good Samaritan; A good neighbour; A good servant;



A martyr; Another Christ.  
By doing this you will feel the scent of Resurrection!!!

« You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say..... God raised him up having freed him from death »  
(Acts 2:22-24) Simon Peter

**May the Risen Lord bless you all. Alleluia.**

## Questions:

1. How and where do you see Jesus in the other, especially in the poor and marginalized?
2. How do you value dying for others? Why ?
3. What is your action to experience resurrection of your inner SELF? ♣

## Before you Expire; Inspire Others...

YCS/YSM to me is a life changing movement. I joined YCS in class 8th std. but till 1st year PUC I did not know much about YCS/YSM. One of the YCS village exposure camps changed my entire life through. I came to know about YCS movement through various resource persons, young students like Roshan Lobo who inspired me a lot. Then I started to think about ‘why can’t I become like one of them’

Later, I was elected as a representative from Shimoga diocese to the region and from the region to NEXCO.

I was a shy person but because of YCS today I can talk in front of students. Today I have improved a lot. I can travel all over India all alone. Also I got the basic knowledge and experience. I have improved in my studies, my dealings and my behavior. I have acquired life values.

Today what I am is because of YCS. I also thank our diocesan director Fr. Ronald and my parish priest for their support.

Thank you

Once a YCS/YSMer, always a YCS/YSMer.

**Clacious Rodriguez, Nexco, Karnataka Region**



## SYNOD OF BISHOPS: XV ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment

#### Pope’s Letter to young people

My dear young people, I am pleased to announce in October 2018 a Synod of Bishops will take place to treat the topic: “Young people, the Faith and Vocational Discernment.” I wanted you to be the centre of attention, because you are in my heart. Today, the preparatory document is presented, a document which I am also entrusting to you as your “compass” on this synodal journey...

*N.B. We have sent the copy of Preparatory document and Pope’s letter to all DYD/RyDs. We request all YCSers to answer these questions and send the copy to National Office. IYCS is sending a questionnaire on youth voice on the youth issues. Check and reply to the link given below: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdaiKbCEwaHlvOVZarCmFXFlhWhHhQlfW\\_1SjY4KIFGHjIIRQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdaiKbCEwaHlvOVZarCmFXFlhWhHhQlfW_1SjY4KIFGHjIIRQ/viewform)*

# POEMS

## Search

### My walk towards Achievement...

Everything in this world, begins with a dream,  
People dream and dream to achieve;  
They try their best to seek it, they can't  
Because they are confused to plan it.

Walking towards success makes you shine,  
It is only done when people think it is mine!  
Every thought of every dream is a reality,  
It is a stage to prove your ability.

The word which makes you achieve,  
Is the same word which shows your achievement!  
Step your foot, forward to run,  
Believe yourself to feel the fun.

Goal is to prove your will,  
It never shows you null.  
It is a feel of fire,  
Staying inside you to catch your desire.

Find your treasure; Grow to blossom;  
Sow your talent; Reap your success;  
Whatever you are, be the best,  
Trust in God alone to fulfill the rest!

**-Raichel Patricia**  
*National secretary , YCS YSM India*

### “PERFECTION”

Perfection was  
created  
to make us feel  
imperfect,  
but imperfect, of  
course,  
is the perfect thing to be.

We spend every hour of every day,  
every day of every week,  
trying to be different,  
trying to be unique.

Our nature is to search  
for answers to life's questions,  
concepts we don't understand,  
like "What is perfection?"

You strive to be "perfect,"  
a term you don't understand.  
You should be yourself  
before it gets out of hand.

Surely happiness is of priority  
over a word like "perfection,"  
so ask yourself this,  
Who looks back in your reflection?

**Glory Gladwin Yakub**  
*Ex YCS YSM , Nagpur Region*



### YCS/ YSM is a way of life.

#### It is a movement that I take with me wherever I go

People who associate with me say that I do have a very positive approach to most situations. I owe it to the methodology - SEE, JUDGE AND ACT.

I have been conditioned to use it in every moment of decision making. My profession demands me to constantly use this as a way of life. It has made me a leader who can efficiently lead a team to work willingly.

I can see that it is still in the process of churning out many more efficient and effective leaders who do make a difference in the lives of people whom they associate with.

**Judie Gomez**  
*Ex YCS'er Telugu Region, presently working as a teacher.*



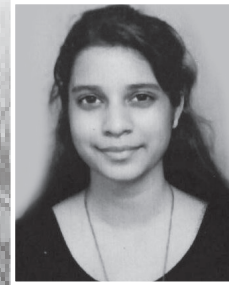
# Search

## My gift of infinity to a stranger

We are the unexpected acquaintances  
Who have so many things to share and few greetings  
when a thought a question or an idea is thrown in the wind

That's when our conversations begin  
We are the unheard voices the unshared sounds  
Blurred faces with ancient pain and varied experiences  
Just fragile fragments of ideas have we thrown around  
Few mornings, few nights and the conversations we ignite  
Will remain in these spaces to resound.  
Thoughts will melt into forgetfulness  
Blurred faces will cease to be  
Not a mole to remember not a wrinkle to see  
For every beginning has an end and so shall it be.

Walk widely talk stupidly make the worst decisions  
Take the longest parts go out there where least are aware  
That the most dangerous road taken  
gives us the most amazing experience.  
When it rains hard and the worse pain is in the heart  
Never let it break you apart  
Hang on there stay alive  
Across the harbour is the light  
You have a wider horizon to touch



The daring travels to take  
In the chapter of you life  
You have history to make.  
I am the tiniest dot on the galaxy  
with only a smile to give  
But  
I give you my words  
So if not me they will live.

- *Sherilyn Fernandes*  
*St. Aloysius college, Mangalore*



**YCS/YSM India.** According to me this is not only a movement but a movement which has given life to many, it has shaped and developed me as a person. YCS/YSM has given me the awareness, the clarity to always look at the bright side of everything. It has introduced me to many experiences which I will cherish for life. It has made me a person who feels closer to God, a person who believes in oneself and in the goodness of the world. All you have to do is to give yourself to this movement, live each and every aspect, take in all the good qualities, experiences, motivation and knowledge this movement provides, because if you give something for the movement it will come back to you ten times the amount. Be open to accept the methodology and have faith in the Almighty.

Keep smiling and keep shining. Let YCS/YSM light shine.

*Angela Anthony, Former Nexco*  
*Bihar region*



## EXPERIENCING THE THRILL OF LIFE

**Change is an illusion;**  
keep changing, be the change you wish to see



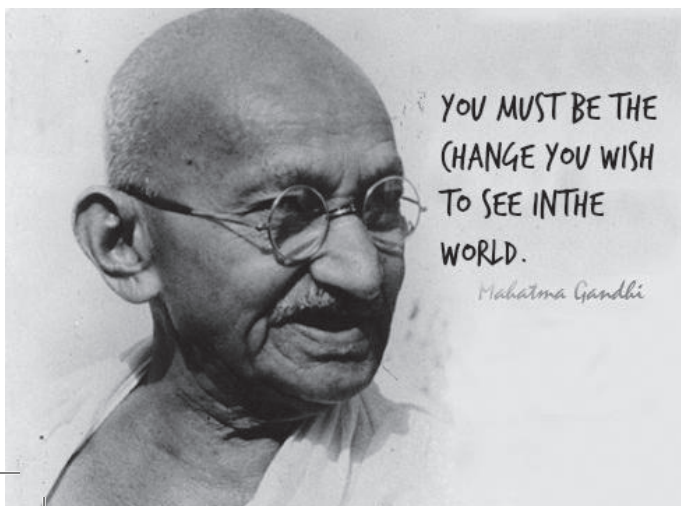
**M**any people feel that they are lucky sometimes, but I feel I was born lucky, whenever I think of myself I feel proud and confident. I usually motivate myself and my friends. When I was not successful in all my duties, one day I was free at home and feeling bored so I examined my life for the past six years. I had a deep review of my life and assessed each and every moment.

I seriously don't know how that day passed so quickly. I got the best answers and I felt 'wow' to see my growth in these 3 years. All these changes in my life happened after I became part of YCS family. When I was in class seven I joined YCS and I was encouraged by my parents, parish priest, animator and friends. I started attending diocesan programs and that was a great platform for me to change my self and I started to learn and change many things in myself. Here again I was encouraged by my parents, DYD's and RYD. I got a chance to attend the National Council 2013 which was a turning point in my life. That was the time a spark was created in my heart.

I was selected as a NEXCO member for 2013-2016 and I got a 'fantabulous' NEXCO family along with that super duper chance to work with 2 National Chaplains. I have learned many new things from my fellow NEXCOs and got a lot of precious friends all around India. Positively my life changed upsidedown. The National level meetings which I have attended with my YCS family helped me to learn many new things from other NEXCOs and I feel I was born lucky to be a part of YCS/YSM movement which is an International movement. YCS is a very good platform for students to know who they are and to showcase their talent, express their views, to live their life with a purpose, to create a passion, mission, vision for their life.

The change which I have undergone in this past six years is not a simple thing. I know how much change has come in my life which I am not able to express here. I improved in many things and what I am today is a gift of YCS movement. Some times I feel good that I have used these three years usefully and meaningfully and the three years of experience as NEXCO member will go a long way in my life. This has given me a vision, mission, passion, aim and desire to live a focussed life.

National Chaplain Fr. Chetan says 'once a YCSer always a YCSer', I know that I will always remain a YCSer in its true spirit. I



am ready to face my life meaningfully and I believe I am bold enough as a changed person and I am ready to change others through my way of living. I strongly believe that I am always at the beginning and that way of thinking will lead me for more greater heights of growth in my life.

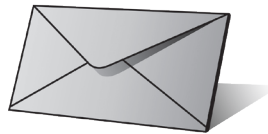
Where there is hope there is a way, this is a small message I want to convey to all my YCS/YSM family. I have a good hope that we all will meet someday somewhere. So all the best to all my dear YCS/YSM family.

And I thank all the people who are behind the screen who have helped in my growth. By doing small things with great care we can live our life better. Just thanking people is not enough, I promise everyone that I'll work hard and come out in flying colours and make YCS/YSM proud.

V.M.EBIN NAVIS  
Former NEXCO T.N.

## CHAMELEON AND YOU

Dear,  
"Snap I am this  
Snap I am not  
Sometimes I work hard  
Mostly I am not  
I am a chameleon"



Hey you! Have you heard it? I guess you did in oppo add displaying on your TV screen. Well then are you a chameleon? No.....oh! I thought you were. How? Let me explain. Each day you open your cupboard to dress up. Don't you? Well nothing wrong with that. Once you finish dressing, you search for your mask. What mask? The one that covers your face with smile when you are talking to the person you hate the most. Aren't you like a chameleon then?

You are a chameleon. You change your color very often according to the situation and transform accordingly. Your boneless tongue which is twice of your body length sways to the beat of the music around you and speaks nuisance.

You are a chameleon. You transform yourself into the best person possible when you have to impress people but at the same time you are truly a beast in your home.

You are a chameleon you sacrifice many things for unconditional love and care for them but ignore all the sacrifices your parents do for you and their unconditional love.

You are a chameleon. You are horrified each day when you look into the mirror wondering what a person have you become now after a long period of pretence. You know you are hiding yourself but still okay with it. You have left your inner soul to die.

Sorry! Oh just wish that word is erased off the dictionary. Why? You use it often but don't mean it many a times.

It was nice talking to you. If I think it's useful. I'm a fool. Take care.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. Critic

*-Viola D'Souza, Reporter, Mangalore*



Search

REPORTS

## KARNATAKA

### YCS/YSM VILLAGE EXPOSURE SHIMOGA DIOCESE

Village Exposure Camp by the Youth Commission of Shimoga at Thirthahalli from 22 -25 April 2017

Village exposure is a student related exposure camp involves, inspires and evolves an individual to a personal metanoia, helps an individual to have an attitudinal change towards life, thought and spirituality.

The four day long village exposure camp unlike any other camp engrosses the students through YCS/YSM methodology through village mundane life like cleaning the cow shed, milking the cow, collecting fire wood, gathering dry leaves for cow shed, manuring the vegetable garden, cleaning coconut/Areca nut farms etc (Awareness).

After each work there was a evaluation to reflect on their attitudes, getting in touch with their feelings and emotions and further to



deepen the reflections there were input sessions on student related issues like awareness on Pancahyat Raaj by Mr. Vincent D'Mello, How to build a new society by Vithasha Ria (Muddhu) Religiosity and Spirituality by Fr. Roman Pinto, My Life Journey in YCS

by Roshan Lobo, Taize Prayer service by Fr. Ronald Veigas and Rights of Children by Fr. Richard Pais.



There was Holy Eucharist presided over by Most. Rev. Dr. Francis Serrao and his motivational talk inspired the participants. Inter religious prayer services made the students to feel that they all belong to One God. And finally a street play on 'Swatchatha Andholan' in the Thirthahalli city was acted. The entire program was designed by the Youth Commission of the Diocese of Shimoga under the leadership of Fr. Ronald Veigas and his DEXCO team.

*Report: Fr. Ronald Veigas*

## TELUGU

### ELURU DIOCESE - TRAINING

The youth commission of Eluru diocese organized the YCS/YSM training programme in the schools of Yerngudem, Vellachintalgudem, Dondapudi, Nirmalgi, Bhimadole and Polavarm. It was an amazing and an exciting experience for all the 8th, 9th and 10th class students. There were nearly 200 above participants.



In each school we started our program with YCS/ YSM prayer. We introduced ourselves and explained how we can make change happen in us, gave various true examples of the students changing themselves and bringing about a change among the others. And we gave a call to all of them to adhere to the methodology and spirituality of the movement and face the reality in true sense of the movement.



We had short seminar on goal setting. There we had group (Cell) discussion was conducted in groups of 9 and 10 members each one SEE, JUDGE and ACT. And explained How to be goal oriented persons, you the future of India. And we gave carrier guidance for their future life. During the session we had some action songs and games which are most needful for the students for their personality development. The day ended meaningfully by the grace of God.



The smooth running of the programme in our diocese is due to the loving support and encouragement from Bishop Polimera Jaya

Rao. It is very helpful for us to continue our work with more enthusiasm and zeal.

*Youth commission of Eluru*

## KARNATAKA

### YCS UDUPI - YCS ANIMATORS EVALUATION & TRAINING



Young Catholic Students Movement (YCS) of Udupi Diocese organized YCS Animators Evaluation & Training at Youth Commission premises, Udupi on 12th March 2017 from 09:00 am to 01:30 pm.

The Holy Eucharist was celebrated by Rev Fr. Reginald Pinto Director of SAMPADA – Social Development Centre, Udupi. The evaluation was conducted by Fr. Edwin D'Souza, Director YCS, Udupi Diocese. He gave the inputs on how to deal with young students and understand them. All animator came out with their point of views on how to improve their animation style. After the evaluation there was a small meeting of animators where they were briefed them about the upcoming programs and about other YCS activities.

Around 35 Animators took part in this programme.



## WEST BENGAL

### YCS KOLKATA-CONVENTION 2017 PREPARATION

The Meeting started with the opening prayer by Archbishop Thomas D'Souza.

New committee heads were introduced which was followed by the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting and the agenda of the meeting. The reports of the subcommittees were presented which included the confirmation of the venue for the Priest's and the nuns was finalized as Don Bosco Nikita also the availability and rate of the rooms were found out.

For the inauguration and the closing ceremony Miss Grace was made in charge.

Liturgy and Choir is headed by Mr. Joshep. It was decided that St. Mary's School Ripon Street and Loreto Day School, Elliot Road will be heading the choir.

Documentation and media was asked to design various sign boards and backdrops required. For food, it was decided that *maharajas* would be called and the serving would be done by the ICYM.

For transportation two buses would be hired one each from Howrah and Sealda station and people will also be at the airport.

Then the time table was discussed in details and the resource persons for the different topics were suggested. It was also recommended that the inauguration ceremony would be shifted in the morning or early afternoon .

For the finance committee it was discussed that the letters and the raffles would be given and the sponsorship forms would also be distributed for the collection of funds.

Further the date of the next core team meeting was decided which will be held on 23rd March, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. at Archbishop House

The 2nd Core Team Meeting ended with prayer.

The core team meeting started with the opening prayer by His Grace Thomas D'Souza which was followed by the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting. Fr. Devraj presented before the assembly the design of the flex and a few momentos for the 2nd National Convention . There was also a discussion and suggestions were given.

The head of the documentation committee was also asked to find out the amount needed for the printing of the text. Further there were suggestions taken for the resource persons. The participant list was also read out and it was requested to the committee heads to bring the detailed report of the work done for the 2nd National Convention.

It was decided that during the convention there will be a visit to Mother House and during the concluding program of the convention each region will plant a sapling which would symbolize the growth of the movement.

The date for the next meeting was decided which was 20th of April 2017 at 4:00 p.m. at Archbishop's House. Meeting concluded with a prayer.

## NORTH EAST

### YCS/YSM SHILLONG

organised commitment day. Students from various schools gathered for this annual



## NORTHERN

event and committed to serve the movement. Sr. Bernadeth, the Regional Chaplain was present. Animators from schools were also present at this programme. Brothers from Sacred Heart helped in organising this programme. Ms. Hakka, NEXCO from the region conducted the programme.



### YCS/YSM DIBRUGARH

YCS/YSM, Dibrugarh diocese organised a day long programme for the students on 12th March 2017. Sessions were organised on the theme, 'Building a new Society' and 'Student education in modern era'. Nearly forty students participated in this programme.

**YCS DELHI** organised a meeting with the participants of the forthcoming 2nd YCS/ YSM National Convention. Sr. Mercian Baptista, Archdiocesan coordinators convened the meeting to prepare students in advance. Students were given orientation to participate fully and actively during the convention. Mr. Midrash Mathew also guided the students and explained to them about the purpose and importance of the convention. Seventeen participants from Delhi attended this meeting. Ms. Vanshika, NEXCO from Northern Region was present at this meeting.

YCS/YSM Delhi now has ten units and during this meeting plans were made to expand the movement to other schools and parishes in the Archdiocese. It was decided to rope in a few more animators to help the Archdiocesan office to start more units.

## National Chaplain's Activities

1. 3 March - Session for RMI hostelites in Delhi
2. 8-10 March - In Chennai for office work. Met CA and completed accounts work
3. 13-19 March - IYCS Asia, Extraordinary Council Meeting in Manila
4. 23 March - Digital India National Programme at Hyatt
5. 25 March - Participated in YUFA Cup. Youth & Priests Sports meet
6. 27-28 Chennai - Financial year end. Closing accounts.
7. 29 March - 6 April - CCBI Youth Commission, Bangalore
8. 6 April - Gave a session on 'Synod on youth' to Bangalore diocesan clergy
9. 11 April - Chrism Mass in Delhi
10. 9-16 April - Holy Week in Delhi
11. 21-22 April - Participated in 'Halli Jeevana' organised by Udupi Diocese.
12. 24-28 April - The Search work and office work in Delhi.

### Future Programmes:

2. 20-21 May 2017 - NTA/EXCO meeting in Kolkata.
3. National Convention - 21-26 May 2017 in Kolkata
4. National Animator's Training Programme 10-15 July 2017 in Delhi
5. Animators & RYD/DYD meeting 12th July 2017 in Delhi
6. World Youth Parliament: 6-11 August 2017 in China



# YCS/YSM NATIONAL CONVENTION

At Don Bosco School, Park Circus, Kolkata, WB Region, from 21 to 26 May 2017

ORGANIZED BY: YCS/YSM INDIA

HOSTED BY: YCS/YSM - KOLKATA ARCHDIOCESE

## Objectives:

- To believe in myself and become a good human being
- To strengthen our belief in the Divine
- To facilitate sharing God experiences about self & society
- To create a platform to share faith & life experiences on reality
- To understand positive & negative influences of media
- To experience the life of successful personalities in the society
- To exchange and celebrate life of service and effective Students' Leadership
- To exchange the views on animation and training
- To create social consciousness among young teenagers
- To create value based attitude by exchange of life experiences and culture
- To promote the movement
- To make this movement deep rooted in all the dioceses of India
- To become change agents in the society

## Details of deliberation of the programme:

Four days study session on the theme and objectives and deliberation on the thrusts - Back to the roots, Media advocacy and Human dignity.

Four days serious deliberation on the theme and to evaluate our performance in India and to deepen our beliefs and actions.

Interaction with the eminent resource persons and get a clear vision about the reality and help the student members to take active part in the society.

## Target Group:

Students from Higher Secondary, Junior College and Parishes - Teenagers between the ages of 13-20 years; Youth Animators/Facilitators/Observers/Invitees.

**Send your contribution by Cheque/D.D in favour of**

YOUNG CHRISTIAN STUDENTS MOVEMENT

A/c No 0042053000005700,

The South Indian Bank Ltd, G.T. Branch, Chennai.

(IFSC: SIBL0000042)

## NATIONAL THEME

# CALLED TO BELIEVE – BEGIN – BECOME

Thrusts

Back to the roots; Media & me; Restoring human dignity

## Contact Address:

YCS/YSM National working Office, Yusuf Sadan, Gole Dak Khana

1 Ashok Place, New Delhi - 110001; Mob: 9891792505

Email: [yccsysmindia@gmail.com](mailto:yccsysmindia@gmail.com); Website: [www.yccsysmindia.com](http://www.yccsysmindia.com), <https://www.facebook.com/yccsysmindia>

# YCS/YSM INDIA ACTIVITIES



RIP Ibrahim Chebli, Sec. Gen. of IYCS 1962-1964 - Middle East



New coordination team for Asian Regional Coordination



Young Christian Students/Young Students Movement, (An Unit of CBCI Council for Youth)  
YCS/YSM National Office, Archdiocesan Pastoral Centre, 25 Rosary Church Road, Santhome, Chennai - 600 004  
Ph : 044 - 24641737, e-mail : [yccsysmindia@gmail.com](mailto:yccsysmindia@gmail.com); website : [www.yccsysmindia.com](http://www.yccsysmindia.com)

For private circulation only