

# YCS/YSM National Newsletter

**Vol: 5**

## Articles on benefits of online learning, excitement of going back to offline, Reports and testimonies





## Life doesn't stop!

# President's Message

**Life doesn't stop!** - This statement was proved right even when the whole world was at rest; where the teachers upgraded their weapons from black board and chalks to Google meet and zoom, written notes to pdf's and so on. While technology helped the students to study and gain knowledge, online mode of learning paved way to its own merits and demerits.

The major benefits of online learning is that we started learning and exploring courses that could help us in the future. We could sit in India and get a degree from a renowned foreign university. Many students opted online internships to help them gain the practical knowledge about a specific field.

There were surely some positives but the question arises on how effective is it? This is a challenging question to answer. In my opinion, I did enjoy the classes from home but at some point, it was boring to just listen as it was monotonous and the barrier created for communication/clearing doubts worsened the scenario.

Just like the positives, there are many adverse effects. To state one, majority of the senior teachers faced immense trouble to cope up with the modern technology of online teaching. Teachers who never used a smartphone had to learn it just like how a new born learns to speak. In spite of the challenges, their efforts to make students learn was truly appreciable.

As we are aware that communication skills are very important in today's world but due to curriculum turning online it has negatively affected. I'm sure many of you are enjoying your privacy and are not willing to communicate or come out of your comfort zones. But this needs to change. Gradually, everything is opening up so we all must come out and grab the opportunities, no matter what they demand.

I always prefer contact or offline classes as it helps me study better. Also, because the memories created in schools/ colleges will be cherished forever. So, this experience is a must for all the young people as they are not the future but The Present!

The month of September is dedicated to suicide prevention month. I wish that all the young people who are stressed, depressed and have lost hopes in life to remember that sharing does help. We are a part of the movement where the prime focus is sharing in a cell. This helps us solve majority of our problems. Also, being a good listener is very important. Our friends might be going through a lot of things which we never know. Let's be kind and helpful.

Remember YCS/YSM is open for all your problems and issues. Talk, share and pray. Everything will be fine with faith.

Let YCS/YSM light shine  
-Deril D'Sa, National Convenor

# EDUCATION ONLINE OR OFFLINE



*Education is the mother of leadership:* Wendell willkie

Greetings to all YCS/YSMers.!!

We all know one thing for sure from our childhood that education plays an important role in our development, growth, and in our life. We only had one mode of education which was going to schools or colleges, attending classes and gaining knowledge from there. But since April 2020, we faced a huge change in our education system because of COVID-19. We all were forced to attend our respective classes from our home through phone or laptop. We all had difficulties adapting to that in the beginning. Many of us didn't have any electronic device. Even I got my personal phone because of online classes.

It's been a year and a half since this big change. Well, frankly speaking, everything changed: previously people used to shop from neighboring shops or malls, but now people prefer online shopping, instead of going to theatres, people prefer OTT platforms to watch movies and many more such changes have changed our life. In other words, we are relying on gadgets and minimised human interaction! And all these changes have a great impact on students like us. We forgot how to interact with people, how to socialize, how to be fit and active. We became more and more introvert and started to like being alone, spending time binge watching and eating junk.

This affected our studies a lot. You can ask yourselves, did you study seriously in the past year!? Well personally I didn't. There was no one watching me or to tell me to sit properly and to concentrate on what teachers are trying to explain.

Offline classes or physical classes had its own experience. The fun in games period, gossips in between of classes, sleeping on the back bench, writing our names on table, running to erase the board or to get chalk from downstairs. Doing these little things had its own fun. I feel sad that my last two years of school are online because of COVID-19. That means no farewell and no batch party. Online classes have brought the classrooms to our homes.





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There's an advantage of attending online classes as you can attend classes from wherever you are. But this also leads to a great disadvantage of lack of concentration. I would always prefer offline classes, means physical classes because in that way it is easier for me to concentrate in my studies without getting disturbed by any other things. When we go to school, we have 5 to 7 hours where we study, do our homework, meet with friends, do all kinds of social interaction. It is actually true that we learn most of the things from our school as we go there for like a decade.

There's another disadvantage of online class is that we forgot how to manage our schedule. If I say about myself, I wake up just 5 minutes before my classes. But now as my schools have started offline classes, I wake up at least 2 hours before so that I could get ready and reach school on time.

I know the future is online. But it needs time for most of us to adjust to that change. But no matter what kind of classes we attend, the main focus is that we should attend with full interest and sincerity. As a YCS/YSMer when I measure the pros and cons, there are both positives and negatives. We need our schools and at the same time we need to explore more online. At last I would like to share a quote of Michelle Obama which goes like – “The ability to read, write, and analyze; the confidence to stand up and demand justice and equality; the qualifications and connections to get your foot in the door and take your seat at the table—all of that starts with education.”

- **Ashita Jimmy**, Editor - The Search



## National Chaplain's Activities

1. 22-24 July - Regional Council - Madhya Pradesh
2. 15-17 October - Karnataka Regional Council - Udupi
3. 18-19 October - visit to yuvagram, Nagpur
4. 23 October - FABC Youth Desk Meeting

### Future Programmes:

1. 2-7 Nov 2021 - NSLTP/NATP, Bangalore
2. 13 Nov 2021 - Solidarity Day
3. 11-12 November 2021 - CCBI Secretaries Meeting (online)
4. 24 November - 36th World Youth Day celebration
5. 15-16 May 2021 - NTA EXCO meeting, Umran (proposed)
6. 17-21 May 2021 - YCS Convention (proposed)
7. August 2023 - World Youth Day, Lisbon, Portugal

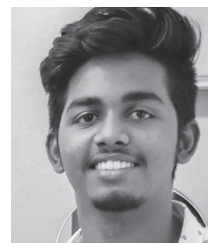


### For details contact:

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# FOR TOMORROW belongs to those who PREPARE FOR IT TODAY



Greeting to all !!

As students, learning is the most important aspect of our lives. Learning is the joy of knowing something new. Henry Ford once said "*Anyone who keeps learning, stays young*" Learning has no age limit. The importance of learning is that it helps in building Self-confidence. For students, classroom environment plays an important role in moulding them especially their personalities. Class rooms have more to offer to students than books. We can compare the classroom environment to the mighty sea, just like in the sea, there are various kind of fishes, similarly in classrooms we come across different people from various walks of life.

But during this ongoing pandemic, many students suffered and had to go through the major shift of having to adapt to online means of learning from the traditional offline. Now the schools and colleges are running via online mode. although, online mode has made learning easier but the experience is nothing like the old classroom way of learning. When it comes to classroom teaching, teachers were able to not only teach via books but also were able to interact with the students personally. As of online, it has not only become difficult to interact and pay attention to individual students but tedious to even complete the given syllabus. Also, constant interaction with the screen contributes to various health problems like eye pain, headache, etc, to students as well as teachers in general.

In private schools, they have the alternative of online classes but for government schools they don't have online classes yet. Even if they start online classes in government schools, it may not be highly effective as many may not have access to smart phones or internet as many parents may not be able to afford these services. Most of the government students are from rural areas and have issues with network signals. Due to not being able to learn, many have dropped out of schools for time being and have employed themselves for construction and daily labor works, while some girls have been married at a tender age.

Education is not a luxury but rather the need of the hour, therefore, it should be made available to all children irrespective of their age, language, caste, background or family status. Although, online learning has made things very convenient and contributes greatly in saving time, travelling and enable students to learn as many courses as they like, all from the comfort of their homes but it has its own limitations especially when it comes to accessing it.

In conclusion, as per my opinion, whatever be the advantages of online mode of learning, offline mode especially classroom learning stands out to be the best for students as school is the place where we learn a lot and build our personalities for our future. In the words of Malcolm X, 'Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.'

**-Tony Mariya Richard**

NEXCO, Tamil Nadu Region

Dear YCS/YSMers

Greetings from the national office!

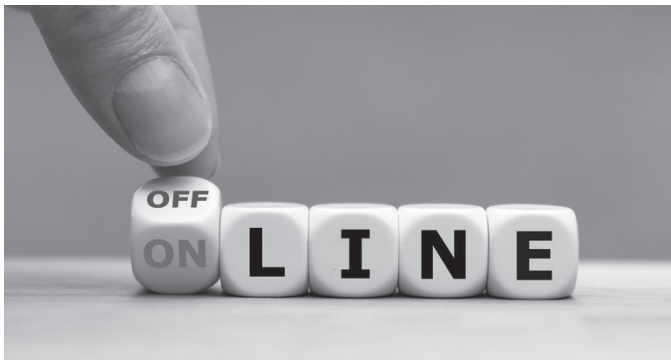
After a long break from offline school, we are slowly getting back to our schools for physical (offline) classes. Most of the states in India have opened the schools for senior classes and some for all. As we are preparing to go back to our schools, there is a big debate that is raging about online or offline? It is difficult to say which one is effective. These are two platforms to learn and gain knowledge. Problem is when we deviate from our purpose of learning. I did a little research online. Here in my message I would like to present you what I found out. In my opinion, both ways of learning have positives and we need to concentrate on positives.



Personally, I feel online education has opened up more opportunities for learning but it cannot substitute offline learning. In this issue, our students have voiced their personal opinion on this debate. As we read through their opinion, we need not take any side. Whether it is offline or online, these are learning platforms. If they are put to effective use, we will gain knowledge...there is nothing to lose!

Learning online is not something new that has come after the lockdown. with new technology, new ways have emerged to learn skills. Internet has definitely brought a great revolution. It has given a wide range of options to choose from. Today students have new ways to boost their knowledge. Even before the lockdown people used technology to learn many things. This way of learning became popular (mandatory) for students after the lockdown. As corona struck from nowhere, schools had to be closed down to contain the virus. For a few months, no one really knew what to do. But technology had an answer to this problem too. Today online classes and work from home has become popular. What we need to appreciate is, despite the lockdown, our learning has not stopped!. Interestingly, online classes have helped students during lockdown more than ever before. Imagine a world without internet during lockdown!

Though many are now getting used to online learning, let us not forget the benefits of offline learning. With offline learning, it is easy to teach discipline, etiquettes etc. It helps to develop healthy relationships and keep a healthy life. For teachers it is easy to monitor students growth and progress.



Online learning is flexible, plenty of choices, cost benefits, comfortable environment to study, advancing your career even



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while you are working, gaining skills that are transferrable, avoid commuting and learning at your own house.

As there are positives of learning online and offline, it is better to combine both ways of learning to attain better results. Offline teaching, as mentioned above helps students in emotional and physical development. Meeting friends, playing together, collaborative learning helps students to come out of their comfort zone. It helps them to respect each other and become a better human being. Classroom teaching helps students to improve their skills on critical thinking, asking questions etc.



For decades, most of us never explored an alternative way of learning. Covid-19 gave us this opportunity and it has opened up new avenues. As we go back to schools and continue our offline learning, let's not stop learning new things online. As stated above both online and offline study has its benefits and shortcomings. Let's focus more on the benefits and continue to study both online and offline. A mixture of these will help us to create a better education system. I invite all the YCS/YSMers to continue exploring more online and get equipped to face the challenges.

**- Fr. Chetan Machado**  
National Chaplain

## Dear Readers of The Search!

We are grateful to you for subscribing to the Search. We thank you for your constant support. This bimonthly newsletter is published by YCS/YSM India. This is a platform provided to our budding writers to publish their articles, poems and even art work.

We request all the students who are members to contribute in terms of reports, poems, articles, jokes. We request you to send original articles. If you are sharing an article from the internet or from other people, kindly acknowledge.

**- Editorial Team**

## New National Programme Coordinator of YCS/YSM India

Mr. Abhishek Bhattacharjee from North East Region is the new National Programme Coordinator of YCS/YSM India. He is from Guwahati and has worked as Diocesan and Regional coordinator. He will stay at 'Bethania' - National Youth Centre as full time volunteer and coordinator and help the National Chaplain and NEXCOS. We wish him all the best and a fruitful ministry.

**-Fr. Chetan Machado, National Chaplain**



# IS online LEARNING BETTER THAN OFFLINE LEARNING?



**THE** pandemic has created numerous problems. Most of these issues are faced by the students and the teachers because the online learning is a new chapter for them. While some find it convenient, others find it tough and boring. When it comes to choosing between offline and online education, it could be an intimidating task but with the exact direction, you will be able to make the right decision for yourself.

Folks interested in increasing their knowledge and skills now have a broad collection of options open to them. Attending online classes every day has become the 'NEW NORMAL' during this lockdown period. As schools were shut due to the pandemic, under lockdown to control the spread of COVID, online classes have taken a centre stage in students' life. In the face of the lockdown, many schools have taken appropriate steps to continue the flow of education by holding online classes for students. Captivatingly, online classes have helped students during this period.

Even though online learning has become the ideal method for the majority of students, it's important not to dismiss the benefits of offline learning, too. With online learning, students and teachers benefit from a more casual, flexible approach. Being unrestricted in regard to location and times means every learner can benefit from the courses. While with offline learning, it's easier to ensure students are paying attention to the training.

Some students also find it easier to retain the knowledge and skills they've learnt through offline learning than they do with online learning.

While classroom teaching is important to encourage and motivate mutual learning. Collaborative learning increases student's self-awareness about how students learn and enables them to discover more effortlessly and efficiently, transforming them into devoted learners inside and ahead of the classroom. Classroom education enhances students' significant thinking skills and provides an opportunity for students to take on live discussions where they can better utilize their critical thinking skills to voice opinions or involve themselves in an argument.

At last I would conclude by sharing a quote by Guru Gopal Das-  
"जिंदगी की हर सुबह कुछ शर्त लेकर आती है और हर शाम कुछ तजुर्बे देकर जाती है।"

'Every Morning will bring some challenges and every evening will leave us with wisdom and experience' with which we are ready to open our gift the next day, if we are allowed to.

**- Abhishek Bhattacharjee,**

National Coordinator

Full time Volunteer at National Youth Centre

courtesy: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/readersblog>



# EDUCATION:



Nowadays most of the schools have turned to online learning due to the pandemic. There are some advantages and disadvantages of the same. With basically an internet connection, a person can attend classes sitting at home. Along with the advantages of online learning, there comes the responsibility and self-discipline of students. Online learning is good because students can finish their homework quickly, and there is more time left for their hobbies.

At school, students learn how to make friends, be patient, and especially to compete. Competition between colleagues can be very common and students will only benefit from it. In offline learning there is more personal face to face interaction with the teacher which makes the subject more interesting to learn. At school the teacher is able to understand whether the students were able to get their point correctly to each student by asking them to do activities related to the topic. It is easier for students to get doubts clarified as and when the subject matter is being taught.

In offline classes, the entire class-time can be dedicated to teaching and learning by the teacher and the students. Whereas during online classes, a lot is taught often making clarification of doubts very difficult. Also, a lot of time is wasted in resolving technical glitches. To gain access to online classes you would need a properly functioning internet connection. The main disadvantage is that the students are in front of the screens for a lot of time and this affects the eyesight of the students.

Online classes do not have much scope for social interaction among students. There is more scope for classroom discussions in offline classes. Classroom discussions help the child in the understanding of what is being taught as several different questions are put before the teacher. The facial expressions of the students help the teacher understand if he/she is keeping the students interested in the class. This is not possible in online classes. Usually for online classes, it is just one person talking and the others listening, jotting down notes and not asking questions.

In physical exercise classes, it is essential for the teacher to check if the exercises are being done in the correct way by their students. This is very difficult to do in online classes. Doing the exercises incorrectly can result in injury. Also, in school children play different games such as football, hockey, basketball, badminton etc. This helps the students to build up teamwork and also there is a lot of energy required to do that. This doesn't happen in online classes and thus it affects the health of the children.

Overall, in my opinion offline classes are better than online learning. I really wish this corona virus pandemic gets over soon, so that all the students can attend offline classes and meet their friends and teachers and enjoy school life just as they did before the pandemic.

- **Clare Lucia Sequeira**, Holy Cross School, Bastora, Goa Region

# ADAPTING TO ONLINE EDUCATION



**COVID -19**, suspected to be born in mid December 2019 in China, has become a reason for distress across the world. It has become a popular and important topic for discussions. Apart from the people who are involved in black marketing vaccines, testing kits and PPE kits, this novel disease has affected the lives of almost all people worldwide be it

**India being a developing nation has large number of middle class families and even poor families. These families suffered even more when the Covid-19 pandemic took away their jobs. When there was a time when people could not purchase foods for their families how could they even think of purchasing a new gadget?**

base for a bright, developed and economically stable country, could not be neglected. To continue the flow of knowledge to our youth which is our future, everything since then has become online - from classes to offices to grocery stores, etc. This is what we now call the new normal; all of us are putting the best efforts to adapt ourselves to it.

Online learning has become the safest way for teachers to continue teaching and for students to continue learning. In the online method of teaching and learning, teachers and students meet each other virtually without being physically together. This is in contrast to the traditional offline learning where the students and teachers meet face to face. However both online and offline learning have their own advantages and disadvantages too. India being a developing nation has large number of middle class families and even poor families. These families suffered even more when the Covid-19 pandemic took away their jobs. When there was a time when people could not purchase foods for their families how could they even think of purchasing a new gadget? Since there was no other option than to attend classes online, parents had to purchase smart phones for their children.

in the field of health, economy, or even education. This disease has affected the normal functioning of the entire world. Lockdowns were imposed in almost every country to prevent the spread of the virus as it was highly contagious; since it was new, one didn't know if there was even a cure for it. Education, being the





While few took the maximum advantages of online learning some even took it for granted. The students who knew the importance of education in their lives made the best use of this dreadful time. They have been truly dedicated even during the hard times. However there were also students who engaged themselves in unnecessary activities such as excessive gaming, thereby completely avoiding their studies. Online learning is a flexible way by which a student can access classes from anywhere provided that there is a device and internet connection. One can get access to more knowledge apart from textual knowledge in this way. This type of learning also helps save time. But there are disadvantages on the other side of the coin. One of the major disadvantages faced by the students is screen time. Long duration screen time becomes a great difficulty for the students and is harmful for their health as well. The students' interaction with their teachers and classmates has been disturbed and a feeling of isolation and minimal peer help can be seen in children learning online. Online classes also allow distractions where students may surf other online platforms and pay less attention during the classes. However during offline classes students stay more focussed during

## Online Classes



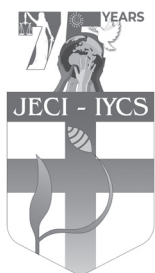
## Offline Classes



the class and teachers can understand whether a student has understood a topic clearly or not.

It is been two years now since students are attending classes virtually. Students haven't yet felt isolated by their teachers. However somewhere in the hearts of the students they do miss school. Life in school is considered to be the best time in life - to be with loving teachers and caring friends. School gives us an exposure to a new world and teaches us how to interact with a variety of people. However health is always and should always be our first priority. That's why the students and their parents believe that the government will take the best action regarding the reopening of schools considering the students' health, education and well being.

**- Hritika Corgaocar**  
Holy Cross High School,  
Bastora, Goa Region



Presenting to you the final **Logo of the IYCS 75th Anniversary Celebration** scheduled to kick-off on 13th November 2021. More details about the celebration will be communicated in the next issue of the Search.

YCS/YSM units may incorporate the IYCS 75th Anniversary Logo in your events and activity posters and fliers.

## 14TH IYCS ASIAN SESSION & COUNCIL

**THE** Asian Team organized the 14th IYCS Session on 25th & 26th of September, 2021 followed by the Council on 2nd of October, 2021 via online mode. Around 80 YCSers joined from all over Asia. The Theme of the programme was 'SUSTAINABLE LIFE FOR BETTER ASIA.' Countries present during the meeting were Sri Lanka, Philippines, Myanmar, Indonesia, Malaysia, Taiwan, Thailand, China, Vietnam and India. Rev. Fr. Chetan Machado, National chaplain of YCS/YSM India, Mr. Deril D'sa, Mr. Abhishek Bhattacharjee, Ms. Ashita Jimmy, Ms. Anushka Teronpi, and Ms. Bibiana Lalitankimi represented our country and were actively involved during the study sessions and discussed various topics that where the need of the hour. During the study session all the countries presented their National Report.

Some of the important points and topics were discussed during the study session are highlighted below:

1. IYCS Asia's Social Analysis of present situation in relation to STD according to the UNITED NATION

2. Day 1

Group discussion topics

- socialization,  
spirituality,  
environment,  
emotional, education  
opinions about Politics.

3. Day 2

Participants were divided into small study groups and were allotted time to discussion the National Report and the National Movement, by answering and discussing questions

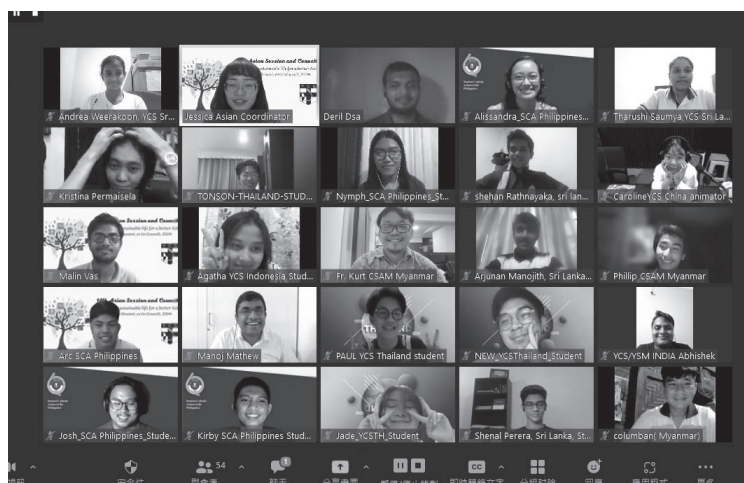
posed by Ruki Fernando for better clarity.

- Think of a person / community subjected to oppression, injustice (Brother/Sister/Neighbor)
  - Think of one Charity oriented initiative.
  - Think of a justice oriented initiative. (When, Where, with who, How etc)
  - Think of migrant/refugee from another country who is now in our country.
  - Think of one Charity oriented initiative.
  - Think of a justice oriented initiative. (When, Where, with who, How etc).
4. Laudato si' and Fatali tuti.

In conclusion, the whole experience though online offered a very good exposure to all the participants especially by offering an opportunity to interact with different countries and to know more about the movement in general and its working across the globe.

**-Abhishek Bhattacharjee**

National Coordinator





**DEXCO live in program** was held from 16th - 19th July in Belman. As the living program was held in my own Diocese, I had many responsibilities and duties. The three days programme went on so good, It was the first time that I stayed with all the present council members during the live-in. The three days spent with my council members are full of learning experiences and memories that would stay for life. We learnt the true importance of cell meetings, our methodology and many things about the movement in detail. As leaders of the diocese we were given the opportunity to take initiative, speak, conduct and learn some animations so that we would improve ourselves. Each one of us had to share our own life stories, happy and sad moments, difficulties in life, etc. We were explained about our roles in the diocese, how to become role models for others, to be active in the programmes and keep moving forward. All these experiences will be memories that I'll cherish for life.

I'm grateful to Fr. Edwin, and Deril D'sa for conducting this wonderful live in programme and providing us with excellent facilities. I would also like to thank Melwin sir and Lidwin ma'am, the animators for guiding us and also the resource persons. Fr Charles made us understand the methodology, the aim, the objective of the YCS. Mr. Derick Mascarenhas spoke about the YOUCAT.

We have started our journey well and now its upon us to take the movement forward and help the students through and expand our movement. I believe that we can do well and carry forward the movement on to great heights.

**- Rishon Barnes**, Diocesan Treasurer  
Udupi Diocese

## DEXCO LIVE IN PROGRAMME

**I would like to share my experience** about the living programme that was held at St. Joseph Church Belman. I was fortunate to be nominated as the Deanery president of Shirva, Udupi Diocese. This programme was really an amazing experience. Every moment spent here is a cheerful memory.

I learnt a lot of new things. The talks, sessions and activities were so knowledgeable. Most importantly, I met new friends from different parts of the Diocese who will be there to listen to me whenever I need them. The most important part of the programme was the sharing, here I realized that I was not the only one who is going through problems in life, there are many more young students who are facing more problems way harder than me and sadly many don't have anyone with whom they can share. We also gained knowledge and how to use the YOUCAT book. I also got an opportunity to learn to speak in front of an audience holding a microphone, addressing my stage fear. We had many more activities which helped us enhance our skills. Every day, we had mass in the morning which helped us grow and strengthen spiritually.

I would like to conclude saying, this living programme helped me to gain a lot of knowledge in every aspect related to YCS. This programme has helped me enough to become a good leader in the coming days. I would like to thank our Diocese Chaplain Fr. Edwin for conducting this programme amidst prevailing situation with all the precautionary measure. I also thank and look forward to meet all my DEXCO teammates in the future.  
Long live YCS!

**- Carol Alva**, Shirva Deanery President,  
Udupi Diocese

## My 12th Grade during Pandemic

**THE PANDEMIC** has surely changed everything unexpectedly in which education would be the major thing to suffer. We all know that Education cannot be accessed as usual. Since March last year having started my 12th grade, for me it was my last year of school life and had planned so many things for that year but unfortunately things did not go accordingly to the plan due to the Pandemic.



This is when I started my journey of learning online. Attending online class was somehow a fresh and good experience but network issues made it difficult to stay connected. Everyday our teachers used to send us assignments through WhatsApp which was sometimes exhausting. Due to this our batch was even named as the 'COVID Batch' or 'PDF Batch'.

In my hometown, not everyone was able to afford online classes due to financial restrain but the government and NGO's had taken various steps to help some of them to access it. But I wonder there are still many students who wouldn't be able to attend!

Although online class and assignment is the only option we had during the pandemic, I think that many students wouldn't be able to achieve the quality that we would get in offline class and even effect our future. But what can be said, that's the only choice we have for now.

The entire year passed by doing assignments, attending online class and even appearing for exams. Since COVID cases had decreased in our state during our exam time, so we were able to attempt Board Exam in offline mode by following the SOP. It was the most difficult offline exam I had ever appeared for as we weren't able to have offline class like the previous years. Good thing is that I was able to complete my 12th grade after all these difficult moments which I cannot still believe. I just hope and pray that Schools and the entire learning system would go back to functioning once again.

- **Bibiana Laltlankimi**, NEXCO NE Region

## My experience in this pandemic

My experience in this pandemic was quite different. It taught me some of the most important values and also how to gather knowledge from technology and many more. It was also a tragic year since meeting and spend time with my friends and family was not possible for lockdown. The saddest part is it was my last year of school.



When the new phase of online learning came into an action, it hampered my studies because it was difficult to get the flow sometime; however I was lucky enough that my teachers gave me the right knowledge of certain things and cleared my doubts.

Then comes the online exam which were tough in the beginning caused it was completely new to me and I'm pretty sure that other's also found it difficult. Online education was easily accessible but it was different, tough and also boring if you lose your concentration for a tat bit.

Online learning have taken away the essence of the physical classes,

- The mischievous stuffs we use to do with our friends.
- Sharing Tiffin's with each other or eating during classes.
- Playing during break times and many more.

These are some of the stuffs I really miss and I hope you also do. The last year of my schooling I had very few memories which I don't think I might be able to cherish in the upcoming future. I hope the schools will be open soon and we came enjoy the classes and learn like before by adopting the new normal.

**-Anushka Teronpi**, NEXCO NE Region

## LIVE-IN PROGRAMME EXPERIENCE

On 9th July 2021, I was elected as the President of Kundapur Deanery, there was this rush of adrenaline as soon as I heard about this announcement. I was asked to attend the Live-in Programme on 16th July at St. Joseph Church, Belman, I was enlivened and nervous simultaneously.

I was highly strung as I did not meet or know the council members yet. But within half an hour, I gelled up quite well with everybody. The programme was for three days. I discerned about spirituality and devotion in a Catholic's life. I also became acquainted with teamwork, co-operation, coordination etc. This programme helped me to focus and pour out leadership qualities, facing a crowd, giving speech and many more calibers. We had a sharing session, where we shared our happy and sad moments. During that session I let myself free and poured out all my emotions. That was the best session. They taught us to conduct online meetings, games, webinars etc. We discussed how to overcome this pandemic and how to keep youth vigorous. This programme invited us to explore the inner caverns of spiritual kingdom.

Live-in Programme was the best phase of my life. I learned to overcome my weakness, developed my faith, learned to face a crowd, talk fluently and much more. Looking forward to such events in the future.

**-Avril Maria Pereira**

President Kundapur Deanary  
Udupi Diocese, Karnataka Region



# OFFLINE EDUCATION : REAL EDUCATION

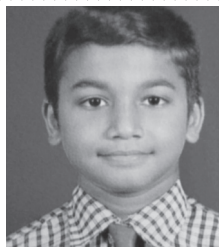


*“The roots of education are bitter ,but the fruit is sweet.”*

It’s almost two years since we are away from the school campus, sitting at home and attending online classes. Everybody knows how the corona pandemic has made the lives of students miserable. Due to rise in covid cases, schools in India and other places had to stich to online classes. Initially students likes this way of learning. It was fun. Many attended these classes without much seriousness and for names sake. Many logged in while sleeping or playing video games and others watched serials and movies. There was no one to monitor whethger the student was attending the class unlike offline classes where teacher stood in the middle and watched every student.

When it comes to make a choice between online and offline education, I would always prefer offline classes because there is a lot of difference in getting education offline than online. In offline class it is easy to understand what is taught and it enters our mind easily. Personally, I don’t have any interest in studying online. It doesn’t give me any feeling of learning. In schools we have proper periods of each subject including the physical education. We have physical activities, various competitions which makes our student life exciting. Education is not only gaining knowledge of a subject it is also personality development, emotional and physical growth. And I think the education that can be given offline in school can never be given online. Even some of our teachers do not enjoy teaching online! There is a relationship between teacher and student in offline classes in the school. The teacher pays attention to every student, knows his /her weakness and strenghts and then helps accordingly which is not possible in online classes. These are my views and my way of thinking on online and offline education. There are many more reasons to say and prove that offline education is the best for the best growth of a student. *“offline education provides the real education”*

- Arpit Katara, NEXCO, MP Region



## Education: Offline or Online

Every Child has a right to education. But during this pandemic many children are facing several problems. Some of them don’t have phones to attend and can’t afford to buy a phone. Some children face network problems and miss all that is taught by the teacher. We also miss classes when there is no power. But our teachers try hard to help the students. We need offline classes to start. Many children, like me, want the teachers to teach face to face. When we go to school we learn etiquettes and values, we learn to share and much more. But we are forgetting all this and using phones to play online games which are not good for health. Also, due to the pandemic many students are putting on weight with no exercises being done. To cope up with this situation I would prepare a time table for myself and study regularly. I would complete my books and if I have any problems with studies I would ask my teachers for guidance.

- Shervin Fernandes, Holy Cross High School, Bastora, Goa Region



## REPORTS

### DELHI/NATIONAL

#### BETHANIA TURNS TWO

*(celebrating two years of the Institution of Bethania since 13 September 2019)*

On the evening of 3rd September, Bethania centre organized a short programme to celebrate two years of Bethania at the AV hall. The programme began with the Eucharistic Celebration at 06:30pm followed by a fellowship meal for the guests invited. Most Rev. Anil J T Couto, Archbishop of Delhi, Rev. Fr. Stephen Alathara, Deputy Secretary General of CCBI, Fr. Richard OCD and Bethany Sisters were present on the occasion together with the residents of Bethania.

After the Eucharist, a short programme was organized by the youth of the centre. Mr. Percival Holt, the manager and programme coordinator welcomed all and introduced the residents and staff of Bethania. Archbishop Anil Couto and Fr. Stephen Alathara in their message shared their experiences and support towards the centre, its activities and vision. A short video presentation on the journey of Bethania from the beginning prepared by Mr. Ankit Kujur, the media volunteer of Bethania was shown. Later Fr. Chetan Machado, the director of Bethania shared a thanksgiving message with the people gathered. The celebration ended with laughter and dinner.

Bethania Centre, is a national training and animation centre of the Archdiocese of Delhi



currently managed by the CCBI National Youth Commission aimed at the holistic development of youth, therefore organizing programmes in skill development, human resource skills and ongoing formation. It was dedicated to this mission on the 13th September 2019 by Most. Rev. Anil J T Couto, Archbishop of Delhi. At present, youth volunteers from ICYM, YCS/YSM & YOUCAT India stay and coordinate the National Youth Ministry as well as activities of Bethania together with Mr. Percival Holt and Fr. Chetan Machado.

#### INTERNATIONAL GIRL CHILD DAY

On 11th of October 2021 the National Office of YCS/YSM India organized a short programme on the occasion of International Girl Child Day at Bethania Youth Center (National Youth Office). Around 20 girls were present during the event along with National Chaplain Rev. Fr. Chethan Machado, Sr. Malaya BH, Mr. Abhishek Bhattacharjee (National Coordinator), Mr. Ankit Kujur (Media incharge for Bethania Centre) Ms.

Shweta Xalxo (Parish Youth of St. Andrew's Church) and Mr. Arpit Katara (NEXCO MP Region). The event started with a brief introduction about the significance of the day, by Mr. Abhishek alongside a prayer by Rev. Fr. Chethan. The Team organized short sessions on the two major issues for a girl i.e.

1. Legal Rights of Girls - Resource person: Ms. Shewta
2. Health & Hygiene- Resources person: Sr. Malaya.

Later the Team distributed sanitary pads for 6 months to all the girls. The Event ended with a photo session and snacks.

**- National Team, YCS/YSM India.**



## MADHYA PRADESH

### Training for Young Catholic Students

Madhya Pradesh Regional Youth Commission conducted an orientation programme for YCS students of the region from 2-3 October 2021. The programme was in the collaboration with Madhya Pradesh Samaj Seva Sanstha.

Theme - Orientation and "Students for healthy life and healthy India"(Platform to foster YCS movement)

Venue - Divine Retreat Centre, Kolar Road, Bhopal

Around 65 students from active dioceses (Jhabua, Bhopal, Indore, Gwalior and Khandwa) of the region participated in the training with their animators. The programme

started by the arrival of students and their accommodation with registration which ended at around 1pm on the first day. Students had lunch and got off for the inaugural ceremony. RYD of the region Rev. Fr. Alexander started the training programme with a prayer.

Chief guest of the ceremony, Ms. Mary Roshni (Former National leader from M.P region) was welcomed by Fr. Alexander and REXCOS. At 4 pm, RYD, Fr. Alexander interacted with the students and took an orientation session (Topic- YCS movement, change self - change others and building a new society). The session made the new students know about the YCS movement. All the students were divided into cells of 8-10 each and were made to interact in cells.

At 6pm, Mr. Balendra Singh Kaurav took a session on "Healthy life and healthy India in which he explained the importance of health and advantages of being healthy to the students. He also interacted with the students by asking them basic questions about health and diseases and explained their causes, symptoms, precautions and treatment. After this, each cell was made to present their answers on the basics of the questions about discipline and health.

After supper, a short motivational movie (I am Kalam) was shown to students to boost and motivate their minds which was concluded by summarizing the movie and extracting the values from the movie by Fr. Alex.





Next day started with the Holy Eucharist by the DYD of Bhopal Archdiocese Rev. Fr. Suresh. After the breakfast, the chief guest of the programme Ms. Mary Roshni took a session on “Discipline in family, church and school”. She interacted with the students and shared her own experience of YCS which made the students easier to connect. The



training continued by Mrs. Kala Mohan on ‘Emotional and mental health’. The session included some activities like dance, chart making etc. At 5pm, the last session on “Physical training of healthy students” was taken by Ms. Durga Mishra which gave a shot in the arms to the students to live a healthy life and to follow every values that they took from this training. A short concluding prayer was conducted by Rev Fr. Alexander and the students departed with the motivation to live their life happy and healthy with the values of YCS/YSM.

- **Muskan Bhagore**, Regional Prewsident Madhya Pradesh Region.

## NORTH EAST

### YCS/YSM -Guwahati - virtual meeting

On 27th of August 2021 YCS/YSM Archdiocese of Guwahati Conducted a virtual meeting on zoom platform to discuss the upcoming event i.e INTER-RELIGIOUS PRAYER SERVICE. The meeting was basically conducted to finalize the date,

time and the responsibilities. After a long discussion the team decided to organize the prayer service on 5th of September from 6 pm onwards at the platform of zoom and the Moderator of the event will be Ms. Aparna Thakuria ( YCS/YSM Diocesan Secretary). It was decided in the meeting that we shall have another meeting where we will be finalizing other important aspect too, and all agreed . The meeting ended with a short prayer.

- **Aparna Thakuria**, Diocesan Secretary Archdiocese of Guwahati

### Aizawl Diocese DEXCO online cell meeting

On 10th of October 2021 at 8:00p.m.DEXCO online cell meeting was conducted via online mode. The meeting was conducted by DEXCO President Moses Lalhruaizela with the presence of Miss Rebecca Khiangte YCS/YSM Coordinator of Aizawl Diocese. Participants of the meeting were welcomed by Ms. Bibiana Lalitankimi (NEXCO NE Region) where she explained about the meeting agenda.

The following points were discussed during the meeting :

1. Participants for NSLTP 2021 @NBCLC Bangalore during 3-7 Nov 2021
  - Due to exams of DEXCO members and Covid Pandemic,it was decided to skip the training this time
2. Payment/Subscriptions for The Search Newsletter
  - It was decided to subscribe it in the name of Aizawl Diocese.
3. Suggestion for offline celebration of YCS /YSM Jubilee/National Convention/ National Council
  - We would like to make a suggestion to let the programme take place in Northeast region in offline mode and around 4-5participants from each diocese.

4. Meaningful Celebration of Solidarity Day/ Cardijn Day on 13 th Nov 2021
  - We decided to conduct through webinar at night time which will be organised by our Coordinator and Director.
5. Supporting bishop to organize programmes for the preparatory stage of the synod of Bishops 2023
  - It was decided that the diocesan team would always be ready to help in every situation
6. To organize YCS Meet 2021
  - Since it was already decided in the previous meeting, we planned to conduct the events in online mode within October which will be organised by Parish Coordinator and Animators
7. Refreshment duty on Priestly Ordination of Dn David Laltnanmawia at St.Lawrence Parish ,Ramthar
  - If there isn't any problem, DEXCO members would be present during the ordination.

- **Bibiana Laltnankimi**, NEXCO NE Region

## Guwahati Archdiocese Diocese INTER RELIGIOUS PRAYER SERVICE

On 5 September 2021, YCS/YSM Archdiocese of Guwahati, conducted inter-religious prayer service. Altogether 50 participants joined the prayer via online mode. Aparna Thakuria (Diocesan secretary) welcomed all the participants followed by the introduction which was given by Sister Bernadeth Kropi. Soon after this Inter religious prayer began which was conducted by by Mr. Abhishek Bhattacharjee ( Diocesan Coordinator) and team from National Office of YCS/YSM India followed by prayers from various religious texts which ended with universal prayer. Sister Esabella Sangma, YCS/YSM Diocesan Chaplain delivered a message.

Miss Aparna Thakuria thanked everyone at the end.

- **Aparna Thakuria**, Diocese Secretary  
YCS/YSM Archdiocese of Guwahati

## KARNATAKA

### REGIONAL COUNCIL 2021

YCS\YSM Regional Council Meeting and election took place from 15-17 October 2021 at St. Joseph Church Belman, Udupi.

There were total 26 participants from six dioceses.

On the first day 15-10-2021 the participants were introduced to each other. There was an exposure visit. The day ended with evaluation about the experience we had of the whole day

The second day began with the Eucharist. After the breakfast there were sessions on YCS/YSM. The participants learnt basic many things about YCS/YSM. The day concluded with taize prayer followed by supper and evaluation.

The last day of the Council began with inter religious prayer conducted by Shimoga diocese. After the breakfast elections for Regional Council conducted. Mr. Briston from Mangalore diocese was elected as president, Vance from Udupi diocese was elected as vice-president, Annie from Belgaum diocese was elected as the General Secretary, Shashank from Shimoga diocese was elected as the media secretary, Nikith



Raj from Bellary diocese was elected as the treasurer and Steena from Bangalore archdiocese was elected as NEXCO. Fr Pius and Fr Edwin were elected as the animators for giving support to the regional team. After the elections, Fr. Chetan, National Chaplain addressed the Council and helped to draw a an action plan for the region based on the National Action Plan.

In the afternoon, all the participants ahas a sumptuos lunch as it was Fr. Edwin's birthday. Fr. Chetan celebrated the Eucharist and a message on 'SEE' part of YCS/YSM methodology. Newly elected team took oath during the Eucharist.

**- Briston Rodrigues**

President - YCS/YSM Karnataka



A new unit of YCS/YSM was inaugurated in Manipal parish. Fr. Edwin along with the diocesan council visited the parish and started a new unit. Animation and orientation programme was conducted.

**- Deril D'Sa,** National Convenor

## CASE STUDY

### Sunitha's Rebellion Against Authority

Sunitha came from a loving, affluent home. The only problem was that Sunitha never felt good enough. Her parents wanted her to be the best at everything, and they wanted her to consider them her best friends. When

Sunitha reached adolescence, she decided that she could not take her parent's demands any longer and did everything she could to go against her parents' wishes, which included joining the wrong crowd, drinking, using drugs, and committing crimes. Her parents had no idea what had gotten into her and feared for her future. Sunitha didn't care that she was headed down a bleak path. Her parents signed her up for a YCS/YSM camp.

The YCS/YSM camp involved a lot of activities and many group building sessions. Sunitha was reminded everyday that if she didn't shape up, she would end up suffering consequences much worse. Once the camp was over, Sunitha went home as a completely different and new individual. Her parents now understand where they went wrong through family counseling, and they were as happy to have their daughter back as Sunitha was to be back.

YCS/YSM gives platform to young students to out out of their problems at a very tender age. If guided properly in cells and units, they will shape up as very responsible citizens. Encourage students to join this movement. If you dont have, start one. Contact @ 9891792505



## LICYPRIYA KANGUJAM ( BORN 2 OCTOBER 2011) - ACTIVIST

*courtesy : wikipedia*

Licypriya Kangjum ( born 2 October 2011) is a child environmental activist from Manipur, India. She is one of the youngest climate activists globally and has addressed world leaders at the United Nations Climate Change Conference 2019 (COP25) in Madrid, Spain asking them to take immediate climate action. Licypriya has been campaigning for climate action in India since 2018, to pass new laws to curb India's high pollution levels, and to make climate-change literacy mandatory in schools.

She has been regarded as India's Greta Thunberg, though she does not like the usage of this term.

Licypriya started advocating against climate change in July 2018. On 21 June 2019 inspired by the climate activist Greta Thunberg, Licypriya started spending a week outside the Indian parliament House to draw the attention of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to pass a climate change law in India. On 31 August 2019, Licypriya received the “World Children Peace Prize 2019” handed over by Mr.Charles Allen, Director of Partnerships of Global Peace Index – Institute of Economics & Peace (IEP), Australia in an event organized by the Regional Alliance of Fostering Youth and Ministry of Youth Sports and Community Empowerment, Government of Maldives. She was also honored with the title “Rising Star” by the Earth Day Network headquarters based in Washington, D.C., USA.

On 19 November 2019, she received the “SDGs Ambassador Award 2019” at Chandigarh University by Dainik Bhaskar in collaboration with NITI Aayog, Government of India. Licypriya also received the “Global Child Prodigy Award 2020” on 3 January 2020 in New Delhi by Lieutenant Governor of Pondicherry Kiran Bedi. On 18 February 2020 she addressed the TEDxSBSC held in University of Delhi, New Delhi, India. On 23 February 2020 she addressed the TEDxGateway held in Mumbai and received a standing ovation for her speech. She addressed TEDx talks for the six times by the time she was nine years old.



Dear YCS/YSMer, 2019 was the second warmest year on record and the end of the warmest decade (2010- 2019) ever recorded. Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) levels and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere rose to new records in 2019. Climate change is affecting every country on every continent. It is disrupting national economies and affecting lives. Weather patterns are changing, sea levels are rising, and weather events are becoming more extreme. We as responsible students need to wake up do something NOW!

# YCS/YSM INDIA



*50th Anniversary*

*Celebration*

*1970 - 2020*

# YSM

*Young Students Movement*



## YCS/YSM INDIA ACTIVITIES



Young Christian Students/Young Students Movement, (An Unit of CCBI Youth Commission)  
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