

The top section of the cover has a vibrant red background. In the upper corners, there are stylized white fireworks or starburst patterns. The title 'The Search' is written in a large, elegant white script font, with 'The' in a smaller font size above 'Search'.

# *The Search*

Sept - Oct - 2018

YCS/YSM National News Letter

Book 38

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The main image of the cover shows a multitude of glowing orange paper lanterns floating in a dark night sky. The lanterns are of various sizes and are scattered throughout the frame, creating a sense of depth and movement. In the foreground, a large, prominent lantern is slightly out of focus, while many smaller ones are sharp and bright. The overall atmosphere is warm and celebratory.

## HAPPY DIPAWALI

**Light shines brightest in the dark**

# YOUNG STUDENTS MOVEMENT

A MOVEMENT FOR THE STUDENTS, BY THE STUDENTS

Relationships value a lot in our lives. They help us to grow well as true human beings, increase our awareness and develop our talents and imbibe values that are necessary to live a healthy and happy life. They play essential role in every turn of our life. Many times children hesitate to share their feelings with their parents or teachers due to which they are unable to take proper decisions in life. Many students share their feelings without any hesitation with their friends. Young Student Movement (YSM) provides a platform to students to come together in small groups of 8 to 12 to share their feelings, problems, aspirations and anxiety of the school, neighbourhood and the society. Following the methodology- See-Judge-Act (awareness, reflection, action and evaluation), the movement becomes life-oriented, action-oriented and growth-oriented. This cell based movement focuses on self, others and God. It is a movement of reflection and action. This is a movement by the students and for the students. They sit together and discuss their problems and find solutions. Animators are the backbone of the movement. Animator is a guide, friend, the one who accompanies the members always in their growth process. The main objectives of YSM are; change self, change others, personality development, leadership through talent exposure, faith formation, building up a better future and promoting social justice and peace. All accept one another as brothers and sisters; hence a family atmosphere is created to treat each other as real human beings. Students are transformed and empowered to go beyond self in solidarity with the struggles of life. Through personal relationship with the whole humanity and with love at the heart of every action, the YSM enables human persons to become a family. YSM is a movement of integral formation. Its vision is to evolve a new society where each and every person is respected in dignity, hence valuing peace, love, truth, justice and equality.



Rimsha Siddiqui, Class- VIII B  
St. Francis Convent Sr. Sec School. Bareilly

## YCS/YSM INDIA

cordially invites you to

# XVIII NATIONAL COUNCIL

NATIONAL THEME

Young Students for youthful life  
Thrusts

Self Identity: Safe School: New Society

St. Joseph Vaz Retreat Centre

17 - 24 May 2019







## LIGHTING RELATIONSHIP

Greetings to all my dear YCS/YSM'ers.

Our country has been celebrating Diwali- a festival of lights and of colours. These festivities include lighting of lamps, bursting of fire crackers, rangoli, etc. The only thing common among these and many other practices is the fact that they all seem to be materialistic. But of course they do bring out joy among many of us. When Diwali arrives we go shopping for our homes and ourselves to look more colourful and vibrant. Outwardly we may decorate ourselves in vivid and the most beautiful ways. But who is to say as to what is going on in our hearts and in our minds?

Diwali as we all know, brings families and neighborhood together. It helps people celebrate life together. But does it bring everyone closer by heart or just physically? A question to reflect upon.

Today relationships have turned out to be virtual as opposed to them being more emotional. The technology has given life a newer version. May be it is required to a certain extent. But where do we draw a line then? Gadgets and accessories have overpowered values and morals. We hear stories and news which state about how revengeful people have turned out to be. Jealousy, pride, ego, anger, etc are all equally increasing with modern day. I remember how our value education classes spoke about how a relationship should be built upon trust and understanding. But today, we hardly see it happening. I personally feel sad and equally disturbed when I hear school students stabbing their class teachers or their own parents for correcting or for not fulfilling their wants. But why is it that today relationships are not given much priority? Our country has been said to be a diverse country. But it only seems, to be slowly moving towards being more individualistic. Self involvement, self fulfillment have all become priority for us.

As YCS/YSM'ers, are these the values we are supposed to follow? The aim of the movement asks each of us to build God's kingdom calls us to live in harmony, with each and everyone

of us. For how long then shall we keep blaming and complaining others for failed relationships? It's high time now that we begin to work on it. Our thrust states to restore human dignity. We the creations of God have been created in his own image and likeness. We should



# Search

respect the sanctity and dignity of each and every individual regardless of the kind of caste, religion, gender he/she may belong to.

Stop and imagine how happy would you feel if you were responsible for the smile brought on another's face! How much of joy and content would you feel knowing that today you are responsible for spreading smiles around you! The smallest of the spark created within you could change a small part of a person. To be that spark ain't a task of worry. It's just the belief and hope to do something good and better and maybe in a very small way, to contribute to one of the smiles around you.

See; Observe; One little spark could create joy that could last for a long long time.

Let us then, as YCS/YSM'ers be the reason to spread smiles, be the reason to light up someone else's life, be the reason for another individual to forget the sorrows and hope for a better and a joyous today/tomorrow. Just like our movement, let us too be the light our society expects us to be.

I am ready to spread the light of joy! Are you?

Let YCS YSM light shine forever more!

*Jesvita Princy Quadras*  
*National Convenor*



A good  
relationship  
starts  
with good  
communication.

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## RELATIONSHIP

As people continue to give life, they form relationship with other people including family members and co workers and also close friends who become close as if they are considered family.

Relationship is the way in which two or more people are connected, by blood, by marriage, by work, by intimacy, by interest or by friendship: it require a lot of work by all the people included. But relationships give meaning to life. They are a result of people needing each other for various reasons: for emotional support, psychological well being, love and affection etc, but not all relationships are good relationships.

In good relationships people are happy, healthy and care free. People in successful relationships are peaceful and get along, encourage each other and are there for one another. But good relationships just don't happen. They are constructed even if over time by four basic pillars.



... continued on page 11



## CHAPLAINS CORNER

# RELATIONSHIP



**LIFE** has changed drastically in the last few decades. The world has become a global village. It is becoming smaller and smaller day by day. Today, with modern gadgets we remain connected with people 24X7. Young people find it easy to remain connected via social media through phone, text messages, chats etc. Meeting a person who is very far or finding a classmate who was not in touch for years has become easy. If we check our social network accounts we may have hundreds of friends. (Some may even have thousands). There are many who follow us. When I post a picture, I may get a few hundreds 'likes' or thumbs up. We feel very happy about it. We are in a digital world where our relationship also has become digital.

It is easy for us to connect with people and have meetings. We can chat and communicate with unknown people. But forming a relationship has become difficult in the digital culture.

I remember the days, as kids we spent a lot of time playing with neighbours, friends. We invited them to our homes and visited our relatives during holidays and spent time with them. We knew who is my cousin, nephew, niece, uncle, aunt, grandpa, grandma etc. There was a strong family bond which helped us to strengthen our relationship.

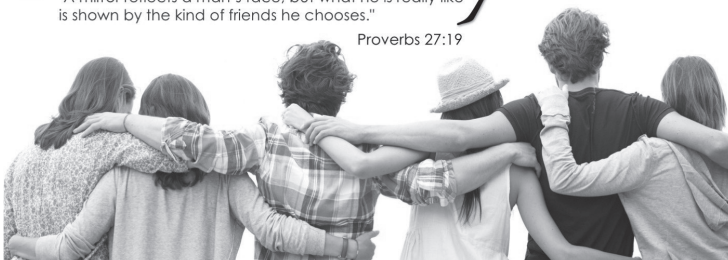
Today, we need to conduct sessions to explain to our students about relationship. In one of the training sessions I asked the participants about whether they were in any relationship? Not a single hand went up! It was much later that I noticed one or two hands going up and the rest looking at them and giggling. The term 'relationship' has lost its real meaning today. It is misunderstood or rather understood as 'sexual relationship' between a boy and a girl. If you follow face book updates of young people, every week they change their status. Most of them update their relationship status. What does it mean? Today I am in relationship with one and tomorrow with another and it goes on.

As I mentioned above, for those students who looked down probably have not understood the relationship with their grandparents, parents, brothers, sisters, friends etc., they only understood their Facebook relationship status which keeps changing every week!

## Good Relationships

"A mirror reflects a man's face, but what he is really like is shown by the kind of friends he chooses."

Proverbs 27:19



Today, we don't want to spend time together, but want to remain connected through social network. We don't understand what is remaining together in the real world. Spending time in chat rooms or chatting on WhatsApp has taken the place of being together, playing some field games etc. Our smiles/emotions have dried and that's the reason we communicate by sending emoticons. These smileies that we send are not our real emotions.

Once, some of us gathered for a meeting. It was birthday of one of our friends who was present. There were about forty people

and none of them shook hand with him or hugged and greeted him. All of them sent him a text message and a smiley or thumbs up. Reality is that we are connected digitally but not emotionally.

Dear young students, to have a real, good and healthy relationship we must learn to switch off our gadgets for some time and talk to each other. We need to spend quality time with our parents, friends and relatives. This is the only way we can strengthen our relationship.

*Fr. Chetan Machado*  
*National Chaplain*



## RELATIONSHIP

Having good relationship with others is what you should expect for!

Relationship is one of the most important part in one's life. Relationship values a lot in our lives. It helps us to grow and improve ourselves.

When we hear the word relationship what comes first to our mind? A relationship between a girl and a boy - boyfriend and girlfriend right? But is it only about that? Of course not!! That comes later. What comes first is our relationship with our parents, our siblings, our friends, our teachers, etc. In a good relationship people are happy and care free and it doesn't just happen on its own. It is constructed through love,

communication, respect and trust. Can be called as the 4 steps of a good relationship.

**Love:** love is a basic step of any relationship. Love towards your family, friend can help you to develop a unique and sweet relationship. It'll help you to share a strong bond.

**Communication:** the most most important step. Communication can actually make or break your relations.

It is really important to communicate in a relationship.

Communication can break all those boundaries of ego. It helps us to know each other better. It lower down the burden through sharing your feelings, your ideas and your emotions.

**Respect :** Yet another

important step. Nowadays we hardly see people respecting each other and then we expect them to respect us. How could we? If we want respect we need to give respect. One need to respect other, else you can't call it a healthy relationship. **Trust:** it is said that trust is the first step towards a relationship. But what I think is totally opposite. Why do we need force ourselves to trust others. Shouldn't it come from within? It can if we follow the first three steps that's love, communication and respect, trust which we require for a strong relationship will automatically build.

*Collected by: Vanshika Paul*  
*Nexco- Northern Region.*

## IYCS Global Conference Rome, Italy September, 2018

*Theme: "Educating Today and Tomorrow; Students Building a Safe Learning Environment"*

*(Quality Education: A Safe Environment for the Students' Holistic Growth)*

**D**ear Friends, I would like to share my experience of the IYCS Global Conference which was held in Rome from 10-20 September 2018. I was privileged to attend this Global Conference along with three more members from India.

During this Conference I was invited to share my views on the education system in India and to express the challenges, advantages & disadvantages of Indian Education system. We had an audience with His Holiness Pope Francis and for me it was like dream come true! We presented National Flag, had a short conversation and invited him to our country. I thank the Lord Almighty for blessing me with this opportunity.

I also had an opportunity to give an interview to the Vatican Radio on the topic : 'Students on the path of Followers of Jesus Christ and Social Media'. I shared my views on the Student Movement in India and their activities. I was happy to express my views in Tamil, my mother tongue. I will cherish the memories of my stay at the Vatican City for a long time to come.



Meeting the leaders of the "World Youth Parliament" was also a great moment. It

was a pleasant experience to meet them after the last WYP which was held in Beijing, China in August 2017.

The leaders of WYP invited me for a gathering in which we spoke about our experience on the Global Conference and we also discussed about the forthcoming WYP which will be held in Spain in the year 2019. I was very happy meeting them and their superiors.

During the Conference, we visited the Italian Parliament. As young student leaders, this was a great opportunity for us to interact with the politicians of another country. After a short introduction, some political leaders addressed the gathering.

I was also responsible for the liturgy and the prayer services conducted during the Global Conference. Every morning began with prayer and till the end of each day was a blessed experience. Conducting the prayers using musical videos, silent meditation, invoking god's presence made each day of our Global Conference fruitful and meaningful.





Attending the IYCS Global Conference was a great opportunity. This program was in collaboration with UNESCO. There were participants from 18 countries. I represented YCS/YSM India as the General Secretary. Nearly 35 participants from all over the world came together to share their views on the theme.

Sharing my personal experience being a student was more effective and reachable to the participants present at the session “As one needs food and water which is essential to survive, I personally believe that education is also essential and a basic necessity for an individual to survive in today’s reality. Education is something which cannot be stolen and only learnt”. I not only spoke about education, but also stressed on the issues relating to Sustainable Developmental Goals,

Human Rights and Dignity, and also women empowerment. Interaction with the student leaders of other countries, about education was enriching.

I continue to surrender my prayers to the Almighty and ask him to shower his blessings on all of us. First and foremost, I thank the Lord Almighty for showering his blessings upon me. I thank the IYCS Chaplain Rev. Fr. Charles and Global Team for organising this conference. A big thanks to our National Chaplain Rev. Fr. Chetan Machado for his guidance and support to attend this conference. I also thank our Regional Director Rev. Fr. Martin and Diocesan Chaplain Rev. Fr. Anthony for their continuous support to me.

Long live YCS YSM....!

Ms. Raichel Patricia. L  
(National Secretary –YCS YSM India)

## MY EXPERIENCE AND LEARNINGS - GTS-18

**“For someone who has never seen Rome, it is hard to believe how beautiful life can be”**

...and it was the same to me, who understands life as an experience of cherishing every minute, It was a gifted opportunity, when I was selected along with few other participants to participate in the IYCS Global Training Session on “Educating Today and Tomorrow, Students Building a Safe Learning Environment” from 10th to 20th September 2018.

We were actually a group of so many who got selected but we had to face a lot of issues with our visa process on our Travel and finally we were only 4 representing India to attend, as you know it’s quite obvious we are in India, and the rest I don’t have to explain.

We made much sacrifice and finally landed in Rome on 11th September, on the second day of the program, ‘better late than never’. A dream finally come true! Europe is quite expensive, even the time I started, everything was expensive, and I had just 1000 rupees which is 10 Euros on the day I landed in Rome, but what matters is the experience of seeing what the West is!

It was a beautiful moment to get introduced to all other friends who had been travelling like me to participate in this session! One Argentinean had travelled 4 countries to visit Rome. For me! As an Indian I was hearing all stories of travel like that, but for the first time, experiencing it in real.

We had a strong foothold for over 8 beautiful days, was like “stopping by the woods on a snowy evening” by Robert frost, so I would request I am consolidating all that happened under various headings! Join me along in this beautiful journey for a fortnight of heaven in real life.

## Sessions:

### 1. IYCS Review of Life- Methodology and Application

It was something nice to refresh myself with the action of what we call in everyday life known as See- Judge- Act. We had the sessions break up with various sessions individually to help us think better as the sessions were surrounded around the topic education and the methodology helped us reflect a little better.

### 2. Global Reality of Education

We tried to understand what is happening in the field of education at the global level. There were testimonies and presentations from participants which made us understand the drawbacks the countries are facing on education in general. India is a country of diversity, we have so many differences, but still we can be sure that we are making a progress which is not seen in real life, but it is.

### 3. Global Citizenship Education and Sustainable Development Goals(SDG)

Sustainable Development Goals, a concept which I was quite amazed of, though I knew it in bits and pieces, was quite satisfied as I was able to get a clearer picture. There are 17 SDGs and the prime focus of understanding was on the 4th SDG, i.e. Quality Education.

### 4. Education as Human Right and Human Rights Education

This made me understand the following aspects.

The Church needs to come to the people to understand, understanding the role of Pope Benedict who emphasized on solidarity education as an art of life and lack of solidarity for today's world, Church admits the flavor of education as the human right but needs to look into the teachers.

### 5. Education at the Service of Humanity

This made me understand these aspects: world is where you are and not somewhere else; value of service matters today but still a dream to come out to life ;practical knowledge is still a dream to many; evangelization system is the need of the hour; place based education- needs to be thought in India; economy to serve the common good; peace is a gift of god but work of humans and education cannot be reduced to moral principles

### 6. Youth Engagement and Advocacy

Understanding the 3 pillars of participation Wanting to? Being able to? and Do it knowing how?

### 7. Theological Reflections on Young People in Church Today and the 2018 Youth Synod

Understanding more on the necessity and the importance of the intervention of Youth was a priority, and was much happy that the Church is addressing!

**Apart from these sessions we** visited the Italian Parliament- was something special and also the participants were given an opportunity to observe the session in the Parliament which was a dream come true. We were fortunate to have Papal Audience- Where the golden moment of seeing our beloved Holy Father, was given to all the participants, which was a favorite moment that will be cherished throughout my life.

## Conclusion

It has been one life time journey that has made me realize that life is a journey, and you got to cherish every minute, the value counts. We may have ups and downs and several struggles. This world is still a dream to many, to realize, and we are born in this unjust society, and it is we who need to take up this cleaning system, for the good of many!

I am grateful to all who have supported me in this never ending journey and this is not the end but the beginning of a dream of a just society.

LET YCS YSM LIGHT SHINE!

-Joseph Kamal Francis



# A PLACE OF SOLACE

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**Y**CS/YSM is a student movement where students come together in small groups. All accept one another as brothers and sisters; hence a FAMILY atmosphere is created to treat each other as real human beings. Hence YCS/YSM is a great FAMILY. YCS/YSM means no one gets behind or forgotten.” On the other hand it is a group of students who will judge you, hate you, but will never abandon you. Family the first place that creates, moulds, leads and enriches.

“Family is a unique gift that needs to be appreciated and treasured, even when they are driving you crazy. As much as they make you mad, interrupt you, annoy you, curse at you, try to control you, these are the people who know you the best and who love you” says Jenna Morasca. So family can be difficult, comforting, frustrating and wonderful. Love or hate families, they are one of the biggest influences on our lives. So much of our personalities, our emotions, our dreams our fears, all come from our families. (Esther Ifeoluwa Fagbe)

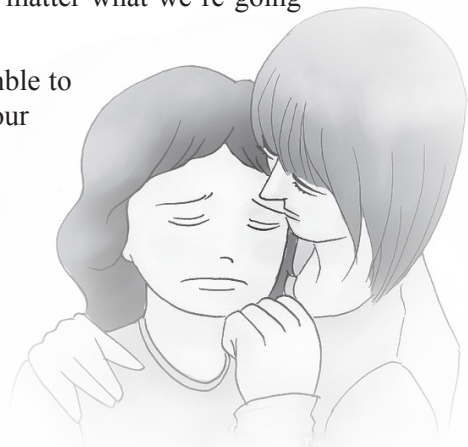
Family is an intimate domestic group made up of people related to one another by bonds of blood, it is the smallest and most basic social unit. A family is a group of people who want as well as chosen to be together embrace by a bond so powerful and strong that not even the slightest test of trials or troubles can breach. Our families introduce us to cultural norms, social behavior, education, group interactions, morals and pretty much everything else you can think of. So families are important. They raise you, support you, they help you win your fortunes.

Irina Shayk says, ‘nothing is better than going home to family and eating good food and relaxing.’ It is true that we still spend time together but how we do it has changed. All accept one another as brothers and sisters; hence a family atmosphere is created to treat each other as real human beings.

‘Learn to enjoy every minute of your life. Be happy now. Don’t wait for something outside of yourself to make you happy in the future. Think how really precious is the time you have to spend, whether it’s at work or with your family. Every minute should be enjoyed and savored’. says Earl Nightingale. In the words of Kim Kardashian, “At the end of the day, life is about being happy being who you are, and I feel like we are so blessed to have the support system and the best family to really just support each other no matter what we’re going through.”

After visiting 18 schools of Agra region, I feel very humble to call YCS/YSM is a second family for every student of our time. Today the life of most students is influenced by the peer group and society. Children feel secure and have trust in the peer group. Let us nurture this movement so that it may bring solace to many more blooming buds of our society.

**- Sr. Lidwin Fernandes**  
**National Coordinator**





They are communication, commonalities, respect and trust.

The first pillar holding up a good, healthy relationship is verbal communication. Relationships are based on love and when it comes down to it, love is something that is communicated among people.

The second pillar of a great relationship is the people involved hearing similar objectives. A family coexists peacefully when each family member wants peace and happiness. Similarities tend to bring together seemingly different people.

Respect and trust, the last two pillars of a good relationships go hand in hand. People have good relationships with people they respect and trust. Many relationships are formed by respect atleast in known familial situations. The same goes for trust, the firm belief in the reliability, truth, ability or strength of someone, absence of the truth of a statement without evidence or investigation.

A good relationship is not simply supported by just one thing, but supported by a number of things,. A good relationship where two or more people are connected through something. Whether blood marriage pr ,mutual affection, needs a steady dose of communication, similar objectives, respect and trust the four pillars for any successful relationship. Relationship requires constant work and focus and patience but it is supposed to be worth it; successful, happy and healthy relationship equate to a high quality of life research indicates that people need other people in order to live long. happy and healthy llives which requires happy and healthy relationships among people. It's a simple notation really. But it works and it has always worked.

Courtesy: [www.ozessay.com.au](http://www.ozessay.com.au)

Collected by: Reenal Viola D'Souza, Kalmady, Mangalore

## National Chaplain's Activities

- 1-2 Sept - Northern Regional Convention, Amritsar
- 3 Sept - Session on the youth Synod for priests and religious, Baroda
- 4-5 Sept - Seminar and recollection for priests, Guwahati
- 6 Sept - Visit to Jowai
- 9 Sept - Organising Committee meeting - National Conference
- 10-12 Sept - National Catechetical Conference, Jalandhar
- 14-18 Sept - Office work- The Search etc in Delhi
- 20-21 Sept - Bosco Youth Conference at Yadagir, Karnataka
- 23-25 Sept - CCBI Secretaries meeting, Bangalore
- 2-3 Oct- Office work at Chennai office
- 9-10 Oct- Leadership Training at RMI Hostel, Delhi
- 11-17 Oct - Preparation for the National Conference
- 18-21 Oct - Days in the Diocese
- 21-25 Oct - National Youth Conference, Delhi

### Future Programmes:

- 10-11 January 2019 - NT/EXCO meeting, Goa
- 16-25 February 2019 - Pilgrimage to the Holy Land



### For details contact:

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# ALL SAINTS

## Our heavenly companions on earth



**Fr Charles Menezes**  
IYCS Chaplain

On Nov 1 the Church celebrates all saints day, canonized or beatified, and the multitude of those who are in heaven enjoying the beatific vision that are only known to God. During the early centuries the Saints venerated by the Church were all martyrs. At Rome, on May 13, there was the annual commemoration of the consecration of the basilica of St. Maria ad Martyres (or St. Mary and All Martyrs - This was the former Pantheon, the temple of Agrippa, dedicated to all the gods of paganism). Pope Gregory VII fixed the date to November 1 to celebrate all Saints day.

### SEE

During the year the Church celebrates one by one the feasts of the saints. On Nov 1, she joins them all in one festival. What are the reasons that we celebrate this feast?

**The first reason is** - Our most godlike Fathers decreed that we should

celebrate the present feast after the descent of the All-holy Spirit, as showing in a certain way that the coming of the All-holy Spirit acted through the Apostles. He sanctifies the wise human beings taken from our mortal clay and restores them through Christ, sending them to God. Some by the witness of martyrdom and blood, and others by their virtuous conduct and way of life and things beyond nature achieve this. He brings those who were rejected before, to union with God who were outstandingly well-pleasing to Him.

**A second reason is**, though many people have been well-pleasing to God, through their outstanding virtue unknown to humanity by name, or for some human reason, but nevertheless have great glory in God's sight. On earth they were well-pleasing to God, and generally for those who would later become Saints.

Thus the Church ordained that we should celebrate the feast of All Saints, the unknown and the known — all those in whom the Holy Spirit has dwelt and has made holy.

**A third reason is**, that it was necessary for the Saints who are celebrated individually day by day to be gathered together on one day, in order to demonstrate that, as they struggled for the one Christ and all ran the race in the same virtue. They were all fittingly crowned as servants of one God, sustained the Church, having filled the world on high. They stir us also to accomplish the same struggle in its different and many forms, to the degree of power that each of us has to press onwards with all eagerness.

We all have the "universal call to holiness" - What must we do in order to

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join the company of the saints in heaven?

*« We must follow in His footsteps and conform ourselves to His image seeking the will of the Father in all things. We must devote ourselves with all our being to the glory of God and the service of our neighbour. In this way, the holiness of the People of God will grow into an abundant harvest of good, as is admirably shown by the life of so many saints in Church history” (Lumen Gentium, 40).*

## JUDGE

The feast of All Saints should inspire us with tremendous hope. Among the saints in heaven are some whom we have known. All lived on earth like us. They were baptized, marked with the sign of faith, they were faithful to Christ's teaching and they have gone before us to the heavenly home from where they call on us to follow them.

Now that we know the origin, history and meaning of the All Saints Feast, we must ask why we celebrate this feast specifically and other feasts of individual saints? First, we must remember that everyone is created for and called to saintliness and holiness. To be holy as God is holy (Leviticus

20:26; 1Peter 1:16). It is not for just a select few. The early Church called all Christians 'saints'. Second, the saints are models of holiness in life and conduct. We can be inspired by their example to strive for the same holiness in our own life. Let us petition God repeatedly to make us holy and commit ourselves and our whole life to Christ our God.

Pope St John Paul II used to call upon young people to be the Living Saints.

To become saints of the present age we need to just follow the Beatitudes.

*“Blessed are ..... Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me; Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you”.* (Mt 5:3-12)

## ACT

**Things to do as per the church:**

- Visiting a cemetery and praying for the dead during the Octave of All Saints' Day (November 1 through November 8)
- Spending a little time after Mass thanking God for all the unnamed saints, some of whom could be our own relatives.
- Praying the Litany of the Saints and trying to live the beatitudes.

Let us strive to be saints here on earth and hereafter in heaven in the presence of God.

**IYCS Day:** We celebrate the IYCS World Day on Nov 13. Let us indulge ourselves in those actions which will brighten the spirit of IYCS to strengthen the Movement and bear homage to our inspiration Cardinal Joseph Cardijn on his birthday.❖





## SUMMARY OF THE 13TH IYCS ASIAN SESSION AND COUNCIL

The 13th IYCS Asian Session and Council on the theme: "Students moved by faith towards education of heart & environment", was held from 29 July to 07 August, 2018 at Providence University, Taichung City, Taiwan.

The ASC brought over 98 delegates composed of Chaplains, Formators, Students, and the Local Organizing Team from ten Asian National Movements such as India, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam, including the Secretary General from the International Secretariat. They were brought together to share their experiences and move forward towards the future of the Asian Coordination alongside the election of the new Asian Team during the Council.

Fr Chetan Machado,  
National Chaplain,

Jesvita Quadras, National President, Jimmy Pdang, ICT member from India and Caroline Lalrosangi were the participants of the Council from YCS/YSM India.

The program formally began with the inaugural mass celebrated by Bishop Martin of Taichung. He welcomed the participants to Taiwan. During the mass, Fr. Timothy Jacobe de Belen (YCS Taiwan Chaplain) gave a welcome remark. After the Eucharist, Mr. Richard Apeh, IYCS Secretary General led an activity. The participants shared their joy of attending the program. They said, 'YCS is a Movement of the students, by the students, and for the students. It's about creative students seeking and doing things to make the world better.'

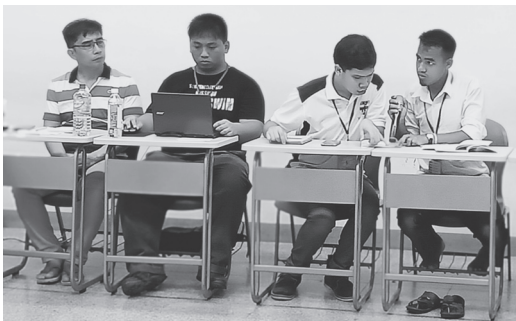
In the afternoon, Jimmy Pdang, ICT member from India facilitated the expectations of the participants and National Movements. All the participants wrote their expectations and fears in a paper and pasted it on a chart. This was followed by a session on 'look



**Jimmy Pdang**  
IYCS Asia Coordinator

at the Asian Situation' from the reports of all National Movements about YCS. An orientation of the ROL-SEE was facilitated by Richard Apeh in view of the preparation for the next day's exposure. The day ended with the welcome party from Taiwan LOC.

As part of ROL-SEE, on 31st July, participants were divided into groups, one group went to Taichung Environmental Park and Taichung Power Plant and the other group went to National Human Rights Museum and 228 Peace Memorial Park & Museum so as to cover both Peace and Environment aspects. The SEE part continued on the following day with a creative exposure reports from 6 groups. During the presentation the participants shared about the Eco Park which is a successfully designed natural park and using natural ways to purify polluted water. The Eco Park



showed how Taiwan solves the water problem in an eco-friendly way. Taichung Power Plant is a Coal-fired Factory that generates 20% of power in Taiwan. However, Taiwan is asking for reduced coal consumption. The Power plant has managed to reduce the emission by 80% and tries to maintain the balance of Development Vs Ecological sustainability. Some of the groups presented a short play about the 228 incidents that show the lack of awareness of the new / current generation about their history.

Following reports, was the workshop on the environment and peace issues facilitated by Mr Frence and Mr Melvin from SCA Philippines.

After lunch, there was a session by Dr. Hong-Yuan Lee on the Environmental Initiatives taken by Taiwan and the issues faced by the country. The session was about how can we create a balance between people and nature in this current era.

The day ended with a cultural evening performed by the South Asian Countries.

The proper reflection of the Asian Session began on day four with the ROL – JUDGE overview Session by Fr. Chetan Machado, YCS/YSM India National Chaplain. Fr. Chetan presented 2 videos to explain 'See' part

of the methodology. After a break, Fr. Serge Maniba, Asian Chaplain shared his reflection on Gaudete et Exsultate. Fr. Serge insisted that there are many people who can see the problem, but they do not think much about it.

Thereafter, input on Peace building was conducted by Althea Geronilla, ICT. "Education of heart is having a merciful heart – learn to use your heart to see what is happening around you", she said.

Later in the evening, a workshop on ROL-JUDGE was conducted by Fr. Chetan Machado towards personal action for self,

concrete action towards influencing others and a plan for group action and follow-up. South East Asian Countries presented their cultural performances before the day ended with night prayer.

Having been reflected upon the issues that we saw and presented in the past few days, fifth day began with ROL– ACT. Training Session and workshop was conducted by Fr. Chetan

Machado. Preparation for National and Regional Plans of Action was then facilitated by Richard Apeh. The day ended with the Holy Mass and cultural night performed by East Asian Countries.

On 4th August delegates were divided into several groups and were taken out to different places in Taiwan with the presence of LOCs as it was an outing day.

The Asian Council began on 5th August with the election of Presidium. An orientation



on electing a presidium was facilitated by Jimmy P dang (ICT). Daniella Linsangan from SCA Philippines and Reyner Jonathan from YCS Indonesia were then elected as members of the Presidium together with Steven Segura who represented the ICT. Althea presented the agenda of the Asian Council. Several issues were dealt in the discussion. In the evening Fr. Chetan introduced Jimmy P dang as the nominee of YCS/YSM India for Asian

# Search

Coordinator and asked for support for Jimmy if elected.

After discussions on the situation of the Coordination of IYCS Asia, The Council adopted the current structure of coordination i.e. two coordinators and one chaplain. A student representative team composed of one member from each National Movement was also adopted to help the Coordinators. Jesvita Quadras was then selected from YCS/YSM India as a member of Student Representative from India. The Council Day one was adjourned for the Mass in the evening. On Day 8 the Interim Coordination Team informed the Council of the discussions made on the previous evening that Fr. Serge will continue to journey with the Asian Team until a new Chaplain is elected and Althea will also continue supporting the Asian Team as its Administrator given the roles and responsibilities decided by the new AT.

Apart from the adoption of the structure of IYCS Asia, the Asian Council also ratified the decisions made during the Extraordinary Asian Session & Council of 2017. These are; online voting; annual financial contribution / Solidarity Share (100USD) from all NMs; Formation of the Advisory Board composed of Teresa Mourad, Manoj Mathew, Loucille Alcalá-

Dabhi, Rev. Fr. Aloysius Tan Yih Soo, Ha Ngo and Cyril Lituañas followed by the approval of the financial statement of IYCS Asia 2017-2018 after which, Richard presented the Regional Guidelines and orientation for the year 2019-2021 which was reviewed, discussed and adopted by the Council along with the approval of the Final Statement of the Council.

An Election of the Asian Team was held. Fr. Timothy Jacobe presented Jessica Hsu as a Nominee from YCS Taiwan. Discussions were held with the exclusion of the candidates who were asked to move out during the election process. Neil from the Philippines and Bro. Tae from Thailand were selected to be the Election Scrutinizers. The Council elected the new Asian Coordinators of 2019-2021 which consists of Mr Jimmy Pdang and Jessica Hsu. Jessica and Jimmy were then asked to share a few words. Both the Coordinators thanked the Council for electing them and they also extended their gratitude to their respective National Movements for having full faith and trust in them that they can carry the movement forward.

After the discussions of other issues and concerns, an evaluation was held with a view to improve the next Asian Council. The

participants shared their joy and privilege to be part of the Council. They also extended their happiness of receiving Jesus Christ in the daily mass and prayers and committed themselves to share and build the Kingdom of God when they reach their homes and Country. When everything was over, the presidium declared the Council closed after they shared their words of appreciation and happiness to the Council for electing them to the presidium and for the supports that every delegate gave them.

The day ended with the closing mass. Bishop Martin (Bishop of Taichung) as the main celebrant once again thanked IYCS Asia for choosing Taiwan and expressed his joy and happiness to all the delegates



and IYCS Asia. Awards and gifts to the participants were distributed by the LOC of YCS Taiwan followed by a light ceremony (evening prayer).

The 13th Asian Session and Council was finally concluded with a farewell party conducted by the Host.







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**W**e are in an era where we have consumed almost every mineral on earth, began to work on mining asteroid belt and colonizing planets. Eventually, we got populated way too much, began to create artificial islands, and massive food production. Starting from the invention of the wheel and five thousands years ago to nearing the stage of immortality with the help of advanced technologies. Let's see what some scientists think of the human development and the direct and indirect impact upon us!

Scientists say a fifth of Amazon has disappeared, and we have lost half of all the world's shallow water corals. Humans have wiped out 60% of wildlife in less than 50 years through pollution, climate change and habitat loss are the major factors.

They have tracked 4,000 Species between 1970 and 2014 and found 89% vertebrate animals in the south and Central America have been wiped out. Mostly by deforestation to clear land for plantation crops such as soy.

Over 90% of people on the planet breathe dangerously polluted air. The head of the World Health Organization calls air pollution 'the new tobacco'. Breathing dangerous air is a problem for countries across the world. Some of the most populated cities in India due to vehicles, farmers burning excess crops and industry emission.

Although China is cutting its air pollution, the dirty air still kills 1 million people a year. It takes crores of rupees from the economy but it's not just India and China that suffer. Europe's dirty air kills around 4 lakh people every year. Air pollution has an insidious impact on health causing up to one-third of deaths from heart disease, lung cancer, and strokes. Transport, energy, agriculture, waste and housing sectors all contribute to air pollution. But in poor areas, people burning wood fuel is a problem too. Air pollution is getting worse in many parts of the world. The story gets even worse when it comes to water, soil, atmosphere, minerals, ocean, noise, light, radioactive and space pollution.

Majority of the scientists think humans have already triggered a sixth mass extinction. Even if we stop poaching, polluting and destroying wild area in the next 50 years it would take 3 to 5 million years to return to how it is today.

Have you been impacted by these social problems? Aren't we forgetting that there are a lot of generations coming after us? If people are not aware of it then how come the upcoming generation gonna have their life? Are we forgetting that the Planet Earth is also the home for millions of other species?

I believe that a happy & healthy life along with these modern developments & technology is possible. It will take a few more decades for every individual to feel that they must change their attitude towards Nature. Anyway Change is nearing.

- Ebin Navis, former National Executive Committee TN.



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**REPORTS**

## **NORTHEAST REGION**

### **DIOCESE OF AIZAWL**

**YCS/YSM Aizawl Diocesan Teenagers Meet: 13th October, 2018,**

Teenagers meet for the students of YCS/YSM in Aizawl city was organised by Aizawl City Zone Coordination Committee (ACZCC) on the 13&14th October, 2018. In this two days programme there were more than 300 participants from the city parish YCS along with their animators and the members of the local church. Theme based programme was held and several expert resource persons were invited to speak on the topic on "Sex Education", "Drugs and Tobacco Awareness" and "Social Media Awareness". There were three separate sessions during the day and after each session students were divided into groups for further discussion and presentation. The students were enlightened and made aware on the topics. This programme was helpful and it was a successful programme and the students gained so much knowledge from it. This programme is organised every year on a regular basis.

**- Justine Lalrinnungi**

## **NORTHERN REGION**

### **ARCHDIOCESE OF DELHI**

**YCS Executive Committee of the Archdiocese of Delhi was Installed**

The newly elected Young Catholic Students (YCS) leaders, picked the Sacred Heart Cathedral, New Delhi to take their oath of office. The Executive Committee composed of Anjalina Ekka, Binit Ekka, Elen



Stephen Kujur, Preeti Kerketta, Shabnam Ekka. The Campaigns & Communication team composed of Akshita Ekka, Anil Topno, Anisha Tirkey, Rohini Ghosh and Rommel Philip also took oath on this occasion.

Fr Vijay Baretto, the YCS Chaplain administered the oath along with Manoj Mathew, YCS Diocesan Coordinator during the Eucharistic celebration witnessed by the faithful gathered for worship on Sunday, 19 August.

After the Eucharistic celebration, the elected leaders along with other YCS members gathered in Yusuf Sadan for a reflection to deepen themselves about the methodology Review of Life: See, Judge, Act. The group also reminded on the resolution of 'Learning to Excel and Lead' as the campaign to make the difference.

The refreshments were served along with specially designed cake for the celebration. The programme concluded with a brief introduction on the responsibilities of the leadership to the movement and each elected member shared few words to acknowledge their commitment. It marks the new beginning of student leadership for the Archdiocese of Delhi.

**- Rohini Ghosh**

## UTTAR PRADESH

### DIOCESE OF BAREILLY

“जिंदगी छोटी है सपने बड़े हैं  
हिम्मत और होसला जूटा कर उन्हें  
पूरा करने के लिए हम खड़े हैं  
करना चाहते हैं कुछ अलग  
करना चाहते हैं कुछ अनोखा  
इसलिए हम लै से जुड़े हैं।”

YCS में होने पर हमें गर्व महसूस होता है अच्छा लगता है। YCS की नज़रों से दुनिया को देखना अलग नजरिए से सोचकर सबके साथ अनोखा रिश्ता बनाना और अपने ग्रुप मेम्बरस के साथ काम करना। 25 सितंबर 2018 की शाम 3 बजे से साढ़े पाँच बजे तक संत अल्फोन्सा कैथीड्रल, बरेली में YCS की मीटिंग थी जिसमें हमें बहुत कुछ नया सीखने को मिला। सिस्टर लिडविन फर्नांडिस के द्वारा मीटिंग का संचालन किया गया। हमें YCS की मेथोडोलोजी के बारे में बताया गया। यह तीन स्तंभों पर आधारित है—SEE -JUDGE-ACT. इनके बारे में समझा कर इन पर आधारित कुछ प्रश्न हल करने को दिए गये। YCS की मेथोडोलोजी कभी गलत नहीं होती। दोस्तों, जिंदगी छोटी सी है तो हमें कुछ बड़ा कर दिखाना है। अपने स्नेहपूर्ण व्यवहार से सबका दिल जीतना है। सेवा



कराना नहीं अपितु सेवा करना है और यह सब करने के लिए हमें ईश्वर से जुड़ना है।

हमें जीने के लिए वह अपनी आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने के लिए दूसरों की जिंदगी से खिलवाड़ नहीं करना है। हम बहतर जिंदगी जी सकते हैं बिना किसी को परेशान करके। यह बात भी हमने एक एक्ट के द्वारा सीखी।

दोस्तों YCS जुड़ना हमारा सौभाग्य है। ईश्वर ने हम सब को चुना है अपनी सेवा के लिए। हम अभारी हैं, हम धन्यवाद देते हैं सिस्टर लिडविन और फादर फ्रान्सिस का जिन्हें हमें YCS में जोड़कर आगे बढ़ने को प्रोत्साहित किया।

ईश्वर के महान कार्यों को बताना, ईश्वर के नाम का प्रचार करना यही उद्देश्य हमारा हो।

— क्लेमेंट जेम्स बटरफील्ड, बरेली

## NORTHEAST REGION

### DIOCESE OF SHILOLONG

#### Animators Training Programme

YCS/YSM Coordinating team Shillong unit organized a day of Animators' Training Programme on 5th August 2108 in Sacred Heart Theological College, Mawlai, Shillong. The programme began with Holy Eucharist presided over by Rev. Fr. Giles Thyrniang, the new director of Youth Ministry of the College. Forty two animators from twenty two schools were present for the training programme. The Gathering first welcomed the new director and began the programme by invoking the spirit of God. Rev. Sr. Vijo, the principal of St. Francis School-Smith was invited to be the resource person of the day. She inspired all the animators on the topic “Role of YCS/YSM in school setting.” Sr. Mercia D'Souza, the principal of Loreto School was present as the guest of honour and motivated everyone by her words and rewarded the works of YCS/YSM in the Archdiocese. All the animators were appreciative of the fact that the movement is vibrant and active in their own respective schools. Finally the meeting was concluded with vote of thanks by Br. Julien Pradeep, the coordinator and it was followed by lunch.

- Bro. Julien Pradeep



## KARNATAKA

### DIOCESE OF MANGALORE YCS Share and Care

At the background of the Year of Rosary in the diocese of Mangalore, the Young Catholic Students (YCS) members all over the diocese celebrated 'Share - Care September 2018.' Accordingly the teenagers along with unit directors and animators of 65 Parishes cared for the sickly/elderly and shared the little resources that they have. The activity took place in different parishes on different days of September, the month we celebrate the birth day of Mother Mary.

The slogan was 'We not only Play, but also Pray'. Great unity and enthusiasm was seen among the teenagers (PUC level) as they visited the families of the sick and elderly



people. They recited the Rosary and prayed for them and their family members; they sought blessings from the elders; they listened to their painful stories, their difficulties and shared good vibes as they put a smile on their faces. As a token of love Rosary, fruits and gifts were given by the youth to the sick and elderly. In many parishes the parish priests, ward members and others joined the teenagers.

This act helped the youth to understand their own sick and elderly Parish members.



They learnt to empathies with them. It was an overwhelming and enriching experience where the youth learned to build a better society by being united and inculcating the YCS motto of See, Judge and Act.' They learnt values of respecting every individual and to love and care for the sick and elderly not only in their homes but also in their society. For it is in Giving that we receive. The youth have cherished memories in hearts that would help them grow.

Fr Rupesh Madtha, the diocesan director for YCS/YSM, Ashvia Anna Lasrado the diocesan president, Prajwal Sequeira, the diocesan animator, Mervin Vas, the diocesan coordinator, along with the central council members guided the whole event with life examples.

*Fr. Rupesh Madtha*

## NORTH EAST

### RELEASING THE NEW HANDBOOK

YCS/YSM Shillong unit released New Handbook (Revised Edition) on 5th August 2018 during the animators' training programme. It was a long necessity and awaited need that a proper handbook for the members of YCS/YSM Shillong unit to be published for the well running of the movement.

Keeping this aspect in mind the coordinating team worked tirelessly for several days

and brought forth a new handbook for YCS/YSM-Shillong titled “CELEBRATE”. The handbook includes Prayers, hymns rules, regulations and constitution of YCS/YSM-India. The co-ordinating team certainly feel that this handbook would help the smooth running of the movement in various schools of the Archdiocese of Shillong.

*-Jimmy Pdang*

## UTTAR PRADESH

### DIOCESE OF BAREILLY YCS Introduction

It was amazing to note that, all the preparation for the introduction of YSM was done before hand. The students were already selected in number according to their interest. Students of few schools already knew the methodology and aim of Young students Movement. The programme was conducted from 2nd October to 6th October. Fr. Francis Pinto the Diocesan youth Director assisted Sr. Lidwin Fernandes the National coordinator for YCS/YSM, during her visit to different schools.



The schools visited in Bareilly are:

1. Bishop Conrad Sr. Sec. School, 38 Cant, Bareilly
2. St. Maria Goretti Inter College, 62 Cant. Bareilly
3. Hartmann College. Izatnagar, Bareilly
4. Assisi inter college – Baheri, Bareilly
5. Bishop Conrad School – Dohana, Bareilly
6. Child Care Bishop Conrad School – Golden Green Park, Bareilly

7. St. Francis Junior high school – Sanjay Nagar, Bareilly
8. Holy family Secondary school, Sangarampur, Bareilly

*-Fr. Francis Pinto*

## NORTH EAST

### DIOCESE OF GUWAHATI

#### Follow up Programme :

A day of follow up programme was organised for the students of St. Patrick High School, Sonapur, Sr. Justina Kalwing the DYD of Guwahati and Mr. Suncy Eapen were the



resource persons. They began with the short prayer to the Almighty God followed by group warm up session. Since it was a follow up programme, the spokespersons of different cells were asked to share the activities that they conducted. Then followed the revision on the following:

1. What is YCS / YSM
2. It's Aim
3. It's Objectives
4. It's Methodology and Rules.

They were then given the questions to answer for the Evaluation. The programme was kept alive and enthusiastic for the students with the action songs.

In order to prepare them for the next follow up, Sr. Justina Kalwing highlighted on the need for the Eco-friendliness.

*Sr. Justina Kalwing*

## UTTAR PRADESH

### DIOCESE OF JHANSI YCS/YSM Day

YCS/YSM Day was celebrated with great zeal and enthusiasm. Around two hundred students from std. VI to IX participated in this one day Youth seminar. Our Chief Guests were Respected Sister Lidwin Fernandez and Sister Darshana. The guest of honour was our beloved



Most Rev. Peter Parapullil. The methodology was beautifully taught and the students were taught to see Judge and Act. YCS/YSM Elections were also held and the programmer concluded with the vote of thanks expressed by Rev Fr Richard A. The day was well spent and the experience gained was truly awesome and memorable.

**-Mr. Francis Savio**

## NORTH EAST

### Office Bearers' Meet

The DEXCO and College Cell together with Mr. Jimmy, the coordinator of IYCS Asia and Mr. Johnny, the president of North-East India came together on 9th September 2018 at Sacred Heart Theological College, Shillong to share and evaluate the running of the movement in the Archdiocese of Shillong.

The meet seriously discussed about leaders coming together at least once a month, organization of winter camp for YCS/YSM of the diocese and Village exposure for the

leaders. Detail plans were made for the winter camp and everyone was enthused by the spirit of YCS/YSM. All raised their views positively and agreed unanimously to move ahead with the plans for the movement in the diocese.

### Animation

The Coordinating team reached out to seven Schools to animate the members of YCS/YSM in the Archdiocese of Shillong in the months of August and September. St. Anthony's School, St. Margaret School, St. Edmund School, St. Francis School, Smith, St. Francis School, Mawkasiang, Sacred Heart Girls' School-Mawlai and St. Mary's School, Laitumkrah.

The Team reaches out to the members of YCS/YSM on Thursdays and Sundays of the week in order to focus the good and vibrant running of the movement and above all to keep the spirit of YCS/YSM alive in the Archdiocese.

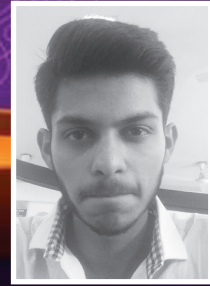
### Youth and Gospel

Five hundred Young Catholic Students gathered in Sacred Heart Theological College, Shillong in order to proclaim the Gospel through their creative presentation on 9th September 2018. Children from fourteen schools were present to participate in the competition. The programme began with the Holy Eucharist presided over by Rev. Fr. Jude Sebastian, the Vice Rector of the College. Mr. Adelbert Nongrum, the Honorable MLA of the Constituency of North Shillong was present as the chief guest of the day. The amazing performance of the members of YCS/YSM on the inculturation of the Gospel was tremendous and praiseworthy. St. Francis School, Sacred Heart Girl's School and Holy Child School stood in first three positions respectively.

**- Bro. Julien Pradeep**



# Diwali



Diwali is one of the main festivals of Hindus and celebrated by all people across India. Over the centuries, Diwali has become a national festival that is enjoyed by most Indians regardless of faith: Hindus, Jains, Buddhists, and Sikhs. The preparation for Diwali celebration begins weeks before the festival. People begin with the preparations by cleaning their houses and shops. Every nook and corner of the house, shops and offices is cleansed before Diwali. These are then decorated with lights, lamps, flowers and other decorative items.

People shop for new clothes, home decor items and gifts for their loved ones on this festival. The markets are flooded with variety of gift items and sweets around this time. It is also a good time to bond with our near and dear ones. People visit each other around this time and exchange gifts as a part of the celebration.

On the day of Diwali, people light up their houses with diyas, candles and lights. The children are very happy on this day. They get holidays from the schools. Great preparation are made. The women prepare many kind of sweets and other food items. People buy small clay cups called *devas*. In the evening these cups are filled with mustard oil and lighted. These cups are put on the walls or on bamboo frames in rows at small distance. The whole house becomes bright with lights. In cities and towns electric bulbs are lighted. Everything looks bright and beautiful. Some people make paper candles and hang them from the ceiling of the houses and trees.

They look very beautiful. They also make rangoli and decorate their houses with flowers. The ritual of worshipping Goddess Lakshmi and Ganesha is followed in every Hindu household on the occasion of Diwali. It is said that this brings in prosperity and good luck. They leave the light on in buildings believing that Lakshmi will find no difficulty in finding her way in. The festival gets its name from the row (*avali*) of clay lamps (*deepa*) that Indians light outside their homes to symbolize the inner light that protects from spiritual darkness. This festival is as important to Hindus as the Christmas holiday is to Christians.

Also known as the festival of lights, Diwali is all about worshipping the deities, burning crackers, having sweets and making merry with the loved ones. It is considered to be one of the most auspicious days in the Hindu calendar. Diwali symbolises the spiritual “victory of light over darkness, good over evil and knowledge over ignorance.”

*(from various sources)*  
*- Jeris Joseph*  
*(National Treasurer)*





## YCS/YSM INDIA ACTIVITIES



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