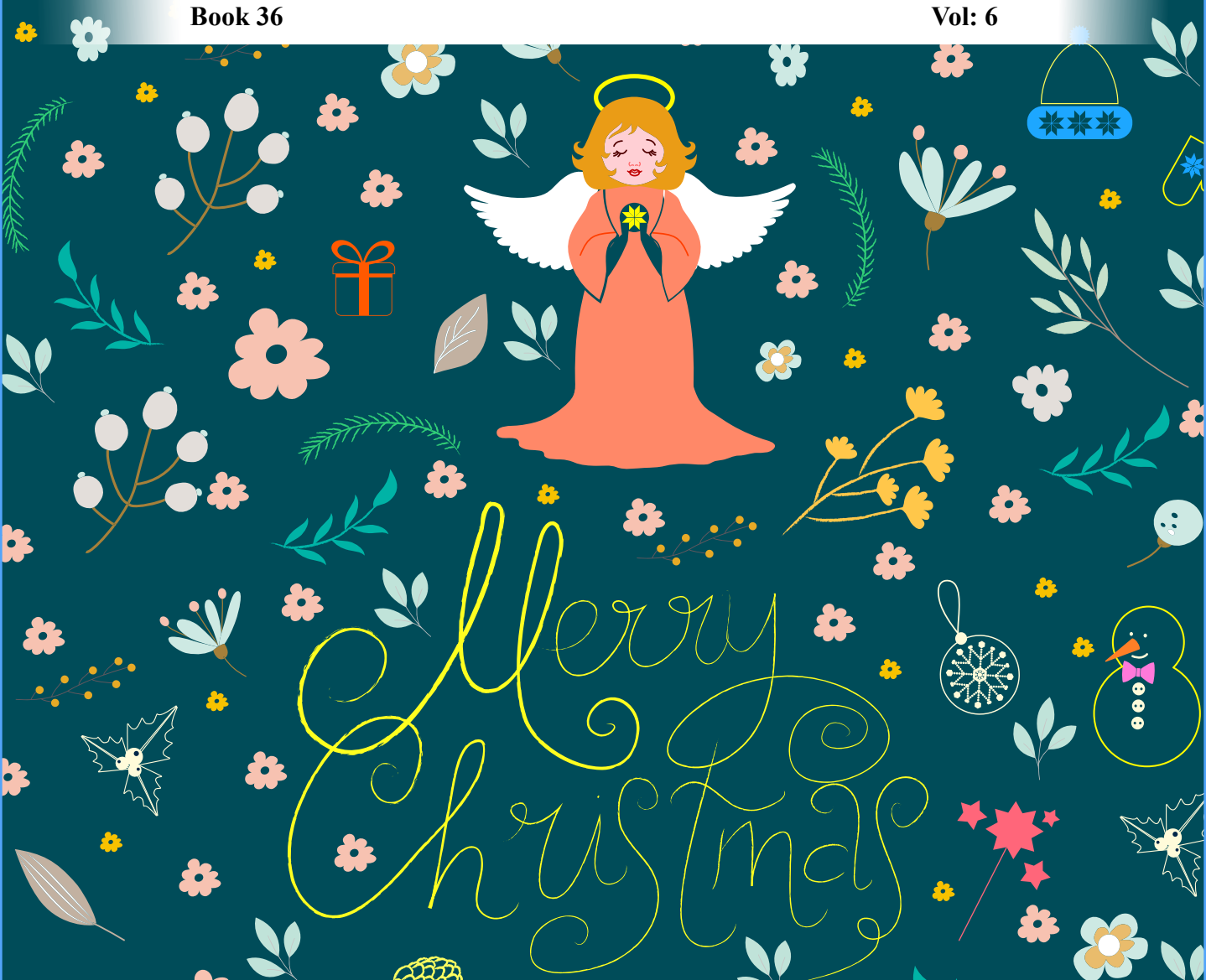


*The* **Search**  
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**“Christmas gift suggestions: to your enemy, forgiveness. To an opponent, tolerance. To a friend, your heart. To a customer, service. To all, charity. To every child, a good example. To yourself, respect.”  
- Oren Arnold**

## THE BEAUTY OF A STORM

- Marc Dobson

Once, there lived a farmer who was hard working and dedicated towards his work. The land that he owned was infertile and it was located near a river. With all his hardwork the land would only bear a small portion of harvest. He tried many ways to make the land fertile but all his efforts were of waste.

One day a very strong storm appeared and it was fierce. The farmer lost all hope seeing the storm. On one side his land was so infertile and it yielded less harvest and on the other side the STORM. When the storm had calmed down, the farmer went to the land and he was surprised to see the land which was once infertile had become fertile. What was the secret? When the storm first began there was strong wind which caused the soil to erode, followed by wind came heavy rainfall and the river which was near the land started to overflow and as it washed the land it left silt behind which made the land fertile.... The farmer worked hard again and this time he had a super harvest

**Moral:** Behind every storm there is a beautiful rainbow awaiting

We complain about the disaster a storm caused in our life that we forget to see the rainbow God is creating for us. Our God is the ALPHA and OMEGA. If he is causing a 'omega' storm in our life then he will also create a 'ALPHA' rainbow. In our life we are so lost with the negativities in our life that we forget to see that one side of the cross when we see the plan God creating in those situation it form the positive sign which represent the cross.....yes it true the cross is heavy but our Father has given us a friend name Jesus to carry that Cross at it His Love that creates the rainbow in our life in the midst of storm

Jeremiah 29:11 says "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." He has already assured you that His plan is for our good and not to harm us for He knows our future.

So let's stay calm in the midst of storm because we have our friend Jesus by our side and his Love never stops to seize for us ...



### CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

At Christmas we hear some of these stories, a miraculous birth, a guiding star, a bunch of angels, and although they are interesting stories and we enjoy hearing them, I am not sure they always help us to understand the God who may or may not exist behind these stories. God who was born in Bethlehem had to face all problems that a normal human being faces on earth and much more.

In the midst of all the celebrations of Santa Claus, cake, goodies, stars, cribs and carols we have forgotten the BABY who was born to redeem us from our bondage. In the prophecy of Prophet Isaiah which St. Mathew mentions in the first chapter "behold the virgin shall be with child and bear a Son and they shall call him Emmanuel. Mt. 1:23 it is very clear that the birth of this BABY gives the true hope. Hope to live a just life. Hope of joy, peace, love, forgiveness, compassion etc.

*I wish all our readers, YCS/YSM students, well wishers, benefactors and members of partner movements a joyous Christmas and a very happy peaceful New Year 2017.*

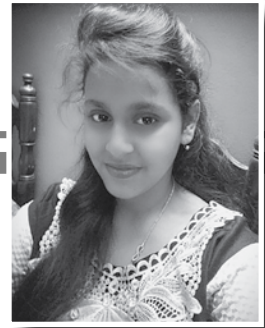
God bless you

Fr. Chetan Machado, National Chaplain

## **NEVER LET YOUR DREAMS TO DIE...**

My dear friends in YCS/YSM India

Greetings from Natasha!



What do you think your biggest fear is ? Take time to think about it, but also ask yourself why do you have this fear? A simple answer to this question is DOUBT that we have. It is the closest friend of fear and the greatest enemy of DREAMS.

My dear friends, YCS has always taught us to dream because until and unless we don't aspire we can never achieve that unexpected goal of our life. Once a man bought a phone it had a number of keys in it he got confused and hence decided that he will create a phone which has the minimum number of keys without even knowing how he will do it but then we have iPhone . He never allowed his fear to conquer his dream the only reason which made him do so was that he never doubted in his abilities. Steve Jobs is the person who dreamt of creating this phone!

Dreams are the most valuable things which life has gifted us with. A person who stops dreaming on the only thought that he/she might never be able to fulfil it is like a soldier who loses the battle of life without even fighting it. It is merely the doubt in our abilities which is the greatest barrier in our journey of life .

YCS / YSM has always taught its members to dream. It helps us to understand our abilities and achieve our goals. It gives us encouragement and helps us dream big. We need to have that faith in ourselves and say: no matter what happens, no matter the number of failures, we would stand strong and will not allow this DOUBT to cast a dark shadow over our dreams and abilities. So we should keep in mind that doubt will kill more dreams than failure. Always keep reminding yourself that 'yes I can do' and 'I will do it'.

As Christmas approaches and we are all preparing for the coming of Jesus, we hope that baby Jesus would fill our hearts with his love and divinity and the new year brings along with it happiness and success.

WISHING EVERYONE A JOYOUS CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR 2017.

LET YCS/YSM LIGHT SHINE

***Natasha Ann Louis***

Long live YCS/YSM





## MAKE IT COUNT

Greetings to all YCS/YSMers,

We are all on the doorstep of 2016 and will very soon enter into a new year. Let's sit and reflect for a while on what virtues and values we have shown during the year that is going to end soon? Were these virtues and values good or bad? Has my presence changed someone's life? Have I been able to bring out a smile on someone's face?



**Reality check:** We all have been busy with our own problematic lives and our own busy schedules and modern day gadgets. You and I have been affected by the changes taking place around us. We live in a world where our mobile phones, whatsapp, facebook, our laptops, our tablets and what not, has all replaced our creativity, thoughts, thinking patterns, reading habits and most importantly our relations and emotions. Suppose we feel upset about something, we seek help from songs and games and various apps on our gadgets and keep dumping our problems deep inside us. Why not share it with someone close to you? Why not you listen when someone shares their problems with you? Is it too hard? Wont it make a difference to the other person? Well, YES, may be that person will feel light and happy about it. Maybe you will feel happy that your presence has made the other happy and content.

2017 is definitely going to be filled with a lot more surprises, a lot more experiences, many new faces to meet, many challenges and a lot more opportunities to grow. Let us make the best use of all that is to come.

Let's seek help from God and our friends and be there for real people than the people we see in gadgets. Let's try and make the year more adventurous, exiting and thrilling. Let's wake up everyday and live it like it's the last day. Let's make each day count. Let's share smiles because you never know whose life it may change.

I am ready to make it all count! Are you?

'Wishing you all MERRY CHRISTMAS and an adventurous NEW YEAR 2017!'

Regards,

*-Jesvita Princy Quadras*  
*National President*



## NATIONAL STUDENT LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAMME (Hindi)

**DAY 1: 9th Oct (2016):** YCS/YSM India National Student Leaders Training Programme in Hindi (2) was organized at Sahoday Sr. Sec. School, New Delhi from 9th October 2016 to 13th October 2016. 45 students and 8 animators from three Hindi speaking regions participated in this training programme.

Participants from Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh arrived on 8th October 2016. After the registration, participants gathered for the inaugural session at 11:30. Programme started with YCS I YSM clap and animation by Ms. Vanshika Paul, NEXCO from Northern Region. Some important instructions were given by SR. Mercian RMI, coordinator of YCS/YSM- Delhi. Thereafter Mr. Midrash Mathew, part time coordinator of YCS/YSM India gave a brief introduction and information about the programme to the participants.



All the participants had an introductory session where they introduced themselves and some group building activities were conducted by Ms. Vanshika.

After lunch, participants gathered in the auditorium for some group activities. They were divided in various groups for exposure visit which is a very important part of YCS/YSM methodology. groups were sent to AIIMS Hospital campus, HuazKhas village, HauzKhas market and Safdarjung Hospital. Group 1 was guided by Sylvester, group 2 was guided by Ruchita Tirkey, group 3 was guided by Vanshika Paul and group 4 was guided by Rashmi Dungdung. Students came back at 6 pm and started preparing their report of exposure visit.

At 7:30 inaugural Eucharist was celebrated by Fr. Balraj Augustine, SCC coordinator of Delhi Archdiocese. He wished the participants good luck and prayed for them. After dinner reports of exposure visit was presented by different groups. It was done creatively by colorful charts and images. It was evident that groups had done a wonderful work of 'SEE'ing the reality. After this some instructions were given to the participants for the following day and volunteers and NEXCO had evaluation.



**Day 2: 10th Oct (2016):** On the second day participants woke up at 6:00am in the morning. After the Morning Prayer conducted by one of the groups, breakfast was served at 8 pm. After the breakfast, Ms Aparna, former part time coordinator took a session on social analysis. She spoke on 'SEE' part of the methodology based on the exposure visit. She explained the difference between 'seeing' and 'observing'. She guided them on how to observe realities.

After the break Fr. Chetan spoke on leadership. He conducted a workshop on leadership; He gave a brief history of YCS movement. He spoke about purpose of starting this movement, motive and aim.



After lunch, at 2 pm Fr. Chetan took a session on 'JUDGE' part of the methodology. He did a brief social analysis and changing social scenario. He gave a few examples and made the participants understand their role as good citizens. He spoke about judging a situation and take action in given situation. In the evening outdoor activities were conducted. Ms Aparna and Fr. Chetan conducted some group activities. In the evening there was a short session on leadership. Fr. Chetan spoke about different kinds of leaders and what is expected of a YCSer or YSMer. He gave examples of positive and negative leaders who have built communities and also destroyed. After dinner there was cultural programme prepared by the participants. All groups presented their cultural programme. Students got an opportunity to showcase their talents. After the cultural programme there was evaluation of the day. All gathered in their groups and spoke about their learnings. They also wrote their evaluation. One of the groups conducted night prayer.

**Day-3: 11th Oct (2016):** Day began with the morning prayer conducted by group 3. After the breakfast NEXCO and volunteers conducted some group building activities. Students read out their evaluation of the previous day. Each region was given time to conduct animation before the first session for the day. Ms. Aparna was the resource person for the first session in the morning. She spoke on 'ACT' part of the methodology. She then spoke about review of life and leadership. She focussed on using YCS methodology to review one's life to make it worthwhile. She dealt with the theme for the next three years i.e. 'called to believe; begin; become' and one of the thrusts, 'back to the roots'. Session was interactive and attentively attended by all the participants. After the break participants were taught a new dance and the next session was based on inspirational video presentation for transformation of lives. It was to teach them how to observe things and also to help them to lead from front.

Fr. Vijay Baretto, Delhi Archdiocesan youth director interacted with students. He wished them success and gave them some tips to become good leaders. Then the 3rd session for the day began at 3pm was conducted by Fr. Chetan. The session was based on Heritage and Spirituality of religions. During this session students learnt more about different religion that coexist in India, values they teach and beautiful teachings of these religions. There were many questions after this session and Fr. Chetan answered these questions.

In the evening after the tea break, outdoor activities were conducted. All participated in these with full energy. After games, animators shared their testimonies. Their personal stories were very



touching and inspiring. Each one of them guided students to become good human beings. After dinner regionwise cultural programme was presented. NEXCO invited Fr. Vijay to address the participants. Thereafter groupwise evaluation was conducted and each participant wrote about his/her day's learning. Group 4 conducted night prayer. After some instructions all departed to bed.



# Search

**DAY-4: 12th Oct (2016):** On the 4th day of the training, Fr. Chetan celebrated the Holy Eucharist at 7 am. After the Eucharist, group-1 conducted the Morning Prayer. After breakfast Ms. Aparna Babu took session on 'cell life'. She spoke about the importance of being part of a cell and how to conduct a cell meeting. Participants were given a chance to conduct a cell meeting.

After the break, he also shared his thoughts on 'review of life'. There was a workshop on how to conduct a cell meeting. Various topics were given to different groups and they were asked to conduct a cell meeting and report. Fr. Chetan showed some videos to make the participants understand about reviewing one's life and make it better day by day.



In the afternoon Sr. Mercian RMI spoke about social reality and YCS/YSM leadership. She gave all the information about cell, unit, diocese and region. There were lot of questions after this session where Ms. Aparna and Fr. Chetan along with Sr. Mercian answered the questions. All the participants were given a sheet of paper to write a few words of appreciations towards other participants. It was fun watching students going around and writing good about every participant. After the outdoor activities in the evening, all gathered for faith sharing session at 7:00 pm. This concluded with evening prayer.

After supper, cultural programme was held. Individual performances were held to give chance to each participant to showcase his/her talents. Day ended with evaluation of the day by the participants and each one wrote about five learnings of the day. All departed to bed after the evaluation.



On 13th all the participants were taken to 'deer park' where Fr. Alexander conducted a session on 'self appreciation'. He conducted an activity and made them answer a lot of questions. It was a very meaningful and interactive session where he made them understand how important it is to appreciate oneself. Students were asked to write a report of the entire

training programme and also prepare an action plan for their regions. This was presented and lot of suggestions were given by the participants to make this training programme better. After a short concluding ceremony at the garden itself all the participants came back to the venue for lunch. After a sumptuous lunch all the students departed to their regions.



Evaluation: NSLTP (Hindi) was an effort to bring all Hindi speaking regions to train students to become better human beings. All the resource persons and volunteers did their best to conduct the programme in Hindi. Sahoday Sr. Sec. School provided all the facilities. There were participants from different faiths which made this training programme meaningful. During the programme Dussera was celebrated in the country and students also celebrated this festival of good overpowering evil. There was good cooperation from all the participants and volunteers.

**Ms. Vanshika Paul**  
**NEXCO**



# NEED FOR ROLE MODELS

The first models they look at are their parents and teachers. Organizing orientation programs for parents as part of value education program in schools is found very effective to solve many conflicts both in the school and in the family. The schools which took the initiative have experienced greater co-operation and support from parents in the education of their children. The attitude of parents changes

**Children and youth are led by role models more than lectures on morality and discipline.**

considerably, towards their children, the teachers and the school management. During the last 10 years we had conducted over 100 such seminars in different states and everywhere we had received only positive responses from the parents. Hostility, prejudice and misunderstanding between the parents and the

school management were clarified. Parents expressed their gratitude for the guidance they received from the seminar.

Giving time and space for parents to give their opinion, disagreement and ask for clarifications is part of the dynamics of the seminar. At the end of a seminar in Ganjbasoda, MP, one Ganshyam Agrawal stood up to speak. He thanked the school management for organizing such a seminar in the school for the first time. In front of a crowd of over thousand parents he declare, "Today is my birthday. I had planned to have a party with my friends and relatives in the evening. As part of my resolution I declare in front of all that I shall cancel my birthday party and shall give that money to the education of some poor Children". The crowd welcomed his decision with a thunderous applause. He promised to be part of any activity

which the school would organize.



**Fr. Varghese Alengaden**  
USM, Indore

Two months later, we received a phone call from Ganshyam to give us good news. Inspired by his example his little daughter who studies in the sixth standard told him, "Papa, I also want to do what you did. I do not want to spend money for my birthday. The money shall be given to the poor". He informed me that he went with his





little daughter and school principal Sr. Linda to the government hospital and distributed sweets and fruits to all the patients. His daughter was very happy and said that she will not waste money for useless things.

Children and youth are led by role models more than lectures on morality and discipline. The first models they look at are their parents and teachers. They learn lessons of life from their behavior. They get confused and disillusioned when they see contradiction and hypocrisy. They not only reject but hate all advice from parents, teachers and elders when they do not see them practicing what they preach. Then they look for role models elsewhere. They easily available models are in films, TV and internet that they do not know personality. They get attracted to film actors and sports stars. Gradually they become their fans

and later worship them as gods. When they blindly worship their models they lose their ability of critical thinking. These actors and stars become more real and authentic to them than their teachers and parents.

Youth is the future of humanity. This youth force has abundance of resources and possibilities. They get wasted in futile and destructive activities due to lack of vision and focus. They do not believe religious preachers because of their hypocrisy. They do not trust their teachers because they do not inspire them. They do not agree with their parents because they do not understand the dual value system. At the same time youth is full of energy and power which is looking for opportunities to be used. When they do not have the possibility to use them for constructive purposes they become victims of destructive forces who give them plenty of opportunities for action and adventure. Many follow the way of an easy life which provide quick and temporary pleasures of life.

In our work with young people we have come across many young people who made the choice to be

sensitive to the poor and the marginalized by giving up junk food and luxuries to save money for children in slums and orphanages. These are children from which families who have made a choice of not going to the AC rooms in their houses in solidarity with the poor children in the slums who do not have fans in their homes. Children have broken the walls of caste and creed to make friends with students of other faiths and cultures after seeing the pluralistic life style of the USM community. Touching and seeing realities are the best education. When the teacher is punctual in every class the students automatically develop punctuality. They do not give up their principles and policies even after they leave school. Such students stand differently from the crowd.

Values are caught not taught! This is possible only when they find enough role models around them. If we want to educate the youth in values, the best way is to make ourselves role models of what we teach. Only then can we save the nation; build humanity; and create a better future!❖



## NATIONAL STUDENTS' LEADERSHIP TRAINING - 1

**01.10.2016:** On the 1st of October delegates from Karnataka, Andhra, Tamilnadu and North East regions arrived at Jyotirmai Centre, Secunderabad, Regional Pastoral Centre of Telugu Region. After the evening tea all the participants gathered for a short introductory session conducted by NEXCOs. At 7:30 pm there was the Holy Eucharist. After dinner NEXCO's conducted group sharings and evaluation. After some interaction and night prayer, participants went to bed at 10:30 pm. Animators met for a short evaluation thereafter.



**02.10.2016:** On the 2nd October, day began with the Holy Eucharist. Fr. Balaswamy, Regional Youth Director of Telugu region celebrated the Eucharist. After the breakfast there was a short inauguration ceremony. Fr. Balaswamy was the chief guest. After lighting the lamp, he gave a short message stressing, 'self change & changing other'. He said a good leader changes himself and gives a good example. Our intelligence, talents are secondary'.

After the inaugural ceremony NEXCO and animation team conducted some icebreakers. Mr. Leo, former coordinator was the resource person for the first session. He started with an activity and then showed some inspirational videos. He asked them a few questions and made them to answer by reviewing their lives.

Most Rev. Jayarao Polimera, Chairman Bishop of Telugu region and Bishop of Eluru diocese paid a visit and motivated the students. He shared his experience of starting a youth group when he was studying abroad. He along with Fr. Chetan Machado, Ms Jesvita Quadras, National Convener, Ms Rachel Patricia, National Secretary, Mr. Clacious Rodrigues, National Treasurer and Ms Hundari, student representative from the Northeast lit the lamp. He also shared his experience as a youth director. He wished the participants good luck and blessed them.

Mr. Leo continued his session after the tea break and explained the importance of a cell meeting and 'SEE part of the methodology.

After lunch, at 1:45 pm Mr. Roshan Lobo, former NEXCO spoke on the topic, 'SEE' – part of YCS/YSM methodology. Two videos pertaining to the slums where people work creatively and made their life. It was inspiring. Fr. Chetan prepared the participants for the exposure visit. He spoke on 'real world' and 'ideal world'. Students went in four groups and returned at 5 pm. As they returned, they were busy preparing their reports and chart presentations. At 6pm Mr. Kamal, former NEXCO helped the participants to prepare their presentations. North East region conducted the inter-religious prayer.



After dinner, a short cultural programme was presented by Telugu Region. Mr. Roshan conducted a short session and moderated presentations of exposure visit. The day ended with evaluation. NEXCO met for a short meeting to prepare for the next day.



03.10.2016: The second day began with the Holy Eucharist celebrated by Fr. Chetan Machado. During the homily he shared a reflection on the Good Samaritan and the liturgy was conducted by Karnataka Region.

After the breakfast Mr. Leo Joseph continued his session on methodology of the movement – ‘See-Judge-Act’. He stressed on ‘Awareness’ part of the methodology. He also spoke about different angles of viewing a situation. He inspired the students by showing some unique photographs and explained the right way to view them. After this, previous days’ reports were read by different groups. After the group sharing participants shared their learning’s. After the tea break, at 11 am Fr. Chetan took a session on ‘Introducing YCS/YSM’. He started with YCS/YSM quiz. He explained the purpose for what the movement had begun, a brief history etc. After a short break, he continued the session showing some inspirational videos and stories.

In the afternoon Mr. Leo showed some inspirational videos. NEXCO’s conducted some group dynamics. After lunch, participants gathered at 2 pm and session began at 2:30 pm. Fr. Chetan spoke about social analysis, healthy relationship and culture of love and culture of death. He spoke about the media and its influence. Participants were asked to do an activity on advertising a product. In the evening outdoor activities were conducted. After a good outdoor session and freshening up evening prayer was conducted.

After dinner, North East Region performed cultural program followed by evaluation and group sharing of the day’s learning’s. NEXCO’s and group in charge for next day’s liturgy spent some time in preparation.

04.10.2016: The third day of NSLTP began with the Holy Eucharist celebrated by Fr. Chetan at 7 am. In his homily he asked the participants to become strong in their faith like St. Paul. As young students, we must be convinced of what we want to become and what is right and just. Telugu region conducted the liturgy.

After the breakfast, animation team conducted some group dynamics. Participants read the previous days evaluation. Mr. James Sylvester, former NEXCO and YCS/YSM Alumni Association President was the resource person. He was introduced to the participants and he spoke on ‘student/adolescent psychology’. He explained the reason behind different types of reactions by teenagers as they grow. He asked the students to notice these changes and act accordingly.

At 11pm Mr. Jimmy Pdang, former national coordinator shared his experience in YCS/YSM.





He took a session which was very inspiring. He urged the students to believe in the movement which brings a positive change.

After lunch, Fr. Chetan spoke about the positive and negative influence of media in our day to day life. There was a debate on this topic and students participated actively. After a short tea break 'youth café' was conducted. Animators clarified



a lot of issues on media, relationship, human dignity etc. during the café. After refreshments all gathered for the evening prayer at 7 pm. Telugu region conducted the prayer.

After dinner, Karnataka region performed cultural programme. National coordinator Jesvita shared her experience and Clacious Rodrigues, National treasurer also shared his experience as NEXCOS. The Students spent some time in silence and wrote their evaluation before departing to their bed.

05.10.2016: On 5th October 2016, fourth day of the programme, day began with the Holy Eucharist celebrated by Fr. Chetan. He spoke on the importance of prayer in our lives. Liturgy was conducted by the North East region.

After breakfast Fr. Chetan conducted the first session on 'ambition v/s mission'. He showed a film titled 'do kalakar' and explained how we can have ambition and mission. It is important that we should have a mission. Having only ambition in life takes us nowhere. After the tea break participants read the evaluation reports. Mr. Jimmy conducted the next session on 'cell life and cell meeting'. He explained the importance of cell meeting and taught how to conduct a cell meeting. Topics were given to different groups to conduct a cell meeting immediately using YCS/YSM methodology.

After lunch, Mr. James Sylvester conducted a session on the constitution of YCS/YSM. During the session he explained to the students about the different articles in the constitution and the things contained in them followed by clearing of doubts by participants.

After the tea break at 4pm all the participants were given a sheet of paper to appreciate the qualities of other people. This activity lasted 30 minutes with a positive result and with smiles on the students face. There was a short session of outdoor games thereafter.



In the evening North East region conducted the evening prayer and gave a reflection on world peace and prayed for the same.

After dinner, all gathered outside for camp fire. Each participant was given a candle which symbolized the guiding light. All sang the hymn 'this little guiding light...' and Sr. Bernadeth conducted a short prayer. Holding lit candles all sang YCS/YSM anthem. After this brief campfire session all gathered in the auditorium

# Search

for the talent exposure. Each student got an opportunity to showcase their talents. At 10 pm all students went in their groups to write a report on their learning during NSLTP.

06.10.2016: On the last day of the programme, there was a thanksgiving mass by Fr. Joseph, Secretary to the Telugu Bishops Conference. He asked the participants to carry the light and spread it everywhere. He appreciated the efforts by the students to bring change in the society by self-change.

After a short concluding ceremony all the participants were taken out for 'Hyderabad darshan'. It was a fruitful day spent together where many more things were learnt by the participants. They learnt to appreciate each other, correct and forgive each other. Students from different parts of the country, belonging to different faiths enjoyed each-others company and showed great maturity. In the evening, all departed to their respective regions. ❖

**- Rachel Patricia (National Secretary)**



## BE MERCIFUL LIKE THE FATHER

When you hear the word “MERCY” what comes first to your mind? May be helping your elders or old people, giving food to the hungry, drink to the thirsty, shelter the homeless, etc. These are corporal works of mercy. Now spiritual works of mercy; counsel the doubtful, instruct the ignorant, admonish sinners etc. Ofcourse these works are important and if you do these you'll be called son/daughter of God. But something is missing, that is the greatest work of mercy “FORGIVENESS”. Forgive people who speak against you or hurt you by their words or deeds. Forgive them and try to forget that they have ever done this to you. If everyone starts following this we can have God's Kingdom here on earth. So, start the works of mercy. Start forgiving others. Start doing this in your own family because from good family comes good community; from good community comes good society; from good society comes good nation; from good nation comes a good world. Thus family is the source of all virtues. Members of families must practice the virtues of mercy in everyday life. Once the virtues of mercy are practised within the four walls of our homes then our christian family shall become an oasis of love and peace. This will then transcend to other areas of personal and social life.”BE MERCIFUL EVEN AS YOUR FATHER IS MERCIFUL” (Lk-6:36) because he is the only one who forgives the sins of his sons and daughters. Let us all introspect and practice the virtues of mercy in all spheres of our life. ❖



Long live ycs/ysm

***Vanshika Paul , National EXCO, Northern Region (Delhi)***

# IN THE WORLD OF GADGETS

*"The depth of the love of parents for their children cannot be measured. It is like no other relationship. It exceeds concern for life itself. The love of a parent for a child is continuous and transcends heartbreak and disappointment."* - James E. Faust

The very roots of existence in this world is one's family. One simply cannot survive without the support of family. The most important people in our life, to whom we are endlessly indebted are our parents. We may not realize their importance and perpetually believe the fact that they are unable to comprehend us but we can only realize their love and sacrifice, once, we ourselves have received the position of parents. We regard ourselves to be the extremely modernized residents of 21st century, here I speak more specifically about the younger generation of whom I am a part. In this race of reaching the zenith and carving a niche for oneself, we hardly remember the values of family, the values of togetherness, the values of love and the significance of relationships.



In the world of gadgets, youngsters are much absorbed in social networking or their devices and hardly realize that this indulgent attitude has made them lose

their communicative relationship with parents. In life no matter what kind of difficulty we encounter, if there are a few people whom we can inveterately depend on are our parents. But these days we hardly show signs of respect towards them. We don't even consult them in crucial matters and even go up to the extent of hiding things from them. Are these the values a child is taught? Our parents ask for nothing more than our goodwill, our success and achievements but we youngsters are bent upon losing our moral values and getting attracted towards materialistic possessions.

This reminds me of one of the mythos I had read during my early childhood. In Indian mythology, Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati are considered to be the epitomes of utmost politeness and are worshipped for strength and well-being. Now, they had two sons, Lord Ganesha and Lord Kartika. One day to decide who was supreme between the two, they decided to have a race of the entire universe. Lord Kartika took his vehicle - his peacock and set for a voyage of the universe (called *brahmand* in Sanskrit) whereas Lord Ganesha went around Lord Shiva and wParvati seven times. When asked for an explanation, Lord Ganesha replied that his parents are his entire universe and loving them will help him cross all hurdles in life.



This story really touched me and this explains the very relationship a child must have with his/her parents. In this world of competition, where greed to quench ones thirst has taken over the spiritual self, it's we who can undo the erroneous



activities and guide ourselves to reach the utmost level of peace. The ultimate source of all things in this life is the belief in oneself and the confidence to never elude obstacles. To quote William James- "The man who has daily inured himself to habits of concentrated attention, energetic volition and self denial will stand like a tower when everything rocks around him and when his softer fellow mortals are winnowed like chaff in the blast." Therefore the best things in life can be achieved by honesty and perseverance though these words are much of a cliché these days. ❖

*"In the final analysis there is no other solution to mans progress but the day's honest work, the day's honest activities, the day's honest utterances and the day's good deeds."*

- Clare Booth Luce

## AIZAWL

### YCS/YSM AIZAWL DIOCESE , NORTH-EAST REGION

A diocesan level Chaplain-Animators Training (CAT) programme was organized on 4th November, 2016 at I&PR Auditorium, Aizawl. 40 participants attended in the programme.

The programme was chaired by Fr. James Zodinlana, Diocesan Chaplain and invited Most. Rev. Stephen Rotluanga, CSC, Bishop of Aizawl who graced the programme. Fr. Chetan Machado, National Chaplain took the session and talked about the present day reality of YCS/YSM Movement in India. He also talked about the role of Chaplains and Animators in YCS/YSM movement.

The second session was taken by Sr. Regina Mareem, MSMHC, Regional Youth Director and Fr. Joseph Lalbiakthanga, Director of Diocesan Sunday School Board. They talked about the present day reality of the youth movement in the Northeast and role of the youth leaders and



sunday school leaders for the growth of YCS/YSM Movement in Aizawl Diocese. The third session was taken by Sr. Bernadeth Kropi, MSMHC, Regional Chaplain and Fr. Caleb Laldawngsanga, M.Sc. (Psychology & Counseling), They talked about the quality of chaplain-animators and psychological challenge of teenagers in modern times. ❖

**Rebecca Khiangte**  
**YCS/YSM Coordinator, NE**



*Search*

**REPORTS**

## KARNATAKA

### YCS RETREST IN MANGALORE

The YCS Mangalore Diocesan Retreat 'Kristhacho Sangath' was held in Mulki Devine Call Retreat Centre, Mangalore from 9 to 11, October 2016. 360 Students of YCS from 60 parishes participated in this spiritual program.

The retreat was inaugurated in a creative way. The Dexco brought the Holy Cross in procession and the Director of the centre, Fr Valerian SVD adorned the Cross with garland. The Chief Guest of the ceremony Rev. Fr. Joseph Martis, the Rector of St Joseph Inter - Diocesan Seminary, Mangalore inaugurated the spiritual event by reading the Scripture from John 15 where Jesus says there is no greater love than giving one's own life for one's friend. He later addressed the students on the main theme of the retreat - 'Friendship with Jesus'. The National President of YCS



Ms. Jesvita Quadras, the Diocesan President Ms. Lavita D'Souza, Rev. Anil Kiran Fernandes SVD, Mr. Francis D'Cunha were on the dais.

The diocesan Director for YCS Fr. Rupesh Madtha and the Dexco organised this event.

The participants opined at the end that they had a pleasant experience with the Lord.

## NORTH EAST

### GUWAHATI - LEADERS MEET

The Archdiocese of Guwahati Youth Commission organized YCS/YSM Leaders Meet cum DEXCO Election on 10th



September 2016 at Peace Centre Ambari, Guwahati. Forty students and animators participated in the meeting. Archbishop John Moolachira, Archbishop of Guwahati, Sr. Regina Mareem, Director NERYC were present for the Inaugural function. Sr. Christina Sangma, DYD Guwahati diocese gave a brief description about the history, aims and objectives of the movement. And Master Jimmy Pdang, former YCSYSM National President explained about Cell meeting and leadership role. He briefed the DEXCO team and organized the proceeding of the Election and the Oath taking ceremony. The programme ended with the testimony of the YCSYSM members, pledge, prayer and YCSYSM Anthem.



## YCS UDUPI DIOCESE DEANERY BEGINNERS' CAMPS

### KUNDAPUR:

Beginners Camp was held on 17th July 2016 at St. Mary's P.U College Auditorium, Kundapur, Udupi. 130 youths participated in this camp. Rev. Fr. Anil Dsouza from Kundapur deanery spoke about YCS and enlightened the members through his speech. The Holy Mass was offered by YCS Diocesan director Fr. Edwin Dsouza. The following session was conducted by Kundapur deanery president Anisha Nazareth on YCS History. Action songs led by council members helped the participants to take part actively in the camp.



In the afternoon Stuart Olivera, reporter of YCS central council gave a talk on "*YCS Rupanchi madaval*" and its sections.

Leon Lewis, President of YCS Udupi Diocese spoke on "5 rules of YCS" and he instructed everyone to follow it. Ex-council member Viyol Crasto & Regional President Hazel Martis shared their two years experience and their achievement in YCS.

Youth's expressed their feelings and experience about this camp. The camp was concluded with YCS anthem.

### UDUPI:

Udupi Deanery level YCS Training programme was held at Moodubelle Church Hall, on 24th July 2016.

The programme was inaugurated by Fr. Clement Mascarenhas, Parish Priest of Moodubelle by

lighting the lamp. Fr. Edwin D'Souza Director YCS Udupi Diocese, Fr Royal Nazareth YCS Udupi Deanery Director, Mr Joel Sequeira,



YCS Diocese Animator, Ms Hazel Martis Regional YCS/YSM President, Mr Leon Lewis Diocesan YCS President & Mr Wenzil Agera Udupi Deanery YCS President were present on the dais.

Fr Edwin D'Souza & Diocesan YCS Central Council Members were the resource person for the Programme. The camp was concluded with YCS anthem. 111 YCS students attended the programme.

### KARKAL:

The YCS Beginners Camp of Karkal Deanery, Udupi Diocese was held on 24th July 2016. The camp was held in the Christ King Church Hall, Karkal Town.

Fr Edwin D'Souza & Diocesan YCS Central Council Members were the resource person for the Programme. Different groups were formed and various group activities & action songs were conducted.

YCS Animator Mrs. Janet Menezes, kanajar was felicitated during the programme. 84 YCS students attended the programme.





## SHIRVA:

YCS Shirva Deanery Beginners Camp was held on 31st July 2016 at Holy Cross Church, Pamboor, Udipi.

Fr Edwin D'Souza & Diocesan YCS Central Council Members were the resource persons for the Programme. Different groups were formed and various group activities & action songs were conducted. The Holy Mass was celebrated by Fr Edwin Dsouza.

Fr. Paul Rego, Shirva Deanery YCS Director, Deanery Animators, Ex Council Members & Deanery Council members were present on the occasion.



YCS participants expressed their feelings and experience about this camp. The camp was concluded with YCS anthem. 92 YCS students were present for the camp.

## KALLIANPUR

Kallianpur Deanery level YCS Training programme was held at Milagres School Hall, Kallianpur, Udupi on 7th August 2016.

Fr Edwin D'Souza & Diocesan YCS Central Council Members were the resource person for the Programme.



Rev Fr Stany B Lobo dean Kallianpur Deanery, spoke on the occasion and enlightened the participants. Fr Rolwin Aranha kallianpur Deanery YCS Director, Deanery Animators & Deanery Council members were present on the occasion.

The camp was concluded with YCS anthem. 40 YCS students attended the programme.

## NORTHERN

### DELHI-JAMBOREE 2016 SOLIDARITY DAY

YCS Delhi organised 'Jamboree' to celebrate Joseph cardinal Cardign's Birth anniversary which was also celebrated as 'Solidarity Day'. 300 Students from different parishes of the Archdiocese gathered in the morning at St. Michael's School, New Delhi.

After some ice breaking sessions Mr. Midrash Mathew, national parttime coordinator addressed the students. Fr. Chetan conducted a short session thereafter.

Mr. Manoj Mathew, former IYCS member spoke about Cardinal Joseph Cardign. He spoke about solidarity and explained how Cardinal Joseph always loved to do something for others.

Archbishop Most Rev. Anil Couto addressed the students before lunch. He told them about the missions in the archdiocese and how we can show solidarity through our good works. He also spoke about the theme 'called to believe, begin, become'.

After lunch, some group activities were conducted where students participated actively. Ms. Vanshika Paul, NEXCO from Northern Region taught YCS anthem and clap. She also conducted ice breaking sessions.

ICYM-South Zone -1 of the Archdiocese organised this event and many young people from different parishes came forward to volunteer to organise this event.

'Jamboree' concluded with the Holy Eucharist celebrated by Fr. Chetan Machado at 5 pm.

## NORTHEAST

### AIZAWL CITY ZONE MEET 2016

YCS/YSM Aizawl City Zone Meet 2016 was successfully organized on 5-6 November, 2016 by Diocese Team with the help of our sponsoring agency DSSB, PSSC & KSSC.

More than 600 YCSers and Animators participated from 10 parish units in the programme. The first day was sports for unity held at Assam Rifle Ground, Aizawl. There was competition in football (boys), dead ball (girls) and selfie competition (Individual & Group).

The second day was held at St. Lawrence school hall, Ramthar, Aizawl. It was started



with Holy Mass and continued with study session on YCS/YSM India National theme. The session was taken by Fr. KJ. Deepak Thomas, OCD, ICYM Director, Fr. Chetan Machado, National Chaplain, YCS/YSM India and Mr. James D'Souza.

The main events of zonal meet, Remix Mizo Cultural Dance Competition and Cultural Programme started in the evening. The competition was very successful. YCSers performed wonderful dances with remix music and various steps of mizo traditional dances.

Apart from dance competition, the YCSers from different parish units also performed special items which showed the creative talents of YCSers in Aizawl Diocese.

As invited the Diocesan Choir, the Ex-YCSers band and guest artist Israel Lalbiakrema also performed songs during this programme.

## Search



Our special thanks to Fr. Chetan Machado, National Chaplain, and Fr. KJ. Deepak Thomas, OCD, ICYM National Director, Mr. James D'Souza, Sr. Regina Mareem, msmhc, RYD and Sr. Bernadette Kropi, msmhc Regional Chaplain for accepting our humble invitation to visit Aizawl Diocese.

Long live YCS/YSM India!!

Rebecca Kiangte, Diocesan coordinator

## WEST BENGAL

### FORYSTA 30TH OCTOBER, 2016

FORYSTA is a leadership training camp where students from all over Kolkata diocese are invited. This year YCS Kolkata organized this 3 day camp from 28th of October till 30th of October, 2016 at St Anthony's School, from each school 3 to 4 participants were invited out of which 42 active YCS'ers representing eight schools participated. The theme for FORYSTA 2016 was "Enhancing youth capabilities". On the 1st day s after the welcome ceremony, introduction and prayer service, we conducted an interaction session and ice breaking. The students were divided



into 4 groups and were given some group dynamics. The next day was indeed a very important day as there were two sessions which dealt with the methodology of YCS 'SEE, JUDGE AND ACT', the importance of cell life and how to implement this in our daily life. The second session was based on the topic how to react and respond in a tough situation which included some practical examples. This was followed by a treasure hunt.

Soon after that the students were taken for the exposure visit. Groups 1 & 2 were taken to *Shishu Bhawan* and Groups 3 & 4 were taken to *Prem Daan*. Three questions were given to the campers which they had to keep in mind during their exposure visit.

- 1) What did you see?
- 2) Which event made you think/touched you?
- 3) What should be your concrete action plan?

After the exposure visit there was a cafe which dealt with topics like, Self Change and Change others, respect self to respect others, culture of life and death, how to handle your relationships. After that there was individual and group report of the exposure visit.

Since it was the last night in FORYSTA 2016 there was a camp fire, games and music for them to enjoy as it was the occasion of Diwali. On the last day of the camp there were two sessions on how does the Bible play an important role in our lives and the second one was on leadership for a time. What change had taken place in the modern leaders.

Then the group photos were taken and as group dynamics, there was 'add mania' in which each group had to sell a very unusual item like a glass less spectacles or a soleless shoes etc. Thereafter certificates were given and the awards for the best campers. All the campers departed with the hope of meeting again the next year



## YCS SHIRVA DEANERY - 'EKAMEKA SANGI EK DIS'

YCS Shirva Deanery youth spent a fruitful day at a seminar titled "*Ekameka Sangi Ek Dis*" held at St. John's Shankerpura, Udupi

Diocese on Sunday 11th September 2016.

The day "Ekameka Sangi Ek Dis" means "A day together" was inaugurated by Rev. Fr. Vincent Coelho (Principal, PU College, St. John's Shankerpura).

The program began with a prayer, followed by talk by Fr. Edwin D'Souza on leadership,



followed by Bible quiz conducted by Deacon Anil Fernandes, Jeppu Seminary. There were five rounds of quiz and at the end Pamboor Parish won the top prize followed by Pilar and Pernal parishes.

After lunch, skits were presented by all parish units. Their presentation was family oriented, lessons to youth and environment. The best was won by Shirva Parish which was based on environment, village life and saving environment. The second place was bagged by Belman parish and third by Pamboor.

In the valedictory function, Fr. Paul Rego thanked every one for organizing this event especially all Deanery YCS Animators, YCS Presidents and teams for a meaningful day. All the judges, animators, presidents and officials of the YCS Shirva deanery were felicitated with flowers by Fr. Edwin D'Souza.

The prizes and trophies for the winners were presented by Fr. Vincent Coello.

The vote of thanks was proposed by Miss. Caroll and morning session was compered by Ms. Rhia Pinto and closing ceremony by Ms. Dimple Menezes.





## REPORT

# National Chaplain's Activities

1. 2-6 Oct. 2016, Secunderabad, NSLTP -1, 35 students
2. 7 Oct. 2016, visited Chennai and met CA for office work.
3. 8 Oct. 2016, Attended YCS/YSM Golden Jubilee celebration of Tamilnadu Region at Tanjavoor.
4. 10-14 Oct.2016, Delhi, NSLTP - 2 in Hindi at Sahoday School, New Delhi. , 45 students participated
5. 15-16 Oct. - 'Milan' - Delhi Archdiocesan Annual youth fest. 1500 youth.
6. 26-29 Oct. 2016 CCBI Youth Conference in Trivandrum. 4YCSers participated.
7. 30 Oct. - 1 Nov, 2016 NCBCI Youth Council meeting for the preparation of NYC 2017.
8. 1 Nov. 2016 Visited home, Mangalore
9. 2 Nov.2016 Left for Guwahati for Northeast programmes.
10. 3-6 Nov. 2016 Aizawl Diocese, Chaplains and Animators programme. 35 participants.
11. 8 Nov.2016 Prgramme for YCS Guwahati students and animators. Forty students along with 8 animators participated.
12. 9-10 Nov. 2016 Shillong, Students' programme at Sacred Heart. Also met DYD of Shillong and brothers who take care of YCS in Shillong.
13. 10 Nov. 2016, Session for students' at Montfort School, Guwahati. 80 students.
14. 11-12 Nov. 2016 Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh. Session during youth convention.
15. 13 Nov. 2016, Jamboree, YCS programme in Delhi Archdiocese. 300 students.
16. 20 Nov. 2016 Chrsit the King Feast celebration in Delhi.
17. 25-27 Nov. 2016 Kolkata, Session for YCS students. 30 participants.
18. 28-29 Nov. 2016, The Search work and office work in Delhi.

### Future Programmes:

1. 28-29 December - NTA/EXCO meeting in Kolkata.
2. 9-13 Feb 2017 IRSLTP - Guwahati, North East region.
3. National Convention - May 2017 in Kolkata
4. National Animator's Training Programme in July 2017
5. Animators & RYD/DYD meeting (propose)

*Those of you like to send students for IRSLTP in Guwahati in the month of February kindly contact us as soon as possible or Sr. Bernadeth Kropi, RYD, YCS/YSm North East.*

*Kindly mark your dates for the 2nd YCS/YSM National Convention which will be held in Kolkata in the month of May 2017. Details will be mailed to you soon. For registration fee and other details kindly contact: Fr. Chetan (09891792505), Mr. Midrash mathew (9560900149)*

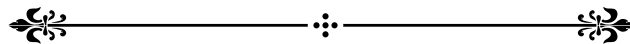
## BELIVE THAT YOU CAN

*"In order to succeed we must first believe that we can." - Nikos Kazantzakis.*

**W**e all know "Jim Carey" who had brought us some of the highest grossing comedies of all times but do we know what struggle he had gone through. He grew up in a low income family his father struggled to earn the bare minimum. They were so poor that Carey had to drop out high school at the age of 15 and took the job of a janitor to support his family. In his first comic stand up at Yuk Yuk's Club he was thrown out, then he auditioned for Saturday Night Live for the 1980-81 season but he failed and now we all know about Carey's success. He received a \$10,000,000 million dollar payment for his work in Dumb and Dumber.

If Carey never stopped, he did not have doubt in what he did then why all of us are afraid of failures. When an athlete falls down, he never thinks that he had lost the race but gets up and runs with his full speed to match up to the pace of the others. If they can why can't we? ❖

*Natasha Ann Louis, St Agnes' Convent School, Howrah*



### THE DIOCESAN YOUTH CONVENTION 2016 OF SHIMOGA

**Yuvamitra** is the Youth Commission of the diocese of Shimoga had convened 5th Diocesan Youth Convention on 28th-30th October 2016 at Sacred Heart Cathedral Campus at Shimoga. There were 650 youth of ICYM, YCS/YSM and Don Bosco Youth. This three day long Convention consisted of different activities like teachings of the Church, interactive work shops, youth masses & meditations, music, group dynamics, cultural evening, faith walk, youth rally for peace, swatch bharath andholan and awareness program with Street play in public places.



The Dignitaries and the resource persons Most. Rev. Henry D'Souza, Chairman of CBCI Youth Council, Most. Rev. Francis Serrao SJ, Bishop of Shimoga, Shree. Basava Marulasidda Swamiji, Charamurthigalu Basavakendra, Fr. Deepak KJ Thomas OCD, ICYM Director, Fr. Gilbert Lobo, Mr. Kimmane Ratnakar, Former Education Minister, Govt. of Karnataka, Mr. Prasanna Kumar, MLA, Shimoga, Mr. Arun Furtado K.A.S, Mr. Vincent Shantha Kumar, Additional Superintendent of Police, Shimoga, Mr. Syed Mujibulla, Fr. Franklin D'Souza, Former ICYM Director, Fr. Stany D'Souza Chancellor of the diocese of Shimoga, Mr. Raymond D'Souza, Mr. William Martis, Director Karnataka Fisheries Development Corporation, Govt. of Karnataka, Mr. K. Ranganath, Director KADA, Govt. of Karnataka, Ms. Jovita D'Souza Former YCS NEXCO Mr. Roshan Lobo Former YCS NEXCO.

The program was organized by ICYM and YCS/YSM diocesan office bearers under the able leadership of Rev. Fr. Ronald Veigas, Diocesan Youth Director of Shimoga. ❖



# YCS/YSM : CHAIRMEN BISHOPS & RYD's



Most Rev. Henry D'Souza  
Karnataka



Most Rev. Franco M.  
Northern



Most Rev. Jerome Dhas  
Tamilnadu



Most Rev. Jayarao P.  
Telugu



Most Rev. John Thomas  
North East



Most Rev. Alwyn Barreto  
Western



Most Rev. Oswald Lewis  
Uttar Pradesh



Most Rev. John Barwa  
Odisha



Most Rev. Emmanuel K.  
Chattisgarh



Most Rev. Paul A. Lakra  
Jhaan



Most Rev. Cyprian Monis  
West Bengal



Most Rev. Leo Cornelio  
Madhya Pradesh



Most Rev. Filipe Neri  
Goa & Daman



Fr. Mari, Karnataka



Fr. Chetan, Northern



Fr. Marianus, TN



Fr. Balaswamy, Telugu



Sr. Bernadeth, NE



Fr. Raymond, West



Fr. Antony, U.P.



Fr. Ranjit Minz, Odisha



Fr. Sunil, Chattisgarh



Fr. Devraj, West Bengal



Fr. Alex, M.P.



Fr. Savio, Goa





## YCS/YSM INDIA ACTIVITIES



YCS/YSM Shillong



YCS/YSM unit, Montfort School

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

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