

The *Search* May - June - 2018  
YCS/YSM National News Letter

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**IT'S VERY HARD TO REMAIN A STUDENT IN LIFE - Carol Kane**

# Days in Taize, France

Date: 15th February 2018 to 14th May 2018

On 14th February 2018, I started one of my life's biggest journey without any expectation so that everything which occurs may be a surprise. Taize, it is a place where I had unique experience in understanding myself even deeper, making myself emotionally stronger, where I learned to be hopeful in all situation with the help of prayer. Prayer is the heart of Taize. We pray three times a day. I found the heart of any Taize experience is the act of singing; a style of worshipping God that is both ancient and unique in today's society, and the periods of silence, the simple teaching and thrice-daily rhythm of worship, profoundly refreshing and very meaningful. It is here that I came to know more about the Bible and more I started to pray, meanwhile discussions on various bible stories with the Bible scholars took me to another level of prayer where I felt strongly connected with god.

It is also a beautiful place where I always went for a walk in the French countryside, finding moments of stillness while watching the sun rise and fall over the green hills around me. There were daily workshops on topics ranging from the unconditional living wage, global poverty, modern Journalism and climate change. It was encouraging to discuss issues of social justice and environment with so many young Christians and also young people from other faiths.

Experiencing new cultures and new people is something you can never do at home. Being with people from different countries who speak different languages is a rare opportunity. Taize brings different people together and removes stereotypes. The schedule you are given is something that gives you plenty of free time, team work and reflection time.

I should definitely mention that I got a good family atmosphere in Taize. All the volunteers who stay in Taize for 90 days to 4 years live together under the same roof. Since we stay for a longer time than the people who stay for a week, we get a lot of time to understand & learn things from each other which is a root cause for the friendship. Meeting interesting people is also a huge part of my experience. It's always hard to say good bye when someone leaves from Taize, as a normal human it was very hard for me as well but everyone has to move towards the purpose of their life.

The 90 days which I spent in Taize has made a huge impact in my life. I am very positive that I have become a better person. I would like to convey my heartfelt thanks to our national chaplain and others who inspired and motivated me.

- *Ebin Navis*  
*Former NEXCO*





## ‘THE CHOICE IS YOURS’

Greetings to all my dear YCS YSM’ers!

Another wonderful academic year has begun and we are by now trying to get into a smooth steady pace. Monsoons too are setting in by blessing our mother Earth through it’s pure water droplets. But, before the very first academic month, we as students are put through numerous choices and decisions. For instance: which college/school to choose, what stream to get into, what kind of a bag do I need, what kind of shoes I require etc. Once the school/college begins it’s again the choice of being an obedient one in the class or being that humorous companion, choosing new friends (maybe), kinds of activities and competitions to participate in or even the kinds of projects to take up. We live in a world which expects us to choose at every little step of our lives.

Now, the question arises after the decision is made! Was the decision right? Did it fulfill it’s purpose? The phase we are living in right now is a very crucial one. This is the phase wherein we have to seriously think of the decisions to be made that will be a long lasting one. We can call this phase as a raw era where we are still going through ‘self exploration.’ We might have many times heard the slogan ‘catch them young.’ Ever wondered why? Well that’s because we as teenagers tend to easily believe in anything. It’s more like - we eat only what is served to us! Therefore mistakes tend to be our friends during our growing years. When we are expected to make choices, mistakes come in to compliment it. And I personally feel that mistakes are important. They give us a boost to try again, to try better. But of course a mistake repeated can be termed as negligence or the ‘don’t care’ attitude we as students are very much familiar with. This negligent attitude of our’s may result in a hindrance during our growth and learning period. Student Life is that of making right choices in order to fulfil ones wishes, dreams, desires and aspirations.

As YCS YSM student members, we have been offered the greatest opportunity to help our growing years. Everytime we are supposed to decide, our methodology is a helping hand to us. It helps us to stop and reflect on our decision and to evaluate it’s consequences. If the choice was right we go ahead and if not then we think of an alternative. Eventually we’ll realise how blessed we are/were being a part of a wonderful movement dedicated only to help us - students.

Let us as students, in and for the society choose to become a better person, to become the agents of change in and around, choose to be a good Samaritan in the lives of others and last but not the least let’s choose to be the disciples Jesus wants us to be. Because YCS/ YSM is not about what you do, but it is about what you become!

I am ready to choose wisely! Are you?

Regards,

*Jesvita Princy Quadras, National President*



CHAPLAINS CORNER

STUDENT LIFE

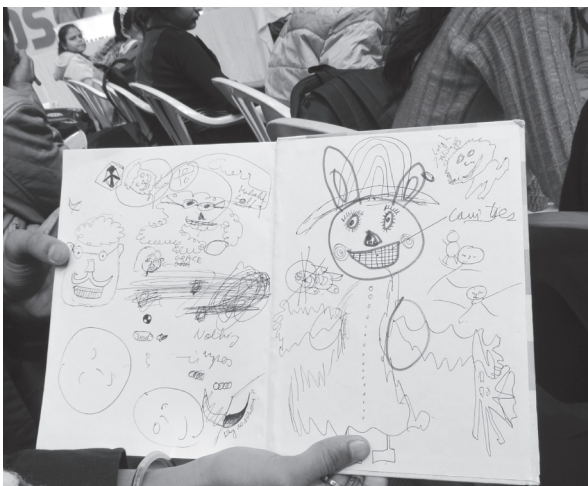


We go through different phases in life. These phases include childhood, youth, married life, working-age, etc. Each phase in life has its beauty and contributes towards our growth. We need to live that phase fully and meaningfully. Among these phases of life, student life is the most exciting and is remembered and cherished for a very long time. I have heard people say, "Student life is golden life," because student life is the most important part of our life. It is the only time one lives joyfully, without any tensions, worries and cares over what is going to come. Most of us grown-ups reminisce about our school/college days and have many happy moments to recall and share.

I would like to share an incident of my school days. When in high school, I was part of the drama team selected to

perform at the annual day programme. For practices we were allowed to skip some classes. We were very regular in our practices and accordingly had to skip Maths and Science classes. A week before the Annual Day our Maths teacher called us and enquired about our roles in the play. All other members of the cast explained about their roles and justified skipping classes; when it was my turn to speak, I was dumbfounded and didn't know what to say. The teacher asked me about my role the second time and made sure that I saw the stick in his hand. "Sir," I said, "I am the dead body that they carry in the play" (that was my role and I didn't have any dialogue). Expectedly, all hell broke loose! Next day onwards no drama practice and lunch break for me. I was made to sit in the staff room after school hours and learn Maths and Science. The news about my 'role in the play' was out and every teacher smiled at me. I looked down and smiled but always felt embarrassed. I did my role exceedingly well though on the Annual Day.

Today, when I look back at these events I laugh at myself. I feel good that there were teachers who were concerned about me. They cared for their students and loved them in spite of being very strict. Those were the days we used to write an imposition a thousand times, write tables, memorize poems and learn essays. Our



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parents expected our teachers to discipline us and never paid heed to our complaints when we were punished at school; but, there was a thrill. That was our student life.

All that we learn when as students stays with us throughout our life. Our dreams, wants, aspirations and expectations are molded for the most part on our experiences in this phase. Student life can be seen as a time of preparations. It is a time of training and learning. All that we do later on in life is learnt during this phase of life.

What is important in the student life is that we learn to manage a lot of things: our emotions, relationships, friendship, time and stress. Thus we learn to discipline ourselves and prepare for the future. Learning is fun when we are responsible. We need to dispel the misconception that school/college days are only fun, playing truant, free of any control with no one instructing us on what to do, etc. We need to develop a meaning image of school/college life that is full of activity and excitement, boundless opportunities for creativity, and pursuit of knowledge through exploration and experience.

Today when I look back, I am grateful to all my teachers. I cherish all those experiences which made me learn lessons for life. I have not forgotten any of those experiences, even those which were painful and embarrassing. After every painful event there was someone to put his hands around my shoulder and say "don't worry".

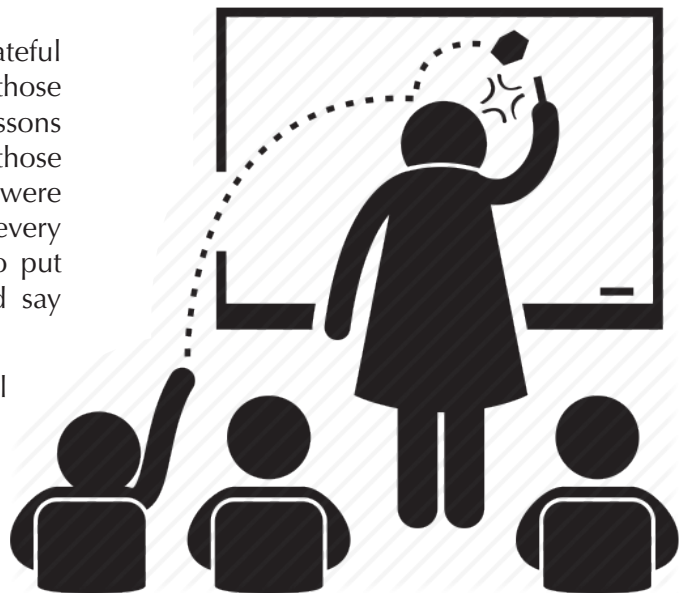
Unfortunately, today student life is full of pressures. There is no time to eat, play and sleep. There is no time for the family. Students are living in a virtual world. Human touch is no

more required. Our students are becoming 'robots', everything is mechanical and artificial. Our relationship, games, smile... everything is artificial. Parents pressurize their children to take up a career for which they are ill suited and inevitably fail. Tuitions, coaching, special classes, extracurricular activities, etc., etc., etc. dominate their lives that students have no time to enjoy their student life.

Things change with time. I cannot compare my school days with the present time. It is heartbreaking and sad to see young students barely awake carrying heavy bags waiting for the school bus in winter. There needs to be a change in our system, our policies. We need to show care and concern towards our young.

A little piece of advice for our young students: always bear in mind that most opportunities come your way in your student life, and the more you grab them, the more developed and stronger you will emerge in the end.

**Fr. Chetan Machado**  
**National Chaplain**



# LETS MAKE IT COLORFUL

Let us take a look at our likes and dislikes. Some of us love the colour blue while some others abhor it, some love yellow and some don't. You like lavender based perfume and I may like another fragrance. There is no reason one can assign for these affiliations and dislikes.

Passion also works on similar lines. There are certain things close to our heart and we just love doing them because we are passionate about these things. We have no reasons or any logical explanations for such preferences. And, that in simple words is passion.

You hate red? What about some colour combinations and variations? Can you not be creative and conjure some combinations and variations? If you can indeed be creative and combine some other hues with red to create patterns, the chances are that you would like them. Airtel for example uses red, white and black to make an outstanding logo.

Your choice of colours may change with time. As time goes by you may prefer pale pastel pinks to a 'shocking pink'.

As we react to colours, we also react to our jobs, interest, hobbies and almost all activities. If we can creatively mix colours and start liking those which we hated when we saw them individually, we can well make changes in our activities at work to make things more interesting.

*To my young friends out there: Life can be great, but not when you can't see it. So, open your eyes to life: to see it in the vivid colours that God gave us as a precious gift to His children, to enjoy life to the fullest, and to make it count. Say yes to your life.*  
(Nancy Reagan)

We need to remember a few things in our life. It is not the rich or the contented who are toppers in the school. It is not the privileged who hold college degrees. But it is those who love their work and therefore, are enthusiastic all the time. A successful student stimulates and sustains enthusiasm in his/her classmates and in the environment. They love their young brothers and sisters, admire their teachers and are prepared to learn from their peers. Just think so: 'if you love your job, you are on a permanent holiday.'

So it is not just being intelligent only that makes the difference, but your passion in life will take you to the pinnacle of success. Everyone does not like everyone. Everyone does not like every subject or teacher or classmate, etc. So just as with colours, we can add a different flavour to our working style/studies to make it more enjoyable and more rewarding. Remember 'we live in the age of opportunities and there are thousands of ways to earn a living and that too by doing what we like.' excel in the education stream you are in so that you can switch to any area of choice. Education gives you confidence to venture into any field of your choice. 'The most crucial factor in creativity is the motivation to do something creative.'

*Your attitude is like a box of crayons that colour your world. Constantly colour your picture gray, and your picture will always be bleak. Try adding some bright colours to the picture by including humour, and your picture begins to lighten up.* (Allen Klein)❖

- Sr. Lidwin Fernandes  
National Coordinator



## NT/EXCO MEET

# V NT/EXCO MEETING

16-17 June, 2018 at Kilpauk, Chennai  
Venue: Don Bosco Centre Kilapuk

The Vth NT/EXCO meeting of YCS/YSM India was held at 'The Citadel', Kilpauk Chennai from 16th to 17th June 2018. Participants arrived on 16th morning and meeting began at 10:00 am. Meeting began with a short prayer lead by Ms Abhinisha. Ms Rachel, National Secretary presented the agenda of the meeting and after a few changes it was passed. After the roll call, Ms Jesvita Quadras, National Convenor declared the meeting open.

General Secretary presented the minutes of the Vth NT/EXCO meeting held in Indore. After some clarifications and suggestions, Ms Roshini from MP region passed the minutes. Soon after this Regional reports were presented by the NEXCOs of different regions. Regions presented their activities and explained about various programmes conducted in their regions. Soon after this Mr. Ebin read the report of his visits and also National Chaplains programme. In short, he also narrated his Taize experience.



Before the tea break, Fr. Martin, the newly appointed Regional Chaplain of Tailnadu region was welcomed.

After a short tea break meeting convened again. The first and major point for discussion was the forthcoming National Council which will be held in May 2019 in Goa. Preparatory document was read part by part. During the discussion, the theme and the trusts were finalised. It was decided that the theme of the Study Session during the next council will be, 'Young Students for youthful life' and the thrusts; 'safe school; self identity; new society. During the meeting there were many other suggestions but finally the above theme was accepted by all.



In the evening all the participants visited ms Rachels home and from there to Marina beach in the evening. Dinner was organised at the National Home of YCS/YSM at Santhome, Chennai.

On the second day of the meeting began with a prayer lead by Vanshika Paul. The remaining points were taken up for

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discussion. The dates for the next National Student Leadership Training was finalised. It was decided request the Chaplain of Mangalore diocese in Karnataka Region to host NSLTP this year in Mangalore. It was also suggested that we have the National Animators Training Programmme along with the NSLTP so that animators who accompany their students can also benefit and need not travel again. Some animators requested to change the venue for the animators training and also the time. It was felt that NT EXCO meeting should be avoided in the the month of December and held in January. It was also decided to set a date to register for the National Council. Students suggested to keep 30th March 2018 as the last day to register for the next National Council in Goa. The next NT EXCO meeting will be held in Goa from 10-11 January 2019.

There was a short evaluation conducted towards the end. Students and animators appreciated the way the NT conducted the meeting and they also made some suggestions to make it better next time. Chaplains and animators suggested that information should be sent to them as well regarding all the events so that they can plan better. Animators also pointed out that students intervention during the meeting was less. When students dont voice their opinion or give suggestions, animators and chaplians tend to speak more, since it is a student movement they should speak more during the meetings.



The NT requested Fr. Chetan Machado, the National Chaplain to give final comments. He thanked the Regional and the Diocesan Chaplain for their presence. He requested



them to support the movement and strengthen it. He thanked the coordinator Sr. Lidwin for taking up the responsibility and thanked her provincial for allowing her to work for the movement. He asked the students to make use of her services. He thanked the RYDs and DYDs and also the NT EXCO for their active participation during the meeting. Fr. Chetan gave all the information about the Asain Session and Council to be held in Taiwan. Ms Jesvita and former convenor Mr. Jimmy Pdang along with Caroline, youth from Mizoram will be participating in this programme. Information on Globla Training Session and World Youth Day was given where many have registered but waiting for the details from the international team. He also spoke about volunteering at Taize and giving some time for the movement.

Finally, Ms Rachel prosed vote of thanks and Ms Jesvita expressed her gratitude and declared the 5th NT/EXCO meeting close. All stood for YCS/YSM Anthem and with YCS/YSM clap 5th YCS/YSM NT/EXCO meeting came to a close.

Let YCS/YSM light shine.

- NT/EXCO





# reKindle

## THE BEGINNERS SESSION

Reviving YCS/YSM in the Archdiocese of Bangalore  
23 June, 2018 - PALANA BHAVANA, BANGALORE

# the Founding Fire

The Young Christian Students/ Young Students Movement (YCS/YSM) has a long standing history in Bangalore, in fact the movement in India began with study sessions that took place in Bangalore and Chennai simultaneously in 1966. Due to various reasons the movement had gone almost silent in the Archdiocese for almost 10 years and the desire to revive the students' movement in Bangalore became more and more fervent in recent times. To take this forward, the secretary - Fr. Joseph Susainathan along with the joint secretaries and the support of the YCS/YSM alumni have taken the initiative to revive the movement and as the first step organised the Beginners Session on 23 June, 2018 at Palana Bhavana.

The beginners' session was a resounding success and was attended by more than 300 students and 47 animators from 27 schools, 6 alumni members.

The day began with a soulful prayer service with the invocation by the dynamic choir of Gulabi Girls High School and scripture readings from all major scriptures. The inaugural ceremony presided over by Fr. Joseph Susainathan - the Chaplain of YCS/YSM Bangalore and Fr. Anil

D' Sa the Regional Chaplain of YCS/YSM Karnataka. The chaplains urged students to participate with full zeal and enthusiasm.

Beginners program started with an interesting round of ice breakers facilitated by Mrs. Saranya Francis (Ex National EXCO) and a set of delightful action songs by Mr. Francis Prithvi (Ex National EXCO) this was followed by an in-depth session on the status of youth and the need for social awareness among young people.

Session 2 was on the history of the movement. This session started with an impromptu skit by the students on the origins of the movement and the life of Joseph Cardinal Cardijn - our inspiration. This was followed by Session 3 on the aims, objectives, vision and mission of the movement, delivered by Srujan and Ashirwad and the same was moderated by Mrs. Saranya Francis. The session continued with some interesting discussions on why YCS/YSM is so relevant to the current scenario. Saranya spoke on the methodology of the movement and this was complemented by a case study and group discussion on applying the methodology in the cell meetings.

Simultaneously the animators were trained by Fr. Anil D'Sa on the role of the animators in shaping student leaders and their importance in serving as guides to the students. The director and joint secretaries addressed the animators as well. The secretaries chose the Diocesan Team of Animators.

The afternoon paced excitingly as the Diocesan Team of Students (DTS) were elected in a



session moderated by Saranya, Sam Emmanuel (EX DTS member) and Melwyn Amritharaj (Youth Animator from the Archdiocese). A team of 22 students comprising of zonal and diocesan leaders were elected.

A sumptuous lunch followed the concluding program. A brief prayer service followed. The students and animators then together welcomed the new Archbishop Most Rev Peter Machado in their midst. The Archbishop in his message reminded students of the three relationships they must take care of namely: “relationship with self, relationship with others and relationship with God.” His anecdote using interesting animal characters was well received by the audience. The Archbishop urged students to “honour parents and elders and work with commitment for the revival of the movement in the archdiocese.”

The names of the Diocesan Team of Students and Diocesan Team of Animators were then announced. The DTS and DTA were handed over a scroll of congratulations and badges followed by a solemn oath taking ceremony complete with candles and commitment notes.



The students and animators wrote down their commitments to social change on post it notes and put them up on the stage as a symbol of their commitment towards the revival of the movement. The YCS/YSM oath was administered to the office bearers and the YCS/YSM anthem was sung with full gusto. The session concluded with tea and a new found sense of purpose in the hearts of all those present.

- *Saranya Francis*  
(Ex NEXCO YCS/YSM India)

## YCS/ YSM Animators meeting for the year 2018-2019. 27th June, 2018, Pastoral Centre, Gunfoundry, Hyderabad

## HYDERABAD

### Agenda: To enrich the movement through planning and discussion.

Fr. Richard the Youth director and Diocesan Chaplain of YCS/YSM began with a hymn followed by a prayer, soon after the animators from different schools presented their reports of the previous year . After the tea break, Mr. James Sylvester enlightened the participants with the motto and vision of the movement. The importance of an animator to keep the movement alive is quintessential so much so he emphasized that movement will fail if the animators do not take active part. The drive should be the animators who help and follow the aim of the movement which is to make a just society i.e. - God’s Kingdom.

Fr. Richard took over rest of the day’s planning. The following programmes were planned:  
DTS/DTP meeting to be held on July 24th, 2018 with every school bringing in at least 10 students, along with the animator for the election. Only 2 students will vote during the election. The possible dates for winter camp 26-28 October or 2-4 November. Annual day for the YCS/ YSM would be on the 20th of January, 2019. The Schools present for the meeting were:

- |                              |                          |                             |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. St. Francis High School   | 5. Holy Mary High School | 9. St. Joseph’s Trimulgerry |
| 2. St. Patrick’s High School | 6. St. Ann’s SSC (Sec)   | 10. Rosary Convent School   |
| 3. Sacred Heart High School  | 7. St. Ann’s ISC         |                             |
| 4. Fr. Rock Memorial School  | 8. St. Ann’s Bolarum     |                             |

The meeting concluded with a prayer and a group photograph.

- *Fr. Richard*  
*Chaplain, Hyderabad*

# THEOLOGICAL Reflection

## International Workers Day - MAY DAY and YCW

On May Day - International workers day, we pay homage to all those who worked for the rights of daily wage workers. The sacrifices of so many people cannot be forgotten or we will end up fighting for those same gains all over again. This is why we celebrate May Day.

Someone being engaged at work means, that person has set his foot on the ground. One doesn't depend on others for one's food, rather earns to feed self and the family that depend on him.

Cardinal Joseph Cardijn rightly responded to this problem when he himself experienced the problems

which still persisted with the working lot during 1st world war.

He founded YCW (Young Catholic Workers) in 1924. YCW (JOC) received Papal approbation from Pope Pius XI in 1925, and in 1926 it spread to France and eventually to 51 countries. Nowadays it is organized in Europe, Asia, Australia, Africa and the Americas, in more than 2000 grassroots base groups with around 20,000 young workers who are regular members. The international headquarters are located in Brussels, Belgium.

Cardijn blamed the death of his father, a mineworker, on harsh labor conditions. Working-



**Fr Charles Menezes**  
IYCS Chaplain

class Belgians of the era tended to see the Church as serving the interests of the aristocracy. Some old friends considered Cardijn a traitor. He thus decided to devote his career to "reconciling his Church with the industrial workers of the world." When Cardijn was first made an assistant priest in the Brussels suburb Royal Laeken in 1912, he began to work with factory workers. In 1915, he became the director of the city's Catholic social work. In the years after the First World War, he began to organize young Catholic workers the Brussels area to evangelize their colleagues; the group was named Jeunesse Ouvrière Chrétienne.

Its teachings were based on labour encyclicals by Popes Leo XIII and Pius XI.

Cardijn used to say, *"Every Jocist has a Divine*



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*mission from God, second only to that of the priest, to bring the whole world to Christ.*” Cardijn devoted the rest of his life to the movement. Cardijn served as an advisor to Vatican II and was made a Cardinal in 1965.

As a Movement of and for young people the YCW uses the inductive method of analysis See, Judge, Act review. Based on the format of experiential learning members are encouraged to enquire into the situations that affect them on a daily basis and plan and organise specific actions to bring about a positive change. This inductive method of analysis begins with the everyday lived experience of young people, the issues, problems and challenges that face them every day of the week. The YCW method challenges young people to become aware of the reality of their particular situation and that of those around them, in their work place, community and parish, school, home and in society.

This holds good for all of us. Unfortunately those who belong to these

groups have forgotten the basis of its methodology or conveniently avoid it because it demands a lot from us.

Today we are in need of using this methodology more than ever. As and when we lose track of our day-to-day life, this methodology will help us get back to balance ourselves.

–“We work hard, so you don’t have to.” that’s the advertising line for a modern bathroom cleaner. This holds good for all of us.

Unless we train ourselves as responsible workers, we cannot expect a change in our life. Spiritually too, we need to understand this in the perspective of God’s intervention in our life. St Paul says, warns us in the words to Thessalonians, “Jesus worked hard so I don’t have to.”

As we celebrate this May Day, let us resolve

ourselves saying as Paul said :

« Nor did we eat anyone’s food without paying for it. On the contrary, we worked night and day, laboring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to any of you» (2 Thes 3 :8)

He further says : ***For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: “The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat.”***(2 Thes 3 :10)

As IYCS members let us resolve that we will never be a burden to anyone, rather we earn our food by our hard labour and be an example to the world. We will bear witness to all those who sacrificed their lives for the cause of daily wage workers. We do likewise and walk proudly holding our heads high.

***IYCS wishes you all A Happy May Day – International Workers Day.***



# Sharing brings Happiness

Vanshika Paul, EXCO-Northern

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Greetings to my dear YCS/YSM family!!

Happiness! What is it? Have you ever wondered about it? Well, of course it is quite difficult to describe. Everyone has their own opinion over it, so as you. Some may find their happiness in money, some in fame and so on. But the question is, is it the actual happiness? Let me share a story...

Once in a town lived a very greedy rich man. He ordered to build a big locker so that he could fill it with gold and jewels. One day he hired a mathematician to find the best way to make the greatest profit in everything he did. Mathematician studied for months before he found the solution. One night the mathematician had a big smile on his face. Next day, he went to the rich man and said, "I found it! My calculations are perfect!"

Rich man didn't have time to listen to him as he had to leave on a long journey. So he said to the mathematician, "I promise to pay you double when I come back but only if you take charge of my business and put new formula into it". Mathematician was excited because of his new formula, he happily accepted the proposal.

Months later when the rich man returned he found that all his possession had gone. He got furious and asked the mathematician for explanation. Mathematician told that he had given away everything to the poor and the needy. The rich man couldn't believe this.

Mathematician explained to the rich man about his formula, "I studied for months but every way I found was limited as there's limit to how much one can do by himself. Then I understood the key was that many people could help us to

achieve the aim. So the conclusion was that helping others was the best way to get more and more people to help us".

Rich man was disappointed and furious over mathematicians act and went out. While he was walking away, several neighbors came to him. All of them were those who were helped by the rich man's fortune. They felt grateful to him and offered him to be their guest. Over the next few days, wherever he went he was received with great honour and everyone was willing to help him in whatever way they could.

Now, rich man could see the result of what mathematician had done. He realized that helping others had given him much more.

In this way, he managed to quickly set up flourishing business and this time he followed the mathematicians advice. Now he no longer kept his money in safe, instead he shared his fortune among people.

From our childhood we were taught to share because it brings joy and happiness. It not only brings joy but also teaches us to care. As we read in the story, rich man was not happy even



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when he had everything. But when he started sharing and helping he became one of the happiest persons.

Happiness is not what you get or what you have, its all about what you give and share. One

of the best things that one can share is their own happiness and making others happy. Because “sharing brings happiness.”

Let YCS/YSM light shine.

## DISCOVERING GOD THROUGH REFLECTION AND ACTION

DELHI

As the Bible say according to Proverbs 22:6  
*‘Train up a child in the way he should go:and when he is old, he will not depart from it.’*

YCS/YSM Archdiocese of Delhi organized a 3 days residential workshop for classes 10-12 students, from 8-10 of June. The theme of the workshop was “DISCOVERING GOD THROUGH REFLECTION AND ACTION” in which 24 students along with 2 volunteers from 9 different units of Delhi archdioceses took active participation.

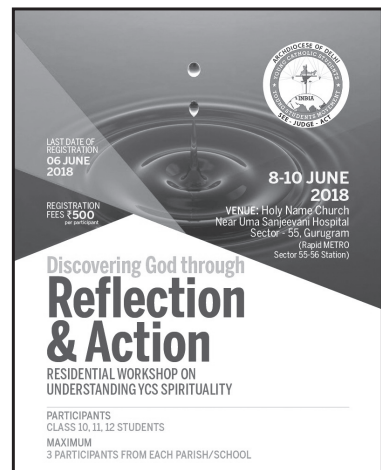
### #DAY 1

The workshop began on 8th June by registration at 3pm followed by welcoming and ice breaking. Fr. Vijay diocesan chaplain(DYD) introduced the purpose of having the workshop followed by the inauguration. A student from each zone, Diocesan Chaplain, Manoj Mathew (Diocesan coordinator) and Vanshika Paul(nexco) lit the candle and prayed for YCS Delhi.

Session 1 was taken by the diocesan coordinator Mr. Manoj Mathew on the roots of the spirituality- “The three truths”. He explained about the first truth that is “See”. He spoke about the Onion circle that how a student is connected to the world. He asked students to identify the student issue that they face. Soon after dinner all the groups presented their issues and also explained the student problems. After the session some activities were conducted followed by night prayer.

### #DAY 2

The day began with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist celebrated by Fr. Thomas and Fr. Vijay at 7:00am. After the breakfast Session2 began on “Harmony among religions” - do’s and don’ts was taken by Fr. Thomas, where he explained about how to keep harmony between religions and how to respect other religions followed by a short break. After the break Fr.Vijay took a session on the study of apostolic exhortation *‘gaudette et exultate’* of the Holy Father Francis on the call to holiness in today’s world. Fr. Vijay, Br. John and



Br. Amol shared their experience of how they were called to be in the holiness of god and then all departed for lunch. After lunch some games were conducted.

During Session3, Sr. Jenifa AC and Sr Shanta AC gave their testimony on God's Call. Mr. Percival ICYM National President also shared his experience of synod meet held in Rome. Then Mr. Manoj took a session on 2nd truth of life that is JUDGE. He explained the meaning of judge. After the break animation and activities were conducted by Vanshika. Fr. Vijay took a session on the Church. Students were given time to prepare for the role play.



After dinner all the groups presented their role play which was based on the bible in contrast to today's world. Groups were given 6-8 minutes to present the play. Each group performed creatively. Followed by evaluation and night prayer.

### **#DAY 3**

The day began with celebration of holy Eucharist by Fr. Vijay followed by breakfast at 8am. At 8:30 a panel session on discovering your career/vocation was taken which was moderated by Mr Manoj. In this Mr. Percival, Dr. John, Fr.Vijay and Mr.Manoj shared their experience and challenges they undertook while choosing their career/vocation. Students took interest and cleared their doubts. After the session Mr Manoj took a session on the 3rd truth that's "ACTION". Where we developed/planned a campaign for ycs Delhi based on the learning(family-teachers-friends).10 students came forward as volunteers for the campaign. Followed by lunch at 12:30 . After lunch Ms. Vanshika Paul ( nexco) proposed the vote of thanks followed by distribution of certificate to this participants and group photograph. It was an overwhelming workshop where we encountered a lot of new things and experiences. Students were enthusiastic and took active part in the workshop.

According to the Bible verse which says  
Philippians 4:13

*'I can do things through Christ which strengthened me.'*

**- Vanshika Paul**

**Nexco- Northern Region**

# student L!FE

Student Life according to me is the golden era of one's life. Not

because it has less challenges to face but it makes us precious; gold, silver or platinum. It is the period of our life when we design ourselves.

And though it' has its own hardships with regard to education and the pressure of excelling, yet it is the most beautiful phase of life because it is the only phase of life that is completely in our own hands. We are our own masters, if we choose to be.

A student must put himself through the toughest path of learning, not just theoretically but also with practice and experience. That's why it is said, participation is more important than winning. A student must subject himself / herself to maximum opportunities, both academically as well as in co-curricular activities to ensure a holistic and overall development of a person.

Student life is the phase when one has the chance to discover their vocation of life, not necessarily through academics only, but also sometimes in some talent or hobby or some dream or desire. It is the time we seek answers to several things around us and learn by ourselves.

Just as a tree bears fruit depending on the care, fertilizer and water received while it grew as a plant. Similarly, the outcome of the life of a person depends on the inputs and investments made into the person in student life.

Unfortunately, our Indian education systems and mentality is still lagging behind. We fail in channelizing and shaping the student life of a person holistically and make it more academic centered, amidst which our students grow intellectually strong but lag behind in personality, troubleshooting& life values.

Pope Francis tells young people "We are meant to bring out the best in us, without which the purpose of life is incomplete" and I feel that should be the goal of student life.

While I was a student, I remember initially how my mother forced me to participate in every activity at school, but soon it became a habit. She gave equal priorities to my co-curricular activities as much to curriculum. As a result, by the time I finished school, I was far more confident in various tasks as much in academics. I could see the difference in me from many others and that continued till today. I gradually mastered the art of multi-tasking. Even today as a grown up person, I never say no to a new task. I take up and give my best shot at every task and opportunity. Personally, academics have helped shape my career but other activities have shaped my personality and made me a better person, even in the professional sphere. I owe my present to my student life because I always believed in being "The Jack of all traits and master of ONE". ♣

## Search



*Percival Holt*  
*National President-ICYM*







# NEWS

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REPORTS

## MADHYA PRADESH

### ARCHDIOCESE OF BHOPAL Summer Camp for YCS Coaching for Life: Integral Formation of Teenagers

YCS, Bhopal Archdiocese organized summer camp for the Young Catholic Students from April 30 –May 2, 2018 at St. Joseph Co-ed School, Kolar. The theme of the camp was ‘Coaching for Life: Integral Formation of Teenagers.’ Around 152 Young Catholic Students from 18 parishes participated in the camp and committed to live a good moral life for the society to change self and change others. The main resource person was Mr. Kennedy and his team members from the Archdiocese of Goa.

The camp began with the arrival of students and adoration at Divine Retreat Ashram, Kolar. MP Regional Youth Leaders from ICYM as



well as YCS were welcomed specially by the Bhopal Catholic Youth Commission. Fr. Sibi Joseph, Parish Priest, Fr. Carmel Alexander, Asst Priest, Savio Daniel, Mr. Anoop Jose, former National ICYM members and Sr. Smitha, parish youth animator of Kolar parish and other invited guests were also welcomed by Fr. Alexander.



The main focus of the camp was to bring all YCS students of the Archdiocese of Bhopal together and promote the Movement in every parish. During the Camp they were trained to manage stress and depression, peer pressure, etc. They were taught leadership qualities and guided in spiritual life. YCSers were also guided by the resource person through various workshops and taught the importance of hard work, responsibility, true friendship. He trained them to be effective student leaders for the society and the family to respect and value one’s own religion and all human beings.

The participants were also given coaching on proclamation of the Gospel by performing practical activities; the camp was educative as the students were interested in learning through experiments and activities rather than just listening to various sessions.

Mary Roshni and Ravi Xess, student leaders of the region gave information about the YCS movement and trained them to work for the parish unit vibrantly. Nancy Kujur from Delhi Archdiocese also guided students to commit for the promotion of YCS movement in the Archdiocese of Bhopal. At the end of the summer camp, a new team was formed for the Archdiocese to work for the movement. The newly formed YCS Leaders decided to meet from June 30 – July 1, 2018 for the training.

During YCS Summer Camp, the students were given an opportunity to interact with Most Rev. Leo Cornelio SVD and Rev. Fr. Mathew VC, the Vicar General. Rev. Fr. Nirdosh Ekka the MP Regional Youth Director for AICUF movement was also present.



Finally, Fr. Alexander Jesudasan, Regional Chaplain motivated all students to be part of the YCS family in the Archdiocese. he urged the students to spread the movement in every parish of the Archdiocese. In his address he asked the students to prepare an action plan for every parish and work accordingly.

**- Mary Roshini, Regional YCS Secretary  
NEXCO, MP Region**



## NORTHERN

### ARCHDIOCESE OF DELHI Introducing YCS

Introduction session on YCS- Young Catholic Students Movement was successfully organized for All Saints Parish, Faridabad for the very first time. 21 students along with their parents were present for the session. They



showed willingness to know about YCS. The session started by some ice breaking activities and animation which was conducted by Vanshika (nexco) and she also gave a short introduction about YCS and spoke about the importance of the movement. After this, Mr. Manoj Mathew, Archdiocesan coordinator spoke about the methodology of YCS and the importance of cell meetings. The students were quick to answer the questions asked during the session and were enthusiastic. Mr. Sahil Dass also came up as an animator for the unit. Finally the session was concluded by some action songs and a group photograph.



On 6th May 2018, an introductory session on YCS- Young Catholic Students Movement was organized for the students of St. Xavier's Parish, Shahbad. Eighteen students along with their parents participated in this programme. Mr. Sylvester Dass, diocesan YCS committee member explained the participants about the history of YCS followed by methodology,



vision, objectives, aim were briefly discussed, a demo of how to conduct a cell meeting was also showed to give them an experience of cell meeting which was done by Sr. Lidwin Fernandez, National Coordinator. Students and their parents showed keen interest towards the movement and were willing to adapt it for their parish. It was indeed a new experience for them.

**-Vanshika Paul, Bhopal Archdiocese  
NEXCO, Northern Region**

## KARNATAKA

### YCS/YSM MANGALURU YCS NEW ANIMATORS TRAINING

The Young Catholic Students (YCS) in the diocese organized training for the new animators of the year 2018-19 at Sandesha, Bajjodi on Sunday, June 24.

The training began with prayer and inauguration, followed by welcome by the diocesan animator Prajwal Sequeira, Derebail.

Resource person of the day Mr. Francis D'Cunha, Mulki elaborated the basics of YCS. Fr Rupesh Madtha, the diocesan director, spoke on the role of animators in the lives of teenagers. Mervin Vas conducted the ice breakers. A question answer session was held after the Holy Mass. Certificates were presented to the new animators.



**YOUNG STUDENTS' MOVEMENT (YSM)** conducted Annual General Body Meeting, training and election for the Central Council office on 23, June at Rosario Church hall.

Fr Vincent, parish priest of St Sebastian Church, Bendore was the chief guest. He called the students to be achievers in life.

Lanwin Lobo Urwa being the resource person of the day conducted seminar on leadership. Nathalia D'Souza was on the dais on behalf of all the animators. Fr Rupesh Madtha, the director of the movement, welcomed the



participants. Jenica Cordeiro from St Agnes Bendore compered. A resource material book for YSM 'Guiding Light' was released by the chief guest. The book is edited by Richard Alvares Kulsheklar, published by YCS/YSM Mangaluru. The animators along with the director planned the annual programs for 2018-19. The election was held for the office bearers for the year 2018-19. The office bearers are as follows:

President: Fathimath: St. Raymond's, Vamanjoor  
V. President: Jyothika K., St. Joseph's Bajpe  
Secretary: Jenica Cordeiro, St. Agnes  
Jt. Secretary: Rovita D'Souza, Sacred Heart  
Treasurer: Pravanya N, Capitanio High School  
Yuvathare Representatives: Jovan Albert D'Souza, St Raymond's English Medium School and Vishu, Rosa Mistica PUC  
Chief Animator: Daina Lobo, Capitanio

Later the outgoing office bearers were gratefully remembered with presenting them mementos. Samantha Saldanh, the former president, addressed the participants. 200 student representatives participated in the programme which ended with sumptuous lunch. Mervin Vas, Nevin Dcunha and YSM animators were present.

The major portion of the programme was sponsored by Tejas Karishma D'Souza, Cascia (Bengaluru).

**-Fr. Rupesh Madtha**  
**Diocesan Chaplain, mangalore**

## MADHYA PRADESH

### YCS MP REGION Leadership Training Program April 28-30, 2018

The M.P. Regional YCS Team leaders took active part along with the ICYM Regional team members in Leadership training program organized by the Youth Commission of Madhya Pradesh Region from 28 -30 April 2018 at Divine Retreat Ashram, Kolar, Bhopal. Fr. Bala, the former RYD of Andra Pradesh, Savio Daniel and Mr. Anoop Jose, the former National ICYM Leaders, Fr. Suman and Fr. Alexander Jesudasan were the resource persons who guided the regional leaders on Youth Ministry and leadership qualities.



At this juncture, to express personally, it was also an inspirational moment of experience for me and Ravi Xess and Priyanjana Bhalrai the present YCS Regional Team members to be part of this training program. Our stay and interaction with the newly elected ICYM MP Regional team members and Jesus Youth Members of Bhopal Diocese was excellent and educative. We were reminded by the resource persons to change oneself and change others and society by commitment and dedication. As the fruit of this training program, on 29 April 2018 we along with Nancy Kujur, Animator from Delhi Diocese prepared the following action plan to implement and execute in the coming year 2018-2019.

1. Orientation Program on YCS/YSM in every diocese of MP Region
2. Registration of all YCS
3. YCS DEXCO elections in Khandwa, Indore, Bhopal and Gwalior Dioceses for the year 2018-2020
4. Plan of organising Convention at Regional Level
5. YCS REXCOS election 2019 before the next National Council
6. Active involvement in promoting YCS in Bhopal Diocese

*- Mary Roshni , EXCO, MP Region  
MP Regional YCS Secretary*

## KARNATAKA

### Mangalore Diocese: Workshop on Emcee and TV anchoring.

YCS/YSM of Mangalore diocese organised a workshop on Emcee and TV anchoring on April 9 at Derebail Church hall.

Fr Austin Peres, parish priest of Derebail Church was the chief guest. After the inauguration, Fr Rupesh Madtha, diocesan chaplain welcomed the gathering and Fr Austin addressed the participants calling them to make use of opportunities in life. Students invoked Gods presence through a prayer song.

The first session was taken up by Mr. Lesly Rego, one of the prominent speakers in town. He spoke on compeering and organising programmes as well as public speaking. The afternoon session was handled by Mr. Alwyn Danthy who enumerated the scope of anchoring programmes in media through demonstration.

Eighty one students from all over the diocese participated in this training. The session wound up at 4.00 pm with distribution of certificates to the participants.

## TAMILNADU

### YCS/YSM Investiture ceremony-Salem

The inaugural function of YCS/YSM Salem unit was organised on 25th June 2018 at Ephiphany Pastoral Centre. Most Rev S. Singaroyan, Bishop of Salem presided over the ceremony. Thiru K. Shankar, IPS, City Commissioner of Salem was the guest of honour and Rev Fr. Martin, the Regional Director witnessed the event. Nearly one thousand students from all the catholic schools of the diocese marked their presence. Sincere thanks to all the Heads and Correspondents, Animators, Staff and students for their cooperation for making the day a memorable one.

*-Fr. Stephen Suruban  
DYD, Salem*



## NORTH EAST

### YCS/YSM Shillong Commitment Day

YCS/YSM Shillong organized the Commitment Day on 19th April 2018 in Sacred Heart Theological College, Mawlai. YCS/YSM Shillong college cell took leadership to organize. Most Rev. Dominic Jala, the Archbishop of Shillong, was the chief guest. The other eminent guests of the day were Fr. Philip Barjo, Rector of Sacred Heart Theological College, Fr. Jude



Sebastian, the former chaplain of YCS/YSM Kolkata Region, Jimmy Pdang Member of



IYCS Coordinating team, Hakka Congmai, the President of REXCO North East, Bro Cheriatt Jose Coordinator of YCS/YSM Shillong.

The chief Guest and guests of honor were welcomed in the Khasi traditional way by the students of St Joseph's. Winnie and Daffni, students of Holy Child, compered and cheered 864 students and 30 animators. The prayer dance was performed by the students of St. Joseph Girls School. Jimmy Pdang read the Scripture reading. Miss Anne Romania, a student from St Mary's School, addressed and welcomed the guests. Mr. Edward, who served YCS/YSM at the national level, and the college cell kept the students in good spirit of enthusiasm and cheerfulness with action songs and dances.

In his talk, Most Rev. Dominic Jala, focused on the importance of students taking responsibility and leadership in the particular state of life and in more importantly in life. The day's programme was marked by recalling and paying homage to Asifa, an eight year old girl who was murdered. The act of paying homage to this little girl recalled the review of life (See, Judge and Act). The students and animators present were reminded how review of life plays an essential role in observing critically and responding to given



situations in life. All the guests and student representatives from all the schools paid floral homage while everyone sang the prayer song of St Francis of Assisi. Later the Chief Guest celebrated the Holy Eucharist.

The post lunch session was marked by the oath taking ceremony. The coordinator pronounced the oath to the new DEXCO president, secretary and the treasurer. The new president then pronounced the oath to all the YCS/YSM Shillong present. All the students with a lit candle took oath for the coming year to be member of YCS/YSM Shillong.

A short cultural program was organized. Students from different schools performed Songs and Dances to add joy to the function. Later the college cell performed action songs and dance. Thus with a short prayer we pulled the curtain down of the Commitment Day 2018.

This is a wonderful piece of long plan and effective execution of a major event for YCS/YSM Shillong. I thank all the principals, animators and the college cell for the support and help. Thanks to Fr. Jude Sebastian the former Chaplain who has been guiding the YCS/YSM and Bro Cheriatt Jose the Coordinator, Bro Julian Pradeep and Bro Lucas N. who are members of the Coordinating team and the other brothers who help us. I thank all those have worked hard to make the Commitment Day a reality.

*- Anne Romania,  
YCS/YSM Shillong DEXCO President*

## National Chaplain's Activities

1. 9-10 May - Kochi, Kerala Regiona Latin Diocesan Directors Training
2. 11 May - Nationa Peace Convention - Meeting in Delhi
3. 16-17 May - ICYM NEXCO meeting at NBCLC - Bangalore
4. 18-26- Animators and Chaplains Training Programme - Bangalore
5. 28-29 May- At Chennai Office, Office work with CA
6. 30 May-1June- Home visit - Mangalore
7. 9-10 June - YCS Animators Programme, Archdiocese of Raipur
8. 14-16 June- YCS/YSM NEXCO Live-in Programme in Bangalore
9. 17-18 June - NT/EXCO Meeting at Kilpaul, Chennai
10. 22 June - Meeting at Shofar, National Peace Convention, Gurgaon
11. 23 June - Summer Camp - YCS Delhi.
12. 26-29 May- Office work and The Search newsletter work in Delhi

### Future Programmes:

1. 29 July - 7 August 2018 - Asian Session and Council (ASC) Taiwan
2. 5 August - National Youth Sunday
3. 24-26 August - Youth Directors - (YCS/ICYM) meeting in Ajmer
4. 19-21 October - National Youth Conference. (19-21 DID optional)
3. 6-9 November - National Student Leadership Training Programme
4. 6-9 November - National Animators Training Programme
5. 10-20 Spetember - IYCS Global Training Session in Rome



### For details contact:

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## Results of the Lucky Draw (Donation Coupons) National Convention, Kolkata

Dear YCS/YSMer,

We would like to thank you all so much for your support and contribution towards the II national Convention., Kolkata We are grateful to you. We sincerely apologise for the delay in announcing the results as many had not returned the coupons. We congratulate the winners and thank all of you for helping us raise funds. We request the winners to claim your prizes as early as possible. Kindly send us the counterfoil. We hope to see you again at the next YCS/YSM event soon.

National EXCOS, (2016-2019)

First Prize : Rupali Sharma No. 0141

Second Prize: M8, South Extension, No. 12893

Third Prize : Guneet Khurana, No. 0251

Other Prizes:

1. Abha Sareen: No. 12722

2. Garima Tiwari, No. 15131

3. Denlin Samuel Toppo, No. 15251

4. Rebecca Khiangte, Book No. 530

5. Natasha Louis, Book No. 775

6. Natasha Louis, Book No. 925

7. Sr. Mercian, Book No. 025

8. Sr. Bernadeth, Book No. 613

9. Sr. Bernadeth, Book No. 690

10. Sr. Bernadth Book No. 745



**Fr. Peter Anthony**  
RYD, U.P. (Agra)

**We are grateful to you for your  
services to YCS/YSM  
THANK YOU**



**Fr. Marianus**  
RYD, Tamilnadu



**Fr. Dominic George**  
RYD, U.P. (Agra)

**A warm welcome to YCS/YSM  
WISH YOU ALL THE BEST**



**Fr. Martin Joseph**  
RYD, Tamilnadu

**NEW SHEPHERDS**



**Most Rev. Athanasius**  
Ahmedabad



**Most Rev. Paul A.**  
Quilon



**Most Rev. Fulgence**  
Raiganj



**Most Rev. Dennis P.**  
Auxiliary, Miao

# YCS/YSM INDIA ACTIVITIES



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