

# ANGLICAN CHURCH OF WEST BENGAL

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER JUNE 2023

## Message

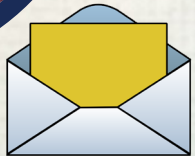
The Federal Government of India has opposed in the Supreme Court the legalization of same sex marriages, citing “religious personal laws”, societal morality and the existence and continuance of the State. It further said allowing same sex marriages will have far reaching consequences including a requirement to amend the Hindu marriage Act, Muslim Marriage Act, Christian Marriage Act and the Special Marriage Act.

In India despite statutory recognition of the relationship of marriage between a biological man and a biological woman, marriage necessarily depends upon age old customs, rituals, practices, cultural ethos and societal values.

But there is a completely different picture which is in the Church of England. The Church of England with its explanation has given a clear indication that the Church of England is moving a step at a time to fully accept the practice of homosexuality as part of the life and practice of the English Church. The endorsement of the House of Bishops of the Church of England on the blessing of same sex marriage in the church, have outright denied the doctrine of biblical anthropology regarding gender identity and moral behavior. To quote Archbishop Foley Beach “the Church of England has authorized the blessing of sin and declared that sin is no longer sin”

We the Anglican Church of West Bengal stand with the Bible and its teachings. Let us be a Bible based church.

- Rt. Revd. Dr. Probal Kanto Dutta



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## St. Michael's Eye Clinic inaugurated



St. Michael's eye clinic was inaugurated on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023 by Mr. Bhudhrai Tudu, Member of Legislative Assembly, Government of West Bengal. The Anglican Church of West Bengal did get its inspiration of an eye clinic from the Bible where Jesus healed the blind man. This eye clinic has all the modern equipment for eye testing. The total eye testing will be done through computerized system. This computerized eye testing system is the first in the village of Kalikapur. In his speech Mr. Budhrai Tudu, M.L.A said that the Christians have the heart for the poor people. Through this clinic many poor people who had to go to big cities and spend lots of money will be helped. He himself took the initiative to be the brand Ambassador in spread the

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word about these facilities at St. Michael's clinic.

This eye clinic has appointed a qualified Optometrist who will initially visit the clinic twice a week.



## *Quiz contest at St. John's English Medium School*

On 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023, St. John's English medium school organized a quiz contest for the children of the school. The purpose in organizing this quiz contest was to help the children to advance them in general knowledge. Quiz contest was held in all classes and the children were given medals as their prizes. The guardians of these children were happy to witness this program for the first time.



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## OSL Training on Healing

The Anglican Church of West Bengal organized OSL training on the 26 healing stories of Jesus in the Gospel of Luke from 27th to 28th May 2023. Thirty participants underwent this training. All the participants are from the new church at Noapara. They have never been exposed to training like this.

The Revd. Sanjib Das, Rev. Sambhu Paswas and The Right Revd. Dr. Probal Kanto Dutta conducted the training program.

At the end of the training participants prayed for healing for each other. After this training the participants consented to have a prayer group in their church.



## Smila Karketta got new life in St. Michael's Safe House



Smila Karketta comes from a village called Rajua. Her father died when she was only two years old. Her mother in order to support her family went and joined a village drama group. While in the drama group she fell in love with a co artist and married him and started living with him in another place. Smila and her brother were left alone in the house with no one to take care of them. Simila's aunt Jasmina who lives in Kalikapur village is a member of the Daughters of the King, St. Thomas chapter. She came to Smila's rescue when she was being taken by an elderly man. Jasmina brought her to St. Michael's Safe House. Now she stays at St. Michael's Safe house and is given schooling, clothings, food and shelter. She is gifted with dance and singing. Today she became the leader of the Safe house, teaching the younger girls to dance and sing.

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## *The Revd. Shymal Mahara left Anglican Church of West Bengal*

The Rev. Shymal Mahara after serving the Anglican Church of West Bengal for four years left to go back to his home in Midnapore. Recently he was acquitted with a rape case by some local people in Kalikapur. The case is still on and the Anglican church of West Bengal helped him to get an order from the High court not to be arrested.

## *New priest for the Anglican Church of West Bengal*

The Anglican Church of West Bengal is looking for a replacement of Rev. Mahara. The Rev. Dn. Sambhu Paswan will shortly take over the place which has been vacant. Along with Sambhu his wife Kakoli Paswas will join St. John's school as teacher and also will help Sambhu with the DOK and women's fellowship of the church.



## *Sponsored child passed her first board exams*



Lucy Nazary came to work with Bishop and his wife in Durgapur. She came from the neighboring state of Assam. When Lucy came to Durgapur she brought with her two children. The elder one is Elisha and the younger one is Rohan. Both grew up with the Bishop's family and they were sent to St. Michael's English Medium school in Durgapur.

Lucy died due to Tuberculosis in her intestine, leaving these two children with the Bishop and his wife Rita. Elisha was the first who did well in her board exams and has now gone to Class XI science. Both the children are now at Dr. Graham's home in Kalimpong. Elisha is a sponsored child of Chris Donovan of the Church of the Holy Cross in Sullivan Islands.

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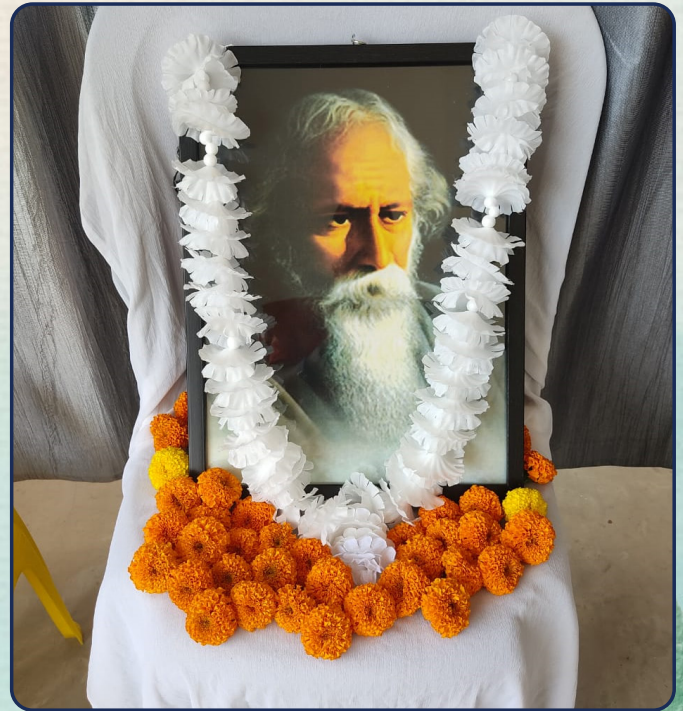
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## *Kobita receives Easter greetings card from her sponsor*

Kobita Hembrom was surprised when she received the Easter greeting card from her sponsor Betty Schaffer. For a moment she was in awe to receive the card. Then came out her smile and she ran to her friends to show it to them. Kobita stays at St. Michael's Safe Home, in Kaliaganj.



## *St John's school celebrates birth day of our national poet*



With songs and dances the children of St. John's school, kalikapur celebrated the birth day of Rabindranath Tagore on 9 April. Poet Rabindranath Tagore wrote the national anthem of India.

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## UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS

12<sup>th</sup> June 2023

St. John's School opens after Summer Vacation.

13<sup>th</sup> June to 14<sup>th</sup> June  
2023

Discovery Bible study conducted by Clark & Carol Smith at St. Thomas Church, Kalikapur.

24<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Prayer & fasting for Daughters of the King.

Healing prayer every evening at 6 p.m. onwards