



The Church of Bangladesh Newsletter

● Newsletter ● January – April 2024 ●

Volume 25,26

Message from the Moderator ...

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,
Warm greetings to you all.



As we continue to journey through this spiritual season, it is with a heart full of gratitude that I reflect upon the vibrant activities and solemn observances that have marked our shared path in recent months. The months of January and February were a testament to our collective dedication to spiritual growth, as we engaged in Borosovas- a series of spiritual revival meetings across the Deaneries. These gatherings, infused with enthusiasm and a shared thirst for divine renewal, have been a source of profound blessing and rejuvenation in the Holy Spirit.

March heralded a milestone celebration for our community- the golden jubilee of the Church of Bangladesh (COB) and the bicentennial of St. Thomas' Cathedral. This historic occasion was graced by the presence of friends from overseas, ecumenical leaders, and representatives from various churches. The vibrancy and unity displayed during these celebrations were a beacon of hope and joy, underscoring our shared commitment to faith and fellowship.

As we find ourselves in the midst of the Lenten season, our spiritual journey has deepened through prayer, retreats, and devotional practices. Engaging in Bible study, repentance, and self-reflection, we strive to draw closer to the essence of our faith, guided by the principles of

fasting and sacrifice. This period of solemn preparation invites us to renew ourselves, seeking to embody the virtues of compassion, forgiveness, and unwavering faith.

In this sacred time, it is noteworthy to acknowledge that our Muslim brethren have also embarked on a period of profound spiritual reflection with the commencement of Ramadan. This parallel journey of faith serves as a beautiful reminder of the universal quest for spiritual deepening and communion with the Divine. There is much we can learn from each other's religious practices and the shared values that underpin our respective paths to spiritual fulfillment.

Looking ahead, we eagerly anticipate the observance of Holy Week, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. Rooted in our Apostolic faith, these solemn days remind us of the ultimate sacrifice of Christ and the triumphant promise of resurrection. As we prepare to celebrate these sacred events, let us hold fast to the hope and renewal they signify, extending our sincerest Easter greetings to one another.

In this season of reflection and renewal, let us continue to support one another in prayer, seeking to embody the love and grace that define our journey of faith. May the light of Christ's resurrection shine brightly in our hearts, guiding us towards a future filled with hope, unity, and spiritual growth.

Paul a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated unto the Gospel of God, (which he had promised afore by his prophets in the holy scriptures,) Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh; "And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the Resurrection from the dead. By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his Name!" Romans 1:4-5

"Christ is risen, he is risen indeed" Hallelujah!
In Christ's love and service,

Most Revd. Samuel Sunil Mankhin
Moderator & Bishop of Dhaka



Dear All in Christ,

Happy Easter to you all. May the joyful season of Easter fill your heart with renewed hope, love, and peace.

In this joyous occasion of Easter we are reminded of the profound significance of this sacred season in our lives. Easter is not merely a historical event; it is a living reality that speaks to the deepest longings of our hearts and souls. Easter encourage us to embrace the transformative power of resurrection and renewal.

Easter remind us the promise of redemption and renewal. In Romans 6:4, the Bible tells us, "We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." Easter is a time to reflect on the transformative power of God's love, which has the power to wash away our sins and make us new creations in Christ.

Easter give us hope in the midst of despair. In 1 Peter 1:3, we read, "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus

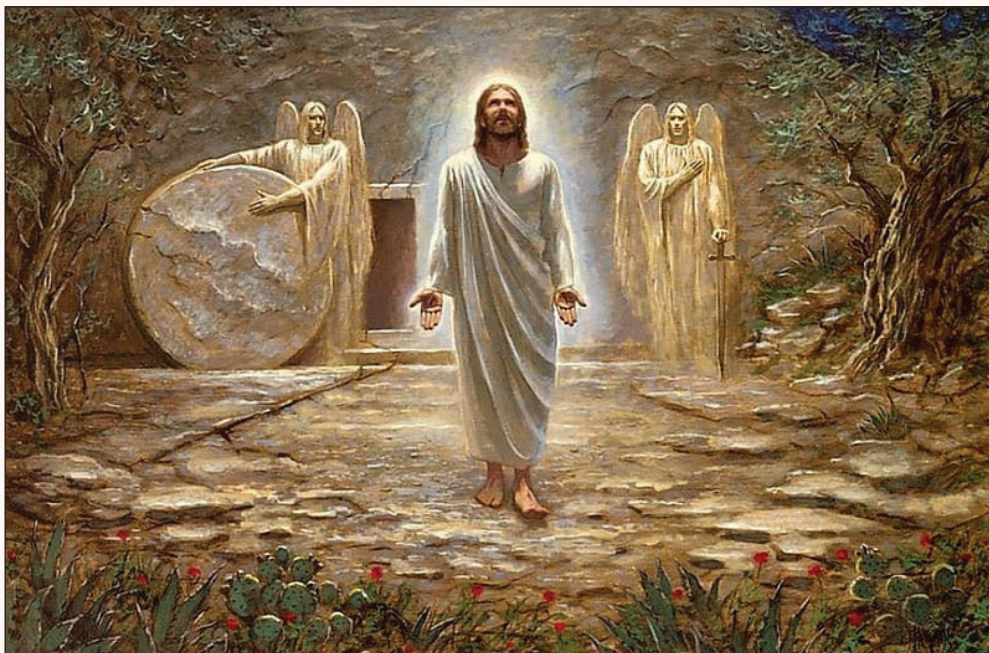
Christ from the dead." Easter is an inspiration of hope that shines brightly in the darkest moments of our lives, reminding us that no matter how difficult our circumstances may be, we serve a God who is greater than all our trials and tribulations.

We need Easter in our lives to remind us of the victory that is ours in Christ Jesus. In 1 Corinthians 15: 54-55, we are assured, "Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death is your sting?" Easter is a celebration of the ultimate triumph of life over death, of light over darkness, of good over evil. It is a reminder that no matter how daunting the challenges we face may seem, we can face them with confidence and courage, knowing that the victory has already been won on our behalf.

As we journey through this Easter season, may we open our hearts and minds to the transformative power of resurrection and renewal. May we allow the message of Easter to permeate every aspect of our lives, filling us with hope, joy, and a renewed sense of purpose. And may we go forth from this season of celebration, inspired to live lives that reflect the love and grace of our risen Lord.

With best regards and prayers.

Rt. Revd. Shourabh Pholia
Barishal Diocese





Dear All in Christ,

On behalf of Kushtia Diocese, I would like to express my profound gratitude and deepest thanks for your prayers and kind support.

The months of January and February are two special blessed and very busy months for our whole Church. At this time several spiritual revival meetings were organized in 7 deaneries of the Church of Bangladesh.

The two deaneries of Kushtia Diocese hold two meetings respectively. 1. “Dhyna Budhbar Mohasabha” at Bollovepur Deanery and 2. “Helmel Sabha” at Rajshahi Deanery.

Last February 21st and 22nd, the largest spiritual revival meeting of the Church of Bangladesh was held in Bollovepur, which is called “Dhyna Budhbar Mohasabha” (Blessed Wednesday Spiritual meeting). In the presence of approximately 12,000 people, this meeting was incredibly impressive. Many people participated including speakers from India.

The meeting held at the Rajshahi (23-25 February) Deanery is called the “Helmel Sabha”. Helmél is a Santali word meaning fellowship. The meeting was held in association with 29 parishes of Rajshahi Deanery. There, a musical group from Dhaka sang the life of Jesus, especially his sufferings, which was very attractive to the people there.

The year 2024 is a very significant year for the entire Church of Bangladesh and that is the 50th anniversary

of the Church of Bangladesh and the 200th anniversary of St. Thomas Cathedral in Dhaka. On March 1, the anniversary of the Church of Bangladesh was celebrated and on March 2, the 200th anniversary of St. Thomas Church was celebrated. There are many preparations and many events around these two days which attract everyone’s attention. Many guests from all over Bangladesh and even from abroad participated in this event.

One of the many activities on the 50th anniversary of the Church of Bangladesh is the unveiling of the history book of the entire Church of Bangladesh. The book is titled “Revealing the Church of Bangladesh in our hearts”. It was indeed a difficult task because no history of the Church of Bangladesh was previously preserved, this is the first step. It took me almost 5 years to complete the book. Virtually I thank God that He has given me the strength to do this great work.

Currently we are celebrating the season of atonement. This promising time of the year inspires us to draw closer to Christ. The Lord Jesus taught us how to spend time with God in silence. The truth is that if we don’t spend time quietly with the Lord, we can do nothing for others. The period of atonement not only builds a closer relationship with God, but also re-establishes the broken relationship of man with man.

Good Friday and the Resurrection remind us that we have nothing to lose, nothing to fear. Even though our Lord died, He lives in each of our hearts through His resurrection. So we should thank him wholeheartedly. Saint Paul tells us, pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus. (1 Thessalonians 5:17-18).

The pastoral work of the Kushtia Diocese has gained new momentum and all the ministers are working with renewed dynamism. We want to build a new congregation in Rajshahi Deanery, where about 200 new believers are keeping in touch with us. We pray to God to keep us healthy and give us grace in the work of expanding His kingdom.

Thank you to all the friends of the Dioceses and partners who have helped us with prayers and other support. May God be with us.

Rt. Rev. Hemen Halder.
Kushtia Diocese.



Bishop Poggo says,

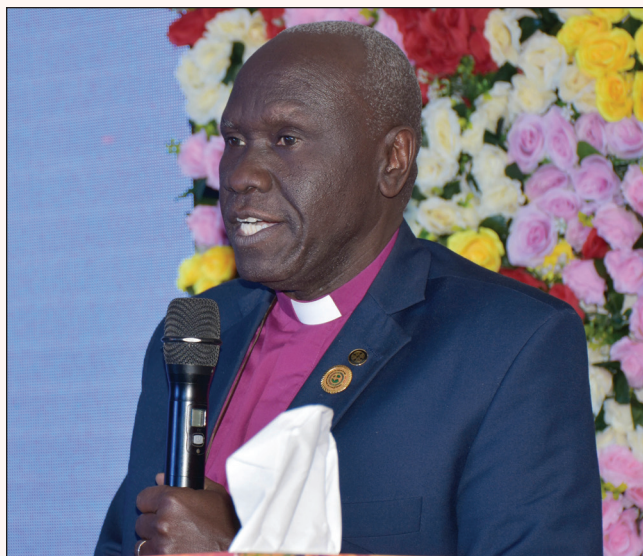
“You are 1 of the 42 provinces of the Anglican Communion; And you are very important. Your motto is – ‘One Apostolic Church, One Family & One Future.’ This is very important, because we are one, so the unity of our different Churches is important. You are an example of this unity.”

The 50th Anniversary of the Church of Bangladesh was held

The 50th anniversary celebration of the Church of Bangladesh was a remarkable event held at the Retreat & Prayer Garden in Savar on March 1, 2024. With the theme “One Apostolic Church, One Family & One Future,” the celebration encapsulated the essence of unity, faith, and progress that have guided the church’s journey over the past five decades.

In this grand celebration Rt. Revd Anthony Poggo, the Secretary General of the Anglican Communion was present as the Chief Guest.

Bishop Poggo said in the welcome address of the chief guest- “As a Church you have emphasized on preaching the word of God and meeting the physical and spiritual needs of people. Your missional vision and the challenges you face, such as fighting climate change, are an example to many. As you celebrate fifty years of the Church of





The 50th Anniversary of the Church of Bangladesh

Bangladesh, and look forward to the next 50 years, it is my sincere hope and prayer that the Church may follow God's call to serve as a light in the society God has placed."

The honorable moderator of the Church of Bangladesh, Most Rev. Samuel S. Mankhin says-



"As we celebrate half century of our Church in faith and service, let us renew ourselves to the themes that have guided our journey – 'One Apostolic Church, One Family and One Future'. These are not just words but principles that inspire our ten ministries to serve as beacons of hope in the world."

He said, 'We are gathered not just in a building, but in a monument that has witnessed two centuries of history, endured through times of change, and has been a steadfast symbol of our enduring faith. From its early days under the auspices of the Church of Pakistan to becoming a vibrant part of the Church of Bangladesh following our nation's independence, this cathedral has been a witness to our collective journey.'

International delegations including mission partners were present as special guests at the anniversary celebration. From the mission partners; Dr. Sudipta Singh- Deputy General Secretary Programme, CWM, The Rt. Revd. Sameer Issac Khimla- Bishop of The Diocese of Durgapur, Revd. Davidson Solanki- Regional Manager for Asia and the Middle East, USPG, Nadia Sanchez- Regional Programme Coordinator: Asia, ME, Europe, and Oceania, USPG, Sheila Norris- Partnership Coordinator for Asia and the Pacific, The Connexional Team, MCGB, Mrs. Dipti Pender- General Secretary, The Oxford Mission, UK, Rev. Sam Britto Francis- Director for CSI Dalit & Adivasi Concerns Department, Mr. Raja Moses- Medical Manager, Diocese of Durgapur, CNI and CoBs Former Moderator Rt Revd Paul S Sarkar were present.

Among the institutions and inter-denomination representatives, Mr. Leor P. Sarker- GS, BBCF, Mr. Nirmol Rozario- President, Christian Kollyan Trust, Mr. Jayonta Adhikary- Former President of BBCS, & ED-CCDB, Major Genendra Baroi- Salvation Army, Mrs. Juliet Keya Malakar- ED-CCDB were present.

A special Lord's Feast worship is held at 8 am on this day.

The main festival starts at 10.30 am with national anthem and release of Pigion. Later the guests were welcomed with the festival theme song, flower greetings and dance. After that, the history, mission, vision, values & various activities of the 10 ministries of the Church of Bangladesh were presented through a documentary film.

After the documentary video screening, mission partners and special guests praised the Church of Bangladesh's evangelical, multifaceted humanitarian service activities. Many of them said that they would not have known that the humanitarian and mission activities of the Church of Bangladesh are so extensive if they did not attend this jubilee event.

Notable parts of the speeches of the chief guest and others:

Honorable Bishop of the Anglican Communion, Chief Guest Anthony Poggo said, "It feels good to be here for the first time. You are not only 50 years old, but you have a rich heritage of 200 years. I congratulate you on behalf of my colleagues and myself." He also said- "You are 1 of the 42 provinces of the Anglican Communion; And you are very important. Your motto is – "One Apostolic Church, One Family & One Future." This is very important, because we are one, so the unity of our different Churches is important. You are an example of this unity."

He also said- "You are providing the external and spiritual needs of the people of this country according to the ability, which is really commendable. You are striving for financial stability, because you are no longer young but 50 years old, which is truly commendable." Finally he said, "Remember, when God wants something done, He provides it. My prayer will be to move forward for another 50 years and work for the welfare of people as called by God."



Deputy General Secretary (Programme) Dr. Sudipta Singh said, "You are 1 of the 32 owners of CWM; Because CWM runs on the decisions of these 32 members." Congratulating CoB, he said, "We are happy to be part of you. As you celebrate this Jubilee, I pray that it will receive a true outpouring of the Holy Spirit, that you may act against all injustice. CWM will be with you on this journey."



The 50th Anniversary of the Church of Bangladesh



Honorable Bishop Sameer Khimla of Durgapur Diocese of India gave his greetings and said – “It is true that this is a good time to thank God, because He has given long 50 years in the life of the Church of Bangladesh and will give time to go further. This is the moment to look back and see what God has said and what God wants for the future.”

USPG’s Regional Manager for Asia and Middle East Rev. Davidson Solanki said, “On behalf of the Secretary General of the USPG, I congratulate you all on this great occasion. It is our honor to be a part of this jubilee celebration with



On behalf of Operation AGRI-UK Mr. Jeremy Paul Clewett greeting everyone and thanking God said, “I am very happy to come to this jubilee of the Church of Bangladesh, We are proud to work through Church of Bangladesh with CMCY; May God help you to move forward.”



you.” He was accompanied by Nadia Sanchez, (Regional Program Coordinator- Asia, Middle East, Europe and Oceania). They handed over a memento to the honorable moderator. Miss Nadia said, USPG will be with your work.



General Secretary of Bangladesh Baptist Church Fellowship (BBF) Mr. Leor Protim Sarkar said, “I am surprised to know that the Church of Bangladesh is such an old and traditional church.” Congratulating and wishing everyone on behalf of the MICA Network and the United Church Forum, he said, “When I compare the Baptist Convention with the Church of Bangladesh, I see that the scope and capacity of your work in this country is much greater.”



Sheila Norris, on behalf of the President, Vice President and Secretary of the Methodist Church Great Britain, thanked God and said, “...He has given these fifty years that you may go forward with this joy.”



Former president of Bangladesh Baptist Church Sangha and former director of CCDB Mr. Jayanta Adhikari said- “I feel good about your theme and coming here. ...Truly now is the time for all to come together in a place of love and unity.”



The 50th Anniversary of the Church of Bangladesh



President of Christian Kalyan Trust Mr. Nirmal Rozario Congratulating on behalf of the Trust, He said, “It is a good time to look back and move forward.”



Former Moderator of the Church of Bangladesh, Bishop Paul Shishir Sarkar, thanked everyone involved in organizing this jubilee and said, “Every jubilee renews us and teaches us what to hold on to and what to let go of. He added, “The church needs to learn how we shall give.”



After that, various mission partners and special guests of the Church of Bangladesh were awarded mementos. Additionally, a number of mission partners extend greetings to the Church of Bangladesh as a symbol of love and friendship on behalf of their organizations.

At one point during the event, all the guests revealed the history book of the Church of Bangladesh. Rt Revd. Hemen Halder put together the history of the Church of Bangladesh for the very first time.

The Church of Bangladesh in its long journey has served those who have served with sincerity in various ways, day by day as a result of whose services the Church of Bangladesh has turned into a prestigious church today- on this joyous jubilee day, the church remembers them with gratitude for their dedicated service. Award plaque as recognition.

Celebrating the 50th Golden Jubilee is indeed a significant milestone, and it’s wonderful to hear that partners also extended their greetings for the occasion.



It is to be noted that it has been 50 years since the declaration of the United Church Bangladesh as a fully autonomous and independent church on the territory of this country, which was announced on 30th April 1974. Currently there are about 22,000 believers in 119 parishes, 121 priests & Catechists, seven deaneries and One city pastorate under three dioceses, almost half of whom are from the Garo, Santal, Marma and Chakma ethnic groups of the country.



200th Anniversary of St. Thomas' Cathedral

St. Thomas Cathedral continues to dominate the skyline of old Dhaka, evoking a sense of deep harmony, pride and spiritual resilience. It is the center of the Anglican Church of Bangladesh, which has pride and tradition.



On March 2, 2024, the bicentenary of St. Thomas Cathedral was celebrated with a grand celebration at St. Thomas Cathedral Compound at 54, Johnson Road. The theme of the festival was, Celebrating 200 years of St. Thomas Cathedral with Gratitude To GOD.

As the chief guest of the anniversary celebration, Honorable Cardinal, Patrick D. Rozario. "Thanks be to God for the rich

grace with which you have been blessed in union with Christ Jesus, for the testimony that has been preached to you about Christ, thanks to God." Referring to this saying of Saint Paul, he said in the speech of the chief guest- "I came here today and understood this sentence. I am here to express solidarity. For the past two hundred years you have borne witness for Christ in this country, for this I praise God. I am truly proud to lead the spiritual unity of



The 200th Anniversary of St. Thomas' Cathedral

the Church of Bangladesh. Christ wants us churches to be united. Although it is not easy, but this is our hope and our efforts in this regard." He sincerely thanked everyone and said, "The Catholic Church and the Anglican Communion have been in fellowship since the beginning and have been campaigning in this country with the same goal, and are still working together. Finally, he said, "Bishop Mondal used to say, 'Church of Bangladesh is engaged in bridging the distance between other churches in this country.'" Which inspired me. Church of Bangladesh is moving towards that goal. God help you."



In the greeting speech of the president of the historical bicentennial festival, the Moderator, The Most Revd. Samuel Sunil Mankhin said, "We are gathered not just in a building, but in a monument that has witnessed two centuries of diverse changes and history and is a steadfast symbol of our enduring faith. From its early days under the patronage of the Church of Pakistan to becoming a vibrant part of the Church of Bangladesh after our country's independence, this cathedral has witnessed our collective journey."

In this grand festival, Cardinal Bishop Patrick D' Rozario of the Catholic Church, representatives of foreign partners, representatives of different churches, priests, retired bishops and distinguished guests enjoyed the overall celebration and extended their blessed greetings.

Bishop Poggo said, "I am very happy to be present at this beautiful celebration. This celebration is showing the unity of all of us, but if we can be united with the body of Christ then that will be the main thing. It is very important to stick together as a small community in this country." He further



said, "The cathedral is just a brick and stone structure, but the main aim of the church is unity, love and harmony among all. Keep serving the people of CoB the way you are serving, so that God is glorified."

Mrs. Dipti Pender, General Secretary- Oxford Mission- UK expressed her gratitude for the invitation to this anniversary celebration and said – "This is a milestone programme, and



it is great to see you all here on this occasion." She shares her fond memories of this church. She further said, "Oxford Mission has been involved with the Church of Bangladesh since its inception, is still there and will continue to be in the future. The activities of the Oxford Mission will continue under the umbrella of the Church of Bangladesh in this country."

Former Moderator Bishop Michael S. Barai recalled, "Just before my retirement the roof of this cathedral was about to collapse. With the advice of my friend Cardinal Bishop Patrick D' Rozario and the proper supervision of the contractor appointed by him, God's blessing and Dr. Leslie Morgan and his wife Dr. Cynthia Morgan's efforts raised the necessary funds and renovated it." He thanked all the managers including the present Moderator for organizing the event.



On this day, the bicentenary festival started with the feast of the Holy Lord at 8 o'clock in the morning. The Holy Lord's Supper was conducted by the Honorable the Moderator, The Most Revd. Samuel Sunil Mankhin. He was assisted by the Rt. Rev. Shourabh Pholia and Rt. Rev. Hemen Halder. Rt. Rev. Anthony Poggo, Secretary General of Anglican Communion along with representatives of mission partners, all retired bishops of CoB, inter-faith representatives, all priests of CoB



The 200th Anniversary of St. Thomas' Cathedral

and distinguished guests participated in the liturgy.

Notably, St. Thomas's Cathedral, a landmark building in Gothic style with a clock by the historic Big Ben Company, stands on the northern side of Bahadurshah Park at 54 Johnson Road in Old Dhaka. The construction of this church began in 1819, and was inaugurated on 10 July 1824.

A short publication and a documentary film were showcased at St. Thomas' Cathedral to commemorate its bicentenary. As the audience watched the film, they were transported through the past two hundred years. Additionally, a delightful cultural program featuring dance and song added to the visual appeal and interest of the event.

The bicentenary celebrations showcased vibrant cultural performances by the Bengali, Santali, and Garo tribes.





Spiritual revival meeting was held in each deanery

Every year, the Church of Bangladesh (CoB) hosts spiritual revival meetings in each of its seven deaneries during the months of January and February. Each deanery is assigned a distinct position, with bishops from dioceses serving as keynote speakers at these annual spiritual prayer gatherings. Devotees of Christ, hailing from places as distant as Parish, attend these religious assemblies, often journeying on foot.

A particularly notable feature of these meetings is the 'healing worship' session. During this time, believers from all faiths converge to offer their vows, express gratitude, and seek divine healing. They fervently beseech God the Father for forgiveness of their transgressions. People hailing from diverse religious backgrounds and communities actively partake in this healing ceremony. Over the years, the spiritual congregation of the Church of Bangladesh has evolved into a universal spiritual assembly. This gathering has become a cherished tradition of the Church of Bangladesh for the past 150 years.

It's worth mentioning that within the seven deaneries, separate religious councils are convened with distinct focuses. Bengali, indigenous Garo, and Santal believers organize Christian religious gatherings following their respective traditions and cultural practices.

It is noted that, the 114th revival meeting of Haluaghat and Madhupur deaneries took place from February 8-11 at Haluaghat Saint Andrew's Mission. This year's theme, inspired by John 21:15-17, emphasized Jesus' repeated

question to Peter: "Do you love me?... feed my sheep." The Most Revd. Samuel Sunil Mankhin as Moderator & Bishop of Dhaka Diocese delivered the speeches.

On the evening of February 8th, the revival meeting grounds echoed with the harmonious beats of drums and cymbals from every parish. The Moderator, The Most Revd. Samuel Sunil Mankhin led the kirtan encircling the revival meeting ground.

From February 21st to 22nd, the largest spiritual revival meeting of Bollovepur Deanery was held at Emmanuel Church in Bollovepur, known as "Dhannyabudhbar shava." Approximately 10,000 people participated in the event.

The 108th revival meeting of Jobarpar Deanery convened at the Holy Name Church in Shuagram from February 22nd to 25th. The main theme was "Love and grow in love" - Ephesians 3:17. Rt Revd Shourabh Pholia, Deputy Moderator and Bishop of Barishal Diocese, delivered the speeches.

From February 23-25, 2024, the 66th Hemel spiritual revival meeting gathered Christians from across Rajshahi Deanery at the St. Barnabas Church, Paitapukur. The theme was, "Lord, when I get you, I receive everything." (Matthew 6:33). Rt Revd. Hemen Halder, the Honorable Bishop of Kushtia Diocese, preached on the main theme.

The Holly Confirmation ceremony is conducted amidst the attendance of thousands of Christian devotees during the spiritual gatherings of each deanery.

Celebrating 50 Years of Community and Faith.

Mission Partners Visit Experience the Vibrancy of the Church of Bangladesh



In celebration of the Church of Bangladesh's significant 50th anniversary, a select group of mission partners embarked on a journey to witness the Church's expansive community work. Some of this delegation, comprising The Rev'd Davidson Solanki from USPG, Nadia Sanchez, Sheila Norris, delved into the heart of the Church's service and faith.

Their travels connected them with a multitude of ethnic and tribal communities, receiving a hospitable embrace at every turn. Highlights from their trip included the



vibrant Garo dance at St. Thomas Church in Idilpur, signifying a joyous welcome. The team's visit to Idilpur's Community Health Care Clinic and the Women's Fellowship Bible Study at St. Thomas Church underscored the Church's focus on health and spiritual well-being.

The delegation's itinerary also featured engagements with the promising youth at the Boys and Girls Hostel and Thanairbad Primary School in Idilpur. They continued to Haluaghat, Barujani, Panihata, and the Christian Mission Hospital Rajshahi Nursing Institute, where the spirited welcomes were testament to the community's respect and appreciation for the Church's efforts.

A culturally enriching experience awaited them at Paitapukur Church, home to the Santali ethnic group. Additional visits to significant Church sites such as St. John's Cathedral in Kushtia Diocese, Kushtia Mission High School, and St. Andrew's Theological College in Dhaka



offered deeper insight into the Church's role in education and community support. The report further includes the mission partners' visits to Banlavpur Hospital and Ballavpur Deanery, which further demonstrated the Church's integral contribution to the community's health and spiritual welfare.

Mr. Jerry Clewett from the Operation Agri- UK visited the slum area to observe the real life of the beneficiaries. On March 6, 2024; Mr. Jerry left Bangladesh for Nepal. CMCY is extremely thankful to his kind visit in Bangladesh and also generous support and blessings for CMCY to run a slum-girls' development program at Pallabi, Mirpur 12 in Bangladesh.





Meeting with Anglican Alliance

Reverend Canon Rachel Carnegie, Executive Director of the Anglican Alliance, had the wonderful opportunity to visit Bangladesh from March 7th to 10th, 2024. On March 8th at 10 am, representatives including COB Program Director Mr. Suvojit Mandal, Acting Director of Shalom Mr. Senoy Sarkar, Advocacy and Documentation Officer Mr. Jones Loton Roy and Promoshom Nokrek met with Rachel Carnegie on behalf of Bishop Samuel S. Mankhin, Honorable Moderator of the Church of Bangladesh. They presented a gift bag and documentation for the 50th anniversary of the church and the 200th anniversary of St. Thomas Cathedral on behalf of the Moderator.

Revd. Rachel Carnegie, was very excited to see the documentation of the remarkable celebration but deeply regretted not being able to rearrange her schedule to participate in the Anniversary Programs of the Church of Bangladesh. During the meeting, Mr. Suvojit Mondol presented a comprehensive overview of the Church of Bangladesh and its ten ministries, while Mr. Senoy Sarkar elaborated on Shalom and its seven thematic areas. Revd. Rachel Carnegie, also shared insights about the Anglican Alliance and its major networking and activities.

Following the presentations, there was a quality discussion aimed at strengthening bonds and gaining deeper insights into each other's diverse missions across various sectors, serving the members and wider society. It was observed that there were shared interests and collaborative efforts on similar issues affecting respective communities.

We agreed to explore the possibility of Shalom attaining membership with Act Alliance. Revd. Carnegie will help Shalom to get the membership of the Act Alliance.

We agreed to work for Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation. Revd. Carnegie shared about the Communion

Forest, renewing the life of the earth across the ANGLICAN COMMUNION.

The Church of Bangladesh and Shalom is implementing projects about the Disaster Risk Reduction, Preparedness, Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation and planting thousands of trees in the community in every year. Moreover, Shalom has introduced jute bags, eco friendly stoves, Climate Resilient cultivation, Rivers Osmosis Plant for the community peoples.



Anglican Alliance is the development organization of Anglican Communion and Shalom is the development organization of Church of Bangladesh. Our Moderator is a one of Primate of Anglican Communion, we hope we can work together in this act of hope, love, and healing for the most vulnerable people in the beautiful earth.

At the end of the meeting, Revd. Carnegie presented a symbolic photo depicting the last supper of Jesus Christ as a token of love from the Anglican Alliance to the Moderator of the Church of Bangladesh.