

*"Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest".
Matthew 11:28*

Dear Friends,

Our Lord has always been faithful to His children. He has always taken care of their needs and His words always provide strength for us to survive in any situation of the world.

In chaotic situations like the current times, the author of the above verse gives us Hope. Hope to cling unto the words of the Lord. As faithfuls of the Lord we have to share this Hope with people who have nothing.

Trusting in the Lord and as per His command, the Diocese of Barrackpore in the Months of the lockdown strive to do so and even as I write this continue reaching out to the unreached.

So far God has taken care of all of us, He will further it too.

Please keep praying for humanity in the world around, for our Country, for our universal church and above all for our leaders, elders, widows, children, women and youth.

With all blessings,
Yours in His service,

The Rt. Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning,
Moderator's Episcopal Commissary, Diocese of Barrackpore, CNI

DEDICATION OF THE NEW CHURCH BUILDING ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, SONARPUR, DIOCESE OF BARRACKPORE, CNI

On 5th July, 2020 The Rt. Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Bishop of Calcutta and Moderator's Episcopal Commissary, Diocese of Barrackpore, CNI blessed and dedicated the new Church building of St. Stephen's Church, Sonarpur, Diocese of Barrackpore, CNI in a dedication worship service.

Early Last year in 17th March, 2019, Bishop Paritosh Canning laid the foundation stone for the new Church building. Bishop Paritosh Canning, allotted the land held by the Barrackpore Diocesan Trust Association. The land had been vacant for many years and was used as dumping ground for kitchen and other waste by people in the locality. Bishop Paritosh Canning also made available funds for the construction of a single floor structure with a temporary roof.

For over 20 years, the Church grew from house prayer fellowship to holding worship service in various locations.

Today St. Stephen's Church has its own Church Building. Rev. Miran Kumar Mandal, Vice-President; Rev. David Roy, Hony Secretary; Mr. Biswarup Mondal, Hony. Treasurer; Executive Committee Members, Diocese of Barrackpore; Rev. Shyamal Pramanik, Presbyter-in-Charge and Mr. Manjur Halder, Hony. Secretary of Canning Pastorate, Clergy Congregation and well wishers joined to celebrate this joyous occasion. Mr. Asit Samuel, friend of the Diocese who helped in drafting out the necessary proposal and ensured the timely disbursement of the required funds was also present.

The programme started with the ceremony of lighting the lamp by Bishop Paritosh Canning, Office Bearers and dignitaries present, followed by the felicitation and unveiling of the plaque to commemorate the dedication of the new Church building. Bishop Paritosh Canning, preached the Word of God. In the beginning he thanked Mr. Asit Samuel for his sincere efforts and for making it possible to dedicate the new Church building after a span of many years in the Diocese of Barrackpore. It was his prayer that whoever enters the doors of St. Stephen's Church, Sonarpur may experience Christ's love and find peace.

After the programme in the Church, Bishop Paritosh Canning inaugurated the ISC section of St. Stephen's School, Sonarpur.



DIOCESE OF BARRACKPORE, CNI RESPOND TO COVID-19 INDUCED LOCKDOWN AND CYCLONE AMPHAN

Since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Church of North India has been doing its part in reaching out to the poor and needy.

With many factories, businesses, shops, schools, and commercial activities closed; millions of people have become jobless overnight. The lockdown has been particularly hard on poor migrants and daily wage earners, many of them with families and children. Thousands were suddenly left stranded on the road without money, food and transport to return home. With the uncertainty looming during extended lockdown in many parts in West Bengal and business not opening to its full capacity, the ordeal continues.

Bishop Paritosh Canning is at the helm of all relief work in the Diocese. He has been making regular visits to the Churches and Institutions in the Diocese of Barrackpore, CNI and distributing dry rations. He has been encouraging the Pastorates in the Diocese to do likewise whenever possible, and to organise the outreach programmes in collaboration with local authorities and officials while maintaining with social distancing norms.



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Diocese of Barrackpore, CNI Respond to COVID-19 Lockdown and Cyclone Amphan

On 20th May cyclone Amphan wreaked havoc in the State of West Bengal, Bishop Paritosh Canning visited affected sites and received reports of the damage caused by cyclone Amphan to the Church property (mainly the roof) in the Diocese of Barrackpore, CNI. He gave assurance that he would do all he could to reach out to friends to raise funds for the necessary repairs and restoration.



RISE AND SHINE! Remedios Makes us Proud

It is with great joy we wish to inform all of you that our very own Remedios Fernandes, member of St. Peter's Church, Baruipur Pastorate, Diocese of Barrackpore, CNI has made us proud on his appointment in West Bengal Audit and Accounts Department after he was recommended by the Public Service Commission, West Bengal on the basis of the results of West Bengal Audit and Accounts Service Examination, 2017. The Rt. Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning had taken over the responsibility as Bishop of Barrackpore, CNI in 2018 after he spotted this young man i.e. Remedios and encouraged him to join the coaching programme offered by CNI. On the recommendation of Bishop Paritosh Canning, Remedios was selected for the Coaching for Civil Services Examination at Vajiram and Ravi Institute in New Delhi. The programme is sponsored by the Synod of the Church of North India. The photograph below is of Remedios, taken outside his office building, i.e. Writers Building Kolkata on the first day of his joining.



Ramedios continues to support his Church and the Diocese while actively taking part in the outreach work in the present times related to COVID-19 and Cyclone Amphan. We wish him God's choicest blessings for the future.



Six hours of Cyclone Amphan's wrecking winds left Kolkata flooded and many structures damaged. Winds at 120 km/hour and heavy rain left a trail of devastation in Bengal. Pictures above are those of the Churches and Institutions in Diocese of Barrackpore, South 24 parganas. At the time, it seemed the impact of Amphan was worse than the coronavirus pandemic.

**HUMANITARIAN CALL
Youth of the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI**



On 3rd July, 2020 members of the Diocesan Youth Fellowship Committee, Diocese of Calcutta, CNI distributed dry rations to about 60 families living in Mograhat in the vicinity of St. Andrew's Church, Mograhat Pastorate, Diocese of Barrackpore, CNI. The youth and Rev. Ajoy. Kr. Sardar, presbyter-in-Charge; were actively involved and provided logistical support. The Youth were inspired by our dear Bishop of Calcutta, The Rt. Revd. Dr Paritosh Canning wwho organised a fundraiser to help victims of the Amphan Cyclone.