



SUBHAVNA

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE DIOCESE OF CALCUTTA, CNI



Diocese of Calcutta, CNI

FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY

June 2022

Dear Friends,

Greetings from the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI!

I am grateful to you for your continual prayers through this time as we continue to live in a time of considerable uncertainty. Especially as we are unable to say when our lives will return to normal as it was earlier.

The good news is, we continue to put our faith and trust in God as we work tirelessly in our Pastorates, our communities, and for each other.

I hope you enjoy this issue of my newsletter

Please continue to pray for me and my Diocese.

With blessings and prayers,

*The Rt. Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning,
Bishop of Calcutta, CNI*

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP SERVICE ON THE OCCASION OF THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE INSTALLATION OF THE RT. REVD. DR. PARITOSH CANNING AS THE 21ST BISHOP OF CALCUTTA, CNI AND HIS FOUR YEARS OF EPISCOPAL MINISTRY IN THE CHURCH OF NORTH INDIA

On the occasion of the Third Anniversary of the Installation and the Episcopal Ministry of The Rt. Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, as the 21st Bishop of Diocese of Calcutta, CNI and four years of his Episcopal Ministry in the Church of North India, a Service of Thanksgiving was organised at St. Paul's Cathedral, Kolkata on June 11, 2022 at 11 am. Present on the occasion were the Diocesan Clergy, Office Bearers, Heads of Institutions, DWFCs, DYFC and Sunday School Office Bearers, The Rt. Revd. Subrata Chakraborty, Bishop of Barrackpore, CNI and the Office Bearers of the Barrackpore Diocese were present on the occasion.



All gathered gave thanks to God for His goodness for the gift of Bishop Dr. Paritosh Canning as the Bishop of Calcutta, CNI. Especially as during these three years the Church has undergone significant and all-encompassing development and renewal after the Installation of Bishop Dr. Paritosh Canning.

On the occasion "Diocese of Calcutta: A Chronicle in Continuity" - a preview of the documentary film on the life of the Diocese of Calcutta, in journey with The Church of North India for 50 years, was showcased.

Mr. Jacob Abhinav Sarkar rendered a special song on the occasion.

The felicitation programme acknowledging the immense contribution of our Bishop in the Diocese of Calcutta and even beyond was conducted by Mr. John A. K. Ghosh, Hony. Secretary, Diocese of Calcutta, CNI on behalf of the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI.

The programme came to a close with fellowship and lunch at Bishop's House, 51, Chowringhee Road, Kolkata - 700 071. ■

CALCUTTA DIOCESAN STAFF MEET 2022

A NEW DAWN AWAITS US FROM TOMORROW
A DAWN WHICH COMES WITH NEW PROMISES AND HOPE



On 14th May, 2022 the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI organised the Diocesan Staff meet at St. James' School, 165, A.J. C. Bose Road, Kolkata - 700 014 under the leadership of The Rt. Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Bishop of Calcutta, CNI. It was an interactive session of the Clergy, Heads of Institutions, Teaching and Non-Teaching Staff of the Diocesan Educational Institutions with Bishop Dr. Paritosh Canning.

It was a landmark day for the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI coupled with a wonderful testimony of our Bishop Dr. Paritosh Canning expressing his ethos of compassion and care for the Calcutta Diocesan family who are employed in various Diocesan institutions and Churches in different capacities.

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Subhavna, June, 2022

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INTERNSHIP AT THE WORLD COMMUNION OF REFORMED CHURCHES, GERMANY

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him." Romans 8:28

Priyanka Gloria Gupta, a final year student of History at St. Stephen's College, Delhi and a member of St. Paul's Cathedral, Kolkata was selected as an intern at the World Communion of Reformed Churches, Germany.

Priyanka is thankful to God for His never-ending mercy and His grace that He has bestowed upon her by providing her a unique and wonderful opportunity.

In Priyanka's own words: "We are aware that God has ordained His ministers to be

the shepherd of the flock and one such

dynamic and ever-inspiring shepherd is our

Bishop of Calcutta Diocese, The Rt. Revd. Dr

Paritosh Canning. I would like to extend my

gratitude to him, as he has been the guiding

force who has vouched for me and supported

me at all steps during the application

process. It is through his motivation that I

gathered the courage to apply, and with my

abilities ensured a place within WCRC."

She also writes: "I am also extremely grateful

to Revd. Shailesh Dennis Lall, General

Secretary of The Church of North India for

very kindly and graciously endorsing my

application to WCRC. What made me

amazed is the fact that Rev. Lall did all that

was necessary within a very short time and

in the midst of a challenging atmosphere in

the CNI headquarters as COVID 19

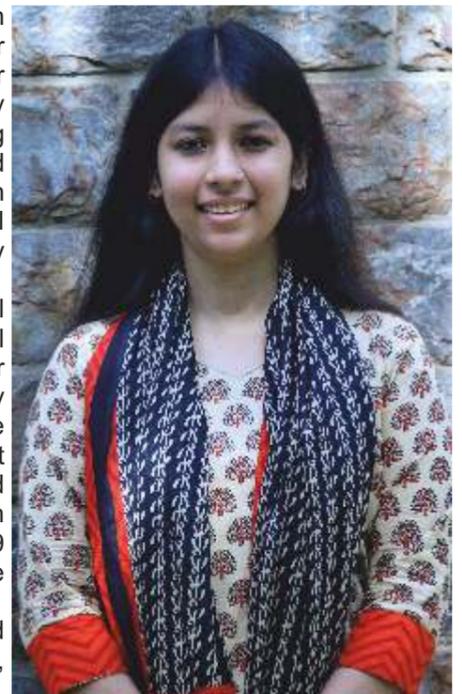
restrictions were in place and the staff were

working from home."

We wish Priyanka a very enriching and

fruitful time during her internship and beyond,

for the Glory of God. ■



BISHOP'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

On Monday, 30th May, 2022 the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI celebrated the birthday of The Rt. Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Bishop of Calcutta, CNI in a Thanksgiving Worship Service at St. Paul's Cathedral at 11 am. Clergy from the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI; Office-Bearers; Heads of Institutions and friends of the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI; The Rt. Revd. Subrata Chakraborty, Bishop of Barrackpore, CNI and the Office Bearers of the Barrackpore Diocese were present on the occasion. The worship service was conducted by Rev. Abir Adhikari, assisted by senior Presbyters of the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI for the Scripture readings and Intercessory Prayers.

In the second part of the Worship Service, Clergy and Heads of Institutions greeted Bishop Dr. Paritosh Canning and through a video presentation appreciated Bishop for all that he has done for the Diocese since the time he took over the reins of the Diocese as the Bishop of Calcutta, CNI.

The felicitation programme to acknowledge the contribution of our Bishop in the Diocese and beyond was conducted by Mr. John A. K. Ghosh, Hony. Secretary, Diocese of Calcutta, CNI on behalf of the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI

After the Worship Service all gathered for the fellowship lunch at Bishop's House.



INAUGURATION OF BISHOP CANNING SCHOOL OF MUSIC



On 8th April, 2022 The Rt. Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Bishop of Calcutta, CNI inaugurated Bishop Canning School of Music at Bishop's House, 51, Chowringhee Road, Kolkata 700 071. This initiative is the fulfilment of one more project that was proposed by Bishop Dr. Paritosh Canning and collectively passed at the Ordinary Session of the 50th Diocesan Council of Diocese of Calcutta, CNI held on 5th December, 2020.

Bishop Dr. Paritosh Canning said in his inaugural speech that music belongs to everyone, regardless of race, creed, age or status in life. Music speaks from the soul. It reaches out and expresses what words are unable to say. Whatever experiences a person may be going through, whether it is a heartbreak or unspeakable joy, can be expressed through music. A beautiful melody can bring tears to one's eyes. It is powerful enough to soften the hardest heart and heal the most painful memory. Music breaks barriers of time and space, provides comfort for the grieving, and calms the anxious mind. It is a special gift that everyone can share. Music has been around for as long as we have been around. It is unlike any other language because it is more of a feeling and yet it is acknowledged and completely appreciated for what it is. And it is truly a privilege for the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI to open its music school with one of its finest and most experienced teacher Mr. Sudeep Pande for members of the congregations in the Diocese to experience and benefit.

Over 155 candidates had enrolled for music lessons upto the day of inauguration and Bishop Dr. Paritosh Canning, requested Mr. Sudeep Pande the music teacher for organ, piano and vocals to work out and allocate days and timings for the all candidates.

As the days go by, the Music school will plan for certifications, form the Diocesan Choir and hold concerts. ■

OXFORD MISSION BOYS' EXCURSION 2022



On 30th April, 2022, Oxford Mission Boys who had successfully completed the class XII board Examinations were taken on an excursion to Science City and Nicco Park. The Rt. Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning believes motivation is a key to make children do better in life. The outing was one way of saying them-"well done." These boys will now go for suitable vocational training to equip them to get jobs and settle down in life. ■

IFTAR PARTY



On 18th April, 2022 the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI hosted an Iftar Party for the Clergy, Heads of Institutions and friends of the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI. The Rt. Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Bishop of Calcutta, CNI always honours and respects people of other faith. He involves the Diocese in his interaction with leaders of all faith communities and joins with them in their festivals and celebrations in the true spirit of unity in diversity. ■

EASTER CONCERT

On 24th April, 2020 the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI organised the Easter Concert at St. Paul's Cathedral grounds from 6:00pm onwards. It was a musical programme to celebrate the Risen Lord Jesus Christ. Lined up was a series of Gospel songs, both contemporary and classical, that strive to resonate our individual experiences with the divine quenching our spiritual hunger and thirst.

It was part of the vision 2025 of our Bishop, The Rt. Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Bishop of Calcutta, CNI. In his opening address Bishop said that it was his vision that the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI endeavour to establish itself as an Evangelical Church, sharing the love of Jesus Christ with all people.

Performing Artists:

Usha Uthup; Sidhu of Cactus fame; Dayanidhi Rao- popular international Gospel singer, Shayne David Hyrapiet hearth-throb of the Youth; Jacob Sarkar and Teresa Ali from the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI enthralled all with their soulful rendition. ■



VISIT OF MEMBERS FROM THE DIOCESE OF EASTERN HIMALAYA, CNI (PLAINS AND HILLS REGION) TO THE DIOCESE OF CALCUTTA, CNI

From 3rd March, 2022 to 6th March, 2022, 12 Pastors, 9 Deacons and one Office Assistant from the Diocese of Eastern Himalaya, CNI (Plains Region) were in Kolkata for an exposure visit to the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI. The arrangements for their boarding and lodging was made at Bishop's Inn.

The Rt. Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Bishop of the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI and Moderator's Episcopal Commissary for the Diocese of Eastern Himalaya, CNI was of the view that the Clergy come and be witnesses of the life and work of the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI.

On the 3rd after breakfast the team visited the Diocesan Board of Social Service Project at Kulberia, near Krishnapur. Cathedral Relief Service is supporting the tailoring school in Kulberia. Here they got an idea of how the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI is engaged with the local community of all ages, with special emphasis on children and women, training young men and women in organic farming and tailoring thus empowering them to be self-reliant which is conducive to their growth and transforming them into socially productive citizens with a strong and positive outlook. In the evening, Clergy, Office Bearers, Executive Committee Members and Head of the Institutions from the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI interacted with the members from the Diocese of Eastern Himalaya, CNI(Plains Region) and joined in a time of fellowship followed by dinner at Bishop's Lawn in the premises of Bishop's House.

On 4th Bishop Dr. Paritosh Canning interacted with the visitors, conducted a Bible study, discussed the present situation in the Diocese of Eastern Himalaya, CNI (Plains Region) and shared his vision for the Diocese as the Moderator's Episcopal Commissary.



On 5th the team participated in a seminar at St. Luke's Church, Bosekati, That was conducted by the Women's Fellowship. Mrs. Snigdha Gain, Principal of St. John's Diocesan Girls' H.S. School was the key speaker. Bishop Dr. Paritosh Canning delivered the inaugural address. The women of St. Luke's Church, Bosekati, Clergy from the Diocese and members of the Diocesan Women's Fellowship participated in the programme. In the evening the Clergy, Office Bearers of the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI and the visitors got together for a time of fellowship, followed by dinner at St. John's Diocesan Girls' H.S. School.

On Sunday 6th after lunch the group headed back to the Diocese rejuvenated, while celebrating the privilege of being welcomed, loved and cared for in the days spent here in the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI expressing their willingness and eagerness to learn in the spirit of mutual growth and sharing.

From 28th June, 2022 to 30th June, 2022, 22 Pastors from the Diocese of Eastern Himalaya, CNI (Hills Region) were in Kolkata for a similar exposure visit to the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI. ■



DIOCESE OF EASTERN HIMALAYA, CNI CONFIRMATION SERVICE

On 3rd April, 2022 The Rt. Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning conducted the Confirmation Service at Macfarlane Memorial Church, Kalimpong Pastorate, Diocese of Eastern Himalaya, CNI. 88 candidates were confirmed in all, from neighbouring Pastorates- Nimbong, Gltadubing, Algarah, Pedong and Mangwa, along with the Kalimpong Pastorate.

Bishop Dr. Paritosh Canning greeted the candidates and said to them-"By the Sacrament of Baptism we are all made one in the Body of Christ. We receive the gift of the Holy Spirit to enable us to live as the people of God and to serve God's purpose. In Baptism God says 'Yes' to us. Today, in response to the call of Christ and the leading of the Holy Spirit, you have come to affirm your Baptism, to say 'Yes' to God, to make your own proclamation of faith in Jesus Christ, and to be received into the full privileges and responsibilities of membership of Christ's Church. By confirmation you are promised of the strengthening of the Holy Spirit to be a disciple of Christ."

Rev. Samuel Lepcha, Presbyterian In-charge and Mr. Palden Lepcha, Hony. Secretary, Kalimpong Pastorate Committee extended all their cooperation and with the help from the Diocese made all arrangements to make the Confirmation Service a meaningful experience for the candidates.

The Bishop celebrated the Eucharist and preached the Word of God at the Worship Service. The Worship service concluded with a time of fellowship and lunch for all gathered. ■



DIOCESE OF CALCUTTA, CNI CONFIRMATION SERVICE

On 9th April, 2022 the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Kolkata was host to the Confirmation of 83 candidates from English, Bengali, Santhali, Tamil, Hindi and Nepali speaking Congregations. It was a joyous occasion for the candidates, their families and friends.



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The Rt Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Bishop of Calcutta energetically engaged the candidates before and during the service. His message centered on the Joyful sharing of God's love with all people. Bishop urged the candidates to look beyond the gift of membership that comes packaged with confirmation and play an active role in the Church and be witnesses and disciples of Christ. This is much more than just telling others about Christ. That is definitely part of it, but more than that is "being" a witness for Him. The best way to teach others about Christ is to instil in them a desire to have Jesus in their own lives is to live a consistent, loving and dedicated Christ-centred life. The service was well attended. ■

PALM SUNDAY IN SERAMPORE JOHN NAGAR BAPTIST CHURCH (CNI)



On 10th April 2022 Palm Sunday was observed with special prayers in Churches in the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI. Members of Serampore John Nagar Baptist Church (CNI) took to the streets in processions holding palm leaves - to commemorate the triumphal entry of Jesus with His disciples into Jerusalem before His crucifixion. The Church was beautifully decorated with Palm leaves. Revd. Anup Mondal, Presbyter-in-Charge welcomed and felicitated the The Rt. Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Bishop of Calcutta, CNI and remarked that visit of their Bishop always brings joy to the congregation. The Rt. Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Bishop of Calcutta, CNI led the worship service. He preached about when Lord Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time people over there laid down their clothes and in the same manner, we must offer ourselves to God. After the Worship there was a time of tea and fellowship. ■

GOOD FRIDAY IN THE DIOCESE OF CALCUTTA, CNI

On 15th April 2022 Good Friday was observed across the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI with special prayers in all the Churches. As it is the custom in the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI the Worship Services take place from noon to 3 pm, believed to be the hours Jesus spent nailed to the cross. He spoke seven times, and these memorable utterances from the cross have come to be known as "The Seven Words". They were His last words from the Cross. In seven brief utterances Jesus proclaimed the most profound sermon that has ever been preached, a beautiful synopsis of the Gospel. Clergy and Laity take turns to meditate on these last sayings. At times all the Seven Words are meditated upon by the presbyter-in-charge. The Rt. Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Bishop of Calcutta, CNI makes it a point to meditate on at least two Words every year. This year, the Bishop was present at Union Chapel and St. Peter's Church. In both the places, Bishop Dr. Paritosh Canning preached on a common theme saying that Good Friday is considered Holy because on this day, out of His love for everyone, Jesus Christ gave His life as a sacrifice while suffering for the sins of all people.



After the 3 hours' devotion, all gathered partook in light refreshments and spent time in fellowship with one another.

EASTER 2022



On Sunday 17th April, 2022, The Rt. Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Bishop of Calcutta, CNI conducted the Sunrise Worship Service at Church of the Epiphany, Thakurpukur followed by the Easter Worship Service at St. Paul's Cathedral. In the afternoon, Bishop flagged off the Easter Rally organised by the United Christians of Calcutta from St. Paul's Cathedral which culminated in a joint Worship at St. James' School ground.





Bishop Dr. Paritosh Canning, shared his greetings and said **"Easter brings hope of a new beginning, that life is precious and enables us to overcome sorrow. People had been sad for the last two years and Easter brings new hope and promise of a renewed life in Jesus Christ."** ■

LA MARTINIERE OXFORD MISSION SCHOOL - 1ST DAY OF SCHOOL

On 19th April, 2022 La Martiniere Oxford Mission School made a fresh start after it reopened its gates for physical classes after the lockdown was relaxed. Parents along with their wards were invited to come, meet and interact with the school management, to reassure the parents about safety measures in place, to help protect students and teachers and remind children that they can also help prevent germs spreading by washing their hands with soap and coughing or sneezing into their elbow.

The Rt. Revd. Dr.Paritosh Canning, Chairman of the school management and Bishop of Calcutta reassured the parents that their wards were in safe hands, as the COVID-19 pandemic has caused major disruptions to daily life and children are feeling these changes deeply in the new normal.

Revd. SandipBisoi, Presbyter-in-Charge of St. Peter's Church, said the opening prayers. Mr.RaghabNaik, Secretary of Oxford Mission Trust Association greeted the parents. Mr.Sourabh George Singh, the newly appointed Principal of the



School, shared his vast experience as Principal of major city schools and invited the parents to come to him directly, to share their worries and concern of their wards, assuring that he will provide a workable solution.

The Oxford Mission Boys, who were once students of St. Joseph's School have now been admitted into the La Martiniere Oxford Mission School for quality education under the leadership of Bishop Dr.Paritosh Canning. The Oxford Mission orchestra performed in string instruments showcasing their talents.

Bishop Dr.Paritosh Canning said that the school will also have music classes in the syllabus adding that La Martiniere Oxford Mission School will teach strings to students. In addition to the string classes and rehearsals, the students will receive basic musician skills to facilitate their ability to read, write, sing, and harmonize.

The string classes and rehearsals will be designed to teach strings in an enjoyable, active and stimulating environment under the guidance of the music teacher. After the programme there was a time for fellowship and tea. ■

87TH FOUNDATION DAY CELEBRATION,AGM AND ELECTION OF THE PASTORATE COMMITTEE

On 12th June 2022 St. George's Church celebrated the 87th foundation day in a thanksgiving worship service. The Rt. Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Bishop of Calcutta, CNI shared God's Word and blessed the congregation through his sermon. The celebrations came to a close with the cake cutting ceremony, led by Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning and Rev. Gouranga Halder, Presbyter-in-charge, St George's Church along with three retired Presbyters of the Diocese and two Monks from Ramakrishna Mission.



On 19th June, 2022 the congregation were blessed with the presence and the leadership of the Bishop Dr. Paritosh Canning at the AGM and election of the Church. In the short time that Bishop was present he inspired and uplifted the congregation to see the vision for the Church in accordance with the local needs and scenario and ethos of the Diocese.

The AGM and election concluded with a fellowship lunch.

Rev. Gouranga Halder,
Presbyter-in-charge



109TH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE SYNOD OF CHURCH OF NORTH INDIA



On 1st and 2nd June, 2022 the 109th Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Synod of the Church of North India was held in the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI at the Board Room of Bishop's House, 51, Chowringhee Road, Kolkata 700 071.

Most of the members of the Executive Committee arrived on 31st May, 2022, The Most Rt. Revd. Dr. Prem Chand Singh, Moderator; The Rt. Revd. Bijay Nayak, Deputy Moderator; The Revd Dennis Lall, General Secretary and Mr. Subrata Gorai, Treasurer, CNI Synod along with Mr. Suresh Jacob, Seniorsmost Member of the Executive Committee, CNI Synod and Mr. Joshua Rathnam, Chief Functionary and Secretary, CNI SBHS and Neha John, Archana Gabriel and Harinder from the CNI office in New Delhi arrived on 30th May to be part of the Birthday celebrations of The Rt. Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Bishop of Calcutta, CNI.



On 1st June, 2022 the meeting commenced with the Holy Communion in the Middleton Chapel at Bishop's House that was inaugurated on 30th June, 2022. The Most Revd. Dr. P. C. Singh, Moderator, CNI Synod was the celebrant and The Rt. Revd. B. K. Nayak, Deputy Moderator, CNI Synod was the Preacher.

This was followed by the group photograph of the members. After tea the meeting commenced.

In the evening the Diocese of Calcutta, felicitated all the members of the Executive Committee, CNI Synod and organised a cultural programme in their honour.

On the next day 2nd June, 2022 The Rt. Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Bishop of Calcutta, CNI was the celebrant and The Rt. Revd. Dr. Pinuel Dip was the Preacher for the Holy Communion. By lunch time the 109th EC Meeting concluded with the vote of thanks and special thanks to the Rt. Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Bishop of Calcutta, CNI. It was noted that the Bishop of Calcutta, CNI meticulously planned and prepared for the meeting into the minute detail. He also had the Board Room renovated in a manner with all modern amenities that the Executive Committee Members could conduct the business of the meeting with audio, visuals and in comfort.

Many of the guests were accommodated in the comfort of Bishop's Inn, the Calcutta Diocesan Guest House in the Bishop's House premises.

By 3rd June, 2022 all the members had returned or were on their way to their respective Dioceses.

It was a rare opportunity for the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI to host the 109th Meeting of the Executive Committee Meeting of the Synod of Church of North India for the very first time which will be cherished and go down in history. And this privilege was bestowed upon the Diocese only because of our dynamic Bishop Dr. Paritosh Canning as we give all glory to God and thank Him for giving us a Shepherd in the person of Bishop Dr. Paritosh Canning.



CALCUTTA DIOCESAN STAFF MEET 2022

A NEW DAWN AWAITS US FROM TOMORROW A DAWN WHICH COMES WITH NEW PROMISES AND HOPE



The Diocesan Staff Meet 2022, henceforth will be an annual event in the Diocesan Calendar, providing the Diocesan Staff with an excellent platform to interact and share their thoughts and also to infuse and instil within all the importance of prayer, discipline, self-assessment and evaluation for shaping the future of the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI.

We feel privileged and are obliged to Bishop Dr. Paritosh Canning for taking this great initiative which is in consonance with his Vision 2025 as well.

God has indeed blessed the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI with a compassionate and caring shepherd in The Rt. Revd. Dr. Paritosh Canning, Bishop of Calcutta, CNI.

The Teachers of St Thomas' Girls School, Khidderpore led in the opening worship hymn.

The programme concluded with a fellowship lunch.

