

# Dhanwar Newsletter

Monthly News Bulletin of Dhanwar Mission, C.G. India

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## School Chalo Abhiyan

In the constitution of India every child has been given fundamental rights to free and compulsory education. Keeping this in mind the *School Chalo Abhiyan* (Let's go to school campaign) was organized successfully by the school staff at Dhanwar to encourage maximum enrollment of the students in the school. The teaching staff of the school, in different groups went door to door with the *school chalo* slogan bringing awareness of education among the students and their parents as well. The *school chalo abhiyan* is a positive initiative by the school to visit the students at their doorsteps. It builds an intimate rapport between the staff and the students and helps the teachers to understand the students better without any judgment and prejudices. It was also a moment to wake up the students from their long slumber of summer vacation and to motivate them to come back to school again. It was also an occasion to make them realize that they have a future only through good schooling. Fr. Cyril the principal of the school led the whole *School Chalo Abhiyan*.

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### Welcome Newcomers

Dhanwar campus is happy to welcome new take carers of Dhanwar mission namely **Fr. Zacharias Kerketta** as new Superior and hostel superintendent, **Fr. Dilip Minj** as Dhanwar project coordinator and Brother **Sunil Kerketta** as an assistant to the hostel prefect and teacher in the school. Thanks to all outgoing staff for their dedicated service to the mission.

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### HAPPY BIRTHDAY JOSLINE

Sr. Josline is one of the pillars of Dhanwar Mission. People fondly call her Mother - that she is. She celebrated her 51 birthday on June 15. Children along with some guests joined Josline to thank God for her life and her Vocation. To show deep affection and love to mother Josline a small swagat was done after the mass.

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### All the Best Fr. Samir

on June 2 Fr. Samir bid farewell to Dhanwar and went to Kodaikanal - Tamilnadu for his religious (Tertainship) studies. The community organized a felicitation programme on June 1 in his honour. Representatives from Parish, school staff, co-workers, and students were invited for the programme in the evening.



Bro. Simon has a tremendous capacity to fight his sickness and physical weakness. He has got a strong will power to be healthy and that is the secret of his physical fitness and cheerfulness. His health has improved a lot. He has accepted his health complications positively and has learnt to live life happily.

He is staying in Namna infirmary with his friends. He misses Dhanwar very much but he is also aware that being at Dhanwar his health issues cannot be resolved. All his needs are well taken care of by Namna staff and fathers and sisters of Dhanwar.



Hathi - the pet elephant is rare in the village and when it appears, it becomes a blessing for the people because the elephant symbolizes the deity Ganesha in India. It was seen in the village a few weeks before and people flocked to see and touch him and take blessings from him.

## Educational Tour



As a token of encouragement and appreciation to the whole school staff for their unceasing services and dedication to the school children, the Principal planned a week study tour to Jabalpur and Bhopal from May 8 to 15. It was a wonderful experience of togetherness and collaboration for all the teachers of the school. This tour has expanded their horizons and boosted their spirit for better performance and outcomes.

## Summer Camp 2023

A 20-day summer camp on intensive spoken English and basic computer course was held at St. John Berchmans School Dhanwarkala from 01 to 20 May 2023. 133 students from 14 different schools took active part in the camp. 09 well qualified teachers from various backgrounds with vast experience with children guided the students during the camp. Most of them were from St. Xavier's English Medium School, Rajpur. The camp ended on 20 May with a mesmerizing and heart-touching moment. More than 90 parents came to see the closing ceremony of the camp. Dr. Pradeep Tiwari a medical officer from PHC Daura was invited as a chief guest of the programme. The camp was a memorable and unforgettable part of children's life with a collective and joyful learning experience. The school thanks all friends and collaborators, teachers and co-workers for their abiding support and guidance.



## Pilgrimage to Mainpath

To promote and propagate devotion to the Infant Jesus at Mainpath, the diocese of Ambikapur organizes a special prayer service every month and assigns different deanery of the dioceses to conduct the prayer. Wadrafnagar Deanery was the first one to take this opportunity. More than 80 faithful from different parishes of the deanery went to Mainpath on April 26 for the inauguration of this devotion. Dhanwar laity took the lead under the guidance of Fr. Bartho the parish priest in the inaugural liturgy.

## Bishop Visits Dhanwar



Rt. Rev. Fr. Anthony Bara the Bishop of Ambikapur diocese visited Dhanwar on 24 April. It was his first official visit to Dhanwar after his election as a Bishop of Ambikapur. The people of Dhanwar were blessed to have his presence amidst them and gave him a red carpet welcome. During his visit the bishop blessed 66 children with confirmation and 19 children took the first communion. The people of Dhanwar thank his lordship for his service and concern for Dhanwar.

## Mobile Health Clinic

The mobile health Clinic is being conducted regularly in different villages with the help of the village health workers and some health animators. Even though the summer heat is unbearable, the animators organize the health camp in the morning so that people can come without much problem with their health issues. During summer the mobile health clinic reached to maximum number of people in more than seven villages irrespective of caste and creed. Sr. Josline and Priyanka guided the whole mobile health clinic programme.

## The World Environment Day

The world environment day was observed with the villagers at Dhanwar. The RAHA animator Shri Ishwarlal, under the guidance of Sr. Josline the health care coordinator, organized the village programme in different villages and gathered the people for the event. The health care team spoke to the villagers about the environmental crisis and showed some ways to solve them at the local level. They also went around in the villages, shouting slogans with banners on their hands to bring environmental awareness among the people.



## New Mother - Sr. Shalini

It was a moment of great joy to have Sr. Shalini as the new mother superior of the Dhanwar community. She was appointed as a new superior of the Community by her general in April 2023. She succeeded Sr. Josline Ekka who was superior for more than a decade. As a token of installation of her superiorship a thanksgiving Holy Mass was arranged on April 10 and some important documents and keys were handed over to Sr. Shalini by Sr. Josline. Sr. Josline will now have more and enough time for Dhanwar project and health care service with greater focus and dedication.

## Final Vows of Fr. Bipin



Fr. Bipin along with his eleven Jesuit companions pronounced his final profession in the Society of Jesus in the

Chapel of Loyola House Kunkuri on 22 April 2023. With this final profession he becomes the full member of the Society of Jesus and commits himself to work under the holy obedience of the Roman Pontiff. Many Jesuit friends along with the family members were present for the final vows function to bless and to congratulate the fathers.

## Kodakus at the Jesuit Annual Gathering



The Pastoral Commission of the province who were the host of the annual Jesuit gathering invited different groups of people from their mission stations to show their cultural uniqueness. From Dhanwar Kodakus were invited to perform their traditional Sondo dance for the Jesuits at their gathering. It was to show how among various modern cultural practices the adivasis have kept up their traditional cultural practices because they know that the root of their existence lies in their cultural heritage. They practice it and teach it to their new generation.

## Skill Training Programme at RVTC

A short term skill training programme was conducted at Rural Vocational Training Centre Kerakachhar on various trades e.g. tailoring, computer learning, electrical mechanic and driving. Three students from Dhanwar were sent for light vehicle driving training in view of getting them into jobs. Their performance was excellent. They finished their training in two months and after the training the students are already engaged in driving job. After the training these students and others visited Dhanwar. They interacted with younger students and boosted up their spirit. They also reported their progress to their in-charge at Dhanwar.

## JOY OF SCHOOLING

After a long summer vacation the school reopened on 26 June for the new academic session 2023-24. Tremendous heat wave this year compelled the school department to extend the summer vacation and due to which the opening of the school was delayed. With the opening of the new academic session the children are flocking back to school again with a lot of hope and expectation, zeal, and enthusiasm. The Dhanwar campus is echoing again with the crying, yelling, and laughter of the children. The school campus is filled with life again. Education is the prime goal of the institution through which we want the students to reach the heights of all their unseen daydreams. We would like to thank all our friends, collaborators, benefactors and well-wishers for their constant help and guidance and invite to support us and our cause so that we are able to give wings to fulfill every dreams of our children.

