

Report of the Joint Session of North East India Regional Pastoral Conference

&

North East Regional Catholic Council - 2019

INTRODUCTION

The joint session of the North-East India Regional Pastoral Conference and NE Regional Catholic Council was held from 30th August to 1st September 2019 at Don Bosco Institute, Kharghuli, Guwahati, Assam. The theme of the conference was 'Responsible Youth Leadership for a better Church and Society'. There were a total of 206 participants who took part in the animation sessions.

INAUGURAL FUNCTION



The inaugural function commenced at 6.00 P.M. on 30th August with a Short Prayer service led by the MSMHC Hatigaon, Guwahati. Fr. G.P. Amalraj, the Deputy Secretary invited Most Rev. Dominic Jala, President, NEIRPC, Most Rev. John Thomas, Secretary, NEIRPC, Msgr. Patrick Saw Zay Han, First Secretary to the Apostolic Nunciature in India and Representative of the Apostolic Nuncio at the Conference, Sr. Mary Thadavanal MSMHC, CRI President for NE Region and Fr. Thomas C.A., President, DFNEI to light the Lamp which signified the presence of Jesus as the light and life. Soon after Sr.



Bernadeth Kropi MSMHC, Regional Secretary, NE Regional Youth Commission (NERYC) delivered the welcome address and invited Most Rev. Dominic Jala, Most Rev. John Thomas and Msgr. Patrick Saw Zay Han to the dais with traditional Assamese Shawl and Jappi.



Followed by the Theme Song “A Leader” was sung by the youth of Guwahati Archdiocese in order to set the tone to the conference.



It was followed by the release of the book ‘The Spiritual Dimension of Pastoral Ministry’, published by Oriens Theological college and released by Most Rev. Dominic Jala and the first copy handed over to Most Rev. John Moolachira, the Archbishop of Guwahati.

Most Rev. John Thomas, the Secretary of the Pastoral Conference and the Chairman of NERYC explained the dynamics of the conference and presented the theme to the august gathering.



Msgr. Patrick Saw Han expressed his joy to be part of the conference and wished the assembly all the success.



Most Rev. Dominic Jala, president of the conference delivered the presidential address and drew the attention of the participants on the teachings of '*Christus Vivit*'. He referred to the invitation of Pope Francis to the pastors to inspire and accompany the young people of today. With the general information

from Fr. P. D. Johny, Executive Director of DBI and a vote of thanks by the Deputy Secretary, the inaugural session came to an end.

The evening prayer was led by the junior sisters of MSMHC Generalate. And the day came to an end with the dinner.

MORNING SERVICE (DAY-2)



The second day of the conference began at 6.30 A.M. with Morning Prayers led by Sr. Deena Pulickachundayil CFMSS and her team which was followed by the Holy Eucharist.



Basing on the reading of the day, the main celebrant, Most Rev. Dominic Jala, in his homily recounted an incident of a young person to drive home the lesson that how a youth can excel in life while many others are

led to wrong directions. He emphasized the urgent need to bring the youth to Jesus with

compassion and love. The hymns sung by the students of Don Bosco Institute added more meaning and full participation of all.

ANIMATION SESSIONS



youth towards responsible leadership. He said that today the young people need mentors who take their dreams seriously and make them realize what they want. He emphasized that the youth should be listened to, taken seriously and make them trustworthy. The Second speaker Fr. Kuriakose

The first session started off with a prayer led by Sr. Jasmine CSN at 8.30am. And the session was moderated by Sr. Philomena Mathew, the Mother General of MSMHC. Fr. Jerry Thomas SDB presented the paper on 'Responsible youth Leadership for a better Church and Society'. He highlighted the need of moulding the



Poovathumkudy summarized the '*Christus Vivit*', the post synodal Apostolic Exhortation of Pope Francis under three major headings, viz., 1. Apostolic Teachings of Pope Francis, 2. Salient features and emerging themes in *Christus Vivit*, 3. A holistic approach to youth ministry. Keeping to the theme of the conference he pointed out the concern of the Church towards youth Ministry like giving recognition to youth power, pastoral care of the youth, Need for attentive listening, Discerning the pathways for genuine cordiality and need of flexibility. He

highlighted the Role of educational institutions in youth ministry, need of forming ‘young’ missionaries, Discerning Vocation and taking Mary as the model for youth.



The third speaker Mr. Joseph Lalchhuana, IPS (Rtd) spoke on the ‘Expectations from the youth’. He expressed his concern of youth between the age of 13 to 30 which is a crucial moment of their life. According to him in this digital world the youth need to realize their role in the church and contribute to its growth. To realize this there is a need to strengthen the youth in the sacramental and prayer life, learn to build healthy relationship, active involvement in various Church related activities, striving to be a role models and cultivating virtues to face risks and challenges. He concluded by citing the example of the youth commission and their activities in the diocese of Aizawl.

INTERVENTIONS / CLARIFICATIONS



1. Young people are pressurized either financially or socially and so they tend to get lost. How could they be influenced towards a vital goal through personal contacts?

2. Does the satanic cult and worship exist today? According to the speaker (Joseph) there are no proofs, but there might be isolated incidents; he pointed out the practice of the drug addicts gathering in



lonely places to show the existence. 3. Youth Pastoral planning at the local level should be strengthened for the spiritual formation and direction of the youth movement.



4. Institutions must take care to mould the young, create jobs and give listening ears with compassion.



To conclude the first session Mr. Barnabas Nongbah from Shillong proposed the vote of thanks for the moderator and the speakers and handed over a token gift before dispersing for Coffee break.

Immediately after the coffee break the second session (Panel-I) began and it was moderated by Most. Rev. George Palliparampil SDB, Bishop of Miao.



The first panelist Mr. Becare Me O Nongtdu spoke on 'Youth Ministry: The Pillar of Transformation'. He focused on youth ministry as a platform working for the youth, with the youth and by the youth with a vision to create responsible leadership for oneself and others.

Ms. Jeremei Krong, the second panelist shared her faith experience and affirmed powerfully saying that the 'youth are the visible face of the church' through their witnessing lives.



The third panelist Mr. Vincent Tiru extensively presented the 'Challenges faced by young people in the church'. He pointed out issues like religious indifference, communication gap and financial constraints faced by the youth in the region.



Ms. Ferosita Basumatary, the fourth panelist spoke on the 'aspirations and expectations of youth from the Church and Society'. She highlighted the better situations that do exist in their personal, family and social life. And she looks forward to a spiritual and lively church where elders and leaders will be mentors, giving space for young to grow in every way.

The final panelist of this session Ms. Steffy A. Sangma posed before the gathering 'the challenges faced by the youth in the world'. She cited examples how the present trend of the society that has changed the mentality and moral life of the young with special mention to Garo Hills in Meghalaya.



The 2nd session came to an end after a short intervention from the audience by way of adding to what was said that there was a need for building a cordial



relationship with and among youth and the importance of having strong structure of youth movement in the region. Mr. Allen Brooks from Guwahati proposed the vote of thanks for the moderator and the speakers of Panel I session.



The session continued with the presentation of the feedback from the youth of North East India presented by Mr. Thaimai S. Samson to the questions which were sent out along with the document for study by the youth (Linnea Menta) 'Responsible youth for a better Church and Society' prepared by Fr.



Graviour and Fr. Jerry Thomas SDB. It was studied and answered by C.7500 youth from 10 dioceses.

1. What would be for you a better Church?

A church which is free from all types of discriminations where the voice of the youth are heard and loved; where transparency becomes the order of the day; where cooperation, encouragement and values are practiced and bonded in faith, truth and justice and crowned through prayer and holiness which leads to a healthy relationship among the members and Jesus becomes the centre and meaning of life in the community which would be the better church.

2. What would be a better society for you?

A society which practices moral values, where all are respected and accepted with their differences in language, creed, colour and beliefs, where one can enjoy one's basic rights with gender equality; where one can grow in human formation (spiritual, mental, psychological and physical) and where cooperation among the members and respect for each other grow day by day would be the better society.

3. What is the role you can play in creating a better Church and better Society you have described?

The role we can play is to sacrifice our own interest, time and energy and become a role model for others. For creating a better society and church we need to pack in the old methods with the modern methods whether it be preaching, conducting programmes, motivating others etc. We also need to listen to the voice of the voiceless and be in touch with the downtrodden. One has to be a leader, an educator, a social worker and a responsible member in any society where one lives and works towards eradicating all types of evil and ignorance which would help creating a better society and Church.

4. What help would you require from the church in helping you play this role?

We require the liberty and space to grow in the church. We do require the cooperation and listening spirit, encouragement, welcoming attitude, genuine warmth and Christ like approach from the church personals. Youth centres and offices as required for growth and at the same time priests and Nuns to be available when we most need them. Above all financial and moral support too required.

5. How can the youth of today keep the church young and relevant in her life and ministry?

To keep her young we need to be open and encourage creative ideas of the youth of today who possess the wealth of newness. Youth should encourage youth to come close to the church and play a vibrant role. Permit the youth to play active role in worship by way of singing, reading and conducting the worship where priest is not required. To be strengthened in faith, youth are to be taught of its spirituality and history to defend the church against the opposite forces.

6. How can the youth ministry be geared towards the evangelizing mission of the church, by equipping the young with pastoral tools and instilling in them missionary dynamism and pastoral responsibility?

Every Christian's primary duty is to preach the good news to all creation. As youth we have a better platform to preach the word of God. First and foremost youth should get involved in the catechism classes helping to teach and learn. Conduct youth programmes and make opportunities to speak about Jesus. Among friends circle speak about Jesus and conduct prayer meetings. Equip the youth with adequate and right knowledge on faith matters so that interactions with the other youth will help them to enlighten the others. Create network to guide the youth who are confused. By giving certain responsibility to youth they feel wanted and important which helps the youth believe that they are trusted. Encourage the youth to join for priesthood and religious vocations.



The third session started at 2.30 P.M. and was moderated by Most Rev. James Thoppil, Bishop of Kohima.

Fr. John Barman MSFS presented the paper on 'Profile of a youth for a vibrant church in North East India'. He highlighted on the need of accompanying the young in their struggle to



find life meaningful. He summed up the profile of youth as one who is a leader, specialist, evangelist, worker, discipler, a counselor and presenter.

The floor added the following comments:



1. To make the conference fruitful the church needs to focus on the growth and wholeness of young people.

2. To the statement that it is the family and society today has denied the little rights to the youth, the

speaker said that the church can be ever young if she has positive outlook towards youth, as a result they

can be mentally strong. This session came to an end with the vote of thanks proposed by Bro. Varghese SG the Provincial of Montfort Brothers.



The fourth session (Panel-II) was moderated by Fr. Melvil Pereira SJ, who introduced the speakers to the assembly.



The first panelist Ms. Rilinta Lyngdoh spoke on 'youth as Ambassadors of Faith'. She opined that the present time



youth could be instrumental through social media to become effective ambassadors of faith. The second panelist Ms. Ronica Devi shared her thoughts on 'The Review of Life as an effective method for Personal Transformation'.



The third panelist Ms. Pinky Sarkar talked on the 'Catholic youth Presences in Institutional Campuses'. She shared her own life experience in Don Bosco Institute that gave her a platform to become mature mentally and intellectually.





And Ms. Victoria Quinger, spoke on the topic ‘Spirituality for Christian Formation’. According to her the basic foundation of faith in Christ is through the Holy Eucharist. At the clarifications after the talk one of the participants added saying Holy Mass could be made interesting by involving the youth, and they could be involved even in the other spiritual exercises. The session ended with the vote of thanks proposed by Mr. Dominic Bishnu from Agartala.



After the tea break all gathered for the group discussion at 5.30 P.M. Fr. Kuriakose explained the dynamics of the discussion and how to go, collect important data/suggestions from the interactions. The day ended with the evening prayer led by Sr. Joy BS, followed by dinner.

MORNING SERVICE (DAY-3)



Day three began at 6.30 A.M. with the morning prayers and Holy Mass organized by the FMA sisters. Most Rev. John Moolachira, the main celebrant in his homily spoke on the virtue of humility. He recalled how Jesus challenged the pursuit of Scribes and Pharisees for vain glory and

false honour and invited everyone to be meek and humble like their Divine Master.

After a short prayer, led by Sr. Augustinette MC, the fifth session of the conference began.



It was moderated by Sr. Elizabeth George FMA. Mr. Deepak Peter Gabriel, IRPS, Chief Personnel Officer, NE Frontier Railway



presented to the assembly the job opportunity through skill trainings in various sectors and Govt. departments. He made special mention to the job availability in the Indian Railway. During the clarification he added saying that there is a



very poor representation from NE India youth in the railways and so requested the assembly to encourage the youth to participate in the online examinations, for which he assured



of his support to train the young for such exams. The session was brought to a close by the vote of thanks proposed by Fr. Lawrence Khing, the youth Director of Kohima.



The sixth and the final session (Panel-III) of the conference was moderated Most Rev. Paul Mattekatt, Bishop of Diphu who also introduced both the speakers.

The first speaker Ms. R. Dorothy Jasokie,



presented her paper on the topic 'Personal formation of youth'.

According to her personal formation begins from the family itself and she gave the seven mantras that would help a person towards self formation.



And the second speaker Mr. Albert Deka, a Fransalian youth spoke on the 'Presence of Youth among Marginalised Youth'. According to him the strong experience of God will allow one to respond to the cry of the young. And it's high time for the youth ministry to take special care in finding the lost sheep.



At the end of the talk through the intervention from the floor the following points were highlighted. 1. Parental care is necessary for youth formation. 2. Among the marginalized, the young could be responsible in harnessing the faith and becoming courageous evangelizers. The session was closed by proposing a vote of thanks by Ms. Icylda Nongrum from Nongstoin.

SHARING SESSION



Just before breaking for the coffee, Archbishop John Moolachira announced about the upcoming 'Mission Exposure programme' for the young people who are in formation which will be in Ambagaon in the diocese of Tezpur from 13 to 19 January 2020.

Soon after that Fr. Justin Dominic MMI, briefed about the MMI and DMI Congregations and the existence of St. Joseph's University at Dimapur and the availability of scholarships for students.





Lastly Sr. Dr. Joan Chunkapura of Medical Mission spoke about the World Peace Mission. The aim is to share the love, peace and joy of Christ. Motto: Peace on earth as it is in heaven. More than 20 missions of which North East is part of it.

REPORTS FROM GROUP DISCUSSION

Immediately after the coffee break the reports of the group discussions which were compiled together among the secretaries was presented by Mr. Rajulal Debbarma of Agartala Diocese (Q.1 & 2) and Sr. Baiahumlang Nongkhlaw RNDM (Q.3 & 4).



Q. 1. How far the false cult of youth is prevalent in the region and what steps should be taken to prevent it from spreading further?

- Old and traditional values and practices are devalued and almost in the verge of extinction (Eg. Communal feeling, respect for elders)
- Inclined to materialistic world (Money and comfort).
- Influence of western culture and lifestyle, food habits and marriage
- Impact of Mass Media influence and blind imitation of modern trends

Remedies/ Prevention

1. Use of Information, Education, Communication to revive the traditional values and practices
2. Good parenting
3. Use of media to propagate and to revive lost culture

Q. 2. What viable steps do you suggest to bring the young Catholics of today on board to entrust them with pastoral outreach programmes at the Diocesan, parish and institutional levels?

- To encourage the youth during crises such as accidents and natural calamities and help the needy and active participation during Sunday worship
- Faith formation through Spiritual Retreats and catechesis with emphasis on the word of God
- Creating space for youth in relationships, leadership, responsibility and planning at various levels.
- Accompanying the youth and Creating a sense of belongingness
- Create Financial Structure for youth Commission
- Address youth problems and solve by holding meetings
- With regard to Marriage: Create Catholic Matrimony Website for North East
- Inter-exchange of faith sharing in the diocese and parish level
- Bring the youth together for all programmes

3. How can the Church exploit and utilize the juvenile energy for the evangelizing mission of the Church?

- Integrate the Eucharistic celebration with other activities which will enable the youth to take the message of Jesus to the society
- Assign responsibility proper to the youth such as Choir, liturgy & other church activities.
- Involve the youth in the decision making body/committee, planning and implementation of the decisions

- Instill in the youth the basic teaching of the Church and take into account that they are the work force in the Church
- Create awareness among the youth regarding the Church ministry
- Scripture should be taught to the youth and familiarize them with the scriptures
- Give the youth the opportunity to experience God and faith
- Recognize, appreciate and acknowledge the contribution of youth to the Church
- Entrust the youth with the responsibility such as the Sunday classes for children
- Empower and prepare youth as lay missionaries and collaborators with the pastors of the Church
- The youth resources and potentials could be strengthened, expanded, shared and exchanged beyond their home parishes or dioceses
- To provide the youth with Leadership formation, orientation and have a systematic way of training relevant to them
- Financial provisions made available to youth leaders for their missions/ministries entrusted to them
- Strengthen the prayer groups, lectio divina sharing, faith sharing, BCC, etc by recognizing their contribution made to the Church community at the local levels and Parish level
- Focus on the presence of youth at all level: Local level, parish level and diocesan level.
- Ongoing and long term accompaniment of the youth by the concerned authority to follow them up constantly and not taking them only for a ride during the conventions or social gathering and youth fest.

- Collaborate with elders and experienced persons in accompanying young people
- Train the youth to be Catechism teachers and ensure that they are recruited in the educational institutions to teach the subject

4. How can we create listening spaces in our parishes, institutions and other areas of the youth ministry?

- Revive and strengthen the youth ministry with the right perspective from the beginning
- Be available to them
- Listen to them
- Organize functions for Bible quiz, seminars, Bible camps, singing and dancing competitions as well as sports events to create an environment where they can channelize their creative energy and build a network with the other youth beyond their home parishes and dioceses
- Family visit and ministry should be strengthened to provide enough time and space to the young in the family
- Find strategies that will build up family bond and unity among parents and children
- Village touring is still relevant and needed with the responsible person to spend more time with the people and to reach out to them through family visits and prayer
- Close connection/relationship should be maintained between the clergy and the faithful especially the young ones and the Church authority could be more approachable and available to the youth under their care
- There could be a counseling cell with professional counselors at the Parish or in the school to cater to the personal needs of the youth

- Strengthen the different groups and associations who can reach out to the young people
- Availability of the priests for the celebration of the Holy Eucharist and confession to be intensified even in rural areas and during ordinary Sundays
- To have a competent Spiritual Director and Lady Youth animator who can accompany the youth
- Create a link/connection/network among the youth who have been helped by the Church at certain period of their lives and thus create a chain of resource team (like alumni meet)
- The church personnel should be truthful and frank in dealing with them
- Empowering the youth and enable them to face challenges and difficulties
- Nurture and build trust and rapport with the young so that they feel safe and secure in our presence

Followed by the reports the **Emerging trends of the Conference** were presented by Fr. George Panthanmackel, the Provincial of MSFS. He stated the following:

1. The conference was organized against the backdrop of the Post-synodal Apostolic Exhortation, “**ChritusVivit**” (Christ is Alive), of the Holy Father Pope Francis.
2. The young people are the present and thus should assume responsibilities proper to them in the Church and society in general.
3. Three important matters currently affecting young people: The digital environment, Migration and Abuse.
4. The young people need to know that God loves them. He saves all young people. Christ is alive and the Spirit gives life.



5. Two important approaches need to stand out in youth ministry. The first is **outreach** and the second is **growth**.
6. Challenges to Responsible Youth Leadership for a Better Church and Society
 - i. Crisis of Faith
 - ii. Lack of Positive Relationship in the Family
 - iii. Lack of Trained Youth Leaders
7. Towards a Responsible Youth Leadership for a Better Church and Society
 - i. Youth as Ambassadors of Faith
 - ii. Youth as Persons who See, Judge, Act and Evaluate
 - iii. Christian Spirituality of Formation of Youth
 - iv. Personal Formation
 - v. Proclamation of the Gospel to the Marginalized
 - vi. Promote Profiles for a Vibrant Church in Northeast India

IMPRESSION ON THE CONFERENCE



Before the conclusion of the animation session Msgr. Patrick Saw Zay Han, the first secretary to the Apostolic Nunciature in India, who was the representative of the Apostolic Nuncio at the conference, gave his impression on the conference. He appreciated the sense of unity amidst diversity of priests, religious, Laity and

youth. He said that he was impressed by the presence of all the Arch/Bishops of the region and their availability all through the conference. He acknowledged the active participation of young people and was overwhelmed to see the knowledgeable resource persons who activated the discussion. He exhorted the assembly to put into practice the discussions and deliberations. He concluded by saying that the spirit of democracy is the change of the

heart; the change is a renewal of the church which is the religious, priests and faithful. Quoting Mother Teresa he said, 'We can do something beautiful for God'.

CONCLUSION OF THE ANIMATION SESSIONS



At the concluding session of the animation Most Rev. John Thomas, Secretary General of NEIRBC thanked the assembly for their active participation. Most Rev. Stephen Rotluanga, Chairman Laity Commission spoke on the eligibility of membership and the modalities of the election of North East Regional Catholic

Council (NERCC) and told them to gather at 1.30 PM in the same hall for the election. Most Rev. Dominic Jala, President of NEIRBC, thanked Msgr. Patrick Saw Zay Han for his presence at the conference, besides the organizing team, the participants, Don Bosco Institute and young people. He said, 'We come to experience the change of heart, by getting in touch with our young people'. All joined in one voice singing 'O give thanks to the Lord', concluded the animation session.

ELECTION OF NERCC EXECUTIVE

At 1.30 PM immediately after lunch the NERCC members gathered to elect the Executive Members of the North East Regional Catholic Council. Accordingly the new ex-officio/elected members are:



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| 1. President | : Most Rev. John Moolachira
(Archbishop of Guwahati) |
| 2. General Secretary | : Most Rev. Victor Lyngdoh (Bishop of Jowai) |

3. First Vice President : Mr. Barnabas Nongbah (Shillong)
4. Second Vice President : Ms. Jeremai Krong (Miao)
5. Executive Secretary : Fr. Santiago Savari (Aizawl)
6. First Joint Secretary : Mr. Allan Brooks (Guwahati)
7. Second Joint Secretary : Mrs. Rita Borah
8. Treasurer : Mr. Joseph Lalchhuana IPS (Rtd.) (Mizoram)
9. Advisor : Mr. Raphael Kujur (Assam)
10. Advisor : Mr. Aloysius Vanlalduha (Mizoram)
11. Advisor : Mr. Jacob D Lhungdim (Manipur)
12. Advisor : Ms. Nepha Wangsa (Arunachal Pradesh)
13. Advisor : Mr. Gilbert Sten (Meghalaya)
14. Advisor : Ms. Rita Kikon (Nagaland)
15. Advisor : Mr. Rajulal Debbarma (Tripura)



BUSINESS SESSION

At about 3.25 PM the Business session for regular members of PC started with a prayer led by Most Rev. John Thomas at the Ramsai Hall, NEDSSS. Most Rev. Dominic Jala, addressed the assembly and invited the members to respond on the observation of the conference.

Positives aspects noticed: i) Inspiring topics, ii) more of women participation, iii) involving more and different people by way of moderation, proposing vote of thanks and presenting gamosas and token, iv) two booklets (talks & prayers and songs), v) good participation by the members, vi) good representation from the states.

Suggestion for Improvement: i) Clashing of business session and the election of NERCC, ii) Require more time for interactions, iii) For bringing out the emerging trends two or more people to be involved.

- 1. Dates for the next Pastoral Conference** suggested were from **14 to 16 September 2020** (Arrival & Inauguration 6 PM on 14th Sept. 16th & 17th Animation till noon, and 17th afternoon 2 PM Business session)
- 2. Topics** suggested: 1. Ecology/Environment 2. Social media communications 3. Responsible parenthood (Family)
- 3. Information:** With the permission of the chair the following persons were given time to share their concerns to the Assembly.

-Dr. Mathew & his legal team of catholic lawyers from Delhi addressed the assembly on changing laws due to the change in political scenario. They also spoke on the changes in the minority rights and how our institutions are targeted. They informed that they have a legal cell at Guwahati which can help us if we require their support.

-Fr. Jagdish Parmer SJ National Director & South Asian Coordinator for Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (PWPN) and Eucharistic Youth Movement (EYM) explained

about the Apostleship of Prayer (universal & Evangelization) now known as Popes Worldwide Prayer Network (PWPN). Pope wants everyone to gaze at the world with the heart of Jesus. Secondly he spoke about Eucharist Crusade-Prayer, Soldiers of God and Pope's Prayer Intentions for the years 2019 – 2020.

-Fr. V. V. George who is the National service team member of 'CHARISINDIA' spoke about the life in the spirit through charismatic movements. On the behalf of the National Catholic Charismatic Renewal services recognised by the CBCI the team is willing to train members and take forward the movement. He expressed the wish that some one of the priest/Religious to be appointed to look after this region in this regard.

COMMISSION REPORTS

4. All the regional commission secretaries presented their reports in brief, except Inter-religious Dialogue, Family, Liturgy, Health (NECHA) and Tribal Affairs due to their absence, however the report had been received in soft copy from the concerned secretaries by the Deputy Secretary.

Having finished with the agenda the Pastoral Conference was closed with vote of thanks and closing prayer by Most Rev. Dominic Jala, President NEIRBC at 5.30 PM.

Most Rev. Dr. James Thoppil
Bishop of Kohima, Nagaland
&
Secretary General (NEIRBC)