



TELUGU CATHOLIC YOUTH MOVEMENT
TCBC COMMISSION FOR YOUTH



YUVAJWALA

RISE'25

*10th Regional Youth
Convention at Hyderabad*

REGIONAL REPORT 2025

*Reachouts, Renewals and
a new hope for the region*

HABEMUS PAPAM

*Election of the
new Pope Leo XIV*

**JUNE
2025**



His Excellency

MOST REV DR. RAYARALA VIJAY KUMAR PIME

Chairman, TCBC Commission for Youth

Bishop of Srikakulam

VOICE OF THE SHEPHERD

Every day is an opportunity to achieve new heights, on your journey through life. As a follower of the Catholic faith, you know that God has called you to love your neighbours and show your faith through your good works. But sometimes, you might need a little extra inspiration or motivation to face the day. Here I quote from the words of St Dominic Savio, "I am not capable of doing big things, but I want to do everything, even the smallest things, for the greater glory of God."

Whatever you do, whatever your skills, and whatever your age, you can live your life for the glory of God. Let this inspire you to take action today. Even the smallest act for God can make huge changes in someone's life. My attention is drawn to the one of my favourite quotes of St Mother Theresa of Kolkata, "We Cannot all do great things, but can do small things with great love."

If you feel like your actions are insignificant, remember this quote and think again. Even the smallest action can make a huge difference in someone's life if you do it with love. May (God Bless you, my dear young people. The Church needs you. So fasten your belts and launch in, with Jesus as your Lord and Master.

✠

With Love

Most. Rev. Rayarala Vijay Kumar PIME



VOICE OF THE DIRECTOR

REV FR. MEDI SLEEVARAJ SDB

*Regional Secretary,
TCBC Commission for Youth
Regional Youth Director, ICYM*

You are the heartbeat of our generation and the architects of tomorrow. In a world that's changing faster than ever before, you carry the power to not just adapt-but to lead. You are creative, bold, and more connected than any generation in history. But with this power comes responsibility.

The choices you make today shape not only your future, but the future of your communities, your countries, and this planet. Don't be afraid to dream big, to stand for what's right, and to use your voice to uplift others. Education, compassion, and resilience are your tools -wield them wisely.

Never let anyone tell you that you're too young to make a difference. Some of the greatest movements in history were sparked by youth with vision and courage. Stay true to your values, support one another, and never stop growing.

The world needs your energy, your ideas, your heart. So rise up. Be the light. And let your actions echo into a better future for all.

With belief in you always,

Rev. Fr. Medi Sleevaraj SDB

WHO IS

POPE LEO XIV



**WHO IS ROBERT PREVOST, THE
NEW POPE LEO XIV?**

Even before his name was announced from the balcony of St Peter's Basilica, the crowds below were chanting "Viva il Papa" - Long live the Pope. Robert Francis Prevost, 69, has become the 267th occupant of the throne of St Peter and he will be known as Leo XIV.

He is the first American to fill the role of pope, although he is considered as much a cardinal from Latin America because of the many years he spent as a missionary in Peru. Born in Chicago in 1955 to parents of Spanish and Franco-Italian descent, Leo served as an altar boy and was ordained in 1982. Although he moved to Peru three years later, he returned regularly to the US to serve as a priest and a prior in his home city. He has Peruvian nationality and is fondly remembered as a figure who worked with marginalised communities and helped build bridges. He spent 10 years as a local parish pastor and as a teacher at a seminary in Trujillo in north-western Peru.

In his first words as Pope, Leo spoke fondly of his predecessor Francis. "We still hear in our ears the weak but always courageous voice of Pope Francis who blessed us," he said. "United and hand-in-hand with God, let us advance together," he told cheering crowds. Cardinal Prevost shares a quiet moment with Pope Francis (R) in February 2025. The Pope also spoke of his role in the Augustinian Order. In 2014, Francis made him Bishop of Chiclayo in Peru.

He is well known to cardinals because of his high-profile role as prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops which has the important task of selecting and supervising bishops. He became archbishop in January 2023 and within a few months, Francis made him a cardinal.



**UNITED AND
HAND-IN-HAND
WITH GOD, LET
US ADVANCE
TOGETHER:
POPE LEO XIV**

II COMMUNIO MISSIONARY EXPOSURE PROGRAM UDUPI, KARNATAKA 23RD JUNE, 2024

This event was held at St. Francis Assisi Church, Tallur, Udupi Diocese, Karnataka, on June 23, 2024. Twenty youth leaders from seven states committed to missionary service through this immersion program. Participants stayed with local families from St. Francis Assisi Parish, learning about their culture and challenges. Sessions were led by Rev. Dr. Stephen Alathara, Fr. Vignan Das, Fr. Chetan Machado, Fr. Dominic Pinto, Fr. Anil D'Sa, SDB, and Fr. Edwin D'Souza, covering topics such as:

1. "We Are the Church"
2. "Every Christian is a Missionary"
3. "Media for Mission Volunteering"



This program equipped young leaders with a deeper understanding of missionary discipleship and the diverse realities of different communities. Notably, 3 youngsters from the Telugu Region actively participated in the training, Vijayraju(Vizag), Amala(Vizag), Anish(Vijayawada) contributing to the vibrant exchange of ideas and experiences. This transformative program successfully empowered young leaders to embrace their missionary calling in the modern world, fostering a renewed commitment to serving the Church and society.

Communion Missionary Exposure Program

Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh
11th -21st August, 2024



This event was held in Itanagar & Arunachal Pradesh from August 11-21, 2024. Seventeen Communion volunteers participated in a missionary exposure program, residing in various villages and engaging with local faith communities. Through faith-sharing sessions, they listened to and learned from the experiences of mission stations in the Itanagar Diocese. This program deepened their understanding of missionary work and inter-cultural engagement. Notably, G. Kalyan, Cuddapah, an enthusiastic youngster from the Telugu Region actively participated in the mission exposure, contributing to the activities and deeply involving himself in community interactions and faith-sharing moments.



NATIONAL YOUTH DIRECTORS MEETING

RANCHI

THIS EVENT WAS HELD AT SDC, RANCHI, FROM AUGUST 21-24, 2024. BRINGING TOGETHER 130 PARTICIPANTS FROM ACROSS INDIA, THIS ANNUAL MEETING WAS INAUGURATED BY MOST REV. DR. IGNATIUS D'SOUZA, CHAIRMAN OF THE CCBI YOUTH COMMISSION.

THE DISCUSSIONS CENTERED ON YOUTH ENGAGEMENT, PASTORAL STRATEGIES, AND STRENGTHENING YOUTH MINISTRY. TELUGU REGION DIOCESAN YOUTH DIRECTORS ATTENDED AND DISCUSSED VARIOUS ISSUES IN THE NATIONAL MEETING TO STRENGTHEN THE MINISTRY IN OUR REGION.

21ST -24TH AUGUST, 2024

NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE (NYC)

Trinity College, Jalandhar, Punjab 21st -25th October, 2024

A delegation of 23 young representatives from the Telugu Region actively participated in the conference. They enthusiastically took part in the sessions, discussions, exhibitions, and cultural activities, showcasing the spirit and diversity of Telugu Catholic youth. This event was held at Trinity College, Jalandhar, Punjab, from October 21-25, 2024. The 6th National Youth Conference gathered 658 youth leaders from 79 dioceses to explore the theme "Those who hope in the Lord, walk without becoming weary" (Is 40:31).



The conference featured:

1. Sessions & plenary discussions
2. Regional exhibitions showcasing cultural diversity from 14 regions
3. Evening cultural performances highlighting India's rich traditions

This gathering strengthened faith, leadership, and community building among young Catholics.



A delegation from the Indian Catholic Youth Movement (ICYM) Telugu Region attended the ICYM National Council Meeting from February 15-17, 2025, at the Pallottine Animation Centre in Nagpur. Organized by the CCBI Youth Commission, the meeting brought together youth leaders from across the country to discuss strategic plans, review past initiatives, and collaborate on future projects aimed at strengthening youth engagement within the Church. The Telugu Region delegation included Challagali Raju, Regional Youth President; and Ms. Manisha Sharon, Regional Youth General Secretary, Mr. Sagar Gabbeta, a council member of the CCBI Commission for Youth. During the meeting, they actively participated in discussions, plenary sessions, and experience-sharing forums, exchanging best practices with representatives from other regions. Key sessions at the meeting included the ICYM and YCS/YSM Council Meetings, the CCBI Youth Commission Council Members Meeting, and strategic planning sessions for upcoming youth programs. A significant highlight was the evaluation of the 2024 programs, identifying areas for improvement and setting a roadmap for the coming year. The meeting concluded on February 16 with a Holy Eucharistic celebration led by Most Rev. Ignatius D'Souza, Chairman of the CCBI Youth Commission, followed by a visit to Yuvagram, Nagpur on February 17. Discussions and resolutions from the meeting are expected to shape the future direction of youth initiatives, fostering unity and empowerment among young Catholics across India.

CCBI Youth Commission National Council Meeting

Nagpur - 15th - 17th February, 2025



INDIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH MOVEMENT NATIONAL COUNCIL



15-17 February 2025



Pallottine Animation Center, Nagpur,
Maharashtra



DYDs, Religious Youth Directors and REXCOs Meeting



Khammam - 10th April 2024



The Diocesan Youth Directors and Religious Youth Directors Meeting was held at St. Joseph's Major Seminary, Khammam, under the guidance of the Chairman His Excellency Most Rev. Dr. Vijaya Kumar Rayarala, PIME, Bishop of Srikakulam and Rev. Fr. Praveen Kumar Sagili, Regional Youth Director. The meeting began with a warm welcome address by Rev. Fr. Praveen Kumar Sagili, followed by an opening prayer led by the Chairman Bishop. Mr. Krishnakar, Advisor of the TCBC Youth Commission, gave an insightful session on the Importance of Youth Ministry in the Telugu Region, highlighting the need for strategic planning and effective implementation.

The Chairman Bishop then shared an encouraging message, motivating everyone to strengthen youth ministry efforts across the region. This was followed by the introduction of the Diocesan and Religious Youth Directors, promoting unity and collaboration among the participants. A key agenda of the meeting was the Strategic Planning for the upcoming Regional Youth Convention, where valuable ideas and action plans were discussed. The session concluded with a vote of thanks by Fr. Praveen Kumar Sagili and a concluding prayer by the Chairman Bishop. Regional Executive Committee member along with Chairman facilitated, Most Rev. Dr. Sagili Prakash, Bishop of Khammam. In the afternoon, the Regional Executive Committee met with the Regional Youth Secretary for further discussions and planning. The meeting ended on a positive note, with participants expressing their commitment to fostering vibrant and active youth ministry in the Telugu Region.



Mega Youth Convention in the Diocese of Srikakulam

28th- 31st May 2024

The Mega Youth Convention held at Mariagiri Shrine, Srikakulam Diocese, from 28th to 31st May 2024, was a remarkable and spirit-filled event aimed at inspiring and preparing the youth for the future of the Catholic Church. Organized under the guidance of Most Rev. Bishop Rayarala Vijay Kumar, P.I.M.E., along with the dedicated efforts of Rev. Fr. Sagili Praveen Kumar and Rev. Fr. Sleevaraj SDB, the convention witnessed an enthusiastic participation of over 1200 young people from across the Telugu Region. The Regional Youth Team played a vital role in supporting the program by leading animations, energizing the participants, and encouraging the youth to actively engage with the sessions delivered during the convention. The four-day event was a great success, fostering spiritual growth, leadership, and a renewed commitment among the youth to be active members in building the future of the Church.



15th December 2024

Srikakulam

Official Launch of RISE'25 Theme Song



The theme song embodies the spirit of RISE'25, echoing the convention's message of faith, unity, and hope. This launch marks an inspiring milestone as we prepare to gather young Catholics under the theme: "Those who hope in the Lord, walk without becoming weary" - Isaiah 40:31

RISE'25

Regional Youth Convention



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11th-14th January 2025
Hyderabad

20
25
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RISE'25

10TH REGIONAL YOUTH CONVENTION, HYDERABAD



20
25
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RISE'25

10TH REGIONAL YOUTH CONVENTION, HYDERABAD







RISE'25





RISE'25

Regional Youth Convention

The 10th Regional Youth Convention concluded successfully, empowering 1723 youth from 13 Telugu Dioceses. The four-day event combined spiritual reflection, leadership training, and cultural celebration in the Jubilee Year 2025.

- Day 1: Youth Empowerment session on career opportunities; Holy Mass by Most Rev. Karanam Dhaman Kumar, Bishop of Nalgonda, focusing on "Love in Action."



- Day 4: Sessions on Environmental Stewardship, Digital Evangelization, and Youth Movements for Jubilee 2025; closing Mass by Most Rev. Dr. Rayarala Vijay Kumar, Bishop of Srikakulam, concelebrated by Msgr. Juan Pablo Cerillos Hernandez, Counsellor to the Nuncio, on "Leading with Integrity"; awards and acknowledgments.

- Day 2: Inaugural Ceremony by Chairman Bishop Most Rev. Dr. Rayarala Vijay Kumar, Bishop of Srikakulam along with Most Rev. Dr. Polimera Jaya Rao, Bishop of Eluru and Apostolic Administrator of Visakhapatnam; Pontifical High Mass by His Eminence Anthony Cardinal Poola, Archbishop of Hyderabad Concelebrated by Most Rev. Dr. Rayarala Vijay Kumar, Bishop of Srikakulam, Most Rev. Dr. Prakash Sagili, Bishop of Khammam, Most Rev. Dr. Gorentla Johannes, Bishop of Kurnool; seminars on Sacraments, Cyber Security, and Faith Challenges; cultural performances.

- Day 3: Workshops on leadership, mental health, and reconciliation; Holy Mass by Most Rev. Dr. Polimera Jaya Rao, Bishop of Eluru and Apostolic Administrator of Visakhapatnam on life choices; vibrant cultural evening.

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UNLEASH TALENTS



RISE'25
A PLATFORM TO
SHOWCASE YOUR
TALENTS



explore.



REXCO TEAM

2024-26

TCBC FAMILY



MEGA JOB MELA

Srikakulam



The ICYM Srikakulam Diocese, in collaboration with Don Bosco (DISHA) and National Career Services, successfully organized a three-day Youth Fest and Mega Job Mela from May 3 to May 5, 2025, at the Mariagiri Shrine, Srikakulam. The event aimed to empower, inspire, and provide employment opportunities to the youth of the region, combining spiritual enrichment with practical career support.



MEGA JOB MELA

SRIKAKULAM

The event was held under the esteemed guidance of:

- His Excellency Most Rev. Dr. Rayarala Vijaya Kumar PIME, Bishop of Srikakulam and Chairman of the TCBC Commission for Youth.
- Rev. Fr. Medipalli Sleeva Raju SDB, Diocesan Youth Director, Srikakulam.
- Rev. Fr. Justin SDB, Director of DISHA, Hyderabad.
- Mr. Seedi Sudheer, Diocese Youth President, Srikakulam,
- Mr. Raju Challagali, Regional Youth President, ICYM Telugu Region.





The Chosen

The Society of the Holy Spirit, in collaboration with the Holy Spirit Young Apostles (HSYA), organized a spiritually enriching four-day youth retreat from May 28 to May 31, 2025. Themed "Chosen", the retreat was conducted under the prayerful guidance of Fr. Paul Raj, Director of HSYA. Held with the intention of deepening faith and fostering spiritual renewal, the retreat witnessed an overwhelming participation of over 80 young Christian youth, all earnestly seeking the grace and presence of God. Rev. Fr. Sleevaraj SDB, RYD, Celebrated the concluding Holy Mass. Fr. Jerome Lewis, DYD of Hyderabad and Fr. Joji Thambi, DYD of Vijayawada delivered sessions.

DTP'25

The Jesus Youth Telugu Region successfully conducted the DTP-25 training from May 24 to June 1, 2025, with 18 participants from various zones. The program began with a spiritual retreat on May 24th, followed by training sessions from May 27th. Over 9 days, participants experienced spiritual growth, reflected on youth challenges, deepened their missionary call, and made a commitment to evangelization. The program concluded with a Commissioning Ceremony on June 1st, led by Rev. Fr. Karunakar Reddy, Guntur Youth Director. Participants have now renewed and ready to serve the Lord. Rev. Fr. Jerome Lewis, DYD of Hyderabad and Raju Challagali, Regional Youth President helped the participants to know more about God through various faith based sessions.



THANK YOU



Rev. Fr. Praveen Sagili

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP AND DEDICATION TO
OUR YOUTH – YOUR IMPACT WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN.
WISHING YOU ALL THE BEST IN YOUR NEXT CHAPTER!

WELCOME ABOARD

WE'RE EXCITED TO HAVE YOU WITH US AND LOOK FORWARD TO
THE GREAT THINGS WE'LL ACHIEVE TOGETHER.

**REV. FR. MEDI
SLEEVARAJ SDB**

REGIONAL YOUTH DIRECTOR



With joy, we launch Yuvajwala, the Tri-monthly magazine of ICYM Telugu Region — a platform for youth to share their talents, thoughts, and faith.

Editor's Note



From the Desk of the Regional Youth President – ICYM Telugu Region

Dear Young Friends in Christ,

With immense joy and gratitude, we proudly present to you the launch edition of **Yuvajwala** — the official Tri-monthly magazine of ICYM Telugu Region. This is a milestone moment, as *Yuvajwala* becomes a platform to celebrate your voice, your talents, and your journey of faith and leadership.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to **Most Rev. Dr. Vijaya Kumar Rayarala PIME**, Chairman of the TCBC Commission for Youth and Bishop of Srikakulam, for his spiritual guidance and unwavering support in empowering the youth of our region.

A special note of appreciation to **Rev. Fr. Medi Sleevaraj SDB**, our Regional Youth Director, whose vision and encouragement have made this launch possible, and to **Rev. Fr. Sagili Praveen**, our former Regional Youth Director, for laying the strong foundation on which we now stand.

I am deeply grateful to the **REXCO Team members**, whose dedication, creativity, and teamwork have brought Yuvajwala to life. This magazine is a collective effort — a reflection of the passion and purpose we all share.

I invite each of you, *dear youth*, to see Yuvajwala not just as a magazine, but as your platform — a space to grow, lead, express, and inspire. Let us use this opportunity to deepen our faith, serve our communities, and shine brightly as witnesses of Christ. Together, let's ignite the flame of youth — this is just the beginning!

WITH PRAYERS AND ENTHUSIASM,

Raju Challagali

Editor-in-Chief,

Regional Youth President,

ICYM Telugu Region



POPE FRANCIS

1936-2025

*Telugu Catholic Youth Movement
pays tribute to His Holiness Late
Pope Francis....*