



TELUGU CATHOLIC YOUTH MOVEMENT
TCBC COMMISSION FOR YOUTH



YUVAJWALA

SEPTEMBER
2025

JUBILEE
OF YOUTH

*Pope's Message
for Youth*

GLOBAL LEADERS
SUMMIT 2025

RLTP'25

*Regional Leaders Training
Program for Youth 2025*

CATHOLIC
MIGRANT YOUTH

TELUGU CATHOLIC YOUTH MOVEMENT TRI-MONTHLY MAGAZINE



His Excellency

MOST REV DR. RAYARALA VIJAYA KUMAR PIME
Chairman, TCBC Commission for Youth
Bishop of Srikakulam

VOICE OF THE SHEPHERD

You are a precious gift to the Church and to society. The energy, creativity, and joy that you carry within you are signs of hope for the future. The Lord is inviting each one of you to deepen your friendship with Him and to place your talents at the service of others.

True leadership begins when we open our hearts to God's call and courageously say "Yes" to His will, just as Mother Mary and the disciples did. The Church today needs your enthusiasm and active participation. Do not be afraid to take responsibility, to stand for truth, to serve with love, and to witness your faith with courage.

I encourage you, dear young people, to walk together in faith, support one another, and be builders of peace and unity in your families, parishes, and communities. The Lord is counting on you to be His hands and His voice in the world.

May the Holy Spirit guide you always, and may our Blessed Mother accompany you in your journey of faith and leadership.

✠

With Love

Most. Rev. Dr. Rayarala Vijaya Kumar PIME



Called, Chosen, Commissioned

The Scriptural Foundation and Urgency of Youth Ministry in the Church



His Eminence

Most Rev. Dr. Cardinal Poola Anthony

Archbishop of Hyderabad

In a world marked by rapid change, uncertainty, and deep longing for identity and purpose, the youth of today stand at the crossroads of faith and culture. As the Catholic Church continues to walk with them, we recognize that youth ministry is not a luxury or an optional extra—it is a divine mandate rooted in Sacred Scripture and the heart of the Church's mission.

Why Youth Ministry Is Important – A Scriptural Vision

1. Jesus Chose the Young

Many of the disciples Jesus called were young. Andrew, John, and possibly even Peter were youth or young adults when they left everything to follow Him (Matthew 4:18-22). Mary, the Mother of God, received the Annunciation as a young woman. Her "Yes" changed the world (Luke 1:26-38). God sees the potential in the young and entrusts them with great missions.

"Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity." – 1 Timothy 4:12

Youth are not just the future of the Church; they are its vibrant present. They bring passion, creativity, and a spirit of adventure that the Church needs to evangelize today's world.

2. God Calls the Young to Greatness

The Bible is filled with young people who responded courageously to God's call:

David was anointed king as a youth (1 Samuel 16).

Jeremiah was called to be a prophet when he protested, "I am only a youth" (Jeremiah 1:6-7).

Daniel and his companions stood firm in faith in a foreign land, shaping a generation (Daniel 1-6).

God delights in using the young to do mighty things. Youth ministry is about helping young people hear that call and respond with faith.

3. Jesus Ministers to the Young

In the Gospels, Jesus gives special attention to the young:

He raises the daughter of Jairus (Mark 5:41).

He praises the generosity of the boy who gave his five loaves and two fish (John 6:9).

He welcomes children and says, "Let the little children come to me... for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these" (Matthew 19:14).

This divine preference calls us to create a space in the Church where youth are not only included, but empowered.

How Youth Ministry Should Be Done – A Scriptural Model

1. Accompaniment (Luke 24:13-35 – Road to Emmaus)

Jesus walks with the disciples, listens to their doubts, and opens the Scriptures to them. This is the model for youth ministry: journeying with young people, listening to their hearts, and helping them encounter Christ through the Word and Sacraments.

2. Formation and Mission (Matthew 28:19-20)

Jesus commands us to "make disciples of all nations." Youth ministry is not entertainment—it is formation for mission. Through catechesis, prayer, service, and leadership opportunities, we form missionary disciples ready to witness Christ in the world.

3. Community and Belonging (Acts 2:42-47)

The early Church grew through fellowship, breaking of the bread, and prayer. Youth need a community where they are known, loved, and challenged to grow in faith. This is where vocations are discerned, friendships in Christ are formed, and the fire of faith is kept alive.

Conclusion: A Church with the Youth, for the Youth.

Pope Francis in *Christus Vivit* reminds us:

"The Church should not be too concerned with herself, but instead, reflect Jesus Christ. That is why she must go out to the streets and meet young people where they are" (CV 39).

Youth ministry is not a task for a few. It is the vocation of the whole Church—bishops, priests, religious, lay leaders, families, and parishes. Let us not delay in investing our time, love, and resources into this essential mission. For in every young heart lies the seed of holiness, leadership, and a future saint for the Church.

Suggested Scriptural Texts for Reflection in Youth Groups:

Jeremiah 1:4-10 – Called from the womb

Luke 1:26-38 – Mary's "Yes"

Mark 10:17-22 – The rich young man

1 Timothy 4:12 – Let no one despise your youth

Psalm 119:9 – "How can a young man keep his way pure?"

JUBILEE OF YOUTH



His Holiness Pope Leo XIV

The courage to choose comes from love, which God shows us in Christ. It is he who loved us with his whole self, saving the world and thus showing us that self-giving is the way to our fulfillment. For this reason, the encounter with Jesus corresponds to the deepest longings of our hearts, because Jesus is God's love made man.

DIALOGUE BETWEEN HIS HOLINESS POPE LEO XIV AND YOUNG PEOPLE DURING THE JUBILEE VIGIL

Holy Father, we ask you: where do we find the courage to choose? How can we be courageous and live the adventure of freedom, making radical and meaningful choices?

Thank you for this question. The question is, where can we find the courage to choose and to make wise decisions? To choose is a fundamental human act. Looking at it closely, we realize that it is not just a matter of choosing something, but of choosing someone. When we make a choice, in the strict sense, we decide who we want to become. The most important choice is the decision about the direction of our life: What kind of man do you want to be? What kind of woman do you want to be? Dear young people, we learn to choose through the trials of life, but above all by remembering that we have been chosen. This reality must be explored and fostered. We received life as a gift, without choosing it! Our existence did not originate from our decision, but from a love that wanted us. Throughout our lives, those who help us recognize and renew this grace through our choices prove themselves to be our true friends.



**"YOU ARE MY LIFE, LORD."
"LORD, YOU ARE MY LIFE."
- POPE LEO XIV**

Dear young people, you said it well: “choosing means giving something else up and this becomes an obstacle for us.” To be free, we need to start from a stable foundation, from the rock that supports our steps. This rock is a love that precedes us, surprises us and is infinitely greater than us: the love of God. Therefore, before God, choice becomes a judgment that takes nothing away, but always leads to the greatest good.

The courage to choose comes from love, which God shows us in Christ. It is he who loved us with his whole self, saving the world and thus showing us that self-giving is the way to our fulfillment. For this reason, the encounter with Jesus corresponds to the deepest longings of our hearts, because Jesus is God’s love made man.

Twenty-five years ago, right here where we are now, Saint John Paul II spoke on this subject, saying: “It is Jesus in fact that you seek when you dream of happiness; he is waiting for you when nothing else you find satisfies you; he is the beauty to which you are so attracted; it is he who provokes you with that thirst for fullness that will not let you settle for compromise; it is he who urges you to shed the masks of a false life; it is he who reads in your hearts your most genuine choices, the choices that others try to stifle” (Prayer Vigil on the 15th World Youth Day, 19 August 2000). Fear then gives way to hope, because we are certain that God brings to completion what he begins.

We recognize his faithfulness in the words of those who truly love, because they have been truly loved. “You are my life, Lord”: this is what a priest and a consecrated sister say full of joy and in complete freedom, “You are my life, Lord.” “I take you to be my wife and I take you to be my husband”: this is the phrase that transforms the love of a man and a woman into an efficacious sign of God’s love in marriage. These are radical, meaningful choices: Matrimony, Holy Orders, and Consecrated Life. They express the free and liberating gift of self that makes us truly happy. That is where we find happiness, when we learn to give ourselves, to give our lives for others.

These choices give meaning to our lives, transforming them into the image of the perfect love that created them and redeemed them from all evil, even from death. I say this tonight, thinking of two young women, María, from Spain, who was 20 years old, and Pascale, from Egypt, who was 18 years old. Both chose to come to Rome for the Jubilee of Youth, and both have passed away in these days. Let us together pray for them; let us also pray for their families, friends and communities. May the Risen Jesus receive them into the peace and joy of his Kingdom. And I would also like to ask for your prayers for another friend, a young Spanish man, Ignacio Gonzalvez, who was admitted to the “Bambino Gesù” hospital. Let us pray for him and for his health.

Find the courage to make difficult choices and say to Jesus: “You are my life, Lord.” “Lord, You are my life.” Thank you.



The Jubilee Cross, illuminated by the setting sun, is carried by Pope Leo at the head of a procession of young people during the Prayer Vigil at Tor Vergata on Saturday (@Vatican Media)

Anchored in Hope - Strenna 2025

*“Walking with the young, rooted in faith,
guided by Don Bosco.”*

In the Salesian tradition, the Strenna for each year carries a message of hope, renewal, and encouragement for the Salesian family and young people around the world. The theme for 2025, “Anchored in Hope – Pilgrims with the Young People,” invites us to reflect on the journey of faith, the importance of walking alongside the young in their quest for meaning, and the role of Don Bosco’s spirituality and educational method in guiding this pilgrimage.

At the heart of Don Bosco’s educational approach lies a deep commitment to the holistic formation of young people. His method, often called Preventive System, emphasizes reason, religion, and loving-kindness as the key components in shaping the lives of young people. It’s through this framework that Don Bosco established a way to accompany youth on their journey, not just as educators, but as true companions and pilgrims walking with them in faith and hope. In 2025, as we reflect on this year’s Strenna, we are reminded that, just as Don Bosco journeyed with his students, we are called to walk with the young people of today, anchoring them in the hope of Christ.

Pilgrims in Faith:

The metaphor of being pilgrims captures the essence of the Christian journey. A pilgrimage is a physical and spiritual journey toward a place of greater meaning and closeness to God. For Don Bosco, education was never just about imparting knowledge; it was about guiding young people on their spiritual pilgrimage, helping them grow in faith, hope, and love. This is where the concept of accompaniment becomes vital in Don Bosco’s spirituality. He believed in being present to the young people, listening to their struggles, sharing in their joys, and directing them toward a meaningful relationship with God.

In the Strenna of 2025, we are reminded that we, too, are pilgrims with the young people of today. Whether in the classroom, at the oratory, or within the larger community, Salesians educators are called to be companions in the pilgrimage of life. This pilgrimage is not without its challenges, yet it is anchored in hope. Hope that stems from the certainty of God’s loving presence. Just as Don Bosco believed that “the young are the future of the world,” we are reminded that the journey of faith for the youth is one of immense potential, joy, and transformation.



REV FR. THOMAS SANTIAGO SDB

Provincial, INH Province

Rejuvenating Hope in the Heart of the Young:

The Strenna emphasizes that hope is not merely a fleeting feeling of optimism, but a profound and lasting trust in God’s plan for each person. Don Bosco’s own life was a testament to the power of hope, especially in times of adversity. He was a man who faced numerous challenges: poverty, political instability, opposition and misunderstanding; but his unwavering hope in God’s providence fuelled his educational mission and helped him build a lasting legacy for young people.

For Don Bosco, young people were not just the recipients of education but the protagonists of their own stories. The role of educators, in this context, is to inspire the young minds to trust in God and to provide them with the tools to grow in faith. The hope we speak of in this Strenna is not a passive waiting for something good to happen, but a dynamic and active trust that drives the young to overcome obstacles, seek meaning, and pursue their vocation in Christ.

Don Bosco’s spirituality reminds us that hope is rooted in the deep love of God and the belief that every young person, regardless of one’s situation, can be transformed by grace. His vision was always inclusive and optimistic. He never perceived the young as a problem to be fixed but as opportunities to experience the God’s transforming love. This hope is precisely what young people need today; hope that helps them navigate a complex world, hope that helps them make sense of their identity, and hope that leads them to God’s unconditional love.

Conclusion:

The Strenna of 2025 calls all of us to reflect on the powerful role of hope in the lives of the young and to recognize the importance of walking alongside them as co-pilgrims in their journey of faith. Through Don Bosco’s spirituality and educational method we are reminded that this pilgrimage is not one we embark alone. We are called to walk with the young, helping them stay anchored in hope as they face the challenges and opportunities of life.

As Salesians, we are entrusted with the task of accompanying young people with reason, faith and Love, offering them the tools they need to live out their own vocation and mission in life. May this Strenna inspire us to be true pilgrims, always anchored in the hope that is found in Christ, and to bring this hope to the young people entrusted to our care.



The TCBC Youth Commission - Telugu Region witnessed a significant moment as Fr. Medi Sleevea Raju SDB officially took charge as the Regional Youth Director. The event was marked with prayer, thanksgiving, and a spirit of renewed commitment to youth ministry. In his inaugural message, Fr. Sleevea Raju expressed his joy in being entrusted with this mission and emphasized his vision to accompany the young with faith, hope, and leadership opportunities. He gratefully acknowledged the guidance of the Bishops, the support of the Regional Youth Office, and the collaboration of diocesan youth leaders.

PASSING THE TORCH: REGIONAL YOUTH DIRECTOR ASSUMES RESPONSIBILITY

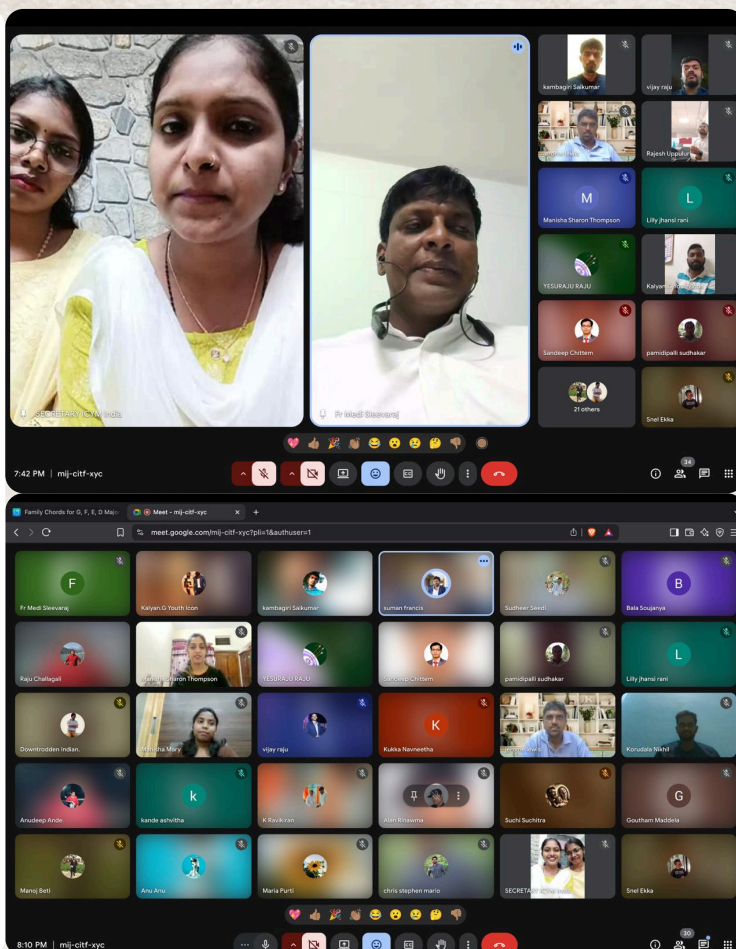
June 1, 2025



ICYM NEXCO CONNECT WITH TELUGU REGION

June 2, 2025

The TCBC Youth Commission of the Telugu Region successfully organized a virtual meeting with the Indian Catholic Youth Movement (ICYM) National Executive Team through Google Meet. More than 40 youth delegates and representatives from different dioceses of the Telugu Region actively participated in this enriching session. The session focused on two significant themes: the upcoming National Youth Convention (NYC) 2025 and the value of regional visits. Ms. Teresa David underlined the NYC as a moment of grace and an important platform for faith formation, leadership, and unity, urging dioceses to begin preparations early to ensure enthusiastic participation. Ms. Innocencia highlighted how regional visits by ICYM National leaders help strengthen grassroots connections, address local realities, and deepen collaboration across the country.



June 12, 2025



Walking Together in Faith: TCBC Youth Commission DYD's & REXCO Meeting



The TCBC Youth Commission held a significant regional meeting at Don Bosco Provincial House, Bandlaguda Jagir, gathering diocesan youth directors, youth leaders, Catholic movement representatives, and religious personnel from across Telugu dioceses to reflect on the mission and future of youth ministry. The day began with a prayer song and the lighting of the lamp by Fr. Santiago Thomas SDB, Fr. Kishore, Fr. Jaipual, Prakasamma, youth representatives, and religious sisters, symbolising collaboration between clergy, laity, and religious. Bishop Rayarala Vijaya Kumar PIME, Chairman of the Commission, addressed the assembly with a call to walk with young people in faith and hope. Fr. Noel, the guest speaker, encouraged a creative and pastoral approach to youth ministry. The gathering fostered fellowship through introductions, ice-breakers, and a warm welcome to new diocesan youth directors by the REXCO team. The NEXCO team bid a moving farewell to Fr. Sagili Praveen Kumar, who shared reflections on his seven years of service as Regional Youth Secretary. Highlights included Mr. Vijayraj's regional report and the launch of Yuvajwala, the Commission's youth magazine. Strategic planning sessions led by Salesian leaders concluded with Bishop Vijaya Kumar's blessing, marking a hopeful milestone for Telugu Catholic youth ministry.





Vijaya Kumar Rayarala, bishop of Srikakulam, was speaking at the Global Leaders' Summit that took place at the Taj Deccan in Hyderabad, south India, on June 13, 2025. Global leaders are to build bridges, not walls. They are not to build barriers but to make friends, said Rayarala, a member of the Pontifical Institute for Foreign Missions (PIME). He also took part in the launching of the book "YUVAJWALA" ("Young Flame") along with other global leaders.

Leading government officials, diplomats, visionaries, and changemakers were all part of this prestigious international conference. The summit, which featured prominent leaders like Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka (deputy chief minister of Telangana), D. Sridhar Babu (cabinet minister for IT and industries), and Ponnamm Prabhakar (cabinet minister for transport and backward class welfare), focused on international cooperation, sustainable development, global diplomacy, and strategic innovation. Lawmakers from Germany, Russia, Bulgaria, Malta, and Argentina were among the international delegates, along with prominent representatives from the European Trade Council, the Diplomatic Club, and the International Diplomatic Organization. The summit underscored how leadership and cross-border collaboration can contribute to a better future for the world.





YOUTH ANIMATION CLASSES FOR SISTERS OF CHARITY



The Sisters of Charity, Secunderabad, in collaboration with the TCBC Youth Commission, organized Youth Animation Classes to strengthen youth ministry skills. The sessions focused on pastoral presence, creative catechesis, leadership, and vocational accompaniment. Through workshops and prayer, the participants explored new approaches to guide and accompany young people. The program renewed their commitment to serve as mentors and companions, marking an important step in empowering the younger generation within the Church.



DIOCESE VISITS

IN THE ARCHDIOCESE
OF VISAKHAPATNAM
9TH JULY 2025



PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT

DB School Ravulapalem, AP, 11th July, 2025

Personality Development Classes was conducted for school students with the objective of nurturing confidence, communication skills, and holistic growth among young learners. The sessions were designed to go beyond academics, focusing on self-awareness, leadership qualities, time management, positive thinking, and teamwork. Through interactive activities, group discussions and motivational talks, students were encouraged to discover their strengths and work on areas needing improvement. Trainers highlighted the importance of good manners, emotional intelligence, social responsibility, and cultivating values that form the foundation of character. Special emphasis was given to effective communication, both verbal and non-verbal, to help students express themselves with clarity and conviction.



A special training program was organized to empower teachers in guiding and inspiring today's youth. The sessions focused on youth psychology, communication, leadership, digital-age challenges, and value-based education. Through interactive workshops and group activities, educators gained practical tools for mentoring young people with faith, sensitivity, and creativity. The program concluded with teachers committing themselves to be torchbearers of youth empowerment, helping students grow as responsible citizens and future leaders.



12TH JULY, 2025

TEACHERS ANIMATION



Nalgonda, 19th July 2025

Leadership Training Program

The Diocese of Nalgonda organized a Leadership Training Program under the guidance of Fr. Sleevaraj SDB, Regional Youth Director.

The training brought together over 300 young leaders from across the diocese. Through sessions on faith formation, servant leadership, communication, and youth mission, participants were enriched and motivated to take up greater responsibilities in their parishes and communities.

Fr. Sleevaraj SDB inspired the youth, reminding them that "leadership is not about power, but about service, commitment, and witnessing Christ in today's world."

This program became a memorable experience for the Nalgonda Diocesan Youth, strengthening them to serve the Church with unity and zeal.

Salesians Youth Coordinators Meet

23rd July 2025



The Salesian Youth Coordinators came together for a fruitful meeting marked by sharing, planning, and collaboration. Rev. Fr. Sleevaraj SDB, our Regional Youth Director, addressed the gathering and offered valuable insights on the structures of ICYM (Indian Catholic Youth Movement). His guidance helped the coordinators understand the organizational framework and the importance of structured leadership in building vibrant youth communities.



MJARC ONLINE MEETING

24TH JULY 2025

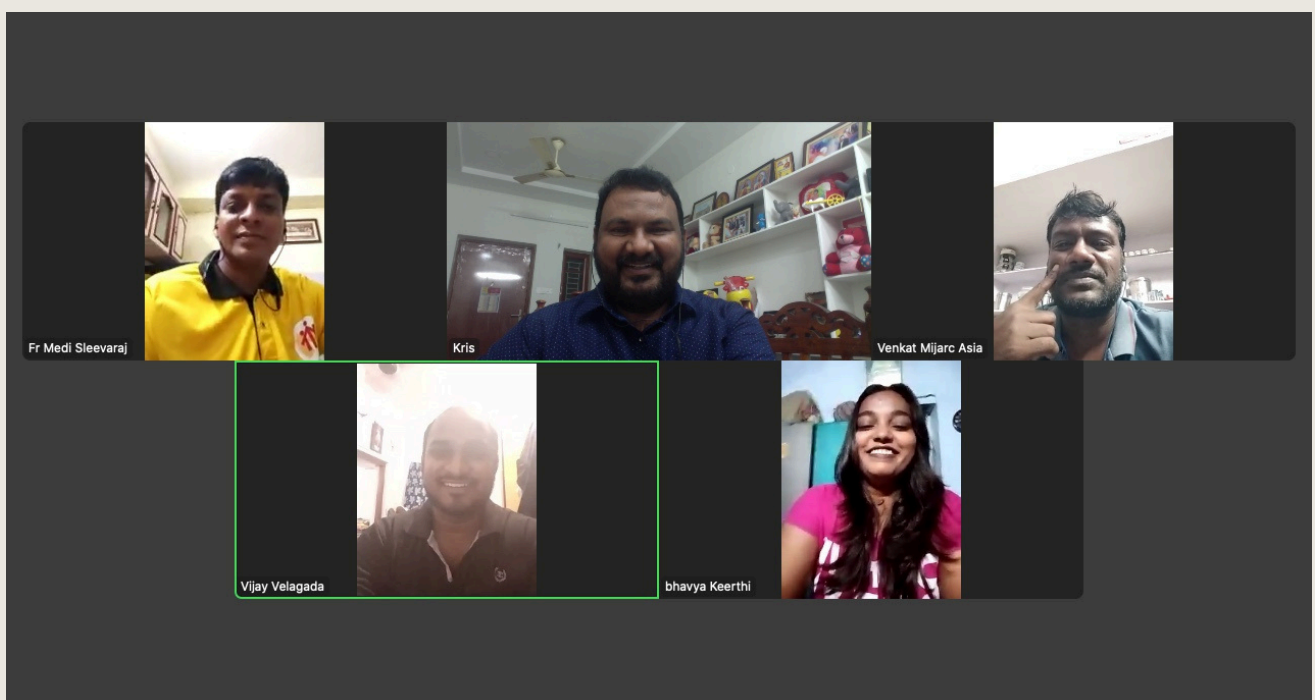


An online meeting of MIJARC was held with the newly elected coordinators of the Telugu Region – Mr. Lazar Vijay Kumar and Ms. Bhavya Sri – together with Adviser Mr. Krishnakar Kummari.

The meeting was graced by Fr. Sleevevaraj SDB, Regional Youth Director and Chaplain for MIJARC Telugu Region, who encouraged and guided the team with his words of wisdom.

This session served as a platform to introduce the new leadership team, discuss future plans, and explore ways of strengthening the mission of MIJARC in the Telugu Region.

Their commitment and vision mark the beginning of a new chapter for youth involvement in integral rural development, leadership, and social action through MIJARC.





8th August 2025

The TCBC Youth Commission, together with the Regional Youth Directors and animators, led the celebration of National Youth Sunday Holy Mass, broadcast live on Divyavani TV. The liturgy was animated by young people through hymns, readings, and prayers, reflecting their active role in the life of the Church.

In his homily, the celebrant encouraged youth to be friends of Jesus, bearers of hope, and witnesses of faith in society. The celebration united youth, families, and the faithful across the Telugu region, touching thousands of homes through the telecast and inspiring young people to respond generously to their Christian vocation.



Poster Launch of RLTP

10th August 2025

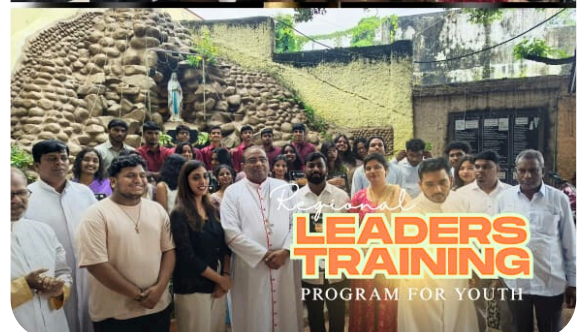
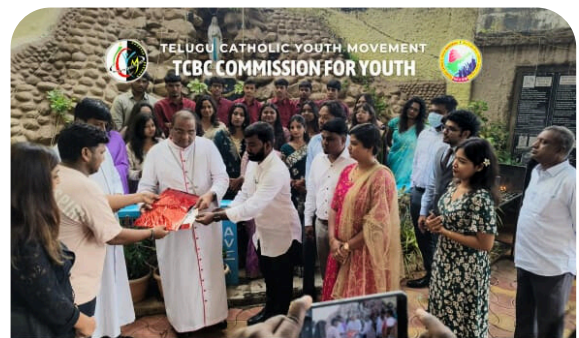
National Youth Sunday Special!

His Eminence Cardinal Poola Anthony unveiled the poster of the Regional Leaders Training Program of ICYM Telugu Region!

16-17 Sept 27-28, 2025 | 📍 BIRDY, Hyderabad

Let's journey together to form leaders of faith, service, and hope!

📞 Contact: Mr. Raju Challagali – 9985224701



MEGA JOB MELA

HYDERABAD

The Archdiocese of Hyderabad, in collaboration with Disha Don Bosco, organized a Mega Job Mela at St. Mary's School, Secunderabad. The event was a great success, reaching out to many young people in search of employment opportunities.

From the TCBC Youth Commission, the following representatives actively participated: Raju (Regional Youth President), Sharon Manisha, and eight youth delegates, along with Fr. Sleevaraj SDB, Regional Youth Director. Their presence added encouragement and support to the youth gathered.

A special word of appreciation goes to the Disha Don Bosco Team, whose tireless efforts made the event fruitful, and to Fr. Jerome, Youth Director of Hyderabad, for his leadership. Gratitude is also extended to the youth volunteers, who generously gave their time and energy to ensure the smooth conduct of the mela.

This initiative stands as a shining example of the Church accompanying young people, not only in faith formation but also in their career guidance and livelihood opportunities. It reflected the mission of the Youth Commission in empowering today's generation to become self-reliant and responsible contributors to society.





*"On your Episcopal Ordination Anniversary,
we thank God for your faithful,
compassionate, and visionary shepherding
of the flock entrusted to you."*



Congratulations!



Congratulations

&

Prayerful Wishes

*on completing 27 years as a priest
and 6 years as a bishop. May Christ
the Good Shepherd always guide
your ministry.*



His Excellency

Most Rev. Dr. Vijaya Kumar Rayarala PIME

CHAIRMAN, TCBC COMMISSION FOR YOUTH
BISHOP OF SRIKAKULAM

Best Wishes From

REXCO

7th August 2025

Hyderabad

Catholic Migrant Youth



The Telugu Catholic Bishops' Conference (TCBC) Youth Commission has initiated a Forum for Catholic Migrant Youth, recognizing the growing challenges and opportunities faced by young people who leave their native places for education, employment, and livelihood. The forum serves as a platform to connect, accompany, and empower migrant youth in their faith journey and social integration.



The launch gathering brought together migrant youth representatives, parish leaders, and youth animators, highlighting the pressing need for pastoral care, community support, and networking opportunities. Sessions focused on issues such as cultural adaptation, employment struggles, faith challenges in urban settings, and the importance of building supportive Catholic communities away from home. Speakers encouraged young migrants to remain rooted in their Catholic identity, while also contributing positively to their host communities. The forum aims to create safe spaces for dialogue, fellowship, and mutual growth, while offering spiritual guidance, career mentoring, and leadership training. The event concluded with a commissioning prayer, where leaders encouraged migrant youth to see themselves as ambassadors of faith and hope, building bridges between cultures while holding firm to Gospel values. This new forum marks a significant step in the Church's mission to walk with young migrants, ensuring they are never alone in their journey.



National Youth Sunday

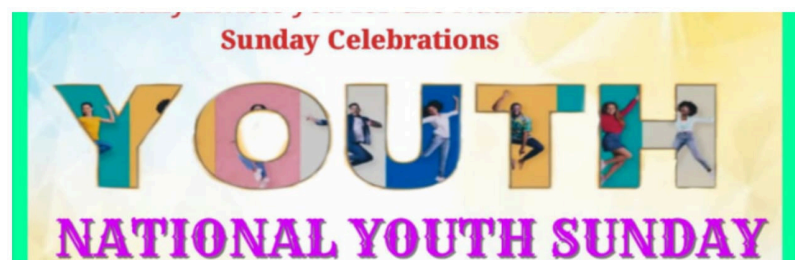


Telugu Region



NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY

20
25



YOUTH MINISTRY

Classes to Theology Students



The Youth Ministry Classes for the Final Year Theology Students at St. John's Regional Seminary, Hyderabad were successfully completed with great enthusiasm and active participation. These sessions were designed to equip the future priests with deeper understanding and practical skills for effective ministry with the youth, preparing them to serve as inspiring leaders in the Church.

Throughout the program, the students engaged in interactive sessions, discussions, and practical insights into the pastoral needs of young people. The classes highlighted the importance of youth animation, leadership formation, and creative evangelization to build a vibrant faith community.

A word of special thanks is extended to the REXCO Members for their valuable contribution and active involvement in making this program fruitful. Their support and presence added much strength and encouragement to the initiative.

The completion of this course marks another step in strengthening the mission of the Church through well-prepared shepherds who are ready to walk with the young, guide them in faith, and inspire them to become witnesses of Christ in today's world.



Walking Through Doors of Hope

My Story from the Jubilee of Youth 2025

When I first heard about the Jubilee of Youth 2025 in Rome, I imagined a grand event filled with choirs, Masses, and thousands of young people. What I did not expect was how deeply it would change my heart.

From the moment I landed in Rome, I felt the spirit of pilgrimage. Our group stayed in a humble school building—sleeping bags on the floor, shared bathrooms, and simple food. At first, I thought it would be difficult, but very soon those small inconveniences turned into moments of joy. We laughed together, prayed together, and felt like one family.

The inaugural Mass at St. Peter's Square was breathtaking. Thousands of flags waved in the air as we waited for Pope Leo XIV. When he arrived, smiling and blessing us, he said, "Be the salt of the earth and the light of the world." In that moment, I felt God was speaking directly to me.

Walking through the Holy Doors of the four basilicas was another powerful experience. Each door felt like a new beginning. At St. Peter's, I felt embraced by mercy. At St. John Lateran, I was reminded that we are one Church. At St. Paul Outside the Walls, I felt called to mission. And at St. Mary Major, I placed all the youth of India into Our Lady's care.

One of the most moving days was at Circus Maximus, where hundreds of priests heard confessions. Under the hot sun, thousands of young people waited joyfully for their turn. Watching them, I realized how beautiful God's mercy truly is.

But the night I will never forget was the vigil at Tor Vergata. Over a million young people prayed, sang, and listened to testimonies. And then, silence—complete silence—as the Eucharist was carried through the crowd. One million young hearts knelt before Jesus. I could feel heaven touching earth. Pope Leo XIV told us, "Dream big. Do not be afraid of holiness. Be builders of peace." Those words are now written on my heart.

On the final day, during the closing Mass, the Pope reminded us: "You are the sign that a different world is possible. Go, be Pilgrims of Hope in your nations." That was the mission I carried home to India.

This Jubilee was more than an event—it was a story of faith, friendship, and hope. I came back not just as Sagar, but as a pilgrim of hope, ready to serve with renewed courage.



Mr. Sagar Gabbeta,

Advisor & National Council Member
CCBI Youth Commission
Warangal Diocese - 9885074088



FROM SRIKAKULAM TO ROME

When I look back at the Jubilee of Youth 2025 in Rome, my heart is filled with gratitude and joy. It truly felt like a miracle, a direct intervention of Mary in my life.

I was blessed to travel as part of the Indian Catholic Youth Movement (ICYM) team, led by Fr. Chethan Machado, our National Youth Secretary. From July 28 to August 3, I joined nearly one million young people from 146 countries under the theme "Pilgrims of Hope."

The Mass of Welcome at St. Peter's Square on the first day set the tone for everything that followed. As I looked around, I saw young people from every corner of the world, all united in one faith — it was powerful and moving.

During the days of "In Dialogue with the City", I realized that Rome was not just a city of history and art; it became a place of living faith through our prayers, conversations, and friendships. We were not tourists — we were pilgrims.

The Penitential Day at Circus Maximus touched me deeply. In that vast space of silence and reconciliation, I experienced God's mercy in a new way. It reminded me that His love knows no boundaries.

The highlight was at Tor Vergata, where we had the Prayer Vigil and Closing Mass with Pope Leo XIV. Listening to the Pope respond to young people's questions about friendship, courage, and spirituality gave me new strength and direction. His words still echo in my heart as a call to live a joyful and courageous faith.

As I return to my Srikakulam Diocese, I carry with me the hope, energy, and commitment to serve our young people. This Jubilee has renewed my mission: to walk with the youth as a sister, a friend, and a witness of Christ.

I thank the TCBC Youth Commission for making my participation possible. This journey was not only mine but belongs to all the youth I now serve — together, we are truly Pilgrims of Hope.



— **Rev. Sr. Prameela FMA,**
Youth Animator,
Diocese of Srikakulam

NYD'S MEETING



The National Youth Directors' Meeting held in Kerala witnessed the vibrant participation of leaders from across India, under the leadership of Most Rev. Ignatius D'Souza, Chairman Bishop of the CCBI Youth Commission, and Fr. Chethan Machado, the National Youth Director, along with the National Team. Their guidance inspired and strengthened the delegates to deepen their commitment to youth ministry.

Representing the Telugu Region, Bishop Polimera Jayarao, member of the CCBI Youth Commission, and Sagar, National Representative, animated and motivated the participants. The delegation included Fr. Thambi, Fr. Jerome, Fr. Joji, Fr. Bhaskar, Fr. Paulraj, Fr. Jeeva Ratna, Fr. Karthik, and Fr. Sleevaraj. Sadly, Fr. Suresh was unable to join due to illness.

The Telugu Region Report was presented under the leadership of Bishop Rayarala Vijaya Kumar, PIME. The presentation highlighted three significant new initiatives: the launch of Yuva Jwala, Career Guidance and Job Placement, and the creation of the Catholic Migrant Youth (CMY) forum.

The meeting reflected a true spirit of collaboration and mission, emphasizing that the youth of India are the Church's present and future. The contribution of the Telugu Region was well appreciated, marking yet another milestone in its youth ministry journey.

Empowering Educators to Nurture Head, Heart, and Spirit



A one-day workshop on Transformative Education was held on 30 August 2025 at Mariagiri Shrine, Srikakulam, under the leadership of Most Rev. Rayarala Vijaya Kumar, PIME, Bishop of Srikakulam and Chairman of the Youth Commission. Nearly 200 educators from schools across the diocese participated with enthusiasm and commitment. The inauguration was conducted in a solemn and meaningful manner. In his address, Bishop Rayarala Vijaya Kumar highlighted education as a transformative force in society and the Church, stressing the crucial role of teachers in shaping young minds with both knowledge and values. The workshop was graced by several priests and religious leaders, including Fr. Duci Devaraj (Vicar General), Fr. Thumma Dominic GDM, Fr. Allam Vijaya Reddy (Director of the Pastoral Centre), Fr. Xavier Rex SJ, Fr. Medi Sleevaraj SDB (Regional Youth Director), and Sr. Joseph Mary JMJ. Fr. Thumma Dominic coordinated the program, ensuring its smooth flow, while Fr. Allam Vijaya Reddy extended full logistical support, including accommodation for the participants.

Key Sessions

- Fr. Xavier Rex SJ spoke on "Education from Head to Heart", introducing three levels of learning:
 - a. Normal Learning – acquiring knowledge,
 - b. Re-learning – unlearning and relearning for deeper understanding,
 - c. Be-learning – embodying values and living knowledge.
- Sr. Joseph Mary JMJ addressed the theme of Value Education, underlining the safeguarding rules and regulations within the educational system and stressing the creation of safe, value-centred environments for students.

The sessions left participants deeply motivated and inspired to integrate transformative methods into their teaching practice. The collaborative effort of clergy, religious, and laity made the workshop a significant milestone in empowering educators to nurture not only the intellect but also the heart and spirit of young learners.



National Youth Day of Faith and Celebration



A special youth session was held at Vijay Marie Nursing College under the guidance of Rev. Fr. Sleevaraj SDB, Regional Youth Director, with his team Mr. Raju (Regional Youth President) and Miss Sharon (Regional Youth Secretary). The program focused on youth leadership, cyber security, and values of service, love, and care for Mother Earth. The day included a Eucharistic celebration, investiture ceremony, and special session for teachers, leaving both students and faculty inspired and motivated.

70th Anniversary & 20th General Assembly of MIJARC World



The International Movement of Catholic Agricultural and Rural Youth (MIJARC World) marked its 70th Anniversary and 20th General Assembly on 28th August in Sri Lanka under the theme “Rural Youth and Agriculture.” Delegates from Africa, Europe, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean gathered to celebrate, reflect, and envision the future of rural youth.

The celebration opened with a solemn Holy Mass presided over by Most Rev. Vijay Rayarala, PIME, Bishop of Srikakulam, along with youth directors and leaders. A traditional Sri Lankan dance and flag hoisting ceremony highlighted MIJARC’s unity across continents.

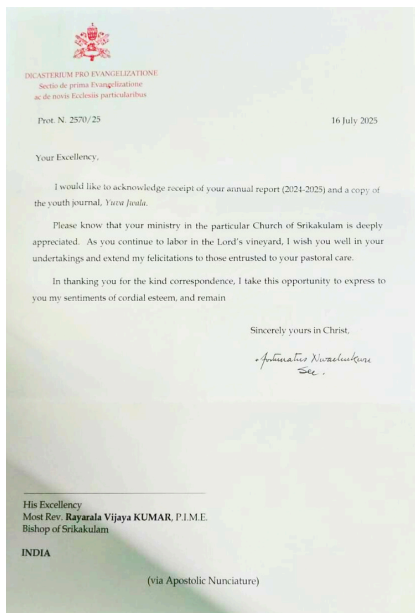
The sessions emphasized the empowerment of rural youth as key to sustainable agriculture, food security, and community development. Participants were encouraged to integrate modern technology with traditional farming practices to build resilience and eco-conscious communities.

An interactive session moderated by Ms. Viola (India) featured regional sharing from three continents, reaffirming MIJARC’s diversity and solidarity. Bishop Vijay underlined the role of youth leadership in integral human development.

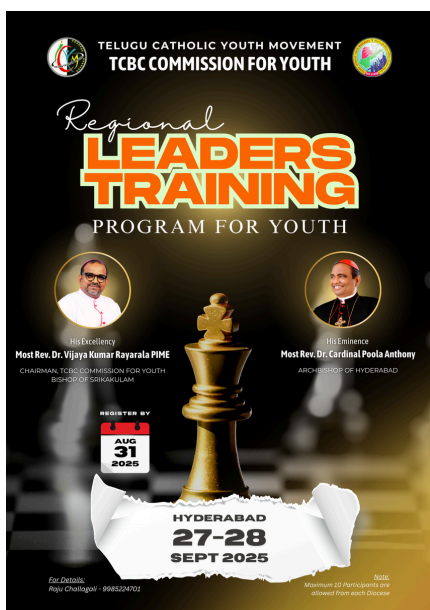
In the evening, Bishop Vijay led a formation session on ecology and *Laudato Si’*, urging youth to embrace “ecological conversion” and stewardship of creation, reminding them that “the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor are one.”

The anniversary concluded with cultural expressions, thanksgiving, and renewed commitment to MIJARC’s mission of faith, unity, and service.

DICASTERY FOR EVANGELIZATION RECEIVED “YUVAJWALA”



REGIONAL LEADERS TRAINING PROGRAM FOR YOUTH 2025 HYDERABAD



“LEADERSHIP IS SAYING YES TO THE LORD”

Dear Young Leaders,

Every great mission in the Bible began with a simple but powerful word – **“YES.”**

Mary said “Yes” to the angel and brought Christ into the world. The apostles said “Yes” and became fishers of men. Today, the Lord is calling each of us to say “Yes” to His work in our time and place.

Leadership in *youth ministry* is not about holding positions but about serving with **passion, humility, and courage**. It means standing up when others hesitate, guiding when others are confused, and inspiring when others lose hope. A true leader is one who listens to God’s call, and then acts with love and responsibility.

As we journey together, *I invite every young person* to become an active leader in the mission of Christ. Your parish, your diocese, and our region need your energy, creativity, and faith. The Church is alive when you say YES to the Lord and commit your talents to His service.

Let us rise as a generation of leaders who are not afraid to dream big, serve faithfully, and carry the torch of faith into every corner of society. Together, let us take part in the Lord’s work with joy, courage, and unity.

Dear friends, the Lord is waiting for your response. May your answer always be:

“Here I am Lord, I say YES to You.”



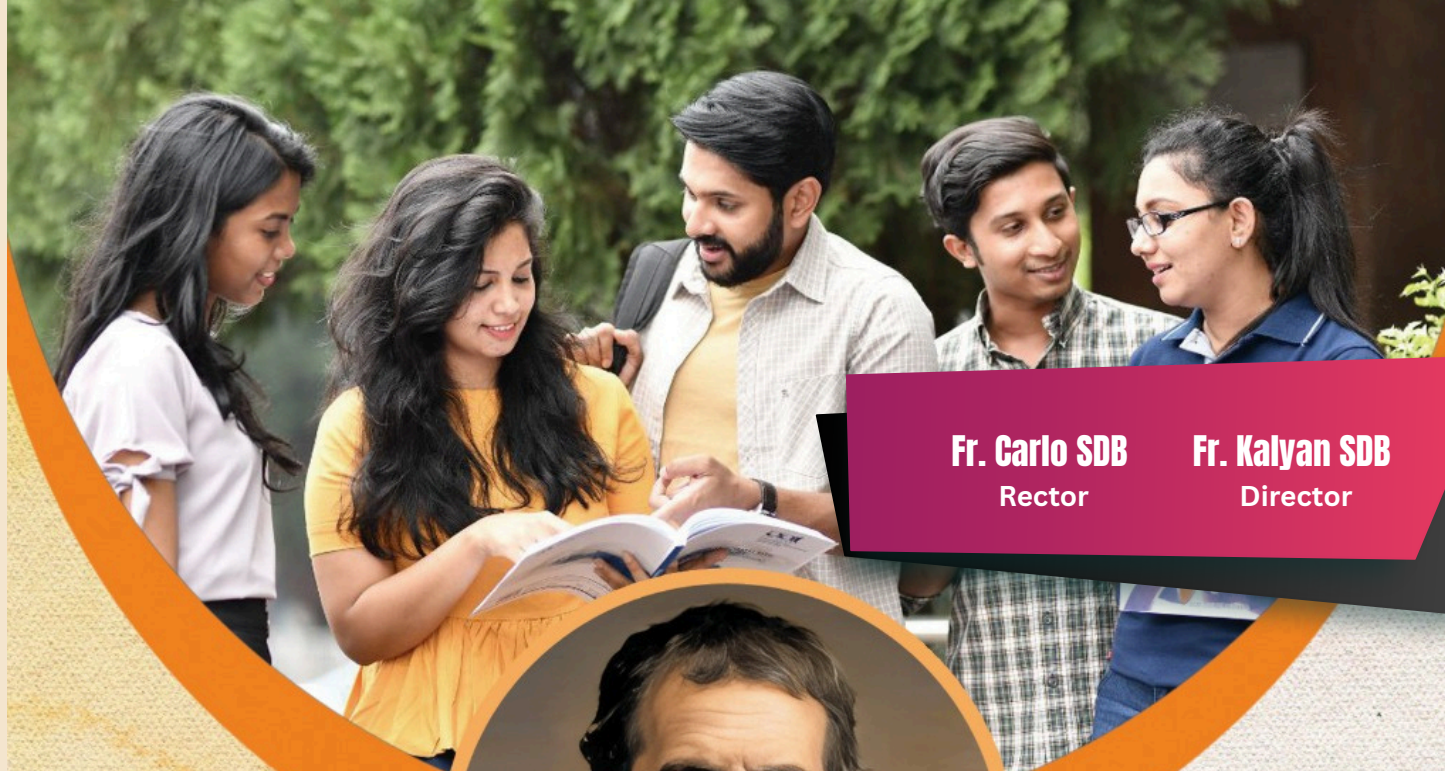
With prayers & encouragement,

Challagali Raju

Editor-in-Chief,

Regional Youth President,

ICYM Telugu Region



Fr. Carlo SDB
Rector

Fr. Kalyan SDB
Director



FR CARLO SDB
RECTOR,.

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Our Lady of Good Health
PRAY FOR US!