S.X.I.E.
CHRISTIAN MINORITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM REPORT
FEBRUARY 25, 2019

Session 1 on 5th floor- Life skills Program – Showing the way to GOD

Speaker- Fr. John Cyriac

- The session started with the meaning of Discernment,
- Decision making involves moments we have to walk alone. explained that moral judgment is affected by emotions and other factors like situations in life. Critical analysis was done on the situation and how we make decisions. Factors influencing decision making- Gender roles, values, morality. We studied various definitions of discernment- that it is not only distinguishing between good and bad, also between right from wrong, good and better, better and best.
- We discussed the road blocks and challenges lying ahead. What are the real challenges for us? Characteristics of a person who thinks with the head- Logical, rational, thick skinned, truth seeker, intellectual.
- Characteristics of a person who thinks with heart- emotional, passionate, gets hurt easily, feelings. Hence a decision should be ICED- Identifying the problem, Creating alternatives, Evaluating alternatives, Deciding the best option.
- Father explained about Consolation and Desolation
- The session was concluded by Ms. Neha Chawda proposing the vote of thanks to Fr. John Cyriac.

Session 1 – Showing the Way to God by Fr. Ivan D'Souzas.j. 3rd floor Christian Minority students

Fr Ivan D'Souza was the resource person for the first session of the Christian minority development program- showing the way to God. Various important discussions were held through different activities. Some of the points highlighted are as below. It is pointless building a career without character. The difference between a teacher and a Christian preacher is that a Christian teacher's first teacher is Jesus. Being Christian does not mean to live like Christ but live our uniqueness and let Christ flow through that uniqueness. A discussion was then held on different incidents in Jesus' life and the qualities he showed, that we as teachers must imbibe. Jesus chose 12 different apostles and not clichéd perfect men, thus the underlying statement is we are called to live our lives in our own beauty with our flaws and uniqueness.

Session 2- Journeying with the youth (Effective use of media) by Rev. Fr. Nigel Barrett

The session began with Fr. Nigel telling us about being relevant in the digital age. He put forth the facts in an amazing way which showed the evolution of the digital world over the past 12months. Fr. also spoke about how we have various apps found on the internet and how it is a

challenge to actually use the content and media found online effectively. In the session, the role of the teacher was also well brought out. It made us realize that our job as future teachers is to create minds that are critical and look beyond the superficial. He very well showed the pros and cons of using social media. His session consisted of many interesting and informative videos along with an innovative PPT. To make us realize about our smartphone addiction he even encouraged us to take a test. Fr. also displayed statistics on media usages and the various problems that arise because of it. He then spoke about an important topic that concerns school children and that is Cyber Bullying. Fr. then told us about the signs of Cyber Bullying and guidelines on how we can prevent it from happening. He also gave us many tips about how we can be more aware about the various things that go on in the virtual world. Fr. Nigel Barrett is an amazing orator who is very dynamic and provided superb examples throughout the session. No doubt, the entire session was a good learning experience for all who were present.

Session 3- Walking with the excluded- Fr. John Cyriac S.J.

The main aspect of this session was to think out of the box to walk with the excluded, rather than having general ideas from the society. Fr. John Cyriac began his session by telling us to draw as many as circles possible and write the number of circles which each of us could draw, before drawing the circle and when everybody completed the task, he asked to analyze with the assumed number of circles and drawn circles, thus he emphasized that we cannot underestimate our and also the other's capabilities. Each one is having their own resource but some have opportunity to use them well, some do not. Fr. John gave the second activity to fold the papers in a way we want and when most of us folded in twofold or four fold box type, he emphasized that the paper could have been folded differently, each one could have used their creativity. He then stressed that to walk with excluded needs to think creatively. The creative mind will think creative way to help the people who are in the peripheries. He concluded his session by telling two key points that as teachers we need to think out of the box and use creative ways to reach out to those children who are being excluded in various ways and we cannot underestimate ourselves and at the same time we should not underestimate the children we across in our classrooms.

Session 4- Care for creation by Fr. Ivan D'Souzas.j.

Father Ivan D'Souza displayed two videos; the first displaying the Earth's natural beauty and wonder, the second, an animated expression of man's destructive nature.

The participants were divided into groups and an activity of 'planning ways to destroy Earth ' was conducted by Father. Later based on that destructive activity at an individual level, solutions were to be devised by each group.

This activity stressed our individual role and gave more practical approach to dealing with environmental issues both points stressed upon by Father. He also showed us a video of Finland rejecting excess packaging of toothpaste. This demonstrated the collective power of informed citizens.

The sessions concluded with a secular prayer service loaded with reflection and self evaluation.