

## *Bishop's Message*



Dear Fathers, Sisters and Brothers,

I feel happy to share about two significant events which took place in our church last month. 34<sup>th</sup> World Youth Day was organized at Panama from 22<sup>nd</sup> January to 27<sup>th</sup> January. This celebration was an outcome of the 15<sup>th</sup> Synod of Bishops held at Rome in October 2018 on the theme: Youth, Hope and Discernment of Vocation. The Synod stressed that the Youth have a vital role to play in the Church and in the Society; and that it is necessary to recognize the youth and to listen to them if they are to play their active role as a movement. Our youth ministry deserves greater attention. The goodness and the energy of the youth need to be channelized constructively.

Meeting of the Catholic Bishops of India was held at Chennai from 7<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> January with the central theme: Joy of the Good News. 131 Bishops of the Latin rite participated in the Conference. It was emphasized that proclamation of the Good News, in today's context, needs to be understood as involvement of the Christians in the building of God's Kingdom. Two new Commissions, namely, Commission for **Basic Christian Communities** (BCC) and Commission for **Environment** have been established for this purpose. It was also stressed that the church should take a definite option for those who have been deprived of equal rights and human dignity; and should work with all people of good will, irrespective of the faith they follow. Shall we commit ourselves to the option for the exploited?

In the mind of Christ  
Sd/-

**Bishop Nazarene Soosai**