

St. John Calabria Parish, Hahim

St. John Calabria Parish is situated on the border of Meghalaya and Assam. Hence, the parish has people from both the states. Majority of the Catholics are Garos. It has also Rabhas and Nepales. The Rabhas are one of the earlier settlers and occupy a village. The Nepales are recent settlers of the place, migrated from Meghalaya.

Hahim was a sub centre of Boko Parish. It was opened at the request of the people, as they could not frequent the sacraments in the home parish due to distance and poor conveyance. The land for the mission was purchased by Fr. Mario Porcu SDB who thought of the development of the people. He started a school and entrusted its management to the teachers. The school had primary and upper primary sections until 2013.

The Congregation of the Poor Servants of Divine Providence (PSDP) came to Hahim at the invitation of the Archdiocese. Since their arrival, the name of the School was changed from 'Don Bosco School' to 'Divine Providence School' and it was upgraded to high school.

Presently, the parish has 18 villages with 230 families. Sunday Mass is held regularly, attended by people from the five villages around Hahim. Once a month, Holy Mass is organised in villages that are situated far away from the centre. Reaching the distant villages of the parish is difficult as they have no proper means of conveyance, except walking. Hence, most of these remain cut off during the rainy season. The present parish priest is Fr. Wilson Kiran Minj and the principal is Fr. Alex Koonthanam.

The people are cooperative and share the work of the parish. Regular celebration of sacraments has helped to strengthen the faith of the people. Their fervour has drawn the attention of people from other faiths and they have become receptive and welcoming.

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