

# Calcutta Jesuit Newsletter

কলকাতা যীশুসংঘের বার্তা



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## HAPPY FEAST OF ASSUMPTION AND INDEPENDENCE DAY

### PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

#### August 2019

- 05-09 : Visitation: Kalna-Pandua-Gurap
- 07 : Makrampur (Bolpur)  
Episcopal Silver Jubilee Rt. Rev Cyprian Monis
- 16-17 : Province Consult
- 22-23 : Provincial's Consult
- 21 : Archdiocesan Consult
- 24 : Province Days Committee Meeting

### DATES TO REMEMBER

#### August 10:

To submit the report of 1st sharing in preparation of Province Days

#### September 15:

To submit the report of the 2nd sharing in preparation of Province Days Provincial's Program

### LEFT THE SOCIETY

- Sch. Leonard Liton Tigga on 08.07.2019
- Sch. Swapon Patrick Biswas on 16.07.2019
- Sch. Ignatius Komol Palma on 03.08.2019



### Prabhu Jisur Girja

**Parish:** On June 30, St. Anthony Samity members had a day of Recollection at Prabhu Jisur Girja. July 13 was a historic day when the renovated Church was blessed and inaugurated by Archbishop Thomas D'Souza. A large number of priests and religious were present to solemnize the occasion. The entire program was meticulously planned by **Fr. Mahanda Singh** the Parish Priest. After the ceremony the parishioners were served with tea and snacks. The special invitees including **Bishop Linus Nirmal Gomes** joined the Prabhu Jisur Girja Jesuit community for a simple dinner.

Two Seminarians from Morning Star College Barrackpore - Bros. Sourav Marcel Tudu and Thomas S. CMF - are assigned to our parish for Ministries for one academic year. Fr Mahananda formally welcomed them on July 14 to the Parish.



**Jesuit Community:** Fr. Dipak Gomes conducted an 8 day retreat in Bengali to the “Adoration Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary’ at Krishnanagar from June 19 to 27. He preached a Recollection to the M.C. Sisters of Nimtola, Ursuline Sisters of Lenin Sarani and F.M.M. Sisters of Tollygunge on July 4, 8 and 2 respectively. He participated in the C.R.I. Kolkata Unit meeting at Holy Child School, C.I.T. Road where Sr. Inigo Joachim of St. Ann’s Sisters (Madhavaram), Chennai conducted sessions on “Commitment in Religious Life”.

*-Fr. Dipak Gomes & Mr. Andrio Arup Gomes*

### St. Xavier’s Burdwan

The first of the three recollections as a preparation for the Province days in December 2019 was held on July 6. Our superior, Fr. Maria Joseph guided us through the entire process. We had an engaging spiritual conversation during the recollection. Fr. Paul Arockiam, the principal and the vice principals Frs. Maria Joseph and T.V. George, initiated “Forest Week” celebration on July 13 in our school and we were delighted to have a chief guest Mrs. Marietka from Slovenia, a friend of Fr. Maria Joseph. Our students showed great interests and expressed their love for nature through arts, dance and skit. Thanks to our dear teachers who worked tirelessly to make this event a successful one. We celebrated “Edu Fest-19” from July 25 to 27. Ours is the only school which organizes edu-fest in the entire city of Burdwan. The students showed off their skills and talents in both Arts and Science.

The college has come to life now after the summer vacation. The new first years went through a week long Bridge Course to acclimatize themselves with English and the new environment of the college. Our hostel is picking up now. Currently, we have boys from both the college and the school (though only 11 and 12 boys). From next year onwards, we intend to take boys from class 5 and above.

*-Fr. Maria. S*

### St. Xavier’s University, Kolkata

St. Xavier’s University had the first year inauguration for all the P.G. courses on July 6, 2019 and for all U.G. courses on July 8, 2019. The Xavier Business School had its inauguration on July 16, 2019.

St. Xavier’s University has started the Xavier Law School and has received the final approval from the Bar Council of India on July 3, 2019. The Academic session will commence on August 3, 2019 with two five-year integrated Law courses in B.A. LLB. and B.Com. LLB. with three sections of approximately 50 students each.

Around 950 students have joined the University as freshers this year. As of July 22, 2019, the University has a total of 68 Faculty members and 63 Non-teaching staff.

The two Bishops of Baraipur, Bishop Salvadore Lobo and Bishop Shyamal Bose paid a visit to St. Xavier’s University on July 18, 2019 and the University’s Jesuit community hosted a dinner for them.

*Ms. Ruth De Rosario*



### St. Lawrence School

The first Inter School Staff Football tournament was held on April 27 – 28. Schools such as St. Xavier’s Collegiate School, St. Paul’s High School, Raghobpur, Jadavpur Vidyapith, New Town School, Rajarhat, Belkulai C.K.A.V Vidyapith, Howrah and St. Lawrence High School participated. While St. Lawrence emerged as the winner, St. Xavier’s Collegiate School took the second place.



On April 28, the fourth chapter of the “Tin and Can” tournament was held. On May 8, Robi-Baul-Mela was held to honour the birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore. Among the many programs, “Khyatir Birombona”, a play, by our students and baul songs by Rabi Das Baul stood out.

On May 14 – 21, 46 students and 6 teachers went on an excursion to Sikkim. They visited a number of places and came back rejuvenated. On May 10, Labourer’s Day was celebrated. The “Silent Heroes” of our school were honoured and felicitated. On June 13, a Staff Orientation program for the Primary teachers was conducted by psychologist Ms. Subhika Singh. “The Joy of Teaching” was the theme for the day. She also conducted a Staff Orientation program for all the Secondary and Higher Secondary teachers on June 28 where she focused on “The Power of Possibilities.” Fr. Sebastian James, the principal reiterated the importance of a teacher’s role in a student’s life.

As part of the ‘Expression 2019’ program, around 1700 students, participated in a drawing competition. “Sports, Environment and Peace” was the theme. Mr. Bradstock drew a picture on the topic along with the students. He inspired everyone with his enormous energy and enthusiasm.



The School was privileged to have Mr. Aniruddha Bose, Supreme Court Judge and Justice Soumen Sen of Kolkata High Court on June 27. Class 12 students had an engaging and interactive session with them.

*Somashree Hazra, Asst. Teacher*

## Raghabpur Community

After a long time, South Bengal is experiencing scarcity of water. Ponds are almost dry and we are praying for rain. Raghabpur parish welcomed our new **Deacon Anmol Minj** who is already totally involved in the pastoral ministry. The parish now has a Family Commission with 15 members. The Commission will reach out to broken families and promote family life. In addition to being a minister and senior school Prefect, **Br. Chottu** has also become the in-charge of the youth of the parish. On the other hand our Regent **Sch. Jobin** looks after the altar servers.

Every Sunday, Sixteen Juniors from Dhyana Ashram go to five different sub-centers for their Sunday ministries.

*Fr. Salvatore Murmu*

## Navjoyti Niketan, Bangladesh

**Fr. Srijon** guided one month retreat for eight nuns and a lay person. About sixty people came to the center for a ten day Vipasana meditation course. One hundred and fifty Internally Migrated Adivasi Youth working in various factories in Dhaka-Narayangunj and Ruggunj came to Navjoyti Niketan for a day of faith formation program.

**Fr. Pradeep** organized a day of seminar for the Magis Bangla youth. Fr. Srijon motivated the youth by explaining the 'Power of positive thinking' and **Fr. Jerry** spoke about 'Jesuit way of education' and 'AICUF' movement in India. In addition to his spiritual ministries, **Fr. George** renders his generous pastoral service to Doripara parish. He is teaching the "Theology of Religious Vows" to five nuns who are preparing to pronounce their final vows. Fr. Jerry gave a recollection talk based on the Papal message 'The world day of sick' to nuns and nurses of Kumudini Hospital. As part of the feast day preparation, a triduum has been arranged for the faithful of Bangladesh to pray with the spiritual exercises of St. Ignatius from July 28 to 30.

*Fr. C John*

## Vidyajothi Delhi

**Schs. Felix, Robert and Suresh** went to Kurseong for a month long Pre-Ordination program (POP). Fr. George Beck (DUM) directed the theologians. A good amount of time was spent on personal reflection and priesthood in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. The ambience was conducive for spiritual conversations with our companions which has strengthened our bond. The main focus of POP was re-reading Fr. Arrupe's letters on Priesthood and reflecting. Br. Gabriel (DAR) took great care of us all.

On July 5 and 6, we had the community orientation on the theme, "We are a Blessing to each Other." Fr. Rector emphasized on the importance of being a blessing to each other. Sch. Suresh organized the liturgy meticulously.

The academic year 2019-20 was inaugurated on July 8. "Announcing the Gospel with Joy" was the chosen themes.

Besides his teaching, writing and pastoral works, **Fr. Poulouse Mangai** is actively involved in the CRI, Delhi Unit. He attended the national meeting of CRI Regional Secretaries in Bangalore in May. As the CRI North Region Secretary, he organized a two-day CRI-CBCI North Region AGBM in Delhi

in July. He has been re-elected as the secretary for another term of three years.

*Sch. Antony Suresh*

## Premananda Ashram Chamrusai

Rt. Rev. Archbishop Thomas D'souza installed **Fr. Sebastian Xalxo** as the parish of St. Ignatius parish on July 14 in a solemn Eucharist. The Archbishop was solemnly welcomed by the parishioners in the Santal traditional way. Fr. Joseph Sudhir Tudu, the dean of Medinapur deanery and **Fr. Ajay Kumar Ekka**, MC sisters, MC brothers, and many faithful from our three sub-stations such as Salua, Chorda and Nadna were present for the occasion. There was a short cultural program after the Holy Mass by our boarders. The Bishop had a brief interaction with the boarders and blessed them. We began the Novena to St. Ignatius of Loyola on July 21. The parishioners are taking turns to conduct the Novena.

*- Fr. Sebastian Xalxo*

## News from Namchi

Pleasant weather, friendly people, delicious food, student-centred syllabus and a vibrant Jesuit community: that is my first impression of Loyola College of Education, Namchi. We began the new academic year with a week-long emersion programme –Inauguration and ice-breaking on 15th July; Orientation programme by Mr. Rajan Banerjee –a lay leader, on 16th July; Mass of the Holy Spirit on 19th July; and Fresher's Party on 20th July. My birthday was celebrated on 28th July in Jesuit Residence and in College hostel.

The College and the community celebrated the Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola with great vigour. The day started with the Thanksgiving Eucharist presided over by Bp. Stephen Lepcha, the bishop of Darjeeling and Sikkim. The Jesuit students staged a short play on St. Ignatius of Loyola titled 'A Soldier Saint'. The celebrations culminated with a fellowship meal, and throw-ball match for girls and a mixed basketball match.

We are fourteen in our community: four staff priests, six student priests and four scholastics.

*Fr. Roshan Tirkey*

## Magisbangla Camp at Bhorpara, Bangladesh

Magisbangla movement is gaining momentum in Bangladesh. About 90 college/university students and working adults participated in the first Magisbangla Camp during the Eid-ul-Fitr holidays. The camp was held at Bhorpara Parish of Khulna Diocese from June 5 to 9. The theme for the camp was 'ei jiboner ortho khunji' (search for the meaning of this life). The program included activities like-morning meditation, cooking, cleaning, manual work, games and interesting sessions, Eucharist and sat-sang (Ignatian Examen in group). In the sessions, we highlighted the issues that affect today's youth like relationships, boundaries of life,



abuse and religion. **Fr. Pradeep Perez** conducted the whole camp with the help of Magis members. On the third day we went on a pilgrimage to places such as the historical complex of Mujibnagar, Joypur, and the Marian shrine of Khulna diocese. Overall, the camp was a memorable event for many. We sincerely thank Fr. Babul Boiragi, the Parish Priest and his assistant Fr. Ripon Sarder, Srs. Helen Catangatang FI, Gloria Corraiya SMMI, Maloti Malo SC, Margaret Gomes SC, our Jesuit Brothers and all the participants.

*Sch. Jeffrey Finny*

### Gratitude to Fr. Joseph Pulickal

'Jesuits making a road through the Himalayas!' sounds a bit crazy! That's what we just did. In July 2016, the team of NJSI (Nepal Jesuit Social Institute) was planning for the earthquake post recovery interface in the village of Tipling 200 km North West of Kthmandu. Nepal Jesuits had their presence in this remote village since Fr. Cap Miller started his anthropological research on the Tamang ethnicity there some 40 years ago.

The idea of making a road emerged in the group when the director of NJSI said as a joke, 'It would be better to make a road to Tipling than trying to carry the construction materials on mules or by helicopters.' One of the staff, who was from Tipling, highlighted the possibility of a 27 km road connecting the nearest track in the place called Somdang. The team got interested but nobody knew how to do it. **Fr. Joseph Pulickal** from Kolkatta province was in the group, and he said, 'Let us do an assessment instead of sitting here and talking.'

Therefore, the NJSI director and Fr. Joseph Puli started the assessment work and reached the starting point of the road on July 17, 2016. Due to heavy rain and landslides, they could not proceed further and returned the same day. Later Fr. Puli volunteered to go for a second survey in October with some engineers and walked all the way to Tipling from Somdang. When he returned with the team, he clearly pointed out the hurdles involved while assuring that this project could be done.

With all the necessary permissions from the Government officials, we started an apparently impossible work with a meagre budget of 3.5 crores while the government estimated about 7 crores. On the suggestion of Fr. Puli and with the Regional Superior's permission a JCB was purchased. Even though Fr. Puli could not be with us to see the completion of the road, he continued to help us online while being in Kolkatta Province. His readiness to go to any remote location any time of the year, regardless of the danger, inspired many of us.

Today all of us stand proudly, and claim the completion of Xavier Marg – the first ever road to Tipling. Thank you Fr.



Puli for what you are to NJSI.

*Fr. Roy Sebastian, Director, Nepal Jesuit Social Institute*

### DNC, Pune

De Nobili College is brimming with life. Every scholastic has been assigned to a living group and given a responsibility for the smooth functioning of the community. On July 6, the living groups had their faith sharing followed by the Eucharistic celebration. The first year philosophers had their Philosophy Eligibility Test on July 5. Along with their academic pursuits, the scholastics are currently actively engaged in ministries.

As a Province group, we celebrated **Sch. Manish's** birthday on July 1. On the occasion of the feast of St. Thomas the apostle, the DNC community celebrated the Holy Eucharist in Syro-Malabar rite. It was a time for many of the scholastics to get a taste of another liturgical rite within the Catholic Church.

On July 19, the social wing of the JDV Students Council organized its first extended lecture for the academic year 2019-20. The theme was 'Post Election Prospects for the Poor in India.' Mrs. Kiran Moghe, an economist and National Leader of All India Democratic Women's Association (AIDWA), critically analyzed the process and the result of the national election. In her analysis, she underscored that the prospect for the poor is bleak. Hence, she challenged the audience to break barriers and join hands with the people of goodwill to build alternatives along for all to live in peace.

*Sch. Prosenjit Gomes*

### Satya Nilayam, Chennai

On July 3, our community went on a pilgrimage to St Thomas Mount to celebrate the feast of St. Thomas. On July 5, Satya Nilayam organized De Nobili Endowment Lecture on the challenges and struggles of living and working with world religions. Rev. Dr. Packiam T Samuel, Director of Henry Martyn Institute was the main speaker. On July 10, Fr.



Lawrence Fernandez took charge as the Principal of Sacred Heart College. Fr. Francis Xavier, Rector of Loyola College and Fr. Boniface Panna, Rector of Satya Nilayam solemnized the event. On July 11, **Sch. Tomy Manu** was elected as the 2nd year student representative. On July 12, Br. Malcolm, Spiritual director was felicitated. He served the community for the last 6 years. We began the Novena to St. Ignatius on July 22. We interacted with Fr Stan Lourdasamy (JAM) to know about his participation in active social movements in North India on July 24.



-Sch. Michael Costa

### First Convocation of St. Xavier's University

Thiruvananthapuram MP, Shashi Tharoor, and an alumnus of St. Xavier's School, Kolkata from 1969 to 1971 delivered the convocation address on Saturday, July 27 on the occasion of the first convocation of the St. Xavier's University.

Tharoor said, "...You don't create graduates for the real world without knowing what the real world wants... Too many of our graduates are overqualified for the jobs available. For the talent we have, we don't seem to know what to do with it."



I am sure this won't be a problem for the graduates I am addressing today at St Xavier's University. But you must be aware of the broader national picture," Tharoor said.

**Fr. Felix Raj**, the Vice-Chancellor of St Xavier's University, presented a report where he spoke in detail about the activities of the university in the last one year. The university gave postgraduate degrees to 135 students at the convocation held on the New Town campus. Fr. Felix Raj congratulated all the degree awardees.

"This is a historical moment for us and the students who received the degrees on this occasion will be remembered for years to come. They are the first fruits of this tree (University) and I thank the entire university community that has helped to build this great institution... St Xavier's University, Calcutta, is just a two-year-old infant, but it has already taken great

strides by contributing towards knowledge creation," said Fr. Felix Raj.

-Fr. Felix Raj

### Dhyan Ashram

**Novitiate:** On June 29, DA welcomed seventeen new faces in the novitiate and Juniorate and gave farewell to **Fr. Julian** and **Br. Chottu**, former Acting Rector and Minister respectively and novice Ashim thanked them. On the following day, we celebrated the Jubilees of **Frs. Carvalho, Pierre Jacob** and **Thottam** with religious friends from neighbouring communities. Fr. Carvalho could not be present because of his ill health. Frs. Pierre and Thottam expressed their sentiments of gratitude to God and to the Society of Jesus for their fruitful fifty years of priesthood.



The seven new novices were welcomed solemnly into the novitiate at the end of their First Probation during the community Eucharist on July 3, Feast of St Thomas. **Fr. Sajeev**, the Novice Master, presided over the Eucharist and reminded the newcomers that they are responsible for this conscious decision that they are making. The novitiate community went on a picnic to Noorpur. The MC Brothers offered us kind hospitality and we also had a friendly volleyball match with the brothers. We had a great day walking along the Hoogly river.



**Juniorate:** Mark Twain said, "The secret of getting ahead is getting started," we the Juniors begun our regular classes of the Academic Year 2019-20 on July 1.

On July 6, we had a pastoral orientation program in Raghobpur parish prior to the commencement of our Sunday apostolates. **Frs. Patrick Walsh, Salvatore Murmu and Jothi Irudaya** gave us a brief historical, religious and political

scenario of various sub-stations under Raghobpur parish. On the following day we began our Sunday apostolates.

**Fr. Anbu Raj** gave a week-long course on Basic Computer Skills during the third week of July. Now we are computer literates and adept in using the basic programs. The community has started a meaningful Novena to St Ignatius as part of the spiritual preparation for the feast. The Novices and Juniors are giving their best in preparing creative prayers on various inspiring themes. Presently we are busy with regular classes with bundles of assignments to complete.

--*Novice Alister & Sch. Babulal Tudu*

### St. Xavier's Durgapur

**Fr K.C. Jacob** was gifted and implanted with a new pacemaker on 3rd July, at Belle Vue Clinice. Thanks to **Bro Chinta, Fr. Peter** and St. Xavier's college community Kolkata for taking care of him so well.

**Fr. Jimmy** Attended a weeklong training programme for Principles, organized by the CISCE at the zonal office of the Council at Kolkata, from 1st to 6th July. The programme provided insights and inputs on various aspects of school leadership and administration.

First Recollection in preparation for Province Days – 2019, for the Dispersed Communities of ASN, BMJ, & DGP, as directed by Fr. Provincial, was held at Loyola Jayanti Vidyapit, Bankura, on Sunday, 14th July, 2019, at 3.00 PM. All the members, except Fr KC Jacob, who was convalescing at St. Xavier's Kolkata, participated.

Nature Club of SXS Durgapur, organised the Environmental Awareness Day on 22nd July. Students and teachers took a 10-fold oath on the occasion, to protect nature. School introduced separate, colour coded dustbins for degradable and non degradable wastes.

**Fr. Tom** completed the painting of the primary school walls, pillars and steps with colourful, interesting, useful and educative information, sketches and pictures.

Feast of St. Ignatius was celebrated with a common assembly, lunch for staff on 30th July and a Mass for our 50



catholic students, 20 catholic staff, retired staff and their families on 31st. A felicitation programme and an exhibition football match were organised on the occasion. A dinner was also organised for the neighbouring religious and diocesan communities. **Fr. Devasy**, our extended community member, joined on the occasion.

St. Xavier's Durgapur, won the overall champion's trophy, at the inter school cultural festival, 'Serphina', organized by St. Michael's School, Durgapur.

*Fr. Jimmy K*

## Understanding and assimilating the Universal Apostolic Preferences

**Fr General Arturo Sosa** opened the gathering in Hong Kong of the Jesuit Conference of Asia Pacific's major superiors, delegates, coordinators, secretaries and directors of work with a message about the Universal Apostolic Preferences (UAPs)

"This week, you gather to open yourselves fully to being guided by the Holy Spirit. The challenge before you is to be sensitive to the movements in your heart," was the reminder from the Superior General of the Society of Jesus. "We as a body can be led by the Holy Spirit."...

He called on all to be part of this "community of discernment", walking together to discern a shared vision so that the whole Asia Pacific Conference can move forward together. Fr General drew upon the example of St Ignatius and his own encounter: "The foundation for conversion of heart and of human action is the personal encounter with God, an encounter like the one that changed the life of Ignatius Loyola and that can change our life-mission as well.".....

Fr. General said: "The experience of communicating to the Society this mission received from the Holy Father, has confirmed for me the depth and complexity of the changes being demanded." From the Gospel of Luke, he chose a passage that struck a deep chord with the group: "No one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the new wine will burst the skins, and it will be spilled, and the skins will be ruined. Rather, new wine must be put into fresh wineskins. And no one who has been drinking old wine desires new, for he says, "The old is good."

- *(Jesuit Asia Pacific Conference)*

## Rest In Peace

**Fr. I. Savarimuthu (HAZ, 76/56)** passed away on 08.07.2019 at Kulithalai, Trichy, Tamilnadu

**Fr. Aloysius Murzello (BOM, 77/57)** passed away on 10.07.2019 at Mumbai.

**Fr. Augustine Silveira (BOM, 82/59)** passed away on 12.07.2019 at Vinayalaya, Mumbai.

**Fr Hedwig da Costa (KAR, 83/66), passed away on 31.07.2019 at Bengaluru**

**Mr. Joseph Padiyara (49)**, brother for Fr. Johson Padiyara, passed away on 03.08.2019

**Ms. Arul Rose (73)**, sister of Fr. John Chinnapan, passed away on 04.08.2019



Please send your news before the 25th of every month.

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