



GUJARAT JESUIT SAMACHAR

Premal Jyoti, PB 4002, Ahmedabad - 380 009



72/913 GJS FEBRUARY 2020

PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

FEBRUARY

- 01 CCD Board of trustees meeting
- 02 Shamgahan - Final Vows: Fr John Kennedy
- 03 Sevasi XTI, Sneha Jyoti: Informal Visit
- 04 Anklaav: Informal Visit
- 05 Premal Jyoti: Finance Commission Meeting
- 06 Formation Commission Meeting, 3 to 7pm
- 06-08 Loyola Hall: Visitation
- 09 Rajpipla: JESA Meeting
- 10 Baroda: Youth Commission Meeting
- 11 Ahmedabad: XRF Board Meeting
- 13-14 Gandhinagar: Visitation
- 18-19 Premal Jyoti: Consult
- 21-22 Nadiad: Eco Workshop
- 23-01/3 Nepal: JCSA

MARCH

- 04 -05 Satya Nilayam, Chennai: visitation
- 06 - 07 DNC, Pune: Visitation
- 08 - 09 Vinayalaya, Mumbai: Visitation
- 16 - 18 Sevasi: Superiors' Forum & PCM

APPOINTMENTS

► GENERAL has appointed

- ♦ **Fr. Camilus Kishore** - Province Consultor, Gujarat

► PROVINCIAL has appointed

- ♦ **Fr. James Savarimuthu**, Acting Superior, Premal Jyoti, Ahmedabad
- ♦ **Fr. Gnanaraj M**, proposed PP, St. Joseph's Parish, Nanisingloli
- ♦ **Fr. Agnelo Vaz**, proposed Asst. PP, St. Ignatius Loyola Parish, Ahmedabad
- ♦ **Fr. Jobin Kaniyarakathu**, proposed Asst. PP, St. Joseph's Parish, Nanisingloli
- ♦ **Fr. Freddy D'souza**, proposed Asst. PP, St. John de Britto Parish, Varasda
- ♦ **Fr. Anthony Moonnupeedikail**, proposed Asst. PP, Unteshwari

► PROVINCIAL has entrusted

- ♦ **Fr. Gnanaraj M**, additional responsibility, Zankhvav land legal matters
- ♦ **Fr. Manoj Parmar**, additional responsibility, Vyara land legal matters

S.No.	Name	Current Stage & Place	Next Stage & Place
1	Sch. Dalvi Raman	M.Sc. Mathematics PJ	JUNIORATE: Gujarati Language & Culture, Shraddha, PJ, Ahmedabad
2	Sch. Makwana Aric	Philosophy, SN, Chennai	
3	Sch. Pereira Jipson	Philosophy, SN, Chennai	
4	Sch. Parmar Alam	Regency, Subir	
5	Sch. MacwanAllwin	Dipl. Tech. XTI, Sevasi	PHILOSOPHY JDV, Pune
6	Sch. Makwana Yakub	Regency - Bardipada	PHILOSOPHY JDV, Pune

PROVINCE HIGHLIGHTS

»» THANK YOU AND WELCOME

The festival of Uttarayan (14 January) was a very special day for the people of Gujarat and an extra special day for the Premal Jyoti community of Jesuits! On that day, we bade farewell to **Fr. Shekhar Manickam**, the Superior of the community and the Socius of the Gujarat Province and warmly welcomed **Fr Alpesh Macwan** as the new Socius of the Province. Fr. Shekhar will shortly be taking up his new assignment in the Jesuit Curia in Rome, as the Regional Secretary of South Asia. Presiding over the Eucharistic celebration Provincial Fr. Durai Fernand,



spoke of different authorities that are given to people and the responsibility these entailed. As a sign of their love and appreciation for Fr. Shekhar, the scholastics screened a short video presentation highlighting the ways he had inspired them. At the felicitation ceremony after the Eucharist, Sch. Naveen Tigga was also greeted on his birthday! We were also blest to have Fr. Anand Pereira, the PCF of Kohima at the celebration. It was truly an unforgettable evening! (Sch. Jangsinrei Titus Gonmei, KOH)

»» A DECADE OF SERVICE

The St. Francis Parish Youth (SFPY) celebrated ten years (2009-19) of fruitful service on 12 January, at the Centre for Youth and Senior Citizens Hall, St. Xavier's, Anand. The founding team members and the present team members presided over the function. They shared their inspirations, experiences and memories to an audience of over 170. The function was organized by SFPY Youth Director **Fr. Moieson Dhas** together with his core group members and supported by **Fr. Melquides Guedes**, the parish priest. **Fr. Francis Parmar**, **Fr. Albert Arockiam**, other fathers and sisters blest the occasion with their gracious presence.

Fr. Albert Delgado (Founder of SFPY) and Mr. Milan (former President of SFPY) shared their personal experiences with stories of youth empowerment and development through varied activities organized by SFPY during the past ten years. Their sharing highlighted the formation of youth in the Christian values of love and service. A short film with photomontages of the decade long SFPY activities by Mr. Chirag inspired the youth of the past and present to work and support the SFPY's ongoing activities. A vibrant cultural programme by the youth added to the joy of the occasion. The core group of SFPY worked hard to mobilize youth from all the ten villages of Gamdi, Anand Parish. It was edifying to see the elders and married youth who continue to support the diverse activities of SFPY. The participation of youth from St. Joseph Parish, Vadodara and ICYM Karamsad has strengthened inter-parish collaboration and networking. At the end of the function, Mr. Jothi Xavier and the team introduced the combined youth project for Anand and Varasda parishes titled, "Igniting Young Minds through Youth Ministry" to all the participants. (Fr. Moieson Dhas)



►► YUVADIN CELEBRATIONS

‘Yuvadin’ was celebrated at St Xavier’s Surat on 5 January. It was organized by Step of Inspiration (SOI) and brought together more than 500 youth from the various tribal hostels of Surat city and from some parishes of South Gujarat. The National Advisor of AICUF Fr S Emmanuel SJ and the Director of the AICUF Ashram Bhopal and the convener of AYCM (Adivasi Yuva Chetna Manch), Fr Alok Kujur SJ (MAP), and Mr. Anant Patel, MLA of Vansda besides several fathers and sisters, graced the occasion. **Fr Sudhir Bhatia**, Principal, St Xavier’s School, motivated the youth to pass the competitive exams, become a civil servant an agent of change. Fr Alok with his song and talk elevated the spirit and identity of Adivasi youth. Fr Emmanuel appreciated the initiative taken by SOI and encouraged them to become the members of the AICUF. **Fr Francis Macwan** exhorted the youth to take risks in order to achieve their goals in life. **Fr Ishwan Gamit** and **Fr. Nagin Macwan** appreciated the hard work put in by the SOI team and assured them of their cooperation. Post-lunch there were plenty of games, singing and dancing. Yuvadin was a celebration of the youth for the youth! Kudos to all! (Fr. Nagin Macwan)



►► ADIVASI SANSKRUTIK EKTA SAMMELAN

As every year, it was once again, a sea of tribal men, women and youth at the annual ‘Adivasi Sanskrutik Ekta Sammelan’. This year it was held at the Sidco Maidan of Palghar (Maharashtra) from 13 -15 January. Organized

by Adivasi Ekta Parishad, this annual mega-event of the tribals mainly from Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh showcases unity, identity and culture of the tribals of India. Perhaps the only national event by the tribals of such a magnitude is an event only to be seen to be believed. A mystery disproving all theories of event management, this festival is a combination of tribal thought and sensibilities, on one side incessant lectures and reflection sessions for hundreds under a huge pandal and on the other side thousands savoring the taste of local tribal naglirotlas and bhajis, mandas and tekhdas in the food stalls. Yet another corner is left for those wanting to passionately immerse in dancing to their merry. Amidst all these are rows of stalls marketing tribal artifacts, books, magazines, musical instruments, medicines and name anything tribal. Jesuits of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Ranchi were not left out of this experience of getting gently soaked in the tribal-ness of our nation.

Fr. Stanny Pinto actively involved in the "Chintan Baithaks" on various tribal issues, while **Fr. Vinayak Jadav** together with Editor Dr. Anand Vasava and the Adilok Team interacted with subscribers adding many new ones this time with a designed-for-the-occasion issue, a Hindi Version of Adilok. **Frs. Sobers D’Cunha** and **Varghese Vadakumcherry** traveled with a massive contingent of Sabarkantha and Aravalli tribals filled in no less than eleven buses. Jesuits from neighbouring Nandurbar and Manor made it in larger presence while ISI Delhi was represented by Fr. Rajiv Ekka. Many sisters and their people from Zankhvav, Dadhvada, Narukot represented the Church of Gujarat. The Hon. Governor of Chhattisgarh Anusuiya Ukey graced the occasion with her special presence.

For the people of Palghar, the mammoth inaugural rally with drowning DJs, drums and dances marching through their town and later, the three eventful days were indeed a scaring witness of tribal 'Shakti Pradarshan', the much felt



need of a tribal presence in the mainstream Indian polity.
(Fr. Vinayak Jadav)

»» SOCIAL MEDIA SEMINAR

A seminar on Social Media was jointly organized by the Gujarat Vidya Deep Seminary, Sevasi, in collaboration with the CRI Baroda at Gujarat Vidya Deep, Sevasi from 10-12 January. Archbishop Thomas Macwan presided over the Inaugural Eucharist and emeritus **Archbishop Stanislaus Fernandes**, the Administrator of the Baroda Diocese, celebrated the Eucharist on the following day. The resource persons were Fr. Robert Pen, Rector of Divyadaan, Salesian Institute of Philosophy, Nasik, and Mr. Shaji Mathew, an IT professional and director of websickle.com, Bangalore. They spoke about the power of social media, the use and abuse of social media and how to use it effectively for ministry and evangelization. Among several inputs on the media, the participants were made aware of what really happens once they begin to use social media for communication: about digital footprints, the privacy issues, who use it, its function and its impact on teens. The seminar was very well appreciated by the participants. Kudos to **Fr Joe Mangalam** and others for taking the initiative and organizing the seminar. (Sr Matilda Alfonso)

»» NOVITIATE EXPERIENCES

It was time for “experiments” for the II-year novices. Along with two other novice companions, **Pradip Gamit** was sent to the Belewadi mission, which is run by a lay person Guru Santaji Lobo. He is involved in inculturation and interreligious dialogue among the Hindus, Muslims and Protestants. As a part of our mission we conducted prayer services in the families of Hindus, Muslims and Protestants. The one and half hour of prayer service was consisted of hymns, recitation of the Rosary, reading and reflecting on the Gospel and intercessory prayers. It was a very inspiring experience. On the 14 November, 2019, the second novices returned to XTC from our mission experiment. Fr. Anil our Novice Master, gave us points for recollection and orientation for our next experiment: a walking pilgrimage to Goa, begging alms and helping out



in Bom Jesus Basilica, during the Novena and Feast of St. Francis Xavier. On 18 November, together with two other companions, we began our pilgrimage to Goa by begging alms. After three and half days of meaningful pilgrimage, we reached Goa on 21 November. We then had a rich pastoral experience for the next nine days like distributing communion, writing mass intentions and helping out wherever needed. This pilgrimage experiment helped us to grow in our vocation and deepen our faith in the Lord.

In the absence of the second-year novices, the first-year novices began the intense preparation for the long retreat. On 1 November, we began our spiritual journey with the Lord guided by Fr. Anil who helped us discern our vocation. After the Long retreat, we had a course on the dynamics of the spiritual exercises, by Fr. Fermin D’Souza (GOA).

Several faithful and others from neighbouring village (Nittur) joined us for the Christmas vigil mass. The liturgy for this Mass was prepared by the first-year novices. We had some wonderful fun-filled Community Days (26-30 December), which also included a day’s outing to the Desur Fort. Once again, for the New Year vigil mass, the first-year novices prepared a meaningful liturgy. The second-year novices were at their places of ministry both for Christmas and New Year. (Novices Pradip and Anburaj)

»» GOD- EXPERIENCE

The Pre-novices from Sughadpanth performed a cultural programme on 11 January, at ‘Shanti Nilaya’, the home for the dying destitute run by the Missionaries of Charity. The programme consisted of a short skit, two dances and some carols. At the end of the programme we also danced with the inmates. For the inmates, the Sisters and for us it was a delightful evening; besides, we experienced the presence of God among them. (William Santosh, Pre-novice)



»» ON THIS ROCK....!

For the faithful of Charvi, Unai Parish, 26 January, India’s 71st Republic Day was more than memorable.



Their very own Church was blessed and inaugurated by **Fr Durai Fernand**, the Provincial of Gujarat. A colourful and prayerful procession, which included the recitation of the Rosary preceded the blessing. Fr Durai then presided over a meaningful Eucharistic Celebration which was interspersed with lively dances and gutsy singing by the choir. After the Eucharist, **Fr. Reji Madathikunnel** led the faithful in a short but devotional adoration. A felicitation programme which honoured some of those who labored to make a dream a reality and a sumptuous lunch for the over two thousand crowd was the climax of a historic day at Charvi!

Many had come from distant villages for the inauguration; they were all very happy with the arrangements made. Kudos to the Parish Priest, **Fr. Robert Parmar** and the village team who spared no efforts to make this event an unforgettable one! (Fr. Sudhir Chettiar)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

» SEMINAR ON YOUTH MINISTRY

A Seminar on Youth ministry is organized by Gujarat Vidya Deep, Sevasi in collaboration with Gujarat Jesuit Youth Commission and Don Bosco Animation Centre from Friday February 21 to Sunday February 23, 2020 at GVD, Sevasi. The Seminar will help the participants to update themselves in the theology of Youth Ministry in the light of the most recent Church documents and the Church's approach to Youth Ministry. It will be useful to facilitate ministry to the young. For more details contact **Fr J Mangalam, SJ (Mob: 9409448402)**.



◀ 04: Erection of
Gujarat Vice Province (1956):
We pray in a very special way for the Province.

JESUIT SAINTS OF THE MONTH



♦ St. John de Britto



♦ Bl. Rudolph Aquaviva



♦ Bl. Alphonsus Pacheco,
Anthony Francisco, Peter
Berno & Francis Aranha



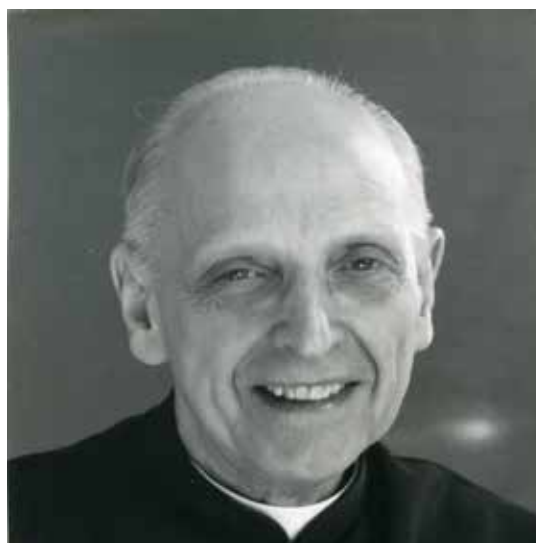
♦ Sts. Paul Miki &
Companions



♦ St. Claude La
Colombiere



♦ Presentation of the Lord



▲ 05: Death Anniversary
of Fr. Arrupe (1991)



FR. JOAQUIN CIVIAC SJ (1932 - 2019)

A Wise Man from the West!

Fr. Joaquin Civiac Luna SJ was born on 18 Sep, 1932, in Alcolea (De Cinca, Huesca), Spain. He entered the Society of Jesus on 14 Sep, 1951, Loyola, Spain. He was ordained in Mariampura, Petlad on 24 March 1965. He pronounced his Final Vows on 20 Jan, 1982.

As a young scholastic in India, I used to wonder what was it that attracted some of the stalwarts of the Gujarat Mission, to travel often to Anklaav to spend a week end with the lonely missionary there. One day I was invited by (at the time) my Superior Fr. Isudas Cueli, to sit behind his Bultaco and spend such a week-end with Fr. Civiac in Anklaav.

At the beginning, I was not sure if Civiac was talking to me in Spanish, English, and Gujarati....or was it Hindi..? But later on, I became familiar with his peculiar Aragonian accent and soon afterwards I was delighted with the gems of advice that often came from his lips: "Did I hear you say that you don't have time to pray? Don't fool yourself!! WE ALL HAVE TIME FOR WHAT WE WANT!" Shabash!! That was the best advice I have ever received on that matter.

I think the wisdom of Fr. Civiac came from two sources: one was the sharp intelligence and good memory that God gifted him with....and the other, the painful experiences of his childhood.

Joaquin Civiac, was four years old when the Spanish Civil war began and seven years old when it ended. During the war, his father (a well-to-do land owner and

pious Catholic) was assassinated by jealous and greedy neighbours....and his brave widowed mother had to fight many odds to keep their property and educate her three children: two boys and one girl. Joaquin Civiac being the second son.

Joaquin was sent to study in the prestigious Jesuit School of Zaragoza – El Salvador - where he excelled in all the subjects.....plus he was one of the best players in the School Senior football team.

He entered the Jesuit Novitiate in Loyola, Spain, in 1951, and he is well remembered by his companions because he defeated the best Basque players at their favourite game: hand ball!! After finishing Philosophy and Regency in Spain he came to India in 1962 and finished his Theology studies in the Papal Athenaeum at Pune.

Ordained in 1965, he celebrated his First Mass in Petlad. His mother Pilar had travelled alone to India to





be present for such grand occasion. When someone asked her how was the First Mass of her son she replied: "First Mass? But he finished it so fast!! I thought it was only a Benediction!" Like mother, like son.

Civiac's first innings of missionary life were spent between Anklaav and Amod. While on holidays in Spain, he was sometimes substituted by his good friend our dear Fr. William Paul who in his proverbial ingenuity sent to Civiac the famous master piece of a comforting letter: "Don't be in a hurry to come back; in your absence Anklaav has improved very much!" But of course, true or false, this story like many others narrated by Civiac, once repeated a hundred times with exactly the same words....became absolute truths....!!!

Then came a few years in Los Angeles, California, USA, where he went after his disagreement with the late Bishop Charles Gomes on account of his supposed favouritism/bias towards the Bareyas and (according to Civiac) neglect of the local Vankars. When the American Jesuits became proficient in Spanish...Civiac felt he was not needed any more and returned to India, miraculously obtaining again a missionary visa, something very rare and difficult at that time.



He was once again PP in Kathlal and the last Jesuit PP in Vadtal. When the Pilar Fathers who came to take over that Mission, were urging Civiac to remain longer with them there, he came his wise replay: "No. This is a very nice Mission and the only problems you may have here...are the ones you may create!" His last years were spent as Assistant to Fr. Sunil Solanki in Anklaav and later as companion to Fr. Piyush in Nadiad Technical.

During his last visit to Spain he complained of abdominal pain and was operated upon in Zaragoza for some tumour. He returned to India after the operation but kept to himself the truth of that tumour and the fact that he was not well and suffering. I visited him often in Nadiad, but he never disclosed to me how serious the matter was.

Finally it became clear that he could not continue any more in Nadiad and spent the last months of his life in Jeevan Darshan under the watchful care of good Fr. Shaji. But the cancer had spread and the Doctors were convinced that there was nothing more they could do.

Two days before his death I visited him in Pilar Hospital and these were his last words as he was holding my hand with still surprising strength: "It was difficult to do always what God wanted....but, I am telling you, it is even more difficult to want what He does!"

Mercifully, on 27 December 2019, his death came quick enough and God spared him a painful and prolonged old age.

Certainly a blessing for dear Civiac!

As for us, while we grieve the loss of such a wise and enjoyable friend. - we shall continue trying to do what God wants and may God help us, when He decides to act and call us back to where we truly belong.

- Fr. Joaquin Castiella SJ







R.I.P

- † Fr. Errol D'Lima (BOM), 77/61, on 05 Jan in Mumbai
- † Br. Arockiasamy Sebastian (MAD), 72/52, on 19 Jan in Madurai
- † Fr. Thomas Pullenkav (CCU), 80/37, on 20 Jan
- † Fr. Joachim D'Mello (GOA), 68/46, on 21 Jan in Guyana
- † Fr. Prasad Lankapalli (AND, 53/34), on 27 Jan in Pune



“Consecrated life means going to the very root of the love of Jesus Christ with an undivided heart and putting nothing ahead of this love.”

— Pope Benedict XVI

GREEN CORNER

BIRDS OF THE SAME FEATHER....

We are birds of the same nest,
We may wear different skins,
We may speak different languages,
We may believe in different religions,
We may belong to different cultures,
Yet we share the same home – our Earth.

(from Atharva Veda)

It is time to realize that all God's Creation in the Universe are connected to each other. If we do not live this intimate relationship of our 'common home', we will all sink together.

Pope Francis' encyclical 'Laudato Si' affirms the same message to Christians and all people of good will. "human life is grounded in three fundamental and closely intertwined relationships: with God, with our neighbour and with the earth itself" (LS 66).

A three-days' workshop in the Western Region of SJ's and our lay collaborators at Nadiad this month is meant to discover and deepen the Ecological foundations of our faith. More and more Religious Congregations are getting their members to delve deep and integrate the ecological awareness and involvement as a crucial dimension of the mission they have been called to.

(Fr. Rappai Poothokaren)



BIRTHDAYS & DEATH DAYS 2020

01 Pablo Gil	Fr John Khanna – 2014+	20 Iñaki Bereciartua
Fr Joaquin Vilallonga – 1963+	10 Michael Lopes	Lucio Damboriena Echabide – 2016+
03 Lucas Rayappan	Fr Jose Sallas – 1976+	21 Miguel Aizpun
Raman Dalvi	11 Rayappan Irudayam	Fr Arvind Parmar – 1995+
Pragasam Maria Joseph – 2016+	12 Manoj Parmar	Fr Fernandes Lovett – 2001+
04 Br Felipe Lizarralde – 2011+	Mathew Pichalakkattu	26 Fidelis Parmar
05 Abraham Kallarangatt	14 Sobers D'Cunha	Fr Perez Remon Joaquin – 1985+
Nicolas Hernandez	Br Mattos Amaro – 2008+	27 Vincent Saldanha
Xavier Amalraj	15 Melwin D'sa	Fr Thomas Andueza - 1927+
06 Albert Delgado	17 Cipriano Mendía	28 Rappai Poothokaren
Fr Moneny Luis – 1988+	18 Alok Soreng	
07 Br Salvador Galicia – 2008+	Paul Raj	
09 Patrick Fernandes	19 Alwin Macwan	

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