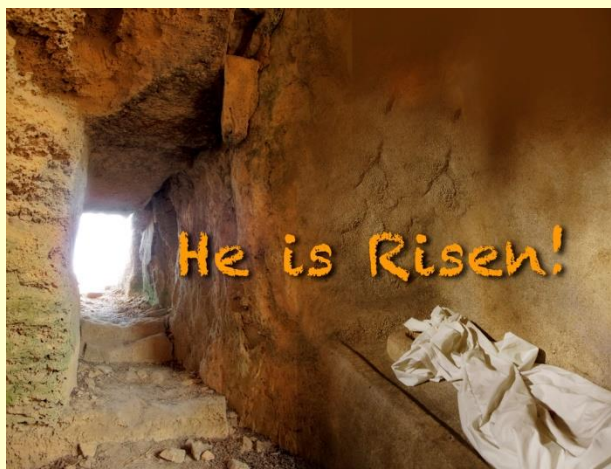


2021/04

APRIL 2021

73<sup>RD</sup> Year



*May the graces of Easter  
- Joy, Peace and Hope -  
be yours in this Easter season.*

**OFFICIAL.....** 

**Fr General has appointed:**

Fr. Zbigniew Leczkowski, SJ, as the new Provincial of the Province of Greater Poland and Mazovia.

**With the consent of Fr. Provincial,**

**POSA has appointed:**

Peter Ignatius – JD, Pune (wef May 2021)

**Archbishop of Patna has appointed:**

Stanny Lazarus – PP, Barbigha (wef May 2021)

**Administrator of Buxar Diocese has Appointed:**

Alwyn D'Souza – Treasurer, Buxar Diocese

**Provincial of Delhi has appointed:**

Joe Kootinal – Loyola Sadan, Lucknow (wef June 2021)

Mani Poovakot – Loyola Sadan, Lucknow (wef July 2021)

**Fr. Provincial has appointed:**

Anthony samy – Shanti Sadan, Allahabad

Selvin Xavier – Rest & Renewal (wef April 2021)

**A gentle reminder:** Those who have not yet sent in their 'Acknowledgement Slip' to the Provincial, regarding the Province Congregation materials you have received, should do so at the earliest.

**PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME**

**April 2021**

01-03 – Easter Triduum    04-12 – Province Office  
12 – SSH Final Vows, Kurji    15 – Muzaffarpur  
16-17 – Ratanpurwa    18 – Gaunaha  
19-20 – KR Bettiah    22 – Prov. Office

**May 2021**

06-09 – Leadership Prog., Atmadarshan  
10 – Province Consult  
20-23 – Summer Gathering with Sch.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

Bihar School Examination Board (BSEB) published the results of Intermediate Course (+2) on 26 March 2021 and of Matric on 5 April 2021. Our Schools affiliated to BSEB and Social Action Centres conducting coaching classes for students of Dalit caste communities through long duration Residential Programmes for Classes IX to XII have come out with flying colours, including a student of CH School, Ara securing V<sup>th</sup> rank in the State

**Congratulations** to our Principals / Headmasters, school / social centre administrative teams, teaching and support staff, parents / guardians of our students, and above all our lovely students, for the outstanding performance.

Of the 1,089 Matric students (Boys-736 and Girls-353), 971 (Boys-666 and Girls-305) have secured I Division and 106 (Boys-65 and Girls-41) have secured II Division. Of the 340 Intermediate (+2) students (174 Boys and 166 Girls), 274 (130 Boys and 144 Girls) have secured I Division and 54 (37 Boys and 17 Girls) have secured II Division. (Details on page 9). **Keep it up folks.**

**LOCAL REPORTS**

**Kaiserganj: Blessing and Inauguration of Jesuit Residence.** March 13, 2021, was an important day of our mission at Kaiserganj in Uttar Pradesh. It was three days prior to the centenary (16 March 1921 – 16 March 2021) of the arrival of the American Jesuits in Patna. The blessing and inauguration of the Jesuit Residence (Centenary Building!) at Kaiserganj took place in the presence of a good number of Fathers, Sisters and well-

wishers on Saturday, March 13, 2021 at 11.30 a.m. Rt. Rev. Gerald John Mathias, Bishop of Lucknow, blessed the Residence and **Fr. Donald Miranda, SJ**, Provincial of Patna, inaugurated it. At the beginning of the programme, **Fr. Joseph Sebastian, SJ**, Rector of St. Xavier's, Patna, welcomed everyone present for the blessing and inauguration. After the inauguration, the Bishop and the Provincial blessed all the rooms and surroundings.



A felicitation Programme was organised after the blessing and inauguration. The Bishop in his message thanked the Jesuits for beginning the mission at Kaiserganj and exhorted them to develop the mission as early as possible. He further asked the Jesuit Community to extend their mission to the neighbouring Catholic communities and others through various spiritual and social ministries. He expressed his hope that our presence here will not only bring new dimensions to various ministries here, but also in the diocese. Fr. Provincial thanked the Bishop of Lucknow, the clergy, religious and others for the support and encouragement that we have received here and assured that the mission will continue and we will do everything within our capacity to develop the mission. He explained the historical background and evolution of our mission at Kaiserganj. He informed all present that the Jesuits have prepared a detailed plan for developing this mission and it will be done in a phased manner in the coming years.

We felicitated the dignitaries and others who helped us in our mission. The presence of **Fr. Edward Mendonca, SJ**, the explorer of this mission, along with members of our community from Patna and other Jesuits from Patna, Lucknow and Allahabad added to our joy. We specially thanked Fr. Ronald D'Souza, former VG and current estate manager of the diocese, Fr. Simon Fernandez for their continued support and help. Engineer Mr. S.K. Gupta, Contractor, Mr. S.K. Verma and all others who helped and contributed to the construction of the building and to the mission here, were also felicitated. The Jesuits acknowledged the warm and cordial welcome they received from the bishop and the diocese and specially from the clergy and religious of Ghaghara zone. The diocesan clergy and religious of Ghaghara zone were present with many other well-wishers. We further remembered and

thanked all the Patna Jesuits who have helped the mission at Kaiserganj to make it a reality and made this day possible. **Fr. Sudeep Chacko, SJ** proposed the vote of thanks and everyone joined the fellowship meal thereafter. We are grateful to Fr. Christopher Kandulna, SJ, Novice Master, **Fr. Nicholas Kulandai, SJ**, Socius to the Novice Master, and all the novices for their support and help from June 2020 and specially the help rendered during the programme.

**Fr. Rajesh Kant Prasad, SJ**, joined the community on the same day and was warmly welcomed as we moved into the new residence in the evening. Fr. Rector presided over the thanksgiving Eucharist during which he recalled the blessings that we have received in our mission at Kaiserganj and surrendered to the Lord all the plans of our apostolate here. We were happy that Fr. Rector, along with other members of our community and **Fr. Joe Pulickal, SJ**, stayed with us for our first two days in the new residence.

- *George Nedumattam*

**Ara:** The month of March was a time of blessings for the Buxar Diocese and particularly for Ara parish, as the Sisters of Missionaries of Charity (MC) formally began their ministry among the poor in Ara. On 19 March, feast of St. Joseph, Husband of Mary, there was a solemn Mass presided over by His Grace Archbishop Sebastian Kallupura, followed by a cultural and felicitation ceremony for all the MC Sisters present. It was a historical event for Ara Parish as the welcoming programme witnessed the presence of Sr. Prema the Superior General of the MC Congregation, along with many MC Sisters,



His Grace emeritus Archbishop of Patna **William D'Souza SJ**, many priests and religious of Buxar diocese were also present for the occasion. For the parishioners of Ara, who had gathered in good number, it was a joyous day. **Br. Siluvainathan SJ**, gave a day of recollection to the Buxar diocesan priests. During the Holy week, **Fr. Virendra SJ** directed the faithful of Ara parish into two days of recollection. He prepared them spiritually to celebrate Easter meaningfully. A good number of the faithful attended the recollection and spiritually benefitted a lot. The community members along with **Fr. Francis Palliparambil**,

**SJ**, the Parish priest, spent the Holy Week attending to the spiritual needs of the parishioners. On 19 March **Fr. Sylvester Dungdung, SJ**, rushed home as he received a message about the critical health condition of his mother after she had a fall. He was with her in her final moments on 21 March, when she responded to the call of the Lord to enter the abode of Eternal Peace and Joy. On 6 April **Fr. Alwyn D'Souza** moved to the Bishop's House, Buxar for his new mission as Treasurer of the Diocese. - *Amul Jacob*

**Fatima Mata Susamachar Kendra (FMSK):** We have started five day Residential Retreats from the first week of February. Since then the number of participants is steadily increasing. Braving the corona pandemic situation, many from far and wide come here for the healing touch of Jesus. On 3rd of March, **Fr. Henry, Fr. Mathew, Fr. Virendra** and Sr. Namrata joined the Province Centenary celebrations at XTTI. It was an emotionally enriching experience for all of us as the lives of veteran missionaries who have gone ahead of us were depicted in a very dramatic way. On 6 March, **Fr. Henry** and **Fr. Virendra** attended the budget session in St. Michael's School. The Director of Asian Trading Corporation from Bangalore came to see the different missionary works in our Diocese and Province. **Fr. George Karamayil** and Sr. Manjusha, HC were his hosts. He had interaction with us for a brief period. After his home visit, **Fr. Satya** is back in our community, safe and sound. By the grace of God, we could join our parish for Holy Week celebrations.

- *Virendra Jagdish*

**KR Bettiah:** The month of March started with the celebration of the Centenary Year of Patna Jesuit Mission, in which many of the members of our community participated in the ceremony at XTTI, Patna. At the same time KR High School conducted exams for the students. The Candidates who went to Gaunaha and Muzaffarpur, returned full of rich experiences on the 5<sup>th</sup> and the 6<sup>th</sup>. On the 9<sup>th</sup> the group for Budget Meeting arrived here. On the same day St. Xavier's HS School started its new Academic Year. Fr. Provincial who was here for the Budget Meeting, accompanied **Fr. Rajesh Kant** to Kaisarganj on the 10<sup>th</sup>. On the 11<sup>th</sup> we had farewell Mass for **Fr. Albert** who left for Sasaram on the 15<sup>th</sup>. **Fr. Norbert** was our guest for few days. **Fr. Paul** went to UP for a special meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup>. On the 19<sup>th</sup> Fr. Rector also left for Vellore for his treatment and returned in the Holy Week. On the 25<sup>th</sup> we went to the parish for the Chrism Mass, the Candidates participated in the Mass too. KR High School was the centre for the Bihar Board Exams for Matric students. It was also the centre for paper correction. During those days the school could not conduct usual classes. However, in St. Xavier's HS School all the academic activities were on full swing. At the end of the month both the schools were closed for the celebrations of Holi, Shab-e-Raat, Palm Sunday and Holy Week. The community is now

engaged physically and spiritually in different activities of the Holy Week. - *Anuj Toppo*

**READ Bettiah:** The month of February brought forth a lot of blessings as Provincial **Fr. Donald Miranda**, visited us on the 5<sup>th</sup>. On the same day we also bid farewell to **Fr. Anil** through a short cultural program. Meanwhile we sent 65 students from West Champaran district to Gyanoday, Kashpur, for DB Tech training program. We are regularly conducting the APYD (Ambedkhar Prerana Yuva Dal), Kishori Group, Mahila Sang meetings in villages. The 10<sup>th</sup> class students wrote their exams well and are confident of scoring high marks. **Fr. Joyson** made an emergency trip to Delhi in order get the FCRA account opened. The READ students of Intermediate class attended 20 days computer classes arranged by EDIMPACT Patna; the students were able to learn the basics of computer programme. The 12<sup>th</sup> class students have finished their classes and the house is gearing to welcome the 9<sup>th</sup> class fresh batch. All the students have gone home for a short holiday for Holi and Easter. We have begun 5 of our CRC (Children Resource Centers) after the gap of one full year. - *Arokiasamy*

**Kurji Parish:** The month of February and March were a time of preparation to experience the Lord's Passion and love for the humanity in a deeper way, in and through fasting, penance, prayer and almsgiving. Kurji parish witnessed a lot of faithful coming to the church to participate in the 'Way of the Cross', 'Sacrament of Reconciliation' and celebration of the 'Holy Eucharist' during the time of Lent. We had two blood donation camps, in which 33 people joyfully donated blood. 42 youth of our Parish, participated in the Marriage Preparation Classes held at Navjyoti Niketan, Patna on 24 pm to 28 pm March.

**Fr. Isidore Kerketta** joined the parish team on 24<sup>th</sup> of March and was welcomed joyfully. During the holy season of Lent and the Holy Week our parish team was blessed by the Lord in a special manner. Companionship in the mission became a very tangible experience as 15 of our brothers from St. Michael's, Sanjeevan Niwas and Fatima Mata Susamachar Kendra helped us in rendering spiritual services to the faithful. We are deeply grateful to all of them.

During the Holy Week, we witnessed the strong faith of our people expressed by their participation in great numbers in the celebration / commemoration of the Pascal mysteries of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Our Lord. We took all possible care to help our people to participate meaningfully in all the services. The lay leaders, religious and priests worked together as a team. We are grateful to all the Parish Council members, Mahila Sangh, Youth and all the volunteers for their generosity and hard work. We

are grateful to Archbishop Sebastian Kallupura, **Fr. Donald Miranda** and **Fr. Norbert Menezes** and for being with us as the main celebrants on different occasions. - *Rajesh Somepalli*

**Loyola Sadan, Lucknow:** We entered the month of March with hectic activities and programs. Our second year brothers had Enneagram classes for nearly two weeks with the guidance of the Master of Novices. It was very helpful to them to know themselves deeply. On the 8<sup>th</sup> of March we fell back on our summer time table. On 10<sup>th</sup> March **Fr. Donald Miranda**, the Provincial, came on his official visitation to the novitiate. It was a time of joy and grace for all of us.



A colorful cultural evening was staged for welcoming Fr. Provincial and other Jesuit Fathers who were present on that day, and also in honor of celebrating the birth-anniversaries of seven of our brothers. We had a good interaction with the Fathers who highly appreciated our cultural program. On 13<sup>th</sup> March some of our brothers went to Kaiserganj for the blessing of the new residence. On 14<sup>th</sup> March Fr. Christopher, the Master of Novices went to Allahabad to conduct four sheet exam for the Pre-novices. After having had nine days of novena prayers to St. Joseph, the feast was celebrated with a solemn Mass presided over by Fr. Christopher. We had a special prayer in the evening in honor of St. Joseph. On 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> **Fr. Nicholas** guided us in evaluating and reflecting on our apostolates. On 26<sup>th</sup> the sacerdotal golden jubilee of **Fr. William D'Souza** was celebrated with great joy as he completed 50 years of his priesthood. On the joyous day, in spite of his poor health condition, **Fr. William** offered a thanksgiving Eucharist with his melodious voice and rhythm; religious sisters from neighboring communities joined us in thanking God for the dedicated priestly life of **Fr. William**. - *Elías*

**Manthan, Khagaul:** March 2021 was full of activities in Manthan. It started with the preparation for International Women's Day, which we celebrated on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2021. More than 800 women from Danapur, Phulwari Sherif and Bihta Block participated in it. They put up various cultural programmes. This occasion was made more powerful by Professor Daisy Narayan, a retired Professor of Patna University. She was our chief guest. Ms. Kanchan Bala, a renowned social activist, was the guest of honour. Both of them encouraged and motivated the women to fight for their rights and live a dignified life.

We also conducted a two-day workshop for the *Anganwadi Sevikas*, adolescent girls and the *Matasamiti* members for the preparation of teaching learning materials from locally available resources. We conducted a two-day training for the Government school teachers on career guidance so that they can guide their students in choosing their future profession. On 20 March **Fr. Junas** conducted a one-day workshop on 'Teaching English' for the teachers of our India Literacy Project (ILP); all the fifteen participants were highly appreciative of the techniques they learnt to teach English or in fact, any subject. The 9<sup>th</sup> class students of the residential programme completed their send-up exams from the school on 1<sup>st</sup> March. Then they had 20 days of intense spoken English class. Now they are able to understand and speak in *Hinglish*. They are working hard to improve.

**Fr. Junas** has been conducting daily catechism classes for the 10 children, preparing them for First Communion on 11 April. He is visiting the families of the Christians as well as those non-Christians who come for our Sunday liturgies, seeking spiritual solace. On 21 March **Fr. Edward Dungdung** guided our parishioners through a day of prayer, confession and preparation for celebrating the Pascal mysteries of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Our Lord. In spite of the apprehensions due to the second wave of Corona pandemic, since we are a small parish located in the midst of a thinly populated Railway Colony on the outskirts of Patna, our Holy Week celebrations took place with traditional fervor and good gathering of the faithful, but adhering to the pandemic protocols such as wearing of masks. **Frs. Jose Kariakatt** and **Anto Joseph** joined us in the celebrations. Many non-Christians also joined us on 2 April Good Friday and 4 April Easter Sunday liturgies.

As an active one-member मार्ग-दर्शक मंडल (guiding



force), **Fr. Joseph Velamkunnel** is ensuring the psycho-spiritual well-being of all the youngsters in Manthan campus, be they religious Sisters or teaching and support staff.

On 17<sup>th</sup> March **Fr. Juno** gave a one-day recollection to the Sisters of St. Joseph of Chembery, Maner, in preparation for their feast day. We were blessed by the visit of Fr. Stany D'Souza the POSA, **Fr. Donald Miranda** our Provincial, Frs. Varkey Perekatt, **Abe Puthumana** and **Jesu Raj**,  
- *Juno Sebastian*

**Sanjivan Niwas, Patna:** On 3<sup>rd</sup> March, we participated in the centenary celebration of Patna Jesuit Mission in XTTI. It was a great and memorable experience for all of us. Our candidates were part of the play on the first 5 pioneering Jesuits who came to India and began the mission in Bihar. It was a wonderful opportunity for the Candidates and their efforts were appreciated by all. On the 4<sup>th</sup> Frs. POSA, Soosai Mani, Provincial of DEL, Varkey, Kuriakose and Jebamali paid a short visit to our community. It was a source of much encouragement for our Candidates.



On the 9<sup>th</sup> Sch. Gnana had blood checkup since the haemoglobin level was low and he is under medication. On the 12<sup>th</sup> we gave farewell to 2 of the Delhi Candidates who would continue their +1 in Bhiwadi. On 13<sup>th</sup> Sch. Gnana accompanied them to Delhi and to Bhiwadi; he returned to Patna on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Archbishop Emeritus **William D'Souza** paid us a surprise visit and inspired the Candidates with his lifestyle and words of blessings. From the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 28<sup>th</sup> we had a special music course on basic knowledge of Harmonium and *tabla* for the Candidates given by **Fr. Arun Ignatius**. It was very informative for our them. **Fr. Andrew** was admitted to Holy family Hospital due to vomiting and other discomforts. He is going through different tests and he looks normal now. On every Friday our Candidates participate in the Way of the Cross in Kurji parish; they also participated in all the Holy Week celebrations. From 29<sup>th</sup> March to 1<sup>st</sup> of April our Candidates had 3 days of Charismatic retreat in Fatima Mata Susamachar Kendra.

- *Candidates Umesh & Adarsh*

**Sasaram:** March 3, 2021 would always remain a day written in golden letters as the Patna Jesuit Mission celebrated its hundred years of service to the people of Bihar. **Frs. Benny, Maxentius** and **Sch. Cyprian** participated in the much-awaited centenary celebration. On 5 March, **Fr. Daniel Raj** and some benefactors of Xavier Nilaya, Bangalore, came here and spent time seeing around the school campus, the parish, and the community. After lunch they left for

Patna. On March 7, **Fr. Benny** attended the budget meeting held in Aurangabad. On the same day, entrance test was conducted in the school for new admissions of students of class I to IX. During this month, Fr. Manoj of Buxar diocese came to write his M.A IGNOU exam on two different days. On March 15 **Fr. Albert Abraham** joined us as a new community member; he was accompanied by **Fr. Perianayagam**. On March 18, Fr. Provincial paid us a flying visit while returning from Kaiserganj. The community officially welcomed **Fr. Albert** on March 21 and expressed gratitude and appreciation to **Fr. Isidore** for his contribution to the growth of Sasaram mission. **Fr. Albert** took the baton of the Principal from **Fr. Isidore** on March 24; the latter was given a farewell in the school on the same day, The next day he left for his new mission in Kurji parish, being accompanied by **Fr. Maxentius** and **Sch. Cyprian**. The Holy Week celebrations were held with traditional piety and fervour.  
- *Cyprian Minj*

**Seva Sadan, Ratanpurwa:** The month of March was a grace-filled one - Academic Year 2020-21 came to an end with the final examination of all the classes. The community and school bade farewell to **Fr. Stephenraj**, the out-going Community Leader cum Joint-Secretary of the school, and warmly welcomed **Fr. Edward Mendonca**, the new Community Leader cum Joint-Secretary of the school. There was a three-day seminar for the teachers from 22<sup>nd</sup> March to 24<sup>th</sup> March 2021 which was well-planned and conducted by **Fr. Ignaitus Topno**; **Fr. Louis Prakash** was part of the seminar planning process. It was an energizing experience for all the teachers. Some of the topics dealt with in the seminar were Christian Education,



Me and My school, Me and My students, the lesson plan, classroom management and Crisis Management. On the last day **Fr. Eddie** gave a session on Jesuit Education and its characteristics, focusing on "Cura Personalis and Magis." The construction work of the new school building started on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021. **Fr. Anil Minz** is busy visiting the Don Area villages and making efforts to revive the non-formal centres. He conducted the exams for enrolling new students in class VI at Seva Sadan. **Bro. Vijay** is on his toes as he supervises both the building work as well as the agricultural operations. We had meaningful Holy Week services with our small Christian community.

**Fr. Francis** and **Bro. Vijay** went to the Montfort Brothers, Bagaha for the Easter Vigil service. We had the Easter celebration with the children at Seva Sadan. The report card cum parents-teachers-meeting is planned in a series of 3 days where the parents will interact with the teachers. The new session is scheduled to begin on 12<sup>th</sup> April.

- *Francis Chinnappan*

**Shanti Sadan, Prayagraj (Allahabad):** The month of March was packed with various activities and events. On 2<sup>nd</sup> of March **Fr. Pius** and **Fr. Joy** went to Patna to take part in the Centenary celebration of Patna Jesuit Mission. There was a fire accident in the residence chapel. With God's grace not much damage was done. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March, we pre-novices, watched the centenary celebration online. The celebration continued with a fellowship meal in the evening. On 6<sup>th</sup> March **Fr. Pius** returned from Patna. We welcomed **Fr. Antonysamy** to our community on his arrival on 8<sup>th</sup> March. **Fr. Joy** reached Shanti Sadan back, after attending the Budget meeting. Fr. Christopher and **Fr. Antony** took four-sheet interviews. Besides the four-sheet interview, **Fr. Joy** took the Psychology test also. On 13<sup>th</sup> Sch. Anish & **Fr. Antony** went to Kaiserganj to attend the inauguration of the new Jesuit Residence there. All the Fathers here took the first dose of the Covid-19 vaccine on 14<sup>th</sup>. **Fr. Donald**, the Provincial of Patna, came for visitation. Fr. Christopher the Novice Master, **Fr. Antony** and Sch. Anish joined the Provincial from Lucknow and reached here on the 14<sup>th</sup>. We the pre-novices welcomed the Provincial and the guests with a cultural program which was well appreciated. We wrote our Assistency English Exam on the 15<sup>th</sup> of this month. **Frs. Paul** and **Joyson** from Bettiah came to Shanti Sadan for some official work. On 17<sup>th</sup> **Frs. Donald, Robert** and **Antony** went to Sonbhadra to explore the possibilities of starting a new mission station there. **Fr. Pius** went for a short home visit. 11 Sisters arrived in Shanti Sadan to begin a month-long retreat. **Fr. Jose** is guiding the retreatants. Our goat gave birth to a new male kid. We had a triduum as preparation for the celebration of the Pascal mysteries of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Our Lord, under the guidance of **Fr. Antony**. We are enjoying 'Bull's Heart' (*Ram phal*) from our garden these days.

- *Pre-Novices Anupam & Rajesh*

**SXCMT / XTTI:** To mark the occasion of International Women's Day, NSS volunteers visited the slum at Digha. They staged a *nukkad* highlighting the importance of womanhood and education. On 20 March, Mr. Ajay Kumar and Sr. Jaya took NSS students to Asha Deep, Muzaffarpur for an interaction with the trainees there. On 27 March, the department of Economics organized an interactive session on "Future Career Options". An Alumnae of the department addressed the students. On the same day, NSS volunteers organized a mini walkathon from Gandhi Maidan to NIT Ghat to mark the occasion of World Water Day. Xavier Theatre Club staged a

*nukkad* on the topic "Save water Save Earth". YFI students of the college, celebrated Holi and Easter with the homeless and needy near Gandhi Maidan and the slum at Digha. The students collected roti and sabji from their own families and distributed food packets. They also explained the significance of Holi and Easter celebrations and shared sweets with the children of these areas. The members of



XTTI community are enjoying good health. **Fr. Joy** went to Delhi for a routine checkup of the pacemaker at Holy Family Hospital. During the Holi holidays, the community members went to Rajgir for an outing and personal sharing. We enjoyed the trip and special thanks to Fr. James Rosario who accommodated and looked after us very well.

- *Alphonse Sebastian*

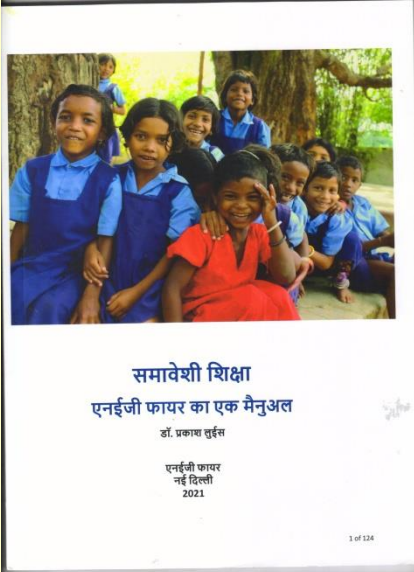
**XISR:** Two books under XISR's Bihar Subaltern Study Series were released at two separate functions in March. The first book, *The Pasis of Bihar*, authored by research fellow of XISR, Dr. Ashutosh Kumar Vishal, was released on March 19 at Gandhi Sangrahalaya; and another book, *Bihar*



*mein Bhumi Sangharsh* (Land Struggle in Bihar), authored by another research fellow, was released on March 21, at Kalidas Rangalaya, Patna. Both events were attended by a good number of participants in spite of the difficult Covid-19 situation. The events were well reported by the media.

- *Jose Kalapura*

**Vidya Niwas, Varanasi: Joseph Dungdung and Prakash Louis** participated in the clergy meeting and Chrism Mass of Varanasi Diocese. We also participated in the burial of 3 of its priests who died within a month. Both helped out in the reconciliation services of Lanka and BLW parishes. With the Lanka PP indisposed, **Prakash Louis** officiated the Holy Week Services in the parish. He also directed a 5-day



“समावेशी शिक्षा” [Inclusive Education] a Hindi Manual published by NEG FIRE is out in the market.

retreat of FMM novices preparing them for their first profession. He participated in the NEG FIRE meet in Delhi and Bodh Gaya, addressed over 200 couples on Christian Marriage and Family Life based on *Amoris Laetitia* at Franciscus. **Prakash Louis's** next book

- *Prakash Louis*

## DIASPORA

**Hazaribagh Juniorate:** In March we, the Juniors, had our hands full with the Assistancy exam and other activities. It was a shock for all of us when Fr. Kurian, our Dean of Studies, was diagnosed with cancer. He underwent treatment in Kolkata. Even amidst his agony he paid a visit to the Juniorate. In his absence **Fr. K.C. Philip** held the fort and guided us toward excellence. On 6<sup>th</sup> we went for a river side outing and relaxation. On the same day **Fr. Edward Dungdung**, PCF of Patna Province, and Fr. Soosai Mani, Provincial of Delhi Province paid an official visit. **Fr. Edward** met all the Patna Juniors and the staff members. The newly built synthetic basketball court was blessed and inaugurated by Fr. Santosh, Provincial of Hazaribag and Fr. Soosai. Sincere thanks to Fr. Patras, Rector, who was the mastermind behind this mega project. He organized a friendly match between the Juniors and Novices of Montfort Brothers. The Juniors proved to be tougher and won the match. Then we started preparations for the most awaited Assistancy exam. and finally took the exam on the *Ides of March* (15<sup>th</sup>).

On 16<sup>th</sup> we made a pilgrimage to the shrine of *Dhori Matha*, Jarandih. We partook in the Holy Eucharist there. We had a good opportunity to see the open-cast mine there. We also visited the community in the Jesuit center at Kajarkilo. We had a bath in the Konar River too. It was a memorable outing for all of

us. The preparation for the upcoming Hindi drama is in full swing, which is scheduled to be staged on 17<sup>th</sup> April. Fr. Kurian was brought back to the community on 30<sup>th</sup>. He continues with his treatment and medication in our infirmary.

- *Felix Richard*

## SOCIETY AROUND THE GLOBE

**Myanmar (MYN) is a Dependent Region of the Philippine Province (PHI):** On 19 March, Father General's decree announced the new “status” for what was until now the “Myanmar Mission”. This “unit” was under the responsibility of JCAP (Jesuit Conference of Asia-Pacific). Myanmar (MYN) is now considered a Dependent Region of the Philippine Province (PHI). The new Region has 38 Jesuits, 28 of whom are scholastics. A youthful wind is undoubtedly blowing there!

At first glance, one might think that this is just an administrative change. But for the Jesuits working



in this Asian country, which is under extreme political tension, it is a sign of confidence given to them by Father General and by their companions in the Philippines. After a serious process of discernment, the major superiors of Myanmar, the Philippines and JCAP suggested this change of status to the General, who recognized the authenticity of the steps taken in both Myanmar and the Philippines.

In the letter he wrote to his fellow Jesuit confreres on the eve of the change, Fr Mark Raper, the superior of the Mission, wrote: “Let us pray together that this initiative of accompaniment and collaboration will, as Fr General suggests, bring new energy to mission in both the Province and the Region. Fr General is aware of the tensions faced by the people of Myanmar in our dual crises of the global pandemic and the coup d'état, and he follows closely the current events, joining his prayer in solidarity with ours.”

As for the Provincial of the Philippines, Fr Primitivo Viray, he also published a letter for the occasion. He wrote: “Against the backdrop of escalating tensions and calls for authentic peace and justice in Myanmar, the (Philippine) Province lends its voice and helping hand to sisters and brothers there in their aspirations for a hope-filled future

founded on the dignity of each human being and respect for human rights.”  
Let us continue to accompany in prayer the people of Myanmar and the Jesuits of that Region.

### **Celebrating the new Southern Africa Province**

**(SAP):** On 25 March 2021, a decree of Fr. Arturo Sosa, Superior General, came into effect, which said: “I unite the present Dependent Region of South Africa, the Province of Zimbabwe-Mozambique and the Zambia-Malawi Province. The new Province will be comprised of the territories of the Republic of South Africa, Namibia, Lesotho, Botswana, Swaziland, Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe.” On this day, through a videos message, Fr. General addressed the Major Superiors: David Rowan, Chiedza Chimhanda and Leonard Chiti and their current 277 companions in Southern Africa.

It took nearly ten years of transition to erect this new Province and it took two generations of Generals and several major superiors, let alone the different commissions, task forces and committees; assemblies, conferences, consults, dialogues, meetings; colloquies and prayers at different levels and times, to come peacefully to this day of consolation.

The difficulties towards unification were faced prayerfully, proactively and creatively. The languages, especially Portuguese and English, were to be taught and learnt from the novitiate, common catalog be printed to enhance knowledge of one another and of their respective apostolates. All this helped to have transcended to good extent cultural, ethnic and historical differences. A bond of mutual knowledge dispelled fear of one another and of the unknown.

**Asia Pacific – Jesuit Education Today: Discerning for a hope-filled future.** The international gathering of Jesuit schools dubbed, II COLLOQUIUM JESEDU-Global2021, will be held as a purely online event from 28 June to 2 July. It replaces the II COLLOQUIUM JESEDU-Jogjakarta2020, originally intended last year. Centred on the theme, “The Global Jesuit Network of Schools: Discerning for a Hope-Filled Future”, the virtual colloquium is expected to draw in some 500 participants from the six Jesuit conferences, the Secretariat for Education, and the International Commission on the Apostolate of Jesuit Education. They will take part in a mix of synchronous and asynchronous sessions.

The colloquium has been designed in the context of the ongoing discernment called for by the document, Jesuit Schools: A Living Tradition in the 21st Century. This year’s event holds special significance as it is taking place during the Ignatian Year, particularly on the occasion of the 500th Anniversary of the Conversion of St Ignatius of Loyola. The organisers hope that the global education forum will serve as an invitation “to conversion — a change in our usual way of proceeding, and to join Ignatius in a pilgrimage that will hopefully continue transforming Jesuit education”.

II COLLOQUIUM JESEDU-Global2021 will be hosted by the International Commission on the Apostolate of Jesuit Education (ICAJE). It is organised by the Jesuit Conference of Asia Pacific with the Steering Committee based in the Philippines, and with the support of the Secretariat for Education of the Society of Jesus and Educate Magis.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Pope’s Worldwide Prayer Network (PWPN)** [till 2016 known as ‘Apostleship of Prayer’]: Intention of the Holy Father for the month of **April 2021** –

**Fundamental rights** - *We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.*

## REQUESTING YOUR PRAYERS

### **For the Sick:**

**Fr. George Karuvelil**, who is struggling with blood clot in his lungs, has been shifted from ICU to a room in Rajgiri Hospital in Aluva. **His mother**, Mrs. Rosamma, 87, is in unconscious state at home.

The surgery to remove the tumour in the vein of Mrs. Rasammal, **sister of Fr. Francis Chinnappan**, on 24 Mar.’21 in CMC Vellore, lasting 10 hours, was successful. She might be discharged from the hospital on 6 April.

**Fr. Andrew James** was admitted in KHFH on 25 Mar.’21, but was discharged after a few days.

Fr. Mathew Thadavanal, 85, of Indore diocese, **elder brother of Fr. Joseph Thadavanal**, was admitted in a hospital in Indore on 1 April with breathing difficulty. Though his condition improved a little, as on 7 April he is in a critical condition.

**Fr. Anthony Mattapallil** is admitted in Ruby Medical Hospital, Pune on 7 April; he is better.

### **For the Departed:**

Bro Victor Campos (GOA 87/20) passed away on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021 in Goa.

Mrs. Angela Kerketta, 87, **mother of Fr. Sylvester Dung Dung**, died on 21 Mar.’21.

Fr. Arul Jeevan, SJ (MDU 73/50) passed away on 22 Mar.’21 at St. Joseph Hospital, Dindigul.

Mr. Varkey Karuvelil, 92, **father of Fr. George Karuvelil**, received the call of the Lord for Eternal Life on 25 Mar.’21.

Fr. Anil Kishor Tirkey (RAN 67/47) passed away on 27 Mar.’21 in C. Lievens Hospital & Research Centre Mandar, Ranchi.

Mrs. Mary Abraham, 92, **eldest sister of Fr. Scaria Mammootil**, died on 30 Mar.’21.