

**Vol. XXV No.4 NEWSLETTER OF KOHIMA REGION (KHNL) July–August 2021**

### **APPOINTED BY REGIONAL SUPERIOR**

❖ **Fr Irudayam Jesudoss (CEN)**, Loyola College Staff, Williamnagar

### **REGION COMMISSIONS**

**CHOICE OF MINISTRIES:** Regional Superior, Region Consultors, Coordinators of Commissions.

**EDUCATION (Primary & Secondary):** PP Arul Susaimanickam, Caldinus Majaw, Felix Monteiro, Jerry Dickson, Melwyn Fernandes, Pravin Solanki and William Pinto.

**HIGHER EDUCATION (JHEASA, JESCOM, AICUF):** PP Sunny Augustine, Barister Khongrymmai, Liavi David, Paul Coelho, Philip Abraham and Vijay D’Souza.

**FINANCE:** PP Joseph Coelho, E C Sebastian, Lancy D’Costa, Rajesh Lobo and Rejin Joseph.

**LAND AND BUILDING:** PP Thomas Mathew, Anand Pereira, Joseph Coelho, Joseph Victor, Michael Kerketta and Valerian Castelino

**FORMATION AND VOCATION PROMOTION:** PP Anand Pereira, Cyprian Lobo, Gregory Coelho, Lambok Warlarpih, Pradeep WK, Robert Chawngthu and Thomas Varghese.

**SERVICE OF FAITH (JEPASA, PWPN, JIGSA, JSD):** PP Yanlumo Yanthan, Anbarasan Savariraj, Charles D’Souza, Gerald D’Souza, Hector D’Souza, Jerome Veigas, Lawrence Nuchiso, Mukti Prakash, Nilesh Parmar and Wilfred Kharpuri.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE AND ECOLOGY (JESA, JEMAI, JYMSA):** PP Valerian Castelino, Gabriel Kharluni, Joseph Zoliana, Owen Chourappa, Robert Chawngthu, Scaria Nedumala, Stephen Lalruatsaka and Walter Fernandes.

### **REGION COORDINATORS OF MINISTRIES**

<b>P Arul Susaimanickam</b>	Education (RCE)
<b>P Joseph Coelho</b>	Finance (RCFin)
<b>P Anand Pereira</b>	Formation (RCF)
<b>P Sunny Augustine</b>	Higher Education (RCHE)

<b>P Thomas Mathew</b>	Land and Building (RCLB)
<b>P Yanlumo Yanthan</b>	Pastoral Ministry (RCPM)
<b>P Anand Pereira</b>	Region Development Director (RDD)
<b>P Valerian Castelino</b>	Social Action (RCSA)

### **CONTACT PERSONS IN THE REGION FOR MINISTRIES**

<b>P William Pinto</b>	Alumni/ae
<b>F Lambok Warlarpih</b>	Brothers
<b>P Lawrence Nuchiso</b>	Dialogue
<b>P Joseph Zoliana</b>	Ecology
<b>P Jerome Veigas</b>	Ignatian Spirituality
<b>P Gabriel Kharluni</b>	Indigenous People
<b>P Nilesh Parmar</b>	PWPN-EYM and Communication
<b>P Xavier Ignatius (DEL)</b>	Revisor of Funds
<b>P Robert Chawngthu</b>	Youth Ministry and AICUF
<b>P Pradeep WK</b>	Vocation Promotion

### **REGIONAL SUPERIOR'S PROGRAMME**

#### **August**

23-29 Nagaland-Manipur Zone  
30-31 Annual Retreat

#### **September**

01-06 Annual Retreat  
07 Loyola, Jakhama  
14-15 SUPDOW Meeting (Guwahati)  
16 Region Consult  
20-21 Stan Legacy Meeting (Delhi)  
23-30 Jesuit House

#### **October**

01-13 Visitation: Ka Rympei Arrupe Community  
15 Region Consult  
20-30 JCSA Meeting and POSA Consult (Hyderabad)

### **MEETING OF SUPERIORS & DIRECTORS OF WORK**

**14-15 September in Guwahati**

**(Please arrive on the evening of 13 September and depart on the morning of 16 September)**

### **A WARM WELCOME**

We extend a warm welcome and happy stay to **Fr Irudayam Jesudoss (CEN)**. He will be the faculty of the faculty of Loyola College, Williamnagar.

## PRAYER REQUEST FOR TERTIANS IN LONG RETREAT

Fr Arun Babu in Shembaganur tertianship: 27 August-25 September 2021

Fr George Vilezo in Hazaribag tertianship: 28 August-30 September 2021

## LEFT THE SOCIETY

S Suam Cassini Teimideilang on 02 August 2021

S Z P Shisha Simon on 16 August 2021

S Ekka Xavier David on 09 August 2021

## BHALUKPONG

**Community:** July and August kept us busy with various activities in the campus. The Feast of Ignatius was celebrated solemnly and meaningfully with the sisters, the teaching, the non-teaching staff, a few students, and a few guests. Soon after the Holy Mass, we had a short gathering and distributed delicious homemade snacks. Then in the evening we invited the sisters for sumptuous dinner. In honour of the Feast day, Jesuit community had a short and sweet outing. It was memorable and magnanimous.



The community waited patiently for the regent to come from Paris. Many a times he missed his flight but finally, his flight landed in Bhalukpong on 7<sup>th</sup> of August. With much joy and happiness the community heartily and grandly welcomed **Sch. Robinson Timung** into the community. He is slowly adapting himself to the Indian (Bhalukpong) culture. He took charge of his responsibilities and executing them diligently. We humbly acknowledge the many contributions of **Schs. Simon** and **Enrico** to our community during their stay over here for a month. They took off their flight to Chennai on 7<sup>th</sup> August to complete their philosophical studies. We wish them all the best.

St. Xavier's community, Bhalukpong, was like a mother transit house for many teachers and for our own Jesuits in the past two months. **Fr Vijay D'Souza** spent a few days with us in order to attend Aka Literature committee. The Regional Superior, **Fr Melvil**

**Pereira SJ** made a flying visit on 13<sup>th</sup> of August. **Frs. Thomas Mathew, Anand Pereira, Valerian,**



**Jerry and Joseph Victor** had a special meeting connected with the Jesuits residence and also the construction of a new school building as well as girls' boarding in the campus.

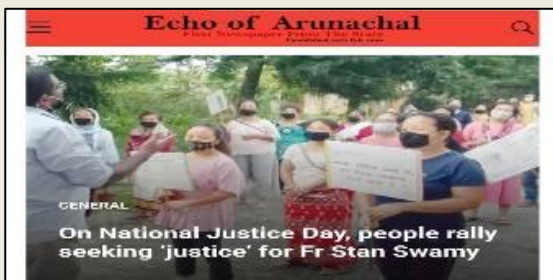
**School: Fr Jerry** is busy with the works on the school infrastructure and at the same time toiling day and night to get the school affiliation work with ICSE board. Admissions are almost closed for all the classes. Online classes are in full swing. Teachers have expressed that the introduction of online classes, has improved their computer skills.

In the School we celebrated the 75<sup>th</sup> Independence Day of our mother India with enthusiasm. Sr Sunita D'Souza UFCm our former Headmistress was the guest of honour. Teaching, non-teaching staff and a few students joined the celebration who added more clours to the celebration. The School provided light refreshments for all. Sch. Robin was heartily welcomed into the teaching faculty. He is making efforts to take the school to international level. **Sch. Royal Saldanha** has been working very hard to make posters and charts for classrooms.

**Purvanchal Pragati Samaj (PPS):** The coordinator of PPS, **Fr Valerian Castelino** along with St. Xavier's School organised a programme to mark the National Justice Day for Fr Stan Swamy SJ on 20<sup>th</sup> July. Many people joined the programme in the form of a silent march protest. It began from the campus of PPS campus



and ended at St Xavier's School football ground. Fr Jerry SJ spoke about the need of the justice. People became aware of what had happened to Fr Stan Swamy SJ. It is more heartening to see that the news was also published in the Arunachal News Paper.



BHALUKPONG, Jul 28: To mark the National Justice Day, the Purvanchal Pragati Samaj along with St Xavier's School, Bhalukpong today organized a silent protest march here with the support of Jagrit SHG of Bhalukpong, to seek justice for the human right activist Fr Stan Swamy, who died in the judicial custody in Mumbai recently. A good number of people gathered at the St Xavier's School ground, following the COVID-



**Parish:** Parish works are going slowly, smoothly and steadily under the guidance of **Fr Jerry** and **Fr Mukti Prakash**, the parish priest of Palizi. People come for Sunday's mass with due observations of the covid protocol despite the on-going pandemic which shows that people are longing for spiritual needs. The Catholics of Nigam village expressed their desire to have a grotto beside the Church. So under the guidance of Fr Jerry, the Grotto was built on the

Church premises. It was inaugurated on 18<sup>th</sup> of July by Rev. Fr Mukti SJ. Fr Jerry and the sisters regularly going for house visits in the evenings to foster faith formation among people.

*-Sch. Joji*

## **DIDAMBRA**

For some years now Didambra has been a place for scholastics learning Dimasa language. This year too, we have **Sch. Ngonyi Dukru** who arrived here a month ago for the same. Since then, he has made gradual improvement in Dimasa. Equipped with basic Dimasa he left the community to stay in a village and to get himself attuned to the Dimasa accent. Regency is yet to begin for **Daniel**. But meanwhile he is availing the opportunity to learn Dimasa along with Ngonyi. **Fr Rejin** has successfully completed his B.Ed exams and is yet to finish his MA exams.

Due to internet connectivity constraint we could not join the novena organised at the Region level and had our own Novena to St Ignatius. We did join the Region novena in spirit. Few teachers and our co-workers along with the Sisters joined us to celebrate our feast day of St Ignatius.

This year, the HSLC result was good. All secured first division and 5 of them got distinction. We congratulate the students who studied hard and the staff who prepared them well for the exams. Our campus had numbers of visit in the last few weeks. We had an inspection for the UDISE CODE number for the school. The inspection terminated in a positive note from the officers about the infrastructures we have.

**Fr Melvil** came for an informal visit to our campus. We also had a surprised visit by **Fr Anand** while he was on his way back to Guwahati. It was indeed a joyful moment for us and we always wait for such occasions here. And of course **Fr Thomas** has been regularly visiting us to ensure the progress of the work in the campus. The girls' boarding is inching towards getting its final touch.

We have now resumed the class for the class X while Class IX will begin next month. We are planning to inform children especially those with no access to internet to come and get the help from teachers in the School. The teachers will be back to the campus by September to make sure that these children can avail the help from the teachers in the campus.

*-Sch. Danielson*

## **DIYUNGBRA**

On 5<sup>th</sup> July, we began our First Unit Test exams. A good number of students of all the classes performed well in their exams. On 11<sup>th</sup> July we had St Xavier's Alumni get together in the school. About forty of them attended and **Fr Arul** addressed the gathering. On 21<sup>st</sup> July, we arranged offline exams for students who could not appear in the First Unit Test online exams. With the coming of classes VIII, IX and X students there is noise of laughter and a daily rhythm of studies in the campus. We celebrated the feast of St Ignatius with our teachers, the members of the parents' body of the school and with all the members of the campus.

Activities within the campus have progressed from planting trees and rain water harvesting project to 'Xavierelearning' website and 'Water Treatment' drinking water for students.

*-Sch. Joseph Wungmayon*

The past months have been a blessing for the Jagriti community with the presence of the Junior scholastics being felt and heard all around. Eight of them got a taste of research from Walter and Zoliana. **Justin and Alex** then helped Zoliana with data entry of the field data from Nagaland.

A new two-wheeler has been bought for the use of the community. We invited the FMA and Bambina Sisters' communities for dinner on July 31.

**Valerian Castelino** who took charge as the "non-resident" superior of the Jagriti community on 20<sup>th</sup> June, is constantly on the move and visits Jagriti occasionally. In early July along with Yanlumo and others he conducted the 100% vaccination



drive in Chingngro village of Dawagre parish, Garo Hills. On Independence Day the DC of East Garo Hills felicitated its secretary with a citation and Rs 50,000 for its development work. At a meeting in Vally's presence, the village decided to use this amount for its development. For the first time the village council and the Self Help Groups (SHGs) are coming together for a common purpose. In late July Vally trained the new staff of PPS on Building Awareness on Anti Human Trafficking. On 28<sup>th</sup> July PPS along with St Xavier School Bhalukpong conducted the National Justice Day with a candlelight procession by around 80 persons and a talk on Stan Swamy by Jerry Dickson. On 30<sup>th</sup> of July World Day Against Human Trafficking, the staff of Purvanchal Pragati Samaj (PPS) had an online programme for the SHG women of Arunachal Pradesh. Before it, PPS conducted online speech, drawing, essay and song competition for students and SHG members. The winners were awarded prizes during the online programme. The participation of SHG women was enthusiastic. The programme was telecast by *Kameng Headlines*.



**Owen** too has been on the move distributing covid related relief materials on behalf of LCHR in West Garo Hills and different tea gardens of Assam. Their service has reached more than 5,000 people. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> wave of covid, LCHR organised 30 webinars to conscientise people mainly from the tea gardens of Tinsukia, Dibrugarh, Golaghat, Nagaon, Udalguri, Sonitpur, Biswanath North Lakhimpur and Baksa districts, about its protocol. Its focus was on Health & Hygiene, Vaccination Drive, Livelihood, official Schemes, Right to Education, Human Trafficking etc. Professionals dealt with each theme and instructed the beneficiaries, to remain safe and healthy. The one-month programme on the

protection of children and child safeguards was mostly for the same community. LCHR organised programmes on World Day against Child Labour to create awareness in various villages. It also participated in online 'Public Hearing on Human Trafficking in Tripura'.

At the programme organised by the Department of Anthropology, Sikkim University on the World Indigenous People's Day on 9<sup>th</sup> August, **Walter** was the well appreciated speaker on the Indigenous Peoples of the Northeast. Zoliana has been guiding researchers in four states on the intricacies of writing chapters based on the research done with them. He did a two-week Assamese course which he passed with 98% marks. He has now asked the rest of us to brush up our Assamese and talk to him only in Xuddho Oxomia!



**Vijay** attended a two-day meeting of the Aka (Hrusso) Language Team at Bhalukpong on 3rd and 4th August. The Team formed in 2017 by the Aka tribe under Vijay's leadership evaluated the current writing system in light of Vijay's PhD thesis, planned new steps to promote the language including curriculum development and writing new textbooks. In a historic decision, the Team decided to form the 'Aka (Hrusso) Language Academy' as the linguistic wing of the Aka apex body Aka Shotuko-Kunu. It will conduct courses, issue certificates, oversee language revival, and develop new literature and curriculum. The language centre at Guwahati has started issuing news bulletins in the Aka language making a weekly summary of local, national, and global events accessible to the Akas in their own language. Link for its latest episode: [www.facebook.com/Gusso-nu-113887087193557](http://www.facebook.com/Gusso-nu-113887087193557).

*-Walter Fernandes*

## JAKHAMA

**Jesuit Community:** A series of programmes took place in the campus starting with a welcome on 10 July to **Fr William Pinto (Willie)** the new Principal and **Deacon Chin James** who is here for his Diaconate ministry. **Fr Victor**



**D'Mello** left for Kolkata on 24 July en-route to USA for higher studies. The community bade him farewell on 21 July during the Community Mass and dinner. The community participated in the Region online Novena to St Ignatius and got two



opportunities to lead the prayers. **Fr Ashuli Phimu**, on getting the second COVID vaccine dose, left for Jnana Deepa Institute, Pune on 10 August to continue his

Masters in Spirituality course.

On 28 July the community went to Khuzama to wish **Fr Raymond D'Souza** on his Birthday. On 31 July we celebrated the feast of St Ignatius of Loyola as well as the Golden Jubilee in Religious Life of **Fr Charles D'Souza** who had previously served here as Principal, Parish Priest and Rector. The collegians went on a trek to Dziikou Valley on 1 August to enjoy and relax in Mother Nature.

**Loyola Campus:** The feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel being the feast of the AC Sisters in the campus was celebrated on 16 July, followed by the Inauguration of the New Basketball Court the following day. The court is a gift from the Alumni/ae to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of the school.

**Loyola School & Boarding:** The renovation of the school hall is going on in full swing. Fr Victor was accorded a farewell in the school on 20 July during which his services during the past nine years were recounted with gratitude. Remembering Fr Stan, The National Justice Day was marked on 28 July with a candle light procession and prayer service along National Highway 29 and in the campus. Fr Willie explained the purpose of National Justice Day and elaborated on the life of Fr Stan Swamy. In view of the re-opening of the higher secondary section of the school, a COVID Task Force was formed and proper preparation was made to ensure that the students are protected and are following the SOPs. The higher secondary boarding boys and girls returned to boarding on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and the school reopened on 24 August.



**JTC:** On 12 July, the pre-novices from JTC Phesama visited Loyola Campus. They interacted with the pre-novices from JTC Jakhama and later that afternoon they had a friendly football match. The Jesuit Community hosted all the pre-novices for a high-tea after the game. The pre-novices went to Pfiitsero on 4 August for an outing to relax and enjoy each other's companionship. We are grateful to the Pfiitsero Jesuit community for their warm welcome and hospitality. Special thanks to Sch Goldenstar for being our tour guide!

During these times of uncertainty, we were



helped by many people in various ways. We had Jerris Joseph Sunny who came, stayed with us and taught the pre-novices. Thanks to Fr Pradeep who made Jerris available to us. The pre-novices are being exposed to the social reality of the poor and marginalized through their visit to the parish village centers for Mass on Sundays.

**Parish: Fr Cyprian Lobo** was installed as the Parish Priest by the Chancellor of the diocese Rev Fr Jacob Charalel on 4 July. Due to COVID restrictions only a few representatives from each of the village communities could attend the installation programme. The parish also organised a farewell Mass and meal for the outgoing acting Parish Priest Fr Victor on 18 July. Fr Cyprian has immersed himself in parish work calling for various meetings and feeling the pulse of the parishioners. Sunday Masses have resumed in the various centres with proper observations of the COVID protocols. The youth of the parish have shown interest in coming together at the parish level and organising activities in faith formation as well as in soft skills, leadership and social analysis.

– Sch Edbert Marbaniang SJ

## JALAPHET

After the success of the month-long residential classes for the class X students, a similar arrangement was also made for the class IX students from the 12<sup>th</sup> July to the 12 August, of course with due permission from the legitimate authorities. This arrangement turned out to be a huge success because we could see drastic



improvement not only in the behaviour of the students, but also in their academic performances. As it was for the class X students, the class IX students too ended the residential programme with a quiz competition (to sum up all that they've learned), a short cultural programme and a fellowship meal. Now both the classes are coming from home for the regular classes. We are allowed to begin the regular classes for the whole school from 1<sup>st</sup> September onwards. We hope this small opening will be for a longer duration.



This year, for the first time in the history of Syrleñ Secondary School, two of our students got first division with distinctions in quite a few subjects. The overall pass percentage is 93%. The credit goes to all the staff and students who worked really hard

despite the lockdown. A very big congratulation to all the staff and students on this achievement. Next year we are aiming at a 100% pass percentage.

Though we are in the lockdown, yet we had quite a solemn celebration of the feast of St Ignatius on the 30<sup>th</sup> July because of the presence of the class IX students. Though most of them are non-Christians, yet they sang beautifully during the mass presided over by **Fr Wilfred**. Soon after the mass, we had a simple fellowship meal along with the staff, the PPC members and the students which was followed by a short cultural programme.

Having guests visiting us is always a blessing. This time we had a short visit from **Frs. Melvil** and **Gregory** on the 27<sup>th</sup> July. Their presence really motivated us to work harder for the mission here in Jalaphet. We were also blessed to have **Fr Albert D'Silva** with us from the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> of August. His prayerful presence raised our spiritual conversation by a bar or two.

**Fr Gabriel** went home to be with his ailing mother cum home visit on 2<sup>nd</sup> of August. His presence did

her a lot of good who is now recovering slowly. He returned on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August, after spending some quality time with his family members especially with his ailing mother who really longed for his presence. We continue to pray for her speedy recovery.



It's amazing to see people's faith in the power of prayer for healing and most of these people are not even Christians. What is even more amazing is that most of them get healed. Fr Wilfred has been busy praying for people coming from far and near even over the phone until a week ago when he was confined to bed. After a week-long continuous bout of fever, diarrhea, loss of the sense of taste and smell and when he was not responding to the medication given by Sr Lamtilin in consultation with Dr Wandap, the District Surveillance Officer of East Jaiñtia Hills, he was admitted to Nazareth Hospital. Let's storm heaven with our prayers for his speedy recovery.

- Sch. Darimio

## LIYAI

Life in Liyai has been wonderful despite the many hiccups we face due to the COVID restrictions. The many restrictions imposed by the village council kept the virus far away from us. That helped us in conducting regular in-person classes and hold liturgical celebrations at the parish. The first batch of students brought glory to the school with a hundred per cent result; 12 students securing first division and the rest, 10 of them securing second division. We are grateful to **Ashuli** for working hard in getting the recognition and then helping the students come out in flying colours. The good result of the first batch has raised the level of the benchmark for the present batch. The school organised a parent-staff-student interaction to gear towards excellence and bring the best out of the current batch.



The flying visit of **Melvil** was refreshing. We had sufficient personal time with him, sharing the joys and challenges of life. **Gaibirei** has inserted himself well in the community with his language studies, slowly picking up Poula and managing to converse with the people around him. The people are very happy as he has become a resource person to both young and old alike. **Khathing** keeps himself busy with the day scholars as well as the boarding students, teaching both academics and skills for life.



We are blessed to have regular masses in our villages and to attend to the spiritual needs of the people. There is an overwhelming support to the many new things we have initiated including the Children's Mass every Sunday at the parish, the First Communion and Confirmation classes. The parish is gearing up to celebrate the birthday of Blessed Virgin Mary and the first death anniversary of **Jayant**, the endearing parish priest of Liyai, on the 8<sup>th</sup> of September.

To aid in the fight against COVID, Loyola School was offered as an isolation centre for the people. In collaboration with the Diocesan Social Service Society, an eight-bed isolation centre with all the necessary facilities was prepared as a precautionary measure. That must have frightened the corona virus. So far none from our village has been reported COVID positive. Thanks be to God.

*-Fr Jerome Veigas*



The next day, **Fr Robert Chawngthu** blessed the foundation and Sr Bianca Aranha MSI, the former superior of MSI community laid the foundation stone. All went on well.

On 26<sup>th</sup> July, the community conducted an online Novena to St Ignatius successfully. On 28<sup>th</sup> July, the Jesuits, MSI sisters and families of the campus actively participated in National Justice Day at Moirang, a Jesuit call for the awareness on human rights violations, without blocking the Highway to Churachandpur

With curfew on, 31<sup>st</sup> July, the Founder's Feast was celebrated at Bishnupur with the neighbourhood Catholic families joining us at Mass. They were treated with a sumptuous morning meal. At Moirang and Lamdan the campus celebrated the same in a sober way with just the campus inhabitants. For the first time, St Xavier's School and Sacred Heart School, conducted an online Elocution competition on the Life of St Ignatius of Loyola. The participation was good.



With no final exam conducted by the Board, the marks for Class X and XII were computed based on Class IX and XI final exam marks and the midterm exams. Both our schools based on averages of previous Board Exam, got extra marks. All the students were placed in First Division. The good students lost in the exercise of averages.

Dutifully, **Sch. Sameer Ekka** and **Sch. Felix Puturhu** attended the online Regent's recollection and participated actively at the group discussion from 11<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> August. With continuous lock downs and curfew for a long time, we could not have their regular community meetings and eventually we met on 17<sup>th</sup> July at Moirang after three months to update ourselves on the happenings in the Parish, institutions and our apostolates. Deacon Stephen Lalruatsaka was officially welcomed on August 18<sup>th</sup> at Bishnupur. The birthday of Fr Felix was celebrated on 23<sup>th</sup> August in a fitting manner. **Fr Boniface Lewis** had a thorough check up at Guwahati but contracted the covid-19 and was treated at Excel Hospital. He is back hale and hearty.

The whirl wind tour of **Fr Melvil Pereira**, the Regional Superior, on 24<sup>th</sup> August, at Moirang and 25<sup>th</sup> at Bishnupur was fruitful and inspiring. Fr Melvil got the hand on live information on the Jesuits and their life.

**Fr Anand Pereira** and **Fr Thomas Mathew** paid us a brotherly visit on 28th and 29th August. Anand spent some time with the scholastics listening to their achievements and follies.

Though the curfew is relaxed during the day time, the chances of opening the schools are bleak in the near future. In the meantime, online classes are going on. **Fr George Salew-o** has some up with innovative ways of getting the small group of students class-wise and studying along with them.

Bishnupur Community had their share of Covid-19 experience. **Sch. Felix** was admitted to CMC Hospital at Imphal and was back within 9 days while **Sch. Daniel** was treated at home. **Fr Hector** and **Fr Clement** stood their ground and sailed through with medication, exercise, rest and home cooked food. The school campus was locked for 10 days as our neighbourhood too was going through the same exercise in the second part of June. All is well now! With Sch. Felix and Sch. Stephen have set on beautifying the Bishnupur Campus. In the meantime Sch. Felix with the guidance of Fr Cement Kujur transplanted the paddy fields, weeded the plants and re-manured the fields. They look lush green and we await a good crop this year.

*-Sch. Sameer Ekka*

## MAWSHOHROH



God be praised! In spite of the lock-down, on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 12 young men (9 for Kohima & 3 for Ranchi) entered the novitiate and began their first probation under the guidance of **Fr Albert**, with Novice **Samuel** as Guardian Angel. 11<sup>th</sup> July was the Cassock Day marked by solemn Eucharist praying for God's abundant graces upon our first year novices as they began their spiritual Journey in the novitiate.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> of July, **Fr Melvil Pereira**, Regional Superior, arrived for



on unofficial visit to Mawshohroh, Maweit, Umoid, Jalaphet and Umbir. His visit has not only encouraged and energised us and also helped reorient our vision and mission.



Thank you Fr Melvil for your visit. Since you never come empty-handed, novices eagerly look forward to your visits.

31<sup>st</sup> July is a memorable day for us. We had a double celebration; the feast of St Ignatius and the **Golden Jubilee of Priesthood of Fr Julian**, though due to Covid-19, guests could not be invited other than our attached Jesuits.



**Fr Gerard Rego** was the Chief Guest for the 75<sup>th</sup> Independence Day and unfurled the tricolour in the novitiate quadrangle to commemorate the freedom of our country. Novice **Abhinandan** delivered a fiery speech that raised our patriotic spirits.

The Novice masters of the Jesuit Conference of South Asia (JCSA) spent the whole day of August 22 on an online meeting organised by **Fr John Pradeep**, the Novice Master of Karnataka. This was a modest attempt to make up for the Novice Masters' Meet which should have been held at Mawshohroh from August 22-31, but had to be cancelled due to Covid travel restrictions.

**Fr Gratian Carlo** was given a rousing welcome by the whole community on the evening of 27<sup>th</sup> August on his 'home coming'. The novices rose up to the occasion with a melodious welcome song, while **Fr Pheiga** took care of other needs.



*-Fr Pheiga SJ*

**School:** The Feast of St Ignatius was celebrated in the school by the staff members of Nazareth School as well as the village schools with a meaningful Eucharistic celebration. In gratitude to the Jesuits, the teachers put up a felicitation programme followed by a festive meal. In our recent JESON Meeting, a concern was raised about the proficiency of English. To address this issue we had an In-Service Teacher Training Programme by **Fr Charles D'Souza** and **Fr W. K Pradeep** in relation to teaching of English and other subjects, using a practical pedagogy that would facilitate a maximum learning experience for the students. The impression we received from the

## PFUTSERO



teachers about the programme shows that the workshop was beneficial for them. It was indeed a success. We are grateful to Fr Charles and Fr Pradeep.

**Community:** We invited the Fathers and Sisters of Phek area for the Feast of St. Ignatius. Fr. Sojan, the Parish Priest of Thenyizumi, presided over the Eucharistic Celebration, and in his homily, he encouraged the religious to have the spirit of St. Ignatius. **Fr Cyprian Lobo** and the pre-novices of JTC Jakhama, taking a day off from their hectic and rigorous formation programme and spent time with us. As a community, we have our regular faith sharing, community meetings and Campus forum where we look at the holistic growth and development in all possible areas.



**Parish:** At the Parish level, we had a simple, yet inspiring celebration of the Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola. **Fr William Pinto** was the main celebrant and **Fr Ashuli** and **Dn James** joined the Eucharistic Celebration. Fr William encouraged the parishioners to have the spirit of MAGIS in their lives. All the Jesuits in the Parish were overwhelmed to witness the gratitude of the parishioners towards them. Youth ministry is seen as one of the important apostolates in our parish which needs attention. Though there are youngsters who come for singing practice and prayer service on Saturdays in the parish, yet there is a lapse with regard to regularity in attending mass and other spiritual activities in village churches. **Fr Lancy** and **Fr Dhazii** have taken initiative to encourage and instill in the minds of the youth the importance of participating in church activities.

*-Fr Anto*

## PHESAMA

On 3rd July, the feast of St Thomas, also the birthday of **Fr Arul** and his send-off and also a welcome to the new Rector, **Fr Charles** were all bundled together into a grand but corona limited celebration at Phesama campus. Charles was officially installed as Parish Priest of St Paul Parish, his 10th appointment as a Parish Priest in 40 years of priestly life.

The feast day of our founder St Ignatius was celebrated on Saturday 30th July combined with the golden jubilee of Charles as a Jesuit. **Fr Barister** saw to every detail in arranging the entire programme. The jubilee celebration was



extended to the next day at Loyola Jakhama where Charles was the main celebrant on the feast day of St Ignatius.



After the departure of Arul, JESON elected **Fr Rajesh** as the Chairman of JESON in the place of Arul. Rajesh immediately began his tenure as leader by proposing a training programme for our teachers in Nagaland. We found that our students are very poor in speaking English because of the inadequate ways of teaching English grammar. Hence a training programme was put together by **Fr Pradeep** and **Fr Charles** and now they are busy conducting this training programme in our schools in Nagaland.

The JTC at Phesama is at last full to its capacity with 28 new candidates from all over Northeast with various degrees of learning, some SSLC, some HSLC and few graduates. It is a lively, promising, and

enthusiastic group of brothers, adjusting well to the place despite the rain, mist and cold of Phesama. A few of them came, saw, and went back seeking other alternatives. They put up a play on the life of St Ignatius on the feast day in Phesama and in Khuzama just after three weeks of their arrival. The Kohima - Kisama *darshan*, a visit to the Jakhama community and the interaction with the Jakhama prenovices boosted their motivation to see the beauty and mission of Nagaland, at the same time, breaking the monotony of the month.

**Fr Tom Varghese** who had hardly appeared at Phesama as new Director of JTC had to rush back to his home to attend the funeral of his dear Dad. In his absence, **Sch. Ronald**, the regent ably shouldered the responsibility of taking care of all the candidates, baby-sitting a few homesick ones, under the very able guidance of Pradeep.

**Fr Francis Xavier** preached an 8-day retreat to the Apostolic Sisters at Jakhama. In his free time, he was busy with the computers in the school, putting them right and setting them well. **Sch. John Malangmei** is discovering his new voice and speaking ability in our native Angami language, carefully avoiding mispronunciations as they might lead to embarrassments.

*-Fr Charles D'Souza*

## THRIZINO

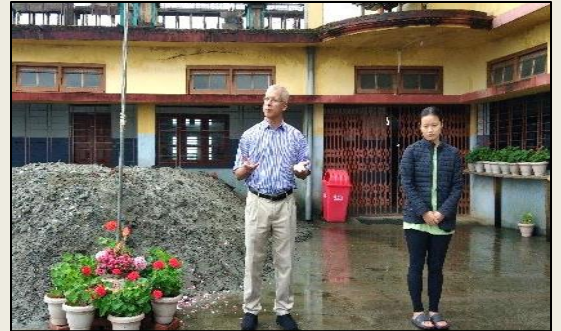


St. John Berchmans' School is contented to have the offline tuition for the students from Class I to Class VIII. The students are regular and acquiring a lot of knowledge from the classes. On 24th July the school organized a drawing competition for class I-VIII, on the occasion of the feast of St Ignatius. The nine days novena was organised in preparation for the feast of St Ignatius of Loyola with different themes



on Ignatius' life. On 31st July, the feast of Ignatius of Loyola was celebrated in a grand manner. **Fr Mukti Xess SJ**, the parish priest, was the main celebrant of the Holy Eucharist. There was some faithful and good number of youth for the feast celebration. There were many invitees for the festive meal. The youth participated enthusiastically. Many online competitions, such as singing for youth and families, quizzes on the life of St Ignatius of Loyola were conducted on the feast of St Ignatius. There were many participants for the competitions.

On 14th the visit of **Fr Melvil Pereira SJ**, the Regional Superior, brought much joy to the entire campus. He spent a day on the mission. On 15th August, the 75th Independence Day was celebrated with lots of joy in the presence of Fr Melvil Pereira SJ.



**Fr Anand** and **Fr Thomas Mathew** made their visit here to keep track of and to assess the building construction work. We are all grateful to the SMMI sisters for the delicious breakfast in honour of the guests. St John Berchmans' campus is gradually getting a new shape as the construction works are in steady progress. **Fr Joseph Victor** is on his toes supervising the works.



The **MAGIS youth** Thrizino are active and doing lots of beautification works in the church. There will be a youth camp for the entire Thrizino zone on 10 and 11 September. We hope the situation will return to normalcy soon.



*-Sch Richard Pinto*

## UMBIR



In the month of July with the help of **Sch. Martin Chubatoshi**, our own parishioners along with Martin Sangriang and Lamphrang Khongngain (our driver) were able to plant nine hundred and eighty trees in the parish compound. They also generously planted trees along the main road leading to the Novitiate, Mawshohroh.

After staying in Umbir many months to learn the language of the local people, finally Sch. Martin was able to find a family in Upper Shillong to continue learning the language.

The new Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) has allowed the church's doors to open with a lot of restrictions. The number of persons should not exceed one-third of the seating capacity of

the place of worship. Therefore, we have arranged to have a number of Masses and church services in the villages so that all our faithful could take part in them.

In the months of July and August there have been a lot of sick calls and funeral calls which have tried to attend to them as much as possible.

Our schools are still closed but our teachers are trying their best to send notes and assignments to the children through their parents. The parents come to school thrice a week to collect and return their children's assignments for correction. It is very tiresome but the parents are doing it happily.

*-Fr Robert Pohrmen*

## UMOID

The pandemic still continues to hover over our area with different villages under containment zone. Restrictions have been imposed over the weekends in order to control the movement of people. In spite of all these difficulties we were able to move to Shillong for our works by obtaining inter district passes from the DC. It has been of great help. All three of us have taken the full vaccination.

With classes still suspended, Frs Paul and Liavi are busy with the online classes trying to finish the syllabus as per the schedule. Network is a big issue here. In spite of that they are able to post notes and conduct online exams every Monday.

In the meantime Fr Paul fell ill and had to be taken to the novitiate for proper care and medical treatment. He has recovered and is back the community after a gap of about two weeks. All of us had gone to the Novitiate to celebrate the feast of Ignatius.

With the declaration of the class X and XII results, Frs Paul and Liavi along with Srs Lusika and Blestina (MSMHC) and Sir Sain are busy with the admission process for class XI and for the college. A number of students are coming to take the application forms for admission in spite of the lockdown.



The construction works on the Jesuit residence, modification of the women's hostel, the convent and small other projects are going well but due to incessant rains the works could not progress as expected. With the help of Fr Caldinus, a fresh group of construction workers have come from Maweit to enhance the team of workers.

Jesuit visitors added to our joy and companionship. Fr Vijay and Sch. Martin stayed with us a couple of days. We were also visited by our Regional Superior, Fr Melvil, along with our

superior Fr Gregory. Furthermore, Frs. Thomas and Anand, the building committee along with Fr Gerry Rego and Fr Gregory came to see the work and to discuss the future plans. Thank you all for your valuable time with us. Do come and visit us again.

*-Fr Michael Kerketta*

## ANDHRA PRADESH, KARIMNAGAR

After having spent two months in the Region we returned to Karimnagar on 1<sup>st</sup> of July. Thanks to our RCF who made all the arrangements despite the hardship involved due to the prevailing covid19 situations.

In the month of July, we were pretty engaged in writing our B.Ed assignments and preparing for our semester examination. Unfortunately, the semester examination was postponed. However, we are busy helping and beautifying the campus by planting trees and flowers. Now the campus looks more eco-friendly. Alongside, we are also taking some music and choir practices for the candidates.

The feast of St Ignatius of Loyola was celebrated in a subdued and modest manner in the midst of the Covid19 restrictions. Rt Rev. Udumula Bala, Bishop of Warangal Diocese came and graced the occasion with a solemn mass. **Sumit** and **Amos**, along with the pre-novices enthralled the audience with their melodious choir during the mass. The celebration concluded with a friendly basketball match between the pre-novices and the Jesuit community. At the moment, we are preparing for our upcoming semester examination of which the dates are withheld.



*-Sch. Amos Alshedai*

## BOMBAY, VINAYALAYA

We left Guwahati for Mumbai on the eve of June 23<sup>rd</sup>. **Sch. Roynal** dropped us till the train and helped us settled down and got things ready for the journey. The train jolted at 4:55 and we gathered for a short prayer led by **Riban**. It was a historic journey as it was the first ever long journey for most of us.

Our Juniorate year began on 28<sup>th</sup> June with a very devotional Mass of the Holy Spirit. Fr Trevor Miranda, the Socius to the Provincial, was the main celebrant. With this Mass we stepped into the first phase of the academic year i.e. the Orientation week. The week-long



orientation programme involved sessions in 'Understanding Transitions,' 'Group Dynamics,' sharing on our life stories, and getting used to the Vinayalaya way of proceeding. We began our regular classes on 5<sup>th</sup> July. Fr Learoy Rodrigues is our Dean of Studies and Fr Aubrey, the Minister of the Juniors.

We got our first jab of the Covishield vaccine on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of July. Iasuk, Francis and Manio had a day of good rest after receiving the jab. The **birthday celebration of Riban** on the 7<sup>th</sup> of July was the first birthday in this new community. It was a memorable day. Due to the incessant rain the only outdoor game we have been playing is football. But it's been fun.

On 7<sup>th</sup> July we attended the online requiem mass for Fr Stan Swamy. Some of our Juniors even sang in the choir at this mass. On the eve of 22<sup>nd</sup> July, we got the sad news of the demise of Manio's nephew (K. Matekho). A requiem mass was celebrated the following day.

On 31<sup>st</sup> July we celebrated the **feast of St Ignatius of Loyola** with great joy. Besides a meaningful Eucharist with lovely singing, we had a table tennis tournament, a housie game, and other fun activities.

The month of August was deemed a 'month of process work'. We had a number of special courses during this month. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of August we had a course on Critical Thinking and Inquiry (CTI) by Fr Jeevan Mendonca SJ. On 11<sup>th</sup> we had a course in the 'Basics in Singing' by Ms. Michelle Naidu. On 14<sup>th</sup> we went out

on a **Mumbai darshan**. We visited a number of Jesuit communities around the city. We also saw a few places of interest. From 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> Aug we had a course in 'Personal Growth' conducted by Dr. Nirmala Almeida. This course really helped us get to know our life patterns, our speech patterns, and thus to work towards better integration in our personal and community lives. Meanwhile our Continuous Assessment has begun and the classes too are on in full swing. Our community is a peaceful and loving community. We are having



a good time and we are preparing ourselves to face the months ahead. We thank you all for your prayers and request your continued prayer for us.

*-Schs. Iasuk and Manio*

## GUJARAT, PREMAL JYOTI

We had been waiting for this moment in life to be in the place of our studies. Finally, we landed in Ahmedabad on 1<sup>st</sup> July. As per the government's directive, we were quarantined for three days in a room. Being in the new world of Ahmedabad city is a wonderful experience for us. Indeed, the temperature here is quite different from North East. So, we are gradually adjusting ourselves to the new situation.

The Orientation programme was held for the Scholastics by our Superior. It was well organized and it helped us to get the glimpse of our life here. At the end, of our orientation, all the latecomers were welcomed to the community.



At the end of the month, the Archbishop of Gandhinagar came to give us monthly recollection. He presided over the Eucharist for us in the morning. As a preparation for the feast of our founder, we had novena for nine days conducted by different groups with different themes. Games were also

organized in order to make that week a memorable one.

On the feast of St Ignatius Fr Sudhir (House Minister) celebrated the Eucharist. The pre-novices too joined in the celebration of this event. Sadly, during this very week, many scholastics were down with viral fever, dengue and cold. Most of our men were down with sickness. Sch. Daniel got sick and replaced the two guys who were in the hospital for about a week (representing Kohima).

The month of August gives us a beautiful start with a football tournament against the Loyola parishioners. Online classes are in full swing for the second and third year, while the first year students are eagerly waiting to get enrolled in the college.



On the 15<sup>th</sup> of August, we had a solemn celebration honouring our lady (the feast of the Assumption) and commemorating the 75<sup>th</sup> Independence Day with the Parade and flag hosting, followed by a National Anthem song.

Trip to Riverfront and Kangaria lake: **Scholastics Sylvester, Bosco, Akho Charles and Sum** had a marvellous time as they visited these two awesome places. They were elated to see the beauty of God's creation. The places and the people, old to young were seen relishing



themselves. Seeing the lovely places made Sylvester the photographer of the day, which led us to some delay. A smile on our face and a camera on Sylvester's hand made people astounded and began to call us Chinese and Nepalese. We paddled our cycles in this joy ride for three hours. Overall, it was a fascinating experience except that for some of us our backs started complaining.

*-Schs. Sum R & Deniel K*

## **SHEMBABANUR**

Our tertianship at Shembaganur began on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2021. All of us arrived here by lunch on that day. The Madurai Jesuits rendered their immense for us to reach Shembaganur. Thus we reached here without much tension. We are indeed grateful for their help.

Sacred Heart College is situated at Shembaganur, about 4 kms away from Kodaikanal. This place is very beautiful, quiet and lends itself to prayer. In the past this house had served as the Novitiate, Juniorate and Philosophate. Many illustrious Jesuits including Fr Stan Swamy did part of their formation in this house. This year we have Frs Arul Sivan and Jose Jacob to guide us in our tertianship. We began our tertianship with the Holy Eucharist celebrated by Fr Arul Sivan. The 20 tertians gathered in the chapel with great enthusiasm and a willingness to give ourselves fully to the programme. We soon began our classes on the Autobiography of St Ignatius. We reflected on the Autobiography and spent some time sharing our thoughts, insights and feelings. The sharing of the sacred story of our lives further increased the bonding, fellowship and camaraderie among us. We also had a few classes on the Letters and the Spiritual Diary of St Ignatius.



On August 15 we celebrated the Independence Day of India with great fervour. A few days ago, we had a few sessions on Zen meditation by Fr Matthew Cyril SJ from the Bodhi Zendo Centre based at Perumalmalai. These days we are going through an Intensive Journal Workshop under the guidance of Fr Kulandai Raj SJ from Andhra as a preparation for our Long retreat. Our Long retreat begins on 27<sup>th</sup> August evening. We request you all to keep us and our guides in your prayers.

*- Fr Arun Babu*

## **DIMAPUR**

### **Wherever you go**

21<sup>st</sup> August was Senior Citizens Day and I was greeted by some of my friends. Being a senior makes me nostalgic quite often, especially when I am reminded that I will be 80, come September this year. Memories flood me of persons and places when I look back over the decades. They are precious to me and to some of my close relatives and friends. Some family friends go back to nearly 60 years, and village communities of

Chakhesang in Nagaland, and Garo Hills in Meghalaya have become surely very dear to me. What holds these memories together?

My heart says it's **the sense of mission**. My journey to Karnataka, and then to the Northeast, vouches for it. Somehow Ruth's words to her mother-in-law seem to be the haunting melody that I have been hearing over and over again: "*Wherever you go I will go, and wherever you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God.*" (Ruth 1:16). The sentiments expressed are very powerful and energizing. Whatever be the assignment, it's always people God had placed with me and with whom I stayed: to learn their way of life, their language and traditions, and thus absorb God's ways of thinking and of being with, and make them my own. It's a love story of mine, people's, and God's, decade after decade. This energy of connectedness as one whole has definitely sustained me all these years.

Of late, I continue to discover something more in those sacred words of Ruth. **What if God were saying those words to me?** "*Paul, wherever you go I will go, and wherever you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God*". I sense this is a call to a greater intimacy as I age with God and with God's people, wherever I am missioned and with whomsoever. God has placed with me this academic year 69 young men to accompany, coming from 12 dioceses, mostly of Northeast India. I am challenged continuously to give these many my best in every way possible, and for this, there is no retirement age, right? Doing God's work has this energising power, I guess, and maybe, it's **a sign of my journeying from age-ing to sage-ing!**

-Fr Paul Raj

### **FR GRATIAN CARLO IS BACK IN THE REGION**

*We are happy that Fr Gratian is back in the Region after ten years of service outside of the Region. Below is a short update by Gratian.*

"An update on me after many years may be appreciated by the readers of Kohima Newsletter, particularly by members of my Region.

From 2010 I have been assisting the Provincial of South Asia at Delhi in animating the various stages of formation of Jesuits in South Asia that includes Sri Lanka and Nepal. The four years of ministry there has been both enjoyable and, I hope effective.

In 2014, I was missioned to offer service at National Vocation Service Centre, Pune, a CBCI Centre, as its Director, teacher and counsellor. During the seven Years over there, along with others, I was privileged to play a helpful role in the training of 239 Diploma Trainees in Counselling Psychology and Religious Formation and about 500 or so participants of short courses, each lasting three weeks.

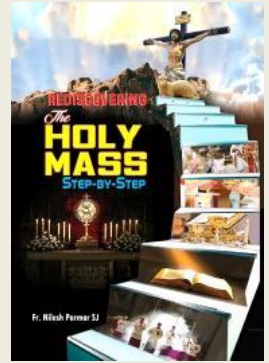
I am grateful to the Triune God who used me as His instrument, making up for whatever I lacked due to my meager efforts, Mother Mary for her motherly care and intercession, St Ignatius for his ever inspiring spirituality and all my companions, benefactors and well-wishers, who made their invaluable contribution to the ministry.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of August I eagerly returned to my Kohima Region, to a rousing welcome at Jesuit House Guwahati. Since then I have moved to Mawshohroh, Shillong to assist with the ministry offered at the Retreat House. My prayers for all of you and very specially members of Kohima Region".

FR GRATIAN CARLO: Mobile: +91 9423675655, E-mail; gratiansj@gmail.com

## OURS IN PUBLICATIONS

- ❖ Nilesh Parmar. **Rediscovering the Holy Mass Step-by-Step.** (Published by Kohima Jesuit Region, p 207)
  - *This book explains the prayers, ritual, rubrics of the Holy Mass step by step.*
- ❖ Walter Fernandes. **“The Cannon Ball that Changed History,”** *The Shillong Times*, 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2021.
- ❖ Walter Fernandes, **“A Tribute to Stan the Prophet,”** scroll.in, 6<sup>th</sup> July, 2021.



## BIRTHDAYS IN SEPTEMBER

01	Anthres Tuti
04	Valerian Castelino
05	Anto Irudayam
07	Pavingaolou Antony M. (7/9/95)
11	Simon Dhar Andrews Immac
12	Abhinandan Tirkey
17	Robert M. Chawngthu
18	Reginald Kurkalang
20	Stephen Lalruatsaka Edbert Marbaniang
22	Roynal Jeevan Machado Alex Kho Weitsu (22/9/96)
23	Paul Raj S
27	Scaria Nedumala
29	Ashuli Joseph P. Bosco Baomai Dailu (21/12/95) Michael Kerketta

HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY



## **HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS**

### **AUGUST**

#### **Intention for evangelization - *The Church***

Let us pray for the Church, that She may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.

### **SEPTEMBER**

#### **Universal intention - *An environmentally sustainable lifestyle***

We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.

## **GONE BEFORE US**



**Fr Roshan Lobo SJ** (KAR 49/32) on 13-8-2021 in Bengaluru

**Fr Gregory Naik SJ** (GOA 88/70) on 9-8-2021 in Goa

**Fr Cheruparambil J John SJ** (AND, 72/56) on 7-8-2021 in Secunderabad

**Fr Placie Fonsecc SJ** (BOM 86/42), on 1-8-2021 in Bombay

**Fr Paul Valappila SJ** (GUJ 78/60), on 31-7-2021 in Vadodara

**Fr Stanislaus (Stany) Miranda SJ** (KAR 91/68) on 19-7-2021 in Mangaluru

**Fr. Abraham Enthemkuzhy SJ** (JAM 70/52) on 14-7-2021 in Bhubaneshwar

**Fr Devasia Vellapani SJ** (GOA) 82/59 passed away on 6<sup>th</sup> July in Belgaum.

**Mr Philip Varghese (71)**, father of Fr Thomas Varghese SJ, on 8-8-2021

### **QUOTE FROM ST ROBERT BELLARMINE: FEAST DAY ON 17 SEPTEMBER**

**“On the last day, when the general examination takes place, there will be no question at all on the text of Aristotle, the aphorisms of Hippocrates, or the paragraphs of Justinian. Charity will be the whole syllabus”** <https://www.azquotes.com/quote/607945>