



2021/08

AUGUST 2021

73RD Year



On 31 July, Father Arturo Sosa, Superior General, began the celebration of the feast of Saint Ignatius of Loyola by retracing the path that the founder of the Society of Jesus had walked on 500 years ago. Accompanied by a small group of young people, the Superior General walked a few kilometers of the “Camino Ignaciano” (“Ignatian Way”), ending up in Manresa, an important stage in the conversion experience of Saint Ignatius. The *Camino Ignaciano* is a 665-kilometre pilgrimage route that begins in Loyola and ends in Manresa. It is the same route that Ignatius followed at the beginning of his “new life”. Recently added to the *Camino* is the leg to Barcelona, which was where the pilgrim headed after his stay in Manresa, hoping to board a ship to the Holy Land.



The Eucharistic celebration at Manresa by the Superior General on the feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola holds a very significant place for this jubilee year since it was here that the founder of the Society of Jesus had what is called an “illumination,” an inner understanding of his relationship with God and the plans the Lord had for him.

Having walked the 655 kms, Ignatius was already a “pilgrim” when he arrived in Manresa from his fiefdom in Loyola. He was aware of his spiritual poverty: he was looking for the way to true richness on this level. He was also experiencing the material poverty of the pilgrim who has left material conveniences to place himself in the hands of the Lord and to rely on the help of those who would welcome him.

PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

August 2021

- 01– 02 – Vis. Sanjiwan Niwas
- 03 – Vis. FMSK
- 04 – Diocesan Jub. / St. Mike's Book Release
- 08 – 09 – Vis. Asha Deep, Muz.
- 10 – Sakri
- 13 – Ara
- 16 – Vis. St. Stephen's, Danapur
- 21 – 27 – West Champaran
- 31 – Prov. Consult

September 2021

- 13 – 15 – Vis. Aurangabad
- 16 – 17 – Vis. Bodh Gaya
- 23 – 26 – Vis. XTTI
- 30 – Prov. Consult

REMINDER

The following list is already included in Province Catalogue 2021 (p.170) except for an additional portfolio of Prakash Louis:

Administrative Secretariats

Formation	Edward Dungdung
Finance	Thomas Anthonysamy
<u>Forums</u>	<u>Province coordinators</u>
Jesuit Brothers	Mathew Manoj Valloppillil
Jesuit Treasurers	Thomas Anthonysamy
Jesuit Scientists	Sebastian Alphonse
Jesuit Social Scientists	Martin Poras
Jesuit Psychologists	Joy Pulikunnel
JAAI	Peter Arocikiasamy

Networks

Sankalp	Joseph Sebastian P.
Jesuitec	Jesuraj Kolandaisamy
Lokmanch	Juno Sebastian K.
Peace & Reconciliation	Eucharist Lawrence S.
Migration & Displacement	
& In-charge of Bihar State Migration Hub	Prakash Louis D'Montfort

Mobile numbers:

- Gyan Prakash - 6200469829
- Jose Thayil - 7992494930 / 9822119006
- K.M. Joseph – 9431023213 / 8986567860
- Mathew Pampackal – 9431850759 / 6204297223

VOCATION PROMOTION

'Come and See' Programme: 28 boys for Patna Province and 3 for Delhi Province (thus a total of 31 boys) had participated in the 'Come and See' Programme held at Sewa Kendra, Patna on 4-11 July 2021. Of them, 24 boys for Patna and all 3 for Delhi were selected. 14 were sent to Xavier Nilaya, Bangalore, 6 each to the Candidates' House of Jamshedpur and Dumka-Raiganj Provinces, and 1 was admitted to Pre-Novitiate, Sanjivan Niwas, Patna.

CANDIDATES AND PRE-NOVICES

Candidates' House - Xavier Nilaya, Bangalore: There are 22 Candidates in XN Bangalore – 13 for Patna Province and 9 for Delhi Province.

KR Candidates' House, Bettiah: There are 15 Candidates in KR Candidates' House, Bettiah – 9 First years and 6 Second years. All of them are for Patna Province.

Pre-Novitiate – Sanjivan Niwas, Patna: There are 20 Pre-Novices in Sanjivan Niwas, Patna – 12 for Patna Province, 3 each for Delhi and Jamshedpur Provinces, and 2 for Dumka Province. Jesuits from all communities and ministries are most welcome to drop in to visit and encourage our young men.

Thanks to the Vocation promoters for the hard work.

LOCAL REPORTS

Aurangabad: The community underwent the Calvary experience in the months of April and May. We lost two nuns from FIHM community, Aurangabad, in a span of two days. **Fr. Manish** was admitted to Holy Family hospital for Covid. After spending 15 days in the hospital, he spent a month at Xavier Bhawan for recuperation. **Br. Abe** went to Patna to get a pacemaker implant since his heart beat was below normal. It was successfully done at Ruben Hospital, Patna on 12th July. After spending a few days at Xavier Bhawan, he is back home with the same vigor and enthusiasm. **Fr. Joe Thadavanal** too had gone to Patna for a medical checkup. **Fr. Vimal** accompanied both of them and made sure that they are back in the community safe and sound. **Fr. Saji** is busy with the school work and updating himself with the CBSE regulations. We are having our monthly recollections on the topics given to us by the Province. On 25th July, as directed by the Holy Father, we honoured our seniors (**Br. Abe, Frs. Joe and Albert**). Their sharing lifted up our spirits to look forward to our future with joy and enthusiasm. On 28th July, four of us joined **Fr. Gabriel Michael** at Chenari for his Golden Jubilee celebrations. We had the novena in preparation for the feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola. On 31st July, the feast day, the teachers prepared a short cultural programme to honour the Jesuits. We had a common lunch with the teachers, the 'Ignatian Family'. We

conducted a quiz competition on the life and works of St. Ignatius. It was well attended by the students. In the evening we invited the FIHM community to join us for the Holy Eucharist followed by a festive dinner.



Archbishop Emeritus William D'Souza spent two days with us on his way to Sasaram for the Feast of St. Ignatius. We had the Holy Cross Sisters from Amolia as our guests on August 3rd. The online classes are held every day without fail. Now we look forward to beginning the regular classes and physical presence of students on the campus.

– *Manish Osta*

Barbigha: We were extremely happy to welcome **Fr. Jose Thayil, S.J.**, the new Acting Superior who joined the community on the 10th of July, 2021; also, the community members welcomed the deacon **Jeevan Isahak** who joined us in the ministry at Barbigha. The National Justice Day, July 28, was celebrated as a Remembrance Day of Late Fr. Stan Samy, SJ – his ministry of Faith and Justice among the *Adivasis* of Jharkhand. There was a candle light procession, followed by a short prayer service along with fifty parishioners and well-wishers; strictly following the Covid protocol. The feast of St. Ignatius was celebrated in the school and in the parish without much extravaganza, keeping in mind the prevailing pandemic situation. Fr. Andrews Thambi, the Parish Priest of Barh and his colleagues (Fathers and Sisters) joined us for the lunch on the feast day of St. Ignatius of Loyola. **Fr. Ranjan Lazar S. J.** is making all efforts to remain well connected with the parishioners and the youth, through WhatsApp groups. Online classes for all the classes (K.G. - X) are going on in full swing. The teachers are taking extra efforts to teach the students online effectively, and the staff members have quickly learned to adapt to the new mode of teaching. Students are eagerly waiting for the

government order to resume offline classes. A few classrooms of Raj Rajeshwar School are being used as a center for Covid-19 vaccination.

- *K.P. Dominic*

Bettiah - KR: The month of July was in many ways, a month of blessing and celebration. After the prolonged lock down, K.R. and St. Xavier's School resumed classes for class XII on 12 July as per the government's order and guidelines. Four of our community members had gone to Gaunaha for the farewell of **Fr. Babu**. While coming back **Fr. Sudeep Chacko** joined us. He stayed for two days in K.R. community and had general health checkup. On 22 July we had a very open and inspiring sharing on the reflection points given by **Fr. Benny Moolan** on the theme - 'Ignatius, the Great Communicator'. Students of K.R. School participated in the PPT competition on Ignatian Themes organized by St. Michaels' School, Patna. The teachers of K.R. School also conducted online Essay Writing competition for the students on Ignatian Themes. A half day seminar on Ignatian theme - 'Profession and Probation' for the K.R. School and Non Formal Teachers was organized on 29 July. The seminar was conducted by **Fr. Periyanyagam**, who is an expert in Ignatian Spirituality. The seminar was very inspiring and touching. All the students and parents were connected for the video show online. On 30 July, on the eve of the feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola, we had a short prayer service organized by the teachers. On the same day the school bade farewell to Mr. Prabhat Seraphim of Primary Section of K.R. School. On this special occasion **Fr. Rector, Joe Maripuram**, who was the chief guest, gave the message. All the students and the parents were connected online for this special program. St. Xavier's School had seminar on Ignatian themes conducted by **Fr. Periyanyagam** on same day.



CBSE results of Class XII were published on 30 July and one of our candidates Anand Jaimon of St. Xavier's School, scored 98.4 percent marks. He is the topper in St. Xavier's School, Bettiah. On 31 July, the feast of St. Ignatius, we had solemn Eucharistic celebration in the morning. **Fr. Rector** was the main

celebrant. In the afternoon our attached communities, Ratanpurwa, Gaunaha and READ, and candidates were invited for the lunch to share brotherly love and joy. At 3.30 pm we had tea with our co-workers.

- *Michael Ekka*

Bodhgaya – Jeevan Sangham: As the Corona pandemic lockdown restrictions were being relaxed gradually, our village education program and residential education program were resumed in June and picked up vibrancy in July. The workshops organized for village teachers, student leaders, and community leaders on ecology and forest are a starting point for a deeper engagement in future to care for the terrain and forests in Barachatti–Sherghatti belt. The students have been introduced to *Tarumitra*; student leaders have been given the responsibility to form *Tarumitra* groups in their own villages. As an incentive, prizes have been announced for those leaders with maximum membership of children. The students along with their parents have so far planted over 500 plants. Another 500 plants are expected to be planted soon.

Enhancing the academic competency of our children is a major challenge before us. Analysis of performance of students through a Baseline Competency Test, setting up syllabus based on the findings of the Baseline Test, training of teachers, making available a large set of questions for practice are some initiatives taken by **Fr. John Ravi** with the hope of making a breakthrough in the academic competency of our students.

Hardships and deprivations are visible in the life of village people, especially the Dalits and other economically weaker sections. With help from generous donors, God enabled us to reach out to more than 400 households with dry ration; and 800 people with face masks, washing soap, etc.; and, 40 children with nutrition kit. We are grateful to Loyola School, Pune, Fatima Mata Susamachar Kendra, Digha, BDVS, Patna, and Nazareth Academy, Gaya.



More recently, we received help from *Missio* for providing dry ration to 1000 households in response to a request by **Fr. Lawrence Eucharist** through the PDD.

We organized health campaigns in five panchayats. During these campaigns, we heard stories from the field on selfless medical care provided to people by the Registered Medical Practitioners (RMPs or village doctors). In many cases, these village doctors have saved lives of those who were rejected admission by hospitals and doctors. These stories propelled us to network with them. We provided them with non-prescriptive medicines for making them available to the needy on their visits to interior villages. We organized a public function to recognize as well as to honor them for their dedicated service at the peak of the second wave of the pandemic that swept the villages. The function, which honored about 70 country doctors with certificates of appreciation, was an apt response to the genuine demand of these hitherto unnoticed heroes or the frontline health workers.

The civil society network at Jeevan Sangham organized a silent march and public function on 7 July to protest the custodial death of Fr. Stan Samy. A memorial Mass was offered for him by us, together with the SRA sisters. **Fr. Cyriac** was given a very touching farewell as he moved to Xavier Bhawan. His farewell taught us a few lessons on love – he, being a teacher all through his life as a Jesuit Priest, had come to love our children in the campus. The Dialogue ministry under the leadership of **Fr. Lawrence Eucharist** is exploring networking with diocesan initiatives in interreligious dialogue and peace mission in Rajgir and Vaishali. The month ended with a solemn celebration of the Feast of St. Ignatius.

- *Anto Joseph*

Chenari: 28th July was a special day at the Chenari mission campus when about 15 Priests and 20 Religious Sisters of Rohtas deanery and the Buxar Diocese Apostolic Administrator, **Most Rev. William D'Souza, S.J.** joined us in celebrating the 50 Golden years of **Fr. Gabriel Michael** in the Society of Jesus. The celebration consisted of 2 parts: 1) Thanksgiving Eucharist and 2) Fellowship meal.



At the beginning of the Mass **Fr. Rajendran** welcomed all those who were present and gave a brief rundown of the life and ministry of **Fr. Gabriel**. During

the homily, **Fr. Gabriel**, while thanking God for his call to Jesuit life, recalled with gratitude his formators, superiors and companions for their love and guidance. Then came the most memorable moment: it was when during the offertory **Fr. Gabriel** offered a colourful plant as a symbol of his life and recited the lines of a song from the film सावन को आने दो : 'जिसकी रचना इतनी सुन्दर ,वह कितना सुन्दर होगा'।

The fellowship meal that followed was thoroughly enjoyed by all present. **Fr. Gabriel's** jubilee gave us, Priests and Religious of the deanery, an opportunity to be together after more than 2 years and an occasion to acknowledge with gratitude the gift of **Fr. Gabriel Michael** to the mission. Special thanks to the Notre Dame Sisters and the Disciple Sisters for their days of preparation regarding decorations, choir and dinner.

- *Rajendran Francis*

Khagaul - Manthan: The month of July unfurled an exciting feeling in everyone as we planned to call the children in smaller groups, for 15 days residential training. The arrival of children brought life and colours to our campus. Manthan staff were busy in identifying the beneficiaries for Covid-19 relief works. We distributed dry ration kits to the most deserving people from Danapur, Bihitta and Phulwari blocks. We gratefully remember our benefactors who went out of their way to reach out to the most needy during the pandemic.

Fr. Junas Kujur was busy with the 'Come and See' programme and reaching the boys to Xavier Nilaya Bangalore. On 25th, in the Parish we celebrated the first World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly.. We invited the grandparents and offered special Mass for them and they were felicitated after the Mass.



Apostolic Carmel sisters from Avila convent visited us on 22nd July. They have been part of various activities of Manthan. Sr. Pushpika, BS, had to rush home as her brother was seriously ill. He is still critical and she is with him in the hospital. On the 31st we celebrated the feast of St. Ignatius of

Loyola with children. They put up a colourful cultural programme. **Fr. Susai Raj** gave a fitting message on the occasion.
- *Juno Sebastian*

Kaiserganj: July was a significant month for us here at Kaiserganj. The month began with the visit of **Frs. Joseph Sebastian** and **Gyan Prakash** along with **Rajesh Jacob** in the first week itself. On July 5th we were able to complete the registration process of a plot of land that we required to buy. The whole process was completed without any difficulty with the help of our local lawyer. The construction work of the school building is progressing as planned, even though we had to stop the work for a couple of days due to heavy rain. **Fr. George Nedumattam** made a short visit to Patna to conduct a one-day workshop for the Superiors and Principals of Apostolic Carmel and to take care of the accounts.



We celebrated the Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola for the first time here at Kaiserganj. We began the day with a special Eucharist which was followed by sharing our Feast Day joy with all the people on the campus. (We have a mini village here with all the people involved in the construction work staying on the campus). The clergy of Ghaghara zone (deanery) joined us for the evening fellowship meal, and it was a time for us to share our joy with them and we felt their companionship and love for us. They expressed their happiness to have a Jesuit community in their zone and assured us their prayerful support for the mission here at Kaiserganj.
- *George Nedumattam*

Lucknow - Loyola Sadan: The month of July made our campus verdant and beautiful. This year the Lord has brought 6 new 'apostles' (first year novices) to be with him so that He could send them into His vineyard: two for Delhi province and four for Patna province. On the 1st of July the first Probation began and the probationers were trained by Fr. Master with the help of 'Guardian Angels' Amardeep and Sujit.



On the 15th of July we had a special Eucharist for the first years and for the new Fathers. After the Eucharist we had a fellowship meal. **Fr. Joe Kootinal** and **Fr. Mani Poovakot** are new members of our community. And with their arrival our house is complete now. Fathers and first years were warmly welcomed through a cultural programme on 15th evening. The next day we had a basketball match between the 2nd years and the first years which the first years won. It was a time to mingle with each other. On 17th July our first year brothers planted a papaya sapling each under the guidance of their guardian angels. On the 22nd we began our novena prayer service in honour of St. Ignatius, taking different theme for each day. We are very lucky to have a new cook from Jharkhand. He is a young and committed person, but a 'novice' in cooking; he was trained for a week and now has become a good cook. We have begun our new session for the year 2021-2022 little late. **Fr. Nicholas** was down with cough and cold for some days. He is recovering.

- *Elias Lakra*

Muzaffarpur – Asha Deep: The second wave of Corona pandemic brought a new vision and mission to us. We began online awareness program for the youth to protect them from the spread of the virus. **Fr. Deepak Lakra** and Mr. Sikandar Kumar visited nearby Musahar villages to distribute brochures and masks to make them aware of the spread of coronavirus. They also collected data to conduct awareness program to stop the spread of coronavirus in their villages. We have begun to distribute 212 dry ration packets and 5000 masks to the poor and marginalized in and around Muzaffarpur. Sr. Smita, MMS from Hajipur, conducted three days seminar on women empowerment and awareness program on coronavirus for 150 village women.



We were able to provide jobs for 80 trainees in Haryana, Bangalore, Patna, Chennai and Hyderabad. **Frs. Dominic Xavier and Paul Mariadass** conducted 6 days training program on maintenance of Home appliances to 100 rural youth from Vaishali district. We have begun our offline training program with 112 rural youth from

different parts of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, West Bengal and Jharkhand. **Fr. Dominic Xavier** gave an online retreat to 15 Sacred Heart Sisters from 4 different communities. The community gave a grand farewell to **Fr. George Ayyankanal** for his service to rural youth in teaching English and taking motivational classes. He is ever remembered and we wish him abundance of blessings of the Lord for the new mission in Xavier Nilaya, Bangalore. **Fr. Paul Mariadass** had a throat infection and was resting at Xavier Bhawan for some days. **Fr. Vincent Francis** offered the holy Eucharist on the feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola and preached a meaningful homily to the trainees. Many Jesuits from north Bihar visit us on their way to Patna and while returning; it gives us joy to share their companionship. – *Dominic Xavier*

Patna – Atmadarshan - Scholastics: We, the nine scholastics of different stages of formation commenced our life at Atmadarshan on 19th June, 2021. On 28th June, we celebrated the birthday of **Br. Bernard Singh** in a very grand way at Xavier Bhawan. One of the scholastics, namely, **Felix Richard**, left for Ahmedabad on 29th June for his college studies. On 2nd July, we were invited by XTTI community for the jubilee celebration of **Br. Joseph Veticatt** and were given the opportunity to lead the choir. Our heartfelt gratitude to Manthan community, St. Xavier's community, Gandhi Maidan and Kurji parish community for joyfully welcoming us to have fellowship meals and companionship with them. We were also privileged to have two matches, one with the Fathers of St. Xavier's and another with Pre-novices; we defeated them in both the matches of badminton and basketball respectively. We were blessed to celebrate the first World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly, Novena Prayer and celebration of the feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola with all the Fathers and Brothers of Xavier Bhawan. Our joy was doubled when the pre-novices from Sanjeevan Niwas came to Atmadarshan to meet us, to have a basketball match and supper with us. Now we, the scholastics are dispersing from Atmadarshan slowly one by one: this month **Richard Lakra** will be going to Chennai on 12th August for his Philosophical studies and **Prabhat Minz** will be going to Mangalore on 26th August for his college studies. We wish them abundant blessings of the Lord for their studies.

– *Prabhat Minz & Richard Lakra*

Patna – Kurji Parish: On becoming a 'wounded soldier' on 16 July, **Fr. Rajesh Somepalli** was in KHFH for a few days and after that he is recuperating in Xavier Bhawan. It was God's providence that in the morning of the same day (16th), **Dn. Rajevee** had arrived in Kurji parish for his Diaconate ministry. **Fr. Isidore Kerketta** had gone to Jamshedpur to reach five of our Candidates to Jamshedpur Candidates' House. Our new presbytery was blessed by Most Rev. Archbishop Sebastian Kallupura on 18th July. We have

slowly started shifting our things from the old presbytery to the new one. We had organized online novena prayer to St. Ignatius of Loyola for the faithful. A number of them participated in the prayer. It was a grace-filled moment for us as well as the parishioners. Due to Corona pandemic restrictions on religious gatherings, we are not having regular Eucharist celebrations for the faithful.



– *Rajevee Ranjan*

Patna – Sanjivan Niwas – Pre-Novitiate: Nearly after one and a half decade, the Pre-Novices have brought exuberant life to Sanjivan Niwas through their youthful presence. The first Pre-novice of this academic year, Alphonse Kujur arrived on 18th June from KR Candidates' House to mark the reopening of the Pre-Novitiate. At present, there are 20 Pre-Novices. The inaugural Eucharist for the Academic year 2021-22 was celebrated by **Fr. Sushil Bilung** on 29th June, along with **Frs. Raneesh** and **Antony Samy**. Sch. Maneesh from Delhi Province has arrived for his first year of Regency. Along with **Fr. Antony Samy**, the Director, we have wonderful teachers in **Fr. Joe Pulickal**, **Fr. Josey Mathias**, **Fr. Sushil Bilung** and **Fr. Arun Ignatius** who share their knowledge and experience with us. In the month of July, we had various celebrations - responding to the call of Pope Francis, we moved out to wish our Elders at various communities, namely Xavier Bhawan and St. Michael's, and the sisters at Asha Sadan. We also organized a wonderful program for our Elders in Sanjivan Niwas and FSMK. The life of Elderly Fathers and Sisters is very inspiring for all of us. **Fr. Mathew Chemplany** inspired us through his recollection talk on the Spirit of St. Ignatius. We had various competitions on Singing, Pencil Drawing and Speech Delivery, in preparation for the great feast. The epitome of all the celebrations was the Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola because **Fr. Donald Miranda**, the Provincial, visited us on this special occasion and inspired us through the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. Sch. Maneesh had trained the Pre-Novices so well that they put up a good fight against Patna Scholastics in a Basket Ball match at XTTI campus on the eve of the feast of St. Ignatius. We experienced the

generous hospitality of **Fr. Rajesh Bhaju, Fr. Alwyn Vaz** and **Fr. Augustine Kisku** and we are grateful to them.
- *Alphonse Kujur (Pre-Novice)*

Patna – St. Michael’s: School: To mark the *Van Mahotsav* Week, different types of creeper plants were planted in our school premises by Mr. Shashi Darshan, representative of Tarumitra Ashram and his team on 10th July 2021; the Rector, Principal, Vice Principal, teachers and a group of students took part in this activity. Based on the Universal Apostolic Preferences the school conducted an Online Hindi Elocution Competition on July 17th 2021. Class XII CBSE board results were announced on 30th July, 2021. The students have performed well. The toppers of our school are Prerna Singh with 98.4% in the Science stream and Arpit Raj with 98% in the Commerce stream. For the feast of St. Ignatius on 31st July 2021, an online program was prepared. The Inter-school PPT Competition was based on the life and teachings of St. Ignatius. Green brigade of St. Michael’s High School, Patna showcased their talent via making eco-friendly friendship bands, creative videos on rainwater collection & reuse and action packed self-composed poems on trees, to celebrate Rainbow Festival - Friendship Week of Tarumitra, India.

St. Xavier’s College of Education: After so many days of lock down, the college resumed offline classes for first year B.Ed. as well as M.Ed students from 14th July 2021. On the opening day of the college, there was an icebreaking session for the students as well the teachers. There was also an awareness session regarding the social distance that has to be maintained. The students had the chance to share what they have realized and how God has touched them during the prolonged lockdown. It was indeed a good experience for all, including the teachers. All the teachers were involved in the curriculum redesigning for the academic year 2021 onwards for B.Ed. as well as M.Ed. students. The Board of Studies (BoS) and Academic Council (AC) have approved the new curriculum designed by us for the coming session. It is to be noted that the philosophy of St. Ignatius of Loyola is part of the curriculum for B.Ed. and M.Ed. On the other hand, the philosophy of A.P.J. Abdul Kalam is also to be studied by the students. **Fr. Gregory Gomes** delivered a talk on St. Ignatius of Loyola and inspired the students with his insights and experiences as a Jesuit. The feast of our founder was marked by organizing a meditation and prayer service for the students who volunteered to come. The fresh batch of students for B.Ed are yet to be admitted because the Common Entrance Test (CET) is yet to be conducted by Lalit Narayan Mithila University (LNMU). The exam is scheduled for 13 July 2021. This month the process of admission for Ph.D in Education will begin. This will be the second group of scholars after the conferment of autonomy in 2018.

Jesuit Community: Our monthly recollection on Communication, summarizing the points provided by the Province Ignatian Spirituality Commission, was given as a talk to the community by **Fr. Arun Ignatius**. This was followed by discussion in groups and concluded with Eucharistic celebration. Provincial’s visitation from 26th to 28th July 2021 ended with spiritual conversation and recommendations to the community. At the end of it we had a meaningful Eucharistic celebration. **Fr. Mathew Chemplany** gave a recollection on 30th July to the Pre-novices on the life of St. Ignatius of Loyola.
- *Gregory Gomes*

Patna – XTTI – SXCMT & Jesuit Community: On 8 July, the team from AKU inspected our college for the academic year 2021-2021. The visit was successful. On 19 July, Xavier Eco-Mitra club conducted Nest Making competition. Ritika (Business Economics) bagged the first prize for originality and artistic presentation. 21 July, on the festival of Eid, YIF members celebrated the day by distributing 100 food packets of *puri* and *sabji* among the homeless near Gandhi Maidan. Mr. Farhan Khan sponsored the food packets. On 23 July Xavier Eligibility Test II was conducted and selected candidates are taking admission. Online application for XET III is going on. On 25 July, Jesuit community celebrated the first World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly, with our Fathers in Xavier Bhawan. The community sponsored supper and made that day memorable by conducting games and singing. On 27 July, Our college was awarded the best performing college in national women’s placement drive by Indian Rural Chamber of Commerce and Industry. On 28 July, the college management, staff and students paid tribute to Fr. Stan Swamy, on the occasion of National Justice Day. On this day Xavier Quiz club organized national level inter-institution online competition to mark World Nature Conservation Day. Preeti Kumari of our college won the first prize. Kunti Kumari and Anshuka Raj from Patna Women’s College took the second and third prizes respectively. NSS director Mr. Ajay Kumar and his volunteers conducted 5 days of cleanliness drive around Digha-Sonepur bridge. Seeing their initiative the local people joined them.



The feast of St. Ignatius was celebrated with great enthusiasm: AICUF students organized a meaningful liturgy in which **Fr. Prakash Antony** was the main celebrant. A beautiful cultural Program was organized by the cultural committee. On this day, carom competition was organized. Ruchika Singh (Mass Communication) and Purnima Kiran (Computer Application) won prize in girls' category. Rishav (Business administration) and Aditya (Commerce) won prizes in the boys' category.

- *Alphonse Sebastian*

XISR: XISR's 46th publication, jointly published with Janaki Prakashan, Patna, titled, **Land Rights and Relations in Bihar**, authored by Vinay Ohdar, is out from the press. Earlier in late June, **Fr. Jose Kalapura**, along with religious leaders from Hinduism, Islam and Sikhism, led an inter-religious prayer for the victims of Covid-19, at a condolence meeting of about 150 participants organized at Sadaquat Ashram. He also participated as consultant at the inauguration, July 16, of the Centre for CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) Study of Chandragupta Institute of Management, Patna.

- *Jose Kalapura*

Sakri – Prabhat: After a month's break due to the pandemic lockdown our CRCs and SECs started functioning from 9th June and are now in full swing. In these centers, distribution of masks, sanitizers, medicines and biscuits was carried out. **Sch Anuj** joined the mission here on 17th June.

In July a 15-day Residential Program for boys of group C was arranged and carried out beautifully. This started on 9th evening and ended on 25th morning. For this there was selection process in all the centers for a week or so in which all the residential staff took part. Soon after this, training for the members of *Mata Samiti* was organized and executed in four clusters on the theme *SANSKAR*. The training was meant to motivate mothers to impart good behavior to their children implying that the mothers have the responsibility to bring up their children with certain '*sanskar*'. The theme was the need of the time and the attendees benefitted much from this program. Meanwhile **Fr. Rajesh Jacob** and team which included **Frs. Norbert Menezes, Johnson** and **Bro. Manoj** came to Sakri to initiate the process of purchase of a couple of plots attached to our School property. Despite all odds our paddy transplantation was successfully done though some plots are still submerged in water. The feast of St. Ignatius was celebrated solemnly and the participants included MC Brothers, H.C Sisters from Darbhanga and a number of parishioners from Madhubani parish. All these events give us joy and encouragement to move ahead in our mission enthusiastically.

- *Anuj Toppo*

Sasaram – Jesuit Community and Parish: The blessings of the month of July began with the visit of **Archbishop (Emeritus) William D'Souza, SJ**. He visited the Sasaram mission on July 5. While he was

in Sasaram, he made sure to visit the neighboring religious communities, Dehri church site and St. Anne's school, Burhan. His visit brought lots of joy and laughter to the community. We celebrated Grandparents' day on July 25, both in the parish church and in Dehri Mass center. The parish priest sent out regular reminders to the parishioners to celebrate the day in their own respective villages and localities. There was lot of positive response from the people: people were very much touched by the celebration. On the same day evening the community members also visited Mala Ashram and felicitated two elderly Brothers, which made them very happy and joyful. It was a moment of great joy for all of us when we participated in the jubilee celebration of **Fr. Gabriel Michael** at Chenari on July 28. After the devotional liturgical celebration and heart-warming felicitation program, we enjoyed a delicious fellowship meal which was prepared under the guidance of **Fr. Albert Abraham**, the chief cook, and his team. The feast day celebration on July 31 was at St. Anne's School, Burhan. The blessings of the feast came down in the form of heavy rains and as we returned from the school, to our great surprise, we found that water had entered the house. We have re-located our kitchen and dining hall upstairs and also all of us have captured a room upstairs to have a safe resting place. If the rain god returns, we may need flood relief for the community!

St. Anne's School: The continued lockdown due to the pandemic provided us newer opportunities and enabled us to explore every avenue to improve the standard of the teaching staff as well as to reach out to students. The initiative of having spoken English and computer classes for the staff continues as it is beneficial to them. St. Anne's school pioneered in the district in campaigning Covid-19 vaccination as the District Magistrate Mr. Dharmendra Kumar requested us to go to villages and encourage people to take Covid-19 vaccination. The members of our staff have been very creative and innovative in communicating the message through *Nukkad Nattak*, songs, slogans and speeches. It was a golden opportunity for the newly appointed principal to get acquainted with the officials and establish contact with them as well as to meet the students and parents of our school. The visits to different villages also made us aware of the need to prioritize a few villages from where the number of dropouts is more especially girls; and teach them at home by sending our teachers and providing them with textbooks and other learning materials. The idea behind sending our teachers to villages is to encourage and create some interest among the dropouts and teach them so that when the school reopens they can also be readmitted in the school especially the girls.

The month of July, though was filled with various activities and outreach programmes, gave

us two important saints, St. Anne, whose name our school bears and our founder Father St. Ignatius of Loyola, to ponder over their lives and to draw inspiration from. As the Society of Jesus celebrates the **Ignatian Year** and invites all our collaborators to draw inspiration and strength from the conversion of St. Ignatius of Loyola, we organized a series of events for our staff: **Fr. Benny** gave a talk on the conversion of St. Ignatius to our staff. **Fr. Albert Abraham** celebrated Holy Eucharist with our catholic staff while **Fr. Maxen** administered the sacrament of reconciliation. The novena of St. Ignatius was conducted by our staff. It was a very humbling and learning experience to witness our staff belonging to other faiths also coming out with beautiful and in deep reflections on St. Ignatius - every day on different themes.

On July 31, the Holy Eucharist was presided over by **Archbishop (Emeritus) William D'Souza, SJ** and he gave a meaningful and thought provoking homily in which he emphasized the theme "*To See Everything New in Christ*".



There was a beautiful and colourful cultural program presented by the staff. The Eucharist was followed by a felicitation program with variety of cultural items. The focal point of the program was a quiz conducted on the life of St. Ignatius. All the staff participated in the quiz and we, the Jesuits, felt that the staff knew more than us about St. Ignatius - a very satisfying experience!

- *Benny Moolan & Albert Abraham*

DIASPORA

Bangalore – Arrupe Niwas, SJC: I completed all the theory papers of the second semester during the first half of July. We will complete the practical classes and examinations as and when the college begins on-campus classes. Arrupe Niwas community organised a candle light condolence prayer in the college campus in honour of Fr. Stan Swamy, to pray for the repose of his soul. Our college staff, students, Jesuits, religious sisters from the neighbouring communities and lay people gathered in large numbers to pay

homage to Fr. Stan Swamy. Scholastics went on a two-day tour to Mysore and spent a lot of time in sightseeing. We came back to the community rejuvenated after the tour. Our community had a meaningful and creative Ignatian novena prayer everyday with different themes that led us deeper into the ignatian charism. We celebrated the feast of St. Ignatius with devotion and enthusiasm. The celebration was moderate due to Corona pandemic restrictions. I was given the responsibility as beadle for the new academic year. The college is expected to begin on-campus classes in the first week of August. We hope to begin the new academic year offline. - *Ravibhushan Kumar*

Bangalore – Xavier Nilaya: On 2nd July **Fr. Mani** returned from his short home visit and on the 4th he was given official farewell in the community. To thank **Fr. Mani** for his twelve years of selfless services in Bangalore the provincial of Karnataka, Fr. Dionysius Vaz, and many other Jesuits from our neighbouring communities joined us. On the following day **Fr. Mani** left for Lucknow and **Fr. George** accompanied him. On the 6th **Fr. K.P. Dominic** came and stayed for a day. **Fr. George** returned from Lucknow on the 7th and quarantined himself for three days. **Fr. Daniel** made a short visit to his native place to visit his sick aunt. He went home on the 11th and returned on the 17th. We got our first batch of Candidates on the 19th and on the following day we got the second batch. The third batch of Candidates came on the 25th. We got total of 24 candidates for this academic year. Two of the candidates had to go back home as one of them lost his father and the other lost his grandmother. So, at present we have 22 candidates – 13 for Patna and 9 for Delhi. The candidates are kept in two weeks of quarantine and observation. We had a very simple but meaningful feast day celebration of St. Ignatius: first with the Candidates and then with our neighbours. - *Prakash Toppo (DEL)*

Sitagarh - Juniors: We 27 Juniors from 7 Provinces arrived at St. Stanislaus College Sitagarh on 24th June and were quarantined for a week. The Provincial of Hazaribagh, Fr. Santosh Minj, inaugurated the new academic session on the 1st of July, followed by orientation for three days led by the new dean Fr. Michael T Raj. Fr. P.J. James of Hazaribag conducted a three day seminar on IPP. The present teaching faculty consists of Frs. Michael T Raj (English), Sandeep Lakra [MAP] (English), Tom Venad (Scripture) and our own **K.C. Philip** (Hindi). Juniors are from Hazaribag, Ranchi, Dumka, MP, Jamshedpur, Patna and Delhi Provinces. We three Juniors from Patna - Ankesh Kumar, Bablu Kumar and Avinash Kujur - are hale and hearty by the grace of God.

- *Avinash Kujur*

Sitagarh - Tertians: Frs. Babu and Devashish reached Sitagarha on 29th July for their Tertianship. On our arrival at Sitagarah, we were heartily welcomed by our Province man, **Fr. K.C. Philip**. Thanks to **Fr. Christie Savarirajan** for making arrangements for us to reach Sitagarha safely amidst strict lockdown in Jharkhand.



On the inaugural day Fr. Santosh Minz, the Provincial of Hazaribag Province, gave a key note address and introduced the theme of the Tertianship 2021, "With new hearts and minds: seeing all things new in Christ." We are 24 Tertians from 12 Provinces. Fr. Ignatius Tete (RAN) and Fr. M.I. Raj (GUJ) are our Tertian instructors. At present we are in 8 days of quarantine. - *Babu Jagadeepan*

MOSAICS IN MANRESA

A space of encounter in 500 square meters of mosaics in Manresa: The Slovenian artist and Jesuit Marko Rupnik and his team, made up of some twenty people from different countries around the world, have worked intensely at the Shrine of the Cave of Saint Ignatius, in Manresa, installing the set of mosaics they have created for the side naves of the Slovenian artist and Jesuit Marko Rupnik and his team, made up of some twenty people from different countries around the world, have worked intensely at the Shrine of the Cave of Saint Ignatius, in Manresa, installing the set of mosaics they have created for the side naves of the Shrine.

The work captivates all who contemplate it, for the strength of its message, its beauty and the fascinating process involved in its creation. There are more than 550 square metres of mosaics, showing the Christian pilgrimage through the Spiritual Exercises. "An itinerary of prayer," the artist himself explained, "in which one moves from a professed Catholicism to a lived faith."

In 2015, Marko Ivan Rupnik came to *La Cova de Sant Ignasi* and was offered the opportunity to present, through his art and from the experience of the Spiritual Exercises, the story of Salvation. From then on he worked with his team at the *Centro Aletti* in

Rome to design each of the eight rooms that form the side naves of the church. When Rupnik and his team arrived in Manresa in March 2021, they unpacked several containers: marble from the five continents, crystals glazed with pigments selected from all over the world, gold and silver ceramic pieces, and more. But what was really important was the team of 22 artisans, of more than ten different nationalities, who worked day and night to complete the mosaics in two weeks. With Rupnik they had studied Eastern and Western Christian traditions, mastered different forms of art, ancient icons, classical mosaics, the Bible, history. They also made their work a time of prayer. In the experience of living the faith lies the energy to transmit the sacred story in this contemporary work of art that we contemplate today.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

➤ **Intention of the Holy Father** [Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network – PWP] for the month of **August 2021:**

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.

➤ **Inigo Initiative - INI launched on Inigo's feast**

In an online function on 31 July 2021, the feast of St. Ignatius, the Madurai Province launched a new venture – an e-magazine called INI. INI stands for 'Inigo' and 'initiative.' Fr. Danis Ponniah, SJ, MDU Provincial, launched it, saying it is the first e-magazine of the Province which is blessed with an admirable intellectual capital. Fr. Cedric Prakash, SJ (GUJ) offered his felicitations. Fr.M.A. Joe Antony, SJ, editor, INI, said that INI would be a quarterly that would focus on 'Apostolic Preferences' of Jesuits. He said INI is meant for Jesuits everywhere and their associates – professors, teachers, alumni, students, all those who belong to the IGFA (Ignatian Family), who are drawn to the Ignatian spirituality, and all men and women of good will who collaborate with Jesuits in their work for faith and justice.

The inaugural issue of INI carries an exclusive interview with Fr. John Dardis, SJ, the General Assiatant, and articles by Michael Amaladoss, SJ (CEN), Rudi Heredia, SJ, (BOM), Cedric Prakash, SJ, (GUJ) William Sequeira, SJ (KAR) and Francis P. Xavier, SJ (CEN). It has also an interesting feature in which 12 Jesuits from six Indian provinces share their Corona experiences, articulating what they learned from the dreaded disease.

In order to access the magazine, after you get into Chrome or Gmail, type on the slot on the top of the screen 'inimagazine.org' and it will take you to the home page of INI. To read the articles

all you need to do is to click on 'Features' in the menu on the top.

Book Release: On 4th August 2021 "**The Adventure of Living and Learning**" (Leveraging Time-tested Insights Towards Integrated Education), written by Fr. Norbert Menezes was released by Provincial, Fr. Donald Miranda, SJ.



This book, on Jesuit legacy of Education is spread-out in 20 concise chapters. Besides giving a bird-eye view of the rich heritage of Jesuit education, it provides an up-to-date of documents, inputs of international seminars, educational priorities, teaching and learning orientations, and ongoing transformative development related to Jesuit Education. It has many salient features related to transforming education. This book is a good companion and guide to teachers and educational administrators.

Published by Prabhat Prakashan, Patna. Pages:152. Price: ₹ 120.00 (on orders of 15 copies and above - 15% discount, packaging and postage additional)
- *Josey Mathias*

REQUESTING YOUR PRAYERS

For the Sick:

- **Br. Abraham Chempothanadiyil, SJ** had a pacemaker implanted on 12 July 2021 at Ruben Memorial Hospital, Patliputra, Patna. After a week of recuperation at Xavier Bhawan, he has returned to Aurangabad with a support-filled heart.
- **Fr. Rajesh Somepalli, SJ** had an accident on 16 July 2021 while cutting grass in the lawn in front of Kurji church, with a grass-cutting machine. While he was attempting to remove a brick in front of the blades, someone called out to him and in the process of turning, he slipped. Since the blades were in operational mode, he got cut above, below and by the side of his left toe. He was rushed to KHFH and was given 14 stiches. After a few days in the hospital, he is recuperating at Xavier Bhawan. Some imitation of St. Ignatius, in the 'Ignatian Year'!
- **Fr. Joseph Sebastian, SJ** has been receiving treatment for his back pain at Nangeli Ayurvedic Hospital, Kothamangalam.
- **Fr. Robert Athickal, SJ** was admitted in Nazareth Hospital, Allahabad on 20 July 2021 and was diagnosed with a minor blood clot in the brain. After medication he was discharged on 24 July 'with a stock

of medicines and injections' to handle all the ailments including high sugar.

➤ **Fr. George Karuvelil, SJ** writes from home: "I have regained my strength. But what is a matter of concern about my health is the dizziness I feel while walking and the weakness felt in my legs. ... Although my visit in the coming August is to meet the gastrologist who checks on my liver, I also intend to meet the other doctor and to see what he has to say. If the giddiness and weakness in the legs is the side effect of some medicine, and how long I have to continue with those medicines. That will give me some idea of how long I need to stay on here. I will also get his opinion on when I can move away from Kerala."

For the Departed:

† Fr. Devasia Vellapani (GOA, 82/59) passed away on 06 July '21 in Belgaum.

† Mrs. Gracy Miranda, 81, **mother of Fr. Donald Miranda, SJ**, died of massive heart attack on 07 July '21 at Mumbai.

† Fr. Abraham Enthemkuzhy (JAM, 70/52) died on 14 July '21 at XIMB, Bhubaneswar.

† Fr. Stanislaus (Stany) Miranda, (KAR, 91/68) went to his Eternal Home on 19 July '21.

† Fr. Paul Valappila (GUJ, 78/60) went to his eternal abode on 31 July '21. in Our Lady of Pilar Hospital, Vadodara.

† Fr. Placie Fonseca (BOM, 84/62) passed away on 01 Aug. '21.

† Mr. C. D. Ignatius, 82, **father of Fr. George Nedumattam, SJ**, returned to his Lord and Master on 05 Aug. '21.

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9th August: World Indigenous Peoples' Day

"We cannot ignore the social commitments enshrined in our Constitution.

In eastern India, the exploitation of minerals like bauxite and iron ore is causing destruction of forests and sources of water. While the nation must benefit from the exploitation of these mineral resources, we will also have to take into consideration questions of environmental protection and the rights of tribals.

Let it not be said by future generations that the Indian Republic has been built on the destruction of the green earth and the innocent tribals who have been living there for centuries.

A great Socialist leader has once said that a great man in a hurry to change the world who knocks down a child commits a crime."

Let it not be said of India that this great Republic in a hurry to develop itself is devastating the green mother earth and uprooting our tribal populations.

(K R Narayanan, former President of India, speaking on Republic Day)

SCHOOL RESULTS - CBSE & ICSE - 2021

No.	Place	School	Boys	Total Appeared	90% & above	Divi.I	Divi.II	Divi.III	Failures
			Girls						
Class - X									
1	Aurangabad	St. Ignatius High School	Boys	88	12	86	2		
		[CBSE - X]	Girls	54	10	52	2		
			Total	142	22	138	4		
2	Bettiah	St. Xavier's HS School	Boys	114	32	104	10		
		[CBSE - X]	Girls	51	8	48	2	1	
			Total	165	40	152	12	1	
3	Patna	St. Michael's School	Boys	185	87	179	5		1 (Comp)
		[CBSE - X]	Girls	62	32	60	1	1	
			Total	247	119	239	6	1	1 (Comp)
4	Patna	St. Xavier's School	Boys	108	46	108			
		[ICSE - X]	Girls	46	17	46			
			Total	154	63	154			
		Total - X	Boys	496	177	477	17	1	1 (Comp)
			Girls	213	67	206	5	1	
			Total	709	244	683	22	2	1 (Comp)
Class - XII									
1	Bettiah	St. Xavier's HS School	Boys	77	12	76	1		
		[CBSE - XII]	Girls	42	12	42			
			Total	119	24	118	1		
2	Patna	St. Michael's School	Boys	278	143	276	2		
		[CBSE - XII]	Girls	126	73	125	1		
			Total	404	216	401	3		
		Total - XII	Boys	355	155	352	3		
			Girls	168	85	167	1		
			Total	523	240	519	4		

Congratulations Principals, teaching, administrative and support staff, and students for the good results.

We join you in thanking the Lord for bringing to a close the long wait for these results.

Keep up the good work of forming young minds and hearts in the ways of the Lord.

