



**Xavier Sadan, 9/3 Middleton Row, Kolkata 700 071 West Bengal INDIA**

**CJNL - 688**

**DECEMBER 2020**

**2020/09**

### **POPE FRANCIS APPOINTS**

**Fr. Bryan Lobo (BOM)** Consultor of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue

### **FR. GENERAL APPOINTMENTS**

**Fr. Agnelo Mascarenhas (GOA)** Provincial of Pune Province

**Fr. Shajumon Chakkalakkal (DAR)** Socius, Consultor and Admonitor to President, JCSA

**Fr. Roland Coelho (Provincial of Goa)** as the New JCSA/ POSA Consultor and Chair of the West Zone Provinces

### **PROVINCIAL APPOINTS**

**Ignatian Year Animation Team:** Fr. Jeyaraj Veluswamy (Co-ordinator), Fr. Julian Sahayadas, Fr. Sajeev Painunkal, Fr. Pierre Jacob and Fr. Sunny George Kunnel.

**Stand with Fr. Stan Province Team:** Fr. John Kerketta (Coordinator), Fr. Irudaya Jothi and Fr. Anburaj Emmanuel.

### **INFORMATION**

**President of JCSA** appoints an Assistancy Organizing Committee for the Ignatian Year 2021-2022: **Fr. Francis Puthusherry, Fr. Diionysius Vaz, Ajit Xess, Fr. Siji Chacko and Fr. Sunny Kunnel.**

**Sch. Antony Albert Suresh, Sch. Antony Robert V. and Sch. Felix Tete** will be ordained Deacons on **February 4, 2021** on the feast of St. John de Brito, Bl. Rudolf Acquaviva, Bl. Francis Pacheco, Bl. Charles Spinola, and companions at **6 p.m. at Prabhu Jisur Girja, Kolkata.**

**Fr Stanislaus D'Souza (POSA)** and **Fr Keith Abranches (Socius)** have new email addresses:

POSA - [president@jcsacuria.org](mailto:president@jcsacuria.org) Socius - [socius@jcsacuria.org](mailto:socius@jcsacuria.org)

### **Ignatian Year (20.05.2021 - 31.07.2022):**

**Fr General** has announced the Ignatian year commemorating the 500th anniversary of conversion of St. Ignatius and the 400th anniversary of his canonization. **Fr Provincial** has instituted a commission to plan and coordinate the Ignatian year.



**MARANATHA  
COME  
O! LORD  
JESUS  
COME**





## Change of Mobile number:

Fr. Thottam Kuruvilla: 8420683892

## Theology Books for SXUK:

SXUK is going to start religious study department. About 8000 books from Parasmani, Shantiniketan, have been shifted to St. Xavier's University, Kolkata, as one of the proposals given some years ago. The Theology books of **Fr. Mathew Jayant** were also taken to SXUK from Raghobpur.

## JCSA Online on October 26-29

In one of the sessions of JCSA, Fr. General talked to the Provincials on the "Culture of Vocation Promotion." He highlighted that the call to be a Jesuit is primarily a call to be brothers in Christ, a call to serve the Mission of God. It is this primacy of brotherhood that must reinvigorate the effort to promote the vocation to be a Brother. Priests and Brothers share the one call to serve the Lord. Vocations are the work of God and hence all of us need to pray continually for vocations – as individuals and as communities. The radicalness of this call must be reflected in the commitment of our lives and the joy we exude. This is the culture of our Life-Mission.

Presentations on the Common Houses and the JRS were made. There were sessions on the NEP and the migrant crisis. The Ignatian year and the need to form Jesuit Leaders were discussed. **Fr. George Pattery** was given a farewell. He was instrumental in inspiring the Phesama Statement and the SAP-REGAE processes. All the Provincials were open to conduct the next meeting as well online.



## CALCUTTA JESUITS : NEWS AND VIEWS

### Gleanings from Raghobpur

WORLD DIABETES DAY is remembered on November 14th every year. The DIABETIC RESEARCH and WELFARE ASSOCIATION (DRWA), under the auspices of Dr Mary D'Cruz, organized a medical camp on Sunday, November 15th, in the college premises of the Jesuit Raghobpur Mission. The theme of this year was, "The Nurses and Diabetes." Six of our local nurses, including two of our resident Sisters Ranjana and Julita of Kalahrdya, were especially honored on this day.

Seventy two patients already UNDER treatment for Diabetes were specially tested. Several tests were done. Nutrition counseling was given to counteract and control the disease. The camp was organized by the Church, Parish Council and SVP. The presence of our Bishop Shyamal at the inauguration was deeply appreciated. It was a memorable day for all of us.

*Fr. Patrick Walsh*

### Udayani News

A one-day human rights training was organized on November 13 for the Udayani Staff. The Calcutta High Court lawyer and social activist, Mr. Zameer Khan conducted the training. This sharpened their legal knowledge and enabled them to conduct the same training for SHG women in villages.



Udayani continues to campaign for the extension of free ration to all people under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojna (PMGKAY) during the entire COVID period. In collaboration with the Right to Food and Work Network West Bengal (RTFWN), a national day of action was called on November 22 across the State to demand for the extension of free ration distribution under the PMGKAY, restoration of free ration to Rajya Khadya Surksha Yojna (RKS-2) ration card holders, universalization of Public Distribution System (PDS) and 14 kilos of food grains, 1.5 kilos pulse and 800 ml of edible oil per head every month as per the ICMR guidelines. In each block, SHG women actively participated in the campaign, organized at public places with placards, posters and leaflets. SHG women submitted a deputation to the Food and Consumer Affairs Minister through the local government officials in different blocks.

The first ever online children's day celebration was organized by St. Xavier's University students for rural children on November 22. Children from all the five centers of Udayani participated in the live programs. They performed cultural dances and watched each other's program online. It was



a unique celebration during the pandemic period which children enjoyed together on this occasion.

-Fr. John Kerketta

## Vidyajyoti, Delhi

**Fr. Poulouse Mangai** celebrated Diwali (Nov 14), the World Day of the Poor (Nov 15) and the Silver Jubilee of his ordination (Nov 18) with a small group of cycle rickshaw pullers of Asha ki Kiran, an outreach ministry of Vidyajyoti College. The program included bhajans, speeches, sharing of sweets, and distribution of winter clothes. The cycle rickshaw pullers were given blankets, jackets, caps, shoes, socks, and soaps. These materials will continue to be given to a total of 200 cycle rickshaw pullers, jobless street people and slum dwellers in the coming weeks. The fund amounting to Rs. 1,75,000 came from the Delhi-based Islamic Studies Association headed by Frs. Tom Kunnumkal SJ and Victor Edwin SJ.

-Fr. Poulouse Mangai

## Chamrusai

September 02, 2020 was a significant day for the Premananda Ashramites in Chamrusai. We celebrated a solemn Eucharist on the death anniversary of **Fr. De Cocq**. The life story of Fr. De Cocq was read out by a parishioner in the beginning of the Mass. The faithful had gathered to pray for Fr. De Cocq and pray through his intercession.



After the Eucharistic celebration, Fr. De Cocq's flag was hoisted, his statue was garlanded, prayer intentions were offered, and his favorite scripture passage "Unless the grain of wheat falls to the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much fruit" (Jn.12:24) was read out. The participants remembered all the benefactors of the Ashram in their prayers. Puffed rice, biscuits and chocolates were distributed to all the faithful.

For the first time, women's football matches were organized by the faithful, in which women, girls, men and youth participated joyfully. Cultural events were conducted in honor of Fr. De Cocq. People fondly remembered Fr. De Cocq



and his hard work through different activities.

-Fr. Sebastian Xalxo

## St. Xavier's College, Kolkata

The International Webinar on "The COVID-19 Pandemic - Lives, Livelihood and Challenges", presented by the Department of Economics and Yunus Centre - supported by the College Alumni Association became a grand event on October 8. The Webinar, featuring Nobel Laureate Prof. Muhammad Yunus and the Keynote Address by **Fr. Dr. Dominic Savio**, the Principal of the College, had received extensive coverage by the media.

A unique effort to bring smiles to the helpless victims of COVID-19 and Amphan was initiated by the College by the name of "FESTIVAL OF GIVING" with the support of the Alumni, where a fresh consignment of gift items including dress materials like Sarees, Lungis, Dhotis, Vests and essential items like face masks, mosquito nets for 800 poor rural families of the Sundarbans was formally flagged off by Fr. Dominic on October 19.



On October 20, the 15<sup>th</sup> Edition of Knowledge and Ideas X-change Series organized a webinar on the topic "DOs & DON'Ts in the upcoming Festive season amidst COVID pandemic". The inaugural address was given by Fr. Dominic and Dr. Shiv Kumar Sarin, the Padma Bhushan Awardee was the resource person.

The Ph.D. Pre-Submission Seminar paper was well presented by **Fr. Milton Costa** on October 29. The title of his thesis is "the Socio-economic Conditions of Women Workers in the Garment Industry of Bangladesh."

After the University of Calcutta granted its permission to St. Xavier's College in 2015 to independently initiate a Ph.D. program, the first Ph.D. Open Viva-Voce Examination took place on November 10. Mrs. Ritun C. Chaudhuri, a registered Ph.D. scholar under the supervision of Dr. Kasturi Sarkar in the Dept. of Microbiology, had appeared for the examination in online mode. The College has currently 43 Ph.D. Supervisors and 69 research scholars in all, enrolled across the departments of Physics, Microbiology, Biotechnology and Commerce.

On November 14, the Xaverians had chosen to spread the happiness of Kalipuja and Diwali, which coincided with Children's day celebration, by sharing gifts with some differently abled children and children with cognitive challenges. Around 800 children from three NGOs got new clothes, chocolates and other gifts. Fr. Dominic, the Principal, along with **Fr. Joseph Kulandai**, the VP (Morning) and **Fr. Peter Arockiam**, the VP (Evening), distributed the gifts. The distribution drive was the first leg of a special initiative called



"Share to Care" which aims to stand by the marginalized children.

Under the guidance of Fr. Dominic, the Alumni Association along with the College and in collaboration with Film Federation of India organized a Webinar on November 23 to pay its tribute to Late Sumatra Chatterjee, who had been the face of Bengali Cinema globally for the last few decades. The welcome address was delivered by Fr. Dominic. Prominent film personalities of Bengal such as Sandip Ray, son of Legendary Filmmaker Satyajit Ray, Goutam Gosh and Atanu Gosh participated in it.

*Fr. David Paulraj*

## 32<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the heavenly entrance of Fr. Ante Gabric

Despite Covid-19 threat, around 350 (maximum number allowed to gather) people from six substations of Maria Palli Parish in Baruipur Diocese had gathered to celebrate the 32<sup>nd</sup> death anniversary of **Fr. Ante Gabric**. His Lordship Bishop Shyamal Bose celebrated the Holy Eucharist on October 20, 2020 at the Church dedicated to Our Lady of Lourdes in Kumrokhali.

I overheard someone saying in deep faith, 'COVID will do us no harm as we have come to pray to Fr. Gabric'. Such is the simple faith and conviction of the people and their devotion. Happy memory of Fr Gabric is still fresh. Bishop Shyamal Bose, who was baptized by Fr. Gabric performed the Arati to the Statue of Fr. Gabric, keeping with the local tradition at the start of the Solemn Eucharist.

Frs. Proloy Baidya, Xavier Silvester, Susiappan and Irudaya Jothi concelebrated at the Eucharist with Bishop Bose. After the Mass the whole congregation went in a procession to the cemetery of Fr. Gabric behind the Church for a community prayer and blessing by the Bishop. A prayer for beatification of Fr. Gabric is said after every mass.

Three days of Holy Triduum preceded the anniversary Mass which was nothing less than a festive atmosphere. Let us continue to pray with the people of Mariapally for the speedy elevation of Fr. Gabric to the Holy Altar as Blessed.

*-Fr. Irudaya Jothi*

## Dhyan Ashram

### Novitiate

We have been occupied with various programs in the months of October and November. The second years were busy preparing for the presentations on the vows while the first years were feverishly studying the Autobiography of St Ignatius as a preparation for their Long Retreat. In between we had our share of relaxation programs like novices' get-together on Oct 11 and a campus picnic on October 27. We shared our fraternal love by cooperating with one another in cooking and sharing our joy of being 'Friends in the Lord'. We also went for a 'pandal hopping' observing the social distancing norms during this year's 'pandemic Pujas'. **Fr Socius** took us around and we enjoyed the day observing the creative decoration of the pandals.

We continue to remind ourselves of the challenges of our mission as we pray for **Fr Stan Swamy** and talk about his

mission. We had a special prayer service for him on Oct 12 when the entire Dhyan Ashram community of novices, Juniors, scholastics and the fathers came together for a presentation, candle light procession and prayer in the chapel.



We celebrated the feast of St Stanislaus Kostka, the patron of the novices, on November 13. Our elder brothers, the Juniors and the scholastics, made the day memorable for us by their melodious singing at the Eucharist and a meaningful prayer service in the evening. We also enjoyed ourselves the rest of the day with a campus picnic. The following day, we made a walking pilgrimage to the Mother House to pray through the intercession of St. Mother Teresa for our upcoming programs. The first-year novices entered into the mood of prayer with a course on Intensive Journal from November 15 as an immediate preparation for the Long Retreat. On November 19, the second-year novices left for their Hospital and Street Children Experiments and the first-year novices began their Long Retreat. We request your fervent prayers for us.

*-Novice Sunderlal Indwar*

### Juniorate

After three months of intense study, juniors desperately needed a break and so the Juniors took a deep sigh of relaxation at St. Xavier's community, Burdwan from October 22 to 26. We express a deep sense of gratitude to the whole community for their hospitality. Juniors did some research work on the significance of Durga Puja celebration and presented it to the whole Dhyan Ashram community on October 31. We got engaged in the second term classes and assignments from November 2. On November 2, we had a meaningful Eucharistic celebration at the cemetery, remembering and praying for the departed souls. Juniors along with the scholastics celebrated the feast of John Berchmans in a grand way on November 26. We spent the entire day cooking, playing basketball and watching a movie. Having a celebration in the midst of our



busy schedule refreshes our minds to get back to our desk and do our studies well.

*-Sch. Rocky Mallick (JAM)*

## Arunoday

The academic year of 2020-21 began with 6 pre-novices, however, three of them had to be sent back home for various reasons. At present we have three pre-novices in our house. They have completed their 1<sup>st</sup> term examinations.

**Fr. Vivien**, the director, has been busy with the maintenance work of the house in addition to taking classes for our pre-novices. On November 26, we celebrated the birthday of **Fr. Francis Koikara**, the senior most and loving member of our community. As Winter is setting in, the flower plants are getting ready to bloom and the winter vegetables are thriving as well.

*-Sch. Rintu Samuel*

## Kalahrdya Tidings

Life in Kalahrdya has been quite normal. Slowly and steadily we continue our relief work for the people of both North and South 24 Parganas. On October 3, we had a difficult and arduous journey to distribute tarpaulins to an interior place in the Sunderban area called I-Plot. On October 10, we reached out to about 125 people of different faiths in Rakkhaskhali with Sarees, Lungis, Gamchas and mosquito nets. We have also been able to reach out to three of our mission stations in the Santal area with our relief materials. On October 11, we went to Pandua to distribute dry food grains for the people. It was well organized by **Fr. Amulya**, the Parish Priest. On November 6 and 13 we went to Kalna and Gurap respectively to distribute relief materials for the people. People were extremely happy to receive our little help. On October 30, we had triple celebrations namely, the birthday of our superior **Fr. Pat Walsh**, belated birthday of **Sch. Rakesh Mondol** and the feast of St. Alphonsus Rodrigues. On November 22, we celebrated the birthday of **Fr. K. Thottam**. Kalahrdya was happy to help out a women self-help group in buying raw materials for phenyl making. We are also continuing to help some poor people build their houses.

*-Sch. Rakesh Mondol*

## Navjyoti Niketan, Bangladesh

**Pre-Novitiate:** After the 'informal' Come and See Program, the Pre-Novitiate program began recently with three Pre-Novices. There is a possibility that a few more will join in the coming days. **Sch. Sunny**, who joined the community recently, is leaving no stone unturned to form them.

**Retreat House:** The retreat house has been quite busy with different programs for the last two months. The community has conducted three renewal programs for the Holy Cross Brothers and RNDM sisters. Apart from the long retreat, there were a few eight days' retreats, preached by **Fr. George**, **Fr. Srijon**, **Fr. Pradeep** and **Fr. Ripon**. The nineteen religious sisters, who have made the long retreat in Navjyoti Niketan over the years, were here from Nov 21 to 23 for an Ignatian Colloquium.

**Mission Meet:** After a long break, the Bangladesh Jesuit Mission meet took place on Nov 20 in Navjyoti Niketan. It was a time to listen to each other's 'consolation' and 'desolation' during the pandemic. A few concrete initiatives were taken for further development of the Mission.

**JRS: Frs. Jerry and Francis** have started staying and working from the JRS flat in Cox's Bazar. They celebrated the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of JRS with Caritas Bangladesh (CB) office in Ukhiya, Cox's bazar. We express special thanks to **Fr. Jayaraj Veluswamy** for producing a documentary film on the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of JRS and the three years of JRS in Bangladesh. The JRS team in Bangladesh is eagerly waiting to welcome **Sch. Xavier Raton** to join them.

*-Sch. Sunny Costa*

## St Xavier's Collegiate School, Kolkata

After having months of regular online classes on Microsoft Teams platform for the Secondary Section and Zoom platform for the Primary Section, St Xavier's Collegiate School successfully conducted its First Online Internal Assessment on October 5-15.

On October 16, the School and the Ecology Commission of Calcutta Jesuit Province – in association with ALSOC – conducted a webinar on Care of our Common Home to bring greater awareness in the students, parents and the staff. **Fr. M. Thamacin Arulappan**, Convenor of the Province Ecology Commission, was instrumental in contacting and getting some renowned resource persons – Rev. Fr. Dr. Ignacimuthu, SJ, former VC of University of Madras and Principal of Loyola College, Chennai, Mr. Vijay Bhaskar, retired colonel, and M.D. Hamara Grid Pvt. Ltd., Ms Karuna Singh, Regional Director Asia and Earth Day Network. The welcome address and the theme address were delivered by Fr. Thamacin Arulappan and **Fr. Raphael Joseph Hyde**, Provincial, respectively. Besides some Calcutta Jesuits and many other religious, a good number of our school students and their parents attended the webinar.

**Fr. Aloysius Carvalho** blessed our new vegetable garden on November 4. The school – with the help of the teachers – had a meaningful and creative online Children's Day celebration on November 13. The chief guest **Fr. Jeyaraj Velusway**, Rector of SXC, reminded us that students are God's gift to us.

On November 5-21, the school had conducted the online verification of KG admission forms. On November 7, the school gymnasium was named after **Fr. Camille Bouche** as a fitting tribute to him who was much loved and respected by the old boys and all the members of the ALSOC. The school campus looks greener with varieties of medicinal plants gradually getting added to the existing Herbal Garden.

*-Fr. Narendra Singh*





## JRS Bd Celebrates 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) & 3 years of JRS-CB collaboration in Bangladesh

JRS Bangladesh was full of activities in November. The event worth remembering is the celebration of JRS 40 and 3 years of JRS-CB collaboration in Bangladesh on November 14 in eleven MCACs in Rohingya Camps and Ukhiya CB Office, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. Two JRS Bd team members, **Fr. Jerry** and **Fr. Francis** took part in the event.

Banners and flex boards were prepared to celebrate the event. Fr. Jerry composed a message on JRS 40 and 3 years of JRS-CB collaboration in English version, and got it translated into Burmese by Rosalyn Kayah, Country Director of JRS Myanmar. With the English and Burmese versions of the message, flex boards were prepared. They were hung in the centers to celebrate the event. The recently renovated centers with decorations threw a different look on that day.

Two documentaries were prepared to celebrate the event. One was prepared by **Fr. Jeyaraj** (with the help of JRS team) and the other one by MCAC team. 'A Tribute of Gratitude to JRS by the Rohingya Refugee Children' (which is available on YouTube) is the name of the documentary prepared by Fr. Jeyaraj in honor of JRS Founder, Fr. Pedro Arrupe. It was shown in eleven MCACs in Rohingya Camps dividing the participants in small groups. It was followed by a sharing session. Snacks were provided to the participants (nearly eight hundred from the Rohingya community) in eleven MCACs in Rohingya Camps. The volunteers went with snacks to the homes where 60 Rohingya children with special needs live. Beside the invitees, whoever came to the centers were greeted with sweets. In this way, half the day was spent in the celebrative mood in the camps.

The celebration at Ukhiya CB Office began on November 14 with a good lunch. Nearly 85 participants took part in that event. The two above-mentioned documentaries were shown to the participants followed by their sharing. CB-JRS members expressed gratitude to each other. Ukhiya program ended in the evening with snacks.

The event was celebrated throughout November. Something beautiful happened in Center one called 'Hope' in the camp. The management team members of 'Hope' made arrangements by themselves and invited CB-JRS members to celebrate the event on November 14. Everybody appreciated them for the initiative. Fr. Jerry went there again on November 18. On that day, the two above-mentioned documentaries were shown to 35 Rohingya participants followed by their sharing and snacks.

On November 14, both the Rohingya community and CB expressed their gratitude to JRS. JRS anniversary was celebrated for the first time in Cox. It was a successful joint initiative of

the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) & Caritas Bangladesh for the well-being of Rohingya People.

*-Fr. Jerry Gomes, JRS Bd Project Director*

## Prabhu Jisur Girja

### Community:

PJG Community survived all the storms of COVID-19 and has come back to its normal life. All members who had faced the effect of Corona went through the tests and medication and all are in good health. **Fr. Kurian** played the Good Samaritan's role taking care of the sick members. He took special efforts and gave his best to bring back the health of the community. The PJG Community is indebted to him for his selfless service.

**Br. Kuriakose** went to Sitagarah, Hazaribagh for his annual retreat. He has come back to the community refreshed and energized. **Fr. Pat Eaton** was a blessing with good health to assist in the Parish activities.

With all passion and dedication, **Fr. Mahanando** keeps igniting the spirit of the faithful with regular spiritual activities at the Parish. **Fr. Cyriac** came back after a little break. **Fr. Arun** attended the 'Young Priests' Meeting' in Maria Snehasadan, Gurap.



On November 26, the community celebrated **Fr. P. J. Joseph's** 25<sup>th</sup> ordination anniversary. The community thanked God for his 25 years of loving service to the Church and the Society of Jesus as a Jesuit Priest. He shared in his homily that he was grateful to God all the gifts especially for his parents. He also expressed that he is content to make his life fruitful in God's mission by becoming a servant like Jesus as he chose the theme 'Thanksgiving and Washing of Feet.' Fr. Kurian planned the Jubilee meticulously and made the day a meaningful for Fr. P. J. Joseph and for the community. **Fr. T.V. George** joined the celebration as well.

### Chitrabani:

The Chitrabani staff are all back to their regular works. With all the Covid-19 Protocol, Chitrabani is very happy to resume its work and plan out the upcoming events.

**Fr. P.J. Joseph**, the Director of Chitrabani, has brought new life by his return to the center. **Br. Thomas Carlo** has been playing a heroic role in the pandemic situation fearlessly. Chitrabani reached out to Loreto Elliot School in their Online Eco-Carnival. The Principal and the teachers are grateful to Chitrabani.

The staff of Chitrabani expressed their wishes and prayers

**Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network** - Prayer intention for December 2020

**Prayer intention for evangelization** – For a life of prayer

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ may be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer

on the occasion of the Jubilee celebration of Fr. P. J. Joseph. Chitrabani expresses its condolences and prayers to the family members of Mr. George Rozario the former librarian of Chitrabani as he passed away on November 25.

#### Parish



On September 27, the SVP unit of our parish celebrated the feast of St. Vincent de Paul with a special Mass by our Parish Priest **Fr. Mahananda Singh**, followed by ration distribution to the beneficiaries by the SVP members. On October 2, a Charismatic Prayer Service, organized by some of the parishioners and conducted by Mr. Joy Biswas, was held in our parish. From October 22 to 25, a Charismatic Retreat was conducted by the "Poritran Griho Ministry". On October 25, our SVP Unit gave Rs. 300/- each to 13 poor families to buy ration & medicine.

Mr. Amitavo C. Banerjee, a parishioner, passed away on 3<sup>rd</sup> November. He was an active member of our St. Vincent de Paul Society and Catholic Association of Bengal (CAB) Units. On November 15, a Charismatic Retreat – organized by our CAB unit - was held in English. Fr. Ramesh from Auxilium Parish preached the retreat. In honor of Mr. Amitavo Banerjee, they distributed dry ration and fifty masks to 20 poor families. The Representative of the Minority Cell from Trinamool Congress, Mr. Akbar, and the representatives of our Action Bodies attended the program. Due to covid19 pandemic, our youth group organized a 3 day Eucharistic Adoration in place of the annual Christ the King Procession on November 19, 20, & 21.

- **Fr. Arun Lucas & Mr. Andrio Arup Gomes**

#### Young Priests' Meet

The Young Priests' Meeting was a break through at this pandemic. After **Fr. Alphonse** handed over the mantle to **Fr. Jude** in a solemn Eucharistic celebration, Fr. Jude became the main celebrant symbolically to shoulder the responsibility of coordinating the group. Fr. Jude planned immediately this Young Priests' Meeting very meticulously which was held in Gurap. **Fr. Vinay** and **Fr. Markus** were generous in showing their hospitality.

The sharing of the young priests of their joys and sorrows



inspired us. Feeling with the other's helplessness, expressing concern for other's growth even to the extent of suggesting things etc. were significant aspects of the sharing. Some of us felt that their concerns could be communicated to the concerned authorities.

At the end of the sharing, Fr. Jude led the team into business hours to decide certain things for the future. Thereafter with thanksgiving Eucharistic celebration, photo session and vote of thanks the meeting came to an end.

- **Fr. Arun Lucas**

#### Obituary of Fr. Robert Wirth

On November 4, 2020 the Lord called him to Eternal Life. He died at Mater Dei Hospital, Msida, Malta at 86 years of age after 69 years in the Society. The Funeral was held on November 5, 2020 at 10.15 a.m. at the Parish Church of Naxxar

**Fr. Robbie**, as he was affectionately called, was born in Valletta (Malta) on February 12, 1934. He joined the Society on October 2, 1951 at Loyola House, Naxxar and pronounced his Final vows on August 15, 1969 at Sahibganj, India.



The first year of his Juniorate was done at Loyola House. But in 1954 he went to India as a missionary and worked there till 1990. He continued his Juniorate at Vinalaya, Bombay. Then in 1956, he went to De Nobili College in Pune for Philosophy. He started his regency in 1959 at St. Joseph's College, Darjeeling. The following year, he again went to Pune for theology. He was ordained a priest at Guhijori in the Santal Mission on March 24, 1963. After theology, he went to La Providence, Kodaikanal for Tertianship. In 1965, he was sent to Bangalore, as the Spiritual Father of the College boys. The following year, he was appointed as an Assistant Pastor at Dudhani and Vice Principal at St. Xavier's College, Sahibganj. He was in charge of the boarders and taught some classes. In 1971, he went to St. Joseph's College, Guhijori, as Minister and Treasurer. In 1972, The Provincial of Calcutta Province asked the Regional Superior of the Santal Region to send Robbie to Calcutta and be appointed as the National Promoter of the Leadership Training Service (LTS). During the 18 years that he held this office, he travelled to many parts of India to promote and establish the Movement in many Christian Colleges and conducted training courses. He prepared and printed Manuals and other literature for the members of the holistic formation of youth.

In 1991, Robbie returned to Malta and was posted as Pastoral Co-ordinator at the Sixth Form of St. Aloysius' College. The following year, he was appointed as the Chaplain of the University of Malta. After three years, he was sent to St. Aloysius' College and was in charge of organizing the meetings of Parents and teachers in Ignatian Spirituality.

In 1999, he was appointed Superior at Xavier House, Valletta and continued his work at St. Aloysius'. His next



posting was in 2002 as Superior at Loyola House, Naxxar, and Administrator of the Province infirmary. In 2008, he joined the Community at Sarria House, Floriana and for some years was in charge of the pastoral care of our benefactors.

Fr. Robbie is known to make phone calls to his Jesuit companions on their birthday and also many family and friends. As prefect of discipline in St. Aloysius College, he was also known for his personal care to students. In fact, he was known as 'Fr. I love you all', because every day the first thing he used to say to his students was 'I love you all!'. Fr. Robbie was also known for his spirituality and depth in accompanying people. Many used to go to him for spiritual insight, for confession and for good counsel. Fr. Robbie aged gracefully and continued to remain up to date with technology. This enabled him to remain occupied all the time and also keep in touch with so many people from all over the world whose lives he touched.

Due to ill health, in 2018, he went to Loyola House, Naxxar. On Sunday, November 1, 2019, he was diagnosed with Covid 19 and was admitted at Mater Dei Hospital. The Lord called him in the morning of November 4, 2019. Let us remember him with the fraternal affection in prayer.

*-Fr. Patrick Magro*

## Health Update:

1. **Sch. Roton Baidya** was operated on for piles and as he was recovering he got Dengue. After a slow recovery he is now getting ready to travel back to Bangladesh.

2. **Fr. Ajay Ekka** and **Fr. PJ Joseph**, after having tested negative for Covid19 and completed 14 days of quarantine period at SXC Kolkata got back to their communities fit and healthy.

3. **Bishop Linus Gomes** is up and down in his health condition. When bed sore gives him pain, he cries and moans like a child. At other times, he is quiet. Suddenly he remembers past things and talks about them to Bro. Chinta, Fathers and the Nurses. Constant care is being given to Bishop at this difficult stage in his ageing and ailing health condition.

## Religious Publications...Krista Pujan Prakashani, PJG.

1. **Sangkhinto Samaskar Poddhoti** Rituals of Sacraments in Bengali, LIMITED COPIES. Reprinted. If not taken already, contact us by December 15.

2. **Bengali Missal (1 vol), Lectionaries** – Sunday & Daily - will be out SOON.

3. **CATHOLIC PANJIK** Ordo for Parish People in Bengali. First six pages give various Directions of the Church -- like Days of Obligation, Rules for Fasting/ Abstinence and so on. Then it gives month by month daily readings, feast days, color of vestments, full/new moon and other useful things.

4. **Set of 10 Books for Rs 50 ONLY**: many good books (like life of Fr. Damian); classical books (anttar modhur songeet/ seven story mountain by Teresa of Avila); serendipity; CLC and other useful books are available. Please take a set at the earliest for Rs 50 only.

5. **Bengali Herald, Christmas Issue**: for all our institutions & parishes, copies will be sent to Xavier Sadan as is done every

year. Those who need more copies, please contact us.

6. Please Note: Because of the present situation, some regular publications are not being printed for now, but electronic copies are being circulated, like **Pope's Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayers)**, **monthly Bengali Herald**, others.

N.B. Those who have placed orders for 1,2,3,4 already or others needing these, contact us by 15<sup>th</sup> December... Fr. Timir sj, ([timirsj@gmail.com](mailto:timirsj@gmail.com), 98300 92463), Sushil Ghoroi (9903032892), Dilip Gomes (9231569801).

Fr. Markus Hembrom is preparing **Sunday Sermons in Bengali, audio**. Contact him for the same (9903408303 & [mhembromsj@gmail.com](mailto:mhembromsj@gmail.com)).

## Rest In Peace

**Fr. Paul Vadakel, (KER, 91/71)** passed away on 08.10.2020 at Christ Hall, Kozhikode, Kerala

**Fr. Wilson Arockiasamy, (MDU, 56/36)** passed away on 17.10.2020 at Nagercoil, Tamilnadu

**Fr. Joachim Dungdung, (RAN, 73/48)** passed away on 19.10.2020 at Mandar, Ranchi

**Fr. Gregory D'Silva, (JAM, 56/37)** passed away on 25.10.2020 at Jamshedpur.

**Br. Jeyaraj Annaviar, (MDU, 78/57)** passed away on 03.11.2020 at Dindigul

**Fr. Gonzalez Valles Carlos, (GUJ, 95 / 79)** passed away on 09.11.2020 in Madrid, Spain.

**Fr. A. Antony Pappuraj, (MDU, 74/57)** passed away on 13.11.2020 at Madurai.

**Fr. Lourdu Susai Irudayaraj (DUM, 74/53)** passed away on 16. 11. 2020 at Dumka, Jharkhand

**Fr. Rudolph Fernandez (BOM) 86/69** passed away on 16. 11. 2020 at Nashik, Maharashtra

**Br. Lawrence Richard Saldanha (HAZ, 83/58)** passed away on 17. 11. 2020 at Sitagarha

**Fr. Cipriano Mendía Echániz (GUJ, 89 / 71)** passed away on 17. 11. 2020 in Loyola, Spain.

**Fr. S.P. Lourdasamy (PAT, 65/43)** passed away on 22. 11. 2020 in Kolkata, West Bengal

**Fr. Augustine Lopes (BOM, 75/49)** passed away on 01. 12. 2020 in Mumbai



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

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