



Jamshedpur Jesuits



Men of Compassion, Consolation & Discernment

<http://www.jamjesuits.org/>

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LOYOLA NIWAS, SAKCHI, JAMSHEDPUR, INDIA

February 2021

OFFICIAL

Appointments by Fr General

Fr Sean O. Carroll, SJ	Provincial of the United States West Province. This Province was created in 2017 when the former Provinces of Oregon and California were united.
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Appointments by Father Provincial

Name	From	To	Status	Wef
Fr Romanus Jojo, SJ	Rengra	TRTC	Treasurer	01 February 2021
Fr Manohar Kindo, SJ	Tertianship	Rutungia	Teacher, Hostel Incharge	17 February 2021

Provincial's Programme

05 February	Social Action Commission Meeting: GJR
05-07 February	Young Priests Forum, Upasana
06 February	Meeting of the Central Zone Provincials, Ranchi
13 Feb February	Diaconate Ordination of Sch Prabhakar Oddipalli SJ, Ranchi
14 February	Sankhabhanga: Inaguration of Hostel & Jesuit Residence.
15-20 February	Visitation: Minjaponka, Rutungia, Tumdibandha, Pajikeri and Phulbani
22-26 February	JCSA Online meeting
27 February	Consult

INFORMATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- On 15 January 2021 Fr General has convoked the **71st Congregation of Procurators** which will take place in Loyola, Spain and will start on 16 May 2022. The Congregation of Procurators will be preceded by a retreat for all participants. In preparation for the Congregation of Procurators, each Province should summon the Province Congregation, which must be concluded by 15 January 2022.
- **Sch Prabhakar Oddipalli SJ** will be ordained Deacon by Archbishop Felix Toppo SJ together with Ranchi Jesuit Scholastics on 13 February 2021 at Kanke Parish, Ranchi.
- Father General has approved **Frs Alfred Bodra, Romanus Tete** and **Somy Mathew Mannoor** for the Final vows. They will pronounce their final vows on **19 March 2021**, the Solemnity of St. Joseph in Loyola School, Jamshedpur.
- **The Annual Province retreat**, in view of the Ignatian Year is organised in Xavier University, Bhubaneswar (XUB) from 22 May 2021 guided by Fr Pierre Jacob SJ (CCU).
- **A Second Province Retreat** is organised by the Province Pastoral Commission from 16 August 2021 in XUB guided by Fr Pierre Jacob SJ (CCU). Those who cannot join in the summer could join this Retreat.
- **Novice Kanuram Chattar** left the Novitiate on 8 January 2021.

A RECENT LETTER OF FR STAN SWAMY FROM THE PRISON

Stan Swamy

First of all, I deeply appreciate the overwhelming solidarity expressed by many during these past 100 days behind the bars. At times, news of such solidarity has given me immense strength and courage especially when the only thing certain in prison is uncertainty. Life here is on a day-to-day basis. Another strength during these past hundred days, has been in observing the plight of the undertrials. A majority of them come from economically & socially weaker communities. Many of such poor undertrials don't know what charges have



A caged bird can still sing

been put on them, have not seen their charge sheet and just remain in prison for years without any legal or other assistance. Overall, almost all undertrials are compelled to live to a bare minimum, whether rich or poor. This brings in a sense of brotherhood & communitarianism where reaching out to each other is possible even in this adversity. On the other hand, we sixteen co-accused have not been able to meet each other, as we are lodged in different jails or different 'circles' within the same jail. But we will still sing in chorus. A caged bird can still sing.

AWARD

Mukundan C Menon Award to Stan Swamy

The National Confederation of Human Rights Organisation (NCHRO) presented the Mukundan C Menon Award at a virtual ceremony to the octogenarian Jesuit Priest **Father Stan Swamy** who had dedicated his life for the rights of Adivasis in Jharkhand. The



award, instituted in memory of the noted journalist and human rights activist Mukundan C Menon, was presented by an advocate and president of the Karnataka chapter of the NCHRO to Fr Joe Xavier who received on behalf of **Stan Swamy** on Sunday, 24 January 2021.

(Source: 25-01-2021, <https://epaper.telegraphindia.com>)

HEALTH BULLETIN

FR ROMANUS TETE

After his first trip to St John's Hospital Bengaluru, **Romanus** returned to Jamshedpur in the first week of December to spend some quiet time here. He celebrated Christmas here at GJR and then returned to Bengaluru. After some tests, Roma resumed the treatment, this time chemotherapy. After the progress of the previous sessions, the doctors have opted for a staggered chemotherapy – once every 20 days. He has already undergone two such sessions and there are four more planned.

The Plans for coming days: The plan of the doctors is to leave a gap of three weeks between every session and this allows the body to respond better. Considering that the entire duration of this

treatment is nearly 4 months, **Romanus** prefers to be in our own community. The doctors are more than happy to allow **Romanus** to have the company of other Jesuits and nutritious food (which is not always guaranteed at the hospital canteen). After consulting the doctors and making all the necessary arrangements, Romanus returned to Jamshedpur - GJR. In the coming days he will go through the rest of the chemo sessions here at Jamshedpur, always in consultation with his doctors at St. John's. By the end of April or early May he will go back to Bengaluru to assess the progress and continue further treatment. It is indeed a great relief for him as he does not have to spend lonely hours in the hospital campus. Thanks to your prayers, Romanus

is as cheerful as ever.

FR ALWYN RODRIGUES

Alwyn Rodrigues was discharged Thrissur Hospital (Kerala) on 23 January. He was advised to take complete rest for a week before any further travel which he did in Aluva Jesuit Community. After this rest he travelled back to the province on 30 January accompanied by Tertian **Tony John**. He is taking rest in Guidera Residence for a while. Thanks to Kerala Jesuits who their regular visits to the hospital and their care for **Alwyn**.

The Meeting of the Superiors and Coordinators

The meeting of the Superiors and Coordinators of dependent houses was held in Upasana, Jamshedpur from 14 to 16 January. A total of 34 were present, and two could not attend due to sickness.

Firstly, to become aware of the challenges before us today, we looked at the outcome of the exercise the communities had in March 2020 identifying the internal and external challenges. A few challenges emerged after that exercise were also looked at. All these challenges must be addressed by those in leadership (superiors and provincial) together.

Secondly, in order to understand our role and responsibilities as superiors we went through the Guidelines for Local Superiors (1998), the Qualities of a Jesuit Superior (from the Constitutions and CN), and then had a sharing in groups with regard to our practice of *cura personalis* and *cura*

apostolica in our communities –
(a) what are the best practices?
(b) What are the blocks experienced? The plenary session summarized the issues raised in each group to take them forward for reflection in each community.

Thirdly, in view of updating we looked at the Document produced in 2010 “Guidelines on our Life and Mission in Jamshedpur Province” (which is based on IAG and Guidelines for Superiors).

Restructuring: Whether we need some restructuring since some dependent houses are too far from the main community. All were of the opinion that we can create two or three more independent communities since they are already functioning independently.

Solidarity with Stan Swamy on his 100 days in Prison: We joined the South Asian Jesuits for online evening prayer on 14 January, and

candlelight prayer on 15 January. On 16 January, Joe Xavier briefed the group online regarding **Stan Swamy’s** legal proceedings.

Creating a Culture: (a) Provincial presented Fr General’s presentation to JCSA on creating a Culture of Vocation Promotion (b) **Fr S Antonyraj** made a presentation on creating a culture of safeguarding in our communities and institutions. Both these will be taken forward at the community level.

The last session ended with Provincial’s sharing of different information, observations and recommendations for local and province level governance. Although the program was packed, there was a great positive vibration and generosity in the entire group. The report of the meeting is sent to all communities to be taken up for reflections and necessary action.

NEWS FROM OUR HOUSES AND AROUND

CHAIBASA AREA

Amda

John Sumbrui

This is the eleventh year that **Fr John** is struggling with nagging headache, giddiness and restlessness. His routine doctor RN Bahadur referred him to see the senior cardiologist NK Das. So he was in Guidera Jesuit Residence

from 30 December to 4 January. Various tests i.e. ECG, ECO, holter test, lipid profile, and X-Ray of chest and neck were done. It was very strange and very surprising, everything was found normal, except some signs of spondylitis.

Doctor has advised him to use neck collar and continue the medication. On 5 January **Fr John** opened an account in State Bank of India, Kharsawan for the purpose of CSWC FRCA account in the name of Sindhu Ram

Sumbrui. **Pawan Ashutosh Toppo** made his Annual Retreat from 10-18 January 2021. On 9 January Amda and Basahatu Jesuits came together to think, reflect and plan

out how to celebrate the Ignatian Year. **Nelson** was out of station from 14-16 January for Superior and coordinators meeting at Upasana, again on 24-26 January

to bless a marriage in Mandar. On 23 January, **Nelson** took the Basahatu youth for Kolhan Jesuit parish youth picnic behind TRTC .

Basahatu

Joseph Surin

Parish News

The Holy Family Feast was celebrated with the arrangement of each family sitting together with all the family members. They made the offertories. After the mass the families had the family photos taken. The usual Sunday crowd of faithful was present on the New Year day for the *Mary Mother of God Feast* Mass.

A very noble work was done in the form of *Blood Donation* by the members of the Society of St. Vincent De Paul (SSVP), Conference, Basahatu, Mr Mohan Dorai and Ms Basanti Honhaga (lady catechist) and also by Frs **Joseph Surin** (Parish Priest), **Ranjit Roshan Minj** (Candidates in charge) and Vikas Bankira (Basahatu Catechist) when they donated their blood for a patient Gopi Gabriel Bankira (Basahatu parishioner) on 16-17 January 2021 at Sadar Hospital, Chaibasa. About 10 parish youth went for a youth picnic, organized for the youth of different Jesuit Parishes at Lupungutu Jharna, accompanied by **Fr Nelson Castelino** and Sr Leoni, SRA.

School News

Fr James and **Sch James Deep** led a team of children picked up at random from different classes for a football tournament at St. Paul Miki School, Pandavir on the occasion of the death anniversary

of **Fr John Deeney**. They won some and lost some matches and thus failed to win the prize but won the hearts with their clean game.

Community:

The community members had their shares of outings on different occasions for different reasons. **Sch James Deep Xalxo** was in Catholic Charities, Sundernagar for the *Scholastics' Triduum* from 28 December to 1 January 2021. **Fr Benedict Minj** was out of station for a week attending the family programs and **Fr Benedict Soreng's** Silver Jubilee Celebration of Priesthood. Later **Fr Benedict** accompanied **Frs Julian Ekka** and **Praful Barla** to Jilling and there he made his annual retreat. **Fr Joseph Surin** (Joe) went to Khunti Cathedral for a marriage mass. **Joe** attended the Pastoral Commission Meeting and also Superiors and Coordinators meeting at Upasana, Mango from 14-16 January 2021. Later next week he attended a marriage reception at Sonari, Jameshedpur.

Fr James Samad offered the Baptism of Jesus Mass at Siadih Parish in absence of the parish priest. James made a quick trip to a place close to Rourkela for the final vow mass celebration of his cousin sister Madhuri Tirkey, SCJM in their house.

Our house has a new look after the painting work. We have a new community cook Mr Raja Hembrom a local village man who earlier worked as a gatekeeper and gardener at Baihatu MC Convent.

Distinguished Guests / Visitors:

Mr Jugal Xalxo, **Sch James Deep's** brother stayed with us our guest at Basahatu. Sr Madhuri Samad, the elder sister of **Fr James Samad** and Sr Susanna of the Oblate Sisters of Nazareth Society were our guest at Basahatu for a day. **Fr Julian Ekka** spent a night at Basahatu and concelebrated the Sunday mass with at Basahatu. **Fr Romanus Jojo** spent a night with us.

'These people shouldn't be in jail': UN official seeks release of 16 human rights defenders

A United Nations human rights official [Mary Lawlor, UN special rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders] has called upon the Government of India (GoI) to "immediately release" 16 human rights defenders who have been imprisoned on charges of terrorism in the Bhima-Koregaon Case, insisting, "These people should not be in jail. They are our modern-day heroes and we should all be looking to them and supporting them and demanding their release."

[Source: <https://www.counterview.net/2021/01/these-people-shouldnt-be-in-jail-un.html?m=1>]

Inigo Niwas

Basil Sanga

The candidates went home on Christmas Vacation on 21 December and were back on 3 January. The second years began their classes in the college on 4 January. But the first-year candidates continued to have English language classes and college online classes in Inigo

Niwas itself. On 17 January all of them had a chance to attend an Ordination in the CKP Parish. It was a part of formation for them visually see one the sacraments which they are aspiring to get in future. 26 January being a great day for India, also was a happy day for candidates. First of all, they

participated in the flag hosting in the school and one of first year candidates gave a speech in English. Immediately after the program the candidate had their annual picnic which was full of fun and frolic. **Frs Ranjit** and **Basil** are fully engaged in accompanying them.

Lupungutu

D Oliver

The regular classes for 10th and 12th students resumed on 4 January 2021. The other students have their online classes. There was a parent meeting in the hostel on 10 January. To make the hostel children a bit relaxed

and fresh, a picnic was arranged on 17 January. The kids were full of joy and energy. It was nice to see them lively. 26 January, the Republic Day was celebrated in a very simple manner with teachers the hostel children and Inigo

Niwas Candidates. **Fr Woosie** was the Chief Guest of the day. One of the candidates delivered a speech in English and a teacher in Hindi. The School Band went to Police line for the parade after the flag hoisting.

DHANBAD AREA

DNS – Bhuli

Anthony Pancras

De Nobili Bhavan

Michael Fernandes is out on his home visit. De Nobili Bhavan is getting ready for the second semester examinations. Mr Suman and Mr Narayan are Busy getting ready with the question papers. Pancras has visited all the units of De Nobili Jealgora to guide the teachers who are writing the History of each unit. He visited Koradih and Bhuli on 9 January, Tundi, Mugma and Maithan on 15 January, CMRI, CFRI and Sindri on 18 January, Chandrapura and Gomoh on 19 January.

De Nobili Jesuit Community, Bhuli

Bhuli Jesuit Community organized a New Year get-together for the Catholics of Bhuli and Koradih, there was an overwhelming response. Every family contributed some foodstuff or the other. Everyone enjoyed, appreciated the initiative and expressed to have more in the coming days. **Vijay Kachhap** was the Chief Guest of the day. **Sushil Balmuchu** made his annual retreat at Bhuli from 4-13 January as he begins his ministry as treasurer at Gomoh. We wish him every

blessing from God. Bhuli Jesuit Community too organized a New Year Dinner for the Jesuits and Diocesans working in Kolyanchal on 9 January. **Sebastian** and **Michael** were in Jamshedpur for the inauguration of the Platinum Jubilee of Loyola Jamshedpur on 14-15 January from where **Michael** left to Mangalore for his annual home visit. **James Santhanam** made a flying visit to Bhuli on 15 January, which brought a lot of Joy to the community. Jesuits from Sahibganj, Frs Alban Minj, the PCE of Dumka, Prakash Hansdak, the PCF of Dumka, Lourdu Xavier,

Ignatius Lakra and Sch Roshan Castelino had a night halt at Bhuli on their way to Simdega for an ordination. It was a joyful refreshing of the sweet memories of the past.

De Nobili School, Bhuli

The year 2020 was turned upside-down by the novel Corona virus. So everyone was all the more excited to turn the page on the year of uncertainties and step into 2021. Away from all the negativity and bad memories of 2020, we needed some hope, positivity and cheer to have a fresher outlook and what better occasion could have been than the birthday of Ms Tahera Nazreen, our senior section Co-ordinator. She celebrated her birthday on 5 January with the sweet stream of wishes and heart-warming messages of the



New year gathering of Bhuli Catholics on 10-01-2021.

entire De Nobili School, Bhuli family. Then came the time to welcome the tiny footsteps of toddlers in the school premises. The lottery for LKG (2021-22) was conducted on 16 January 2021 followed by interactive sessions for the selected candidates for four consecutive days. Light was

clearly visible at the end of the tunnel when we could successfully start the offline classes for X-there after a gap of ten long months. Notebooks and projects submission from LKG to Class X was arranged on different days to ensure that all the written work is corrected before exams and students get ample time for revision. Republic Day was celebrated with renewed vigour and enthusiasm with the active participation of both teachers and X-there. Inspiring

patriotic songs followed by stirring speeches and poem indeed paid a tribute to the fluttering tricolour. Therefore, we continue to move forward with hope that with the prospect of several vaccines coming and less stringent restrictions, there are high chances of returning to semblance of normalcy.

DNC Digwadih

Emile Coelho

The Digwadih Parish had a suitable and festive New Year's Day celebration. Thereafter, **Emile** held the fort while **Oscar**, **Francis**, **Amaladoss** and **Niranjan** were out. **Amal** was in Bhubaneshwar to meet his doctor; **Oscar** at home with his family to usher in the New Year; **Francis** to witness the nuptials of family and relatives; **Niranjan** at his aunt's place. This year, applicants for Lower Kindergarten stood at 118. Whereas for the Upper Kindergarten the number was 192; this latter, comparatively less

than in other years.

Self-assessment tests were taken by the students. Parents were asked to pay their dues and then submit the student's test papers. **Amal's** office staff thereby kept Treasurer **Niranjan** on his toes.

After nine long months, classes re-opened for Tenth and Twelfth Standards. As this took place. The Nagar Nigam sanitized the whole campus.

In mid-January **Francis** attended the Pastors' Meet; **Oscar**, the

Superiors' Meet; while **Niranjan**, the Treasurers' Meet of all De Nobili Units. On the 14th of January, **Oscar** had a thorough eye check up at the Daulat Super Speciality Eye Center in downtown Jamshedpur. **Pancras** and **Emile** are busy writing the History of the De Nobili Schools. Republic Day Celebrations were solemn; but low key. Kudos to **Oscar**, who hoisted the Tricolor; while **Amal** saw to the precision of the program.

Stan Kujur, after a long time, celebrated his birthday together

with Jesuits, from all over the district. At a special Mass and dinner, **Stan** was felicitated with the greatest joy and happiness.

F Amatus Kujur was on hand to partake of the festivities. Special mention must be made of **Francis Bodra**, who in many hidden ways

lent his characteristic finesse to the preparation of the grand meal.

Koradih

Anthony Pancras

Teachers from Class 6 to 12 and office staff commenced their regular working days from 6 January 2021. School reopened for classes 10 and 12 with the sole purpose of preparing them for ICSE / ISC Examination's 2021. They were asked to follow the COVID-19 norms religiously. Three ICSE / ISC and the second semester examinations for the rest of the classes will begin from 15 February 2021. The parents submitted the assignment notebooks as well as collected the unit tests notebooks on 22

January. Classes for that day remained suspended. 4th set of assignments for the second semester, 2021 were posted for the students in their Whatsapp groups as well as school's official website. The 72nd Republic day was celebrated with true patriotic fervour in the junior section campus. The Tricolour was hoisted by Mr Nandla Murmu, the mukhiya of Koradih village. The message of the day was delivered by **Fr Pancras** and Ms. Banashree Bose in Hindi and English respectively. All the teachers and

the support staff participated in the programme by singing patriotic songs, giving speeches and presenting a cultural item. Ms. Neeta Judge delivered the vote of thanks. A small farewell ceremony was organised for Mr Shivaji Prasad who retired on 5 November 2020. Ms Tania Sarkar, an ICSE / ISC English teacher resigned due to personal issues. She rendered her valuable services to the Institute for three years. Her last working day will be 31 January 2021.

St. Xavier's Tundi

David Kullu

We began The New Year 2021 with lot of joy and happiness and also filled with new hopes. Fr Andus the parish priest of Tilaiyani (Giridih) and **Sch Vikram** joined us for the New Year celebration. The Campus was filled with youthfulness as well as many youths turned up with their thrilling New Year dance performance.

Fr Amos and **Sch David** were back to the community after their respective program. On 13 January, **Frs Niral, Ritesh, Santosh** came to visit us. The next day on 14 January they went to witness the solemn ordination of Fr Simon Murmu SJ (Haz) at Tilaiya parish (Giridih). Their stay was a gracious moment to

the community. On 14 January **Fr JP** went to Jamshedpur to attend meeting of superiors and coordinators. **Fr Sushil** also went along with him to attend pastoral meeting. Later, he went to Patna to bless the marriage of his niece. School has resumed after Christmas and Sohrai vacation for class 9th and 10th. On Sunday 24 January parishioners welcomed Fr Sunil Soren, a newly ordained priest from Tundi parish said his first mass at the parish. Republic day was a proud moment for us. Fr Sunil Soren, a passed out student of our school, was a chief guest on this occasion who gave us an inspirational message on unity in diversity.



In Solidarity with Stan

Protest at Press Club, Chepauk, Chennai

<https://youtu.be/T1goFg7Foc8>



JAMSHEDPUR AREA

Guidera Jesuit Residence

George Cheradayil



Community Meeting



Jerry with senior Jesuits

Fr Anselem Dungdung joined the infirmary community on 5 January 2021 for rest and recuperation. The community gave him a warm welcome. He has to go for dialysis every other day. He looks good and is very happy and jovial. Please remember him in your prayers. **Fr Felix Tellis** is better and is able to move around. It is nice to see our young **Sch Anjum** feeding **Felix** like his own mother. **Br Francis Tiru** is still nursing some post hernia surgery trouble due to his high blood sugar. All the other members of the infirmary like **Frs K C Anthony, Eddie D'Souza and Soosai Saleth** are fine.



Candle light prayer

Fr Somy Mathew gave a one week Webinar on Ignatian spirituality. There were 65 highly experienced participants including some senior Jesuits. It was highly appreciated by all and got an excellent feedback. He went to Hazaribagh to give a two day seminar on Ignatian spirituality to the tertians. He and **Sch Anjum** went to Chaira with Fr Provincial for the golden jubilee celebration of **Fr Tom Nelli**. **Fr John Mundu**, our researcher and professor of theology, was invited to say mass and preach on the occasion of the silver jubilee celebrations of a St Anne's sister. He gave an inspiring



Community picnic with the employees



homily on the challenges and beauty of consecrated life.

Fr Jerry Cutinha organised the Superiors' meeting in Jesu Bhavan, Mango. There were 34 superiors. It was a highly productive meeting and many practical and meaningful suggestions came up during this meeting to take the province and UAP forward. He gave a much needed facelift to the curia offices. They now look beautiful. Thank you **Jerry** for taking interest and initiative to renovate our offices.

Fr Somy Mathew, as coordinator of Guidera Jesuit Residence Community, conducted the first community meeting of 2021 to discuss and plan for the Ignatian year activities. I was delighted to see all the members of the infirmary present and actively participating in the discussion and sharing. All were extremely happy with the meeting and personal sharing. This was followed by another meeting with **Fr Jerry Cutinha**, our provincial. **Jerry**, in his short sharing, highlighted that the senior and retired Jesuits in the infirmary continue to contribute immensely like the active Jesuits

to the mission of the Church and the Society through their life of prayer. After his sharing, all the members of the community and infirmary shared freely about their faith experiences and life of prayer. It was very enriching and inspiring. Thank you **Jerry** for taking time off to spend an evening with us.

Fr Gyanprakash Kujur, our Socius, has started the digitalisation of all the photos of all the province members and the works of the province from its inception in the year 1949 with the help of **Sch Jubin Nath**. It is a herculean task. All the best **Gyan**!!

Br Pascal Kerketta and **Fr Somy Mathew** organised the community picnic with the employees of the community, curia and their families in Loyola Niwas. All enjoyed the picnic. It also gave us an opportunity to meet and interact with the families of our support staff in an informal way. **Fr Gyanprakash** organised the annual picnic for the curia staff. They went to Peter Arrupe Centre, Rerua. We had a wonderful time. We were touched by the generous and gracious hospitality of

Frs Gulshan Kujur and **Michael Turkey**. They made their newly renovated and beautiful residence fully available to us. Thank you **Gulshan** for your fabulous hospitality.

We are grateful to our multitalented **Deacon Prabhakar** who happily gives massage, haircut, and clean shave to the members of the infirmary and all those who want. Many Jesuits from Tome Jesuit Residence, Loyola School Jesuit community and others avail this free service especially during this COVID 19 pandemic. **Fr George Fernandes** comes all the way from Kalinga Nagar to take advantage of this free service! It is a great and highly appreciated service **Prabhakar**. Keep it up!

It is very nice to see all the members of the community especially the senior members using the most environment friendly large campus of XLRI and its lush green football ground for regular walks, basking and prayer. Some of the members of the infirmary use this ground especially during winter for regular spiritual conversation!

Jesu Bhavan – Mango

Eric Cassel

There were some events that failed to find coverage in the month of December. Here's a few just for the record: The Tertian Sisters of Annecy were here – four from Bhubaneswar and another four from Vishakapatnam, for 30 days, with **Fr Somy Mathew**, walking them through the 30-Day-Retreat from 10 November to 10 December. Running parallel to this

was one for the Tertian Sisters of Sacred Heart, Patna, guided by Fr Joe Njara. **Fr Joe** chalked another Psycho- Spiritual Retreat for SCJM Junior Sisters from 22 to 30 November. At the moment of reporting, **Fr Njara** is busy with an ONLINE Retreat for Sisters - 25 January to 2 February.

Fr C.G. Thomas spent the tail end of December conducting

a TRIDUUM for 20 Scholastics in preparation for their Annual Renewal of Vows. Great work, **CG**! Not only were you appreciated for leading them through the Triduum but as well as for the New Year's Midnight Mass at 10 for the people – *one with a difference*!

The month of January was choc-a-bloc with events. The cream of the Province—34



Basketball match on Republic Day

Superiors and Directors of Works—gathered here for over three days 14–16th for an in-depth sharing. During their stay, here we had the ONLINE prayer by the South Asian Jesuits with the focus on “*Release Stan*” on his 100th day in Taloja Jail, Mumbai. In the meantime, **Fr Joe Njara** is conducting ON LINE Retreats for Sisters and “Week Ends with Ignatius” for **Scholastics Jobin Sebastian, Cajetan Anthony, Ashish Digal, Arun Prasanth, Cyprian Soreng, Biren Baa and Prabhakar Oddipalli.**

The *Scholastics Day Out* at Jilling in mid January was just out of this world for a group that were cooped up day in, day out on the campus of Jesu Bhawan. All 16 of them spread themselves out to sit comfortably in two Scorpios, with **Fr Ajt Soreng, Sch Cajetan Antony and Cyprian Soreng** at the wheel. Not to be outdone, **Fr James Kalapura** had a Novices Day Out in Ghatsila where they were more than well taken care of by Head Monk Natarajan who bent over backwards to make this day unforgettable for the Novices

by way of hospitality, transport, sharing of life style at Jesu Bhavan, a lunch that was laced with fish in every form, topped off with a lottery that made sure that every Novice, including the Master, received a gift. The return visit is scheduled for the First Vows of the Novices—come June.

Republic Day was a cold day but the chill was forgotten in the



Eucharist presided by **Fr James Bara**, followed by Flag Hoisting, where **Fr Eric Cassel** did the honours of unfurling the National Flag. The Novices, with Beadle **Asish Tete**, as the day’s MC, out did themselves in the Rangoli art work on the basket ball court backed up with a vigorous singing of “*Aye, Vathan*” that set the tone for **Sch Rohit Ekka** to deliver a rousing *MAAN KI BAAT* on India’s 72nd Republic Day. **Fr Eric**

later presided over a basket ball game between the Scholastic Juniors and Novices that had the trappings of a keen contest with no quarter given. The Novices led all the way until the last quarter when the Juniors beat them by a solitary basket.

Scholastics Day Out on one weekend was followed by a Scholastics Visitation by Fr Provincial the following week end, 22-24 January. It was quite a novel experience – the Provincial, **Fr Jerry Cutinha**, meeting each of them outside their regular House of Studies of Chennai and Ahmedabad and those of DNC, Vidya Jyoti and Satya Nilayam. Covid-19 has made a world of difference!

Fr Ajit Soreng took off to Simdega for a much needed a 5-day-break that co-incided with a memorial service for a deceased member of the family and an Ordination.



The Scholastics Day Out at Jilling

Jilling

Sylvester Ekka

All the staff members resumed their non-teaching activities in the school from 10 December. At first they were instructed on Covid-19 Guidelines for school. Then, they began their sessions on basic computer skills, use of LCD projector, Google Meet and WhatsApp until 30 January 2021. The inauguration of the Academic year 2021 officially took place on 4 January in the presence of only the staff members. The dates have been notified for new admission and for old students to rejoin school from 4 January. So far only about 25 percent of students have registered for academic year 2021. The impact of lockdown indeed keeps haunting as guardians wait and watch for reopening of schools. The celebration of the Republic day on 26 January was kept low profile in the school with just only the staff members present on

that occasion. One of the staff members hoisted the national flag and other members made groups for singing patriotic songs.

We celebrated Christmas in a low profile. **Fr Praful** together with our local faithful had gone to Purulia parish to celebrate midnight mass. On Christmas day, we celebrated Christmas with the faithful and about 20 Sabar children who came for morning mass. They enjoyed the common festive breakfast and received their study kits.

Fr Sylvester went home for the wedding of his niece and nephew in the last week of December and returned on 2 January. **Fr Julian** went home for Christmas celebration and family gatherings and returned on 10 January. **Fr Julian** was hospitalized on 20 January and is getting treatment at Mercy Hospital. On 14-15

January, **Fr Praful** attended the meeting for Superiors and Coordinators at Jesu Bhavan.

During the Christmas vacation the community members of Lupungutu and XITE communities, visited our community and had grand lunch served all alone by **Fr Praful**. Bombino Sisters from Purulia too came for picnic and enjoyed to their hearts' fill. The last who came for picnic on 17 January were our very own scholastics held up in Jesu Bhavan. They were guided by **Fr Ajit Soreng** to our mission land and were given a guided tour of our new and old location at Sabarpara by **Fr Praful**. **Fr Benedict Minj** from Basahatu made history as the first to make his annual retreat in our grand renovated residence from 11-19 January. The community has thus thrown open four rooms for retreat and just for short rest too.

LCE Telco

Sushil & Athonyraj P

From the second week of December 2020, a positive result was noticed in the School Office, as a good number of defaulters turned up to clear their dues to continue with online teaching for their wards. By the end of the year it was found that still about

one hundred parents did not clear their dues without giving any clarification. In spite of this set back, **Sushil** slowly geared up to preparing the online lottery for the Lower KG admission and selection of new candidates that was conducted on 14 January

2021. The results were declared on a Bulletin Board at the School main gate on 16 January 2021 for the interviews to keep things ready for the commencement of new academic year 2021 as per the decision of the State Government.



#StandWithStan

London (left)
and
Rome (right).



XITE Gamharia

Hilary Lobo

Community

A community meeting was held on 5 January 2021 to plan out how to celebrate the Ignatian Year 2021-22 with effect from May at the personal, community and institutional level. The 100 days incarceration of Fr Stan Swamy was observed on 20 January 2021 by the community with a candle-lit procession from the house to the grotto and the prayer-service. **Sch Bikant** celebrated his birthday on 23 January in the community with a mass and dinner.

School

The second term progress report cards were distributed to parents on 8-9 January. The students of Std X have started attending regular classes from 4 January. Pre-Board exam for Std X students will begin on 8th February. Third unit test was held for students of K.G to Std IX from 11-19 January. Entrance test for Std I to Std VIII was held on 9-30 January. K.G admissions are going on. Junior school teachers have enrolled to do online NISTHA courses offered by the NCERT and have completed the same. Second term exam for Std XI began on 25 January and will end on 3 February. The N.C.C cadets cleaned the statue of the labour leader Ratilal Mahato on 8th January as part of their cleanliness campaign and also went to N.C.C office for training how to handle rifles for firing. The school received certificate



Cleanliness Campaign



Republic Day Celebrations

of recognition from Government of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports for successfully organising the Fit India Week 2020. The results of the Mask Making competition was announced on 18 January. The SAFE club organised a self-defence training programme by Mr Jeetendra Kumar Sharma, a veteran martial



Training of NCC cadets

artist on 20 January. Rotary club of Jamshedpur West organised a creative writing competition for Rotaract members on the topic "Effect of online education system" on 23 January on the occasion of Subhash Chandra Bose Jayanti. Dhrisha Kumari of our school won second prize in the competition. The SAFE club organised a demo session by Mrs. Jayanti Seshadri, Vice Principal of Loyola School on good touch and bad touch on 25 January. The whole programme was streamed live. Republic day was celebrated with pomp and gaiety on 26 January. **Fr Savarimuthu** hoisted the national flag and gave an inspiring speech on the occasion. The NCC cadets, the Scouts and Guides and the Band group were present to make the ceremony solemn. The school has received recognition certificate from the Government of Jharkhand according to the RTE norms. Our code number is SKL/PVT/UND/009/2021. The Xavier Alumni Association conducted a Blood donation camp in the school campus on Saturday 30 January 2021.

College

After the winter vacation, the college reopened on 4 January 2021 and classes started online immediately. The 72nd Republic Day was in the college quadrangle with flag hoisting by **Fr Mukti** and speeches were delivered by students.

ODISHA AREA

Kalinganagar

Pascal Burh

After Christmas vacation we have already begun our usual routine activities from 4 January. On this day we also celebrated in the community, the feast of the Most Holy Name of Jesus - the Titular Feast of the Society of Jesus. On 5 January, **Fr George Fernandes** went to Bhubaneswar as the revisor, to check and review the accounts and other documents of Loyola Bhavan and HLC community just before the Provincial's visitations. After completing his assigned duties, the next day he came back to Kalinganagar, with varieties of flower plants.

On 14 January, **Fr George Fernandes** was on a move again and went to Jamshedpur for the meeting of Superiors and coordinators, held in Jesu Bhavan, Mango. While going, **Fr S. Tony** from XUB was kind enough to give him a lift from Kalinganagar to Jamshedpur. On return journey **Fr George Anthony** brought him back in his vehicle along with **Fr Bene Kujur**.

The 5th School managing committee meeting was held offline at Loyola School, on 20 January 2021. Representatives from TATA STEEL and Jesuits from Bhubaneswar were present

to discuss and deliberate a few pressing points concerning the school admissions, fees and infrastructure. At the meeting it was assured by the GM that JUSCO will complete the repair works of School soon and TATA STEEL, Kalinganagar will bear the expenses of the work. The forum also unanimously agreed not to raise the School fees for the academic year 2021-22, due to the ill effects of covid -19. The GM reiterated that TATA STEEL will not shirk its commitment to Loyola School and the people of Kalinganagar. The meeting ended on a positive note with high tea and snacks.

Loyola School – Bhubaneswar

Gilbert Menezes

New Year – 2021 arrived with the good news from the State Education Department that the schools could open the doors for the students of class X and XII from 8 January. Loyola started with the practical classes, section wise from 11 January. Whereas online classes are continuing for the rest of the students. Odia School also started the classes for Xth students on the same date. **Fr Shanti** made sure that the sanitization of the labs and classrooms was done without fail. Republic Day on 26 January was marked by hoisting Tri-color with the Jesuits, the sisters and a couple of nearby teachers. Following

on the honorable High Court's direction, regarding the school fee waiver during pandemic, the State Education Department sent notices to schools to implement the MOU signed by the different stakeholders, to reduce the fees as given under different slabs in the MOU. Accordingly, Loyola had to reduce by 15% only.

Gilbert went to Jamshedpur to attend the meeting of the Superiors and Coordinators from 14–16 January. **Fr Ajit's** birthday was celebrated in the community on 17 January. **Fr Victor** went to Kalinganagar to attend the School Managing Committee meeting on 20 January.

UK Bishops urge Indian government to release Fr Swamy

The President of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, Cardinal Vincent Nichols, joins calls for the government of India to release **Fr Stan Swamy**, the 83-year-old Indian Jesuit priest and social activist who has been imprisoned for over 100 days on unfounded charges of sedition and terrorism.

[<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2021-01/uk-bishops-urge-india-to-release-fr-swamy.html>]

Tumudibandha

Blacius Ekka

Farm

Greg is still waiting to sell his paddy in the local Mandi. He has registered but his number hasn't yet come. Transplantation for the second crop has just begun on 25 January. As **Greg** is in Phulbani, Saininga our farm worker is monitoring the work.

Community

The Odisha Delegate **Fr George Anthony, Fr Henry** and **Sch Jubin**

were in Tumudibandha on 9-10 of January.

Henry said Mass on Sunday for the faithful of Bandiguda. **Fr George**

visited his three VRO Centres in this area and took stoke of things after the lockdown. Both **Greg** and **Blacius** joined the Odisha Delegate from

Bhubaneswar to go to Upasana, Jamshedpur; **Greg** for the Pastoral Commission meeting while **Blacius** for the Superiors' and Vice-Superiors' meeting from 14-16 January. In our absence the house cook was taking care of the house. **Greg** has applied in the Tahasil office for demarcation of the campus land but the office is yet to respond. Due to this, construction of the remaining part of boundary wall is held up.

OCI

6 January the Odisha Lok Manch Unit went for a picnic. It was a jolly good time. The partners completed the monthly trainings to Community Leaders (CLs) in the first half of January. For OCI and SAHARA we had arranged it

in Kotagarh on 18 January. There was a Zoom Meeting of all the heads of State Resource Centres and the State Level Trainers on 12 January. Apart from other things it was decided that from the second week of February till the end of April 2021 external evaluation of Lok Manch activities will be conducted. The meeting was moderated by the National Coordinator from Delhi. In support of the protesting farmers in the

and Balliguda. On this day a memorandum addressed to the Governor of Odisha was given by farmers through the BDOs of these respective Blocks.

Sahavikas

We are in the process of reviving Sahavikas. **Ranjit Bilung** was in the campus for a day who initiated cleaning the rooms but he returned to Pajikeri the very next day as classes started

for the 10thers. On 18 January **Blacius, Sch Jubin** and **Greg** got into action—removing the cobweb, dusting and re-arranging rooms. **Jubin** left for Bhubaneswar on 24 January to attend his prior commitment. He may come back to Phulbani for a week or so. Thank you **Jubin**

for your great generosity! With the help of some workers, **Greg** is getting the campus cleaned and taking stoke of things. Settlement of the land issue is very much in the focus. As things are going on, people who were here in the past and the present ones in Minjaponka, Rutungia, Tumudibandha and Pajikeri are in a process of deliberations, making concrete suggestions on what we could do best in Sahavikas, so that the place could be revived as a vibrant Social Centre for Kandhamal. Anyone from any part of our Province is most welcome to contribute in whatsoever is possible. May God help us in this endeavour!



CLs Training in Baliguda

borders of Delhi who want repeal of the three recent farm laws, the local farmers under the banner of Odisha Krushoka Sangho (Odisha Farmers Union) had organized a peaceful silent march on 26 January in three Blocks namely – Kotagarh, Tumudibandha



CLs Training in Kotagarh

XIMB

Arockia & Benjamin

We welcomed the New Year 2021 by celebrating the solemnity of the feast of Mary, Mother of God and prayed for one another for prosperity and good health. The city Jesuits came together and marked the New Year Day with a get-together. As usual, we had number of online and offline meetings pertaining to academic and administrative issues. **Tony Uvari**, VC convened a meeting with the admin team to discuss and move forward welcoming the final year UG and PG students in both the campuses. We had offline Academic Council Meeting (ACM) to deliberate the nuances that must be observed as the final year students can come to the campus after 9 months gap. **Abe**, the alumni chairperson convened the Executive Committee Meeting of the Alumni Association in which so many issues were discussed like merger of the University Association with XIMB and updating the Memorandum of Association. Xavier University participated in the State Level Annual Garden Competition - 2021 held on 23-24 January 2021 by Regional Plant Resource Center and Plant Lovers'

Association, Bhubaneswar. Due to the pandemic situation, the categories of items were minimal this year. Hence, this time we got 12 prizes including two rolling shields. Indeed, we made a difference in the overall flower show competition.

The happiest news of the month is that XIMB land is that finally registered, and we got the registration papers in hand after 34 years! What should have cost us 18 lacs in 1987 has cost us 149 lacs which included the interest of all these years. Congratulations to **Tony U.** and his team.

Tony S, Augustine Vatta, Arock and **Josh** are travelling to Kolkata, Delhi, Bangalore and Hyderabad respectively for supervising the XGMT (Xavier Graduate Management Test).

The community in both the campuses came together to discuss about our future actions and considerations in observing and celebrating the Ignatian Year. **Benjamin**, who lost his mother rushed home to make his final homage. **S. Tony** accompanied **Benja** to his village at the need of

the hour. **Augustine E** attended the board meeting of Loyola School, Kalinganagar. **Arock** made a flying visit to Sankhabhanga. **S. Tony** was in Jamshedpur to attend the Superiors and Coordinators meet summoned by the Provincial. The community together attended John Dardis' talk on UAP—Call to collaborate in God's Mission. **Benjamin** offered a special Holy Mass in honor of his deceased mother, Anthonia Lakra and all of us prayed together for the repose of her soul. **Raj** had haircut and trimming beard making him look like 20 years younger. **Joe Kalathil** telecast his international webinar on "Peace is our right" from Xavier Residence.

As usual, we had entertained some guests in our community. **Joe Kalathil, Tony P, Blacius Ekka, Jubin Nath, Vinoy Kerketta**, Sr Jacintha FMM and her colleague tented for a couple of days in our community. **George Anthony** made his annual retreat in Xavier Residence.



THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS
FEBRUARY 2021

IMAGE OF GOD

Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network

Violence Against Women

We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

ACROSS THE BRIDGE

08 January	Mrs Antonia Lakra (69), Mother of Fr Benjamin Lakra SJ	
16 January	Fr Ambrose Augustine, SJ.	(PAT 87/58)
19 January	Fr Maxim Crasta, SJ.	(GUJ 54/32)
26 January	Fr Arwind Minj, SJ	(HAZ 42/19)
27 January	Fr Anthony A. D'Souza, SJ.	(BOM 94/77)
28 January	Fr Lancelot Pereira SJ	(BOM 90/71)
30 January	Br Stephen Kerketta, SJ	(RAN 75/57)

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES IN FEBRUARY

02-02-2015	Fr Edward B Graham
03-02-1991	Fr Claude Saldanha
10-02-2006	Fr Robert Drugman
11-02-2002	Fr Edmund J Montville
12-02-2012	Fr Joseph M Kennedy
16-02-2017	Fr Bernard J. Donelly

11-03-2019	Fr Emmanuel J Parappuram
13-03-1986	Fr Leon A Foster
13-03-2017	Fr Joseph Currie
26-03-2005	Fr Bernard C O'Leary
28-03-1998	Fr William Moran

BIRTHDAYS OF FEBRUARY

2	Markus Korah
3	James Santhanam
4	Sushil Ekka
4	Gilbert Menezes
5	Alex Mascarenhas
6	Arockia Das, V
7	Benjamin Ekka
8	Paul Fernandes
10	Jerome Cutinha
12	John Sumbrui

12	Anmol Soreng
13	Victor Misquith
14	Paul Marla
15	Augustine Ezha
16	Thomas D Palakuzhy
18	Anil Jojowar
20	Pawan Pramod
21	Romanus Jojo
22	Sanket Kumar
24	Joseph Xavier

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