



Delhi Jesuits

January 2021 Vol. XXXIII No.1

Adieu Dear Fr. Stan!

“Death leaves a heartache no one can heal; love leaves a memory no one can steal” (Irish proverb). The death of **Fr. Stanley D’Souza** has left heartache in the lives of many people. Fr. Stan died on Dec 19 and his funeral rites took place on 20th at 3 pm in the Millennium Hall of St Xavier’s School, Delhi. Many of his dear and near ones paid their homage while grieving the loss of the stalwart. Jesuits from different parts of the province could not be present due to the covid situation. However, the funeral rites were streamed live for the benefit of those who could not be present at St Xavier’s. Priests from Vidyajyoti, MC Sisters from Shishu Bhawan, Presentation Sisters from Delhi-6, Fr. Valerian Barreto, parish priest of St. Mary’s Church, Fr. Peter Ignatius, Rector of Pratiksha, Fr Ajith, Archbishop’s Secretary, Shahbad Jesuits, St Xavier’s community co-workers and all the Jesuits of St Xavier’s and Sahayog were present for the funeral service. Provincial Fr. Soosai Mani presided over the Eucharist with Rector Fr. Jose Philip concelebrating. Fr. Tom Kunnunkal led the choir. Miss Sheetal Philip from Shahbad Parish shared her experience of Fr. Stan. SMI Sisters helped us in arranging the altar and liturgy. DOM media team streamed the service live on YouTube. We wish to thank each and every one of them for helping us give a meaningful farewell to our dear friend Fr. Stan. Adieu Stan!

Ronald

PROVINCIAL’S JAN PROGRAM

- 03 Dindigul, Visiting Fr. Alex Chinna
- 06 Visiting Fr. Alex Chinna’s family
- 08 Thanksgiving Eucharist, Fr. Leo
- 10 Thanksgiving Eucharist, Fr. Antony
- 17 Mangalore
- 20 Back in Office

PROVINCIAL’S FEB PROGRAM

- 12-15 Budget Meet, Consult
- 22-26 JCSA Meet online

House History

House Superiors are hereby reminded to submit the House History for the year 2020 by January 31, 2021.

CATALOGUE 2021

Many of you have already received the printed copies of Delhi Catalogue 2021. The pdf was sent to you earlier. We are grateful to Fr. Abraham Amalraj for designing the Cover Page. Feel free to send a note to Socius in writing if you notice any mistake.

SAHAYOG

After giving Long Retreat to SRA Tertiaries in Lucknow **Fr. Mathew** reached Delhi on Dec 3 evening just in time for the feast day dinner at St. Xavier’s. **Fr. Jeera** was given an affectionate farewell by Sahayog community on 15th. He celebrated thanksgiving Eucharist in the morning and later was treated to a grand dinner at which all the campus Jesuits were present. He boarded the Air India flight to Rome on 17th at 3:30 pm and reached his destination at 7:30 pm local time. May the good Lord be propitious to you in Rome, Jeera. On 23rd we celebrated **Fr. Xavier Ignatius’** birthday with a grand dinner in the company of all the campus Jesuits. On 24th **Fr. Soosai Mani** joined POSA and others in expressing solidarity with the protesting farmers at the Tikri border. At night he along with **Fr. Arun** and **Sch. Pawan** joined the Christmas celebrations at Jahangirpuri. For carol singing and Christmas dinner the campus Jesuits joined us at Sahayog. On 26th Pawan went to Jahangirpuri to be a companion to Fr.

Arunmozhi since he is alone there these days. We joined St. Xavier's community for dinner on 31st.

Mathew

IISR Delhi Report: On Dec 4, Director of IISR Delhi **Fr. Job** gave an online presentation on "The Catholic Church and the Theory of Evolution" to the diploma students in Science and Theology. This 50-member group was mostly from the Diocese of Manathawady living in different parts of the world. This two-and-a-half hour program in Malayalam was well appreciated by the participants. Job gave another online presentation at a seminar organized by John Ochunthuruth Memorial Academy of History in Ernakulam on 12th. The theme of the presentation was "Christian Contribution to Science in India." This also was in Malayalam, and is available on YouTube.

Job

ST. XAVIER'S, BEHROR

School: UT-2 was held from Dec 14 to 19. We could pay 60% salary to all our employees for the month of Nov. Efforts are on by all our teachers and office staff to collect 70% of school fee so that we may be able to pay next month's salary and take care of the minimum maintenance of the place. A compost pit has been constructed in order to make the best use of the waste materials from the garden which will in turn give good manure for our plants.

House: A few of us took part in the ground breaking and blessing of the site for the new school building in Bhiwadi on Dec 7. In the house we had a moderate and quiet celebration of the feast of our Mother on 8th with a solemn Eucharist presided over by **Fr. Joseph Kochu** who delved into the history of the feast in his homily. **Fr. Shaju** made a quick visit to Delhi to meet with Fr. Provincial on 9th. The community members are enjoying 'desi eggs' now-a-days at breakfast. These eggs are from our own chicken farm! Consumption of the 'desi eggs' gives us reasonably good health and immunity from viruses. **Sch. Anupam Dhan** left for Tamil Nadu on 27th. His classes will resume on Jan 4. The community bid him farewell on 25th.

Parish: We have resumed the regular Sunday Masses for the parishioners. Around 20 to 25 people attend these Masses. **Sch. Anupam** prepared the catholic children for a diocesan level carol singing competition. Before he left for Tiruchirappalli the youth of the parish bid him farewell during a simple function.

Sebastian A.

ST. XAVIER'S, BHIWADI

Community: The month of Dec began wonderfully with the celebrations of the feast of St. Francis Xavier. In preparation all Jesuits had confession on Dec 1. Hearty thanks to Fr. Antony of Delhi Archdiocese for administering the sacrament. FSLG sisters and the Jesuit candidates added more joy to the occasion with their feast day song during the dinner. Dec 7 was a historic day for Bhiwadi Mission, as we began the construction of a new block for the school. This ground breaking ceremony turned out to be solemn with the presence of our beloved Delhi Jesuits from Jaipur, Delhi, Behror, Mahwa and Nevta. **Fr. Glenn Menezes** and **Fr. Sangeeth** ensured meticulous arrangement of the event. **Fr. Sebastian Mukalel** arranged the blessing ceremony with Provincial Fr. Soosai Mani leading it prayerfully. **Fr. Amalraj** read out the copper sheet containing the names of the leaders of the time as a memorial which was buried along with a picture of Black Madonna. Fr. Amal conducted a Vocation Promotion Commission Meeting with the members on 8th to work out new and innovative ways of promoting vocations in the prevailing conditions. On 19th he gave a recollection talk to **Sch. Paul Micky** and **Sch. Nitish**. **Sch. Prakash** was out in his native place and came back on 24th. Regent **Nitish** left for Ranchi on 21st to attend a marriage in his family.

Parish: In preparation for Christmas Fr. Sebastian arranged for confessions of the parishioners. On 24th and 25th, we had three masses for Christmas celebrations so as to ensure all safety measures. Cakes made by the candidates were shared after each mass. The youth members led by Sr. Ranjana conducted the choir. Thanks to all FSLG sisters for the altar decorations. The Jesuits took turns to offer masses for Christmas and New year. An hour of adoration on 31st preceded the solemn New Year Liturgy.

School: The school children took keen interest to participate in Christmas related competitions, such as Solo and Group Singing, Christmas Bell, Star and Cart Making. We had a feast day assembly in honour of St. Francis Xavier on Dec 3. A select group of teachers and other staff were present to witness the Ground Breaking Ceremony of the new block for the school. During the Christmas staff get-together each one received a memorable gift - wall clock. Dances, delicious cakes and chocolates were integral part of the event. Fr. Glenn and **Fr. Sangeeth** took turns to deliver a clear and conscientious message in the present context. A

beautiful crib and 3 giant stars, prepared by the school staff, drew the admiration of many onlookers.

Maria Sadan: All the candidates are thankful to God for keeping them safe during this pandemic time. On Dec 3 they joined the fathers for a festive lunch. First years began their PT-2 and 2nd year had his 1st pre-board exams on 7th. Many of them participated in the Christmas events of the school and won prizes too. They reflected more on the relevance of Christmas, attending masses in the parish and listening to the preaching. They learnt to bake cakes and served cakes for all the parishioners after mass. Their crib was admired by many people visiting Maria Sadan. Parish youth were here for a come-and-see-program of crib. A few delicious items were served to the guests. As they waded to the end of 2020, they hope to have a grace filled New Year.

Amabraj

ST. XAVIER'S, JAIPUR

HFR College: On Dec 3, the Investiture Ceremony of AICUF and the feast of St. Francis Xavier were celebrated with a focus on expressing solidarity with Fr. Stan Swamy. The chief guest for the day was Bishop Oswald Lewis. He elaborated on the noble cause for which all great lives have strived and further emphasized the need to stand for principles and beliefs in life. On 14th, the Economics Society organized the second 'Dr. Sapna Newar Memorial Lecture' on her birth anniversary on December 14. The lecture was delivered by Prof. R. S. Deshpande, Former Director, Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bangalore. The memorial lecture was followed by the second Alumni Meet where the students from eight (2013-2020) previous batches enthusiastically participated, shared their experiences of being a Xavierite and interacted with the current batch of students about their journey after college. On 15th, a special session, organised by the Department of Computer Science, took place through an illuminating interactive session. The theme was 'Bridging the Gap Between Technology and Academics: A Way Towards Career Opportunities in IT Sector.' This was intended to help fresh graduates to be proactive to face the challenges of the present competitive world of technology. A three-day National Workshop on "The Art of Writing Research Papers" was organised by the Department of Business Administration and Xavier's Research and Publication Cell (XRPC) from 17th to 19th. On the

first day, Dr. Meenal Agarwal, an academican at DAVV, Indore University dealt with the topic "Introduction to Research Paper and How to Write a Research Paper". Day 2 began with an enlightening session by the renowned Professor, Dr. Manvinder Singh Pahwa, Professor, Department of Business Administration at School of Business and Commerce at Manipal University, Jaipur. He gave a detailed insight on "Qualitative and Quantitative Research Tools". Day 3 was devoted to the ethical concerns and focussed on plagiarism. The resource person, Prof. Anil Mehta, Professor, Department of Legal Studies, Banasthali Vidhyapeeth, gave a presentation on "How to Write Bibliography and Referencing in Research Papers". The students and faculties participated enthusiastically in this successful workshop. On 18th, a blood donation camp was organized in the college premises by Institutional Social Responsibility in association with Santokba Durlabhji Memorial Hospital (SDMH) in collaboration with the College Student Council and AICUF. During the camp, 27 units of blood were donated. On 22nd, the Dept of Commerce organised its second National Symposium on the virtual platform based on the theme "Post Covid World: Implications and Challenges". The keynote speaker Prof. Maya Salimath, Director of Quality Assurance Cell, R.R. Group of Institutions, focused on the drastic impact of Covid-19 in various arenas, be it economic, social, technical, or cultural. On 24th, AICUF organised an online Christmas program for the students and staff. The short program consisted of carols and band performances. The chief guest for the programme was Prof. Tom Thomas. The College closed for Christmas vacation from Dec 25 to Jan 4, 2021.

Rex

School: Dec began with the preparations for the feast of St. Francis Xavier. On the feast day, different classes had their class programs online. During the online celebration of the feast with teaching and non-teaching fraternity **Fr. Varkey** dwelt on the relevance of the saint in the present context. At 10:30 am during the program for maintenance/supporting staff **Fr. Augustine** delivered the message. The 2nd week was celebrated as the School Fit India Week wherein brain and brawn related activities were envisaged for each day and students under the guidance and supervision of class as well as physical education teachers enthusiastically participated. Each day's events were uploaded on the social media. PT-2 commenced for various classes on 16th. As part of

the diamond jubilee celebrations of the inception of LTS, the school unit organised an extempore contest 'Off the Cuff' with attractive prizes for the senior school students. On 23rd Christmas programs were organised by respective classes. At noon there was an exclusive celebration online for the teaching and non-teaching staff. **Fr. John Ari** delivered a contextualised message of Christmas, and the music teachers sang a series of carols to enliven the mood of the gathering. The supporting staff was luckier as they had live celebration in Junior Hall with covid protocols, unlike their comrades who heaved a heavy sigh online by reminiscing the *achhe din* of the season. **Fr. Jose Vatta** gave a memorable Christmas message to the supporting staff. Children complained bitterly to the class teachers about the activities they missed dearly like the Christmas assemblies, Santa Clause with sweets and the icing of the cake of the day the common DJ program. On 23rd, the Christmas vacation began. Master Ayush Malik of Class 8 was selected for the next round of INSPIRE Award contest organised by the Dept of Science and Technology, Govt of India, which encourages creative innovations benefiting the masses. We were saddened by the sudden demise of a Class 12 student due to cardiac arrest. **Fr. Dominic** made use of the Christmas vacation by going for a triduum at the sylvan ambience of Mahwa so as to recharge his batteries to face the nerve-wracking hassles related to admissions and exams!

Sobin

Parish: The month of Dec, too, passed off in the lockdown condition! Church activities were reduced to the minimum. The number of faithful for the Sunday worship in the morning remained below fifty and the evening mass was called off due to the falling numbers. Daily weekday mass continued as usual with minimum participation from the faithful. The feast of St. Francis Xavier was celebrated on Sunday Dec 6 with moderate festivity. Seven children and two adults received First Holy Communion on that day. On the same day, three parishioners were felicitated for their outstanding performance: Mrs. Evelyn Raghel for obtaining PhD in Psychology, Mrs. Alekutty Thomas for getting the first prize in the Jaipur diocesan level Marian Quiz Competition and Mr. Nikhil Jose for getting promoted from Third Officer to Second Officer in the NCC Unit of St. Xavier's School. The Sacrament of Reconciliation facility was arranged on 20th for the faithful in view of the solemnity of Christmas. Due to covid restrictions

and night curfew, carol singing couldn't be organized. Christmas Vigil Mass was celebrated on 24th at 5 pm in the church rather than in the school hall as it used to be. No crib, no illumination and no decoration outside the Church or on the school buildings! On Christmas day there were two masses in the morning: at 8:30 am and at 10:30 am. There was sufficient attendance at all the three Masses. In spite of not having any illumination in the school campus, a large number of well-wishers and alumni kept pouring into the church throughout the afternoon till 6 pm. Sunday, 27th, witnessed a three-fold celebration, namely, the Feast of the Holy Family, the conclusion of the Year of the Family and the Golden Jubilee of Fr. John Ariapilly as a Jesuit, with great *dhum dham*. During the homily, the jubilarian shared some of the high points of his long journey in the Society and expressed his gratitude to God and all those who helped him to be what he is today. After the Mass the jubilarian was felicitated, starting with the reading of Fr. General's letter to the jubilarian by **Fr. Sherry George**. In his sharing Fr. Sherry recalled some of the nostalgic memories of his childhood in the company of his uncle. Parish Priest Fr. Varkey Perekatt and Superior Fr. Augustine Perumalil felicitated the jubilarian with a shawl and a bouquet after expressing a few words of appreciation. All the sections of the parish and parish organizations also presented gifts and flowers to the jubilarian. **Sch. Ruben** made a short video introducing the jubilarian through some of the early photos of Fr. John and his family members. In addition, the video included appreciative words of the members of the Jesuit community. Due to the generosity of the Bishop, the Christmas dry ration kit was distributed to needy parishioners. On 31st some of the parishioners and the Jesuit Community assembled in the church at 5 pm for Holy Hour to thank God for all the graces received throughout the year. The New Year was welcomed with Holy Eucharist at 5:30 pm followed by refreshments.

Varkey

Community: On the feast day of St. Francis Xavier, Bishop Oswald Lewis blessed us with his presence during a gathering in the college and lunch in the community. The SCJM and MC Sisters too accepted our invitation. The birthday of Fr. Sherry was celebrated with an early supper on Dec 11 in which Jesuits from Nevta and Mahwa joined us. On the Christmas evening too we came together for an early supper. That evening the Golden Jubilarian Fr. John Ari was also felicitated

in the presence of the wider community. He had joined the community on 20th. To prepare ourselves to celebrate the upcoming Christmas Day in a meaningful way, a recollection was organized on 20th. **Fr. Raymond** led us in this process with his resourceful talk and Holy Eucharistic celebration. A few of us visited Bhiwadi community to witness the ground-breaking ceremony there. SCJM sisters expressed their generosity by giving gifts to every community member as a mark of their love and appreciation. **Fr. Mani** is making a few visits to his dentist to sort out problems with his old dentures.

Sherry

ST. XAVIER'S, MAHWA

School: On Dec 3, on the occasion of the Feast of St. Francis Xavier, we had a short prayer service followed by festive lunch with a few teaching staff and all the supporting staff. From 14th to 17th online exams were held. Surprise, exam takers were more than the attendees! On 23rd, we had a small Christmas celebration with the supporting and non-teaching staff. Despite the pandemic too, our office staff has been regular at their table.

Community: In Dec, **Sch. Sasi** and **Sch. Ruben** joined the Nevta community for a day of Recollection in preparation for Christmas. On 19th, Sch. Sasi left for Tiruchirappalli to attend to some urgent work in the college. **Fr. Jugal** wanted to have a short break at Almora and left the house on 19th. But on 20th morning he received the sad news of the demise of his beloved mother. He could not get any ticket to travel on that day and so on the next day he flew home and reached on time for the funeral rites. Thanks to **Fr. Jose Kuriakose** the house and the school building were illuminated; this made us feel that we were in the festive season. Like last year, this year too we went to our parish (Dausa) for Christmas celebrations. We helped out at the Vigil Mass and the morning Mass on 25th. After the morning Mass and breakfast we left for Jaipur for the Christmas bash. Fr. Dominic from Jaipur was with us for a few days. He motor biked all around. Remarkable, sir! Thank you for being with us! In spite of the epidemic, we had a number of Jesuit and non-Jesuit visitors.

Ruben

ST. XAVIER'S, NEVTA

Community: The feast of St. Francis Xavier was celebrated at various levels. A day before the feast day, we had a small program for the supporting staff. Fr. Dominic, the chief guest, motivated the

supporting staff through his inspiring message. On the feast day a meaningful online program was conducted for the teachers. We had a community mass and dinner with our collaborators. The feast day mass was celebrated on Sunday, Dec 6 in the college chapel with the Christian community followed by simple breakfast together. As part of the preparation for a meaningful Christmas celebration, the community along with the scholastics staying in the close by communities spent a day of recollection on 19th. Fr. Rex Angelo led us into the recollection with his inspiring reflections. Due to corona restrictions, we had the Christmas Vigil at 5:30 pm followed by some dance and carol singing with the faithful. **Fr. Ravi** celebrated Christmas mass for the Mother Teresa sisters on the Christmas day. We joined the C-Scheme community in the evening to celebrate Christmas together. On 26th **Sch. Maneesh Lukose** left for Satya Nilayam to continue his final semester in philosophy. We said goodbye to the 'Corona Year' through adoration followed by mass on 31st and prayed for a fruitful New Year 2021.

School: After completing the half yearly exams, regular online classes resumed for all students. The results were declared online on Dec 28. The first round of pre-board exams for Classes 10 & 12 were successfully conducted online from Dec 14 to 23. The feast day of the Patron Saint of the School was celebrated online for the staff on 3rd. The programs included an inspiring PPT presentation on the life and mission of St. Francis Xavier by Fr. John Ravi and faith testimonies by some of the teachers. All the private schools in Rajasthan continue to struggle with the fees related issues as the High Court upheld the order of the state government issued on 28/10/2020 which was not favourable to the schools. Hence the Society of All Catholic Schools in Rajasthan has decided to file a SLP in the Supreme Court challenging the government order. The details are being worked out. The writ is likely to be filed on Jan 4, 2021. Due to the pandemic Christmas celebrations for the staff and students were held online in a low key on 23rd and 22nd respectively. During the Christmas vacation from Dec 23 to Jan 4 the online classes remain suspended. The classes will resume on Jan 4.

College: Online classes are running smoothly, and a few students withdrew their admissions this month due to various reasons. The BA, BCom, and BSc first year students were asked to submit their original documents on or before Dec 22. On 3rd, the Annual College Magazine 'Campus Creation,' fifth volume, was unveiled by staff and

students in a combined program on St. Xavier's Feast Day. On the same day, the AICUF Nevta and Hathroi had their common program in Hathroi Fort College Campus. The new committee of the AICUF for the session was formed and the investiture ceremony was conducted. The Christmas program was celebrated under the guidance of coordinator Dr. Karuna Maheshwari on 23rd. We had Christmas holidays from 24th to 27th. Until further notice by the government regarding the regular offline sessions, the college will continue to function with the support of the office and maintenance staff.

Nevta Jesuits

ST. XAVIER'S, RAJ NIWAS MARG

School: The month of Dec brought along a warm blanket of activities, excitement, joy and celebrations. All the three departments presented a beautiful online program on Dec 2 highlighting the life and works of our patron saint, St. Francis Xavier. On the same day, all the staff members gathered at 10:30 am to have a virtual celebration of the feast. A profound and beautiful feast day message was given by Fr. Kunnunkal and shared with the students. A career counselling session was conducted for the commerce and humanities students by Mr. Nakul Shairwal from Edumentor on 5th. On 7th, 8th and 9th, the Science Club organized symposium competitions for Classes 8, 9 and 10 on very pertinent and thought-provoking topics. On 10th, the XESS (Economics and Social Science Society) conducted an e-symposium for students of Class 11 on some very interesting topics. Carol singing competition for Class 8 was held on 18th. On 21st the whole school celebrated Christmas. A special assembly was conducted in every class to celebrate the birth of Christ. Many students participated in the elegantly conducted assembly. All the staff members came together on the morning of 22nd to celebrate Christmas virtually. Students of Classes 1-5 participated in an online Carol Singing Competition organized by Montfort School. Also, many students actively participated in the Effulgence Activities of Nov-Dec. A Fancy Dress competition was organized for Classes 2-4. Students of Classes 5-7 conducted a science experiment.

Community: The community celebrated **Fr. Tom Kunnunkal's** Platinum Jubilee in the Society on Dec 12. After a short illness, **Fr. Stan D'Souza** passed away, aged 88. The school has little free space, as available spaces are used for locating various sports and other school related activities. **Br. John's** initiative is to use the small

spaces available in different parts of the school campus to cultivate various vegetables organically that will provide healthy diet items for the community. John is growing vegetables, such as brinjal, semfali, radish, palak, carrot, cauliflower, broccoli, cabbage, garlic, pudina, mint, tapioca and chilli. Congratulations, Br. John for this initiative. When the children return to school, they will be delighted to see all the vegetables growing on real plants instead of seeing them only in the fridge!

Tom

ST. XAVIER'S, SHAHBAD

Senior School: On Dec 3, the Feast Day of St. Francis Xavier, all the classes organized a special online assembly to celebrate the occasion and spread the message of the saint. Power Point presentations, devotional songs and dances were put up by the students of various classes. Some of our students participated in an Interschool Competition organized by Montfort School on Nov 27 and bagged the Rolling Trophy. Two of our students from 12-A made us proud by winning 2nd and 3rd position in Carol Singing and Western Pop/Classical Competition in an Interschool Music Competition organized by Queen's Convent School. One student from 9-C participated at the District Level Competition, Kala Utsav, organized by DOE and secured second position in Classical Dance and qualified for state level competition. One student from 9-B secured third position in Vocal Classical Music. Workshops were organized for the students of Class 8 on 21st by the School Counsellor to deal with the traumatic stress of students during the pandemic and develop a positive attitude towards life. Another workshop was held for Class 10 on 22nd to help them to focus on their Board Exams. The Sports Dept got over 300 students to participate in the Fit India Week. It began with a virtual assembly. Students were encouraged to make sports an integral part of their lives. Various activities like Virtual Yoga, Poster and Advertisement Competition, Essay Writing, Sports Quiz and Virtual Sports Challenges were organized for students. A virtual family fitness event was also held that saw the parents also participate in full vigour along with the students. Twenty-five Class 10 students wrote offline NTSE on 13th. A special online PTM was held for the weaker and irregular students of Classes 6-12 to keep the parents updated about their wards. Additional maths classes were held for the academically weak students of Classes 6-8. Before their pre-board exams revision classes

were organised for Classes 10 and 12 from 28th to 31st.

Junior School: On Dec 5, the class teachers sent the report cards to the students. From 14th to 19th students of Prep to Class 5 had their periodic assessment-3 exams. It was written as well as oral assessment on Google Meet. After the exams PTM was conducted and children's performance was discussed. Headmistress Sr. Tomsy joined the PTM and encouraged the students. The Christmas assembly was held on 23rd and a beautiful video was presented before the students. Sr. Tomsy gave the Christmas message, students sang some carols and teachers put up a play. Co-ordinator Neeta Mehta gave a concluding message. That day students from Prep to Class 5 were involved in many activities, such as Live Christmas Character Making, Craft Activity, Christmas Symbol Making, Santa Claus Mask Making, Christmas Tree Decoration and Card Decoration Activity. Some students participated in Carol Singing Fest and Solo Singing organized by Mont Fort School. They also took part in 'Kaleidoscope' organised by Indirapuram Public School.

Britto

Community: Since **Br. Gyan** was in the HFH we had more of a spiritual celebration on the feast St. Francis Xavier on Dec 3 and on the birthday of Fr. Britto on 4th. Br. Gyan was discharged from the hospital on 5th and was kept in isolation for 10 days. **Fr. Manoj Tirkey** left for Ranchi to attend his sister's first profession cum home visit and retreat. On 9th **Fr. Joy John** was admitted in Jivodya Hospital and was discharged on 11th. On 12th six of us participated in the platinum jubilee of Fr. Tom Kunnumkal and Golden jubilee of Fr. John Ari in St. Xavier's, Rajniwas Marg. On 13th, Frs. Xavier Ignatius, Rakesh, Pradeep, Anil Minj, Nelson and Arunmozhi shared a meal with us. On 16th, **Fr. Scaria** left for Kerala to be with his ailing brother who was in a serious condition. Fr. Scaria came back on 22nd. On 19th we were saddened by the news of the demise of our former community member Fr. Stan D'Sousa. Most of us participated in the funeral ceremony of Fr. Stan on 20th. After being with us for more than two months **Fr. John Ari** left for Jaipur on 20th. On 26th Fr. George K.P made a visit to the community. On 30th Br. Gyan and Fr. Scaria made a visit to Bhiwadi.

Remy

Parish: On Dec 6 we celebrated our parish feast with Provincial Fr. Soosai Mani presiding over the feast day mass. Parish youth livestreamed the

entire program so that even those who could not come to the church could participate in the feast day activities. On 20th we had the examination for the confirmation children. On 24th we had Christmas Vigil Mass in the evening. We had another mass on 25th morning. Good many people came for the mass according to the slots allotted to them. Christmas program also was livestreamed. Since all our fathers were available to hear confessions many of the parishioners could make their confession. On 27th after the mass the parish priest had a meeting with confirmation children and their parents for planning for the confirmation ceremony on Jan 3. On 31st we had Adoration and Thanksgiving Mass in the evening.

Scaria

LVI: The Lokmanch Leaders' Training Program was conducted for 30 leaders each in Sectors 26 & 27 for two days on the theme primary health and child immunization program with the help of an anganwadi teacher and primary health worker. A three-day annual meeting of the campaign facilitators and moderators of Lokmanch from Almora and Delhi units took place at Jahangirpuri at which they evaluated the activities of 2020 and planned for 2021. We are grateful to Fr. Anil Minj for his warm hospitality and for hosting the meeting. National Coordinator of Lokmanch Mr. J. Patra was present with us for one whole day. The LVI office was opened for two days a week, to distribute the NIOS certificates and course books. Fr. George Thana's (PAT/JAM) nephew and my close friend, Mr. Toy Thanapanal, passed away on Dec 21, and I performed his funeral rites in Burari cemetery, and celebrated the Memorial Mass with his relatives and friends in Pitampura Church on 27th. RIP.

George Peter

XLRI DELHI CAMPUS

The XLRI Delhi Campus celebrated the feast of St. Francis Xavier on Dec 3 with the neighbouring communities with Mass and dinner in the evening. On this occasion **Fr. Jinesh** conducted a prayer service for the 32 hostel students and **Fr. George** delivered a message followed by lunch. The Jesuit community too joined the students for the lunch. The various construction activities of the campus are in progress. **Fr. Varkey Muthala** went to MC Brothers' Deepashram for his annual retreat from 4th to 14th. The CJ sisters and Jesuits went to different neighbouring communities and distributed cakes to wish them Merry Christmas. Fr. George left for Jamshedpur on 6th early morning to attend

a meeting at XLRI and returned after a week. Christmas celebrations began with Mass at 6:30 pm. SD sisters from Farukhnagar, CJ sisters and the families of the co-workers were present for the celebrations. We had year-end mass on 31st at 7 pm for which the SD sisters along with CJ sisters and the families of the co-workers formed the congregation.

Tom Peru

ALMORA

On Dec 1-2 **Fr. Pradeep** was in Jalna and Someshwar for monthly meetings and reports. On 3rd we had feast day recollection given by Fr. Gautham IMS. Three UFS sisters and Fr. Sanjeev also joined us for the recollection. Fr. Sanjeev presided over the mass on St. Francis Xavier's feast day. In the evening three diocesan fathers, one IMS father and one Christian Brother joined us in the fellowship meal and shared our joy. On 10th **Fr. Rakesh** and Fr. Pradeep went along with our staff to Delhi to attend the Planning Commission and Lok Manch Meetings but in the middle of the way we received the message that Planning Commission Meeting was cancelled due to Farmers' Movement. Anyway Fr. Pradeep had two days of Lokmanch meeting on 12th and 14th. Meanwhile Fr. Rakesh went for a health check-up in Holy Family Hospital. He took all the tests related to the heart. Finally he was asked to go for angiogram. Thank God, there was no blockage in his heart. But he is forbidden to have red meat, fatty items like butter, cheese, egg yolk, etc. He is advised to do some Gym workout as well. **Fr. Joseph Kumar** regularly goes to Gaijol to look after our field where we have planted wheat, mustard, palak, coriander, garlic, methi, masoor dal and mutter. Since wild rabbits come and eat up the tender growing plants we have covered the area with green net. Recently some people stole one and half bundle of green net. Fr. Joseph has registered a complaint against these thieves. When Fr. Rakesh came to Delhi for the consult on 28th Fr. Ronie and Sch. Arvind came along with him. They had come to Almora for Christmas celebration. Fr. Pradeep who was going to attend his brother's requiem mass in Ranchi also joined the group. Fr. Rakesh returned to Almora along with Sch. Manish who drove to Bareilly by mistake. When Fr. Rakesh woke up from his sleep in the middle of the trip, Sch. Manish was made to change direction. On 31st we had thanksgiving mass and in the evening we went to spend some time in Kasar Devi to join in the New Year Celebration.

Rakesh

ROPAR

Parish: With the celebration of Guru Purab (Guru Nanak Jayanti) the month of Nov ended but we began the holy season of Advent. On Dec 11 Parish Priest **Fr. Thomas** returned from Delhi after undergoing treatment there for a couple of weeks. Our young priests **Fr. Antony** and **Fr. Leo** went to Jalandhar to reach a CHF Sister. On 20th they were missioned to administer the Sacrament of Reconciliation in Chandigarh. The long-awaited Parish Council Meeting was finally held on 18th. The decoration team of the parish kept themselves busy up to the actual day of Christmas. In spite of biting cold the Night Mass witnessed a great number of participants and was full of life. Langar was served on Christmas Day in the school campus which was followed by Christmas dance. On 31st we had a modest congregation for the Thanksgiving Eucharist.

School: For the feast of St. Francis Xavier our school staff had a short get-together. After the prayer session Principal **Fr. Shekhar** held a short meeting of the teaching staff for the evaluation of online teaching and to discuss other issues pertaining to school. On the occasion of Christmas, the school staff had a special prayer cum langar in the school on 23rd. Most of our teachers have already completed the syllabus and some have started the revision as well.

Community: Minister Fr. Antony has given a new look to our refectory. He also directed two retreats, one for CHF Aspirants and another for Junior Sisters. After the surgery of her ear our cook Mrs. Raj Rani resumed her work on Dec 14. Sch. Prakash, who was here for his license related work, brought more life in the community. The sparkling lights in the church building and school buildings give the feel of Christmas Season in our campus. After celebrating Christmas here both the new priests flew to their native places for a monthlong holiday to share their joy as priests with their near and dear ones.

Ashwin

KHARAR/MORINDA

Fr. Viren and **Fr. Leo** participated in the prayer service held on Dec 3 in the Ropar School while **Sch. Praveen** remained in Morinda due to his online classes. On the same day we had Holy Eucharist presided over by Fr. Leo followed by agape. Fr. Leo, being the Province Coordinator for the Ignatian year, had two webinar meetings on 4th and 12th. Fr. Viren as the social worker had three webinar meetings on different days. On 11th Fr.

Viren addressed the Presidents of the Ropar SHGs in the school campus. Fr. Leo with the guidance of **Fr. Thomas Kuriacose** baptized a child in the parish and blessed a new house in Kurali on 13th. Next day Fr. Leo visited the Cathedral, St. Paul's Book Centre and the Provincialate of CHF. Fr. Leo spent a few hours in hearing confessions at Christ the King Cathedral, Chandigarh on 20th while Fr. Viren lent his hand in Ropar Parish. Mr. Arpan, our Kharar house caretaker, permanently took leave from his service on 21st. On 23rd we had Christmas prayer service and lunch in Ropar with our school staff. We illuminated our house with colourful lights as part of joyfully celebrating the birth of our Lord on 25th and on the same day morning we distributed sweets and cakes to our neighbouring children who visited our crib and at noon CHF Sisters from Gurnagar paid us a short visit. On 29th Fr. Leo left for Delhi en route to his home town for the thanksgiving mass after his ordination. On 31st evening we joined thanksgiving Holy Mass at Ropar Parish. Fifteen nukkads were presented at various villages as part of the de-addiction sensitization program.

Leo

SHANTI SADAN, ALLAHABAD

Most of the time in Dec we were engaged in different activities. In the first week there was an exam conducted by **Fr. Jose** on written comprehension. On 3rd, we celebrated the feast of St. Francis Xavier. In the morning we had community mass followed by a special breakfast together with the fathers. On 19th we had half-day recollection under the guidance of **Fr. Joy** in preparation for Christmas. We ended the recollection with adoration and confession. For a change, this time we had our recollection in the Spirituality Centre which was a new experience for us. On 22nd we had grammar exam conducted by the Regent **Sch. Anish**. After that all of us were busy in making crib and Christmas decoration. We cooperated with each other and made the crib creatively and attractively which won the appreciation of many. On 24th we had Vigil Mass at 10:30 pm in the Parish Church presided over by Superior Fr. Joy. After the mass we distributed homemade cakes and snacks to the parishioners. On 25th at 9:00 am we had mass celebrated by Fr. Jose. On that day we had Christmas gathering with all the fathers and co-workers. We shared Christmas gifts with our Christmas friends. We had a delicious and sumptuous lunch and we danced for two hours. On 26th there was an online

Christmas gathering and carol singing, organised by the Patna Scholastics. We gave a beautiful and melodious carol singing performance. On that day the Bishop of Allahabad came to visit Shanti Sadan Community and we the pre-novices had an opportunity to interact with him. On the same day some priests from Allahabad Diocese came to evaluate our crib for the diocese level crib competition. Fr. Joy left for Patna to animate the General Chapter of the AC sisters. Four of our co-workers left for home visit on different days. Sch. Anish brought two puppies to our community which are very lovely and we enjoy their company.

Subodh

ST. STANISLAUS COLLEGE, SITAGARHA

The month of Dec was marked by preparations for Feasts, Jubilees, Christmas and our own stage presentation of Julius Caesar. On the Feast of St. Francis Xavier, the whole community came together for the solemn Mass in the morning. A Hindi speech competition was organized on 7th by our Hindi Professor **Fr. K.C. Philip (PAT)**. All the orators meticulously delivered the speech of Martin Luther King Junior "I have a dream..." with great zeal and gusto. We were saddened to hear the news of the demise of Fr. Philip's father. He rested in the arms of the Lord at the age of 94 after suffering from paralysis for the past 4 years. Due to the restrictions in Kerala because of the pandemic, Fr. Philip couldn't attend the funeral. He left for Kerala on 15th to join his bereaved family in the memorial services. The SSC community celebrated a requiem Mass for the repose of his father's soul. Waves of nostalgia filled the air as we bid adieu to **Fr. Sebastian (HAZ)** for the years of selfless and dedicated service by teaching music to the Juniors and Novices. We wished him well for his future endeavours. Preparations have started in earnest for the Juniors' play Julius Caesar to be staged on Jan 17. In the distribution of the cast of characters, the lot fell on **Sch. Anthony Chrisostone** to play the part of Brutus. On Dec 19, the campus communities and formees gathered at SSC for a delightful Christmas gathering. For the first time since the corona pandemic began our chapel was filled with many Religious and Seminarians of the campus who joined us for the solemn Christmas Vigil Mass. On 26th the Juniors set out on a picnic to one of our schools in the campus. We enjoyed ourselves cooking our meals, playing games, and dancing to our heart's content. **Sch. Romero** was in plaster cast for a month after a minor toe dislocation. As the Jubilee of our Dean **Fr. Francis Kurien** is round the corner, the Juniors

are preparing the choir to play suitable music on the occasion. We are grateful to Fr. Francis for accompanying us in our preparations for the play as well as the choir. On 28th the Juniors entered into their Triduum with the three Vows as the main theme. We are grateful to tertian fathers for their guidance in our spiritual journey.

Romero

LOYOLA SADAN, LUCKNOW

After spending one month in tests and experiments we began the month of Dec with renewed zeal and enthusiasm desiring to put into practice whatever we learnt in these tests and experiments. Dec 3, feast day of St. Francis Xavier was a very fruitful day for us. The first years got a chance to know themselves more profoundly through the charity class. The second years were busy with their paper work on the vows. Various committees were set up for the preparation of Christmas, such as decorations and other arrangements. To prepare ourselves spiritually, a two-day recollection cum reconciliation was arranged prior to Christmas. The Christmas Vigil Mass was presided over by **Fr. Christopher**. Fr. George Nedumattam and Fr. Sudeep Chacko from Kaiserganj, Fr. Felix Marshal and sisters from the nearby communities took part in the celebration. Following day was even more delightful as we celebrated the birthday of Fr. Christopher. We invited our co-workers along with their families for the fellowship meal. The presence of Frs. George, Sudeep and Felix enhanced our happiness. On 26th we went to share the peace and joy of Christmas in our ministry places. We celebrated the birthday of Novices **Angels, Jeyin** and **Avinash** in this month.

A Novice

SANJIVAN NIWAS, PATNA

We began the month of Dec preparing internally and externally for the coming of the Lord. On 4th we had a community meeting to plan for the month. On 9th we had memorial mass for the repose of the soul of Fr. Lourdusamy. On 12th we had recollection for co-workers led by Fr. Josey. On 13th and 28th we went to Tarumitra for fishing which we enjoyed thoroughly. On 18th we celebrated the birthday of Fr. Lawrence. On 19th we had recollection for the Jesuits and candidates led by Fr. Pius and Fr. Junas respectively. The candidates are having their holidays from Dec 22 to Jan 3. On 22nd we began the Christmas decoration and crib making under the guidance of the regent **Sch. Gnana**. On 22nd and 23rd

candidates went for carol singing to nearby religious communities. On 23rd we had the Christmas celebration with our co-workers. We attended the Christmas Vigil Mass in Kurji parish. On Christmas day we had the Eucharist in the evening followed by cultural program and dinner. On the 27th some of our candidates went to Behur Jail to put up a Christmas program. On 29th we were invited by the Xavier Bhavan community for high tea. On 30th Sch. Gnana went to Bettiah to celebrate the New Year with his novitiate companions.

Gnana

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

January	February
06 J, Suresh	04 Kayathinkara, Sobin
16 M, Pawan	06 Tete, Paul Micky
18 Augustine Pantha	07 Chelakat, Anthony
22 Kuriacose, Thomas	07 R, Gnana, Muthu
22 Denis Kumar	13 A, Arunmozhi
24 Muthala, Varkey	15 George, Ajay J.
27 Dhan, Anupam	15 Mukalel, Sebastian
27 Minz, Viren	18 Nedumattam, Mani
28 Ignatius, Rohan	19 *Xalxo, Ruben
30 T.K. John	20 *George Stephen
	25 Andrade, Anthony

In the Embrace of the Father

Br. Desmond Dias (BOM 87/65) on Dec 2.
Fr. O.P. Mathew, SJ (KER 75/54) on Dec 3.
Br. Epiphany Dias (GOA 99/77) on Dec 7.
Br. Basil Tirkey (RAN 73/46) on Dec 7.
Br. Saul Abril, (GUJ 89/73) on Dec 13.
Fr. Cyprian Andrade (Guj 74/56) on Dec 17.
Fr. Linus Dungdung (RAN 69/47) on Dec 29.

Fr. Jugal Kindo's mother, Mrs. Salome Kindo, 85, on Dec 20.

Reports and photos for the next DM are due on or before Jan 31, 2021.

**We wish you the
Compliments of the Season**