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PROVINCIAL'S MUSINGS

Father General has convoked the 71st Congregation of Procurators to be held in Loyola, Spain beginning from the 16th of May 2022. In his letter of convocation, Father Arturo Sosa situates the next Congregation of Procurators within the framework of the Ignatian Year, with the same theme: "Seeing all things new in Christ." More specifically, he writes: "the Congregation can be a time when we examine together the lights and shadows of the Society, the particular challenges that face us, and action of the Holy Spirit, who calls us to ever greater generosity in the service of Church and our world. There is no doubt that one of the greatest challenges that our world faces is Covid 19, whose consequences will continue to be with us for the foreseeable future." The UAPs, the Ignatian Year and Vocation Promotion will be the context of the discussions of the congregation.

We begin the season of Lent this month. *Matthew Fox* in his book, "Meditations with Meister Eckhart" says, "You may call God love, you may call God goodness, but the best name for God is compassion." Contemplating the suffering and death of Christ intensifies our union with him. It should also draw us to know and love the crucified people of today. The crucified people of today are the farmers on the streets of Delhi protesting against the unjust laws, the human rights activities in prison silenced for being the voice of the voiceless, the Adivasis losing their land to the corporates, the migrants and the unemployed suffering because of the unjust economic structures of today. The crucified people are subjected to death in a number of ways. It is slow but real death caused by poverty and discrimination generated by unjust structures and institutional violence. The crucified are those who die before their time. It is swift violent death caused by repression and atrocities when these people threaten these unjust structures. It is indirect but effective death when people are deprived even of their cultures in order to weaken their identities and make them more defenceless. The crucified people have a two-fold thrust: they are the victims of the sin of the world, and they are also bearers of the world's salvation. The crucified people are a privileged place for hearing the call to service. They provide the crucial question: What will we do to take them down from the crosses?



- DIONYSIUS VAZ, SJ



APPOINTED BY FR GENERAL

Fr. Sean O. Carroll SJ, Provincial of the United States West Province (UWE).

APPOINTED / APPROVED BY PROVINCIAL

Fr Ivan Sequeira, SJ, Director of St Joseph's Primary School and St Joseph's PU College, Anekal.

Study Committee to consolidate and expand our works in Mysore diocese: Fr Charles Lasrado (C), Fr Jossie Lobo, Fr Leo Pereira and Fr Shantharaj T.

Human Resource Development Centre (HRDC) at Ashirvad: Fr Joseph Lobo, Fr Jerald D'Souza, Fr Joe Mathias, Fr Brian Pereira, Fr Swebert D'Silva, Fr Arun Luis, Fr Joseph D'Mello, Fr Prashanth D'Souza, Dr Nirmala Joseph, Mr Victor Francis and Dr Clement D'Souza.

CONGRATULATIONS

To **Frs Antony TV, Francis Joseph Fernandes** and **Shantharaj T** on pronouncing your final vows in the Society of Jesus.

To our newly ordained deacons: **Schs Anush Prasad D'Cunha, Jason Stewart Martis, Joseph Kiran Pashan, Nithin Machado, Pradeep RS, Vincent Jaison A** and **Yesunath Karlekar**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Karnataka Province Secretary of Faith is organizing the following webinars on the apostolic preferences. For more details contact Fr Prashanth W D'Souza.

WEBINAR	SPEAKER	DATE AND TIME
Showing the Way to God	Fr Jossie D'Mello, SJ	February 27, 2021 at 6.30 PM
Walking with the Excluded	Fr Prakash Louis, SJ	March 27, 2021 at 6.30 PM
Journeying with Youth	Fr Mark A. Ravizza, SJ	April 24, 2021 at 6.30 PM
Caring for our Common Home	Fr Robert Athickal, SJ	May 29, 2021 at 6.30 PM

Information on Roots and Wings

ROOTS & WINGS 2021 from April 6th evening to May 8th afternoon, for the Jesuits and those Religious who follow the Ignatian Spirituality. For more details and to apply for the course please contact:

Fr Devadhas Muthiah SJ: 9600411531 / 8056662524/devadhasm@gmail.com

Fr Patrick Ravichandran SJ: 9445676172/sup.shc@mdusj.org

Fr Arun Kumar SJ: 99721 37656 / kjarunsj@gmail.com

Last date to apply: 15 March 2021

Congregation of Procurators

By his letter (2021/01) to all the Major Superiors dated 15 January 2021, Father General has convoked the 71st Congregation of Procurators, to be held in Loyola, Spain, beginning from 16th of May 2022, with the theme "To See All Things New in Christ". Before the Congregation, from the 7th of May until the evening of 15th May, the *Spiritual Exercises* will be held in the same place. All the participants (Procurators and Relators) are asked to take part in these *Exercises*.

Father General has also given the directive that "To begin preparing for the Congregation of Procurators, each Provincial should summon the Congregation of his Province, which must be concluded by 15 January 2022."

CHANGE OF E-MAIL ID - Sch Anush D'Cunha: anushdcunhasj88@jesuits.net

PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

February 2021

14: Inauguration of SJCPUC, Hassan
16: BJES GB
18: Meeting with New Priests
20-21: Meeting of DoWs of Secondary & Higher Education: Ashirvad
22-26: JCSA Online
27-28: SN, Chennai

March 2021

01-05: Visitation: MSJ, Novitiate
06-07: Meeting of Religious and Lay DoWs
09-10: Visitation: LM, Bengaluru
11: St Joseph's Seminary, Mangaluru GB
13-14: Meeting of LS, DoWs & CCMs: LM
18: Jubilee: PGDM-SJIM
21: Province Consult: LM

EVENTS / MEETINGS

February 2021

20-21: Meeting of DoWs of Secondary & Higher Education: Ashirvad

March 2021

06-07: Meeting of Religious and Lay DoWs
13-14: Meeting of LS, DoWs & CCMs: LM

April 2021

13: Blessing and Inauguration of Bijapur Church

LOCAL SUPERIORS' MEET: 16-17 JANUARY



The Local Superiors' Meeting was held on the 16th and 17th of January, 2021 at Ashirvad, Bengaluru. The theme of the meeting was *Cura*. We had a dozen fruitful sessions on different topics dealing with Apostolic Preferences, Province Policies, Social Issues, Formation, Vocation promotion, Administration, etc. The method of Spiritual Conversation was used for deliberating over *Cura* and also on spiritual conversation itself and discernment in common. There was good participation by the members especially during the interactive sessions. It was indeed a good discernment in common. Every session of the meet-

ing centered around the theme of care in all its dimensions, like care of individuals, care of collaborators, care in our ministries, care of formees care in temporal administration, etc. The meeting fostered a strong sense of belonging and camaraderie. Fr Dion, our Provincial, was amidst us participating in the interactions and encouraging the expression of opinions and suggestions. Fr Jossie, the Socius to the Provincial, had organized this fruitful and enriching meeting. The hospitality of the Ashirvad community was highly appreciated. (ATV)

ANEKAL



After the long break occasioned by the pandemic, the New Year ushered in the commencement of parish ministry for the scholastics. The new semester began with the courses on the synoptic gospels and the Eucharist. Schs Pradeep R S and Vincent Jaison left for Pune. The Jnana Jyothi community joyfully organized the Final Vows ceremony of Frs Antony TV, Francis Fernandes and Shantharaj T. The presence of the family members of the trio and the Jesuits from the province added joy to the celebration. The solemn Eucharist was presided over by Fr Provincial and was well complemented by the mellifluous choir of the RTEC scholastics. Fr Arogyaswami, PP of Begur, was the main celebrant at the annual feast of Vanachinnappa.



In the aftermath of Covid-19, the CIRW and other local NGOs organized a rally in Anekal town to bring about awareness on cleanliness and hygiene. The CIRW staff, the SHG members, tailoring students and the Lok-Manch leaders took an active part in the rally. Our students are returning to Balajyothi Boys' and Girls' hostels to resume classes. Sch Johnson takes care of the hostel. Currently most of the students from 9th Std to II PUC are on the campus; others will join soon. By way of implementation of the KPAP, the CIRW staff, with the help of scholastics (philosophers), are making a survey of the migrant children and families in the local brick factories with a view to help them in their education and health needs. (VP)



Ashirvad was the host to all the superiors and coordinators of Karnataka Jesuit Communities for their two-day meeting with the Provincial and his team. This was followed by a two day meeting of Regents along with Fr Francis Fernandes, the PCF. Fr Jerald D'Souza addressed the Regents on the theme, Apostolic Preferences and their application in Karnataka particularly in their place of ministry as regents. The Ashirvad community is enriched by the two day stay of Fr Provincial on his annual Visitation. Fr Jerald D'Souza has been active in his ministry of Social Action as meetings are held regularly at Ashirvad and the members are planning future activities at the center. He visited Manvi for two days to train the staff on the Right to Food and Health. He addressed the St Joseph's IHS Primary School Parents and Staff on Jesuits with the Poor and the Apostolic Preferences. He visited the Freedom Park with Frs Francis Guntipilly, Harry Terry, Kuldeep Bara (MAP) and Josephvaz to participate in the Farmers' Struggle. Fr Jerry led the young Jesuits of Ashirvad to take part in the cleaning of Lalbagh, a programme he organized along with the Mercy Mission. He conducted a session for the first year BBM

students of St Joseph's College of Commerce on the Apostolic Preferences.

As a member of the JESCOL team Fr. Francis Guntipilly gave a few sessions at St Joseph's Management College for 120 staff. He is also an active member of the Family Counseling Movement in Bengaluru. He was the special invitee at the Archdiocesan Lawyers' Meet and at the Archdiocesan Communication Team Meeting regarding the Vatican Radio Transmission in Kannada. He addressed the meeting on rehabilitation of migrants, and also attended the Tribal Movement gathering at the Freedom Park. Fr Eugene Lobo was part of the Archbishop's Inter Religious Team that visited ISKON Temple and discussed various religious and other issues. He took part in the CBCI Education webinar to discuss and share various problems affecting education in all the 14 regions in India. Fr Kuldeep Bara (MAP) made a flying visit to Jarkhand to attend a family function. Fr Josephvaz, after his Triduum at Mundgod, went to his native place to take part in the burial service of his dear aunt. (EL)

Fr Edward Philip gave a day's training programme to the LVK staff to equip them with skills on handling the youth. The BEO has willingly accepted the plan proposed by LVK to create child friendly environments in ten government schools, by networking with the various stakeholders at the local level. About 80 youth participated in the 'Yuva Mahotsava' organized to commemorate the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda. The resource person for this occasion was Fr Joseph Rodrigues, SDB. A few programmes were organized by CFI to create awareness on anemia and the importance of nutritious food. The staff of LVK joined hands with the health department in the pulse polio drive.



Classes have been resumed for 9th & 10th Stds and PUC. Hostel children are slowly returning to Loyola Children Home hostels. Ms Perina Xavier was the resource person at the staff seminar organized by Loyola

Kendriya Vidyalaya, CBSE, on Human Rights. Fr Joseph D'Mello conducted a two-day seminar on "Education for Transformation" for the LKV staff. With the help of Ashirvad, a webinar was organized on 'Farm Laws' for the staff of all the units of Mundgod-Hangal mission. Republic Day was celebrated in all the units with special emphasis on the promotion of Constitutional values among our staff and students.

Novices Naveen Kumar and Sohan Fernandes, who were stationed in Ugginkeri and Mainalli for their mission experiment, brought about visible spiritual



transformation in the lives of the people. St Rita's Church hosted the Deanery-level CRI meeting on the Day of Consecrated Life. The Eucharistic celebration was presided over by Fr Francis Menezes, and the homily on 'The Relevance of Religious Life Today' was preached by Fr Alwyn R D'Souza. (AD)

Thanks to the hard work of the mission team in grooming leaders for the local panchayat elections, as many as 103 candidates were elected in 44 panchayats in our work area. We have reason to hope that they will bring good governance in local administration. Christmas and Human Rights Day were celebrated in 16 slums. In collaboration with SELCO foundation and Loyola ITI, CNFE organized 15 awareness programmes on tele livelihoods. CNFE and RKS organized a series of programmes, including a huge rally, in support of the Farmers' Agitation. CNFE along with its partner organizations, worked towards the formation of a district level Devadasi Women Federation to ensure the rights of Devadasis.

Classes have begun at Loyola School and College, and students are attending classes in good number. Schs Noel Dias and Preethesh Misquith conducted a two-day orientation program for the I PU students. Mr Robert, Vice-Principal of the PU College resigned from service to take up a government job; and in his place, Mrs. Savitri has

been appointed Vice-Principal.

Sangama has been conducting various activities in villages to provide encouragement to the people in the light of the panchayat elections. On the 100th day of the arrest of Fr Stan Swamy, a memorandum demanding his release was submitted to the Tahsildar. The gardening skills of Fr Balaraju A are evident in the blooming of flowers in the extended garden. Three of the Novices, having completed their Mission Experiment, have returned to the Novitiate.

Fr. Anthony Dass gave a Triduum to DHM sisters. He was also the resource person at the half-day workshop for all the DoW's of the BJECS on National Education Policy. The church building work is in full swing. The new bell is installed. The two HVLS fans fitted in the church are the first of its kind in Bijapur district. The picnic to Dandeli and Karwar strengthened the bonds of our community. (PM)

FATIMA RETREAT HOUSE



The Holy Eucharist to usher in the New Year witnessed a congregation of over one thousand one hundred present! It was preceded by an hour of Adoration to thank the Lord for His mercy and blessings for the year 2020.

The first meeting of the CLC of Mangalore Diocese for the year 2021 was held at Kristalaya, FRH on January 25th. Over a hundred members were present. Fr. Maxim Misquith who is Diocesan Eccl. vice Assistant moderated the meeting. Fr. Melwin Pinto, the Rector of SAC was the chief guest. The prizes for the winners of the Santa Claus online Quiz, conducted in December by CLC were distributed.

Fr. Ronald Pais after his annual retreat at Dhyanaashrama conducted a one day workshop on *Affective maturity and interpersonal dynamics*

for SRA sisters on January 14th. Fr. Joseph Monteiro directed an Ignatian Retreat to two sisters, one from the Ursulines and the other from Bethany, while Fr Clarence D'Souza directed the Retreat for a JMJ sister. Fr. Stany Miranda who had developed mild fever was admitted to Fr. Muller's Hospital. He is back at FRH with renewed strength. Fr. Rossi Rego seems to be quite comfortable with the new four-wheeled walker! He is walking faster now!

Inspired by the global rollout of coronavirus vaccines, Br. Benna is professionally and successfully sterilizing and disinfecting the plants and trees in FRH campus. 'Infant Jesus week' was observed from January 25th to the 30th. Each day at 6 pm the devotional prayers to Infant Jesus were recited followed by confessions and celebration of the Eucharist. (CD)

LOYOLA, Mangaluru



The much awaited and longed for Loyola Day finally arrived on 10th January. The pandemic, after causing several adjournments, had raised doubts about the Loyola Day being held at all. The pre-novices had only very few days to prepare for the great event. It was an occasion for them

to showcase their talents in dancing, singing and acting before their parents and dear ones. Fr Alphonse Fernandes, Superior of Asha Kiran, celebrated the Eucharist at which Fr Vishwas Misquith delivered a meaningful homily. The cultural programme that followed was presided over by our

parish priest, Fr J.B. Saldanha. The guests present appreciated the entertainment. Fr J.B., in his brief message, expressed his gratitude, love and respect for the Jesuits. Sch Joswin Pereira was the prime mover of the entire show. That does not deny the role played by the



Director, Fr Pradeep Crasta in encouraging and guiding the pre-novices.

Both the first and second year pre-novices attend regular classes, some in the morning and others in the afternoon. Meanwhile Fr Pradeep Crasta makes hay when the sun shines – by visiting schools and meeting promising candidates. In the meantime the pre-novices are preparing for their entry into the Novitiate by answering IQ and EQ tests! (PP)

LOYOLA MANDIR



The passing away of Fr Ronald Menezes left us in deep grief. Fr Olvin Veigas preached a day-long recollection for the Jubilarians of Notre Dame Sisters at Sophia. Fr Joseph D’Mello went to Mundgod to give a two-day programme for the staff of LKV on ‘Education for transformation’, and addressed the newly recruited staff of BJES as part of JESCOL. He also gave an online course on the Spiritual Exercises organised by the Ignatian Spirituality Centre, DNC, Pune. Fr Jason Furtado made a swirling trip to Bijapur and Kalaburagi along with Mr Vittal Rao to upgrade the KJES accounting system. The Loyola Mandir community participated in the Final Vows ceremony

of Fr Francis Fernandes at Jnana Jyothi, Anekal. Fr Jossie and Fr Olvin took sessions on Magis, Discernment and History of Jesuit Education at the JESCOL seminar organized by the SJII. After completing more than ten years of commendable service at the General Curia, Fr Charles Lasrado returned to the province. Fr Stany D’Souza, the POSA, was with us for a few days. With his health improved considerably, Fr Ozzie Mascarenhas returned to Jamshedpur after spending quality time with us. While here, he prepared many tasty dishes, and gave a mini- crash course to our kitchen staff on the art of cooking. (OV)

MOUNT ST JOSEPH



To share our Christmas joy, we spent half a day with the destitutes in the Home for the Aged at Bannerghatta. The visit of Rev Fr Dionysius Vaz, our Provincial, in January, was a moment of grace to our community.

On 19th December, the staff of Loyola Institutions came together to celebrate Christmas. Fr Prashanth D’Souza gave a scintillating speech on the significance of the birth of Christ in this corona times. The staff of Loyola institutions had a day’s session on UAP. Frs Prashanth D’Souza, John Pradeep, Jerald D’Souza and Xavier Savariyar (CCU) were the main speakers. Fr Dionysius Vaz, the Provincial, addressed the collaborators on the occasion of his official visit to Mount St Joseph.

Fr Maxim Dias conducted a seminar for the ITI staff on the Indian Constitution and on Human Rights. Fr Xavier (CCU) was the main speaker at the seminar organized by the PU College on NEP.

The staff of the Degree College attended a talk on, “Farm Laws”.

At Loyola Degree College, Christmas message was given by Fr John Pradeep. The Degree staff put up a play “Artban” for the staff of all the Loyola Institutions. Ms Bhavya Narasimhamurthy was the resource person on the occasion of the seminar on Farm Laws organized by the Degree College. Human Rights Association conducted an elocution competition on issues like gender discrimination, child rights, human trafficking, etc. The Kannada Sangha conducted 22 webinars on research for research scholars throughout India. More than 100 students attended the webinar on Farm Laws and Farmers’ Agitation organized by the Ambedkar Study Center of the college, with Dr Shiva Sundar as the resource person. There were two lectures on NEP delivered by Frs Maxim Dias and Xavier S (CCU). Under the auspices of Gandhi Study Center, there were talks on Gandhian Legacy by Dr Albert Smith. Two of our

students bagged gold medals in Kabaddi at the national level.

In Prerana, the Tertians returned to their respective provinces with renewed vigor and grateful hearts. Prerana created ripples in the South Asian Assis- tancy and other parts of the world by conducting the first webinar on Universal Apostolic Prefer- ences. Fr John Dardis SJ, General Counsellor for Discernment and Apostolic Planning, addressed us on "Universal Apostolic Preferences - A Call to Collaborate in God's Mission." We have now moved into offline courses at Prerana. Currently 40

participants from 11 different congregations have begun their two-month course to pre- pare for their Fi- nal Profession. The course was formally inaugu- rated by Sr Mary Chetana, Provincial Superior of SND. (FD)



ARRUPE NIVAS



Finally, St Joseph's College is upgraded to **St Joseph's University**. In the NAAC reaccred- itation the college had scored A++ Grade with 3.79/4.00 CGPA which is the highest in India for the fourth cycle. The college has been conferred the status of "College of Excellence" by the UGC. It has also been awarded DBT Star Status & DST- FIST grant by the Govt. of India. Due to all these credentials, the College was upgraded to be a University by the MHRD, Govt. of India, under the Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) Scheme on May 25, 2018 and directed the Govt. of Karnataka to pass St Joseph's University Act. Accordingly, the Bill was passed in the Karnataka Cabinet on Dec. 28, 2020, Karnataka Legisla- tive Assembly on Feb 1, 2021, concurrence of the Honb'le Governor of Karnataka on Feb 4, 2021 followed by the Karnataka Legislative Council on Feb 5, 2021. May God Bless St Joseph's Univer- sity. This dream has become reality, thanks to so many people who worked hard, especially Fr Vic- tor Lobo with his PR skills and Fr Swebert D Silva, the chairman of the committee.

On the occasion of the BJES inter-unit sports meet, a number of faculty members participated in the flash mob on the theme "Mental Health" and exhibited the sportsmanship spirit coupled with social awareness. As the Year 2021 began, the college offices were shifted to the newly construct- ed Admin Block. Arrangements were made for all the staff and students to undergo free Covid-19 RTPCR test on-campus before the commencement of the end semester theory and practical exam- inations, which was a mandatory protocol by the Govt. The IQAC organised a 7-day workshop on "Revised NAAC Norms & Procedures" and also released e-Newsletter "Calidad", which marks

the glimpses of the college activities. Even semes- ter classes have commenced for all the students. A three-day IGNITORS programme was con- ducted. Outreach Programmes were organized. Student volunteers participated in polio drive and Covid-19 vaccine awareness programme orga- nized by BBMP in collaboration with the Outreach Centre. A total of 10 senior cadets, including 4 female cadets were honoured with ranks at the pipping ceremony on the Republic Day. Lt Akshay Mandlik was awarded the prestigious Defence Secretary Commendation Card by the Ministry of Defence. He was one of the ten NCC personnel in the country to get this award. All the Fathers working in the College along with a few other priests conducted online theology classes to all the catholic students of first year degree classes. The classes were organized by the College Cam- pus Ministry team. A candlelight vigil was orga- nized in support of Fr Stan Swamy on the occasion of his 100 days in prison. It began with a prayer followed by a speech by Prof Babu Mathew, fac- ulty of National Law School. About 300 people who had gathered took out a procession on the roads around the College with the lit candles. The tertians, along with their instructors, from Prerana spent an evening of fun and frolic with the Arrupe Nivas Community. A JESCOL programme was organized for the teaching faculty of BJES insti- tutions. 110 teachers from various units of BJES attended this enriching, fruitful and well-appreci- ated programme. Frs Denzil Lobo, Joseph Lobo and Swebert D Silva were the resources persons from the community along with Frs Joseph D'Mel- lo and Francis Guntipilly.

During the Church Unity Octave, Fr Victor Lobo preached for all three Sunday services at St

Mark's Cathedral. Fr Swebert D Silva gave an input talk on "Role of faculty in the NAAC accreditation process" in a seven-day Seminar organized by the IQAC of the College. Apart from teaching

a course on Igantian Discernment at Mater Dei, Goa, Fr Joseph Lobo was the animator cum facilitator for the province chapter of the UMI congregation. (JL)

INIGO SADAN



On the eve of the hundredth day of the imprisonment of Fr. Stan Swamy, all the Jesuits and hostel students participated in the candle light prayer service. Beginning from this month, the scholastics have started taking some orientation sessions for the boarders as well as the Community College Hostel students. The community had its picnic at Lago Palms Resort.

Republic Day was celebrated with patriotic fervour. In the spirit of KPAPs, a session was organised for our PTA members on 'A Thought on Farmer'. Nine of our students were given Ekanandan Scholarships.

The staff of St Joseph's School CBSE organized Makara Sankranti and Kite festival on a virtual platform to enlighten the students, parents and staff on the significance of the occasion. Advocate Mr Vinay Sreenivas was the main speaker at the seminar on Farmers' Act organized by St Joseph's CBSE School in collaboration with the Centre for Social Concern for all the staff of St Joseph's Indian Institutions. In order to raise funds to support the people dwelling in the rural areas of North Karnataka, the School organized a virtual Marathon - Walk, Jog or Run - from 26 to 31 January.

St Joseph's Indian Institutions celebrated the 72nd Republic Day in the school quadrangle, with a call to uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India, to promote harmony and to fulfill the dreams of Dr. B R Ambedkar. Mr Mohammed Tajuddin, an alumnus, hoisted the national flag. Frs Joseph D'Mello and Olvin Veigas were the resource persons at the JESCOL seminar for all our staff, jointly organized by St Joseph's Indian Institutions and the Centre for Social Concern.

JESUIT NIVAS



The Jesuit Nivas Community experienced a time of grace when Fr Provincial was with us for his first visitation. The happy event of the BJES Inter Unit Staff Sports Meet, held in SJBHS school premises enhanced the spirit of unity and camaraderie in members of our different institutions.

SJIHS and SJICPUC reopened on January 4, after a lapse of nine and a half months caused by the pandemic. The series of PTA meetings held by Fr. Cyril Menezes and Fr Felix A were effective in creating interest in students to attend offline classes. The school successfully conducted NTSE & NMMS exam to 1400 students in the campus - to the satisfaction and appreciation of the department.

After 34 years of dedication in the cause of education, Mr Prakash retired from service on January 30. A seminar on Agricultural Act 2020 was held on January 12 to create awareness among the staff regarding the farmers' plight. JESCOL seminar, held on January 30 for all the staff in the campus, has created renewed interest among the staff on in Jesuit education. Quite many students participated in a number of events like the webinar held on January 23 on "building a cutting edge career for 21st century", Esplendida, the cultural fest at Mount Carmel College, and webinars on Astronomy, Wildlife, Entrepreneurship etc.

A seminar on "The Rights of Farmers in Jeopardy" with Advocate Mr. Clifton Rozario as the resource person, created awareness in our students on the current scenario of the farmers' agitation. The street play "Olithu Maadu Manusa" staged by Samudaya Street Theatre Team enhanced the students' understanding on the impact of Covid and the ways of dealing with it. Our Nursing Assistance students rendered a helping hand to the BBMP doctors in their Pulse Polio Drive to administer polio drops. We are thankful to the students of Sampurna, Montfort Institute of Advanced Studies, for conducting two days of introductory sessions for our students on Counseling and Mental Health. (FA)

SJBHS celebrated Republic Day with special emphasis on the Constitution. On the same day, we held 'Fitness Forever' - a virtual running and cycling event to encourage fitness. Webinars were held on "Farmers - our Nation Builders", and "Fostering Wellbeing and Staying Resilient during

Covid Times". Staff members attended the JESCOL seminar. Academic achievers and special prize winners were felicitated on the Annual Prize Day.

The Literary Club of SJCL in collaboration with Nivaaran organised a 'Speech & Elocution Competition' on the theme of Farmers' Plight, to mark the Republic Day, 2021. The Entrepreneurship Development Cell of SJCL organised a role play to create and spread awareness about the current farmers' protests in our country.

In SJPU, a talk by Ms Mini Saji was arranged for all the staff on Farm Act 2020. The festival of Sankranti was celebrated with a variety of games and a traditional meal for all the staff. Fr Prashanth Wesley D'Souza, chief guest at the College Annual Day, spoke eloquently on the topic 'Fully Human, Fully Divine.'

The Kannada Department of SJCC organized 'Raita Samvada'- creating a platform for stu-

NAVASADHANA



An ounce of protection is worth a pound of cure. Yes, we have started taking some protective measures, our "ounce of protection", in our way of living with the Corona Virus. Fr Provincial's Visitation of the Hassan Jesuit community was also a blessing for us Jesuits residing at Navasadhana. We have introduced "squatting Mass" in order to familiarize the pre-novices with it before they enter the novitiate. The new altar was blessed and inaugurated by Fr Provincial. The pre-novices were taken up by the simple and practical points preached by Fr Santhosh D'Souza during our monthly recollection. Fr Dheeraj D'Souza was away in Mysuru for a week casting his nets far and deep in view of Vocation Promotion. Fr Roshan Pereira, accompanied by Jesuits and lay staff, attended the funeral of Fr Ronald Menezes in Bangalore. Sch. Paul Anand attended the

dents, farmers and representatives of Karnataka Rajya Raita Sangha on Farm Act 2020. Hashmi Theatre Forum of the college staged a street play on Brigade Road to create awareness among the public on the implications of Farm Act 2020. The Centre for Social Action (CSA) also organized a talk on the same topic. The institution conducted a ten-day Faculty Empowerment Programme (FEP) on topics related to Ethics, Justice, Social Analysis and Jesuit Spirituality - with Frs Jossie D'Mello, Olivin Veigas, Kurian Kachappilly, and Mr. Guru Moorthy, Dr. Shirdi Prasad Tekur and Mr. Shiv Sundar as resource persons.

The college conducted a panel discussion on Child Rights in Conflict Zones of Asia (as part of the International Webinar Series on Sustainable Development Goals, 2030). SJCC in collaboration with Mount Carmel College organized a six-day FDP for the Commerce faculty on Artificial Intelligence in Business Ecosystem. (WB)

Regent's Meet in Ashirvad. The pre-novices joined the college staff for the celebration of Republic Day. Fr Dheeraj engaged the pre-novices with some sessions on Psycho-Sexual Integration. Fr Roshan and the Scholastics went to Bengaluru to attend the Final Vows ceremony at Anekal. Schs Joyal D'Sa and Sanson D'Souza were glued to their desks for a week as they had their first internal exams. The idea of the new parking shed and the shelter for the vermi-compost finally came to fruition this month. Archbishop Peter Machado, who was here for a meeting, briefly addressed our pre-novices reminding them of their legacy of "magis" and exhorting them to grow in their vocation. Fr Jerome D'Souza who attended the same meeting, celebrated Mass for us on two days. (PA)

ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE, Mangaluru



The 141st Foundation Day of the institution was celebrated on 11th January. The Eucharist, presided over by the Rector, Fr Melwin Pinto, was later streamed online on Divine Word TV. The SACAA held its alumni reunion in the Mother Teresa Peace Park and a virtual meet later for those who couldn't make it to the campus. The retired staff of the college met online in the evening. The 1971 "Golden batch" of the College had an online reunion and set a target to contribute Rs 1.5

crore towards setting up an Instrumentation Centre in the College.

In the event named TRIUMPH, the degree college awarded scholarships to 79 students who had secured above 94%. The crib prepared by our students won the first place in a competition held at the JCSA level. Roshan D'Souza, who served as receptionist at SAC community for nine years, has been promoted as the Manager of the Food Court at AIMIT. With the closing of admissions for

the current year, practically all students have reported to classes, with a sizeable number residing in the hostels.

Radio Sarang held a beach cleaning drive at Bengre beach in association with the local youth. Over 80 NSS students from city colleges joined the campaign. The various noble initiatives taken by Sarang received good coverage in the print media. The cartoon art work depicting the entire SAC campus by Mr John Chandran, art teacher of the high school, was widely circulated online by our students and alumni. The cartoon has been installed in our museum, and the hard copies of the image are kept on sale.

Various workshops and seminars were held for the staff at Gonzaga School. A talk by Mr Amogh Shetty to class X students motivated them to look at things with different perspective and become

more attentive to their own talent and ability. During the Math Week students actively participated in various mathematical activities. Investiture Ceremony was held to confer badges and sashes for the newly elected Head Boy and Head Girl. The school administration is happy that the affiliation to CBSE has been further extended by five years.

The Scholastics were readily available for the orientation programmes at UG and PG Ladies' hostels. The community rejoiced with Frs Felix Victor and Melwyn Lobo on clearing the KSET examination in their first attempt. We were also delighted to learn about the nomination of Fr Praveen Martis for the 'Outstanding Community Leaders of Mangaluru' award from IIPP in recognition of his dedicated service in the field of higher education and administrative acumen. (OR)

VIDYA NIKETAN, Dharwad



The Scholastics began their normal offline classes in the first week of January. 26th January 2021, was a red-letter day in the Jesuit life of Fr Antony TV as he pronounced his Final Vows at Jnana Jyothi, Anekal. VN community felicitated Fr Antony on the 28th. We celebrated Republic Day with patriotic zeal. Our parish priest hoisted the National flag. Sch Joshua Lobo was the MC and Sch Melvin Govias gave an inspiring speech. Fr Edward Philip conducted a seminar for the local teachers at Mundgod.

Congratulations to Sch Christon Gonsalves who participated, and bagged the First Prize of Rs. 10,000, in a state level online seminar competition hosted by the Karnataka University on the theme "Effect of Covid-19 on Education and Employment in India". Fr Edward Philip proceeded to Nagaland to facilitate the selection of candidates for the Pre-Novitiate of Kohima Region. The community is happy to have amidst us Fr Biju, a CMI priest, who will be in our community for the next two years to do his LLM studies. (ATV)

SRN, Pandithahalli



Christmas celebration with the teaching and non-teaching staff along with their children hued the climax of the year. The celebration entailed the exchange of gifts, cultural programme and fun games, and to top it all, we had sumptuous meals together. Fr Arun's birthday also augmented our joy during the festive season. The New Year emerged as the grace-filled start as we had with us Fr Provincial on Visitation. Fr Provincial's address to our lay staff instilled confidence in them. We also visited the shrine of Swami Rajendra along with the Provincial. Holy Angels School

is now blessed with a spacious and exquisite Children's park. We had Fr. Norwin's birthday celebration with the staff. Sch. Elson attended the regents meet at Ashirvad. Our entire community witnessed the Final Vows in Anekal. We also conducted SA 1 online exams for the students and we are still adhering to online classes with efficacy. We are through with our land registration in the name of KJES, and we acquired the building permissions for Swami Rajendra Nilaya and for Holy Angels School. (AL)

DNC, Pune



With the arrival of Sch Vincent Jaison and Sch Pradeep RS the number of third year theologians is complete. They are now fully involved in the community after three days of purification ritual. For the first time after taking the baton as Provincial, Fr Dion visited the DNC campus. Despite

his busy schedule he made time to be with us. On the day of Consecrated Life, Fr Dion celebrated Mass and exhorted us to be pioneers, prophets and pilgrims in our context today. To mark this day a small get-together was organised. It was truly a spirit-filled gathering. Fr Ronald Ser-

rao has begun his Masters in Sociology at Pune University. He has managed to pitch his tent at Loyola Pashan. Fr Ryan Rodrigues conducted a

week long theology course for the students of St Joseph's, Bengaluru. (AD)

SATYA NILAYAM, Chennai



The second year philosophy students have begun their regular classes in Satya Nilayam while the first year philosophy students continue to have their online classes in their respective provinces. In order to mark the event of the 100th day of Fr Stan Swamy in prison, our community organized a short candle light prayer service in front of the main gate of Satya Nilayam to show our solidarity with him.

The community of Satya Nilayam gratefully acknowledged the creative and inspiring presence of Fr Nithin Monteiro in teaching dramatics and

many inspiring activities at SN and wished him well as he flew to Boston on 20th January for his further studies. We truly miss him.

We celebrated Republic Day of India in a meaningful and modest way. Fr Lawrence Fernandes, Head of the Department of Philosophy, was busy preparing the annual report for the NAAC team that visited Loyola College on 28th and 29th January. At present the academic programs are going on in full swing as the final year students are keeping themselves busy with dissertation. (AA)

HAZARIBAGH



We, Frs. Prashanth Sequeira and Cyril Castelino are at the end of our Tertianship. The study of the Constitutions has instilled in us the spirit of our Society. We had classes on IPP & GC. The community gave us a farewell. We had a meaningful Eucharist with the Sisters of Cloistered Carmel. After concluding our six months stay with a tridu-

um, we moved on to the land of Buddha (Bodhi Gaya) & had an interaction with the buddhist monks. Presently we are serving the elderly in the institute of the Little Sisters of the Poor in Kolkata. It has been a tremendous experience for both of us. (CC)

OURS IN PUBLICATIONS

Fr Joseph Lobo SJ, "Covid-19: A Blessing in Disguise? - A Theological Response", Dhyana Journal of Religion and Spirituality, Vol 25, No. 2, October, 2020, 33-47.

REST IN PEACE

Fr Ambrose Augustine, SJ (PAT) 87/58, on 16 January 2021, in Patna.

Fr Maxim Crasta, SJ (GUJ) 54/32, on 19 January 2021, in Baroda.

Mr Francis A Fernandes (70), elder brother of Fr Archie Fernandes, on 24 January, in Udupi.

Fr Arwind Minj, SJ (HAZ), 42/19 on 26 January, in Hazaribagh.

Mrs Milagrine Lobo (59), paternal aunt of Fr Josephvaz Monteiro, on 27 January, in Mollem, Goa.

Fr. Anthony A. D'Souza (BOM), 94/77, on 27 January, in Mumbai.

Fr. Lancelot Pereira SJ (BOM), 90/71, on 28 January, in Mumbai.

Br. Stephen Kerketta, SJ (RAN) 75/57, on 30 January, in Ranchi.

Mr Ruzary F D'Souza (88) elder brother of Fr Ambrose D'Souza and maternal uncle of **Sch Yesunath Karlekar**, on 30 January, in Alnavar.

Mr Ningappa Joseph, (57), father of Sch Prakash, on 06 February, in Pannur.

Mr Louis Sequeira (83), brother-in-law of Fr Edward Rodrigues, on 13 February, in Mangaluru.

FR RONALD VICTOR MENEZES, SJ (10 March 1972 - 14 January 2021)

Fr Ronald Victor Menezes was born on 10 March 1972 at Kirinje in Mangalore. He joined the Society of Jesus on 20 June 1994 and took his First Vows on 21 June 1996. He was ordained a priest on 28 December 2008 and pronounced his Final Vows on 18 October 2015. Soon after his ordination Fr Ronald taught at St Aloysius High School, Mangalore, from 2008 to 2012. From 2012, he was teaching at St Joseph's High School Hassan, until he sought refuge in the Lord's bosom. I have not lived in the same community with Fr Ronald for any length of time; still, the few weeks of living with him and a few interactions with him every time I visited Bangalore, helped me discover some of his wonderful qualities and tremendous goodness.

To begin with, Fr Ronnie integrated a culture of care (*cura personalis*) in his profession as a teacher. He cared for every student in his class. He made meticulous notes on every child: the date of submission of notes, the homework, the marks obtained, the behavior traits, the visit of the parents and the advice to the child. I happened to read this in one of his note books.



Secondly, Fr Ronald cared for the environment. He loved gardening; he planted many plants, trees, and watered them. Fr Ronald had already integrated the UAP 'the care for our common home', into a way of life which is seldom observed or appreciated. Today we have a lot of trees, flower plants and other creepers around our residence and the school, thanks to Fr Ronald, who has left behind a legacy of green culture especially during

these Pandemic days.

Thirdly, Fr Ronald was a man of God, a man of the Church and a man of commitment. He used to get up early and find his way to the chapel as a daily routine. He never missed celebrating the daily Eucharist. He was simple, spiritual and systematic in his lifestyle. Fr Ronald was a voracious reader. He had plenty of books in his room. He never engaged himself in unnecessary talk about others. He had a strong faith in God and a great love for Christ.

Fourthly, Fr Ronald was a man of wit and humour. It would surface all of a sudden either at table or at a meeting. Such humour kept everyone lively.

Fifthly, Fr Ronald was a man of conscience, perhaps a delicate conscience, which made him suffer in his life of commitment. He knew that the world around him was full of lies – a world of consumerism and of misplaced values. He had seen and experienced a world without conscience. It is in this conflicting lifestyle, that Fr Ronald felt the inner need to live with an awakened conscience, a great ideal yes, but one which made him more sensitive, scrupulous and disturbed within. Fr Ronald was honest, transparent, and above all a man of truth. In the process, he struggled with himself, struggled with his community, struggled perhaps even with God, as Israel did.

At the same time, human and fragile that he was, Fr Ronald had his share of limitations such as passionate feelings of anger, which at times would erupt in an outburst. And so, when Fr Ronnie spoke everyone listened, and no one dared to challenge him.

Now at last Fr Ronald has found in God a safe harbor, which he always sought for, free from all his pain, anguish and suffering. Fr Ronald, you have left behind for us a legacy of an awakened conscience.

Dear Fr Ronald, at this solemn and sorrowful moment, I want to tell you that all of us, your Jesuit companions, your family members, your many friends and your students in particular, will miss you. We will always remember you with gratitude in the midst of great sorrow. Our faith tells us that all of us one day will join you in the heavenly kingdom. Till then Good bye and Thank you. Rest in peace. Amen.

- Fr Henry Saldanha SJ



DOWN MEMORY LANE



(In this section some of our Senior Jesuits will share their experiences of Jesuit life and mission)

FR TERENCE FARIAS, SJ

I was born in Mangalore in a devout Catholic family. My schooling till 7th Std. was done partly in Mangalore and partly in Bellary, Hospet and Adoni, in North Karnataka. I studied in St Aloysius College, in Mangalore from 8th standard till PUC.

From my childhood I had only one aim in life: to be a Religious priest. I don't know how I got that idea. May be because I was attending Mass at St. Joseph's Seminary Church in Mangalore. But I clearly remember when, where and how the call got confirmed. I was in the 10th Std when I got the opportunity to go to Christ Hall, Calicut to visit my relative who was a Jesuit Junior at that time. When I arrived at the place, I felt a deep peace within as well as a strong attraction to religious life - for no apparent reason. I even felt a compelling desire to continue to stay there, a feeling that lasted for two days. In later years, whenever I had any doubt about my vocation, I would recall and relive this experience and my doubts would disappear.



When, as a Scholastic, I was studying in Dharwad, Fr Cyril Pereira, then Provincial of Karnataka, came on an official visit to our Community. In his address to the Community he said, among other things, that he would like someone to study Islam and Muslim culture in order to help the Church in India in its approach to the Muslims. I thought and prayed over Fr Provincial's proposal, and later met him in private to ask him whether I might be suitable for the task. He was pleased with my choice, and said, "You are the right person".

During my years of theology, I kept up my interest in Islam by learning Urdu with the help of a Muslim teacher. Later I went to Beirut, Lebanon, to study Arabic and Islam in the Jesuit-run St. Joseph's University. When in Beirut I had the opportunity to go to Saudi Arabia to conduct the Holy Week services. (These were conducted in the American Embassy because it was illegal to conduct any non-Muslim religious services in that country). I also had the opportunity to see the Kaba in Mecca, the holiest place for Muslims (though I had to see it from a hill top because non-Muslims are forbidden to enter that town).

Back in India, I joined the Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) to do my Ph.D. on an Islamic topic. Even as a student at AMU, I was privileged to organize, at the request of the CBCI Commission on Dialogue, a consultation on how to promote dialogue with Muslims in India. About 30 persons, including one from Bangladesh, attended this three-day consultation which was held in the Archbishop's House in Agra in March 1979. The outcome of these days of prayerful reflection and discussion was the decision to found a permanent association to help the Church in India to promote Christian-Muslim Dialogue. This association has been active under the name of Islamic Studies Association (ISA) since forty one years. Its quarterly publication, SALAAM, is the only one of its kind in India. I am pleased to recall that I was the first Secretary of ISA and the first editor (for 8 years) of SALAAM.

While in Bangalore I took the initiative of starting the Islamic Studies Association of Karnataka, and also a Christian-Muslim Study Group. These functioned for some years. In the meantime, ISA in one of its discernment sessions, had decided that training future leaders of the church (in seminaries and religious formation houses) in Christian-Muslim Dialogue should be its number one priority. Attention had therefore to be given to conducting courses on Islam and Dialogue in Seminaries and Formation Houses. So I began to teach Islam in different institutions: VJ in Delhi; JDV, NVSC & Ishvani Kendra in Pune; St. Peter's Seminary, Christu Jyothi, AVP, MSFS Philosophate, Vishwadeep, NBCLC, all in Bangalore; Thanmaya in Bhopal, and St. Joseph's Seminary in Mangalore. I continued to teach till I was 75. (I was pleasantly surprised to learn that, among the many students who attended my classes is the Archbishop of Bangalore!)

Some of my Muslim friends and acquaintances used to invite me to their homes particularly on their feast days. On occasion, some Muslim organizations invited me to address them. There were times, though rare, when a CID would visit me to question me on my credentials and my intentions. I answered all their queries, hopefully to their satisfaction!

I feel happy to recall my humble contribution to the Church in its mission of Dialogue. For six years, I served as a Consultor of the Vatican Secretariat for Inter-Religious Dialogue. The FABC, in preparing for its deliberations on Christian-Muslim Dialogue, requested me to make a study on what image Muslims of India have of Christians. They also asked me to give the keynote address and help them as one of the experts during their sessions which were held in Varanasi in 1982. The White Fathers who, as a rule, held biennial meetings in Rome for those interested in Christian-Muslim Dialogue, invited me multiple times to speak on Christian-Muslim relations in India. When the Muslims of the whole world were highly incensed by the speech of Pope Benedict XVI in Regensburg on 26th Sept 2006, and held protests in different parts of the world, including violence against Catholics, the Muslims of Bangalore, instead of expressing their anger, requested Archbishop Bernard Moras of Bangalore, to address the Muslims in their premises and assuage their feelings. The Archbishop counted on my assistance in preparing his speech and also on my supportive companionship at what turned out to be a peaceful encounter. I used to assist the Archbishop on other occasions as well, particularly in preparing messages to be delivered to the Muslim community on the occasion of their festivals.

To my surprise, I received a letter one day in 1998, from the Vatican Secretariat for Religious, appointing me Apostolic Visitor to the Sisters of the Congregation of St. Anne, of Bangalore. Accordingly, I had to visit all the Convents of the congregation, interview all the Sisters numbering about 550, and send a report to the Secretariat. Later, the same Secretariat appointed me Apostolic Delegate to that Congregation, which meant that I was to be present at all their General Council Meetings and to prepare the Sisters for a General Chapter of which I was to be the Moderator. This mission, spanning a period of nearly four years, was perhaps one of the toughest in my life.

As I look back on my life I am filled with gratitude to God for having used me for His greater glory, and to the Society of Jesus, for having accepted me, nurtured me and encouraged me.



"The crucified people are a privileged place for hearing the call to service. They provide the crucial question: What will we do to take them down from the crosses?"

We wish you a holy season of Lent