



# GUJARAT JESUIT SAMACHAR

Premal Jyoti, PB 4002, Ahmedabad - 380 009



72/918 GJS JULY 2020

## PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

### July

- 01 : GB Meeting, GVD, Sevasi
- 08-09 : Visitation, Mandali - Radhanpur
- 14-15 : Visitation, Kalol - Unteshweri
- 18-19 : GEBCI Meeting
- 23-25 : Visitation, Bharuch - Ankleshwer - Rajpipla
- 29-30 : Visitation, Fulwadi - Paraspada
- 31 : Fulwadi – Final Vows: Fr. Reji Madathikunnel

### August

- 03-04 : Consult, PJ, Ahmedabad

## APPOINTMENTS

### ► GENERAL has appointed

- ♦ Fr. Jerome Cutinha (JAM): Provincial of Jamshedpur.
- ♦ Fr. Christie P. Maria Joseph (MDU): Secretary for Higher Education.

### ► PROVINCIAL has appointed

- ♦ Fr. Vipul Parmar, Teacher & Asst PP, Loyola Hall, Ahmedabad
- ♦ Fr. Patrick Arockiam, Acting Superior, Rosary Community
- ♦ Fr. Xavier Amalraj, Province Coordinator of Alumni (PCA)
- ♦ Fr. Peter Francis, Province Estate Manager
- ♦ Sch. Ashish Pandor, Radhanpur

**Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam**  
FOR THE GREATER GLORY OF GOD  
ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA

## PROVINCE HIGHLIGHTS

### ► PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

#### • Fall in Love, Stay in Love



On 21 June, the feast St. Aloysius Gonzaga, we pronounced our First Vows at XTC Belgaum. The theme of the celebration was, “Fall in Love, Stay in Love” from the prayer of Fr. Pedro Arrupe. The Eucharist was presided over by Fr. Ronald D’Souza, who was delegated to receive our vows by the four Provincials. There were several other concelebrants including our Novice Master Fr. Anil Pereira. Due to the lock down the numbers were restricted though we were fortunate to have some parishioners and others to share in our joy. We had a well-prepared liturgy with a lovely choir comprising our first year brothers. In his homily, Fr. Ronnie led us deeper into our theme to reflect on ‘The Principle and Foundation, Contemplation to attain Love and to remain in His Divine Love’. The greatest moment was when I pronounced the vows giving myself to the Lord who gave Himself to me whole heartedly.



The post communion hymn was composed on the theme of the day and was sung by us. A message was read from the Provincial of Goa congratulating the newly professed; we were then given the crucifix, the Constitutions and the Spiritual Exercises. As I look back, this was a journey of falling in love, staying in love with Jesus and growing in my faith. My heart is filled with gratitude for I have travelled this beautiful journey, with my companions to reach this unforgettable, joyful and graceful occasion. I thank the Lord for all those who have accompanied me in this journey. (Sch. Pradip Gamit SJ)

### • Junior Step – Mastering Gujarati

The Gujarati Juniorate year was inaugurated on 24 June. Together with other concelebrants, **Fr. Provincial Durai Fernand** presided over a Mass of the Holy Spirit. Later, **Fr. Ambrose Vedam**, Director of the Juniorate and **Fr. James Savarimuthu**, the PCF reminded the juniors of the importance of this stage of formation (the study of Gujarati Language, Literature and Culture), in one's apostolic life. Regular classes have since begun. The four juniors reside in Premal Jyoti and also have their classes there. (Sch. Alam Parmar SJ)



### • Scholastics Sammelan

The annual Scholastics Sammelan was held from 13-15 June at Sneh Jyoti, Sevasi; because of the current pandemic the sammelan was restricted to just about two days, with all participants maintaining the necessary protocols. The Satya Nilayam scholastics who were unable to be physically present, participated in the event via video conferencing.

**Fr. James Savarimuthu**, the newly appointed PCF presided over the Inaugural Eucharist; later the scholastics had a ceremonial welcome for the new PCF and the two new members, the juniors, namely **Schs. Piyush Gamit** and **Saurabh Parmar** to the group.

On the following day, **Fr. Alpesh Macwan** (the former PCF and currently the Socius) presided over the Eucharistic Celebration. The scholastics then shared with one another their graces and experiences of the past year. Fr. James addressed the scholastics that evening. He spoke about different aspects of Jesuit Formation. He also introduced the scholastics to the new 'Graded Ignatian Spirituality Syllabus for Formees', highlighting the objectives and the importance of this curriculum as per the directives from the Assistency. All the scholastics, according to their stage of formation, are expected to complete this curriculum.

At the cultural program, the Scholastics bade farewell to the fourth year theologians, **Schs. Pratik Christi** and **Melwin D'Sa**; they also thanked Fr. Alpesh for accompanying them as their PCF for last six years. **Fr. Provincial Durai Fernand**, addressed the scholastics on the final day on the vision, mission and expectations of the Province and of the Universal Society; he also presided over the concluding Eucharist.

Despite the many difficulties, the sammelan was a meaningful, enriching and rejuvenating time for the scholastics; of rootedness and companionship in the Society. All were touched and grateful to the Sneh Jyoti, Sevasi Community for their hospitality and generous support to the success of the sammelan. (Sch. Alam Parmar SJ)

### ► REACHING OUT

#### • Personality Webinar

A webinar on 'Personality Development' was conducted from June 15 -19, by the St. Francis Xavier Parish Youth (SFPY) - Gamdi Anand, Varasda Catholic Church and 'Green The Blue' Charitable Trust. It was moderated by **Fr. Moieson Dhas** and Ms. Trupati Parmar. Topics included self-awareness and self-esteem, motivation and goal-setting, developing soft skills, stress management and leadership, with inputs from several resource persons. The webinar was a success, given the qualitative and interactive participation by the students. (Mr. Felix Macwan)



## • Hygiene Kits

Six hundred and thirty five hygiene kits were distributed to the needy rural poor of Anand and Varasda parishes. The kits included masks, soap, and sanitizers and also some sugar and tea. Local women tailors were commissioned to make the masks; the youth of both the parishes helped in the packaging and distribution of the kits. (Fr. Moieson Dhas SJ)



## • Scholarship Distribution

One hundred and twenty four needy and deserving students of the Anand Parish were awarded Fr. Pariza and Fr. Albert scholarships on 22 June. Due to the pandemic there was no formal function. The Parish Priest **Fr. Melquides Guedes**, distributed the scholarships after a prayer. Thirty-five students from Stds I to V received scholarships of Rs. 1500 each and an additional eighty-nine students from Stds. VI to IX received scholarships of Rs. 2000 each. (Fr. Moieson Dhas SJ)



## ► Dangs Diary

Amidst COVID-19 pandemic and the lockdown the three Centres of Pimpri, Shamgahan and Subir in the Dangs have reached out in several different ways to the affected

**Pimpri:** Led by **Fr. Ishwan Gamit**, provided some guidance to the students from the surrounding villages who have passed SSC board exams and helped them make a proper choice of schools for their higher secondary education in the vicinity like Ahwa, Subir, Bardipada or

Unai. They have also motivated and guided around ten students to get admission at the Vidhyadeep Community College Bharuch and in Modasa for the English Course. Forty-one college students, who are studying in different colleges of Gujarat, were called in different small groups for some motivational instruction and guidance. Some resource persons were invited to teach and instruct the school children and parents and to help them study from home. (Fr. Ishwan Gamit SJ)

**Shamgahan:** The new textbooks for the new academic have already been distributed to the students; this hopefully will help the students, to have some idea about their studies even during this period of crisis. According to the envisaged plan and with the required permission from the Education Department of the Dangs District, under the guidance of **Fr. Kirit Patelia**, the coaching classes for our students of Stds I –VIII in their respective villages has picked up well. Some students who go to other government schools also take part in these classes, which are held in the morning hours. As per the current guidelines for the school staff, fifty percent of our school teachers in turn are engaged in different villages to instruct and regulate the coaching classes on a regular basis. The required safety measures like keeping physical distance and distribution of masks and sanitizers to the teachers and students have been taken care of. The students are also being given snacks at the end of the daily session. Sr. Mayuri, the Principal of the school and **Fr. Sanjay Aind** have been doing the periodic supervision of the coaching classes in these villages. Besides, our school has also been producing YouTube classes based on the initial chapters of Std VIII Science and Maths. These YouTube videos would hopefully further motivate the students; being a rural setup, the availability of a proper network and connectivity is always a major issue. Tests based on the coaching classes and e-lessons will be conducted for the students once the school reopens. (Fr. Sanjay Aind SJ)

## ► INCLUSIVE INTERVENTIONS

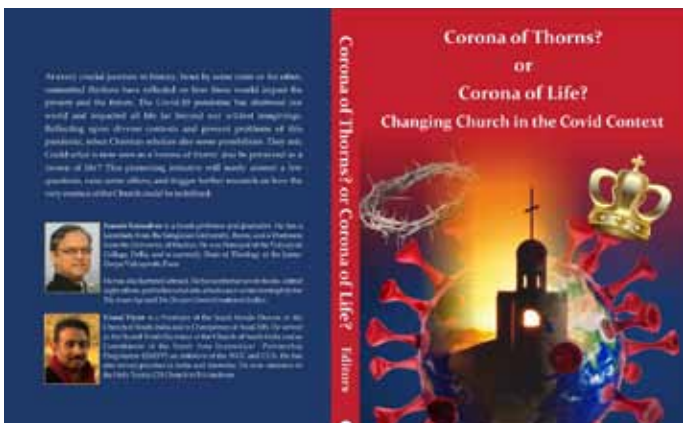
### • GJYM Meet

On 26 June several youth from Nadiad, Anand, Petlad, Jol and Vadodara assembled at the GJYM Office in Vadodara for a meeting, maintaining the mandated protocol. A report of GJYM's activities of the last two years and the accounts were presented to the youth. The youth of Nadiad shared their experiences of the relief work during the pandemic Covid-19 as part of GJYM. The youth coordinator expressed deep gratitude for all the support given to the GJYM from the youth, their parents,



well-wishers, the Fathers and Sisters and others; as a token of gratitude each youth was given a couple of saplings to carry home and with instructions to nurture them. It was a memorable gathering for all. (Fr. Nagin Macwan SJ)

### • Corona of Thorns? Corona of Life? Changing Church in a Covid Context



**Fr. Francis Gonsalves** has co-edited a book "Corona of Thorns? Corona of Life? Changing Church in a Covid Context" with Rev. Vinod Victor, a pastor of the Church of South India (CSI). The book published by ISPCK, Delhi, is a collection of reflective articles on the Covid-19 crisis by theologians, scholars, pastors, and grassroots activists of the Indian churches. While being critical of some of the church ventures of today, the writers also propose ways and means of renewal and reform as the Church hopefully opens up to a brighter tomorrow. Those interested in getting a copy of the book, kindly contact Fr. Francis Gonsalves SJ.

### • Adilok Web Varshik Din

This year 'Adilok' celebrated their Annual Day virtually on 28 June as a 'Web Varshik Din'. Eighty-one tribals and those committed to tribal cause participated in the hour long function held on google meet forum of the internet. The Annual day is generally celebrated on the fourth Sunday of March to felicitate those who have excelled in contribution of articles, subscriptions, advertisements, photos and other services to 'Adilok'. Due to lockdown



this year, the day had to be sadly forgone until the idea of meeting virtually occurred to its designer Mr. Rajubhai Parmar who is the creative head of Divyabhaskar. The team of Mr. Ghanshyam Parmar and Mr. Dharmesh Barot collaborated to motivate tribals far and wide through telephone and social media to participate in the virtual event. Mr. Kulin Patel, a free-lance tribal journalist from Anaval-Dt. Surat delivered the key-note speech as the chief-guest of the function. The editor of Adilok Dr. Anand Vasava appealed all to support Adilok whose aim is to make "Adivasi Man Ki Baat" heard in the main stream circles. The various district coordinators of Adilok participated in the discussion that followed. The Web Varshik Din was a proud experience of keeping abreast with the media technology or all tribal online participants. Encouraged by the successful experiment, the organizers decided to celebrate the 9 August, 'Vishwa Adivasi Din' with a webinar on a relevant tribal topic and invited one and all to use online platforms to commemorate the day. (Fr. Vinayak Jadav SJ)

### • 'Laudato Si' Challenge

The Laudato Si week was celebrated globally from 16-24 May. The Gujarat Jesuit Ecology Mission (GJEM) organized an online challenge consisting of essay and poetry writing, painting, short film making and photography. 'Everything is connected' was the theme of the Laudato Si Week and the same theme for the online challenge. Sixty students participated in the event and the winning entries have been uploaded in our website [www.gjemsj.org](http://www.gjemsj.org).

Pope Francis' encyclical was addressed to every human being on this earth and this challenge too was meant for all the students. It was heartening to see students from all walks of life reflecting on the interconnectedness of the universe and participating in the event creatively.

The result of the online challenge was announced on World Environment Day in the form of a short film on the theme made by Scholastics Anjum and Raja. In the film, **Fr. Lancelot D'Cruz**, spoke of how GJEM through its various activities is trying to live the spirit of the encyclical meaningfully. (Mr. Jothi Xavier)

**JESUIT SAINTS OF THE MONTH**



▲ SS B. Realino, Regis, Jerome and other missionaries



▲ SS Leo Mangin & Companions



**PRAYERFUL WISHES  
TO ALL ON THE FEAST DAY  
OF OUR FOUNDER**



## R.I.P

- † Fr. S.A. Alphonse (AND), 69/51, on 10 June.  
† Fr. S.M. Xavier Irudayaraj (MDU), 79/61, on 16 June.  
† Fr. Marcus Murmu (DUM), 63/38, on 20 June.



## POPE'S WORLDWIDE PRAYER NETWORK



### Our Families

*We pray that today's families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance.*

## GREEN CORNER

### BIODIVERSITY IN NATURE

The concern for the care of our environment has been brought to the centre-stage of people's awareness by what is happening to Mother Earth consistently which include global warming, climate change, desertification, floods and droughts, delayed monsoons and wildfires

Pope Francis' path-breaking Encyclical 'Laudato Si' has awakened many Christians to accept the third pillar of our Faith - 'love of Nature', besides 'love of God and our neighbour'. It is the duty of all Christians to care for and nurture Mother Earth.

A common eco action by many to show their love for Mother Earth is to plant trees. But agriculture has also become a commercial activity; the cultivation of commercial crops like rubber, tea, cotton, sugarcane is replacing the biodiversity of our forests. Mono-culture of 'useful' trees and plants assures income and profits. Left to herself, nature would always bio diverse. Some trees grow tall and big to capture plenty of sunlight. Others thrive in shade. Creepers need the support of trees to grow and bloom.

Extensive mono-culture would need chemical fertilizers and pesticides. That poisons our food. Tree plantation should keep in mind the native trees and plants of each place. Nature grows trees/plants suited for the climatic condition, the terrain and nutrition available in each place.

- Fr Rappai Poothokaren SJ



## BIRTHDAYS & DEATH DAYS 2020

- 01 Camilus Kishore  
02 Fr Luis Arza – 2013+  
03 John Kappamootil  
Peter Francis  
Fr Jose L Gorosquieta – 2012+  
04 Anand Anthony  
Yakub Makwana  
07 Ambrose Vedom  
Br Martin Araquistain – 2018+  
08 Fr Joaquin Romani – 1950+  
10 Paul Valappila  
12 George Kodithottam  
Hasmukh Parmar

- 13 Fr Campos Teodoro – 2004+  
17 Amalraj Jeganathan  
Erwin Lazrado  
Harry Martis  
Jayant Rathod  
18 Fr Navarro Jose Maria – 2007+  
Br Mathew Fernandes – 2017+  
20 Shaji Thekemury  
22 Anthony Pitchai  
Fr Anil L Macwan – 2012+  
Br Aloysius Macwan – 2013+  
23 Francis Gonsalves

- 25 Cruz Francis  
26 Kishor Gavit  
K.T. Mathew  
Sanjay Horo  
27 Sudhir Bhatia  
Varghese Vadakumcherry  
28 Alex Thannipara  
30 Nagin Macwan  
Stanny Pinto  
31 Ignacio Galdos

To receive by email, send a mail to <socguj@gmail.com>

Published by Fr Provincial of Gujarat Jesuit Province. For Private Circulation only