

Jamshedpur Jesuits



Men of Compassion, Consolation & Discernment

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LOYOLA NIWAS, SAKCHI, JAMSHEDPUR, INDIA

July 2021



PROVINCIAL'S MESSAGE

Fr Jerry Cutinha, SJ

IGNATIAN YEAR – A YEAR OF RENEWAL

20 MAY 2021 – 31 JULY 2022

On 20 May 2021, the Society of Jesus marched into the Ignatian Year while marking the 500 years of a life-changing event in the life of Inigo de Loyola. We, the Jesuits and Ignatian family under the leadership of Fr General Arturo Sosa and our brother Pope Francis, have embarked on a pilgrimage of conversion. The online prayer service on 23 May 2021 helped us to begin this journey of ongoing transformation and renewal.

As we celebrate the Ignatian Year, our external celebrations must lead us to the most important inward renewal. As we trace our 'Cannonball Moments', we need to allow our Lord to bring conversion, and healing for each one of us, our communities, institutions, and the province. The Cannonball is a metaphor that provides us with a place or space where our purpose meets a new path, new meaning, and a renewed life.



It is the Cannonball Moment that **transformed Inigo to Ignatius** and led to the foundation of the Society of Jesus. It is the story of how a self-centred man eventually becomes a God-centred man—a man given over to the vanities of the world, is placed with Christ, and later grew in the ease of finding God in all things. The battle of Pamplona, where the journey of Inigo began, serves as a metaphor for a shared human experience. We all have our inner fortresses of our dreams, ambitions, and attachments. The **cannonball strikes**, in the unexpected tragedies and misfortunes, can become life-transforming experiences if we allow God to work in us. God can lead us as He led Ignatius like a schoolmaster handholding a child.

In this Ignatian Year, we can ask ourselves: what are our cannonball moments at individual, community,

Ignatius

and province levels. How have those moments moulded us, transformed us? Fr General Arturo Sosa invites us for an ongoing metanoia when he says: "it is good to remind ourselves that the wound Ignatius suffered in Pamplona was not so much a happy ending, but rather a happy beginning. The conversion consists

sometimes of great moments of change, but it is also a never-ending process. We need to put Christ in the centre every time, again and again. This process is a pilgrimage along winding roads, up and down, sometimes having to retrace our steps, sometimes feeling lost. But meeting people along the road who indicate the way and reach out their hands to us."

We are blessed to have our beloved Pope Francis as our role model in this journey as he motivates us for conversion at various levels—personal, communal, institutional, and ecological. Let this Ignatian Year celebration not be a one-time event, but **the beginning of the process of conversion**, a time to invigorate us to love and serve God and his people with renewed dedication and commitment.

Fr Stan Swamy lived a life of dedication and commitment to love and serve God and his people. With his untimely death on 5 July 2021, we have lost a courageous,

committed and compassionate elder brother, who lived and worked tirelessly for the mission of reconciliation and justice and sacrificed his life for the poor and the marginalised. That was his commitment, **a true son of St Ignatius of Loyola**: To give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labour and not to ask for reward.

We pray for the departed soul of Fr Stan, that God may grant him eternal rest. May the martyrdom of Stan inspire and challenge us and the entire nation to recommit ourselves to take forward his legacy in the mission of Justice and Reconciliation.

May this year's Feast of Ignatius be a special one. May God bless us through the intercession of St. Ignatius and set us on fire.

OFFICIAL

APPOINTMENT BY POSA

Fr Benedict Lakra, SJ

Spiritual Director, Satya Nilayam, Chennai

APPOINTMENTS BY PROVINCIAL

Name	From	To	Status	Wef
Akhilesh Kumar	Sankhabanga	RTC Ranchi	Theology	1 Jul
Sanjay Bodra	Tepasai	VJ, Delhi	Theology	1 Jul
Renny Abraham	TRTC	Loyola School, Jsr	Assist the Province Revisor	11 Jun
Pancras A	Bhuli	DNS Chandrapura	Principal	12 Jul
Alex Gnanapragasam	TJR, XLRI	TJR, XLRI	Treasurer	14 Jun
Benedict Minj	Pandabir	, Pandabir	Coordinator & Minister	14 Jun
Alfred Bodra	Pandabir	Pandabir	Treasurer	14 Jun
Vijay Kachhap	Chandrapura	Chandrapura	Vice-Principal	21 Jun
Ajit Soreng	Jesu Bhavan	Jesu Bhavan	Acting Superior	22 Jun
John Mundu	Jesu Bhavan	Jesu Bhavan	In Charge of Scholastics in Upasana	22 Jun
Roshan Kerketta	Jesu Bhavan	Sitagarha	Juniorate	24 Jun
Sunil Xalxo	Jesu Bhavan	Sitagarha	Juniorate	24 Jun
Anmol Soreng	Jesu Bhavan	Konchowki	Juniorate	26 Jun
Ashish Tete	Jesu Bhavan	Konchowki	Juniorate	26 Jun
Deepen Kerketta	Jesu Bhavan	Konchowki	Juniorate	26 Jun

PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME IN JULY 2021

July 3 (am)	Candidates' House, Inigo Niwas
July 3 (pm)	Scholastics at Jesu Bhavan, Upasana, Mango
July 12-14	Visitation XIM Bhubaneswar
July 17	CREM meeting at Guidera Residence
July 18-19	XLRI Neral Campus
July 22	Birth-Centenary of Fr John Deeney, SJ at Lupungutu
July 24	Consult
July 26-27	Visitation of our men in Ranchi

INFORMATION

Novice Rohit Nag left the Noviciate on 20 June 2021.

CHAIBASA AREA

Amda

John Sumbrui

From 4 June CSWC referral hospital resumed; Dr Ravi and all the staff members joined their duty. On 6 June, **Fr John** went to the SRA Sisters for the confession. On 8 June, **Frs John** and **Benedict Soreng** went to Sanjeev Netralaya for an eye check-up. **John** got eye drops and some Vitamin capsules. On the next day, **John** and **Bene Soreng** went to Kharsawan government hospital and got vaccinated. John's giddiness has

increased ever since he got the vax. Thanks to Mariam Bara, the nurse, who arranged for the vaccination.

On 11 June, Amda and Basahatu Jesuits attended the Ignatian Year Virtual Mass at Claver Bhavan Amda followed by the fellowship meal. On 13 June, **Fr Nelson** went to Siadih and offered Mass for the parishioners. He went to Jamshedpur on 14 June to see his Orthopaedic doctor who gave him

a green signal for movement and driving vehicles but he is advised not to have any sports activities for at least one year. On 19 June, we joined the birthday celebration of Sr Sujata SRA along with the farewell of Sr Rosemine, Sr Seema and Sr Anna. The next day, **Nelson** reached them to Ranchi.

Stany Furtado, Sanjay Ekka and **Kishore Lugun** were our guests of the month.

Basahatu

Joseph Surin

Parish News

By the end of May, the Parish Priest started seed blessings on the occasion of **Hermut** (*a Ho feast held before the sowing of the main paddy crop. No one is allowed to sow seeds before offering sacrifice and celebrating this feast*) in different main villages of the Parish. He also offered Masses for the repose of the souls of three departed faithful in three different villages.

During Covid-19 our Catechists distributed the dry ration (*Atta, Potato, Onion, Oil, Soap etc.*) to the 20 poor families of our Parish area. The rations were provided by the members of the **St Vincent De Paul Society**, CKP.

A new family is initiated into our faith through the health ministry during the Covid-19 lockdown. The PP offered an emergency marriage Mass in a village after baptizing the bride, bridegroom and their three month's baby.

Fr Joseph Surin joined the special Rosary Prayer online arranged by the **Vincent De Paul Society** members, Jamshedpur, especially for **Fr Stan** and the sick SVPS members. It was in Ho language and one of our Parishioners, Mr Mohan Dorai, conducted it. **Fr Joe** said the final prayer and gave the blessing.

Community News

The Amda and Basahatu Community Members gathered together at Claver Bhavan, Amda to attend the online Ignatian Year Inaugural Mass of our Province. **Fr James Samad**, the headmaster and treasurer, made a trip to Jamshedpur for getting the accounts audited and he stayed on to get his broken tooth repaired. Later, after coming back, he got vaccinated too at Basahatu Community Health Center. **Fr James** is now also acting as the house minister as we are only two Jesuits in Basahatu Community right now.

Fr James went to Bordor Parish for the installation of the new

Parish Priest, **Fr Alfred Bodra. James** also attended a meeting of Headmasters called by the BPO, Khuntpani regarding dropout students.

Sch James Deep Xalxo came down from Jesu Bhavan to spend 3-4 days at Basahatu and went back with bag and baggage to Jesu Bhavan. **Fr James** reached him back.

The Basahatu Jesuit Community bid farewell to **Sr Rosemine**

Kispotta, SRA with a simple dinner arranged in her honour.

Distinguished Guests/Visitors

Frs Romanus Jojo, Kishore Lugun, Sanjay Ekka, Benedict Minj and Alfred Bodra visited Basahatu on different occasions on their business regarding accounts, School and Parish work and with regard to *Fr John Deeney Centenary Program*.

Fr Ajit Soreng and Mr Prem Ekka, Provincial's driver, dropped in for a

cup of coffee on the way back to Novitiate after reaching a novice home at CKP.

Sch Sanjay Bodra had lunch with us after visiting his *alma mater*, Purunia High School, regarding his certificates.

Mr Dileep Y., a technical Staff of Xavier School and XITE, Gamharia, along with a friend and their respective spouses, visited us when they came to Basahatu Community Health Center for vaccination.

Inigo Niwas

Basil Sanga

Fr Jerry Cutinha, the Provincial, came to the Lupungutu community for the visitation. It was a three-day visitation from 5 to 7 June. The School continues to have online classes. **Sch Binod Horo** arrived to do his regency on 5 June. The would-be novices from Jamshedpur and Madhya Pradesh Provinces had a three-week intensive program in Inigo Niwas. They had to reach on 5 June. But due to the lockdown situation, the

would-be novices from MP came a little later. They went to TRTC on 22 June for their 5-day retreat which was directed by **Fr Romanus Jojo**. They left for novitiate (Jesu Bhavan) on 29 June. This was a kind of preparation for them to enter the novitiate. **Frs Ranjit, Neelam, Sanjay** and **Basil** were involved in taking classes for them. **Fr Ranjit** is busy preaching retreat to the Jam Scholastics. From this year onwards there will be a

three-year program in Inigo Niwas. In the first year, the candidates will learn English as well as have classes on the Church, Scripture, Jesuit formation and spirituality. Then the matric pass candidates will do their plus two and the ones who come after plus two will go to the novitiate. At present, 14 new candidates (both 10th and 12th ones) have already arrived. We are expecting a few more.

St John's Center, Tepasai

Sanjay Bodra

The month of June was graceful. On 2 June, **Fr Gyan Prakash Kujur**,

the Socius, came to Tepasai. The next day, while coming back to Jamshedpur, he went to see the new land at Sonua and planted a tree. On 8 and 9 June, **Fr Jerry Cutinha**, the provincial, was with us for visitation. What a pleasant time it was that we could share our experience of joy and happiness. **Fr Saleth** and **Fr Ranjit** from TRTC also came to see the new land and they also planted trees. **Fr Panneer** went for a home visit and he is

safely back to our community. One fine day, **Fr Anil** and **Sch Jubin**



were here and they helped us in putting the asbestos sheet on the roof. **Fr Walter** is looking after the new land. The community is truly grateful to him for his commitment and support. **Fr Ranjit Kindo** also came to Tepasai for a short meeting for the new project of Sonua. With his help and support,



we could get thousands of plants. For our new land, we have started some work such as planting trees, constructing a house with two rooms and, besides that, other works are also going on. Hopefully, God will help and strengthen us to start a new mission Sonua.

DHANBAD AREA

DNS – Bhuli

Anthony Pancras

De Nobili Bhawan

De Nobili Bhawan celebrated three events this month. On 3 June, the Principals assembled at the Jesuit Residence, Bhuli to express their gratitude and to bid adieu to Mr Jose, Principal, De Nobili School CMRI and Mr Thomas, Principal, De Nobili School Mugma. Their dedicated services to DNJ were profoundly appreciated by all. There were special prayers offered for these luminaries invoking God's sweet stream of blessings on them. On 25 June, the Principals assembled at De Nobili Bhawan for the monthly Principals' meeting. At the end of the meeting, the new principals have ushered a warm welcome to the DNJ administrative body. **Fr Oscar Horo** welcomed the new Principal of De Nobili School Chandrapura - Mr Sebastian Horo, a former member of Jamshedpur

Jesuit Society and Ms Shukla, the new Principal of De Nobili School, Maithan. They were congratulated and all extended best wishes for their journey ahead. At the end of the meeting **Sebastian Puthenpura** was wished for his birthday and **Oscar Horo** handed over DNJ's traditional birthday gift to **Sebastian**.

De Nobili Jesuit Community, Bhuli

Deacon Prabhakar Oddipalli arrived at Bhuli Jesuit Community on 1 June to prepare for his comprehensive examination; he was part of the community till 23 June. On 23 June, **Sushil Jojo**, **David Kullu** and Mr Sandeep arrived from Tundi to attend and observe the exam. **Sebastian** and **Mike** too were present for the examination. **Prabhakar** did a good job in responding to the examiners.

Soon after the exam, **Prabhakar** left for Tundi. After a week-long health check-up in Jamshedpur, **Bhincant Bhengra** returned to Bhuli along with **Michael** and **Gerald Ravi** on 6 June. **Gerald Ravi** made his annual retreat at Bhuli and returned to Jamshedpur on 15 June. The community celebrated the birthday of **Sebastian** on 10 June, all the Dhanbad Zone Jesuits were present for the birthday celebration and blessed him. **Sebastian** went to FRI Jesuit community to make his annual retreat. **Emile Coelho** reached Bhuli on 10 June to make a month-long retreat. **Bhincant Bhengra** lost his father on 9 June. On the same day, **Pancras** accompanied him to Hatia railway station. He was happy that he was able to attend the funeral of his father and was able to be with the family for





some valuable time. **Pancras** and **Sebastian** are vaccinated with 2 doses and **Michael** and **Bhincent** are waiting for the 2nd dose.

De Nobili School, Bhuli

June was the month that provided us with an opportunity to express our gratitude and sincere wishes for the navigator of the flagship

called De Nobili School Bhuli. **Sebastian Puthenpura**, our Principal celebrated his birthday on 10th June. The WhatsApp group was flooded with presentations and wishes by teachers and students for this beacon of light as the second wave of the pandemic had restricted large gatherings. The administrative staff and the office bearers of the Staff Committee congregated in the school to wish the helmsman and invoke God's choicest blessings on him. The school reopened after Summer Vacation on 21 June. Teachers reconnected with



the students once again as the Online Classes resumed for the Junior Section. The Senior Section started its Online Classes one week in advance i.e on 14 June to give the teachers extra time to cover the syllabus with ease. The return of the administrative Staff and opening of the office breathed life into the Jesuit campus after the lockdown.

DNC Digwadih

Oscar Horo

We stayed in our house during the second wave of the Covid-19 pandemic as there was partial lockdown in the district. Our movement was restricted and curtailed. We could not visit our attached community members. We praise and thank God for keeping us safe and sound during the second wave of Covid-19. So far, our community has not been affected by the Pandemic. We continue to pray for those who are affected and those who are working on the frontline. On the occasion of the birthday of **Anil Ajay Kerketta** at Chandankyari, **Francis**, **Emile** and **Niranjan** went to celebrate his birthday. Again, after a long time, we had the opportunity to celebrate **Fr Sebastian's** birthday on 10 June, at Bhuli with all the Jesuits of Dhanbad. It was indeed a happy and joyous occasion to meet our brothers and share the happiness, joy and blessing of God during these difficult times of the Pandemic. Mr K.A. Jose, the principal of CMRI (worked 24 years)

and Mr P.T.Thomas of Mugma (worked 31½ years) were given a fond farewell on 3 June, by Jesuits and principals of our unit schools at Bhuli. **Fr Oscar** and **Fr Amal** said opening and closing prayers for them during the programme. We thanked God for the gift of them to our De Nobili family. They have rendered their service generously, selflessly and worked tirelessly for the well being and prosperity of our teachers, students and parents. We thanked them for their extraordinary Love, Commitment, Compassion and Creativity as principals in our Unit schools. De Nobili family will ever remain grateful for their contributions. May God be with them, continue to bless them and their loved ones during the coming years...

Being the Ignatian year, **Fr Emile** decided to make a Long Retreat and he started it at Bhuli on 11 June. **Fr Sebastian** made his Annual Retreat here at Digwadih beginning from 10 June. It was a pleasant

surprise to see **Fr Vinod Fernandes** who visited us after coming from the United States. We gathered in our house Chapel on 11 June and participated virtually in the Ignatian Year Inauguration Mass organized by the province. We experienced the spirit of the "union of minds and hearts" through this Eucharistic celebration. **Niranjan** made all the necessary arrangements and ensured that we had no technical hitches and distractions during the Mass. The activities of the parish have almost come to a standstill because of the pandemic. Whenever the need arises **Francis** visits the parishioners and helps them.

A few very old trees were cut and some had fallen because of the storm. **Fr Francis** got the necessary permission from the DFO to transit logs of woods from the campus to the sawmill. Woods will be used for making desks and furniture for the school.

Niranjan went to Jamshedpur on 19 June for audit work. He represented the community for the Novices' Vows day on 21 June.

Online classes for the new batch of students of Std. 11 started on 18 May and went on till 5 June. School offices opened on 19 June after the summer holidays and online classes resumed on Monday, 21 June.

A short prayer service was organized on 15 June by **Fr Amal** to pray for the repose of all the souls who succumbed to death because of the Pandemic. The administrative staff and a few teachers from the campus attended the prayer service and after the prayer service, a few saplings were planted on the campus by the Rector,

Principal, Vice-Principal, and Coordinators.

International Yoga Day was observed online virtually by our teachers and students on 21 June. Our games teachers had prepared a YouTube video of some yoga exercises which was shared in the WhatsApp groups of our students and teachers.

Gomoh

James Tharaniyil

For the last 3 months, the Covid-19 pandemic has locked us up within the four walls of our rooms. The



school remained closed from 15 May to 21 June for summer vacation. During the holidays we conducted cultural completions online. Most of the students participated in the competitions.

James Tharaniyil and the office staff were busy filling up the UDISE FORM and E-VIDYA VAHINI portal of De Nobili as well as De Britto schools, Gomoh. The Government gave only ten days to complete the work. We managed to complete the work right on time. On 21 June, we resumed our online classes from class LKG onwards. On the same day, we also celebrated international yoga day online. The teachers performed yoga *asanas* in the school that was telecasted. Along with the teachers, the students and the parents also

performed yoga at their homes. The feedback we received was excellent. The parents and the students enjoyed doing yoga.

We were struggling to pay the salary of the staff for May. It is due to the lockdown as well as the unwillingness of the parents to pay tuition fees. But the timely help from De Nobili Jealgora society saved the situation. A very BIG THANKS to **Fr Niranjan** for his timely help. The Affiliation work of St John De Britto School is in progress. Finally, the District Education Officer of the Dhanbad district agreed to come to inspect the school. So, we are very busy with the arrangements for the necessary equipment along with the process of beautification of the campus. **Sushil Ekka**, the secretary of the school, is supervising the work. We request your prayers so that the inspection may go smoothly and the DEO may give a positive report about the school.

James is sincerely working for obtaining the NOC for both schools—St John De Britto as well as De Nobili schools. But due to the lockdown, the movement of the files from one table to another

is dead slow. When we see the lethargy of the officers in the office, we really lose our temper.



Sushil Balmuchu is very busy arranging the files which are asked by **Fr Alex G** for "mapping of all the works of the province". It is really tedious work. Meanwhile, he is getting ready for the school and community Audits.

We three of us—**Stan, Sushil** and **James**—made our annual retreat during this holiday.

Koradih

Anthony Pancras

School office and fee counter reopened from Saturday, 19 June. Ms Leela John was blessed with a grandson, Christin Jobin. 'Worker's Day' was celebrated on 24 June. **Anthony Pancras** was present as a Jesuit representative for the



occasion and was the speaker of the day. Mr Faudi Rana and Mr Ashwani Gope were felicitated with citation and cash rewards for rendering 25 years of dedicated service to the institution.

St Xavier's Tundi

David Kullu

This year, we had an early monsoon. There was continuous rain for a week. Both the campus and school have turned green. The pond and the well are overflowing.

On 1 June, **Deacon Prabhakar** went to Bhuli for intense preparation for his comprehensive exam. On 23 June, he had the online comprehensive exam which was witnessed by Tundi and Bhuli Jesuits. After his exam, he is back

in the community. Thank you, Bhuli community, for the generosity and concern.

Sr Latha OLP, the Superior is transferred to Varanasi. She served in the Tundi mission for two years. We wished her all the best for her future mission. Thank you, sister, for your service in the school and parish. Sr Rekha OLP, the new superior was warmly welcomed on 16 June.

On 22 June **Fr JP** was vaccinated and he is perfectly alright.

The process of the final recognition of the school is cleared by the DEO & team. The documents will be submitted to the JAC office Ranchi for the next procedure. **Fr JP**, the headmaster, is working tirelessly to make sure that the school gets final recognition.

JAMSHEDPUR AREA

Chaira

Thomas Nelliakunnel

The schools reopened on the 21 June after the summer holidays and started online classes. As per the government directives, all the students were promoted. The community had a recollection on 13 June after attending the recollection talk by Fr Jerry Rosario. We have started implementing some of the plans for the PAP and Ignatian Jubilee year celebration. **Fr Niral** and **Gulshan** will be the contact persons in Chaira and Rerua to implement PAP and IGY. **Binod**

Horo was given a fond farewell by the community and was reached to LPG by **Tom** and **Michael**. **Tony** and the two sisters got the first dose of vaccination. **Niral** is very eager to get it but hasn't succeeded in getting it. **Fr Walter** gave six tube wells in six villages of Gudabandha block which had water problems through the LWS of Rerua. On 23 June **Fr Ranjit Kindo** of TRTC had a meeting in Chaira with **Frs Michael, Tom** and three trained girls from Chaira-Rerua to expand

the tailoring centre of TRTC to Chaira-Rerua areas.

Golden Jubilee of Fr Michael Tirkey SJ

On 28 June 2021, Chaira and Rerua communities celebrated the Golden Jubilee of **Fr Michael D. Tirkey SJ**. Lovingly known as *Bhaiya*, **Fr Michael** completed 50 golden years in the Society of Jesus. The thanksgiving Jubilee Mass was celebrated by **Fr Michael Tirkey** himself which was concelebrated by **Fr Jerry**, the Provincial and



Tom, the Superior. To make the day memorable for Bhaiyaji, local

Jesuits, namely **KM Joseph, Henry Albert, Sushil Suman, James Kalapura** and **Br Benji** came from Jamshedpur in thanking God and congratulating the Jubilarian. We also had guests from his social outreach programme of the Gurabandha area. In the evening both the communities came together in Rerua for the prayer service in honour of Bhaiya-ji. On the next day, **Frs Sunny Jacob** and



A. Alex visited us and joined us for a fellowship meal.

Guidera Jesuit Residence

George Cheradayil

Fr James Kalapura, the new coordinator, minister and infirmarian of Guidera Jesuit Residence, was given a grand and fond welcome by the community. We wish him many years of satisfying ministry in this new assignment. Taking care of the senior and sick Jesuits is a wonderful service and an important job in the Society of Jesus. His simplicity and person-oriented approach will definitely be a source of encouragement for the sick and the suffering Jesuits. We thank **Fr Somy Mathew** and **Br Pascal Kerketta** for the wonderful service they rendered as coordinator and Minister cum infirmarian respectively.

We happily welcome **Fr Alex Gnanapragasam**, an expert in financial management and tax laws, to the curia team. He is expected to scientifically streamline the financial management system of the whole province and all its institutions and communities and make sure all the legal documents and compliances are up-to-date. We wish him the very best in this extremely important and tedious job.

Our community is slowly thinning out. **Fr Anslem Dungdung** after a few months in the infirmary got recovered and left for St Xavier's High School, LPG, as an accounts teacher. Before he left, he planted a lot of tapioca for the community. Then **Fr John Mundu** left the community for Jesu Bhavan, Mango, as the socius to the novice master. After John Mundu, the two young Scholastics **Anjum** and **Ashish** who looked after the Quarantined Covid-19 patients in the XLRI MDP residence, left for Jesu Bhavan. We are very grateful to each one of them for the selfless service they rendered to the members of the community especially the senior and sick Jesuits and the Covid-19 patients.

Fr Somy Mathew, our PCF and a specialist in Ignatian spirituality, gave an Ignatian retreat to our second-year novices before their first vows. There were seven novices. He along with **Scholastics Anjum** and **Ashish** visited the candidates in Inigo Niwas, LPG for a short interaction. He welcomed the candidates coming from MAP province to join the novitiate. **Ashish** inspired the candidates

through his personal sharing and how life in Inigo Niwas transformed him. **Somy** is also busy with an online course in basic Spanish for missionaries. There are 35 students from across the globe learning to speak Spanish through interactive sessions using the digital platform. Great Job **Somy**. Keep it up!

Congratulations to **Fr Mukti Clarence** and his team who organised the impressive online inaugural Mass of the Ignatian year. Fr Mukti gave a scholarly introduction to the whole function. **Fr Jerry Cutinha** was the chief celebrant and gave a captivating homily and inspired all to go and set the whole world on fire. Congratulations to **Sch Jubin** and **Fr Joshy** who set up the excellent online transmission of the first vows Mass at Jesu Bhavan. **Fr Provincial** was the main celebrant and **Fr James Kalapura** and **Fr Ajit Soreng** concelebrated.

Fr Gyanprakash Kujur made a short trip home for a special Mass for his elder brother who died due to coronavirus infection. Our heartfelt condolences and prayers are always there for the family of

your brother dear Gyan. He visited the St Xavier's community, LPG, TRTC Community and St John's

community Tepasai as revisor of the communities to submit a report on the finances and other

legal compliances to the provincial before his annual visitation of the communities.

Jesu Bhavan – Mango

Eric Cassel

What catches the eye in June are the highs—both recreational and spiritual with a 7-Day Villa for Scholastics and Novices that had as its theme—JUST DO IT. And that they did with a big bang. It was followed by an 8-Day Retreat directed by Fr Somy Mathew for our twelve Novices.

June marked the arrival of new members in the person of **Fr John Mundu** as Socius to the Novice Master and, a week later, **Fr Rajesh Ddungdung** arrived to fill in a 3-in-1 portfolio of Administrator, Minister and Treasurer.

To mark the 500th Anniversary of the Conversion of St Ignatius, the Inaugural Mass—celebrated by **Fr Jerry Cutinha** and concelebrated by **Gyan Prakash, Mukti** and **Somy**—was live-streamed on 11 June on Zoom. The choir by the Scholastics based in Upasana—led by **Sch Rohit Ekka** with admirable support from **Ashish Digal, Biren, Vijay** and **Rocky**—provided a soulful atmosphere to suit the occasion. In addition, **Sch Cajetan, Cyprian, Sanjiban, Telesphore** and **Arun Prasath**, not only prepared but also read with unction the Prayers of the Faithful to mark so great an event in the history of the Society of Jesus.

The Retreat by **Fr Somy** was followed by our six Second Year Novices pronouncing their First Vows in the presence of Provincial, **Fr Jerry Cutinha**.

For the first time, the Mass of the First Vows was live-streamed through Zoom, thanks to our Digital Jesuits in the person of **Sch Jubin Nath**. With lockdown restrictions in place, many were not able to be physically present

the altar. The rest was left to Srs Reshma and Tessie to give the finishing touch with their flower arrangements to suit this occasion. **Kamal, Rocky, Biren**, with all the Novices and Scholastics, provided us with perfect devotional singing and musical accompaniment. As St Francis de Sales says “He who sings well, prays twice.”—“*Bene cantat, bis orat.*”

Two days later, on the feast of the Nativity of St John the Baptist, the Upasana-resident Scholastics started their Annual Retreat under the direction of **Fr Ranjit Roshan Minj** with **Fr Anil Dang** assisting him.

The day after the First Vows, we bid

a fond and affectionate farewell to **Fr James Kalapura**, as he stepped down as Novice Master to allow fresh new blood to enter in the person of **Fr Ajit Soreng**, who was his understudy for the past three years. Freshly inducted as a Jesuit, **Sch Roshan Kerketta, SJ** found the choicest words to sum up their gratitude to **Fr James Kalapura**, which managed to leave **Fr James** a bit teary-eyed. It was indeed a smooth transition without any bumps. The same evening, we gathered to felicitate **Fr James Kalapura** as he left all that he had known and grown up with by moving on to Guidera Residence. Two days later, we bid “*alvida*” to



Welcome to Jamshedpur Province



AMOS EKKA
(MAP)



AMILIANUS KUMHARIA
(MAP)



RITIK KUJUR
(MAP)



MANOJ KERKETTA
(JAM)



ALEXIUS MINZ
(JAM)



ALOK JOJO
(JAM)

1st Year Novices, Jesu Bhavan 2021-2022

but the live streaming made it a viable realization.

From deep down in their hearts, the New Vowants thanked Fr Provincial for celebrating the Vows Mass for them and receiving in person, their handwritten Formula of the Vows, with Master **Fr James Kalapura** and Socius **Fr Ajit Soreng** to assist him in distributing the Vow Crucifix, Rosary and the Rule Book. We owe a debt of gratitude to our erstwhile **Scholastics Cajetan, Sanjeevan, Cyprian** and companions for preparing a new-look—view of the altar with the tabernacle directly below the Main Crucifix and the Statue of Our Lady in line with

Schs Roshan Kerketta, Anit Ekka, and **Sunil Xalxo** as they left by cab for their Juniorate in Sitagarha, Hazaribagh. Three days later, **Schs Anmol Soreng, Ashish Tete,** and **Deepen Kerketta** were driven by PCF Somy Mathew to the Railway

Station to catch their Howrah-bound train where they will do their Juniorate at Dhyana Ashram, Kolkata.

As we prepare to wind up the month of June, the final touches

are being given to the Chapel on the Ground Floor with a floor level altar, more lights, curtains to provide the right ambience as we get ready to welcome the batch of First Probationers to Jesu Bhawan with a 13-day-probation-program.

Jilling

Sylvester Ekka

The summer holidays were extended to 20 June due to growing anxiety over the second wave of Covid-19. From 21-30 June, the First Terminal exams were conducted. The question papers were forwarded online through WhatsApp to the students. The guardians were also provided with hard copies of the question papers in the school office.

The community too had to pass through anxious days attending to only daily chores inside the campus. Meanwhile, it being lockdown time, men, women and children of the neighbouring

villages were granted free access to collect and carry home mangoes and jackfruits of our campus. It was charity at its best expression 'to give freely what you have gotten freely'. It was very heartening to see groups of people carrying home fruits and spreading words about the free gift of mangoes and jackfruits in 'Christian/Father school,' the name popular among people here. The rice fields are getting ready for transplantation in the coming week.

On 11 June, we were connected with the province members online during the Ignatian Year

Inauguration Mass of the province. We participated in the Eucharist virtually with a little technical trouble at the outset due to our inexperience in online connectivity. On 12 June we, as a community, listened to the 'Online Recollection Talk' by Fr Jerry Rosario SJ on the theme 'Having the Conscience as that of Jesus.' It was both inspiring and challenging to hear that in priestly and religious life, the matter of conscience or the Conscience as that of Jesus is much to be desired for at present. On Sunday, 13 June, we spent the day in silence and recollection till noon.

LCE Telco

C Gautam & Anthonyraj P

Community

On 4 June, **Staney Furtado** arrived with all smiles and healthy, accompanied by **Kishore** and **Sanjay** and was welcomed by the community. On 8 June, **Gautam**, accompanied by **Sushil**, revisited TMH Nurses Training Centre and

comfortably had his second shot of Covid vaccination. On 9 June, **Staney** was officially given the responsibility of administering and ministering the community. On the same day, **Tony's** birthday was celebrated at the Eucharist, followed by cutting of the cake and a simple supper. On 14 June, **Sushil** took off, made his retreat at XITE Gamharia, and returned on 23 June. On 28 June, he joined a small group of Jesuits to celebrate **Mike Tirkey's** Golden Jubilee at Charia. This year we had a bumper

stock of good varieties of mangoes that were shared with the workers, acquaintances and other religious communities.

School

The school office remained closed from 28 May. The Office Secretary





took off for her summer break and returned on 26 June. Thereafter, she began interacting with the parents on fees etc. following the Covid-protocols. The maintenance workers were given fifteen days break, two at a time to keep the campus clean and to maintain the ambience green. All enjoyed their break and returned as they were told.

The construction of the building work continued with a small group of labourers. Due to heavy rain, a portion of the old boundary wall at the northern side was damaged, which was attended to by **Staney** with immediate action. Slowly he is moving into his supervisory responsibility as an administrator.

College

LCE is fully on virtual mode – whether it be on Class, Exam or

Practice Teaching (PT). They have gone into Sem-III final Practice Teaching and EPC Exam online from 11-14 June and the result was announced on 19 June with everyone passing in flying colours. **Binod** has successfully cleared his Sem III exam. Congratulations, **Binod**. In the last lap of Sem-End exam (internal), the students have been taking the online exam from 21 June onward and will go for PT among their method groups.

Tony celebrated his 60th Birthday with a few office & support staff as teaching staff were working from home.

Tony attended a National level online workshop on E-Content Development from 7-12 June, attended by 500 professors across the country. It was a very useful course on developing e-content for educators. Presently, he is busy with a research paper on “Challenges and Opportunities of Online Teaching-Learning during Covid-19 Pandemic” with online data collection from some sample schools in Jamshedpur.



Come July, LCE will move into Sem IV though course completion is over but for PT. We will carry on with PT online with ‘digital divide’ constraints and compulsions. Hopefully, the University schedules Sem IV in Aug ‘21.

On 9 June, the birthday of **Tony** was celebrated with a Holy Eucharist followed by Dinner with a few invited guests from XITE and **Sunny Jacob**.

Tony along with the other 4 delegates (**Frs Alexander, Augustine Surin, Jayprakash D’Souza** and Mrs Jayanthi Sheshadri) attended Global II Colloquium of Jesuedu from 28 June to 2 July. These delegates are representing Jamshedpur Province.

Loyola School –JSR

Pius Fernandes

No news is good news. Although the lockdown has been eased, the situation in Steel City seems to be on the boil. We have resumed our online classes from 7 June, which is the only option under the circumstances.

People seeking concessions in tuition fees have increased as many have lost their job or more, unfortunately, their breadwinners.

Our Rector **Fr KM Joseph’s** birthday was celebrated on 20 June with a Community Mass and pre-prandial.

Fr Gerry D’Souza made his annual retreat in Bhuli and has returned with a halo. He took the opportunity to have a much-needed break in the coal capital.

Loyola Hindi School was closed for summer break and online classes have resumed. Sadly, more than

half of the students cannot attend as they do not have smartphones. New admissions have begun but takers are few. Blame it on the current crisis.

“This year being the 50th year of JYOTI’s existence, we have planned a series of events to make the Golden Jubilee a memorable one,” says headmaster **CG Thomas**. Preparations have already begun. The dream of JYOTI having a website (www.jyotijsr.org) of its

own, has been fulfilled. Thanks to **Fr Daya**, the immediate past headmaster.

The community welcomed the new member **Renny** to the Community. He will assist **Alex G** in the documentation work of the Province houses and institutions.

Fr Vinod Vincent is taking a break after completing his doctorate. He is also visiting various houses of the Province after a gap of four years.

XITE Gamharia

Dayanidhi Bisoi

Xavier School

Regular online classes resumed from 14 June after the summer vacations. A virtual meeting of the teaching staff was held on 16 June to streamline the online classes. The first term exam will begin on 12 July. The Sports Club, with the active support of the staff, carried out live streaming of yoga display by a group of students on the occasion of International Yoga day on 21 June. The Hindi club organised a Hindi debate competition on 25 June. The tree plantation drive was undertaken by the JYOTI Club members on 22 June. A survey of online teaching was done on 23 June. The seventh School Managing Committee online meeting was held on 22 June.

XITE College

On 14 June, the College conducted an online GB Meeting of the College in which the National Innovation and Startup Policy (NISP) prepared by an expert committee was approved. On 16 June, an online



selection interview for the new session 2021-22 was started. On the same day, the College celebrated International Yoga Day by organizing a YOGA session for the Students and Faculty. New Faculty selection interview cum demo classes were also conducted on 17 and 19 June. The College resumed online classes from 21 June, after the summer vacation. On 26 June a Faculty meeting was conducted to discuss the formation of subcommittees of Institutional Innovation Cell (IIC) as

part of the National Innovation and Startup Policy. The College is working tirelessly in getting the 2F Certificate from the UGC.

Community

Fr Sushil Suman, from Loyola School, Telco came to make his annual retreat at XITE. Making use of the summer holidays, **Frs Kuruvilla** and **Savarimuthu** made their annual retreat. **Fr Mukti Clarence** made a trip to Delhi in connection with visa-related works. The much-needed plastering work of the veranda walls of Xavier Residence with putty was carried out during the holidays. Two of our Community members, **Frs Mukti Clarence** and **Dayanidhi Bisoi** organised the live streaming of the online Ignatian Year inaugural Mass. **Fr Dayanidhi** went home to attend his nephew's Priestly Ordination on 29 June. With myriad hurdles around during the lockdown, **Br Amalraj** manages to provide the Community with many good things.

ODISHA AREA

Kalinganagar

Pascal Burh

We began the month of June on a happy note by celebrating the

birthday of **Fr Jaison**, the Principal of our School. But due to the

second wave of the Covid19, all the teachers wished him online. Of

course, the residential teachers of the School campus came to wish him with some gifts and cookies.

On 7 June, **Mahesh Nayak** from Kalijharan, after the recuperation from Coronavirus at XUB quarantine centre came to visit us. He was on his way to Kalijharan. The next morning, **Fr George Fernandes**, left for Jamshedpur to see the dentist for his severe toothache. On the same day, **Fr Sanay Soreng** from Pajikeri came here accompanied by **Fr Tony John** from XUB.

On 11 June, Fr George Fernandes came back from Jamshedpur. He was accompanied by **Fr Dr Vinod Fernandes**. After being with us for three days, enjoying our hospitality, **Dr Vinod** went back to Jamshedpur on 14 June. Again on 18 June, **Fr Christie** from XLRI dropped in here on his way to Bhubaneswar. **Fr Augustine Vatta** was already here with us to receive him and

take him to the XIM community, Bhubaneswar. We were happy to have them as our special guests.

On 23 June, **Fr Jerry Cutinha**, the Provincial, came to Kalinganagar for the annual visitation. It was a time of grace for us. He patiently listened to all of us as we shared with him our joys and sorrows. He spent two days with us and on the 25 June left for Bhubaneswar. Just before he left we had a photo session.

School events

There were series of environment-related activities and programmes organized as part of the implementation of UAPs at Loyola School to celebrate World Environment Day and International Yoga Day. It was a proud moment when the school got the 2nd prize in the cluster level under Green School Project besides other individual prizes. ("The Green School Project" is a joint initiative

of Tata Steel and TERI having its area of influence in 30 schools both Jharkhand and Odisha operating from Delhi.) The first round of World Environment Day, with the theme "Ecosystem Restoration", was celebrated online on 6 June.

Teachers, Parents, and students participated and witnessed the event. The second round on 13 June was for students and parents. Parents participated in the online environmental quiz. Loyola School celebrated International Yoga day online on 21 June for the students and their mothers—it was something different and they all enjoyed the running commentary both in Oriya and Hindi. The third round of World Environment Day was on 27 and 28 June respectively for the Junior School with the theme "Small Hands can Change the World". Online classes resumed from 21 June after the Summer break.

Loyola Bhavan – Bhubaneswar

George Anthony

Biranchi Soreng directed an eight-day Ignatian Retreat to 2 Sisters from St Joseph of Annecy Congregation—Sr Leena, Provincial and Sr Elizabeth, General Counselor from France—in Loyola Bhavan from the 1 to 8 June. He used all his Tertianship knowledge and his own personal experience to have a fully satisfying and enriching experience. So for eight full days, our house was the power house of prayer! The sisters were positive about their Retreat Experience. Under normal circumstances also, **Br Tony Stevens** keeps our house secure with his Prayers. **Biranchi** is still waiting anxiously to hear about the announcement of his Final Year

PG Exam. We had **Mahesh** and **Joe Kalathil** spending few days in the Community before they made their way to their respective places of ministry. **Sch Jubin**, along with **Sch Binay**, left on the 4 June for Jamshedpur. **Fr Bipin** thanked him for his services rendered to HLC during the Regency and gave him a warm farewell. We wish **Jubin** all our prayers and best wishes as he moves ahead for his theological studies.

George went to Jamshedpur on 17 June to attend the Province Consult and also for a Medical Check-up and came back to Bhubaneswar, with a handful of

Medicines, on 23 June. He was busy working on opening a new VRO Child Education and Rights Centre in Tumudibandha and Minjaponka area. Hopefully, once the Government School begins, the plans for village tuition centres may materialize soon. Odisha is in lockdown mode till the end of June.

Loyola School – Bhubaneswar

Gilbert Menezes

As the state government keeps extending Lockdown and shut down throughout the state, we are forced to stay indoors. With the latest guidelines we were able to open the school office from 14 June and get the 50% workforce back to work. English School after the summer break resumed the regular online classes from 17 June.

On 25 June, the Odisha State Board declared the matric results. Since the matric exams did not take place physically, the evaluation and marking criteria were based on school exams and internal evaluation. Odia School got 100% results; 47 out of 47. Two school toppers scored A2 grade, (80 – 89%). The Odia School building— used as the vaccination centre and

food grain distribution centre— has been a our small contribution in the fight against Covid 19.

On 25 June, we were blessed by the visit of Fr Provincial who this time made it possible, his maiden visitation of the community as provincial, spending two days with us.

Rutungia

Romanus Kerketta

School/Parish

The campus bears a deserted look in the absence of people other than those who reside in the campus and the co-workers who come to work in the morning hours. Cows that do not go to their owner's house in the evening come to the campus without fail expecting to get some fruits from **Victor**. Education activity is totally under lockdown. Occasionally some parents come for readmission to the next class.

Community

Sylverius lost his father on 27 May but due to lockdown he could not go for the burial so **Romanus** and he visited the family on 17 June, stayed for two days and returned on 20 June. Rutungia community was in Divyanugrah, Tumudibandha on 11 June to celebrate Province Ignatian Year online inaugural Holy Mass and combined birthday celebration of three Jesuits. There are plenty of sweet mangoes this year but

few people to eat. **Manohar** and **Victor** have made a lot of (*Ambo sodha*) Sun-dried Mango Jelly. Neighbours too enjoy mangoes from our garden. Pajikeri Jesuits came thrice and took mangoes up to their heart's fill.

Pastoral work is totally affected due to lockdown and some Covid-19 like symptoms were experienced in the community and around the area. Thanks be to God in the Parish area no one was seriously affected by Covid-19 illness.

Tumudibandha

Blacius Ekka

Community

The Superior visited Pajikeri on 28 May to be with the brethren there. The landowner behind the pond in our Tumudibandha campus had land demarcation on 7 June. In the



map it shows that there is a small plot, in the pond area, that is not ours. **Gregory** is busy getting the remaining part of the boundary wall constructed. There was a good crop of mangoes in the campus. Due to the lockdown, business was low and we could not sell it in the local market. **Anthres** was in Tumudibandha twice for his works. Fr Sony (Salesian priest) and his team from Muniguda visited us on

20 June while returning back from Baliguda.

OCI

OCI staff met on 31 May for reviewing the month of May and





to plan for June. The whole month, despite the lockdown constraints, was quite hectic. VRO, through **Fr George Anthony**, the Area Director, and through OCI, is planning to have 14 tuition centres, mainly in the interior villages of Sartul Gram Panchayat. We completed two rounds of meeting in these villages. First-round was to share the idea of tuition centre in villages, seeking the stakeholders' cooperation and contribution, followed by a collection of data of children studying between standard I to standard V. The second round of meeting was to form the Village Council, finding a teacher from the village itself, deciding a place for tuition and signing of agreements etc. **Fr Anthres**, **Fr Blacius**, and Mr Ullash along with some other volunteers were on their toes during these processes.

The OCI, along with 5 other NGOs/CSOs, was involved from 11 to 26 of June, in creating awareness about Covid-19 and motivating rural people of Tumudibandha Block to get vaccinated. This was part of a collaboration with the government when it called for support and cooperation from local NGOs/CSOs. They responded to the call positively. The Baliguda constituency MLA formally inaugurated the programme on 11 June at the Tumudibandha Block office. The 6 NGOs/CSOs covered most of the villages under the Tumudibandha Block. In between meetings, programme reviews were held with BDO and

medical staff on 13 June, and with the MLA, the district and the Block chairpersons on 17 June. The rural folks had many misinformation and misconceptions about the vaccination and were hesitant to receive the jab. Our counselling and motivation have cleared some of their myths and they are ready for vaccination. As usual, the government support/contribution was not much. The NGOs also had to share their own resources. Nevertheless, the campaign was quite effective.

Blacius and Mr Ullash were in Marlanga GP, the Lok Manch field of SAHARA, for covid-19 awareness and distribution of relief packets to the vulnerable individuals/households.



As the second wave of the pandemic is subsiding, a third wave seems to be inevitable. Envisaging the future onslaught of the pandemic, Lok Manch has started building LM-XLRI (ex-students of XLRI) Collaboration. There was a zoom meeting on 14 June with Core Team, followed by a meeting on 15 June, with those organisations from Kandhamal who would be partners in this platform. It is visualizing to address the future danger in three phases—before, during and after the pandemic on 6 broad issues according to the needs of the individual states/zones. Now, there are often zoom meetings for sharing, building perspectives and preparing project proposals. It is heartening that



the ex-students of XLRI are taking praiseworthy initiatives to support the vulnerable communities in times of pandemic like Covid-19. **XLRI, JINDABAAD!**

MAIN (MIGRANT ASSISTANCE AND INFORMATION NETWORK)

There was a meeting-cum-training (zoom) on 19 and 20 June for Central-North Zone's members of State Hub Coordinators. This was organised by the Central Hub, Delhi – Frs Siji and Shin. Fr Joe Xavier from Bangalore was the main facilitator, who in fact has conceived the idea of MAIN. Fr Shin shared about things that have happened thus far, and then Fr Siji presented MAIN's goal, objectives, possible activities and expected outcomes. While facilitating the meeting, Joe clarified the concept, design of the network and information sharing between the migrants in distress, the central hub and the state hubs. As suggested by Joe, states have accepted to cover 4 to 5 districts in a state from where there is greater number of migrants. It is left to the states for selection of districts keeping in mind various factors – distance to be covered, availability of like-minded institutions/organisations who would be the likely partners in this programme. Some activities for the next four months were finalized for the State Hubs through consensus by both the Central and the State Hubs. In continuation to this last meeting, the next one is fixed for 26 June.

XIMB

Arockia & Benjamin

Even though the state was under lockdown for the whole month in two phases, we managed with just a handful of maintenance staff to keep the campus neat and clean. As usual, **Tony Uvari** convened a number of online meetings to discuss academic and administrative activities. We had an online Board of Governors meeting to get the approval of the revised budget for the FY 2021-22 and to discuss and get the consent of the Board with regard to the new vision, mission and values of XIM University. Based on the suggestions given by the Board, the vision, mission and values were shared with the staff, faculty and Student Executive Council members of both the campuses.

We had the Academic Council Meeting (ACM) to plan the academic session for the way forward for 2021-22. **Augustine Ezha**, the registrar was asked to sit with the deans and plan the academic schedule. **Arock** and **S. Tony** were told to complete the pending maintenance work on both campuses. **Abe** and **Tony U** had a long meeting with the Alumni Executive Committee to propose a plan of action for the coming weeks.

Augustine Ezha, coordinated the Vaccination drive at Loyola School, BBSR where **Tony John**, **Don Prem** and **Vivian** were inoculated. **Kiran** defended his thesis with brilliance, setting a record as the first Jesuit to complete his PhD at XIM University. **Christie** from XLRI

spent a couple of days with us on his way to Chennai.

Jerry Cutinha, our provincial and **George Anthony**, our delegate had a meeting with the superior and the Jesuit officials of the University to deliberate the pending appointments and change of personnel.

Joshy went to Jamshedpur to complete some pending digital works in the provincial's residence accompanied by **Kiran** and **Tony John**. The trip was also undertaken to bring **Ozzie** who is leaving XLRI for good. He will stay with us for a few days before he goes back to his province.

Alwyn is confined within his room for a couple of days due to a muscle catch in his leg.

FORMATION HOUSES

Loyola College, Namchi

Amos Bage

The month of June was one of the busiest months here at Loyola College of Education, Namchi, because of the internship programme and assignment deadlines. We were even adjusting our lunch timing accordingly. Many a time our dining room turned into mini classrooms because many of us carried our mobiles and attended classes while having our meals and those of us who did not carry our mobiles attended the classes as per our choice. For **Pascal** and **Pawan** the internship classes are in full swing. Now

they seem to believe the saying, "Practice makes a man perfect." So they are consciously making an effort to be perfect men by taking their internship classes seriously. They have almost finished their two years of B Ed programme with only a month left for them to be graduated. On 11 June, we too attended the Province virtual Ignatian Year Inauguration that gave us a feeling of oneness and bonding. On 18 June, Sikkim University announced the first and third-semester results for Bachelor of Education. **Pascal** and **Pawan**

both obtained distinctions in their third-semester exam and **Amos** passed with first class in his first-semester exam. On 20 June we had our regular monthly meeting where we discussed academic and community matters after which we had the community dinner together.

OBITUARY

FR STANISLAUS LOURDUSWAMI, SJ

(STAN SWAMY)

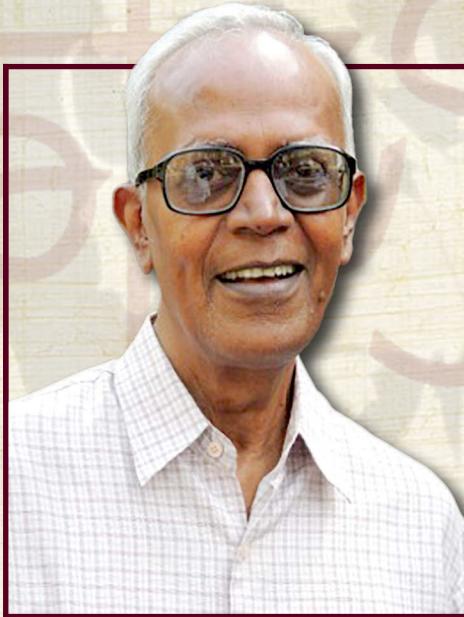
(26 Apr 1937 - 05 Jul 2021)

Stan's Life and Works as a Jesuit Human Rights Defender

by
Fr PM Anthony, SJ

Stan was born on 26 April 1937 in a village called Viragallur in Thiruchirapalli district of Tamil Nadu in southern India. He finished his early schooling at St Joseph's at Tiruchirappalli. Inspired by the work of Jesuits there, he joined the Society of Jesus. After his Novitiate at Dindigul in 1959, he travelled to join the Jamshedpur Province of the Society of Jesus. His Juniorate study was at St Stanislaus College, Sitagarha in 1960, and bachelor's degree at St Xavier's College, Ranchi in 1962 and Philosophy at Sacred Heart College, Shembaganur in 1965.

During his *regency* in 1967, as a teacher and hostel prefect at St Xavier's High School Lupungutu in West Singhbhum district, he took extra efforts to visit the families and villages of his students. The district has been predominantly inhabited by Ho Adivasis. The Hos from remote villages come to the weekly market in Chaibasa where they would be cheated



and exploited by non-Adivasi-merchants. Reflecting on such experiences, Stan said, "I felt pain but could not do anything about it." This and visits to his students' families at their villages gave him first-hand experiences of Adivasi life and culture that impressed him a lot. He did his theological studies and a masters in Sociology simultaneously from Manila, the Philippines in 1970.

Masters in sociology dealt also with indigenous peoples' life and struggles. This helped him to understand the dynamics of indigenous peoples' struggles against exploitation in other parts of the world as well.

He was ordained a priest on 14 April 1970 in Manila, his first assignment was as the director of Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Jamshedpur. There he established an office for CRS, built a warehouse to store relief materials, trained two of his old students to manage the activities and he moved on. He did not want to be distributing food to the poor to be called a 'saint' but wanted to question why there were too many poor people. Around this time he attended training at Indian Social Institute (ISI) Bangalore on Community Mobilisation and Development, after which he moved to Baraibir, a remote rural Ho village and spent nearly a year living there. He spent his time contacting the youth of the area

and helped them to think critically about their life in society. Soon a few old students and some other volunteers joined him. The villagers offered them a small plot in the middle of the village. They built a small house there with a room and a kitchen. They lived as a contrast community (living counter-cultural values). The work gradually expanded to neighbouring areas....

Meanwhile, he got an opportunity to be a 'free student' at the department of social sciences at the Catholic University of Louvain in Belgium where he further equipped himself in social analysis. Back in India during 1975-1991, he taught a short-term course on 'Social Analysis and Community Organisation' and directed ISI, Bangalore. Youth from different states of India and the neighbouring countries—Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal—participated in the course. Outcomes of his early efforts to train people in scientific social analysis and his lived example of taking sides with the oppressed and exploited have inspired many social activists in South Asia and beyond.

In 1991 Stan came back to his "first love" – the Adivasi people of Jharkhand. He said, "Thanks be to everyone, I'm still with Adivasis." He first stayed in Chaibasa (1993-2001), West Singhbhum and helped to revive the activities of JOHAR (Jharkhandi's Organization for Human Rights), a secular organisation that accompanies the Adivasis in their struggles. A few Jesuits, involved in Adivasis' struggles to protect their ancestral land and livelihood resources, especially with the Netarhat

Field Firing Range and Koel-Karo hydroelectric dam projects, felt the need to establish a social apostolate centre in Ranchi to coordinate the efforts of people's movements in resisting massive processes of pauperization of marginalized societies. Stan took up the responsibility to coordinate the people's movements and to set up a social apostolate centre called BAGAICHA. With this newly assumed responsibility, Stan moved to Ranchi in 2002. Eventually, he set up Bagaicha in a piece of land gifted by the Jesuit province of Ranchi. It has been a platform for people from various communities to come together to discuss their issues and reach a decision through a process of consensus. Stan, Bagaicha's founding director, has been staying there till his arrest took place on 8 October 2020.

He remained consistently alert to the state's policies that violated the protective provisions of Adivasi land and resources. He organised workshops, training sessions, meetings and discussions in solidarity with socially concerned persons to discuss the issues affecting underprivileged peoples. He participated in their struggles against displacement and dispossession due to land alienation by various "development" projects proposed to be set up in predominantly Adivasi regions. He regularly wrote about the existing provisions—constitutional and legal—that aimed to protect people's resources, advocating the state to abide by them.

In early 2014, he initiated a study on under-trial prisoners, published the findings of the study and filed

a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) in the High Court of Jharkhand.

Meanwhile, the local police foisted a case of sedition on Stan and other 19 social activists based on their comments on Facebook about a few news items related to a resistance movement called *pathalgadi* by the Munda Adivasi group to defend their rights to resources and local self-governance. Around that time, Stan's room was raided by the Maharashtra police to check if he had any relation to the Elgar-Parishad, a gathering of social and cultural activists from Dalit communities across Maharashtra. The police took away the hard-disk of his PC, mobile SIM card and few other electronic items. Soon after this, the local police confiscated some of the belongings from Stan's room in relation to the *pathalgadi* case. After this, there was a second raid and long hours of interrogation for several consecutive days by the NIA in relation to the Bhima-Koregaon case. And finally, amidst the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic, on 8 October 2020, he was arrested by the NIA. He, and his 15 companions in solidarity, continue to be under-trial prisoners. He was infected by Coronavirus while he was in Taloja Prison in Mumbai, hospitalised and breathed his last on 05 July 2021.

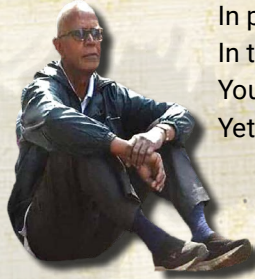
He witnessed Jesus very closely living and working in solidarity with the most deprived, defending their rights and dignity. May his beautiful life of commitment to fighting for people's rights fearlessly inspire us to do the same.

A LOVING HOMAGE TO STAN

The Prophet of Our Time

Sch Praveen

Boundaries ne'er deterred you
Language was ne'er a bar for you
Fragile body despite, ne'er weakened
you
The Almighty ne'er abandoned you!



In prison you remained a ray of hope for many
In thy company they glimpsed the epiphany
Your deeds were ever humane
Yet emitted the presence of the Divine.

You stood up to the powerful
You questioned the mighty
You protected the weak, helped the needy
You were e'er so loving and courageous
As you walked in the footprints of Ignatius!

Dear Stan for All Seasons and All Reasons
Your suffering was a real victory
You'll be remembered in human history.
Your tireless legs have stopped running
Your indomitable spirit will never stop inspiring.
You've lit the flame of truth e'er so fiercely
Help us to keep it alive e'er so faithfully.

You were the voice of the voiceless
In front of the corrupt, you stood fearless
Though harassed, kept behind bars heartlessly,
In you, they could prove no crime justly.

You are truly, truly the Prophet of Our Time!

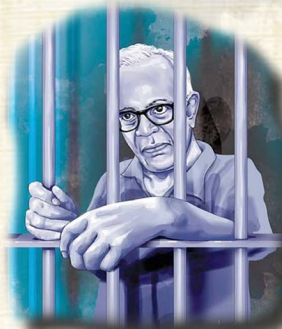
Stan, make us to stand with "YOUR STAND"

Fr P. Anthony Raj, SJ

Stan, as Priest Frontier;
you knew no barrier.

The ruling class threw you in jail;
But "bail" being your 'holy grail'.

Body though so fragile;
yet your mission went agile.



Sick, yet tried to make possible;
"The audacity of impossible..."

You challenged the Mighty;
just for children of Almighty.

As knight of Justice, you're a son of Ignatius;
So, you're valorous, fearless and audacious.

Tribals are dear to you;
So, trials were plenty on you.

For Tribal Justice, you fought as "Giant";
Hence, in death, you're named a "Saint".

You stood with weak and meek;
For them, loud you went on to speak.

Stan, you taught us to take a stand;
And make us to stand with "your stand".

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

ACROSS THE BRIDGE

2 Jun	Fr Ignatius Gyan Hembrom, SJ	(HAZ 51/28)
7 Jun	Nephew (3) of Fr Asuthosh Pawan Toppo, SJ	
8 Jun	Aunt (90) of Fr Kuruvilla Verunkal, SJ	
9 Jun	Father (79) of Fr Bhincent Bhengra, SJ	
9 Jun	Fr Anton Weerasinghe, SJ	(SRI 61/82)

12 Jun	Br Felix Prakash Tete, SJ	(RAN 85/65)
12 Jun	Fr Eugene Francis Hattie, SJ	(AOR 98/80)
15 Jun	Bishop of Gumla, Most Rev Paul Alois Lakra	
16 Jun	Fr Peter Kurukula Aratchi, SJ	(SRI 81/63)
29 Jun	Br Francis Basumatary, SJ	(DAR 68/35)

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES IN JULY

01-07-1989	Fr Joseph Schembri
05-07-1955	Fr Felix Mulkens
06-07-2005	Fr Theophane Mathias
14-07-2010	Bishop Joseph Rodericks
15-07-2008	Fr Francis H. McGauley

30-07-1953	Fr Leo Dejardin
30-07-1981	Fr Charles Durt
30-07-2013	Fr George A. Hess
31-07-2002	Fr Leonard Forster

BIRTHDAYS OF JULY

01	Ignatius Dungdung
01	Akhilesh Kumar
02	Felix Tellis
02	Sanjiban Tirkey
03	Prabhakar Oddipalli
04	Eric B Cassel

06	Anthony Uvari
13	Francis Ezhakunnel
15	Nitish Xaxa
15	Jerome Kujur
20	Akhilesh Palhe
28	Sunil Xalxo



THE POPE'S
PRAYER
INTENTIONS

JULY 2021





Pope's Worldwide
Prayer Network



JAMSHEDPUR JESUITS

We pray that, in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship.

Please send the News Reports to jjprov@jesuits.net before the 25th of every month.
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