



2021/07

JULY 2021

73RD Year

OFFICIAL..... 

REMINDER FOR CATALOGUE 2022

Holy Father has appointed:

Fr. Stephen Chow, SJ as the new Bishop of Hong Kong (Ecclesiastical provision made public on 17 May 2021). Since 2017 Fr. Stephen has been Provincial of the Chinese Province.

Fr. Provincial has appointed:

- Augustine Kisku – Administrator, Atmadarshan
- Cyriac Poovakot – Xavier Bhawan
- Felix Marshall – Ignatian Studies, Madrid, Spain
- George Ayyankanal – Asst. Director, XN Bengaluru
- Gyan Prakash – Administrator, St. Xavier's, Patna
- Jose Thayil – Acting Superior, Barbigha
- Mathew Kattathara – Xavier Bhawan
- Mathew Poovakkottil – Administrator, St. Michael's (Sept)
- Rajan Lakra – Community Leader, Gaunaha
- Rajesh Jacob Bhaju – Superior, Atmadarshan
(assumed office on 1 July)
- Sudeep Chacko – Social Action, Gaunaha
- William D'Souza I – Xavier Bhawan
- Alwyn Vaz – Acting Superior of Scholastics
residing at Atmadarshan
- Cebin S. Thumbamattathil – Chairperson, Commission for
Promoting a Consistent Culture of Protection (PCCP)

Diaconate & Pastoral Ministry:

- Jeevan Isahak – Barbigha
- Rajeev Ranjan – Kurji Parish

Tertianship (from August 2021):

- Babu Jagadeepan – Tertian, Sitagarha
- Devashish Prasad – Tertian, Sitagarha

Rajesh Jacob Bhaju as a member of *Coetus Praevius* of Province Congregation 2021, in place of Fr. Joy Karayampuram, SJ, who died on 29 April 2021.

PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

July 2021

- 04 – GB XTTI
- 05 – Vis. Gyanodaya, Khaspur
- 08 – 09 – Vis. Asha Deep, Muz.
- 17 – 19 – Vis. Sanjiwan Niwas
- 20 – Vis. FMSK
- 24 – Vis. Kurji 30 – Prov. Consult
- 26 – Vis. St. Michael's 31 – Feast of St. Ignatius

All local superiors & community leaders of our communities in Bihar & UP and Patna Jesuits living outside the Province are requested to send the data for the Province Catalogue 2022 to the Socius by **31 July 2021**.

Principals and Headmasters are requested to send the educational statistics (as on p.197 of Catalogue 2021).

All the members of the Province are requested to look at the data concerning them in the Province Catalogue 2021 and bring to the attention of the Socius any mistake that needs correction or any change which is required: please pay special attention to mobile numbers and email IDs.

PROVINCE CONGREGATION 2021

The *Coetus Praevius* (Preparatory Committee / Election Commission) of Patna Province Congregation 2021 met on 10-11 June 2021 for scrutiny of the preliminary election. The **list of Delegates of Patna Province Congregation 2021** has been sent to the Province members by email and also hard copy to the Delegates. .

After taking into account the declining numbers of Corona affected persons and pandemic related deaths in Bihar and eastern Uttar Pradesh, the Preparatory Committee opined in favour of holding the Patna Province Congregation 2021 as scheduled, i.e., **beginning from 6.00 pm on 13th October 2021 at Atmadarshan**.

As mentioned by Fr. Provincial in the letter of convocation of the Province Congregation 2021, dated 19 March 2021, the **last date for sending postulates** to the Province Congregation is **15 August 2021** (Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady). This date remains unchanged.

In his letter (2021/01) of Convocation of the 71st Congregation of Procurators – To See All Things New in Christ, dated 15 January 2021, Fr. General had given a directive that all the Province / Regional Congregations **discuss the themes of: i). Universal Apostolic Preferences and ii). Ignatian Youth Ministry and the link to Jesuit Vocations Promotion**.

In the light of the directive of Fr. General, it would be appropriate that all our communities discuss these topics afresh, focusing on the questions proposed by Fr. General. Though these topics have been discussed many times, the focus that Fr. General provides in his letter, enables us to visit them afresh; such a re-visit or discussion / sharing would enable the delegates of the Province Congregation to form an informed opinion / assessment to build their reflections, which they would be expected to share during the Province Congregation. There is no need for a report of the discussion.

CONGRATULATIONS



To **Most Rev. William D'Souza, SJ** on being appointed as Apostolic Administrator of Buxar Diocese.

- To Fr. Karl Kiser, who assumed office as provincial of the UMI Province (USA) on June 14, 2021.
- To our 5 Novices - **Anish Sah, Ankesh Kumar, Avinash Kujur, Bablu Kumar and Sagar Barwa** - who pronounced their First Vows on 21 June 2021 at Loyola Sadan, Lucknow.

SECOND WAVE OF CORONA PANDEMIC

After the 'Deadly April', though the second wave of the Corona pandemic is less in its severity, loss of lives and number of daily fresh cases of infection do continue. The intense campaign for vaccination gives hope that even if there is to be a third wave of the pandemic, as is being forecast, a good percentage of the people would have better immune system.

Besides the economic challenge that the poor daily wage earners face, education of our children and training of our young adults, is another worst affected sector. Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and Indian Certificate of Secondary Education (ICSE) could not conduct the Matric and Intermediate exams, and they are preparing to publish results of students based on internal assessment. According to the Bihar Govt. – Unlock-5 Order, issued on 05 July 2021 (w.e.f. 07.07.2021 to 06.08.2021), educational institutions (schools and colleges) and training centres are allowed to re-open in a graded manner, functioning with 50% attendance.

Places of worship, which were closed to the public in the second week of April 2021 in accordance with the state government's directive, will continue to remain closed at least till 06 August 2021.

Because of the deadly nature of the second wave, many families, organizations and religious groups suffered loss of members and/or had to spend much in taking care of their infected members. Hence, the level of voluntary service for the needy (by individuals and organizations), which was witnessed last year during the first wave, has been minimal during this

second wave, except perhaps by the Sikhs in the form of 'oxygen langar', besides their usual food langar (community kitchen).

IGNATIAN YEAR

By his letter (2019/23) dated 27 September 2019 (Anniversary of the Bulle *Regimini militantis Ecclesiae*) on **Ignatian Year 2021-2022**, Father General had declared that "the Ignatian year will open on the **20th of May 2021** (anniversary of the injury at Pamplona). It will conclude on the **31st of July 2022**. The 12th of March 2022 will be its centre, marking the IV centenary of the canonization of St Ignatius with St Francis Xavier, St Teresa of Jesus, St Isidore Labrador and St Philip Neri. ... the motto of our celebration is, 'To see all things new in Christ.'"

➤ As one of the programmes of the Ignatian Year, the Ignatian Spirituality Commission of our Province has proposed that all our communities have monthly recollections (prayer, reflection and sharing) during the Ignatian Year. Since the Ignatian Year began on **20 May 2021** (anniversary of the injury at Pamplona), it was felt that we could hold such recollections or reflections on 20th of each month. In case, in certain months, it is not possible to hold it on the 20th then communities could arrange it on another convenient date instead. However, all the communities praying, reflecting and sharing on the same day of the month, on a particular ministry, could be a way of expressing and experiencing 'union of minds and hearts' (GC 32, d.11). For the month of June, the Education Commission had proposed the points, which was sent to all our communities.

➤ Ignatian Retreats have been planned every month at Atmadarshan so that during this Ignatian Year all the members of the Province have an opportunity to return to the sources of our Congregation and charism. All the members of the Province are highly encouraged to join one of these retreats according to the month of your convenience. (See Atmadarshan brochure)

MINISTRY COMMISSIONS

Vocation Promotion Commission –

➤ We have opened a **Facebook page** for the vocation promoter. The name of the page is "**Join Patna Jesuits**". I request the province members to join this page and also to share the posts with their known people / contacts.

➤ We have an email id and WhatsApp no for the Vocation Promoter. We can share these details with our known contacts.

Email: joinsjpatna@gmail.com

Phone: 8809662803 WhatsApp: 8809662803

Postal address: Vocation Promoter, St. Xavier's School, Gandhi Maidan West, Patna – 800001.

➤ **'Come and See Programme'** is being held from 04 to 11 July 2021 at Sewa Kendra, Patna, with 31 boys attending – 6 are hailing from Bihar, 20 from Jharkhand, 3 from Odisha and 2 from Chhattisgarh. 28 are for Patna and 3 for Delhi Province.

Formation Commission –

➤ **Loyola Sadan, Lucknow; Novitiate:** 4 Novices - Arpit Bhengra, Bishwajeet Kumar, Rajesh Kumar and Sumit Kullu - entered the Novitiate on 01 July, 2021 for Patna Province. Welcome to our new Novices!

➤ One wing of the hostels at Atmadarshan has been turned into a **Semi-Scholasticate** temporarily. Patna Scholastics in studies (sacred sciences as well as secular) are residing here as long as their respective institutions of study are holding online classes. Scholastics arrived here on 19 June 2021.

Youth Commission –

The 'emblem' making Competition: The youth commission is sending an invitation for the emblem making competition. This emblem is for the use of the *Patna Jesuit Youth Commission*. This emblem should reflect the various aspects of accompanying youth.

Jesuits, lay people and students in your contact can participate. The winning emblem and award for the winner will be announced on 31st July, 2021.

Email: joinsjpatna@gmail.com

Last date: 20th July, 2021

For more details contact *Fr. Alphonse Sebastian sj / Fr. Prakash sj*

LOCAL REPORTS

Kaiserganj: June 12, 2021 was another milestone in our Jesuit Apostolate at Kaiserganj - the foundation for St. Xavier's School, Kaiserganj was blessed and laid by **Fr. Donald Miranda, SJ**, our Provincial in the presence of the Jesuits of the community, a few diocesan clergy, and some well-wishers on this day. The planning for the school building had begun a few months ago and after receiving all the necessary permissions, the foundation was laid on June, 12, 2021. We hope that the works will progress without much difficulty now.



Fr. Provincial made the visitation of our community on June 13, 2021. It was a pleasant day and we were greatly encouraged and supported by his presence and visitation of the community. The month of June brought several visitors to our community and we were happy to welcome all our visitors. **Fr. Joe Kootinal** arrived with the provincial and spent a week with us before moving to Loyola Sadan, Lucknow. Fr. Susai Mani, SJ, Provincial of Delhi Province along Fr. Dayal and Fr. Arun paid a short visit to Kaiserganj on June 20, 2021. We also had the opportunity to welcome **Fr. Benny Moolan** from Sasaram and **Fr. Vinoy** from Allahabad during the same weekend.

Fr. Sudeep after having spent a year at Kaiserganj, left for Lucknow on June 20, 2021 as he proceeded to take up his new assignment at Gaunaha. We are grateful to the contributions that he has made to the mission here at Kaiserganj. **Fr. Rajesh Kant** made a short visit to Patna to consult his doctor and is back at Kaiserganj.

- *George Nedumattam*

K. R. Bettiah: Due to prolonged lock down period, the campus looked deserted. In both the schools - St. Xavier and K.R. - online classes are going on. As lock down is slowly being eased, students make a visit to school to submit their notebooks for correction and for office work. On 19 June, Saturday evening one of the old boys of K. R. School and a famous film star Mr. Manoj Bajpai, was in K.R. Campus for a visit. He had his tea with Jesuit Fathers in the Jesuit residence. **Fr. Richard** welcomed him with a bouquet of flowers. **Fr. Joe Maripuram**, the Rector welcomed him in the dining room. He recalled the sweet old memories of his stay in K.R. Hostel when he was a student of K. R. School. He had a quick campus tour before leaving.



Fr. T.M. brought out a book on grammar "A Simple English Grammar" published by Marina Publication. He got a few copies of the book and distributed them to the community members. Congratulations **Fr. TM Joseph** for your hard work. To mark the Ignatian Year, we had a day of recollection on 23 May. On the previous evening

Fr. Periyannayagam gave a talk on the conversion of St Ignatius of Loyola. The recollection was followed by personal prayer and reflection. He was the main celebrant at the Mass in which there was much personal sharing. The community bade farewell to the Regent, **Anuj Toppo** on 27 May. In the same evening he went to Patna to make his annual retreat. **Br. Tom** tested positive for Covid-19 and so he was in home isolation for few days. He recovered soon and joined the community. On 29 May **Fr. Rajan** from Gaunaha was brought to K. R. community for treatment as he had tested positive for Covid-19. He was kept in isolation for almost two weeks. After two weeks a test was done and the test result showed negative. However, he stayed one more week in isolation. Having recovered fully on 14 June he went back to Gaunaha. **Br. Marcus** from Gaunaha was also brought to K.R. for check-up as he suffered from back pain. **Fr. Christopher**, the zonal health co-ordinator, took care of all our brothers very well. He made sure that the doctor visited regularly and all necessary medicines were provided. Though there was a heavy downpour of rain in the second week of June and the whole campus was flooded, **Fr. Paul** made sure that there was no waterlogging in the campus. The new regent, **Vicky Lal**, arrived in the Candidates' House on 5 June.

Br. Vijay from Ratanpurwa, our extended community, spent three days with us. **Frs. Edward Mendonca, Francis Chinnappan** and **Anil** were also here for a day for different works. We had recollection on 20 June on the points proposed by Fr. Norbert Menezes on the theme 'our Education Apostolate- Invitation to Act in New and Bold Ways.' At 11 O'clock we came together and had a very meaningful and inspiring sharing. **Fr. Edward Ddung**, the PCF, was with us for a day. On his way back to Patna he was accompanied by two second year candidates who were going for their home visit.

Fr. Sudeep Chacko, the new member of our extended community Gaunaha, arrived on 26 June. He was accompanied by **Br. Marcus. Frs. Paul Mariadass, Dominic** and **Deepak Lakra**, from Ashadeep community, spent a day with us.

In the Candidates' House, at present there are six second year and nine first year candidates. Among nine one is from Rampur, one from Patna and the rest seven of them are from Jharkhand and Odisha. In spite of strict lock down candidates from Jharkhand managed to reach Bettiah. - *Michael Ekka*

Loyola Sadan, Lucknow: The month of May brought us many enriching and memorable experiences. We entered the month with the Easter blessing, minor and major holidays. We all were entertained during major holidays through various activities such as indoor and outdoor games, campus picnic, movies, quiz, singing competition and so on. Along with fun and amusement, all of us became capable cooks as the cook Mr. Deepak Toppo left for home. We were also blessed with different types of *lychees* and sufficient

rain. Having enjoyed the holidays, we stepped into the month of June with a day of recollection. It helped us to get back to the rhythm of novitiate life. The second years were busy with their charity classes and the first years were engaged in different activities. As a preparation for the first vows, the second years began their eight-day retreat on 09th and completed on 17th, with the guidance of Fr. Christopher Kandulna. In spite of busy schedule, the first years did the decoration works for the vows day. **Fr. Nicholas** kept himself busy in raising the campus wall and making a new gate. On 18th a farewell programme was organized for **Fr. William D'Souza** as well as for the outgoing second years. Prior to the vow day, Loyola Sadan saw many Jesuits from Delhi, Patna, Kaiserganj and Allahabad on 19th and 20th. The presence of Fr. Soosai Mani, the provincial of Delhi doubled the happiness of the community. The most awaited day came for the thirteen young men who pronounced the perpetual vows in the Society of Jesus on 21st. The Eucharist was presided over by Fr. Soosai Mani and other Jesuit priests concelebrating.



All the neighboring religious sisters participated in the holy Eucharist and joined us in the fellowship meal. The 13 vow men left for their respective places of Juniorate study on 22nd. We are enjoying the sweet mangoes from own garden. Lord has been blessing us with good rains.

- *Amardeep Ekka*

Manthan, Khagaul: As Corona hit the peak in terms of infection and death rate in the country in the months of May and June the community members were by God's grace fit and healthy. By the end of May, Manthan office was functioning with limited number of staff. The community unanimously decided to initiate some Covid relief work among the most affected people. **Fr. Juno** contacted a few benefactors and donor agencies for the same. In the beginning of June a few donors and benefactors responded positively and we started the relief work. All Manthan staff members are fully involved in various Covid related activities like, awareness campaign, distribution of

medicines, dry ration kits etc. Mathan distributed 650 ration kits to deserving families in Danapur, Bihta and Phulwari blocks.



Fr. Juno was busy with recruiting staff for the new project in collaboration with Caritas India. Due to the lock down the interviews were conducted online. The project aims at poverty reduction and food security, promoting social inclusion of marginalised groups as well as increasing the resilience to disasters in high-risk areas. The staff conducted baseline survey in the last week of May and the first week of June.

In the month of June we reopened all the SECs, CRCs and tailoring centres in the villages. This brought a lot of joy and smiles on the face of children and parents. Because of the lock down the education of children was badly affected. We hope that in the coming days we will be able to create more awareness among the people to take vaccination to prevent corona spread in the villages. At present people are frightened and have apprehensions to take the vaccination.

Because of the lockdown the church remained closed for the faithful and parish activities halted during the month of May and June. But Sunday Masses were conducted in the church with only the fathers and sisters participating, besides one or two devotees.

Fr. Juno kept himself isolated for a few days due to some symptoms of covid-19, but he tested negative and he was back to action soon. **Frs. Joseph Velam, Junas Kujur** and **Srs. Gracy and Pushpika** have taken both the doses of the vaccination, while **Frs. Juno** and **Susai Raj** have got their first dose. The community went on a mission tour to Gobadda on 20th June. The trip was very relaxing and brought a lot of joy. Meeting with the SRA Sisters and knowing their mission there was a source of mutual enrichment. **Fr. Joseph Velam** voluntarily stayed back to take care of the house.

- *Juno Sebastian*

SXCMT / XTTI: On 5 June 2021, National Seminar was organized on the theme “Care for our common home: challenges and responses”. **Fr. Dr. Ignacimuthu, SJ**, director of Xavier Research Foundation, Palayamkottai, gave the keynote address. He emphasized the rational use of national resources. 50 research papers were presented. Our college received “one district one green champion award” from Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education (MGNCRE) under *Swachhta* Action Plan 2020-2021. Social Awareness Committee

conducted online speech competition marking International Labour Day. **Mr. Pragya Kumari (BMC I)** and **Ms. Ritika Singh (BCP I)** won the first prize. On 10 June, Xavier Debate Club celebrated World Food Security Week by organizing debate competition on the topic “Market cannot ensure food safety”. On 13 June, Xavier Poetry Club organized “*Swaranjali*”, an inter college virtual poetry competition. Participants recited poems from great poets like Khalil Gibran, William Wordsworth etc. 19 students took part and the first prize was won by **Ms. Nistha Vatsa** of Patna Womens College. During 19–21 June, **Mr. Ajay Kumar**, NSS director and volunteers celebrated 3 days of *Yoga Utsav* in collaboration with Magnetic Yoga@Mypratyahara Therapy Centre, Varanasi. On 23 June, volunteers of Youth for Free India (YFI) distributed food and other study materials to slum children at Digha and pavement dwellers at Gandhi Maidan. On 18 June, Xavier Eligibility Test (XET 1) was conducted for students who applied for admission for the academic year 2021. Results are announced and admission is on. Students can apply online for admissions on the website: <http://www.sxcpatna.edu.in/admission> for XET 2.

On 25 June, College placement cell organized webinar on the topic “Conquer the interview effortlessly”. **Mr. Siddharth Gupta**, data scientist, gave tips to the students. On 1 July 2021 Department of Management organized webinar on the topic “Understanding Consumer Behaviour in the Post-Covid World”. **Mr. Mridumesh Kumar Rai** interacted with students and shared his skills on studying consumer behavior.

On 2 July, the Jesuit community celebrated the 60th

Anniversary of **Br. Joseph Vetticatt**, in the Society of Jesus. **Fr. Provincial** celebrated the Holy Eucharist and the fathers, brothers and scholastics at XTTI campus



graced the occasion and thanked the Lord.

- *Alphonse Sebastian*

DIASPORA

Colegio San Estanislao, Spain: The community at Salamanca, where I reside for learning Spanish, is also a house for Province infirmary and a house for Tertiaries. Along with me there are four Jesuits from Nigeria, Madagascar, Vietnam and Lebanon over here learning Spanish as preparation for the study of Ignatian Spirituality.



The Spanish classes are going well and I am enjoying the atmosphere of the community. The community members are very supportive. At the peak time of Corona in India, they have shown their solidarity with India through their prayers in the daily Eucharist. At present, after the Corona impact, life has been normalized. The government of Spain has already removed the restrictions on compulsorily wearing of face masks in public places, with a few guidelines. As a token of celebrating the Ignatian Year meaningfully, the community is conducting Retreats for the lay people and many have benefited from it.

- *Felix Marshal*

SOCIETY AROUND THE GLOBE

VIETNAM– JESUIT SOCIAL APOSTOLATE OFFICE’S EMERGENCY FOOD PROGRAM HELPS THE POOR IN SAIGON: Hochiminh City, one of Vietnam’s biggest cities, was hit by a fourth wave of COVID-19 infections in the late April. The city recorded 166 local transmitted cases, the highest daily total since on Monday 21 June 2021, the highest daily total since the start of the outbreak. Recently, the city’s officials have extended social distancing measures for a further 15 days in an effort to curb the spread of COVID-19 in the community. Fr. Peter Truong Van Phuc, SJ, and His Social Apostolate Office coordinated with Caritas groups of 32 parishes, Caritas offices of 23 congregations and societies of apostolic life in Saigon Archdiocese, to initiate the COVID-19 Emergency Food Program to provide material aid for low-income households, especially migrants and unemployed people, affected by the epidemic. From the beginning of June, the program has received much support and donation (around 36,200 USD) from individuals to help the needy during the pandemic. 62,1 tons of rice and 20 tons of sweet potatoes were offered to thousands of people in Go Vap, Tan Binh, Hoc Mon, and Thu Duc.

In a letter posted on his Facebook, Fr. Phuc expressed his sincere gratitude to benefactors for their support as well as to scholastics of St. Joseph Jesuit Scholasticate, who usually helped him to upload rice and sweet potatoes bags from cargo trucks and relocate them in the storage of the Province Curia at midnights. The director of the Vietnamese Jesuit

Social Apostolate Office also acknowledged and thanked truck drivers and delivery tricycle drivers for their generous support and collaboration. “Many low-income families are consoled and supported during this hard time by many benefactors through various ways. They have experienced the joy of sharing and solidarity. May God bless our friends, benefactors, volunteers and collaborators who have helped us,” Fr. Phuc said.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

➤ **Intention of the Holy Father** [Pope’s Worldwide Prayer Network – PWP] for the month of **July 2021:**

Social friendship

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

➤ **Synod of Bishops:** In October, Pope Francis will open a three-year synodal journey with three phases (diocesan, continental, universal) of consultations and discernment, culminating with the assembly in October 2023 in Rome.

The theme of this XVIth Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops is “For A Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission”.

A letter has been issued by the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life regarding the synod. This letter is being sent along with this issue of Ganga Lahar, as an attachment.

➤ A copy of ‘**Walking with Ignatius**’, the book of Father General in conversation with Dario Menor, which was released on May 11, 2021 in Rome (Indian edition published by Gujarat Sahitya Prakash), has been sent to every member of the Province as a personal copy. Copies have also been sent to all the diocesan centres and religious communities in Bihar as well as the Bishops of eastern Uttar Pradesh.

➤ A copy each of the “**Winged Colours of Hope**”, Ed. By Fr. Donald Miranda, SJ, as souvenir of the Patna Jesuit Centenary, released on 03 March 2021 during the concluding ceremony of the Centenary Year celebrations and of **JIVAN** (monthly magazine of the South Asian Assistency) – **April 2021**, which is a special issue on ‘A Centenary of Patna Jesuit Mission’ has been sent to all our communities and to all the diocesan centres and religious communities in Bihar as well as the Bishops of eastern Uttar Pradesh.

We have a few more copies of these materials. If any of the priests, religious, lay persons associated with us, our benefactors or funding agencies would be interested in having a copy of any of these materials, the Province office could be contacted.

➤ **Atmadarshan brochure (July to December 2021)** is being sent as an attachment to this issue of Ganga Lahar.

➤ **Changed Mobile numbers:**

Fr. KM Joseph - 9431023213 / 8986567860

➤ **Left the Novitiate:** Two of our second year novices, Anjilus Dunggung and Binay Lakra, left the Novitiate on 28.5.2021.

REQUESTING YOUR PRAYERS

For the Sick:

➤ **Fr. Mathew Muthuplackal, SJ**, has been recuperating after his ankle surgery on 18 May 2021 at St. John's Hospital, Kattappana.

Fr. Mathew was making his retreat in Amala Capuchin Ashram, Thopramkudy. On 16 May, a rainy evening, as he was going from his room to the dining hall, he slipped and fell, and his ankle was injured. On 11 June 2021 the plaster was removed from his ankle and was replaced with a bandage. Fr. Mathew is staying with his elder brother and is scheduled to meet the doctor on 12 July 2021.

➤ **Fr. Selvin Xavier, SJ**, underwent a procedure called Radio-Frequency Ablation (RFA) with Electrophysiology Study (EPS) to treat Supraventricular Tachycardia (SVT), an abnormally fast or erratic heartbeat that affects the heart's upper chambers. It was done at CMC, Vellore on 28 June 2021 and on 02 July 2021 Fr. Selvin moved to the Jesuit community at Ranipet (CEN), where he is recuperating well.

After participating in the 'Roots and Wings' programme (on Ignatian Spirituality, 6 April to 8 May 2021) in Shembaganur, Fr. Selvin, who was staying in Beschi Illam, Dindigul, due to Corona lockdown restrictions and for treatment, experienced discomfort due to high BP and recurrence of allergy. He was recommended by his doctor in Dindigul to proceed to CMC Vellore for further tests and treatment.

➤ Though he has been a diabetic patient since January 2020, the health condition of Mr. Vincent Paul Somepalli, **father of Fr. Rajesh Somepalli, SJ**, began to deteriorate considerably from 25 May 2021. It started with a big wound on his left leg, which caused some pus formation and led to the amputation of his toes. As the wounds were not healing well after all the regular dressing and medication, more treatment and ballooning followed in the last week of June. He is recuperating well, but needs our continued prayers.

➤ **Fr. Anthony Pendanath, SJ** had a black-out and fell in the dining room of Xavier Bhawan on 01 July 2021 during breakfast. He had a cut on his left eyebrow and inside his mouth, which were attended to in KHFH. Though blood, ECG and brain scan test reports suggest that everything is normal, further

medical consultations are on to ascertain the cause of black-out.

➤ **Fr. George Karuvelil, SJ**, who had tested positive for Covid-19 in the second week of March 2021 when he reached home to be with his ailing mother, and has struggled with serious lung infection for the past several weeks and months, seems to have got the functioning of his lungs to normalcy. But the Gastroenterologist has prescribed medicines for a month to treat his liver and the Cardiologist has asked Fr. George to continue with the tablet he was taking for blood clot for another three months.

For the Departed:

Jesuits of the South Asian Assistency –

† Fr. Saju Bastian, SJ (HAZ, 59/37) – 03.05.2021 – Covid

† Fr. Cyril Rajesh Tigga, SJ (MAP, 84/62) – 05.05.2021. Covid.

† Fr. Isaac Tete, SJ (RAN, 66/46) – 06.05.2021.

† Fr. Ramesh Tribhuvan SJ (PUN, [49/25) – 06.05.2021 - Covid.

† Fr. Jerome Gonsalves SJ (PUN, 71/51) – 07.05.2021 – Covid.

† Fr. Anil Dayal Kujur SJ, (HAZ, 60/35) – 10.05.2021 - Covid.

† Fr. Ambrose D'Souza, SJ (KAR, 66/39) – 12.05.2021 – Covid.

† Fr. Francis Kurien SJ, (HAZ, 68/ 51), - .05.2021.

† Br. Jeganathan Ambrose S., S.J. (MDU 72/53) – 17.05. 2021 – Covid.

† Fr. Anthony Cruze Arul, SJ (GUJ, 57/35) – 19.05.2021 – Covid.

† Fr. Rajarathinam Rathinam, S.J, (CEN, 62/41) – 24.05.2021 – Covid.

† Fr. Jeyaraj Maria, S.J. (MDU, 86/67) – 29.05.2021 – Covid.

† Fr. Lawrence Maria Gabriel, S.J, (MDU 81/56) – 29.05.2021 – Covid.

† Fr. Ignatius Gyan Hembrom, SJ (HAZ, 51/28) – 01.06.2021 - Covid.

† Fr. Anton Weerasinghe SJ (SRI, 61/82) – 09.06.2021 - Covid.

† Fr. Peter Kurukula Aratchi SJ (SRI, 81/63) – 16.06.2021 - Covid.

† Br Francis Basumatary SJ, (DAR, 68/35) – 29.06.2021.

† Fr. Stanislaus Lourduswami, SJ (Stan Swamy), (JAM, 84/64) – 05.07.2021.

On 8 October 2020 Fr. Stan Swamy was arrested and chargesheeted by the National Investigation agency (NIA) for his alledged role in the 2018 Bhima Koregaon violence and links with Maoists. He died in judicial custody, Taloja Central Jail / Holy Family Hospital, Bandra.

A Tribute to Fr. Stanislaus LourduSwamy SJ

With deep anguish and sorrow, we mourn the death of the martyr of the marginalized people, Fr. Stan Swamy SJ. His last month in custody on a hospital bed till the last moments is the most



heart wrenching tragedy of an innocent man persecuted for doing good. The custodial hospitalization restrained his movements, but in his death, his legacy is set free now, inspiring thousands in every part of India and the globe. His mission will continue and will never succumb to evil.

India has a glorious history, as the cradle of many world religions, but she also nurses a wounded history. Even the great Mahatma Gandhi, the saint who lived for the poor, was arrested and incarcerated under sedition laws by British officials. The same Gandhi is the pivot of Indian history today. We take solace in the thought that Fr. Stan Swamy, too, followed Gandhi's nonviolent path, with a great love for those in the margins. He is the latest saint of the modern India's poor.

Fr. Stan Swamy redefined his priesthood, extending his altar to the streets and hills of those obnoxious corners of injustice, breaking the bread of good news of human dignity and justice especially among the indigenous (tribal-Adivasi) people. For too long, the innocent tribals trudged a merciless Way of the Cross, inflicted on them by corporate greed and unjust laws. His tireless struggle to liberate these marginalized communities brought him to the peak of Calvary, of incarceration, deprivation and ultimate death. He died as a true disciple of Christ.

In his death, he has shone a damning light on the injustice that is becoming a norm in the world: Tribals and indigenous people are expendable to corporate interests and their political enablers. Even in Asia, starting from the South China Seas to the central parts of India, a vast stretch of land of millions of acres was inhabited by the indigenous tribes. For thousands of years, they have protected the "lungs of Asia". Now an ecological COVID of greed has waged a war against these lands and the people. Fr. Stan Swamy died while accompanying the powerless tribals in their struggle and dream.

In mourning him, we also commit ourselves to his dream of a new world of justice and peace. Rest in peace, Great Warrior, you have run a great race and finished it with all glory.

+ Charles Bo, SDB
Cardinal Archbishop of Yangon, Myanmar
President, Federation of Asian Bishops' Conferences
(FABC)

Others:

† Fr. Joseph Bara of Patna Archdiocese died of Covid in Kurji Holy Family Hospital, Patna, on 11 May 2021.

† Fr. Rolfie D'Souza, 56, **cousin brother of Fr. William D'Souza, SJ**, and a priest of Allahabad Archdiocese, died on 13 May 2021.

† Mrs. Nirmala, 66, **elder sister of Fr. Josey Mathias, SJ**, died of Corona virus on 19 May 2021 in Apollo Hospital, Patna. [Mr. Raymond Mathias, 64, elder brother of Fr. Josey had died on 06.05.2021 of Corona in Hazaribagh; thus, two deaths in the family in as many weeks.]

Mrs. Soosai Ammal, 81, **mother of Fr. Sebastian Alphonse, SJ**, died on 29 May '21.

† Mr. Joseph Xavier, 62, **younger brother of Fr. Thomas Anthony Samy, SJ** (Fr. TA Samy) died on 02 June '21. Having tested positive for Covid, he was in a hospital in Chennai for about a month.

Fr. Samy's sister-in-law (Mr. Joseph Xavier's wife), sister and brother-in-law too had tested positive for Covid and are recovering.

† Mr. Jonas Dungdung, 60, **cousin-brother of Fr. Joseph Dungdung, SJ**, left for his eternal reward on 05 June '21.

† Santhan D'Cunha, 93, **elder sister of Br. Hilary Goveas, SJ**, died on 07 June 2021.

† Mrs. Madaiaammaal, 91, **aunt** (father's younger sister) **of Fr. Susai Raj, SJ**, died on 10 June 2021.

† Denson Bilung, 70, **uncle of Fr. Sushil bilung, SJ**, passed away on 22 June 2021 due to prolonged illness.

† Mrs. Theresiamma Varghese, 94, **mother of Fr. Francis Palliparambil, SJ**, passed away on 25 June 2021 due to Covid-19.

† Mr. Vincent Thakur, 80, **younger brother of Bishop Emeritus John B. Thakur, SJ**, died on 25 June 2021 while undergoing treatment for various ailments.

† Mani Kaipananickal, 71, **brother-in-law of Br. Mathew Pampackal, SJ**, died on 29 June 2021.

† Mrs. Kunjamma Thomas, 66, **sister-in-law of Fr. Mathew Kattathara, SJ**, died on 01 July 2021, following a heart valve replacement surgery.

"Buy one - get one free"

"Buy one - get one free" may be a marketing gimmick. But it is true in real life in many senses.

We buy (i.e. harbouring this emotion) anger and get acidity free.

We buy jealousy and get headache free.

We buy hatred and get ulcer free.

We buy stress and get blood pressure free and so on.

Conversely,

if we buy trust, we get friendship free.

If we buy exercise, we get health free.

If we buy peace, we get prosperity free.

If we buy honesty, we get sleep free.

If we buy LOVE, we get all good virtues free.

May God bless us with the wisdom to buy right things for a healthy and purposeful life!

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