



Fr. Provincial's schedule- June 2021

7-9	Tempo Forte
10-12	St. Xavier High School, Fort
15	Ambadi Road
16	Premanjali
19-21	First Vows, Belgaum
25	XIE, Mahim
27	Juniorate Inauguration, Vinayalaya

Status – List 2**Satya Nilayam, Chennai**

Gito George B. Ph
Savio Saldanha B.Ph

Vinayalaya

Unisakhiat Muruh Junior

Campion

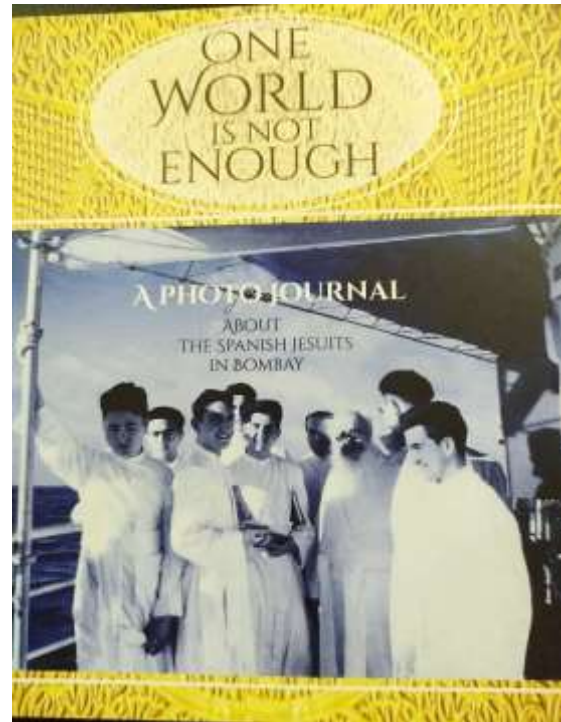
Prashant Olalekar In residence
Francis Swamy Principal
(resides at Mazagaon)

Nandurbar

Constancio Rodrigues Superior
(resides at Shirpur)

A new team has also been appointed to run the province website. It comprises **Learoy Rodrigues (webmaster), Ambrose D'Souza, Sumit D'Souza, Joshua D'Souza and Julian Saldanha.** May they continue enhancing our presence in the digital world.

We also thank the outgoing webmaster John Mezsia and his team members Paul Raj, Arun Simon, Ivan D'Souza and Constancio Rodrigues.

**100 Years of the Spanish Jesuits
In Mumbai Province**

They came, they saw, they did their best
In city and in rural town
Not seeking fame nor earthly crown
Their efforts did not rest

They leave a legacy of life
That home and family can't claim
Our only focus in life's game
Through all the calm and strife

And so we pray that we have nerve
To trace where they have left their mark
And we in turn on life embark
The Gospel task to serve

➤ **Godfrey D'Lima**

PARIVAR has a new editorial team – **Fr. Vijay Gonsalves (chief editor), Br. Thomas Vaz and Fr. Paul Raj.** We thank the outgoing editor Fr. John Cyriac, and send our best wishes to the new team



"JESUS LAUGHED -- a fresh look at the Human Jesus" by Fr. Fio Mascarenhas. (published by GSP and available with all Catholic booksellers @ Rs 80 only.)

In this book, Fio effectively uses the Ignatian "Application of Senses" prayer method to help the reader discover that Jesus was not a chronically grim person, but as a true Model for all human beings, manifested very appealing character-strengths (like joy, compassion, practical wisdom, courage and transcendence). This enabled him to draw all kinds of people to come in big crowds to listen to his insights about the Kingdom of God.

Manmad Khabar

The past few months were indeed moments of grace and inspiration for the Manmad community. In the month of March Vijay Gonsalves gave a very encouraging input on the UAPs to our teachers and those of Ambatha mission school. The responses shared by the teachers were indeed very heartening as they get formed in the Ignatian Charism. As a part of our Easter joy, we were blessed to have the visit of Trevor Miranda and Assis who then blessed the foundation stone for the New School hall. Deacon Welington offered his services to the Manmad parish during Holy Week. The Manmad community has prepared two new guest rooms as an extension of our community house. The process of building the New English medium school has received the green signal from the civil authorities and in the upcoming months we are going to begin the same.

The second wave of the covid pandemic did not deter the spirit of the Jesuits at Manmad. With the boarding premises now taken as Covid care center hundreds of patients were given shelter. Thrice a week, swab tests were taken on behalf of the civil authority. Something innovative was our personal contact with the students via the phone. Nearly 40 of our school staff were involved in counseling and comforting more than 6000 students and parents online. Among them there were also the



poor and needy - daily wage workers, widows, single parents' children - who were given dry ration kits and medical aid. Our tie up with the Sisters hospital here has helped identify the poorest and aid them with the medical support. We continue our service with zeal and enthusiasm. Keep praying for us.

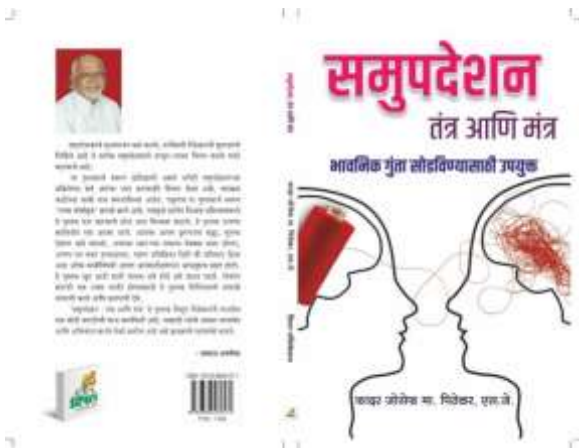
- Lloyd Sambyra

Three in one book publication

On Friday 21st May we at St. Michael church, Manikpur, had a book release function. It was a virtual function. This function has been postponed twice earlier due to Covid restrictions.

Fr. Joe Pithekar's Samupdeshan, tantra ani Mantra (समुपदेशन , तंत्र आणि मंत्र) was released by Fr. Joel D'Cunha, VG of Vasai Diocese. The main speaker was Mr. Prakash Almeida who has written the preface to this book. Mr. Almeida conducts English Courses and Career Guidance at Vasai Road and is also a good writer in Marathi. He said that such a book was thus far not available in Marathi and was the need of the hour. It is a very useful book for teachers, parents

and professional counselors and will set a new trend. Fr. Joel mentioned that the word *Samupdeshan* does not convey the meaning conveyed in the contents of the book. But this is the commonly used word for Counselling. Fr. Joel spoke a lot of listening with active attention. He stated that the experience of Fr. Pithekar has been expressed in words with sincerity and simplicity.



Fr. John Froz’s first book ‘ADIVANT’ (अदिवंत) was released by Fr. Andrew Rodrigues, a retired priest of the Vasai Diocese. In his speech he applauded John for making the Adivasis write. John has edited the book including almost 20 articles written by Talasari Warlis. John has also incorporated articles by Jesuits and other Diocesan priests who have worked in Talasari region. This book enables one to get a comprehensive idea of Warli culture.

The second book of John, ‘Sakshatkar Divytvacha’ (साक्षात्कार दिव्यत्वाचा) was released by our Parish priest, Neelam Lopes. Mr. George Dabre, a former Jesuit, spoke about the book. George has also helped John in rendering the Spiritual Diary of Ignatius into Marathi. The Speaker mentioned that it has been a laborious task. But they have done a good job of translating it. It is certainly a good service to our Marathi readers. Fr. Pithekar and Archbishop Felix Machado have written prefaces to the Sakshatkar. Both of them have highlighted the importance of the spirituality of St. Ignatius. In today’s troubled world Ignatian spirituality is an urgent need.

We are grateful to the Province for giving financial support to the publication of both the books. Fr. J. Pithekar’s book is published by a secular publisher, DIMPLE PUBLICATION. The above publication was sponsored by Bassein Catholic Coop Bank and Manikpur Urban Coop Society.

- J.M. Pithekar

COLLEGE HAPPENINGS

St. Xavier’s College has been ranked the **best private autonomous college** in India for the second year in succession by *Education World*. In this year’s list of private autonomous colleges, the top four are Jesuit-run. Several Christian-run colleges featured in the top ten, and the cover article recognized the immense contribution of Christian educational institutions to the overall development of the nation.

While these perceptual rankings are important, it is even more important that we inspire our students to inculcate values for life, in keeping with our Jesuit vision of integral education. Several units on campus—many headed by Jesuits—ensure that there is ongoing “formation”, via the many extra-curricular programmes held, even during this time of lockdown.

A three-day “**Harmony Seminar**” began with a public “Ambedkar Lecture” delivered by Prof. Gopal Guru, the editor of the *Economic and Political Weekly*. Other days of the Seminar featured national and international scholars and activists who analyzed various causes of social disharmony and shared how they were attempting to address these conflict situations in unique ways. Sessions on religious “Myth-Busters” helped resolve misunderstandings people have about the teachings and practices of specific religions. A video was made on diverse “frontline” folks who have risked their lives to serve us during this time: sanitation workers, security personnel, home delivery staff, grocers, doctors, etc.

INDIA'S TOP-RANKED PRIVATE AUTONOMOUS COLLEGES 2021-22	
RANK	TOP 10
1	St. Xavier's College, Mumbai
2	St. Joseph's College, Bengaluru
3	St. Xavier's College, Kolkata
4	Mount Carmel College, Bengaluru
4	Loyola College, Chennai
5	Stella Maris College, Chennai
6	Madras Christian College, Chennai
7	Mithibai College, Mumbai
8	Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, Kochi
8	Narsee Monjee College of Commerce & Economics, Mumbai
9	RA Podar College of Commerce & Economics, Mumbai
10	St. Ann's College for Women, Hyderabad

The session titled “Know your Vaccine” helped participants to distinguish between various types of vaccines available.

The “Voting Registration Workshop” enabled participants to become aware of diverse political nuances, while encouraging them to vote. A “Virtual Study Room” invited students to study together and clarify doubts with peers before their exams. Many other virtual events were organized to provide safe and creative spaces for students to interact with each other, during this time of stress and loneliness.

Over the past few weeks, the College has helped donate over a thousand food hampers—with enough basic provisions for a month—to those affected in the Talasari, Manmad and other rural areas. We hope to coordinate more such relief measures, especially during this time of suffering all over our land.

- **Keith D’Souza**

New email ids

Prashant Olalekar: prash7654@gmail.com

Joshua D’Souza: joshua.dsouzasj@xavier.ac.in

Greetings from XTC – Desur, Belgaum.

On 28 March, we had the institution of Readers and Acolytes for our 1st year companions. Fr. Roland Coelho, the Provincial of Goa Province was the main Celebrant. He inspired us to retrospect and emphasised that the value, respect, and the triumphant entry of Jesus on the donkey was when it carried Christ on its back. Thus we also need to be ever ready to carry out His mission.

Following that we had our Triduum during the Holy Week when we re-lived our long retreat experiences of the 3rd Week. We were renewed in our graces through the deepening of these experiences. It was a spiritually strengthening time for all of us in our reconciliation. The Holy week went very solemnly with beautiful liturgy, graceful choir, and the participation of all parishioners. We truly cherish those moments of washing of the feet of Parishioners, Way of the Cross and the Easter Vigil.

We had a surprise 4 days holiday in Goa from 6th till 10th April 2021. We spent memorable



days in Goa deepening our companionship. We experienced the hospitality and the brotherly affection of each and every Jesuit communities in Goa. We were feeling at home. We cherished the moments of boat ride in the Mandovi River, Swimming at Hawaii and Baga Beaches, watching dolphins at deep sea near Anjuna beach. More than anything we felt the Jesuitness in each and every place. We felt belonged to each and every community. We thanked and prayed for all the Jesuit communities in Goa, Benefactors and Sponsors for making our holidays a memorable one. We expressed our profuse gratitude to our Fr. Novice Master, Fr. Socius and Fr. Minister for arranging, guiding and being with us in all these events. These were colourful and wonderful memories in our lives.

- **Gito George**

Fr. Diago D’Souza SJ 1948 – 2021



REMEMBERING DIAGO D’SOUZA

Remembering Diago D’Souza, my Jesuit friend for nearly 55 years is for me to remember forever the favourite line of Gerard Manly Hopkins – “There lives the dearest FRESHNESS deep down things.” Diago was always fresh. He was a musician, singer, actor, a

persuasive speaker and an attentive listener. In private with me he used to imitate some of our Jesuits, some very typical traits of theirs. By all means he wanted me to look always happy and joyful like him because he knew very well that I tended to be negative. Once in Vinayalaya's main corridor there were only two of us for the night recreation. Those were days of community separation, he was a junior and I was a novice. He said, "Now look how our Fr. Rector (Fr. Tony D'Melo) walks. My God, it was too good. Suddenly someone from behind tapped on my shoulder. It was Fr. Rector. He asked me, "what is that one up to?" I said, "that's you whom he is imitating." Fr. Tony went very quietly behind Diago and caught him. "Diago, you are imitating me. No sense of respect for your elders." Diago was cool and went on giggling. Seeing him laughing Fr. Tony burst out laughing even more loudly. Diago's joyful mood never allowed him to be fearful, give in to any tragic event or give up on any relationship.

There is an interesting story about Diago's entry into the Society. He was the eldest of seven siblings and his mother was strongly opposed to his joining the Society. In order to follow his heart's desire, Diago ran away to the Talasari mission and hid there. After a few days, his mother arrived there! Fortunately, stalwarts like Fr. Avellino Remedios, Fr. Reggie Gonsalves and others persuaded her to allow Diago to join and from that moment on, his path was clear.

Music was in Diago's blood. Music was his real nature. He was a well-trained musician from the hands of Maestro Reginald Master of our St. Michael Church Manickpur, Vasai. Entering my room, he always hummed tunes which were my favourite. It was for me a sign that he was coming, so that I could open the door and welcome him. Just seeing and giving him a hug, all my pains and fatigue would vanish. Our Fr. Provincial, Fr. Arun de Souza used to call him Mohini Master, a magician who would put his spell all around him wherever he went. Diago was an excellent violinist. But during our formative days, Fr. Tony D'mello was strong on Indianisation and learning vernacular languages. Diago said good-bye to his dear violin and till today he was with harmonium.

All his life as a Jesuit right from his regency till today, with the exception of REAP in Thane, he spent with the Adivasis in Nandurbar-Shirpur Missions. Conscientisation – this timely Mission motto of G.C.33 - haunted Diago. He was therefore busy composing Jagruti songs and plays when he joined Narmada Andolan with Ms. Medha Patkar and Ms. Pratibhatai Shinde. Both say that we just can't afford to bear this sudden and shocking news that our Diagobhau is no

more. Diagobhau was such a unique one that whether it was Grampachayat Andolan, Mahila bachat groups, Herbal medicinal shiber, his voice and his Songs were our energy booster. "We are not Vanvasi, we are Adivasi." When Diagobhau sang this song, all people gave full throated response. He never cared for his health. Right from the time of Janseva Mandal's Brian bhau, Jayant bhau, Blaisebhau, Marutai and now with Godfrey & Florence, Diagobhau was with us day and night during the great Morcha.

The beatitude that Diago closely followed was the 7th one: Blessed are the Peace makers... In this Be - Attitude he felt the Heart of Jesus and saw the Bright Face of the one whom he followed as a zealous Jesuit – the face of Jesus Christ. A great Brahmin Convert of Maharashtra, Narayan Vaman Tilak, referring to Balkavi Thomre wrote a passion poem पाखरा येशील का परतुनी? (My little bird, will you ever come back?) He tells the Bird, Please come back at least once to taste my bitter tears. Yes, you and me all wish the same from our beloved Diagobhau, isn't it?

✓ Tony George

In Christ's Peace

- + Fr. Diago D'Souza (BOM), 72/52, passed away at Mumbai on 22 April
- + Mr. Thomas Pinto, the father of Fr. Baptist Pinto, passed away on 30 March
- + Mr. Benedict Swamy, the brother of Fr. Francis Swamy passed away on 1 May
- + Mrs. Jackline D'Mello, the mother of Br. Maxim D'Mello passed away on 4 May

Jesuitickle ...

