



Delhi Mail

News Letter of Delhi Jesuit Province

Delhi Jesuits

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GENERAL APPOINTS

Fr. Francis Pudhicherry (GUJ) Rector of De Nobili College, Pune.

Fr. Nirmal Raj (DUM) Rector of Vidyajyoti, Delhi

PROVINCIAL APPOINTS

Fr. Amalraj Arulsamy, BEd, Loyola, Chennai

Fr. Antony Arul, Director, Maria Sadan, Bhiwadi

Fr. I. Vincent, Administrator, Ropar

PROVINCIAL'S MARCH PROGRAM

- 03-07 Patna Province Centenary Celebration
- 08-15 Visiting Juniors, Hazaribagh and Ranchi
- 16 Back in Office
- 19 ISI GB Meet

PROVINCIAL'S APRIL PROGRAM

- 05 Vidyajyoti Senate Meet
- 24 XLRI GB Meet online

Congratulations, Denis & Deva

Sch. Benjamin Denis Kumar and **Sch. Francis Devadoss** were ordained deacons by Archbishop Anil J.T. Couto during the Eucharist held in the Millennium Hall at 5:30 pm on February 13, 2021. A good number of Delhi Jesuits and the VJ Staff were present to bless the new deacons. Of course, this was followed by bada khana in the Heritage Hall.

SAHAYOG

The three SAP tertians completed their Long Retreat under the guidance of **Fr. Mathew Padayatty** on Feb 2. **Fr. Xavier** left for Pune on 4th for the Common Houses' Budget Meet and returned on 8th. Again he left for Kohima on 18th to attend the Region's Budget Meet and to do his duty as Revisor of the Region and returned on 25th. **Fr. Periya** arrived on 4th and started his massage treatment under PHI Mr. Bejoy on 8th. **Fr. P.T. Augustine** developed swelling on his legs and so was admitted to the ICU of HFH on 11th; he was shifted to semi-ICU and continues to be there. The Budget Meet

was chaired by Provincial Fr. Soosai Mani and Province Treasurer Fr. Xavier on Feb 12-13 in the Conference Room at NRC but the food was served in the Heritage Hall for the participants. Finance Commission met on 14th morning at the same venue. From 19th to 28th Fr. Shaju was treated by PHI Mr. Bejoy for some skin ailment; he went back to Behror on 28th along with Fr. Joseph Kochupura who stayed with us since 23rd.

Mathew

ST. XAVIER'S, BEHROR

School: We resumed regular classes for Classes 5-12 on Feb 1. About 95% of students are present for classes. No untoward incident has happened so far. We keep Covid-19 protocols very strictly. At present the first pre-board exams are going on in the school. The time schedule for the exams of other classes is announced. The Managing Committee met here on 27th.

House: Fr. Tom Perumalil and Fr. Jinesh visited us on their way to Jaipur on Jan 31. We attended the birthday celebrations of Fr. Sobin at Jaipur on 4th and of Fr. Sebastian Mukalel on 16th at Bhiwadi. **Fr. Joe Kochu** returned from Delhi on 28th along with **Fr. Shaju** who had gone to Delhi for some treatment by PHI Mr. Bejoy at Sahayog.

Parish: We had a packed church for the Ash Wednesday. The youth celebrated the birthday of two of their youth members after the Mass on Sunday with special singing and distribution of sweets. Fr. Arul Antony offered Mass on 28th for the parishioners. They felicitated him after the Mass.

Sebastian A.

ST. XAVIER'S, BHIWADI

Community: **Fr. Antony** joined the community as a new member on Feb 14. We celebrated the birthday of **Fr. Sebastian M.** on 15th. On 20th Fr. Britto and Br. Gyan visited us; Superior **Fr.**

Glenn warmly welcomed them. They came to Maria Sadan also to see our young men. They brought some vegetables and a few bottles of amla murrabba for us.

School: On 15th we had birthday celebration of Fr. Sebastian and farewell program for **Fr. Amalraj** in the school. All the staff members were present for the program on that day. On 16th there was a Managing Committee Meeting in the school with Fr. Glenn in the Chair. On 22nd Yearly Exams started for the students of Prep-9; for Prep-Class 5 exams were conducted online and for Classes 6-9 offline. On 27th we had Graduation Day for Class 12. On this occasion a short program was organized to mark the day. Manager Fr. Glenn and Principal **Fr. Sangeeth** wished the students well and gave beautiful messages and words of encouragements. All the students were very excited and enjoyed the program.

Maria Sadan: All our candidates were busy preparing for the Yearly Exams. **Fr. Amalraj** left Bhiwadi to do BEd in Chennai. We welcomed Fr. Antony as the new director.

Parish: We started Sunday masses in the parish church itself; earlier it used to be in school hall because of covid-19. On Ash Wednesday we had a good number of people for the mass. We have the Way of the Cross every Friday evening followed by mass.

Social Work: We resumed our social work activities after a break of several months because of the pandemic. Tailoring, Beauty Parlour Training and special education for less privileged children have started. Sr. Ranjana FSLG is very active in this mission.

Antony Arul

ST. XAVIER'S, JAIPUR

Community: Three of us, **Fr. Sobin**, **Fr. Tony** and **Fr. Mani** celebrated our birthdays on Feb 4th, 7th and 18th respectively. Many community members attended the budget meeting held in Delhi. On 18th the JXEA conducted its Annual General Body Meeting here. Ex-officio President Fr. Provincial, chaired the meeting. **Fr. Joshy** and **Fr. Jose Vatta** who had gone to be with their dear ones have come back. The scholastics in Jaipur had Recollection on 20th under the guidance of Fr. Mani. **Sch. Ruban** made a short trip to Ahmedabad and brought back his baggage. There was a combined meeting of the community with the collaborating community of SCJM Sisters on 25th. We were sad to hear of the sudden demise on 26th of Mr. Rayappan, brother of **Fr. Packiam**. On the

same day he left for home and was able to reach before the last rites. **Sch. Deepak** left for Ahmedabad. The community organized a one-day picnic to the Sambhar Lake on 27th.

Sherry

Parish: In Feb attendance at the Sunday morning Mass improved considerably, yet there were less participants for the evening Mass. As the Covid cases in the state had come down drastically, Bishop Oswald Lewis directed the Parish Priests to do away with the online streaming of the Mass from 28th so as to encourage the faithful to be physically present at the Sunday Mass to celebrate as one community. Mass attendance on Ash Wednesday, both in the morning and the evening, was quite encouraging. After a long break of seven months the Parish Council met on 21st to take stock of the developments in the parish and to take steps to move ahead. A decision was taken to dissolve the existing Cells and Committees and reconstitute them with new members. The new Cells and Committees will start functioning from Easter Sunday. Thanks to the generosity of St. Xavier's College, Jaipur, the Parish was able to distribute food items to sixty economically disadvantaged families on 28th. Three people from our parish attended the Marriage Preparation Course conducted by the Diocese from 26th to 28th at the Diocesan Pastoral Centre. Our parishioner Mr. Joseph Parnell, 58, suffering from lung cancer for quite some time, returned to his heavenly abode on 24th morning.

Varkey

School: In Feb the school management started feeling the heat of Class 1 admissions as the lottery was conducted on the last working day of Jan. With the declaration of the final list of Class 1 candidates on Feb 6 there started an avalanche of pleas and phone calls from various quarters of power. But Principal **Fr. Dominic** kept up the demeanour of the proverbial 'Unmoved Mover.' Amidst all these the admission to Class 1 began from 15th. The science stream students of Class 12 were given pre-practical exam tips and guidance in batches by the concerned teachers by observing the SOPs of Covid-19. Final exams commenced on 22nd for the entire school sans Classes 10 and 12 in the online mode with the hard copy of the answer sheet being delivered to the school by the parents on the same or the following day for evaluation by the teachers

Sobin

College: A three-day inter-college fest of the Dept of Political Science was organised. The inauguration took place on Feb 3. Dr. Smita Tiwari, Assistant Professor, University of Delhi, Dr. Amrita Shilpi, Assistant Professor of Laxmibai College and Mr. Rahul Pawa, Advocate for International Criminal Affairs, addressed the students. The chief guest of this program, Ms. Aishwarya Singh Rathore, the young sarpanch of Kheri Milak Panchayat Phulera, said in her address that there is a lot of scope for research on political topics in rural areas and young students of the country should contribute in this direction. As part of the fest, the Dept also organised a National Symposium on 5th on the theme 'Revisiting the Dimensions of Federalism in India'. The Institutional Social Responsibility Cell (ISRC) ventured out for a Facemask Donation Drive on 4th. A team of eight students along with the teacher coordinators went to the Mother Teresa Home, C-Scheme and distributed masks. Some, along with the organisation ABH (All About Happiness) went to the slums at Vidhyadhar Nagar to educate the children and adults about the necessity of wearing masks. On 6th the Dept of Management and E-cell organised the 5th edition of its mega annual youth summit, INYOUTH '21: Thinking Out Loud. INYOUTH '21 provided a platform to youth icons where students interact with leading stars from different fields like entrepreneurship, social activism, politics, media and entertainment industry. This year the summit hosted many inspiring celebrities of the nation. INYOUTH '21 was graced by the presence of Rajendra Singh, founder of Tarun Bharat Sangh, commonly known as 'Waterman of India' who received the Ramon Magsaysay Award & Stockholm Water Prize. The International Conference on 'Dimensions of a Pandemic: The COVID-19 Crisis' was organised on 11th & 12th. This international conference linked academicians, industrialists, and students across the globe through the online platform. The opening ceremony was graced by the presence of Dr. Nasser Nassiri, Associate Executive Dean, Computer Information Science Division, HCT-UAE as the Chief Guest and Dr. Soma Dey, Professor, FMS Delhi as the Guest of Honour. On 17th, the first ANANDAM Day was celebrated. Dr. Shuchi Sharma IAS, Secretary, Higher & Technical Education has introduced this innovative venture at all colleges for engaging the local community. The Chief Guest, Fr. Arokiaswamy of Nevta ignited the young minds towards acts of charity and community

service for a healthy society. Zest'21, the 9th Annual National Cultural Youth Fest of our college, presented a fresh revival of cultural celebration on Jan 23 with three days of cultural extravaganza, dedicated to the theme of coexistence of diverse cultures and opinions. The opening ceremony commenced with the lighting of the lamp by the Chief Guest, Honourable Justice (Retd.) J.K. Ranka, Rajasthan High Court and Special Guest, Prof. Vijay Laxmi Sharma, Director, School of Law, Manipal University, Jaipur. This year 1500 contestants participated in different mediums of expression which had 26 varied categories of events. The participation was from over 160 colleges across the country. All co-curricular and extra-curricular activities was completed by Feb-end and we dedicate the whole month of March for revision of the syllabus so that from April we can start the shifting to the new campus. *Rex*

ST. XAVIER'S, MAHWA

School: Shorter though the month of February is, it had activities galore. On 2nd Principal **Fr. Jugal** addressed the parents online on many issues. Another meeting was held on 7th to brief the parents on the reopening of the school on the following day and on the directives of the govt. Well, the school did reopen on 8th and the students came after 10 months, pretty excited. On the first day the attendance was just about 60%; but on the following days it reached cent per cent. SOPs were strictly observed from the word go. Canvassing for admissions continued on Saturdays and Sundays. The School Managing Committee met on 24th. Three FSM (Franciscan Servants of Mary) Sisters joined St. Xavier's, Mahwa as collaborators on 25th. Hope their coming helps the Mission to grow further.

Community: **Fr. Dayal** participated in a matrimonial ceremony of one of his students in Jhotwara Parish on 10th. Fr. Jugal and Fr. Jose went to Delhi to attend the budget meeting on 12th. While Fr. Jugal returned home after the meeting, **Fr. Jose Kuriakose** returned later. On 16th all of us went to Bhiwadi to attend the Managing Committee Meeting and the birthday celebration of Fr. Saby Mukalel. Provincial Fr. Soosai paid us a visit on 17th. He addressed the students during the break and left after lunch. On 18th the community attended the JXEA meeting in C-Scheme Jaipur followed by the birthday celebration of Fr. Mani. **Sch. Ruben** joined the scholastics for a Recollection in C-Scheme on 20th. Though the birthday of Sch. Ruben was on 19th, it was clubbed with the

Managing Committee Meeting on 24th. On 25th evening we had a special welcome Mass for the FSM Sisters followed by dinner. We harvested the mustard in our field. Real bumper! Our female k9 littered ten pups; four of them died but six are alive. Nearly all are sold out but two (a male and a female) are available. Any takers!

Ruben

ST. XAVIER'S, NEVTA

Community: Fr. Arok made a quick visit home in the first week of Feb to meet his aged mother. Fr. Tom Perumalil and Fr. Jinesh made a surprise visit to Nevta. **Fr. Vincent** left for Ropar, his new destination, on 14th. Before leaving he received an emotional farewell from the school, college, and community. Leaving the house under the care of the scholastics all the members made a trip to Delhi for Budget Meeting and diaconate ordination. Fr. Amal came to Nevta about his thesis publication. He was reached back to his place by Arok. SCCG Provincial Sr. Therese visited the campus on 14th. **Fr. Ravi** had many managing committee meetings this month—starting from Bhiwadi, then in Mahwa and finally in Behror. Provincial Fr. Soosai visited us; together we explored the possibility of purchasing a piece of land for future expansion. Fr. Arok was the chief guest for the ANANDAM program at the HFR College. We had our community meeting along with our collaborators on 25th. Seven Jesuits of the ISI visited us as part of their community outing. After having spent about seven months with us **Sch. Sangam** and **Sch. Alan** left for Ahmedabad.

XVI: Director **Fr. Arok** (additional responsibility) had a meeting with the XVI staff on 22nd and planned to reopen the institute from March 15. The XVI staff are on their toes and are visiting the villages to campaign and to mobilize the young girls and women for the vocational courses. We are also planning to celebrate the Women' Day to bring about awareness on health and hygiene in the context of COVID-19.

School: The attendance of senior students of Classes 9-12 for offline classes improved significantly during this month. Fr. Vincent, the school administrator was given a farewell both by the teaching and supportive staff on Feb 10. His contribution towards the wellbeing of the staff, students, Balwadi children and the campus for the past three years was well acknowledged and appreciated. The final exams for all classes commenced on 25th – Classes 1-8 online &

Classes 9 & 11 offline. The second round of pre-board exams for Classes 10 & 12 will be conducted offline from March 1. After the interim order from the Supreme Court, some of the parents have begun paying the school fees as per the court directive. All the preparations are underway to start the new academic year (2021-22) from April 5, 2021. The school has received the list of external examiners for the conduct of Board Practical Exams of Class 12 students. The first batch of our Class 12 students will be appearing for the Board Exams this year.

College: In Feb the college reopened with all the staff and students of different streams. Keeping up with the COVID-19 rules and regulations, the college administration strictly emphasizes wearing masks, social distancing and hand sanitizing. Right now, different activities are in progress. The classes are scheduled daily from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm and thereafter various events and activities are conducted. General Hindi and ECA classes for first year students were conducted from 15th to 27th. The staff and management decided on 24th to conduct internal exams from March 15 to 22. This is to help the students to have an idea about how the main university exams are conducted.

Nevta Jesuits

ST. XAVIER'S, RAJ NIWAS MARG

Many activities were conducted for the students of Prep and Class 1 in the month of February like Thumbprint Art, Paper Tearing, Making Flowers with origami sheets, etc. Students used their creative and imaginative skills to showcase their talents in the field of Art and Craft. Sketching and colouring, cutting and pasting, our little ones performed these activities with full enthusiasm under the guidance of the teachers. Class 1 had a fun filled hands-on activity on Feb 22 where they used real time easily available objects from home. During the online session, kids were informed to sit with objects like pen, toy, plate, basket, colour, box, etc. The teacher explained the concept of ON, IN, UNDER, NEXT TO, BEHIND by using these articles and asked them to speak simple sentences by looking at the placement of the objects. On 11th, Hindi Quiz was conducted for Class 3. The implementation of the new National Education Policy calls for all the stakeholders like parents and teachers to update themselves with the guiding principles of the policy. Keeping this in mind, a webinar was held on the topic 'An Introduction to National Education Policy – 2021'

on 25th for the parents of Classes 5-6. On 24th, a session was conducted on Careers in Psychology by the renowned Clinical Psychologist Dr. Roma Kumar for the students of Class 11. On 24th & 25th, Tarumitra Virtual Eco Fest was held by AADI Eco Reserve, Tarumitra, Attappady, Kerala. Our students participated in elocution, solo, poetry writing and essay writing competition. On 26th, Twin Pairing Program, an initiative of the CBSE was held in which our students from Class 8 as well as students of Rajkiya Pratibha Vikas Vidyalaya interacted with each other in an online session.

K.J. Devasia

Community: Principal **Fr. T.J. Jose** went to Coimbatore and successfully defended his PhD thesis. **Fr. John Chathanatt** conducted online exam for all the first year theology students of VJ on the course he had taught on the Social Teaching of the Church.

Tom

ST. XAVIER'S, SHAHBAD

School: The month of February saw all major activities come to a conclusion as all geared up to wrap-up the academic session of 2020-21. Final exams for Classes 9 & 11 commenced on 3rd and concluded by 15th. The final exams of Classes 6-8 began on 22nd and will get over by March 9. The exams were conducted online using split screen with invigilation being done on Zoom with the sharing of the question paper on Google Classroom. All the teachers attended the second phase of the webinar on NEP 2020. The class teachers organized an hour-long webinars for the parents of their respective classes between 15th and 20th. The junior teachers prepared PPTs and presented them to the parents. Our teachers had an online training program on Experiential Learning and Competency. The timeline for the completion of the training is March 20. The students of Classes 8-10 were motivated to take part in the CBSE Reading Challenge 2.0 which was made available to them on the DIKSHA platform from Feb 15 to March 15. Revision classes were held offline for the students of Classes 10 & 12 from Feb 2. It provided them with a good opportunity to clear their doubts and also to practice for their practical exams. All the junior class teachers conducted a mock test on 2nd at 5 pm for Classes Prep to 5. The virtual final exams for junior classes started on 22nd and will go up to March 5.

Britto

LVI: After ten long months of pandemic lockdown, Loyola Vocational Institute re-opened its doors. We are happy to inform you that 125 students (85 from last year and 40 new admissions) have joined our ten different courses. All our staff were paid for 5 months; but we could not pay for five months (no fees for ten months). Over 50 trainees gave their NIOS exams in February (Practicals were held in LVI itself). Our 50 SHGs had regular meetings; with their monthly contributions, they continue their inter-loaning scheme for various activities. Our Lokmanch leaders had their monthly training program; they continue to be involved in the various social problems of Shahbad Deri and Sectors 26 & 27 of Rohini. The Gruppo India has promised to continue to support us for another year and we are looking into the possibility of launching a new project from April at Narela area at the outskirts of Delhi.

George Peter

Community: On Feb 2 **Fr. Manoj Tirkey** left for Sikkim to continue his BEd studies in Namchi. **Fr. Scaria** returned from home on 5th. On 7th **Fr. Remy** said mass in Sector 6 Church as the parish priest was out of station. On 11th **Fr. John Ravi** and **Fr. Arock** spent a day with us. Most of our community members were in NRC attending the budget meeting on 12th-13th. On 13th all the community members except **Br. Gyan** attended the diaconate ordination of **Sch. Dev** and **Sch. Denis**. On 14th **Fr. Joy John** and **Fr. Scaria** attended the finance commission meeting. **Fr. Anil** was not keeping good health for week from 14th night on. On 20th **Br. Gyan** and **Fr. Britto** went to Bhiwadi to see the construction work going on there. On 21st **Frs. Mathew, Soosai, Glenn** and **Sch. Pawan** paid a visit to us. We had a meeting with **Fr. Soosai** before supper. After being with us for a month **Fr. Kochu** left for Sahayog on 23rd. **Fr. George Peter** has been suffering from cold and cough for the last three weeks. On 27th **Fr. Remy** went to Model Town to get an eye check up done.

Remy

Parish: On 7th Parish Council met after the mass to plan for the Lent and Holy Week. We had a good gathering for the Ash Wednesday services in the evening. During the Lent Way of the Cross is conducted on every Friday and Sunday. On 21st the parish priest had a meeting with the parents and confirmation children after mass. The women's group met to plan for the International Women's Day. The Parish Finance Committee met on 27th evening to discuss the

budget proposal for 2021-2022. On 28th the First Communion children had their online exam. Because of the MCD bye elections being held in our school, we had mass in the evening at 6:30. Our parish youth had their lenten retreat on 27th-28th. Archdiocesan Evangelization Chair Mr. Mathew Anthony and team directed the retreat. Thanks to Mr. Samson Peter and Mr. Gerry Dass for livestreaming the Mass and Way of the Cross throughout this month.

Scaria

ALMORA

On Feb 1 **Fr. Joseph Kurapati** left for his home town to offer Thanksgiving Mass in the Cathedral, his parish and returned to Delhi on 13th. **Fr. Rakesh** also came back from his home visit on 12th. Fr. Rakesh and **Fr. Pradeep** attended Annual Budget Meet in Delhi. We returned to Almora on 15th. Fr. Viren joined us in this trip to spend some relaxing time in green atmosphere of Almora. On 20th we had picnic in the company of Fr. Viren. For almost one month Electricity Dept has been working on shifting the 11KV pole from the middle of our Gaijol property and is about to finish the work. They connected the new lines and have started uprooting the old pole and wire. Fr. Viren left Almora on 21st; Fr. Pradeep and Fr. Joseph reached him to Kathgodam where they had some work with our auditor in Haldwani. At the end of the month Fr. Pradeep visited all the centres for collecting animators' monthly plans and reports. Mustard, garlic, beans and onions are coming up well in our Gaijol campus; we hope wild rabbits and cows will not destroy them.

Rakesh

ROPAR

Parish: Amidst regular activities of the parish we are safe from Covid-19 until now. Catechism classes are being held for students every Sunday. The little ones too show interest in learning the basic prayers. On getting a transfer **Fr. Antony** celebrated a special Eucharist for our parishioners on Feb 7. The Lenten Season inspires us to forego some of our attachments in order to be with the suffering Christ. Our parishioners try to participate in the Way of the Cross every Friday. **Fr. Vincent** was welcomed in our parish on 14th. For the purpose of getting CLU the graveyard in our campus will be removed soon; Parish Priest **Fr. Thomas** is taking all the necessary steps for this. The boundary walls of the graveyard have already been knocked down.

School: Feb was exam season. In view of the final term exams Principal **Fr. Shekhar** held a Teachers' Meet on 4th wherein it was decided to have online exams for all classes except for Class 8. The exams commenced on 10th. All the office staff and non-teaching staff are on offline duty on the regular basis. Side by side the paper work of our land is in progress; on 19th officials from CLU Dept came for an inspection to our campus. The admission process for the academic year 2021-22 is still on. There is high demand for getting seats in our school this year.

Community: After a month-long honeymoon, post-ordination, our young priests Fr. Antony and **Fr. Leo** returned to Ropar on 5th. Due to a sudden transfer, Fr. Antony was given a simple farewell and he left for his new place Bhiwadi. Fr. Thomas and **Fr. Viren** attended the Budget Meeting in Delhi. In the absence of the superior, Fr. Shekhar and Sch. Ashwin held the fort. In the meantime Fr. Shekhar is also writing his MCom exams from Chandigarh. Fr. Vincent, our new administrator, had to rush to Chennai to be with his ailing mother. Our cook Mrs. Raj Rani had a minor road accident which forced her to stay at home for a couple of weeks. CHF Provincial Sr. Sujato along with two councillors visited us.

Ashwin

KHARAR/MORINDA

Fr. Leo returned to Morinda from home on 5th. **Fr. Viren** and **Sch. Praveen** attended the marriage reception of one of our animators on 6th. On 10th we joined in the farewell Eucharist presided over by Fr. Antony in Ropar and the agape that followed. On 12th Fr. Viren left for Delhi to take part in the Budget Meeting and from there he moved to Almora to invigorate himself and returned to the community after a week. On 12th Fr. Leo celebrated the Eucharist with the Holy Family Sisters in Gurunagar and on the following day in Husainpura. After the Sunday Mass, Fr. Leo and Sch. Praveen stayed back in Ropar to welcome Fr. Vincent to the community on 14th. On 17th we marked our forehead with ash. We get involved in the Way of the Cross on every Friday evening in Ropar. Mr. Shubam, Kharar house caretaker, tries his best to keep the campus neat and tidy and do organic vegetable cultivation. Result. We enjoy fresh vegetables from the garden. Two stage plays and three nukkads were presented at various village levels as part of de-addiction sensitization program. Animators of SHGs are

busy visiting villages and conducting SHG meetings at different villages. *Leo*

TERTIANS

The tertianship at Prerana Bengaluru concluded formally by the end of January 2021 with a Triduum and renewal of vows by all the tertians. This was followed by an evaluation of the program and sharing of personal experiences of the past five months. Thereafter, everyone left either for their experiments or to their respective provinces. For my experiment I chose Mukta Jeevan Ashram run by Helpers of Mary Sisters, at Vehlooli, Maharashtra. It is a rural village located mid-way between Mumbai and Nashik. This centre comprises of treatment cum rehabilitation complex for leprosy and HIV infected individuals, besides different departments for care of senior couples, destitutes, home for the aged and the novitiate of the sisters. Celebrating three masses daily for the spiritual nourishment of the inmates was in turn nourishment for me as well. Apart from this, there were occasions wherein I officiated at funeral services, administered sacrament of reconciliation, anointing of the sick and conducted various prayer services. During the pandemic situation when celebration of Eucharist and gatherings were prohibited, this opportunity to welcome the Eucharistic Lord was well received. Each one amply benefited from availability of sacraments and prayer services. Giving inputs to the novices on various topics one hour a day was another regular involvement here. As a Jesuit I benefitted by making myself available for priestly services. Moreover, I could understand the deep-seated human brokenness and struggles of many an inmate especially during their old age and as persons sent out as outcasts from their very own home by their own near and dear ones. Helping out in the registration process of the OPD section of the complex twice a week and witnessing various persons with skin diseases widened my horizon of understanding human conditions. This was also an opportunity to come closer to the rural folks and culture of Maharashtra. For the first three weeks of Feb, I had the joy and company of four novices from Belgaum Jesuit Novitiate. They too had come over for their novitiate experiment. Simplicity of these four younger brothers and their openness in mixing with the inmates as companions touched and moulded me as well. Other Jesuit tertians from Jamshedpur, Pune and Bombay provinces have been to this ashram during previous years for their experiment. I would term this experiment at

the ashram as a human-divine encounter at the level of human brokenness and vulnerability. I place on record my bountiful gratitude to the Society of Jesus as a body of companions of Jesus, to the Congregation of Helpers of Mary, each inmate here and the Divine Master for bringing me to this encounter and experience.

Robin

LOYOLA SADAN, LUCKNOW

We celebrated the Feast of Presentation of the Lord with the Eucharist that began with candle light procession from entrance of the Chapel while singing Gloria. On Feb 7 **Fr. William D'Souza** was admitted in hospital due to ill health; he was discharged on 16th and is now recuperating well. Writing Intensive Journal was a transforming experience for all of us. Novice Master **Fr. Christopher** initiated us into the procedure. We did it in a prayerful atmosphere. The culmination of the process was the Eucharistic celebration on Ash Wednesday when we offered our unpleasant memories and burned them symbolically. To enter into the Lenten season we had a day of Recollection on Ash Wednesday. Screening of the movie "Passion of Christ" helped us to feel with Jesus' suffering. Some Lenten hymns were taught by Fr. Christopher and **Fr. Nicholas** to increase our devotion in this season. Fr. Joseph Sebastian, Fr. Rajesh Bhaju and Fr. Edward Dungdung visited our community. We had a session with Fr. Edward to evaluate the Pre-novitiate in Allahabad. Fr. Nicholas attended the budget meeting in Delhi. After being with us for a short period of time Fr. Felix left for Delhi to prepare for his new assignment. Fr. Christopher directed a weeklong retreat of the UMI postulants. These days we are engaged in composing the Way of the Cross in the context of the pandemic.

Jeyin

SHANTI SADAN, ALLAHABAD

We started the second month of the year in a pleasant note as the beautiful spring season arrived. Our house shone like a bouquet of spring with colourful flowers in our garden. On Feb 1 we Pre-novices began an 8-day Bible course by **Fr. Pius**. On 7th Provincial Fr. Soosai Mani arrived in Shanti Sadan for visitation. On 8th **Fr. Robert** returned from Bhopal. On 9th **Fr. Jose** returned from Bangalore after taking classes for philosophers there. On that day we welcomed Fr. Soosai Mani by putting up a short cultural program which was followed by a fellowship meal with all the fathers. For this occasion we slaughtered our goat Bharat. Fr.

Soosai interacted with us and told us about his life and mission in the Society. On 14th Fr. Benny (PAT) paid a visit to Shanti Sadan for his personal work. He interacted with us and shared about the upcoming centenary celebration of Patna mission. On the eve of Lent we had Ghost Puja Meal. We had a solemn mass on the Ash Wednesday in the parish church. This year we were blessed with a good harvest of potatoes in our field. On 20th Fr. Robert arrived with 6 students from Bettiah for a 3-day Eco Camp. On 23rd Fr. **George Stephen** (AND) took one of the four sheet interviews for us. On the same day Fr. Joy returned from Patna after his work.

Jack

SITAGARHA JUNIORATE

At the beginning of Feb we got our new offices. We are fully engaged in our academic studies. On Feb 6 we went for a picnic to Ranchi Patraru Dam. We enjoyed seeing the beautiful view of Patraru Valley as well as boating. We have started giving homily during Mass as a part of our preaching experiment. We had a one-week course on Affective Maturity from 15th to 19th by Holy Cross Tertian Mistress Sr. Tessy. We are very grateful to her for her generous service. Our Dean Fr. **Francis Kurien** was diagnosed with cancer and is undergoing treatment in Kolkata. We had our second semester exams on 26th-27th. The next day we had Recollection.

Anthony

DE NOBILI COLLEGE, PUNE

Fr. Xavier Ignatius visited us on Feb 4. On the same evening we had province dinner at which the Patna Jesuits joined. The next day we had house recollection guided by Fr. **Tony Andrade**. On 14th thirteen Jesuits were ordained deacons by Bishop Thomas Dabre of Pune. The online live telecast of diaconate Mass was successfully taken care of by Fr. **Louis**. On the same evening the whole DNC house had province-wise dinner; Delhi province combined with Patna province for the dinner. On 20th Fr. Tony Andrade gave a day's recollection to the Pune scholastics. We celebrated Fr. Tony's birthday on 25th. Fr. Louis will be travelling on March 1 to his native place to visit his sick mother who was in the ICU.

Prakash Toppo

Update on Fr. Alex Chinna

I reached Loyola, Chennai on Feb 18. Sr Smitha PDDM brought Fr **Alex Chinna** from Dindigul to Chennai the same evening. Jaya Mary, sister of

Fr. Alex, his mother and his brother-in-law also arrived the same evening. His treatment is currently going on in SIMS Hospital, Vadapalani, Chennai. On 19th I went with Fr. Alex, Mr Victor, Sr. Smitha, his sister and brother-in-law to the hospital. We registered Alex Chinna and his sister in the hospital for the kidney transplant process. First we arranged for his dialysis. His sister went through a series of tests by various specialists to know her fitness for the same. I took her for tests. By the grace of God she has proved fit and strong so far; three more tests are yet to be done. She, with her husband, expressed her free consent to the doctor for the operation. The series of tests for Alex will begin in the first week of March. Efforts are on to update his aadhar with his home address. Matching of tissue, fitness of the donor and sibling verification are part of these tests. A lot of things have to be done before the actual operation. Kindly pray that everything goes well.

Amalraj

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

March	April
01 Kalathingal, Shaju V.	01 Chathanatt, John
01 Mannaravelil, Joseph	05 Irudayaraj, Vincent Paul
08 K.P. George	05 Leveil, Louis
08 Toppo, Rakesh	09 Kindo, Jugal
13 Kavatt, Chacko C	19 Lakra, Cyril
14 Toppo, Prakash M.	23 Elampassery, Jose
15 Jeera, Sebastian J.	
15 J, Ruban Praveen	
24 Ariapilly, John M.	
28 Indwar, Deepak	
29 Maria, Amaldass	
29 *Thekemury, Pius	
30 Vattakuzhy, Jose	

Gone for their Eternal Reward

Fr. **Vasco de Rego** (GOA 96/75) on Feb 17.

Fr. **John Vattanky** (KER 89/70) on Feb 22.

Bishop Linus Nirmal Gomes (CCU 99/78) on Feb 27.

Fr. **Oscar Rozario** (BOM 78/63) on Feb 28.

Fr. Packiam's brother Rayappan on Feb 26.

Reports and photos for the next DM are due on March 31, 2021.