



GUJARAT JESUIT SAMACHAR

Premal Jyoti, PB 4002, Ahmedabad - 380 009



71/910 GJS NOVEMBER 2019

From The Provincial's Desk

My dear friends in the Lord,

On the twelfth of this month, on the occasion of our annual Province Sammelan, **Fr. Durai Fernand** will take over as the next Provincial Superior.

Kindly note that the **email ID of the Provincial** will be passed on to him with a request to change the password. You are requested to address all official mail to **progujsj@gmail.com**. Please **do not use** my personal email ID to communicate with the Provincial. Thanks

As I handover this responsibility, my innermost feeling is that of **gratitude to God and to each one of you**. I am aware that some of my decisions and way of going about has irked some. As far as the way of going about is concerned, I ask pardon of those who have felt hurt. As far as my decisions are concerned, I accept total responsibility for them and am quite convinced that I have done what I believe is the will of God! I am quite satisfied with the role I have played in the plan of God.

On **3 January, 2014**, the Solemnity of the Most Holy Name of Jesus, our Titular Solemnity, during the Eucharistic celebration, I had mentioned that I find it strange that people use the term, "*Congratulations!*" Such a term is not used when we are given some other responsibilities like 'Assistant'. This, to my mind, reveals our deep-seated belief that some ministries are higher than others and those who are asked to perform them have done something to be congratulated! This type of mentality leads a few Jesuits to opt for specific ministries in specific areas, not for AMDG but for considerations like social prestige, considerations that may be termed "*worldly*". I wish to communicate to all, that we are called to perform various ministries for the



Greater Glory of God and there is no hierarchy of any sort from the Divine perspective.

I also believe that mixing a role one is called upon to play, with the person that one is, can lead to avoidable complications. So, I and the Provincial Superior are not one and the same. I am an individual person who has been assigned this responsibility as the Provincial Superior or for that matter, any other. I believe that, if we were to be constantly aware of this, we would be able to achieve the Ignatian indifference to perform our duties as the Lord wants us to do.

I offer Fr. Durai my prayerful good wishes and refrain from 'congratulating' him. May the Good Lord, who has begun this good work, in and through him, bring it to completion, by the day of Christ Jesus, Amen! God bless one and all!

- 01: All Saints' Day:** We remember all those who have gone before us from God's perspective and recognise their worth.
- 02: All Souls' Day:** We remember all those who have gone before us from a human perspective and pray for God's mercy.
- 03: Bl. Rupert Mayer:** May this servant of migrants who opposed Hitler and his type of politics inspire us to imitate him in these trying times.
- 05: All Saints & Blessed of the Society:** We remember all the Jesuits who have gone before us from God's perspective and recognise their worth. We pray in a very special way for members of our Province who have preceded us.

06: Commemoration of All the Departed of the Society: We remember all the Jesuits who have gone before us, from a human perspective, and pray for God's mercy. We pray in a very special way for members of our Province who have preceded us.

10: Id-e-Milad un-Nabi: May this commemoration of the birth of the Prophet inspire his followers to imitate him.

12: Province Sammelan, Felicitation of the Jubilarians of the year, next Provincial takeover: We join the jubilarians in thanking God for their vocation and long life in the Society. We offer prayerful good wishes to Fr. Durai and pledge to live our charism to the full in the present context.

Guru Nanak Jayanti: May Guru Nanak inspire all to accept good from various religious traditions.

13: St. Stanislaus Kostka: We pray for our Novices and for many and good vocations.

14: St. Joseph Pignatelli: May this linking saint of the Society before and after the suppression inspire us to be faithful to the Society in all circumstances.

Servant of God, Pedro Arrupe's birth anniversary (1907): May Fr. Arrupe continue to be a source of inspiration to us all, very particularly in the mandate of faith-justice. Fifty years ago, he established the Jesuit Social Secretariat and in 1980, the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)

Children's Day: We pray that all of us exert ourselves and ensure that all children, especially those in our care, be fully alive.

16: Sts. Roch Gonzalez, Alphonsus Rodriguez & John del Castillo, Martyrs: May these missionaries of Paraguay, serving the nomadic Guarani Tribes inspire us to work for the rights of the indigenous people.

17: Third World Day of the Poor: We pray and act so that the hope of the poor shall not perish for ever.

21: Presentation of the BVM: May we present ourselves to God through Mary for His service.

23: Bl. Michael Pro: We pray for Mexico and for all totalitarian regimes that condemn the innocent on false charges.

24: Christ the King: May Christ reign in our hearts. May we work for His Kingdom!

25: International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women: "Not until the half of our population represented by women and girls can live free from fear, violence and everyday insecurity, can we truly say we live in a fair and equal world." — UN Secretary-General António Guterres. May we shun violence against women and work for gender justice.

26: St. John Berchmans: May this Patron Saint of Altar Servers inspire many a youth to respond to God's call to serve Him as a Jesuit.

29: Bl. Bernard de Hoyos: May this first apostle of the Sacred Heart in Spain inspire us to spread God's love in and through our words and deeds.

30: Apostle St. Andrew: May this Tax-Collector turned Apostle inspire us to set aside all worldly gain for the service of the Lord.

Keep praying for the next Provincial Superior, Fr. Durai that he may lead the Province in God's ways.

A.M.D.G.

PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

09-10: Surat: GB, Navsarjan

12: Vadodara: Province Sammelan, Felicitation of the Jubilarians, Next Provincial taking over.

Fr. Durai Fernand

20-28: Initial Informal visit of Ahmedabad District

20: Gurjarvani

21: St. Xavier's College

22-23: Consult

26: Loyola Hall

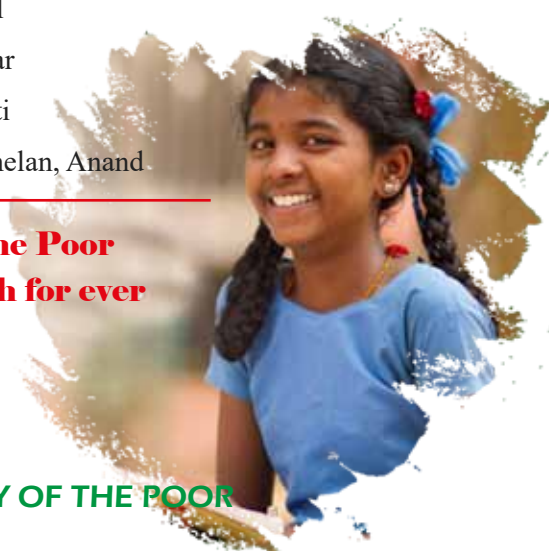
27: Gandhinagar

28: Premal Jyoti

Dec 1: Doot Sammelan, Anand

The Hope of the Poor shall not perish for ever

WORLD DAY OF THE POOR



APPOINTMENTS

PROVINCIAL has appointed

- ▶ **Fr. Chandresh Christi:** Asst PP, Vijaynagar
- ▶ **Fr. Hector Pinto:** Acting Principal, St. Xavier's High School, Kalol (Additional)
- ▶ **Fr. Ronald Saldanha:** Proposed Asst PP, Bhiloda
- ▶ **Fr. Royston Fernandes:** Manager, St. Xavier's High School, Bhiloda
- ▶ **Fr. Sanjay Rodrigues:** Director, Province Infirmary, Jeevan Darshan, Vadodara
- ▶ **Fr. Shaji Thekkemury:** Director, Gurjarvani, Ahmedabad (effective from Feb)
- ▶ **Fr. Siddharth Canisius:** Parish Priest, Modasa
- ▶ **Fr. Simon Thomas:** Asst PP, Zankhvav
- ▶ **Fr. Thomas Kolady:** Parish Priest, Vijaynagar
- ▶ **Fr. Varghese Vadakumchery:** Asst PP, Bhiloda
- ▶ **Fr. Vincent Pereira:** Manager, Xavier Research Farm, Mogar (Additional)

PROVINCE HIGHLIGHTS

▶▶ Pimpri Pilgrimage

October 2 was a grace-filled day at Pimpri, when 375 parishioners went on a pilgrimage to Giri Mata Mandir at Saputara. The pilgrimage began from Nanapada village with a prayer led by **Fr. Yowan Sebastin**. En route, the pilgrims visited the tomb of **Fr. Navarro** and also met with **Fr. Ishwan Gamit**. At the mandir they first had an Adoration service and this was followed by the Eucharistic Celebration presided over by Fr Ishwan. **Fr Kirit Patelia** later hosted a fellowship meal. It was truly a memorable faith experience for all the pilgrims. (Fr. Yowan)



▶▶ Unteshwari Matano Melo

The 49th *Unteshwari Matano Melo* was held with the traditional fervor and exuberance. Archbishop Thomas Macwan who presided over the celebrations was led in a 'Samayyu', by the Unteshwari women and a 'raas' by the boys of the Kalol boarding. During the Eucharist the Archbishop shared his insights about Our Lady. The four



parishes of North Gujarat: Kalol, Mehsana, Mandali and Unteshwari worked collaboratively to make it a meaningful celebration. There was whole-hearted participation from the laity of these parishes as well as from the Sisters. The village leaders of Mandali parish took care of the 'Prem Bhojan'. The Garba and Mahaarti that followed was attended by faithful from Radhanpur, Bavla, Himmatnagar, Gandhinagar, Sabarmati, Ahmedabad and Baroda as well.



The father- figure of **Fr. Manuel Garriz** was missed by all. **Fr. S. Velanganni** worked tirelessly for the success of the Melo. (Fr. Cosmas)

▶▶ **Bhajan Sammelan**

October 5 was a special day for the parishioners from six villages of Fulwadi Parish; they came together to express their praise and gratitude to the Lord through song and dance. The catechists and youth, under the guidance of the Parish Priest, **Fr. Reji Madathikunnel**, had meticulously organized the occasion. A prayerful atmosphere was experienced throughout the programme. **Fr. A. Joseph**, the chief guest, highlighted the importance of thanking the Lord through song and dance. **Fr. Noel Parmar**, the guest of honour highlighted the rich cultural traditions of the people. The event helped increase the unity and the faith of the people. (Fr. Anand Antony)



▶▶ **Retreat and Renewal**

St. Joseph Church Vyara organized a special three days retreat for the people from 30 Oct.-1 Nov. Fr. Peter Vellora and team from Tabor preached the retreat on “*What is*



impossible for the mortals is possible for God” (Lk18:27). The people came from twenty-two villages of the Parish and several from the neighbouring Mandal Parish (on the first day the retreatants numbered 1200; on the second 1500 and on the third, there were more than 20,000 people present). The daily Eucharist, healing services, the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the blessing of vehicles were some of the highlights of this deepening of faith event. (Fr Sudhir Beck)

▶▶ **New Education Policy Seminar**

The teaching staff of St. Xavier’s School Gandhinagar participated in a Seminar on the ‘New Education Policy’ (DNEP) on 23 October. The Seminar was conducted by **Fr. Rayan Arul** and **Br. Pravin Falcao**. The participants were introduced to the content of the DNEP and also made aware of its various pros and cons! The staff were grateful to the management for enriching them with a wonderful presentation. Thanks to the efforts of Fr Arul, Br PravIn and to the Principal **Fr. Durai Fernand** who provided the platform for the teachers to learn and to think. (Ms. Leena Michael)



▶▶ **Publications**

The book: ‘Saint Romero and Pope Francis: Revolutionaries of Tender Love’, written by **Fr. Francis Gonsalves** was released by His Grace, Vincent M. Concessao, Archbishop-Emeritus of Delhi, at the Sacred Heart Cathedral, on Sunday, October 27, 2019. The first copy was handed over to Dr. John Dayal, journalist and social activist, and his wife, Mercy. The book has a Foreword by Father General, Very Rev. Arturo Sosa, and

an Afterword by eminent Salvadoran theologian, Prof. Jon Sobrino. Weaving together biblical and theological insights, as well as firsthand experiences of GC 36 and his pilgrimage to El Salvador, Francis highlights the lives, options, spirituality and missions of two great church leaders from the global south. Copies of the same priced at Rs. 200/= are available at all Pauline outlets, as well as online at Amazon.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

►► Province Sarmelan, Next Provincial taking over and Felicitation of Jubilarians - 2019

Date: Tuesday, 12 November, 2019

Place: Rosary School, Vadodara

Time: Breakfast to Supper (07.30 AM: Registration)

Theme: *“Accountability in Jesuit Life and Mission”*

Organizing Committee: Frs. Anand, Packiam and Robert Parmar

►► Roots & Wings - 2020

The JIGSA (Jesuits in Ignatian Spirituality in South Asia) is organizing ROOTS and WINGS 2020: Colloquium on Ignatian Spirituality.

Venue: Sacred Heart College, Shembaganur, Kodaikanal

Dates: From April 2 to May 7 (both days inclusive) 2020

Arrival: April 2 (evening) 2020

Departure: May 7 (evening) 2020

Total Course Fee: Rs 25,000/- (including Board / Lodge)

Contact Person: Fr M. Devadhas SJ

Email: mdevadhassj@gmail.com

Mobile: +91 94875 80952 / 8056662524

Last date to register your names will be February 15, 2020.

R.I.P

† Mr. George Varghese, 88, elder brother of **Fr. John Kappamootil**, on 08 Oct

† Bro. Paschal D’Souza (GOA), 83/59, on 24th Oct

† Fr. Romuald D’Souza (GOA), 93/74, on 01st Nov in Porvorim, Goa

† Br. Benedict Kichingia (JAM), 47/82, on 08th Nov



JESUIT SAINTS OF THE MONTH



Bl. Rupert Mayer



St. Stanislaus Kostka



All Saints & Blessed of the Society



St. Joseph Pignatelli



Sts. Roch Gonzalez, Alphonsus Rodriguez & John del Castillo, Martyrs



Bl. Michael Pro



St. John Berchmans



Bl. Bernard de Hoyos



Servant of God, Pedro Arrupe's birth anniversary

GREEN CORNER

GREEN RIPPLES

In different corners of SJ India eco-actions are sprouting, and becoming a green network. GJEM itself is a network - Aadiaushadi, Green the Blue Trust, Srushti Organics, closely linked to Rosary School, Xavier Technical Institute, St. Xavier's School, Himmatnagar. Eco involvements include: eco-spirituality, eco-education, herbal medicines, organic agriculture, alternate energy, ecology & art.

We have given Eco Spirituality Retreats in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Spain. A seven-day 'Drawing from Nature-Art and Mother Earth' workshop of professional artists was organized at Wagamon, Kerala, by LIPI, CARP and GJEM.

GJEM is slowly going beyond the confines of Gujarat Province. GJEM, helped by Vedruna Niketan, Unai, and 'Serenity', Ahmedabad organized a successful three-day workshop on herbal medicines, organic farming at Jagruti Kendra, Netrang with over sixty women, men, Sisters and Jesuits from Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat.

Eco education is going beyond Schools/College to Parish Youth, Village youth, MahilaMandals. GJEM took some twenty LEAP students/Teachers to Tarumitra, Patna, for a highly enjoyable eco experience. Tarumitra returned the visit with 20 students/Teachers to Gujarat to see the many Green activities here. Jothi Xavier and team are now heading for Hazaribagh to conduct a three-day Green Teachers' Training for some Principals and Teachers.

Tarumitra Patna's ripples reach across India and the world, GJEM's ripples are also spreading. May the Green SJ ripples cover whole of India and beyond.

(Fr Rappai Poothokaren)



BIRTHDAYS & DEATH DAYS 2019

- 01 Edward Fonseca
- 02 Francis Macwan
- 03 Cedric Prakash
- 04 Carlos Glz. Vallés
Br Antony Uppumparambil – 1968+
Fr D'costa Joao Baptista – 1984+
- 05 Fr Frank Lobo – 1994+
- 06 Fr Ignacio Echaniz – 2008+
- 07 Cyprian Andrade
- 08 Fr Basil L Parmar – 1981+

- 11 Arulanandam P.
- 12 Br Eneriz Manuel – 2014+
- 13 Reji Madathikunnel
- 14 Br Miguel Germendia – 1983+
- 15 Fr Vincente Riera – 1982+
- 16 Thomas Pereira
- 18 Darrel Velloz
Sebastian Vazhapilly
- 21 Jitendra D'Monte
- 23 Sudhakar Dhavamani

- 25 Fr Gil Juan – 2003+
- 26 Ashok Vaghela
Vincent Monnupeedikail
- 27 Alpesh J. Macwan
Fr Ignacio Badiola – 2011+
Fr Bento Fernandes – 2018+
- 29 Fr Martinez Luis Maria – 1993+
- 30 Hemant Dias
Joseph Mattam