



# HITGUJ

Pune Jesuit Province Newsletter

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Dear Friends,

Last month we celebrated Mission Month. Pope Francis inspired us to understand the true meaning of 'mission' life as 'Mission' and as gift. This **broadened vision of the mission involves all dimensions of human life** and the holistic development of all people. The missionary vision is the service of the faith and being witness to God's love. Thus as missionaries, **we have been blessed by our Lord Jesus Christ** who has been constantly accompanying us through various experiences and people. As we chose to embrace the missionary life we need to be witness of the gospel of joy and a sign of God's love. We are indeed grateful to God for the gift of newly ordained priests. This year's Province Catalogue, has a good number of Jesuits completing their Golden Jubilee in the Society or Golden Jubilee of Priesthood etc. **It is a graceful movement for all to experience the trust of the Lord.** We experience God's accompaniment through our Superiors, Directors of Work, Formators, Companions and people who are entrusted to our care.



The missionary journey has been very gracious as **God has empowered us and shared His mission with us, He assures us that He will take care of us, and thus God sends us on a mission.** We may not be worthy but He purifies us and gives us courage to accept the challenges. The real challenge is to be servant, serving our brothers and sisters with love. Christian love is universal and it is open to all. Our loving, selfless and faithful service is the embodiment of Missionary life.

**Jesuit community life is apostolic, community has a common mission.** Mission is part of our faith, missionary dimension is to live together to support and strengthen the mission. As missionaries we need to focus on God's mission. When God becomes the centre of our life, we collaborate with one another for the greater glory of God. We are accountable and available to our people as well as to God's mission. The mission becomes vibrant and we experience fulfilment in our commitment. Thus, the celebration of our religious life, priest or missionary becomes enriching and memorable.

**Great missionaries are broad visionaries;** let our vision be attuned with Christ vision so we are empowered with the Spirit of Christ. We will have that zeal and passion for the mission that is entrusted to our care. Our passion for the mission will enable us to be effective, zealous missionaries. Let us thank God for giving us His spirit to be faithful servants of Christ's mission to build the human communities with Christ values. **May St. Francis Xavier continue to inspire us to be zealous in our missionary life to continue God's mission.**

*Andrew Fernandes, SJ*



## PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

### NOVEMBER

- 07: Province Consult
- 09: Ordination
- 16: Rahuri Yatra
- 19: Visitation to SJTI, Pune
- 23: Visitation to Dnyanamata
- 24: Visitation to St. Mary's, Sangamner

- 28: Visitation to Snehasadan, Pune

### DECEMBER

- 05: Visitation to Loyola, Pre-novitiate
- 06: Visitation to Loyola, Pune
- 11: Visitation to Loyola Sadan, Shrirampur
- 12: Visitation to Snehasadan, Rahuri
- 15: Visitation to St. Xavier's Kolhapur.

## AROUND THE PROVINCE

### BEING GRACED TO GRACE :-

**Part of an integrated formation** involves deepening of relationships through spiritual accompaniment, like-minded gathering and gratefulness. The month of October has been filled with such experiences.

The **feast of Guardian Angels and one hundred and fiftieth birthday of Mahatma Gandhi** (2<sup>nd</sup> of October) instilled in us the constant guidance and protection of the guardian angels. Fr. Arjen Tete SJ challenged us in his homily to be passionate about truth and justice like Mahatma Gandhi and act concretely against injustice in today's India. **Exams are the blessed moments to evaluate for ourselves how we have personalised and integrated the subjects.** We had the First Semester exams (both BPh and BTh) from 7<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> of October. There was a mixed atmosphere of being motivated with, tension, surprise, Spirit-guided moments, being accompanied, group discussions and fun-loving moments.

**Holidays are grace-filled moments to thank our companions, to deepen our friendship and to start new activities with spiritual experiences.** The First Year Philosophers and some Theologians went to **Ajanta and Ellora** and the Second Year Philosophers and some Theologians went to Goa on a cultural tour. They had nurturing experiences of historical places and were re-living their like-minded companionship. They had the **Triduum** from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> of the month on the theme **"Mystical God Experience through Vows"** conducted by Fr. Ilanko Xavier M. SJ. The vows not only free us for greater mission but also inspire us to be

ready for self-emptying like Christ for divine glory. It was a spiritual journey with deep insights.



The Third Year Theologians went to Xavier Training College, Desur, Belgaum for the **Diaconate Retreat** (16<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> of October). "Having an Interior Knowledge" was the theme directed by Fr. Swamy Manoor SJ, the PCF of Jamshedpur Province, co-directed by Fr. George Beck SJ, the Superior of philosophers. It was a Christ-centred and Spirit-filled experience for all. For me, it was a moment of revisiting my novitiate experience and going deep into my God-given vocation. The Retreat also consisted of sessions on Priesthood, Vows, Grace of being a priest and challenges of being a priest in today's rapid changing cultures. Having this renewed experience, we went to Goa on a pilgrimage and cherished each one's company.

As an **expression of our gratefulness to God for His personal accompaniment** during the holidays, we had a thanksgiving Holy Eucharist on 28<sup>th</sup> of October, the festival of Diwali. Fr. Paul Raj SJ presided over the Holy Eucharist and urged us to give witness to Christ the Light and be grateful for all the graces received. After **'being GRACED' by God** in the month of October, **we are enthused 'to grace' new**



moments and persons in the upcoming second semester.

Sch. Jaya Singh T SJ

### A SEMINAR ON DRAFT NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY AND UNIVERSAL APOSTOLIC PREFERENCES :



A seminar on the Draft National Education Policy was conducted on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at Loyola High School. The seminar was inaugurated by Rev. **Fr. Andrew Fernandes**, the Provincial of Pune Jesuit Province. Fr. Provincial in his talk called on the teachers to rise to the occasion and have a deeper knowledge of the education policy to be implemented for the growth of students. He also pointed out the changing education scenario and the way children learn. He called on teachers to reinvent themselves to be effective in the school and to train students in competence and compassion. Students need to be prepared to face the challenges of life.

**Dr. Fr. Francis Swamy S.J.** was the main resource person. He in his unique style conducted two sessions on the given topic. He highlighted the vision of the education system. The vision has been drawn from the Indian heritage to transform students. The Policy also speaks about the school complexes and restructuring of the school education, but does not speak about the formal education for the children. The policy has a rigorous training regime for the school teachers. It also speaks about the centralized recruiting training, regular evaluation, and promotion of the teachers. The seminar was highly appreciated by the teachers and the Principals of the schools. There were 227

teachers who participated in the seminar. The teachers had come from Kolhapur, Georai, Shevgaon, Shrirampur, Sangamner and Pune.

**Fr. Dr. Kenneth Misquitta** conducted a session on the **"Universal Apostolic Preferences."** He guided us as to the Way to God through the Spiritual Exercises and Discernment. To accompany young people in the creation of a hope-filled future we need to walk with the poor, the outcasts of the world, those whose dignity has been violated. We need to restore the dignity of every person. We need to collaborate in the care of our Common Home. He highlighted the problem faced by the humanity at large and called on the participants to respond to the situation effectively. The seminar was highly appreciated by one and all. PJSS and Loyola community worked together for the smooth execution of the seminar. The PJSS thanks all the members for taking proactive part in the seminar.

### CATECHISTS SEMINAR AT DIVYAVANI :-



A Seminar for the Catechists, Parish Volunteers and the people of good will was organised at Divyavani. It was jointly organised by Niropya as well as Divyavani. Our Holy Father, Pope Francis has announced the month of October as a special missionary month, reminding all the pastors and the faithful that '**We are the mission of the Church**'. It is our responsibility to be the mission and take the mission of Jesus forward. To spread this good News, Divyavani, Shrirampur worked with Niropya conducting a one day seminar on 26<sup>th</sup> October for all the Catechists, Parish Volunteers and the People of

good will from Ahmednagar, Beed and Nashik district. It was really heart-warming to see around eighty faithful attending this seminar. In spite of the heavy rain, there was a good crowd who attended the seminar. Christ is alive indeed!!!!

The Chief Guest for the event was our dear **Bishop Lourdes Daniel**, the Bishop of Nashik diocese. **Fr. Bhusaheb Sansare**, the Editor of Niropya was the main speaker and the guest of honour. **Fr. Joe**, the Parish Priest of Loyola Sadan graced the occasion and answered some of the questions of the Catechists at the end of the seminar.



The programme started with the lighting of the lamp by the dignitaries and **Fr. Subhash**, the Director of Divyavani welcomed the gathering. The Bishop gave a talk on **the mission and the great contributions of the Catechists in the mission of the Church**. He also acknowledged the hard work of the Catechists in spreading the kingdom of God. It is the Catechists who play a central part in carrying forward the mission of the church to the people who do not know Christ.



Then Fr. Bhusaheb gave a talk on **'I am the mission and the mission is the responsibility of each Baptised person in the Church'**. He

gave a wonderful talk by sharing his personal experience of childhood with the Catechists. These childhood experiences have played a very important role in his life to know Christ and follow him. The talk was a great inspiration for everyone who wants to spread the gospel message. He too acknowledged the role of Catechists in spreading the Gospel message. The Catechists are the one who organise all the tools in spreading the faith in the remote places. He emphasised the importance of Catechists in enriching the life of every Christian.

Some Catechists also **shared their personal experiences in the mission and how God gives them the strength**. It was also a wonderful opportunity for all the Catechists to reflect on their lives as Catechists. Some shared that to be able to enrich other lives, to increase their faith in Christ is truly a blessing for them. The sessions were deep and thought provoking.

Then the seminar was concluded with Holy Mass presided by the Bishop himself. There was a sumptuous fellowship meal at the end of the seminar. Hats off to Fr. Subhash and Fr. Bhusaheb for the initiative and for organising the seminar efficiently.

#### LOYOLA SADAN, SHRIRAMPUR -:

The month of October has been a busy month for us at Loyola Sadan. The month of October is dedicated to **our Blessed Mother**. To honour her, we had daily Rosary in different houses followed by a talk on various spiritual themes. I too had the opportunity to talk on Pope Francis' recent encyclical on **'Christ is Alive'** in Marathi, for the youth of the Church today. People came in great numbers to attend the daily rosary.

**Fr. Joe**, the Parish Priest also organised a mission Exposure for the youth of our Parish. Fr. Savari and I accompanied the youth to the Missionaries of Charity Sisters, Aurangabad. The youth interacted with the inmates and had a fruitful sharing. Many were touched by this visit. On the way, we took them to Paithan dam to have a relaxed evening.



Our community has three Jesuit novices who have come for their mission experiment from XTC novitiate, Belgaum. They are busy in visiting the villages, teaching catechism and organising holiday camps. They are having a rich mission experience.

Fr. Joe also attended a BCC meeting in Vasai representing Nashik diocese. He has also taken a Sister and a Parishioner to represent the Parish.

In spite of our busy schedule, Fr. Titus and I had the opportunity to make our Retreat. I made my Ordination retreat under the guidance of Fr. Prakash in Beed. It was really an enriching experience for me.

*Dn. A. Michael Raja, S.J*

### PROMOTION OF A CONSISTENT CULTURE OF PROTECTION (PCCP) :-



Delegates of West Zone met at Sanjeevan Ashram, Pune on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2019. The session began with a prayer and introduction of the resource persons **Mr. John Dyne** and **Ms. Michelle** and the delegates. In the context of the appeal made by Fr. General, a quick review of global survey was taken. The delegates were asked to examine the situation at their local institutions and missions with regard to safeguarding and child protection.

Holy Father Pope Francis calls for **“living the spirituality of care.”** To Him the Gospel conveys the development of the ability to heal the wounds and to warm the hearts of the faithful.

Today the Church encounters challenges with regard to child exploitation and sex abuse. As the leaders of the Church and faithful followers of Christ we need to be salt of the earth.

As true Christians we have to listen to the victims and uphold their dignity. We should journey with the affected people and provide them medical as well as spiritual assistance.

GC 36 speaks volumes regarding child safeguarding. We are asked to promote protection in community life and our ministry. Guidelines have to be set and protocol has to be followed as far as the child safeguarding and protection is concerned.



PCCP involves creating awareness and drafting a plan of action to identify the crime and provide justice. **Universal Apostolic Preferences emphasize** the justice issue and walking with the excluded. The culture of care and responsibility has to be cultivated. A survival centre has to be our evangelical response.

St. Ignatius placed high importance on community life and sharing. For him the accountability and quality of relationship is the result of discernment. We need to develop a new culture where journeying together is more important than hierarchy and power.

The global Baseline Survey was conducted for preliminary findings in the Society consisting 9 Assistances with 80 Provinces/regions, in October 2019 which provided a guideline to Fr. General to frame a Policy for safeguarding and child protection.

**Safeguarding Awareness:** The findings of the National Crime Reporting Bureau were discussed. The role of the power of education was considered. Investigations by the Church and Government were studied. The effects of cultural changes were seen. The role of a Superior and DoW was considered.

We need to be responsible and prudent at the same time, as false allegations may involve us in the culture of compensation. We can't deny the accountability and therefore formation for protection is necessary.



The tool for self-assessment was dealt with in detail to help the delegates to frame the policy for protection and prepare the action plan.

### Plenary Action Plan:

- 1) The delegates were asked to find out the key safeguarding issues.
- 2) Think of the priority at zone, apostolate and individual level.
- 3) Find the supports required to proceed with this work.

**Based on the above guidelines the following Action Plan was prepared.**

- 1) Make the policy to take an undertaking from the Jesuits, religious and the staff.
- 2) Train the concerned and monitor the policy.
- 3) Constitute a grievance cell.
- 4) Prepare the procedure for the investigation of the crime.
- 5) Train the personnel for development of human resources.
- 6) Prepare Infrastructure.

This workshop was concluded with the vote of thanks by Fr. James on behalf of the West Zone.

### DIWALI CELEBRATION WITH GRANDPARENTS :-



On 18<sup>th</sup> October, we celebrated an eco-friendly

Diwali with grandparents at Edmund Campion Pre-school. The theme of the celebration was 'Let us share God's light'. The tiny tots welcomed the grandparents with traditional Arti. The programme began with lighting the lamp followed by a classical prayer dance by our little masters.



Grandparents had a Solo Singing Competition with a live band. Melodious voices set the tone for the celebration. They also had an Antakshari competition which was very creative and with the live band support, they sang with gusto.



Fr. Andrew, the Provincial encouraged the grandparents in accompanying their grandchildren especially in their tender years. He also emphasised that education is transformation of attitude and grandparents play a very vital role in it.

Bishop Thomas Dabre, praised the children for their excellent skit on the Diwali message. He emphasised that the spirit of sharing good values with each other is the essence of our culture. He inspired the children and



grandparents to uphold the ethos of our culture.



The Grandparents expressed their gratitude to the Management and Fr. Provincial for creating the platform to share time together with their little ones. They also expressed their gratitude to the Bishop as well as Fr. Provincial for gracing the occasion and blessing them.



Our little children promised that they will share their sweets and gifts with others, specially those who do not have the privilege of celebrating the Festival.

### The JEA Meeting at Godavari, Kathmandu

The Annual meeting of the PCE's of South Asian Provinces was held from 25th of Oct to 28th October at Godavari Ashram, Kathmandu. The PCE's of the respective provinces attended the meeting.

The meeting began with an Inaugural Mass celebrated by **Fr. John Ravi**. In his homily, he shared the three major concerns we have in our Conference: Mainly, the Emerging Fundamentalism, India's Draft Education Policy 2019 and the Ecological Crisis. The inaugural prayer was led by Fr. Anand PCE of the Goa Province. He led us to the context of changes in the Society through various relevant documents of the Jesuits. The Inaugural keynote address was delivered by **Dr. Kunda Dixit**, a well-

known journalist and the Editor of Nepali Times of Nepal. He is also an ex-student of St. Xavier's School, Godavari. In his address on the Current Context of South Asia, he highlighted the three major crises we face.

**1. The crisis of Democracy, 2. The crisis of Media, 3. The crisis of Ecology.** He also highlighted the various problems faced by the Asian countries. He analysed these three crises and their impact on human society. His presentation was highly analytical and thought provoking. In his presentation he explained Global, South Asian and Indo-Nepal situations. He also paid a glowing tribute to the contribution made by the Jesuits in his life in particular and the life of people of Nepal in general.

**Fr. Sunny Jacob**, the JEA Secretary of South Asia explained the major global initiatives. The Global Citizenship, Ecology, Peace and Reconciliation are the major initiatives of the Society. He called on the delegates to concentrate on these themes in their respective school. The delegates were given inputs on Apostolic Planning in the light of UAP and were asked to give an adequate response to it. He called on the delegates to take up the UAP and Rio Action at the school level to be implemented.

The delegates presented reports and had discussions on various important topics based on the talks. They discussed the Ecology in details and sought to make it a part of school teaching and learning. The resource person **Fr. Luminesh** from Karnataka Province called on the Jesuits to implement this one of the UAP's as the topmost priority in the life of school children. **Fr. Luminesh** is the Ecology Coordinator in South Asia. Godavari is an excellent place to reflect, to recollect and to rejuvenate. **Fr. George P. M.** was a great host. The logistics were planned meticulously. Many thanks to the RCE of Nepal region.



## FR. LOVETT MEMORIAL CUP ORGANIZED BY ST. SEBASTIAN, PARISH:



The 19<sup>th</sup> October 2019 marked a very special day in the calendar of the St. Sebastian NDA parish community. A day when we organized a tournament for the youth –**The Late Rev. Fr Lovett D'Souza Memorial Cup** named after our First Parish Priest.

The idea to organize such an event was introduced by the youth. It was also proposed that this year the event could be dedicated to **Late Steban Johny**, our dynamic youth member who passed away in February 2019.



This thought lit a fire in the heart of every youth member of our parish, as this would be the perfect opportunity to pay our respect to our dear friend Steban Johny who had always encouraged the youth, mentored them and spread joy around where ever he went. Hence it was suggested that every year this tournament would fund an education scholarship named after Steban Johny.

With this flame burning in our hearts the youth started preparing for the event. The collaborative efforts of the youth, the Parish Council along with the other parishioners and

the Vincent de Paul members brought unity among the parishioners.



Our youth members went from parish to parish to meet the Parish Priests as well as youth leaders of 27 Parishes with a request to encourage their Youth to participate in the “7 – A-Side Football & the Box Cricket Tournament.”

On a first come-first serve basis, 16 teams for the game of Football while 11 teams for Box Cricket were accepted. The day began with the Eucharistic Celebration, **Fr. Andrew**, the Provincial encouraged the parishioners in their commitment and passion for sports. He also praised the missionary zeal of the pioneering Swiss - German Jesuits who sowed the seed of faith.



We are grateful to **Fr. Andrew Fernandes** the Provincial Superior Pune Province SJ who inaugurated the event by hoisting our Church Flag. In his inaugural address, Fr. Provincial highlighted the true meaning of missionary and how late Fr. Lovett was a true sportsman who had a passion for Scouts. We thank **Fr. Anish**, the Principal who lit the Event Flame. Our gratitude to **Fr. James Thorat** who knew Steban Johny personally. As a gesture in his memory he



garlanded the picture of Steban Johny. All the team players took the pledge that they will play fair and with sportsmen spirit. This inaugural ceremony was concluded with setting a Pigeon free.

All the teams were very competitive and excellent in their skills. There was a lot of cheering and support, inspite of the rain.

Game	Winner	Runner-up
Football (7 A Side)	Infant Jesus, Nigdi	St. Ignatius, Kirkee
Box Cricket	St. Ignatius, Kirkee	Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Talegaon
Man of the tournament	Mr. Rohan Thorat , Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Talegaon	
Best Goalkeeper	Mr. Glenn Francis, St. Ignatius, Kirkee	
Best Player ( Football)	Mr. Chris Gudinho, Infant Jesus, Nigdi	

Parishioners were filled with joy on meeting Fr. Peter D'Cruz who praised the sportsmen as well as parishioners for their great efforts.

The culmination of the inter-parish matches continued with full gusto. Though it was raining it did not hinder the programme.

We were blessed to have **Fr. Sampat Bhosale SJ, Mr. Mathew Susainathan, Mr. Benedict Rodrigues, Mr. Binny Paul, Mr. Alex Dass and Mr. Dinesh Patole** as referees and umpires who managed all the matches with great enthusiasm. St. Vincent De Paul Association had food items, Tea, and Soft drinks for sale at very nominal rates. For the Closing Ceremony, we invited the parents of **Steban Johny** to give away the Trophies, Medals and Cash Prize to the Winner and Runner-up Teams of Cricket. Fr. Provincial handed over the trophies, Medals and Cash Prize to the winners.

We also congratulate **Ms. Dimple Raju Nanaware**, who was presented with the Education Scholarship for scoring an outstanding percentage in XII grade.



We Parishioners, Dn. Anthony Tribhuvan along with the Parish Priest, Fr. Francis D'Souza SJ and Fr. Ovid Pereira SJ, thank God for His constant support and accompaniment during the event. We shall continue to cherish the enriching experiences of organising such a mega event for a noble cause. May God continue to inspire us to build the community.

#### WORLD-WIDE PRAYER NETWORK AT DNC:-

On the 2nd and 3rd of Nov., I had the privilege of representing the Province at the Pope' World-wide Prayer Network (PWP), held at De Nobili College. The PWP is the former Apostleship of Prayer Movement started by the French Jesuit Scholastics who were eager to get involved in some apostolate even during their Formation. They were taught by their Spiritual Father to make their entire day apostolic by offering up everything to God in the Morning Offering. This devotion soon spread to the Laity too. **Pope Francis** has revamped this movement inviting everyone to pray for the needs of the church and the world as expressed by him – one intention a month. Members of this movement are encouraged to make the Offering Prayer thrice a day, joined with a short examination of conscience to discover God's action in their personal lives. They are also urged to allow their prayer to become fruitful in action.

The PWP Movement also aims at activating the Eucharistic Ministry so that its members are immersed in deep, Scripture-based, Christian spirituality. This Eucharistic Crusaders' Group extends beyond an individual's school years to embrace his/her youth. Thus, there is a danger of having many competing youth groups in a parish.

While this Prayer Ministry is entrusted to the Society with a Jesuit in-charge, it is now seen as an ecclesial ministry in which the Bishops are also involved. Hence, for this meeting there was a mixture of Jesuits and diocesan Priests and a few laity: about 40 in all. It was decided that while we should foster a Eucharistic Spirituality in our youth, we should avoid creating tension among our youth by introducing a new group.

On the 12th and 13th I attended the **Assistancy Dialogue Commission Meeting** in Delhi. We were about 18 Jesuits from different Provinces. While some Provinces sent no one, others had more than one present. Some Provinces had Commissions while others had only a consultant. I found the Meeting very enlightening. We had some members involved in giving Retreats and talks to non-Christians so as to foster peace and harmony. A few were also involved with Islam. We were also shown a short film, 'The Sultan and the Saint', based on the encounter between St. Francis of Assisi and the Sultan of Egypt. The Sultan's ability to forgive and protect the lives of the crusaders, who had starved his garrison inside a fort, challenged my prejudices about Muslims. On the 13th afternoon we also attended the 40th anniversary of the Islamic Studies Association, based at VidyaJyoti. One of the Speakers, a Muslim involved in social work, spoke on how Islam puts humanity and the care for life, first. In the context of our country today, we all felt the need to foster peace and understanding among various communities, starting with the students in our schools. We also felt the need to deepen our knowledge of our cosmopolitan culture so that we are proud of what is good in it and do not appear to others as 'foreigners'. It was felt that **all the members of the Province Commission should foster Dialogue wherever they are.**

#### VELANKANNI PILGRIMAGE: RAHURI

Snehasadan Church, Rahuri organized a religious pilgrimage to the South to visit various religious places. We were 52 pilgrims.

The pilgrimage began on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2019 from Snehasadan Church. Fr. Ramesh Tribhuvan, S.J. led us in a short prayer and blessed the group. We reached Chennai on 22<sup>nd</sup> evening. From the Railway station we went to visit the Cathedral and the tomb of St. Thomas. We then spent some time on the beach and went to stay at AICUF House, Chennai.



On 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2019, we visited St. Thomas Mount, Mahabalipuram resort, and Pondichery some of the other Churches and proceeded to Velankanni for the night halt. On 24<sup>th</sup> morning we celebrated the Holy Mass in the main church in the Shrine of Our Lady of Velankanni. The people were happy and spent quite some time praying at the shrine. In the afternoon, they had time to shop and visit the places that they wished to see. After lunch we left for Oriyur.



On the way we visited the Cathedral at Madurai. We spent the night at Oriyur and visited St. John D'Britto tomb and the place where he was dragged and put in the thick thorny bushes, where a cross is being installed in that place.

From there we proceeded to Kanyakumari for the night. We visited a few churches and spent time to purchase whatever the people wanted. At night we started our journey back to Chennai, and from Chennai to our place. People who were dreaming of visiting the Velankanni



Shrine were very happy and many of them expressed their feelings by saying as the Simeon said in the gospel, "O, Lord now you can dismiss your servant in peace, for you have fulfilled your word and my eyes have seen your salvation." (LK. 2: 29 – 30) The people said, "We are happy now, we have fulfilled our dream, we have visited the Shrine of Our Lady of Velankanni, our hearts are filled with joy and happiness, now we have no regrets."

### SNEHASADAN CHURCH: MEDICAL FREE CHECKING CAMP



The 1<sup>st</sup> November All Saints Day was celebrated at Snehasadan Church, Rahuri, by organizing a free medical check camp for the Rahuri Parish with the help of the medical team from St. Luke's Hospital, Shrirampur. This is the second such camp. This time we did not get a good response as we had for the first one, due to the Diwali season and rain. All the same they examined many and 54 patients were found who needed treatment. These 54 people were given medicines, and were asked to visit the hospital on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019.



The team comprised of 3 Doctors and 10 Staff and nursing students. Among the 3 doctors Dr. Carlos was from Spain-a bone specialist. People were very happy. I take this opportunity to say a big thank you to the Administration of St.

Luke's Hospital and the whole team who came to conduct the same. God bless them all.

Fr. Jerome Gonsalves, S.J

### FEAST OF OUR LADY OF ROSARY: SHEVGAON

On 12 October 2019, Shevgaon Parish wore a festive look. The School, Stage and the entire campus was decorated with multicoloured lights. By 6 p.m. the Church compound was crowded with throngs of devotees and shop keepers exhibiting their attractive wares. The rains and weather-forecasts failed somehow to materialise. Our Bishop Lourdes Daniel was so happy with the liturgy and the orderly arrangements that he joined the clergy and religious at the agape held in the Fathers' Residence. Groups from Pathardi and nearby mass centres came for the Yatra on walking pilgrimage. The Bhajan – rural religious devotional singers - groups performed through the night till wee hours of the following morning. Thanks to Mr Dhana Seth-the Jain Marwadi Merchant. He fed more than 700 people the following morning with delicious lunch.



The Rosary month of October was a great experience of the Parish Unity and devotion. Nearly 25 family centres organised Rosary and prayers thus strengthening faith, bonding families together. It was faith-walk towards Mother Mary through the month.

This year Shevgaon Urban areas experienced excessive rainfall and still goes on unabated. It has caused a tremendous worry as the standing crops have in many places been destroyed due to lack of sunlight. This rain has not given any respite to farmers for weeding and insecticidal treatment to the crops. Nevertheless, the rains have replenished the open wells as well as bore well in the region.

Our monthly recollection and agape of three religious communities here at Shevgaon goes to strengthen the bond of unity and further aids all the three apostolates – School-parish, hospital and social - in the parish. The above activities bear the mark of co-operation of all the three communities and the laity as well.

*Fr. Mathew Paruvani, SJ*

## BIRTHDAYS

### NOVEMBER

01	Sameer Kerketta
07	Valente Fernandes
12	Manuel Kshrisagar
14	Albert Devasahayam
15	Robinson Mudliar
21	Stanislaus Fernandes
22	Jerome Gonsalves
24	Rohit Wagh

### DECEMBER

05	K.K. Joshy
06	Rahul Ranshur
07	G. Jesus Vivian Raja
10	Francis Patekar
12	Francis Arockia Raja
15	Richinkumar Macwan

## REMEMBER THE DEPARTED IN YOUR PRAYERS

**Bro. Paschal D'Souza (GOA), 83/59, passed away on 24th October 2019, in Goa.**

**Fr. Romuald D'Souza (GOA), 93/74, passed away on 01st November 2019 in Porvorim, Goa.**

**Br. Benedict Kichingia (JAM), 82/47, passed away on 08th November 2019.**

**Fr. Noel Francis D'Souza (CCU), (87/65) passed away on 10th November 2019 at SXC, Calcutta.**

## KINDLY MARK YOUR DIARY

- **09<sup>th</sup> November at 4:00pm** Ordination of Deacon Anthony at Savedi, Ahmednagar
- **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.

**AD MAJOREM DEI GLORIAM**

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