



# GUJARAT JESUIT SAMACHAR

Premal Jyoti, PB 4002, Ahmedabad - 380 009



72/922 GJS NOVEMBER 2020

## PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

### November

- 03 - 05 : Visitation, Unai
- 09 : Meeting, Priests Council, Archdiocese of Gandhinagar
- 18 - 21 : Superiors' Forum
- 21 - 22 : Consult
- 25 : Meeting, Adilok
- 26 - 28 : Visitation, Surat
- 30 : Meeting, Commission for Higher Education

## APPOINTMENTS

### ◆ GENERAL has appointed

- Fr. Agnelo Mascarenhas SJ (GOA): Provincial of Pune Province
- Fr. Fabien Gasigwa SJ: Regional Superior, Rwanda-Burundi Region
- Fr. José de Pablo SJ (ESP): Vice Ecclesiastical Assistant, The World Christian Life Community (CLC)

### ◆ PROVINCIAL has appointed

- **Fr. Joseph Mattam SJ:** Assistant Parish Priest, Ankav
- **Fr. Cyprian Monis SJ:** Assistant Parish Priest, Bawla
- **Fr. Ornellas Coutinho SJ:** Adviser, St. Xavier's Eng. Med. School Anand
- **Fr. Nagin Macwan SJ:** Sneh Jyoti, Community, Sevasi
- **Fr. James B Dabhi SJ:** Gurjarvani Community
- **Fr. Ignace Macwan SJ:** Khambhat Community
- **Fr. Daniel Arockiadass SJ:** Khambhat Community

## PROVINCE HIGHLIGHTS

### » # StandWithStan

On the night of 8th October 2020, the 83-year-old Jesuit priest, Fr Stan Swamy, was taken into custody from his residence in Bagaicha, Ranchi, by the National Intelligence Agency (NIA) under the draconian UAPA (Unlawful Activities [Prevention] Act). He is now lodged in the Taloja Jail, near Mumbai. Several efforts are being made from all quarters to secure his immediate and unconditional release, and that of others incarcerated under the UAPA.



**Fr. Durai Fernand**, our Provincial appointed a team consisting of **Frs. Isaac Rumao (Convener), Manoj Parmar, Robert Mascarenhas, Moieson Dhas, Cedric Prakash** and **Arul Rayan** to coordinate the activities and response of the Province - to stand in solidarity with Fr. Stan. The team decided that Sunday 18th October (Mission Sunday) would be observed as a day of prayer for and solidarity with Fr. Stan. Accordingly, Fr. Provincial wrote a letter to the Province and to the Bishops of Gujarat requesting all to observe the day. The coordinating team prepared appropriate posters, a prayer service,





and other relevant material, in English and Gujarati, and circulated these to all the Jesuits and the Diocesan clergy.

**Fr. Francis Parmar** and BBN prepared a video in Gujarati explaining about Fr. Stan and his work. There were prayer services and silent protests outside churches (like St Xavier's Church, Ahmedabad) and institutions everywhere. Our Scholastics have also been active in taking various initiatives. The St. Francis Parish Youth (SFPY), Anand, and the Jesuit community there organized a well-attended program in the church premises on 29th October.

Three committees (legal, communications and advocacy) have been set up at the JCSA level. **Fr. Cedric** is in the national advocacy team and is involved in different works related to advocacy - including writing, speaking to the media, and at webinars. **Frs. Isaac** and **Arul** are the nodal persons from the Province for contact and information dissemination.

It is going to be a long haul. Now is the time to stand for justice and peace. This is NOT just a fight for Fr. Stan. It is a fight to save democracy. It is a fight for our constitutional values. It is a fight for the rights of Adivasis/tribals. It is a fight for minority rights. It is a fight for Justice which is inseparable from our Faith. Let us continue to labour with love for Faith that does Justice! Do continue every initiative until Fr Stan is released.

All are encouraged to join the FB page **Netizen's forum for justice and peace** by Digital Jesuits - JCSA: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/netizensforumforjusticeandpeace> and <https://jcsaweb.org/>. It has a dedicated page for Fr Stan.

You are welcome to contact any of the team for further information/material/updates. (Fr. Arul Rayan, SJ)

## » Infirmary, Jeevan Darshan

Our Provincial, **Fr. Durai Fernand**, continued the dialogue initiated by our previous Provincial **Fr. Francis Parmar** with the Sisters of Charity of St Anne (SChSA) that they help run our Province



Infirmary at Jeevan Darshan. Accordingly, under the leadership of their Provincial, Sr. Benita, three Sisters who are professional nurses have been assigned to our Infirmary to care for the old and the sick. An MOU is finalized. 1st October was a Golden Day for all at the infirmary when

two SChSA Sisters – Sr. Manju and Sr. Indu - were welcomed to this responsibility during the Eucharistic celebration. Sr. Benita with two of her Councillors represented the SChSA, and **Frs. Valerian Dias, Sanjay Rodrigues** and **Vincent Moonnupeedikail** represented our Province at this formal welcome. After the Eucharist, **Bishop Godfrey de Rozario** welcomed the Sisters with roses, to the applause of the rest of the community. (Fr. Valerian Dias, SJ)



## » Scholastics Meet

The scholastics met in Sevasi on 17th and 18th October. The first day was spent enjoying each other's companionship through games and a quiz. During the Eucharist special prayers were offered for the immediate release of Fr. Stan. The following day was spent reflecting on our (the Scholastics) contribution to the GPAP. It was decided to take up a few more steps in the near future. **Sch. Alam Parmar** facilitated the sessions using the Ignatian method of Spiritual Conversation. It was an enriching



and positive experience. **Schs. Jayanti Bhadagi** and **Felix Raj** were the secretaries. We thank **Fr. James Savarimuthu** (PCF), the Sevasi community and the organizing committee for making the event a fruitful one. (Schs. Jayanti Bhadagi, SJ & Felix Raj, SJ)

### »» Novitiate Tidings

There were a number of courses and activities during September and October for the novices at XTC, Belgaum. These courses which were very enriching included courses on the Sacraments, the Old Testament and the History of the Jesuits in India. The resource persons were excellent. Other significant events during this period were the recollection day, the celebration of the Feast of the Nativity of our Lady, common birthday celebration of the month. The Feast of our Lady of Sorrows was celebrated with the Conossian who are our neighbours. All these events were moments of spiritual renewal and of great bonding.



### »» Nanisinglotti Trainings

It's training time at Nanisinglotti! With **Fr. Ashok Vaghela** as the resource person, a day's training was held for all the teachers of our schools - St Xavier's Nanisinglotti and St Xavier's (English Medium) Dediapada. Through a variety of activities and games, Fr. Ashok highlighted the necessary qualities for a good teacher. He encouraged them to imbibe some of the qualities for greater productivity and efficiency. He also made them aware of their main responsibility to instil in the students universal values and thus mould them for a better future.

The second training program was for twenty leaders (aagevaans) of St Joseph's Parish, Nanisinglotti with Fr. Rakesh Macwan (Baroda Diocese) as the animator. He focused on Jesus, the leader. He exhorted the leaders to 'put on' the qualities of Jesus and be His witnesses in their villages. Both the teachers and the

village leaders were happy with, and benefitted from, the training programs and were grateful to **Fr. M G Raj** for organizing them. (Fr. Jobin Kaniyarakathu, SJ)



### »» De-addiction Awareness

On Gandhi Jayanti the youth of St. Francis Parish Gamdi-Anand in collaboration with the Prohibition and Excise Dept. Anand, organised a De-addiction (Nashabandi) awareness program. The aim was make people aware of the negative impact of addiction in one's life, and in society, and how one can strive to overcome addiction. The Chief Guest was Shri. Kantibhai Sodha Parmar MLA, Anand. Shri. H. P. Sisodiya, Superintendent of Prohibition and Excise, Anand, was also present and spoke. **Fr. Melquides Guedes**, **Fr. Moieson Das**, the Vimal Mariam Staff and others were also present. All the SFPY members participated in the program and made every effort to ensure its success. (Fr. Moieson Dhas, SJ)



## »» Marriage Preparation Course at Bhiloda

Marriage preparation course was organized on 24th and 25th October at Bhiloda. 15 couples from Bhiloda and Vijaynagar Parish took active part in it. The main aim was to strengthen their future family life. **Fr. Chandresh** and **Fr. Sobers** dealt with pastoral life, the doctor couple focused on the health and hygiene of the family and the lay couple emphasized on the family life in general. This course helped the couples to understand how to live a happy, healthy and sacred married life. At the end all the couples expressed their happiness for attending this course. (Fr. Nixon, SJ)



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### »» Province Team for Ignatian Year Celebration

- Fr. Vincent Saldanha SJ (Coordi)
- Fr. Shaji Thekkemury SJ
- Fr. Kamlesh Raval SJ
- Fr. Simon Thomas SJ

### »» Diwali Retreat

Dates: 15th to 23rd November, 2020

Retreat Preacher: **Fr. Ashok Macwan SJ**

### »» Province Sammelan

The Province Sammelan and the Jubilee Celebration which was supposed to be held on 12 November is postponed indefinitely.

### »» New Email Ids

Fr. Stanislaus D'Souza (POSA) and **Fr. Keith Abranches** (Socius) have new email ids.

- POSA - [president@jcsacuria.org](mailto:president@jcsacuria.org)
- Socius - [socius@jcsacuria.org](mailto:socius@jcsacuria.org)



**"Stretch forth your hand to the poor"** (Sir 6:7). Age-old wisdom has proposed these words as a sacred rule to be followed in life.

**- Pope Francis**







## PAP IMPLEMENTATION

### STOP, LOOK, GO...!



The beginning of the implementation of the PAP was like sowing a mustard seed, or mixing a pinch of yeast with some flour. It was a simple, silent and small beginning in June-July 2020. Thanks be to God the Covid-19 did not infect the mustard seed and the yeast. They have begun growing at their pace. As planned, the PCM gathered on 13th October to take cognizance of the implementation of the PAP.

#### The PCM took time

01. To stop and look: Despite the limitations and difficulties posed by the pandemic, several Action Plans have been successfully implemented though some have faced difficulties. The PCM stopped to look at them, and to ponder over what has been done in order to move ahead with renewed vigour.

02. To be Accountable: There is a call to mutual accountability. The PCM is directly responsible for the implementation of the PAP as it was for its birth. Hence, accountability to each other and to the Province is appropriate.

03. To Report: Reporting is a must in the implementation of any project. Similarly, reporting allows us and the Province track the current progress of the PAP against the original plan. It is a kind of status report that helps us to know where we are in terms of the implementation of the PAP, and make suggestions, proposals and decisions in order to give the process new impetus.

Hence, we had a series of presentations about the Action Plans that have been implemented, and Plans for next six months. Presentations also enumerated some of the difficulties faced. The following presentations were made:

- Mission 01, Goal 01, AP 02, 03 & 04 by Fr. Jitu D'Monte
- Mission 01, Goal 02, AP 01 & Mission 05, Goal 02, AP 01 by Fr. Shaji
- Mission 02, Goal 01, AP 01, Goal 02, AP 03 by Fr. John Kennedy
- Mission 02, Goal 02, AP 01 & 02 by Fr. Antony Doss
- Mission 03, Goal 01, AP 01 & 02 by Fr. Nagin Macwan
- Mission 03, Goals 02 & 03 by Fr. Alpesh Macwan

- Mission 04, Goal 01, AP 01; Mission 07, Goal 02, AP 01 & 02; Goal 03, AP 01 by Fr. Isaac Rumao
- Mission 04, Goal 02, AP 01, 02 & 03 by Fr. Jimmy C Dabhi
- Mission 05, Goal 01, AP 01 & 02 by Fr. James Vaz
- Mission 06, Goal 01, AP 01 by Fr. Jimmy C Dabhi & Fr. Francis Macwan
- Mission 06, Goal 01, AP 02 & 03
- Mission 07, Goal 01, AP 01 & 02 by Fr. Lancy D'Cruz
- Mission 07, Goal 03, AP 02 by Fr. Francis Macwan

After the presentations and discussions the PCM rated the implementation on a scale of 00 to 10. The average rating was 07.28. The group made the following suggestions to increase the effectiveness of the implementation of PAP:

- The PAP is a long-term plan. Hence, there is no need to hurry. It is advisable to re-prioritize the Goals and Action Plans according to the urgency of the situation and move.
- There are too many meetings, workshops and seminars in the Action Plans. We need to merge them in order to avoid multiplicity and reduce the number of meetings.
- When there is confusion or lack of clarity during the implementation, these should be discussed either with concerned Commission or with the APCT and resolved immediately rather than waiting to bring to the PCM.
- Each Jesuit must actively participate in the implementation. Get the communities and the whole Province involved.
- More collaboration and co-operation between various Commissions is a must.
- Fine-tuning some Action Plans and more precise planning are required to implement them effectively.
- In spite of Covid-19 the implementation of the PAP must go on!

The Lord chose another seventy-two men and sent them out two by two, to go ahead of Him to every town and place (Lk. 10:1). The seventy-two men came back in great joy. "Lord" they said, "even the demons obeyed us when we gave them a command in your name" (Lk. 10:17). One could see similar joy on the faces of the PCM members as

they shared what they were able to achieve.

This was the first STOP (Meeting). The PCM was found to be very heavy and tiring because of the tight schedule. Added to it, since there were reports of all the Missions, we had to rush through these without sufficient discussion, reflection and processing. Hence, the PCM suggested that there was no need to feel obliged to report about all the Missions. Instead we could take only a few each time, and STOP to LOOK. As we GO ahead with the implementation of the PAP let each of us ask: "Am I carrying out the implementation of the PAP because Jesus wants me to do it; do I do it as Jesus would?" "As I implement the PAP do I regularly consult the Spirit?" Let us make the implementation of the PAP an act of Faith in Action!

- Ambrose SJ  
For the APCT



*May the Light of the  
Lord shine upon you and  
grant you good health,  
happiness and joy!*

## HAPPY DIWALI!



### POPE'S WORLDWIDE PRAYER NETWORK

#### Artificial Intelligence

*We pray that the progress  
of robotics and artificial  
intelligence may always serve  
humankind.*



## 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

## R.I.P

- † Fr. Louis Francken, (RAN), 82/63, passed away at Ranchi on 5 October
- † Fr. Paul Vadakel, (KER), 91/71, passed away at Kozikode on 8 October
- † Fr. Wilson Arockiasamy, (MDU), 56/36, passed away at Nagercoil on 17 October
- † Fr. Joachim Dungdung, (RAN), 73/48, passed away at Mandar on 19 October
- † Fr. Gregory D' Silva, (JAM), 56/37, passed away at Jamshedpur on 25 October



**REST IN PEACE!**



## REMEMBERING

**THOSE WHO LEFT US...FOR THEIR  
HEAVENLY ABODE**

## GREEN CORNER

### EFFORTS IN THE BHAL

‘Bhaal’ is the white saline area in the coastal region of Gujarat where nothing but the ‘gandabaval (mad babul) survives. The Pochabhai Foundation (a local Dalit NGO) is now involved in helping people there to have their own organic kitchen garden.

Mr. Himatbhai Chauhan of the Pochabhai Foundation, with training by Francis Macwan of GJEM, enabled 120 beneficiaries to register in a Gujarat Govt. Kitchen Garden Project for SCs and STs in the Bhal. Each family was given Rs. 2,000/- worth of seeds, saplings and liquid manure. The people took to the project with enthusiasm. That in the saline Bhal land one can grow vegetables and fruits is unbelievable. The availability of water has also improved considerably in the last few decades. The kitchen gardens are a boon to the people, when due to the lockdown caused by the pandemic the cost of vegetables and other essential commodities have risen tremendously.

The price of vegetables has increased sharply due to the Covid-19 lockdown. The earnings of our people, mostly marginal farmers and casual labourers, have declined or stopped. Many of our people own saline lands.

- Francisbhai Macwan, GJEM

## BIRTHDAYS & DEATH

- |                                  |                                |                                   |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 01 Edward Fonseca                | 12 Br Eneriz Manuel – 2014+    | 27 Alpesh J. Macwan               |
| 02 Francis Macwan                | 13 Reji Madathikunnel          | Fr Ignacio Badiola – 2011+        |
| 03 Cedric Prakash                | 14 Br Miguel Germendia – 1983+ | Fr Bento Fernandes - 2018+        |
| 04 Carlos Glz. Vallés            | 15 Fr Vincente Riera – 1982+   | 29 Fr Martinez Luis Maria – 1993+ |
| Br Antony Uppumparambil – 1968+  | 16 Thomas Pereira              | 30 Hemant Dias                    |
| Fr D’costa Joao Baptista – 1984+ | 18 Darrel Velloz               | Joseph Mattam                     |
| 05 Fr Frank Lobo – 1994+         | Sebastian Vazhapilly           |                                   |
| 06 Fr Ignacio Echaniz – 2008+    | 21 Jitendra D’Monte            |                                   |
| 07 Cyprian Andrade               | 23 Sudhakar Dhavamani          |                                   |
| 08 Fr Basil L Parmar – 1981+     | 25 Fr Gil Juan – 2003+         |                                   |
| 11 Arulanandam P.                | 26 Ashok Vaghela               |                                   |
|                                  | Vincent Monnupeedikail         |                                   |

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