

OFFICIAL...



Pope appoints three Jesuit Cardinals

After the Angelus on 01 September 2019 Pope Francis announced the names of 13 New Cardinals who will be created during consistory on 05 October 2019. Among them are three Jesuits.

Jean-Claude Hollerich SJ (b 1958), Archbishop of Luxembourg, Luxembourg

Michael Czerny SJ (b 1946), Under-secretary of the Migrant and Refugee Section of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development

Sigitas Tamkevicius SJ (b 1938), Archbishop Emeritus of Kaunas, Lithuania



Father General has appointed:

Fr. Durai Fernand – Provincial, Gujarat Province
Born in 1963, Durai is presently Province Consultor, Superior & Principal of Xavier's Sch, Gandhinagar



Fr. Provincial has appointed:

With Effect October, 2019

Mathew Chemplany – St. Michael's, Patna
Anil Minz – READ, Bettiah
Ranjan Lazarus – Rest & Renewal
Jesuraj K – change of Residence-St. Xavier's, Patna
Pradeep Kumar – Mokama Shrine
KC Philip – Gyanodaya (Temporary)

With Effect January, 2020

Joy Pulikunnel – Shanti Sadan, Allahabad
Robert Athickal – Shanti Sadan, Allahabad
Prashant Pius – Kurji Parish
Oswald Saldanha – St. Xavier's, Patna
(Full-time Vocation Promotion)

PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

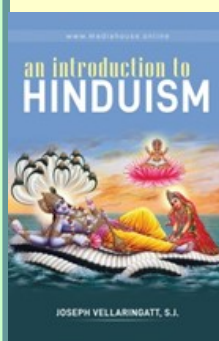
October

- 02- - SND Jubilees
- 01 – 04 – Prov. Office
- 05 – 06 – Bettiah
- 07 – 09 – Prov. Office
- 10 – 13 – Atmadarshan Com. Vis.
- 14 – Province Consult
- 15 – 17 – Varanasi Visitation
- 21 – 30 – JCSA Ranchi / Hazaribag

November 2019

- 01 – 04 – Shifting of Provincial's Office
(*Treasurer's office continues at St. Xavier's temporarily*)
- 05 – Superior-Coord. Meet (AGM)
- 05 – Province Jubilee Cel. (PM), XTTI
- 06 – Province Consult (St. Xavier's)
- 11 – 15 – Varanasi (URU CRI-Bishops)
- 16 – 20 – Province Office
- 21 – 22 – Bettiah, 125 years Holy Cross Jubilee,
- 29 – Closing of Cent. Cel. Patna Arch Dio

CONGRATULATIONS



A new book 'An Introduction to Hinduism' by **Fr. Joseph Vellaringatt** is published by Media House, Delhi. The aim of the book is to present the Christian readers with a correct understanding of Hindu beliefs and practices leading to inter-religious harmony. The copies of the book are available at Xavier Bhavan and Atmadarshan. Those who buy in bulk will get a discount.

This book "Catholic Social Teachings: Towards a Catholic Faith in Action" written by **Fr. Prakash Louis** subtitled, "The Best Kept Secrets" tries to emphasise the fact that the rich tradition of the Church remains totally unknown to most of the Catholics. This is all the more true in India. Taking into account these facts, this book is published for dissemination, internalization and action.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

A Meeting of **the Superiors, Coordinators and Community Leaders (AGM)** is scheduled for the 05 November 2019 at St. Xavier's, Patna. The meeting will start at 9.00 am.

The **Province level Jubilee Celebrations of 2019** will be held at XTTI, Patna on 05 November 2019. The Solemn Mass will start at 5.00 pm.

LOCAL REPORTS

Ara: The more we change the more we remain the same. Whatever be the context of that statement it definitely was the case here in Ara. The change of guard that took place on the 01 September was imperceptible. After serving Ara Parish as Parish Priest and guiding the Jesuit Community as the Superior for six years and three months, **Fr. Prashant Pius Michael** graciously handed over the reins to **Fr. Francis Palliparambil**. Fr. Provincial who accompanied Francis three days earlier to Ara had already introduced him to the Community as the Acting Superior of Jesuits residing in both Ara and Buxar. On 01 September, in the presence of some 200 strong Catholic Faithful of Ara Parish, Fr. James Amakatt, the VG of Buxar Diocese, installed **Fr. Francis** as the new Parish Priest during a solemn Eucharist.



During the same Eucharist, the parish bid farewell to their beloved Parish Priest **Fr. Prashant**. The high point was the touching farewell speech by Fr. Prashant Pius Michael in which he opened to the people his heart aflame with love for them. The cultural programme that followed was a true tribute to him in which they so eloquently expressed how much he 'smelt his sheep'. On 04 September, it was the turn of the schools to give a farewell and welcome. In both the Middle School and High School, the children and the Teachers clung to him showering their love and affection. They would definitely miss him and his fatherly concern a lot.

The Teachers Day was celebrated with much gusto by the students of both Middle School and High School separately on 05 September. The whole day children sang and danced, prayed and paid obeisance, acknowledged their indebtedness to their Teachers for all the love, care and concern they have experienced from them and above all for being their light and guides. Our students excelled in many competitions at the district level Games and Sports competition. We won five medals (2 silver & 3 bronze) in Badminton in three categories. In athletics, we won three medals (1 gold, 1 silver and 1 bronze). We are the District Champions in Basketball both for boys and girls. 15 September was our Parish Feast Day. The church in Ara is dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows. The preparation for the celebration started with 7 days of Special Masses followed by prayer services in honour of the seven sorrows of our Mother. Every evening the attendance was very encouraging. On the feast Day, we had a candle lit procession followed by Solemn Mass presided over by the Parish Priest. It was followed by some entertainment programmes and Fun Games during which snack packets were distributed. We honoured five of the senior most members of the parish. The Parish youth, children, Mahila Sangh, the choir, Urusline Sisters and everyone else of the parish played their part wholeheartedly to make it a wonderful, meaningful and grace filled celebration. -

Francis Palliparambil

Barbigha: September was a grace-filled month for us. We began the month with the *Monica Diwas* in the parish on 01st September. Many women participated in the Eucharist with enthusiasm and devotion. As a culmination of 9 days of Novena to our Blessed Mother, we celebrated the Parish Day on the 08 September. It was very grand. The prayerful atmosphere and the big number of the parishioners participating in the Mass, were very encouraging and inspiring. We concluded the feast with a procession, praying the Rosary from the Church to the Grotto. On the 15 September, our children celebrated the '*Krus Veer Diwas*'. Teacher's Day was unique in its own way. The student council presented each teacher with a plant in a *gamla*. They also felicitated the teachers with stoles on which the name and the virtue of each teacher was written. 06 and 07 September are very memorable days for us. For the first time, we organized the *Arrupe Inter-School Kabbadi Tournament* where teams from eight different schools participated. The discipline and sportsmanship were appreciated by the Chief Guest, the ADM and others. Raj Rajeshwar High School became the Runners Up while Amar Jyoti Public School, Sheikhpura became the Champions of the Tournament. - *Prakash*



Gyanoday, Juniorate: The month of August ended with a recollection given by **Fr. Tony**. It helped us to be spiritually and mentally enthusiastic for the coming month. On the first day of September, we celebrated the feast day of St. Monica as Mother's day. During the celebration, the juniors sang a melodious song wishing the parishioners. On 05 September, we celebrated Teachers' Day as well as the birthday of **Fr. Joseph Dungdung**. We played blind volleyball during the day and staged a cultural programme in the evening. The presence of **Frs. Joseph Dungdung** and **Dominic** enriched the celebration as one community. We joyously joined the Holy Cross Sisters for their feast day celebration and fellowship meal on 14 September. To make relevant the fourth Universal Apostolic Preference, we had a five day course on Eco-Spirituality in Tarumitra by **Fr. Antony Pendanath** and his team. The peaceful and green surrounding of Tarumitra made us aware of caring for our Mother Earth and environment. We are grateful to Tarumitra community for enlightening us regarding many aspects of environmental care. While we were in Tarumitra, the staff members participated in the juniorate staff meeting held in Trivandrum. We also attended a workshop on the CBCI policy on child abuse and sexual harassment at Navjyoti Niketan. The workshop sensitized us regarding sexual abuse. We are eagerly awaiting the celebration of Karam festival in the parish.

- *Arockia Nelson*

K. R. Campus, Bettiah: September was a busy month for the schools as they had a number of celebrations and Term Exams. On 02 September, **Fr. Gabriel Michael** celebrated his birthday in KRCH. On 05 September,

all the three Schools celebrated Teachers' Day with a number of mesmerizing cultural programmes as students paid their respects to the teachers. St. Xavier's School had a Hindi Elocution competition this month. St. Xavier's School had the first Term exams from 16 to 24 September. On 24 September, **Fr. Joseph Maripuram**, Rector of KR, left for his treatment in Christian Medical College, Vellore. On the same day **Fr. T M Joseph**



joined his jubilarian companions in Patna for their programme. There were some important meetings held in KR campus. KR community was blessed to have **Frs. Selvin, Alwyn** and **Rajesh Jacob** for one such meeting. Because of the heavy rains the school had to be closed now and then. **Fr. Paul Varickamthotty** was down with infection in feet. We pray for his speedy recovery.

• *Ashish Paul*

Kurji Parish: There was a directive from the Archbishop that, as part of the centenary celebrations of the Archdiocese (1919-2019), all the parishes celebrate 07 September as a Day of Prayer and 08 September as Parish Day. Accordingly, adoration of the Eucharist was held on 07 September from 07.00 am till 08.00 pm, on the pattern of Maundy Thursday, with time slots of one or two hours allocated to different areas and organizations of the parish. The Day of Prayer concluded with Benediction. It was a day of devotion.

On 08 September, Sunday, a Solemn Mass was celebrated at 08.00 am. In the beginning of the Mass, Mr. Joseph Francis, one of the senior parishioners recalled the growth of Kurji parish from its origin in 1855 as Sacred Heart Church in St. Michael's School campus, the shift of venue - across the road to its present site as Queen of the Apostles Church and as an independent parish in 1977 and the blessing of the present church in 2009. Not just the increase in the number of Christians leading to the creation of Patliputra parish in 2001 and Raja Bazar in 2005, but of the cultural diversity yet unity in faith of parishioners, hailing from different cultural backgrounds and geographical areas of the country, was recalled and celebrated with joy and thanksgiving. After the Mass, two senior members of the parish jointly hoisted the parish flag, inaugurating the day-long cultural extravaganza and fete. Being the feast of the Nativity of Mother Mary and as a conclusion of the novena in her honour, the day concluded with a rosary procession and the usual Sunday evening Mass.

In accordance with the directive of the Archbishop, the new four-wheeler (Bolero ZLX) purchased on 01 August for Kurji parish, was given to Sikandra parish on 13 September in view of greater pastoral needs there.

Fr. Nicholas returned to Kurji parish after his priestly ordination in St. Joseph's College, Trichy, Tamil Nadu on 31 August. Though he immediately began with the weekday Masses, on 22 September. Sunday, he celebrated his first Mass on the main altar of the church with the usual large gathering of the faithful. At the end of the Mass, he was felicitated with a garland. On the same day, the second Mass was celebrated as Karma festival Mass. A large gathering of Adivasi parishioners as well as members of other cultural origins celebrated the day with the customary cutting of Karam branches and entry into the church with dance. Fr. Kalyan Minj, SJ (MAP), doing his doctoral studies in St. Xavier's College of Education, Patna, was the main celebrant. After the Mass, cultural programmes including dances continued till noon. Preparations are on for the Patna Deanery Retreat for the Laity on 04-06 October 2019 which will be held in our parish.

-Susai Raj

Prabhat, Sakri: September was an eventful month for us at Prabhat, Sakri. Our animators organised mass awareness programmes on the food security scheme at different villages. Women and children participated in the procession that passed through the village streets and made the people aware of rights regarding food security schemes. Diligent planning by **Fr. Anand Kerketta** and animators brought these events to a

fruitful completion in several villages. **Fr. Jose Vadassery** returned to Sakri a few weeks after his successful operation. He has regained his health now and looks fairly well. He had severe cold for a couple of days due to the change of the weather. The second phase of the flood relief was the second major event at Prabhat. We gave away two tarpaulins and a ten-meter rope to 1500 families in over 10 villages as a temporary shelter support. The success of entire flood relief was due to the meticulous planning and hard work put in by **Frs. Jose** and **Anand** together with the committed team of volunteers and staff of Prabhat. Incessant rain could not deter us from accomplishing events we had planned. Two new CRC centers were inaugurated at Laxmisagar and Bhawanipur. At Laxmisagar 90 students are enrolled while Bhawanipur center has 135 students. Both the centers were inaugurated by the lighting of a lamp and an inspiring speech by **Fr. Anand**. Mukhiya, Sarpanch and Ward members of Bhawanipur present on the day assured their full support for the proper functioning of the center. Parents and their children are quite excited and happy to have CRC centers in their vicinity. Students showed their reverence towards their teachers by honouring them on Teachers' Day with small gifts.

On 11 September Prabhat organized Saheli Diwas in which 70 adolescent girls from the villages of our mission participated. On this occasion, a nurse, Ms. Mini, from the Government Hospital, Sakri and a lady supervisor, Miss Poonam, of Anganwadi were present. The nurse talked about health and hygiene. She also clarified the misconception regarding menstruation. The lady supervisor spoke about the role of adolescent girls in society and highlighted the scope of government jobs in various sectors. **Fr. Anand** insisted on the education of girls. Mr. Chandrakant listed the opportunities and achievements gained by women in modern times. He also stressed the goals and objectives of organizing *Saheli Diwas*. The day concluded with the girls exhibiting their talents through cultural programmes which was highly appreciated by the audience. On the occasion of the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, **Fr. Anand** and **Sch. Ravi bhushan** went to Darbhanga to wish the Holy Cross Sisters. This month witnessed incessant rain for four days yet there is still not a flood-like situation here. We are safe but the water level is rising in the villages where we work. We had enough rain for our paddy field. The new campus is looking lush green with the paddy swaying high.



The temperature has gone down and we feel chill in the mornings. A quarterly review and reflection meeting with core members of Community Based Organization (CBO) along with an interface meeting of members of CBO with the officials of Women & Children Department and Health & Family Welfare Department was held at Prabhat. A quarterly cluster level meetings of DBM members were conducted at Sakma, Raghunathpur, Bhawanipur and Bahengra. Now as the season of festivity is approaching, our neighborhood is becoming boisterous.

• *Ravibhushan Kumar*

Sanjivan Niwas: The month of September has been very hectic for all of us, especially for B.Ed. trainees. We have been blessed with a new member in the community. The presence of **Br. Shilanand** makes us feel energetic. He has adjusted himself to the community without any delay. We wish him a fruitful stay with us. We, the second year B.Ed. students, have started our two month teaching practice in different schools. We are quite busy in training ourselves in the field of teaching with much preparation and skills. Fr. Augustine Hembrom of Patna Archdiocese is under medication for his back pain and is resting in Prerana. We were very happy to invite our newly ordained priest **Fr. Nicholas Kulandai**. He celebrated mass with us. We congratulated him and prayed for his priestly ministry. Due to incessant rain at the end of month, there was water logging in and around our campus.



Savariappan

Sasaram: The month of September brought a lot of joy by welcoming a few guests to our community. On 05 September, we celebrated Teachers' Day at St. Anne's school. The students expressed their love and affection for the teachers through their melodious singing, vibrant dancing and by conducting entertaining games for teachers. We welcomed our new community member, **Fr. Richard D' Souza** with warm hearts on 05 September. **Fr. Benny Moolan** left for Patna to attend the meeting of the superiors, community leaders and coordinators on 10 September. Two Medical Mission sisters visited our community and stayed with us for a day on their way to Amulya for the purpose of vocation promotion. On the joyous occasion of **Br. Siluvainathan's** birthday, we went to Chenari to be part of the birthday celebration. On 22 September, the parishioners bid adieu to **Fr. Virendra** through a solemn Eucharist followed by a short felicitation programme and fellowship meal thereafter. On 27 September, four of our diamond jubilarians visited Sasaram and had lunch with us. Their presence added a lot of bliss and we were enriched by conversing with them. The brother and nephew of **Fr. Isidore Kerketta** visited our community. They came to reach a worker who is assigned in the school. This year the monsoon has been heavy, so our house is surrounded with a lot of water.



Benny Moolan

READ, Bettiah: The months of August and September were indeed very memorable for the READ family. We had the regular monthly meeting with the animators and supervisors on the 1st and 2nd August. We celebrated the birthdays of **Fr. Joyson** and **Sr. Sunita OLP** on 11 and 12 August respectively. Our students had gone home for three days to celebrate Independence Day and Raksha Bandan. **Fr. Anil Minz** was in READ for a couple of days. **Fr. Provincial** paid a short visit to READ and met us briefly. He explained to us our apostolic roles of work. **Sch. Robert** and **Fr. Joyson** were down with viral fever for a few days. Many of our students were down with viral fever so we sent them home after giving them some initial treatment. On 05 September, our students staged an energetic cultural programme to show their gratitude and love for their teachers. They

felicitated the teachers with attractive gifts. READ had organized two days of seminar for the members of *MATA SAMITI* on 13 and 14 September. Sr. Shalini OLP was the resource person for the programme. **Fr. Joyson** and Sr. Sunita had gone to Delhi to attend the meeting celebrating the '50th Anniversary of the Journey for Justice and Reconciliation.' Jesuits engaged in social action ministry from different provinces attended the meeting and shared their experiences. Our students wrote the second terminal exams from 24 to 30 September. On 04 October, **Fr. Anil Minz** joined the R.E.A.D community.

- *Joyson Fernandes*



Vidya Niwas, Varanasi: We had the privilege of welcoming the Jubilarians **Frs Mathew Chemplany, Tom Karthanam, TM Joseph and Henry Rebello** along with Mr. Prakash Kerketta to Vidya Niwas as part of their pilgrimage. Thanks to all of them for visiting us. The regional diocesan centre Nav Sadhna, Varanasi had organized a five day catechetical programme for the catechists of the region. **Fr. Raymond** was the resource person for the programme, where he dealt with the 'Social Teachings of the Catholic Church'. **Fr. Raymond** also gave points for the three days retreat to the Missionaries of Charity sisters in Varanasi, to prepare them for the feast of their congregation. **Fr. Prakash Louis** along with Paul D'Souza of ISI Delhi has undertaken the Impact Assessment of the Mission and Ministries of the Diocese of Varanasi as it completes 50 years. He will also help the diocese in formulating the Pastoral Plan for the Next 10 years. He also published a book titled, "Catholic Social Teachings: Towards a Catholic Faith in Action", a training manual for internalization and action.

- *Prakash Louis*

XTTI Campus: On 07 September, 25 students of the second year BBA conducted "The Let's Talk Series on Depression" at Nazareth Academy and Crane Memorial School, Gaya. Our students participated at the Mega event on Breast Cancer Awareness 'Jijivisha' on 15 September organized by *Gulmohar Maitri* at Babu Sabhaghar, Patna. On 17 September, the cultural Committee organized a singing and dancing competition. The Management expert, Mr. Sandeep Makwana gave interview related tips to the students of the BBA at our College on 23 September. On 27 September, the members of the Eco Mitra Club organized Global Climate Strike Programme at Kalam Hall. On this day, fans and Air conditioners in the college were switched off for one hour to mark our support. At the end of the month, incessant rains filled the XTTI campus with water. Some senior fathers whispered that the water level was next to the flood level in 1975. Many students, NSS volunteers with the support and encouragement of the management and staff took up relief work in the most affected areas such as Dinkar Chowk, Rajendra Nagar, and the Musahari along Patliputra Railway Station. The water at XTTI campus is receding slowly.



XISR: **Fr. Jose Kalapura**, director of XISR organized a one-day Science-Religion Seminar on 27 September for 200 students (Science Stream) of Patna Women's College (PWC), Patna with the collaboration of PWC and the Indian Institute of Science and Religion (IISR), Delhi. Fr. Job Kozhamthadam (DEL), Director of IISR gave the keynote address. Four other resource persons for the technical sessions were from the National Institute of Technology (Patna), Digital Research Centre, Bihar Government and **Fr Alphonse Sebastian** of St. Xavier's College of Management and Technology, Patna. The theme of the seminar was "Science and Technology for a Better Universe."

- *Sebastian Alphonse*

DIASPORA

Kandy, Sri Lanka: On 04 September, we, sixteen Tertians from ten provinces arrived at Arrupe House, Kandy, Sri Lanka. We were formally welcomed into 'the school of the heart' with the Inaugural Mass offered by the Provincial of Sri Lanka, Fr. Dexter F. Gray, S.J.. In the first week, we had the Introduction to the Tertianship based on the letter of former General Fr. Kolvenbach. We went for a tour of Kandy city in the same week. In the following weeks, we were introduced to the Autobiography and Spiritual Diary of St. Ignatius. We had classes on the Socio-political and Religious context of Sri Lanka to get familiarized with the place. We also took the opportunity of sharing 'our own stories', which enabled us to connect with our Tertian companions. We set out on a two-day trip to Northern Sri Lanka on 29 September. We visited several religiously significant and historical places, including the Basilica of Mother Mary at Madhu in Mannar. We begin our long retreat on 06 October. We request you to keep all the Tertians and the Tertian Instructors in your prayers

Michael Ekka



Vidyajyoti, Delhi: We welcomed the month of September with our First Mid Semester Exam. The first two weeks were very hectic, keeping us on our toes to prepare well for the exam. During the month, we had a 'Day of Recollection'. On this day, we got sufficient time to pray and reflect on the Four Universal Apostolic Preferences (UAP). We were divided into four groups and each group was assigned with one UAP each, to pray over and share our reflections and views on them. After having shared our views, we were also able to reflect together as to how we could make a concrete plan for their implementation as a community. It was really a good initiative taken from our side. We also had some discussion and planning on the syllabus prescribed by the ADF for our theological stage of formation. We had the privilege of attending the farewell Mass of **Fr. Felix Marshal** in the Rosary Parish. All the Vidyajyoti students actively took part in the Golden Jubilee celebration of Justice and Reconciliation commemorating 50 years of Jesuit involvement in the social action ministry. To mark this occasion, we had two days of Convention to walk with the poor, the outcasts of the world, those whose dignity has been violated in a mission of Reconciliation and Justice. The whole programme was very well organized by Jesuits in Social Action (JESA) and Vidyajyoti College at Naviivan Renewal Centre, Delhi on 26 and 27 September. We concluded the month with the visitation of **Fr. Provincial**. His visit was indeed inspiring and overwhelming.

- Jeevan



Xavier Nilaya, Bengaluru : The beauty of Bengaluru is in its evergreen climate. Due to the most conducive weather, most of us have sound health in Xavier Nilaya. On his birthday, **Fr. Daniel Raj** was away in Tamil Nadu for the Ordination of our men and so we celebrated his Birthday on 04 September after he returned to Xavier Nilaya. After paying a visit to his ailing brother in Kerala, **Fr. Mani Poovakot** returned to Xavier Nilaya on the 02 September. Once both the priests returned, Sch. Ashwin took a short break for Regents' Meet-cum-Recollection at Loyola Mandir, Bengaluru. The candidates had a pilgrimage to St. Mary's Basilica at Shilvaji Nagar on 06 September. The candidates had gone to Lalbagh Park for a day of picnic. As usual, we did have a few guests from far and near. **Fr. Joy Karyampuram** and **Fr. Pradeep** stayed with us for some time. Fr. Selvin's Dad who is diagnosed with esophagus cancer and his sister-in-law stayed with us for medical treatment in Bangalore. After three and half months, our candidates are leaving no stones unturned to learn English. Of course, no doubt, **Fr. Mani, Fr. Daniel and Sch. Ashwin** are the men behind for their progress to a great extent. Of late, half of them have qualified and have reached a stage for taking up Mass Readings on week days.

- Ashwin Kujur



VARIA

NJAAI Milan 2019 – the JAAI North Zone Alumni/ae Congress

The NJAAI Milan 2019 – the Jesuit Alumni Association of India (JAAI) North Zone Alumni/ae Congress commenced on the evening of 14th September 2019. It was hosted by St. Xavier's Alumni Association and Jesuit Alumni Association of Patna at St. Xavier's High School, Patna. Province Coordinator for Alumni, **Fr. Peter B. Arockiasamy SJ**, Rector of St. Xavier's School, **Fr. Joseph Sebastian, SJ**, Principal, **Fr. Christu Savarirajan, SJ**, Secretary of the JAAI North Zone Mr. Neel Mani Rangesh, Secretary of SXAA, Patna Mr. Abhay Kanodia and President of SXAA Dr. Sandeep Sen welcomed all the delegates travelling from different parts of JAAI North Zone to attend the congress. The plenary session started with the lighting of the lamp and welcome song from school students. The first edition of the 'NJAAI' – the e-newsletter of JAAI North Zone was released on the occasion. At the inaugural ceremony, the Chief Guest His Grace Reverend **Archbishop William D'Souza, SJ**, Archdiocese of Patna appreciated the efforts taken in releasing the e-newsletter and expressed the hope that the communications would result in positive solutions while being mindful of the core concerns of education. His Grace blessed the occasion in a speech that indicated purpose and intent. Secretary, Mr. Neel Mani Rangesh presented a wonderful and exhaustive report on the activities of various alumni associations under JAAI North Zone through an audio-visual presentation. The Guest of Honours, Mr. Naresh Gupta, Secretary, WUJA and Mr. S. Chenthil Kumar, Secretary, JAAI made an impassioned appeal to all Jesuit Alumni for achieving the objective of WUJA & JAAI and both invited all present on the occasion to join in the World Congress at Barcelona, Spain in 2021 and National Congress at Trichy in January 2020. The program was very well anchored by the Secretary of NZC JAAI, Mr. Neel Mani Rangesh & Dr. Ashutosh, Jt. Secretary of SXAA, Patna. Mr. Om Prakash, Jt. Secretary, NZC, JAAI thanked all the guests and delegates for their purposeful contributions and participation.

Around 100 Jesuit alumni and 10 Jesuit priests from Patna and Calcutta Province attended the congress and deliberated over the theme "Disaster Risk Reduction & Water". There was no representation from Delhi, Darjeeling and Kohima Province. We request all the Jesuit Institutions under North Zone to encourage their alumni to attend the JAAI Triennial National Congress scheduled to be held next year on 17, 18 & 19 January 2020 at Trichy, Tamil Nadu. We also request all our superiors and Principals of all the Jesuit Institutions of our Patna Province to motivate Alumni/ae to attend the Trichy National Congress in Jan'2020 in good numbers.

On day-2 i.e. 15 Sep'19, the panel discussions on the conference theme was started with the keynote address. Mr. Vijay Sinha, an alumnus of 1981 batch of St. Xavier's, Patna and currently the Commandant, No.9 Bn NDRF, Bihta, Patna delivered the Keynote Address on the theme and enumerated the various challenges and worries that the one faces today with regards to disaster risk reduction (DRR). The Congress Statement was summarized in just one sentence which was used by the Keynote speaker Sri Vijay Sinha as "If you fail to prepare, you prepare to fail..." In the next session, the alumni associations of different provinces under north zone presented reports on activities of their associations e.g. ALSOC Kolkata, SMAA Patna, SXCEAA Patna, SLOBA Kolkata.

At last, Northern Zone Governing Council meeting of JAAI was held in which new office bearers were elected unanimously. It was also decided that the next Congress of JAAI North Zone will be hosted by Kolkata Province. The Jesuit Alumni Association of Patna Jesuit Province (JAAP) requests all the reverend fathers, who are Heads of Jesuit Institutions under Patna Jesuit Province, to facilitate formation of Alumni Association of their Institution if not yet formed, arrange to activate them if dormant and encourage them to register with Jesuit Alumni Association of India (JAAI) to be part of national movement & collaboration so as to live up to Ignatian legacy and contribute as a true Jesuit Alumni/ae.

REQUESTING YOUR PRAYERS**For the Departed:**

Fr. Aloysius Thoppil, SJ (AND, 56/31) expired on 01 October 2019 in Andhra Pradesh.

