

GUJARAT JESULT SAMACHAR



Premal Jyoti, PB 4002, Ahmedabad - 380 009

72/921 GJS OCTOBER 2020

PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

October

01: Meeting - JESCOM, at Xavier Residence, Anand

02-03: Meeting - PDT, at PDO, Ahmedabad

06: GVD, Sevasi11: Bardipada

12-13: Meeting - PCM, at CCD-XTI, Sevasi

14-15: Consult, XTI, Sevasi

19-21: Visitation, Jeevan Darshan, Vadodara

26-28: Meeting - JCSA

APPOINTMENTS

M PROVINCIAL has appointed

- Dn Christi Pratik: Diaconal Ministry, Shamgahan
- Dn D'Sa Melwin: Diaconal Ministry, Fulwadi

▶ FR GENERAL has appointed

- Fr. Jan Roser: Provincial of Germany
- Fr. Dominic Vu Kim Quyen: Provincial of Australia
- Fr. Martin Lenk: Provincial of the Province of the Antilles (comprising Miami, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Jamaica & Guyana)

HERE I AM, SEND ME!



We are called to share God's love

PROVINCE HIGHLIGHTS

M CONGRATULATIONS JUBILARIAN!

The community in Spain to which Fr. Jose Heredero belonged was closed down and he was moved to the Jesuit Community in Zaragoza. Changes, at any age are bound to be painful, and more so, at an advanced age; but for Fr. Heredero there is one consolation: Fr. Jose Arroyo, his community member at St. Xavier's College, Ahmedabad lives in the same community. There was a surprise awaiting him in the community: on Sunday 6th September, he was asked to preside over the Eucharist in a thanksgiving to God for completing 75 years in the Society of Jesus on 3rd September. This is indeed a special year for him as he completed 60 years as a priest on 24th March. We join vou, dear Fr. Heredero to thank the Lord for this double Jubilee! Our prayers go with you, Fr. Heredero for your health! (He will soon have to see another nearby oncologist to continue his treatment). (Francis Parmar, SJ)

JUNIOR JOTTINGS

We continue to be occupied with our regular routine in the Juniorate. From 3rd to 5th August we had a course on 'Skills for Pastoral Ministry' by Adrian Rosario (a lay collaborator of Bombay Archdiocese). This course provided us with newer perspectives to prepare ourselves for more effective pastoral ministry. Then from 17th to 21st August we had a course on, 'Psycho-Spiritual-Sexual-Intellectual integration: the inner processing' by Fr. Dudley Mendonça (BOM). We were helped to deal with our past and made to realise how facts/effects impact in our journey of life. We were also introduced a new psychological exercise called NCD (Name it, Claim it, Drain it). Both courses were useful and enjoyable. On 15th August, Fr. Aubrey Fernandes, our Dean, presided over a meaningful and well-prepared (by the Juniors and Scholastics) Eucharistic celebration on the theme 'Mary the Arc of the Covenant.' (Pradip Gamit, SJ)

*PAHEL' RELEASE

On 5th September, the quarterly magazine 'Pahel' (issue No. 9) of the Gujarati Juniorate was released by our Provincial Fr. Durai Fernand at Premal Jyoti. For us Juniors it was a proud moment that we were able to bring out the magazine under the guidance of Prof. R. R. Parmar and the leadership of Sch. Alam Parmar, the editor. We also paid tribute to all our Gujarati Juniorate teachers and formators for the vital role they play in our growth. To mark the day, we had the Eucharistic celebration presided over by Fr. James Savarimuthu and a meal with the teachers and other invited guests, besides the Premal Jyoti community. We sincerely thank all those who have been encouraging us and contributing towards our growth. (Raman Dalvi SJ)



MIGRANT CARE

Xavier Green School, Vadodara, (under the aegis of the Xavier Kelavni Mandal) reached out to eighty migrant families who are badly affected and rendered helpless by the COVID-19 pandemic. Through the generosity of well-wishers and friends substantial food kits for six months were given on 28th and 29th August to the families of our students. (Jolly Nadukudiyil, SJ)



SOCIAL AWARENESS

On 21st September, thirty-five of the teaching and non-teaching staff of the Ashram Shalas from the Zankhvav parish participated in an enriching seminar on 'Social Awareness and motivation'. **Fr. Xavier Manjooran** and Mr. Rameshbhai Tadvi from Shakti, Songadh and

Kanchanbhai from Rajpipla, were the resource persons. Fr. Camilus Kishore said the opening prayer and welcomed all. The participants shared about their work and struggles when they introduced themselves. The resource persons gave significant insights and important information on tribal identity, dignity and the valuable cultures of the indigenous people of India. Words like 'vanbandhu', 'vanvasi' were explained and also the hidden agenda behind the usage of these words for the indigenous people of India instead of using the word 'Adivasi'. Policies/laws which were highlighted included PESA, 73AA, FRA, etc. (Sanjay Horo, SJ)



NEP 2020

St. Xavier's High School, Surat organized a Seminar on the New Education Policy (NEP) 2020 on 14th September 2020 for the entire staff of the school with **Fr. Arul Rayan** as the resource person. **Br. Pravin Falcao** was the guest of honour and also contributed with his reflections. The seminar covered the key aspects of the policy. The final segment was a questionnaire in which the staff actively participated and presented their views regarding the NEP 2020. (Sudhir Bhatia, SJ)



YOUTH CARE

The Youth Commission (GJYM) met at CCD, Sevasi, on 25th September to discuss the commission's role and responsibilities in the implementation of GPAP. Fr. Nagin Macwan welcomed the newly appointed GJYM members and introduced the agenda for the day. Fr. Xavier Manjooran gave an informative and interesting presentation on the history of the Jesuit Youth Apostolate



in Gujarat. The highlight of his talk was the personal reminiscences of the youth apostolate's beginning in the 1960s and the challenges he faced in convincing the province to allow him to carry on working fulltime with the youth at Ashadeep, Vidyanagar. While talking about All Guiarat Student Development Movement's long-standing affiliation with AICUF, Fr. Manjooran emphasized that the Jesuit youth apostolate in Gujarat has transcended the boundaries of religion and caste to reach out to the marginalized and unorganized youth by adopting an incarnational and prophetic spirituality for GJYM. The Provincial, Fr. Durai Fernand, addressed the group highlighting the importance of the word 'preference' in the UAPs and explained that it implies special attention to them in all our ministries. He recommended that the GJYM involve non-Christian youth in all its activities and also work in tandem with the commission for Vocation Promotion. Fr. Francis Macwan, a member of the Apostolic Plan Coordinating Team, led the group in planning a comprehensive response to GPAP. He pointed out that GJYM is asked to lead the implementation process on Mission 3, and collaborate on Mission 4. To arrive at a greater clarity on both the roles of the commission he also proposed a 'format of reporting' based on the detailed action plan for Missions 3 & 4. He invited the group to think of ways in which they could respond to the other five Missions of our Apostolic Plan. The commission also took up some other points and did a tentative planning for the next meeting to be held in January 2021. (Sunil Macwan SJ)



>> JESUS YOUTH

On 15th September, 98 boys and girls of Bardipada actively participated in a Jesus Youth Group gathering. Fr. Victor Davamani addressed the youth highlighting their responsibilities towards their parents. Prayers, inspirational talks and games conducted by the Sisters and Catechists focused on making the youth aware of their responsibilities towards the Church and society. The history of the Bardipada mission was also shared with them. Fr. Kishor Gavit asked the youth to reflect of how they could contribute to the mission of Bardipada, to their village and to the Church. The response of the youth was very positive and vibrant. They formed a core committee for future planning and also decided to meet every month. It was a memorable day for all! (Kishor Gavit, SJ)



IN QUARANTINE

A suspected positive case of COVID-19 in the neighbourhood resulted in the Shamgahan community being quarantined for two weeks. The local residents were also home quarantined for some days and even the shops at the marketplace were shut for three days at a stretch. Even after the completion of the scheduled home quarantine period, we continue to take precautionary measures so as to avoid creating unnecessary issues and for the overall health of the people around us. (Sanjay D. Aind, SJ)

N RETREATS

Online Retreat

Dates: 11th to 19th October, 2020

Retreat Preacher: Fr. Errol Fernandes SJ

Diwali Retreat

Dates: 15th to 23rd November, 2020 **Retreat Preacher:** Fr Prakash Louis SJ

Place: Mount Abu

KINDLY NOTE: We are not certain about Diwali retreat due to Covid 19. We will keep you updated.

ORDINATION

Deacon Pratik Chisti SJ will be ordained a priest at 5 pm on 28 December 2020 in St. Joseph's Parish, Baroda.

Deacon Melwin D'Sa SJ will be ordained a priest on 08 January 2021 in St. Loretto Parish, Mangaluru, Karnataka.





NICOLAS HERNANDEZ BLANCO SJ

(1928 - 2020)

'Man for all Seasons'

He was born in Madrid on 05 February, 1928, entered the Society of Jesus on 30 November, 1944, pronounced his final vows in Anand, Gujarat on 15 August, 1951. He served People of Gujarat and Gujarat Province till he returned to Spain in 1988. He passed away in Villagarcia de Campos, Spain on 20 September, 2020.

Bro. Nicolas left Gujarat, but left his heart behind

By Br Agnelo Vaz SJ

21 September 2020 was a day to reckon with: the morning email message with the information of the demise of my companion and friend Br Nicolas Hernandez SJ stunned me. We were regularly in touch with each other. Recently,due to his poor vision, I had to increase the font size for him to read. He was slow in his reply; and it gradually stopped completely!

I was fortunate to visit him in 2008 when he was administrator of Colegio Mayor in Comillas Madrid. That visit was a 'biggy'. He went out of his way to make it historic with trips to Loyola, Javier and other places; a visit to his village Logroño was a delight and a highlight! He grew up in this nostalgic village. His father was a station master, and the political upheaval of that era, had its effects on his childhood - the memories of disruption; no regular schooling, acute shortage of food supply, loss of family members – all that played a part in his life.

One day our dear Nicolas was guided to Javier. Javier became the nursery for the future missionary to India. After a couple of years of apprenticeship our young enthusiast was selected to join the novitiate at Loyola in 1944. Among the many novices were Martin Araquistain, Francisco (Paco) Gil, Manuel Eneriz, Saul Abril, Antonio Rabella, Felipe Lizarralde, Salvador Galicia [today only Bro Abril remains] who joined the group for the Ahmedabad Mission.

All had a mission to fulfil. That was how it all began.

The printing press was inaugurated; Br Nicolas who was already well trained in print technology joined Br Escofet. And what followed is history.

A bird's eye view of the 'Man for all Seasons'

Responsibilities held in the Society in Gujarat (1949 – 1988)			
Assist (1950-55) and later Manager (1956-66)	Anand Press	1950 - 66	
Director	Xavier Technical Institute, Sevasi	1966 - 1972	
Social Work – Wells and Agriculture Projects	St. Mary's Church, Nadiad (Kheda District)	1973 - 82	
Construction of Loyola Training Centre and St Mary's Church, Nadiad Later Director of LTC, Indiranagar, Nadiad	Nadiad	1982 - 88	





Anand Mission was the 'hub'. The monthly Missionary meetings were memorable. During the break a bee line to the press, was a must. Br Nicolas was a support to all of them if nothing at least for a cup of hot tea. The problems were several: from cycle to motor-cycles, irrigation pumps to drainage, roof leakages to (two and four legged) rats in the godown. There was loud laughter! Next door was the office of Br Escofet who cautiously reminded the visitors of office hours!

He treated workers with dignity and respect, a strict disciplinarian the loud siren to begin and end work was introduced. All the employees were given a special dress code designed specially by him. The hollow-brick making machine was introduced. Thus the Press Colony for workers came into existence. For their families a decent home and a blessing of a School and a Parish.

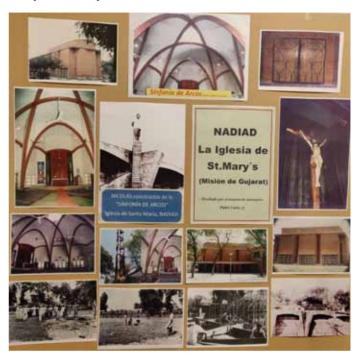
If he had to stay a bit longer he might have shifted the Press elsewhere perhaps closer to the Amul Dairy. Thanks to the visionary director Dr. V. Kurien, Anand Press was the main printer for AMUL dairy products.

He was entrusted with the building of the Xavier Technical School Sevasi and appointed as its first director.

He got Mr. Hasmukh Patel the renowned Architect of Ahmedabad to design and plan it. And with his Loyola conovice Br. Martin Araquistian, Xavier Technical Institute came to fruition. It was acclaimed highly by the tech arena of Gujarat.

Once the project was completed it was time to shift, this time to the humble mission of Nadiad. I was a mere 'ad omnia' running the CRS food Aid program, because of the serious drought!

Thanks to Nicolas the setting was perfect. The talk of building a new Church reached its peak. The old church built by a German Brother in 1911 needed a face lift. A new one was planned by the architect Fr Carsi from St Mary's Bombay.



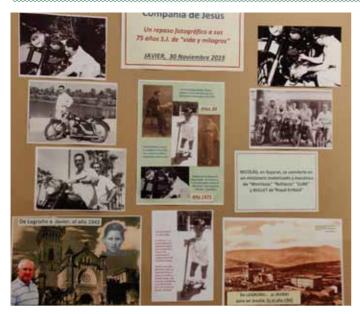
Bro Nicolas the supporting star designed created an architectural feat of multiple arches. Among the many chapels and constructions, this was a master piece of Nicolas. [The inside arches and exterior of the New Church with the bells]

The small Mission compound of Nadiad needed expansion. The Parish was to be handed over to the Diocese. So next, stage was set for Bro Nicolas to start the new Project of CEBEMO the non-formal Technical school, near the slums of Indiranagar, Nadiad.

His vision was to create a self-help technical school for barefoot enterprising students, who were migrating to towns and cities.

The project made sense! A couple of boys initially did join up. Later there were 'no takers' the softer option was to go for a regular Govt Aided Technical School where a Govt. recognized certificate would be available.

It boiled down to getting an 'official' certificate v/s practical skill of doing the job to perfection. Nicolas indeed was a perfectionist, a serious Jesuit; he was methodical and yet a social gentleman. When the kettle blows the lid, I was there to heal those affronted by his swear word 'c...n'



mildly translated better a 'goat than a pig' thus we kept the circus afloat.

His laughter would fill the residence. In those days recreation was open to the sky on the terrace. TV was still unheard of, always a pleasure to end the day with the group. 'The Mota (big) father and the chhota (small) father' Recreation is an art very often soothed us to sleep.

I was with him for 10 years and our team spirit ruled the roost.

It is said that once, you ascend to the peak it is prudent to call it a day. A good singer should stop singing before his voice cracks. Bro Nicolas was still in perfect health and faculty. When he bid adieu and returned to Spain but his heart was very much in the Gujarat mission.



As a matter of fact Spain welcomed his expertise and his experience in the mission came in very handy. The schedule recorded below speak for itself.

IN SPAIN	Place	Year
Administrator of Community and School	Colegio, Valladolid	1988-94
Administration office of the Province	Leon-Curia	1994-97
Administrator of Community and School	La Coruna	1997-98
Member	CAL	1998-99
Administrator	Colegio Mayor Comillas, Madrid	1999-2010
Receptionist, Minister, Archivist of community, photographer of the Javier Sanctuary	Javier	2011-2019
Praying for the Church and Society	Villagarcia de Campos	2019-2020

When things got rough Nicolas, hummed a tune from the 'My Fair Lady' 'with a little bit of luck someone else will do the blinking job'.

A mutual friend writes, "Like St. Paul, dear old Nicolás wanted to stay put with us, in Gujarat, Javier, Valladolid..., and but he preferred to be with Christ. And so he did it! AMDG. A wonderful, great person devoted to Christ and to His little ones... May he rest in peace! He passed away on Sunday, the Lord's Day (20th Sept) and he will be put to rest today on St. Matthew's Feast."

Dear Bro Nicolas you have gone back to the pavilion! We thank you for being an ideal Jesuit Brother in the Company. Today there are very few left, may you be a light for others to follow. The Society needs some more like you.

Thank you for being Bro Nicolas.

May his soul rest in peace!



NICOLAS HERNANDEZ BLANCO SJ

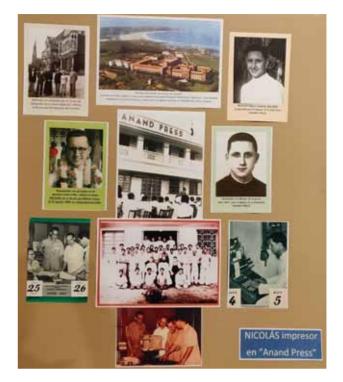
- by Fr Joaquin Castiella SJ

After going through the impressive 'curriculum vitae' of our great Brother Nicolás and with the fundamental limitation that I have never worked or been with him in community, I need to highlight my experience of him in three different stages:

As an external admirer: This is the easy part! Anyone who has seen the work that Nicolás has done in Gujarat, cannot but admire and praise him. He is the one who put Anand Press on the Indian map, won many printing prizes and recognitions (of course, Br. Abril deserves much of the credit too), built a housing colony for the workers, etc. The list is long indeed, from Anand to Sevasi to Nadiad and from there to various villages of then Kheda Dt.....No matter how many trains will pass rumbling through the tracks near the Nadiad Church, it will neither shake or fall, since it was built by Br. Nicolás – a fitting last testimony of his significant contribution to the Gujarat Mission. Having returned to Spain in 1988 after 38 years in India, his many sterling qualities were soon recognized there as it is obvious from the many important jobs that he was entrusted with. I visited him in Madrid when he was the Administrator at the University of Comillas. I admired his capacity to take on such huge responsibilities just as I had admired him when, as a scholastic, I had seen him at the beginning of the XTI (Sevasi), struggling with builders, with the donors (Misereor) and with Provincials; however, he always went ahead and succeeded in putting up an excellent Technical School!

A glimpse at the inside of the man: My discovery of the true Nicolás came as I read his autobiography some years ago. I did not know, and it came as a great surprise to me, that Nicolás' father, because of his socio-political leanings, had lost his good job as a station master after the Spanish Civil War and the once well- to -do family, was plunged into penury. They could not afford to pay for Nicolás' studies; so young Nicolás was admitted not as a student but as a servant boy in the apostolic school of Javier. Happy with his performance, the young Nicolás was recommended by the Fathers there, to join the Society of Jesus as a Brother. Nobody thought otherwise and so Nicolás remained a faithful and great Brother till the end.

In December 1968, my parents came to visit me in India. I was a scholastic learning Gujarati. Once, in my ignorance and innocence, I had shared with Nicolás that my father was a hero of the civil war (on General Franco's side!), wounded in the battle of Teruel and that my family



belonged to what was called 'the regimen'. It therefore came as a great surprise to me that Nicolás took the initiative in inviting us to Sevasi for an excellent meal of 'paella' (Spanish pulao) which he himself had prepared. We enjoyed that meal and a wonderful day in Sevasi, without knowing that our gracious host had been a victim of the discrimination and injustice following the end of the war.... If that is not greatness, what else is...?

Since then, I never missed a chance to visit Nicolás whenever I went to Spain. His passing away has left me with the unfinished business of telling him how much I admired him, not only for the many works he has done but mostly because of his inner greatness, which, alas, I discovered very late!

Rest in peace, great and faithful brother Nicolás!

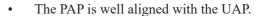


PAP IMPLEMENTATION

It is a good news that all the Commissions and Local Communities or District Communities have met to deliberate on the PAP. Thanks to modern means of communication such as Zoom, Google meet, Whatsapp, Webinar! They made our meetings possible whenever we were not able to meet in person due to the pandemic. From the reports we have received, it is evident that the province has taken the PAP seriously and has committed itself to implement it. Some Communities and Commissions have studied each mission and each goal elaborately and in detail in order to understand, assimilate them. They have come up with many concrete action plans beyond the purview of the PAP proper. The following could give us a taste of the experiences, expectation and energy our province men had during the deliberation of on the PAP. Please know that this is not an exhaustive report of the meetings, instead a few indicators culled out from the reports to give us an idea of the movement of the PAP at this moment.

HOPES

- Deliberation on the PAP was a moment of grace.
- Enthusiasm to implement the PAP.
- Active participation of the members in discussing about the PAP.
- A feeling that the Holy Spirit is taking us forward from SAP.
- Committed toown the PAP.
- A monitoring team is in place to ensure the implementation.
- The Vision statement is inspiring and comprehensive.
- It is an IOU for all. Internalize the PAP (read, reflect, assimilate, pray). Own it (it's mine, belongs to me, I am responsible). Universalize (share it with others).
- Inclusion of the Preamble of the Indian Constitution.
- Themes of the PAP are taken for prayers, Eucharist, regular community meetings etc. already in some communities.
- The PAP is a discovery of our own life in general and a road map for the coming ten years.
- The PAP calls us for a personal, institutional and province level transformation.
- The PAP will bring greater unity of minds and hearts.
- The PAP is a very well thought plan, fruit of a long process involving all Jesuits in the province. There is clarity of WHAT, WHO, WHEN and HOW.
- Scope for inter-commission collaboration.



- Fr. General's letter of appreciation of the PAP is encouraging.
- HOPE THAT SOMETHING WILL HAPPEN THROUGH THE PAP!

CHALLENGES

- Difficulties in Inter-ministerial collaboration in terms of fulfilling the objectives.
- Recent socio-eco-political development in our country.
- Lack of space in the PAP for lay collaboration and networking.
- Apprehension about the whole exercise due to negative experience in the past with similar exercises.
- Lack of clarity of the outcome and benefit of the PAP.
- The PAP is a repetition of the SAP. There is nothing new in the PAP.
- The rural context is not matching with the PAP.
- Rapidly changing scenario in our country.
- A whole hearted participation of every Jesuit in the implementation of the PAP is a question.
- Challenges posed by Fr. General in his letter of approval of the PAP.
- The Pandemic!

SUGGESTIONS, PROPOSALS

- Need to separate youth ministry and vocation promotion. Youth ministry deserves top priority.
- Mission 05 which is narrowed down to Pastoral Work should be extended to other apostles including JESAE.
- A fixed time frame for the implementation of the PAP is necessary.
- Need of clarity on Resources.
- Need to adopt `Zero Tolerance` to protect children and vulnerable adults.
- In the vulnerable groups the OBC should be included.
- Set up a mechanism to identify those Jesuit who have problem in the area of abuseof children and vulnerable adults.
- Expand Eco Spirituality to all ministries.
- Thorough evaluation of Pastoral Ministry in the province

- together with deliberations on new evangelization. Having pastoral strategies, pastoral policy in each parish.
- Need for authenticity of life, spiritual depth and openness to be guided by the Spirit.
- Spot out the young and make them available to the mission. Take vocation promotion more seriously. Inigo groups.
- Spiritual formation of the faithful.
- Work towards change of mind set with regard to eco concerns.
- Share about the Society with others in our Institutions using all possible means: display the Vision-Mission statement in our Institutions and even residences; display Jesuit Logo, Global Jesuit Network in our Institutions; share with them printed matters, audio, video productions about the Society etc.
- Make all our houses and campuses fully Eco Friendly.

Viktor E. Frankl, an Austrian neurologist and psychiatrist as well as a Holocaust survivor in his book Man's Search for Meaning says, "Those who have a 'WHY' to live, can bear with almost any 'how'." In other words, those who have a WHY to live know HOW to live! We could say that the PAP has given a sharp focus to our WHY as Jesuits in the Gujarat Province. Let us thank each other and the Lord for many rays of HOPE, put our hands together to face the CHALLENGES and open ourselves to incorporate the SUGGESTIONS and PROPOSALS.

Ambrose For APCT

POPE'S WORLDWIDE PRAYER NETWORK

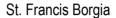
LAITY'S MISSION IN THE CHURCH

We pray that by the virtues of baptism, the lay faithful, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church



JESUIT SAINTS OF THE MONTH







Bl. John Beyzym



Sts. John de Brebeuf, Isaac Jogues, Anthony Daniel, Charles Garnier, Noel Chabanel, Gabriel Lalemant (all priests), Bro. Rene Goupil and lay volunteer John de La Lande



Bl. Diego Luis de San Vitores



St. Pedro Calungsod



Bl. Dominic Collins



St. Alphonsus Rodriguez

R.I.P

- **†** Fr. Jayant Kumar Padival, SJ (KAR), 71/54, on 08 Sept in Father Muller Hospital, Mangaluru.
- **†** Fr. John Berchman Nag, SJ (JAM), 72/36, on 10 Sept in Tata Main Hospital, Jamshedpur.
- **†** Fr. Jacob Carvalho SJ (GOA) 75/57, on 12 Sept in Belagavi, Karnataka.
- **†** Fr Vijay Kumar Prabhu, SJ (KAR) (80/61) on 15 Sept in Father Mullers Hospital, Mangaluru.
- **†** Fr. James Thottakath, SJ (KER), (83/63) on 15 Sept at Christ Hall, Kozhikode.
- **†** Fr. Erik Breye SJ (RAN), 80/61, on 18 Sept in St. Albert's College, Ranchi.
- † Mr. Simon Dominic D'Monte, 81, father of Fr Jitendra D'Monte SJ, on 19 Sept in Vasai.
- **† Br. Nicolas Hernandez Blanco SJ** (ESP), 92/75, passed away on 20 Sept in Villagarcia de Campos, Spain.
- **†** Fr. Dionysius Rasquinha, SJ, (PAT), 65/44, passed away on 24 Sept in Patna.
- **†** Fr. Joseph Thayil, SJ (KER), 90/70 passed away on 30 Sept in Kozhikode, Kerala.

cattle and wild animals and seeds as food for birds.

The authors are emphatic, "this book is not meant to be a guide to enable anyone to begin self-medicating and consuming the plants listed in this book." It does open up challenges for research and experimentation by competent people to restore many orally transmitted traditional healing remedies of our communities. That could save us from harmful side effects of many allopathic chemical medicines. This book could familiarize us with common weeds around us to improve our nutritional intake and healing.

- Rappai Poothokaren, SJ

GREEN CORNER

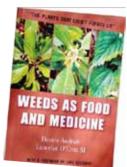
MOTHER EARTH CARES

Mother Earth, if well cared for and cultivated, could provide sufficient food for all: billions of humans and all other living beings. What is less known is that Mother Earth provides not only food but also medicines that heal.

We do notice some animals eating particular weeds to cure their diarrhoea or other diseases. How do they know that those weeds could cure them? Before some became

'learned' medicine men, our elders, especially grandmothers, knew about weeds as food and medicine.

Hector Andrade and Lancelot D'Cruz have published a book, 'Weeds as Food and Medicine', presenting thirty-six such weeds. Hector dedicates the book to his mother and Lancelot to his father – accepting that they are the root of their knowledge and inspiration! But their book bridges the ancestral



wisdom with a scientific presentation.

The book presents nutritional and healing qualities of simple weeds, hardly ever cultivated with care, but growing everywhere including roadsides, paths, borders of cultivated fields, streams, fences, and under the shade of trees. Mother Earth seems to nurture them at places easily accessible to the 'aam janata'!

Our grandmothers knew them from oral tradition and used them. Today's healers 'for cash' seem to find weeds too common and cheap! The authors are rescuing them from oblivion and neglect, as food and medicine. They provide in-depth information about many easily identifiable weeds, casually growing around us, that nourish and heal; attached references to scientific articles help further exploration and study.

As is nature's way, the weeds play an important role in a well- balanced eco-system sustaining rich and diverse insect and plant species. Some provide fodder for domestic

BIRTHDAYS & DEATH DAYS 2020

- 02 Angelo Freddy D'Souza
- 06 Suhel Gamit
- 07 Fr Urrea Jose Antonio 1987+
- 08 Abp Stanislaus Fernandes
- 10 Hedwig Lewis
- 11 Andrew Silveira Sanjay Daniel Aind
- 12 Fr Dias Donald 1993+
- 13 Fr Corral Jose Antonio 2014+
- 14 Anil Parmar Moieson Dhas

- 15 Fr Pascual Puche 1981+
- 18 Fr Lawrence Lobo 2017+
- 19 Dinesh BraganzaFr Jose Maria Duran 1967+
- 20 Royston FernandesSiddharth CanisiusFr William Paul Macwan –2009+
- 22 Jose Changanacherry
- 23 Alpesh Chauhan P D Mathew Fr Terence Lobo 2013+

- 25 José M Heredero Fr Fonseca Aloysius – 1991+
- 26 Fr Ignacio Errázquin 2008+
- 27 Fr Mathew Kalathil 2005+
- 28 Joseph Ovelil K P Vincent
- 29 Francis D'Sa
- 31 Vincent Pereira