



E-SAGARMATHA SAMACHAR

Vol. 35 No. 9

Nepal Jesuits

September 2020

FR. GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

Fr. Dionysius Gerard Leonard Vaz (Dion) the new provincial of Karnataka Jesuit Province

Announcement

The new name of Jesuit residence in Deonia is Arrupe Niwas.

ST. XAVIER'S SCHOOL, JAWALAKHEL

On July 31 the valley Jesuits gathered at St. Xavier's Jesuit Residence, Jawalakhel to celebrate the Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola and to bid adieu to Fr. Etienne Degrez. On behalf of the Region, Fr. Amrit Rai expressed our heartfelt gratitude to Fr. Etienne for his dedicated service to Nepal and her people. He returned to Belgium on August 2, 2020. Frs. Sanjay, Tomson and Boby reached him to the airport and saw him off. We wish him all the best for his future mission.

The month of August was blessed with a few birthdays of our community members. Birthday celebration is all about expressing our gratitude to God for the gift of life and His abundant graces and blessings in the past, and seeking the same for the future.

Although class 1 entrance test was conducted in mid-March; however due to lockdown publication of result was on hold. After a long waiting it was published on August 21. The result gave a sigh of relief to the anxious parents. In spite of lockdown the truss roof construction work on Niesen building is in good progress.



Sanjay

St. Xavier' School, Godavari



Most of the days in August we had incessant rain. Rain is grace; without rain there is no life. Give thanks for the rain for it waters the flowers of your soul.

One of such rainy days was the perfect time for our Jesuit brothers to have a fun in the swimming pool.



Fr. Lawrence Maniyar continued his webinar on classroom management (i.e. disciplining difficult students). Mr. Indira Gurung, one of the experts in NLP gave webinar to the school staff and students of class 10 and 12 on "Consciousness Age". Mr. Subarna and Mr. Gyan took classes for the teachers on online evaluation of the students.

Due to pandemic plans and works are pending and delayed. On 17 August Frs. Samuel and David went to Patan High Court to follow up the land issue. They met the Registrar and on 19 August the court has issued a warning letter to the defendant.

Due to lockdown Class 1 entrance test is on hold. We hope to take online entrance test in first week

of September. For class 11 admission process is on. On August 10 the community celebrated the birth day of Fr. Bill and the feast day of Fr. Lawrence Maniyar.

We had very good Secondary Education Examination (SEE) result.



The SEE result of SXG 2076

GPA 4.0	02 Students
GPA 3.6-3.9	30 Students
GPA 3.2-3.55	35 Students
GPA 2.8-3.15	12 Students
GPA 2.7	02 Students
Total Students	= 81

We thank the school management, teaching staff, support staff and parents for their helping hand in students' success.

In spite of pandemic, our support staff are playing vital role in keeping the school premises neat, clean and green.

SXG correspondent



MORAN MEMORIAL, MAHESHPUR

We continue the lockdown module of classes. There are study centers in different locations. Teachers visit these centers and give students lessons and homework. Each center has a leader. Ev-



ery Sunday he or she collects the homework of the students and bring them to the school. Media room is converted as quarantine room for the students' notebook. Teachers do the correction and the leader of each area collects them from the school. We are happy to get 75% response from the students.

In July lockdown the relief work continued. We distributed dry food kits to around 190 families in Haldibari and Jalthal. Some of our Catholics took the lead and did all the arrangements of collecting data and distributing the ration to the needy people. We also had mobile Masses at different centers. Thanks to all the guests who dropped in to visit us in spite of



lockdown. In the month of August, we distributed dry food kits for 102 families in Rajghad and Saljadi,

46 families in Mittal tea garden, 111 families in Gherabari. Mr. Amar Bista, Sch. Ravindar and some parish

youths were great help in this relief work.

Mr. Amar and Fr. Norbert went in search of the lost Sheep in Nakalbandha tea estate. They met Mr. Peter, one of the young Catholics who had studied in Gayaganga and was baptized by late Fr. Pinto. He is willing to renew the Catholic community there.

All the students passed the Secondary Education Examination. One secured A+ and four secured A. Congratulations to all the students and their parents! Fr. Norbert is very excited to see 1,260 fish fingerling growing in the pond. After a month you are most welcome to help Norbert to catch and fry them.

Norbert



ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, MAITIGHAR

The Department of Physics in collaboration with the Universidade do Vale do Paraíba, Brazil organized an Online School on Space and Atmospheric Physics from 5-7 August. There were 150 participants from seven countries including Nepal. It was a very fruitful program opening up plentiful opportunities for further collaboration especially in research.

The first round of feedback from UGC on our Self Study Report for accreditation has come. It was a very encouraging feedback as there were only a few minor issues that we needed to address. After taking care of those issues we have submitted the revised Self Study Report and await the next round of feedback from UGC.

Online classes continue without interruption. Evaluation of the online teaching-learning by students were conducted and their feedback was shared to the staff by the Principal. Classes for the next semesters for Master level and BSc CSIT have begun. Their

university exams for the previous semesters are still pending. We hope TU will make a similar decision for other bachelor programs as well so that they too can move on.

Online application process for class 11 admission is on. This is a big change from the previous years as there is no crowd seen in and around the college for admission process. Further, the curfew has not hindered the admission process in anyway.

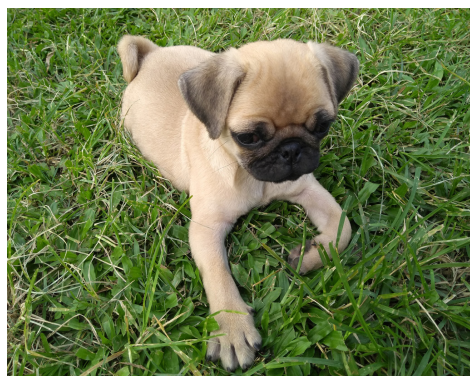
After completing three years in the community and the College, Anup shifted to his new community HRDRC at the beginning of the month hoping to move on to his mission in Tipling soon. We hope that the new members of the community can join us soon since the international flights are starting from September.

The curfew has once again provided opportunity for the community members to develop their culinary skills making one another guinea pigs!

Campion Jesuits

HRDRC, SANEPA

The month of August was spent indoors mostly. However, Fr. Amrit and Fr. Juell along with



Mr. Bimal, an office assistant went to Dhadhing Besi for transferring and registering of a plot of land in the name of Nepal Jesuit Society.

The plot is bought in Lapdung (Tipling) to erect a prayer hall for Lapdung Catholic community. They returned to the community in the evening though they had got pass for two days.

During lockdown a few of community members availed themselves for spiritual activities. Fr. Amrit gave online spiritual exhortation to Catholics especially Couples for Christ and youths of our zone. He also gave a talk to CJ Sisters online on Ignatian Spirituality as they began the process of merger with

Loreto Sisters. Frs. Amrit and Bobby directed 8 day Ignatian retreats to CJ Sisters separately at Godavari Ashram and at St. Mary's, Jawalkhel from 19-27 August.

Fr. Anup has joined the community. He is waiting to trek up to his mission to Tipling once the lockdown is relaxed. Meantime, he completed last part of his Master's thesis and has also got back the final correction from his guide. The date for Viva will be announced anytime. The community hosted a birthday dinner for valley Jesuits on 15 August, the day of Fr. Amrit's birthday.

The community has got a new pet pug named LD (lockdown).

We got it from Mr. Ignatius Chettri when we had gone to his place for an outing last month.

Juell



ST. XAVIER'S SCHOOL, DEONIA

We celebrated the feast of St Ignatius with great solemnity with Holy mass presided by Fr Arul

followed by a feast day lunch.

Our religious collaborators of Jhapa joined us.

In the evening, Jhapa Jesuits gathered at Arrupe Niwas to continue the celebration.

We feel grateful to God for all the people of goodwill who have been supporting us with their generous contributions in our works of charity. We deeply acknowledge the hard work of Fr Boniface who appealed to different agencies for their support in our relief activities at this time of pandemic. Understanding our situation they willingly accepted and approved our requests.

On August 15 the Jhapa Jesuits and our religious collaborators gathered together at Arrupe Niwas to celebrate the birthday of Fr. Boniface Tigga.

The Jesuit community continues to visit Catholics and neighborhood families to give them moral support. On Au-

gust 22 Fr. Arul gave a recollection talk to Carmel Missionary Sisters in Simalbari. August 24 to 29 Fr. Boniface

had section-wise, virtual meetings with parents of classes 2 to 10. Quite a big number of parents took active part in the meeting and shared their opinions and suggestions with the principal. On August 27 North Bengal St Xavier's College, Rajganj organized a virtual orientation programme for the professors of three colleges of Darjeeling Province. Fr. Daniel Bara was the resource person. He highlighted the implications of



the New Education Policy-2020 of India and the characteristics of Jesuit Higher Education in view of preparing educators for the 21st century.

Wilson



ST. XAVIER'S SCHOOL, SADAKBARI



We continue the relief work. August 3-6 we distributed dry ration kits to 507 households in Jhapa Rural Municipality Ward 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. St. Anne's Sisters distributed Horlicks, simple medicines, washing soap, masks, blankets, mosquito nets to the neighborhood families. We thank Mr. Charles Camara, Catholic Diocese of Stockholm Sweden (CDSS) for making it possible to reach out to the most needy people. The Jesuit community, Sisters and staff of the school generously lent their hands. People too cooperated with us by keeping social distance.

August 23 to September 2, Jhapa Rural Mu-

nicipality is in partial lockdown as a precaution and to control the spread of Covid-19.

On August 29 five girls from our parish who passed the Secondary Education Examination were felicitated. The parish priest along with the parishioners congratulated them. Fr. Tek has started a Para Legal Training for the parishioners in Simalbari and Sadakbari. St. Xavier's School continues to reach out to the students once a week. The school is making use of the lockdown in repairing chairs, benches and desks. School has now a 6 bedded sick room for any medical emergencies.

Vijay



ST. XAVIER'S SOCIAL SERVICE CENTRE



The COVID-19 in Kathmandu has badly affected people's lifestyle. People are forced to remain inside except for the emergencies. Now the whole world has become a virtual society. Our Social Service Centre too is affected, especially in our daily activities.

In spite of inconveniences we have not given up. Our routine is full of different activities. We spend time in reading, writing, learning to play musical instruments, singing, dancing, gardening, house chores and above all taking care of each other.

On 3 August Tara Bahadur, our former housemate stopped by Aruna Bhawan. At-

tentive to our needs he offered us some groceries. We are grateful for his generosity.

On 4 August a group of officials from Lalitpur Municipality visited Aruna Bhawan, St. Xavier's Social Service Center and Gafney Bhawan for inspection. They expressed their satisfaction with our facilities.

This month we celebrated the birthday of Fr. Ignatius and Silbandi didi. We had special Eucharist celebration and lunch together.

Four of our girls passed the Secondary Education Examination. One of them, Pragya Pariyar scored GPA 3.55. We congratulate all of them.

Ms. Margaret



SHISHU BIKASH KENDRA, POKHARA

Shishu Bikas Kendra (SBK) patiently waits for the children's return. Sometimes parents bring the children to SBK gate and take them back convincing them it is lockdown. Few students are in touch with the staff through social media. All our staff are well. Fr. Amit took time out to visit all staff during this



month with the help of Mr. Gyanendra. They were quite taken up by his visit. It was quite amazing to see without much communication how happily Ms. Sunita and Ms. Sudha live taking care of families' needs, much attuned to Ignatian Spirituality Cura Personalis. All of our staff's family members are keeping well.

Fr. Amit with the help of support staff is able to grow some vegetables and keep the compound neat and clean. Torrential rain has soaked the building walls and the paint has fallen off. The rain water has percolated the church building wall damaging the inner beauty of the sacred place. Few parishioners volunteered to clean the church with the help of SCC Sis-

ters. The local police continue to check if we have gathering in our church for common worship. Few parishioners pay a quick visit to the house chapel. The second wave of lockdown disrupted the regular spiritual activities at different convents. The lockdown is very strict. People cannot walk around or



drive without permission. Hundreds of bikes and cars are chained all along the roads making the owners to wait till evening. The most sought after Teej celebration of women was limited within the family walls. Fr. Amit faithfully completed his spiritual commitment to MC Sisters giving them Triduum talks and celebrating Holy Eucharist with them during lockdown. He spent few days with the old inmates serving them and joining them in their dancing and singing evergreen Hindi songs, "Khaikhe paan bana raswala, khuljay band akka tala..." sharing a moment of joy and happiness in their lives.

Amit



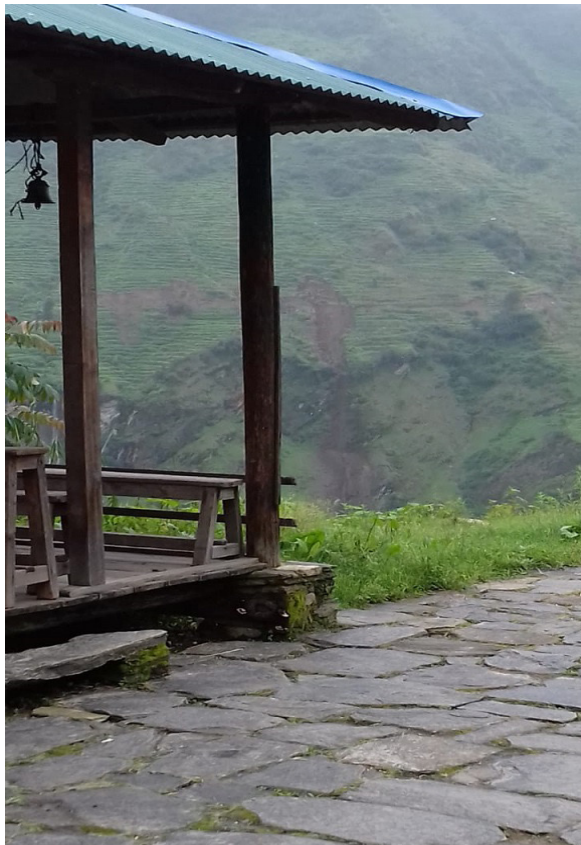
GOOD SHEPHERD, TIPLING

This has been a month of minor landslides. The primary school was hit by one, and our community by two. There haven't been any injuries. Those will come later, mainly back pains from cleaning up the mess.



Roads have become impassable for all vehicles other than tractors. We now bring our supplies up from Trisuli. Trucks bring our supplies from there to Somtang, and from there, tractors bring them to Tipling via Pangsang pass.

Our class 10 students have passed their SEE exam,



thanks to their results in the three semester exams. This method was chosen by the board when the usual exams were cancelled when Covid-19 hit.

We celebrated St. Ignatius' feast in a subdued Covid-19 mode and noted Mike's 60th anniversary



as a Jesuit on August 14, in the same mode.

We had three more deaths this month. Two of them were from natural causes, i.e., old age but the third was the tragic death of a class six boy who climbed an electricity pole near his house, slipped, grabbed the wire and was electrocuted. This is the dark side of progress, especially for his father who works for the hydro department. One of the three deaths in Tipling was that of Sr. Ayusha's grandfather, of natural causes. Sr. Ayusha is one of two vocations to the sisterhood from Tipling.

To end on a happier note, a plot of land has been registered by the Nepal Jesuit Society in Lapdung. The plan is to build a prayer house there for the Lapdung Catholic community.

Jesuit Sources, Tipling



DIASPORA

ASHA KIRAN, MANGALORE

At the beginning of this month we had abundance of rain. The activities of this month began with Province Masses. On 3 we celebrated East Timor Region Mass. It was new for many of us. We came to know about the Region as well as Jesuits working in East Timor. On 15 the Asha Kiran community, with the help of college community, organized an International Webinar on "Walk and Talk with the Youth". About 350 from different parts of the world - Sri-Lanka, East Timor, Nepal and Bangladesh participated. The resource person was Ms. Jesvita Quadras, a former student of St. Aloysius College, Mangalore. She spoke about her experience with Pope and how she met youths from all around the world. Presently she is the member of the International Youth Advisory Body.

Since we have begun delivering homilies from 17 August we had a talk on Homiletics by Fr. Ronald Pias, S. J. The next day we had recollection given by Fr. Bernard, S. J. On 21 we celebrated the birthday of our superior, Fr. Alphonse Fernandez. On this

beautiful occasion we had creative Mass and prayer service including some sharing. This was followed by short programme. We also began classes on Fundamentals of Computer, Hardware and Designing. Three of our brothers took initiative to conduct three days of classes per week.

On 23 we had community evaluation on Novena of St. Ignatius of Loyola, Feast day Celebration, Webinar and the Pandemic. In order to experience the atmosphere outside, the outgoing 3rd years went to Anjali Farm with Fr. Dionysius Vaz and some pre-novices. On 25 first years began their online orientation programme. On 27 we were happy to have Fr. Anil Almeida a student of Boston University. He gave us a talk on Interreligious Dialogue. Mostly he talked about his journey with other faiths. It was an encouraging and inspiring talk. We gained a lot from it. Presently our 3rd years are getting ready for the final Semester examination. Please remember them in your prayers.

Ruben & Niroj

DHYAN ASHRAM, KOLKATA

By God's grace and His protection Dhyan Ashram Novitiate is in full swing amidst worldwide Corona pandemic. On 4 July the novices began their annual retreat under the guidance of Fr. Sajeev Painunkal, the Novice Director. It resolved us to commence the second year of novitiate with a new spirit and enthusiasm.

After nine days of prayerful Novena to St. Ignatius of Loyola, we meaningfully celebrated the feast day with the solemn Eucharistic celebration presided over by Fr. Sunny George S.J., the Rector of Dhyan Ashram. In the morning we played a lively volleyball and basketball matches and in the evening we prepared a short Ignatian cultural programme and a quiz competition based on the history of the Society of Jesus.

On 28 July three first year novices began their first probation and Anthony Hemrom was fortunate to

be entrusted with the responsibility of guiding their baby steps as the 'guardian angel'. They officially entered the Novitiate on 10 August on the feast of St. Lawrence with a solemn Eucharist celebrated by Fr. Sajeev. On this memorable day we shared our joy and companionship with each other by arranging a campus picnic with a sumptuous meal.

On 15 August we marked the day with the celebration of the feast of the Assumption of our Lady and the 74th Independence Day of India. Soon after the Solemn Eucharistic celebration we had a grand Independence Day programme which included a spectacular march-past parade, hoisting of the flag, singing patriotic songs and inspiring speeches delivered by two Juniors and Anthony Hemrom. Currently we are busy with regular classes and various assignments.

Antony

GESÙ, ROME

I hope I won't be wrong if I say month of July and August were the time of opportunities. I was lucky enough to act in a short film entitled, "Limping Pilgrim." The film is based on the last days of St. Ignatius in his room. Once the film work was over, I became busy with one-month language course along with some of my companions here at Gesù. It really helped me to understand and speak Italian in a better way. Three deacons finally managed to get flights and returned to their province. Two deacons are still waiting to go back to their province. The first-year theologians had different programs. Some had gone to work in JRS and others to Taize in France. We even had a visit to one of the cities, Lucca, in Toscana to have a break from the studies. The new comers are very busy with their language courses at home. We had a plan to go to Spain for the Arrupe Month but the pandemic became an obstacle. So finally, we have decided to have it near Rome in one of the centers run by the Sisters. In Italy it seems that the Corona cases are increasing. Therefore, some even fear that the second wave of Corona has started here. Kindly keep us and the people of Italy in your prayers. We too remember and pray for your good health.

Devadhas

LPC, Matigara

It's an immense joy for me to be back to Sagarmatha Samachar bulletin once again.

As whole world is upside down due to the noble corona virus, I too had a great difficulty to catch up with my normal programmes. I went for a short home visit after my Juniorate from Kolkata but it became the longest ever holidays. I reached home on 12 May and due to the unavailability of transportation I stayed on for almost two months at home. However, it was a good time to be with the family, helping out in farming. It was really a great opportunity to be with the family and relatives. I came to Kolkata with an arranged vehicle on 10 August and then travelled to Siliguri by train on 12 August. I reached Loyola Pastoral Centre (LPC) safely on 13 morning.

At present I am stationed at LPC, Darjeeling. My philosophy online classes started from 26 August. Now I am busy with the assignments and waiting for a desk-top so that without interruption I will be able to attend classes.

Lawrence K



September 04	Fr. Jomon Jose K
September 04	Fr. Rufino A Coutinho
September 17	Fr. Paul Chemparathy
September 23	Fr. Jiju Varghese Kevillil
September 25	N.S. Jay Ghale



*Fr. Walter Stephen Andrade S.J. (KAR, 78/53), died on August 26, 2020 at Fatima Retreat House, Mangaluru.

* Gaston Roberge S.J. (CCU, 85/64), died on August 26, 2020 at St. Xavier's College, Kolkata.

*Fr. Augustine Tigga SJ (HAZ, 72/51), died on August 15, 2020 in St. Stanislaus College Sitagarha, Hazaribag.

*Fr. Gaudentius Kongari SJ, (HAZ, 86/66), died on August 12, 2020 at St. Anne's Hospital, Ranchi.

* Fr. Elias Arockiasamy, SJ (AND, 80/58), died on August 12, 2020 in St. Ann's Hospital, Visakhapatnam.

*Fr. Edward S. Sthokal, S.J., (UMI, 98/78), died on August 11, 2020, at St. Camillus in Wauwatosa.

* Fr. Kenneth J. Herian, S.J., (UMI, 96/78), died on August 9, 2020, at St. Camillus in Wauwatosa.

*Fr. Isidore Pinto, S.J. (PAT, 78/57), died on August 7, 2020 in Patna.

THOSE WHO SERVED IN NEPAL

09/09/2001	Charles Law
21/09/2011	Cornelius Curtin