

Calcutta Jesuit Newsletter

কলকাতা যীশুসংঘের বার্তা



Xavier Sadan, 9/3 Middleton Row, Kolkata 700 071 West Bengal INDIA

CJNL - 696

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2021

2021/08

APPOINTMENTS BY FR. PROVINCIAL

- Fr. Francis Dores** : Teacher at St. Joseph School, Bonpara, Curate, Bangladesh
Fr. Johnson Padiyara : Superior of Raghapur Jesuit Community w.e.f. 15.08.2021
Fr. Kurian Emprayil : Superior of Prabhu Jisur Girja Jesuit Community w.e.f. 19.08.2021
Fr. Maria Joseph S. : Superior of St. Xavier's Burdwan Community w.e.f. 15.08.2021
Fr. Rippn Rozario : Teacher at St. Joseph's School, Bonpara, Assistant Parish Priest, Bangladesh
Fr. Roshan Tirkey : Vice Principal (HS), Teacher, Treasurer, St. Xavier's School, Burdwan, House Consultor since Sept. 2021.
Fr. Xavier Savarimuthu : Teacher, St. Joseph's College (Autonomous), Bengaluru; Res. Arrupe Niwas Community

PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAM

September 2021

- 01** : Coetus Praevius Meeting
04 : 10 am: Ministries Commission Meeting
04 pm: Special Consult
10 - 11 : Province Consult
13 - 17 : Visitation: Bankura, Mirga, Jhatipahari

October 2021

- 01** : St. Xavier's College Kolkata Trust
02 : Coetus Praevius Meeting
AGM, Goethals Indian Library Research Society
08 : GB, St. Xavier's College Kolkata
16 : St. Lawrence High School Trust Meeting
St. Lawrence Night School Trust Meeting
24 - 31: JCSA, Hyderabad



A Warm Welcome to the Province : Fr. George Pattery returned to the Province on 29th August after his sabbatical and ayurvedic treatment in Kerala. He joined St. Xavier's Community, Kolkata.

Congratulations !!!

Fr. Maria Joseph Israel pronounced his **Final Vows** on the 9th of September, 2021, in the Chapel of Santa Clara University Jesuit Community, on the Feast of St. Peter Claver. The Provincial Delegate Fr. Arthur Liebscher received the vows.

Fr. Dominic Savio, Principal of St. Xavier's College Kolkata, is selected by the Higher Education Department of Government of West Bengal, for **Shiksharatna Award 2021** for distinguished service for the cause of education. He received it on 5th September, Teachers' Day.

St. Xavier's College (Autonomous) Kolkata has been ranked 4th in the College category of National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) released by the Ministry of Education, Government of India on 09.09.2021.

Holy Father's intention September 2021	Holy Father's intention October 2021
 <p>Universal intention - An environmentally sustainable lifestyle We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.</p>	 <p>Intention for evangelization - Missionary disciples We pray that every baptized person may be engaged in evangelization, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavour of the Gospel.</p>

CALCUTTA JESUITS : NEWS AND VIEWS

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW PRIESTS



On 30th August, Deacons **Antony Albert Suresh** and **Antony Robert V** were ordained priests by His Grace Bp. Antony Stephen of Tuticorin at the St. Joseph's College Church, Trichy together with eight other Jesuit companions. The solemn Eucharist was concelebrated by more than 30 priests following all the COVID-19 Protocols. **Frs. Arul Joseph** and **David Paulraj** joined the celebration as the representatives of Calcutta Province. The entire ceremony was meticulously organized and coordinated by Madurai Jesuits. The Ordination ceremony was graceful and spiritually enriching. There was a short felicitation programme after the Ordination.

On 1st September, at 9 am, Fr. Antony Albert Suresh celebrated his first thanksgiving Mass in his home Parish, St. Antony of Padua Church at Manthickanmoi in Sivagangai. Frs. Arul Joseph, **Masillamani**, **Jude** and Robert joined the celebration. The people of the village were overjoyed to see one of their sons as priest. About 15 priests concelebrated. Fr. Suresh was emotional as he expressed his gratitude to the Society, his parents

and all those who accompanied him to the altar.

On 4th September, at 10.30 am, Fr. Antony Robert celebrated his first thanksgiving Mass in his native village in St. Antony's Church, at Santhanoor in Sivagangai. Some 24 priests were present to thank God and pray for the newly-ordained including Frs. **Mourlin Fernando**, Suresh and David. From the village entrance, the people in procession welcomed the newly ordained Frs. Robert and Suresh to the Church with chenda melam and garlands. The Parish Priest left no stones unturned to make this a memorable event. On behalf of the Province, Fr. Mourlin thanked everyone especially the parents of Fr. Robert, for offering their only son to the Society. He also reminisced the fruitful service of Fr. Robert as his regent in the pre-novitiate at Barasat.

-Fr. David Paulraj



Dhyan Ashram

Novitiate:

On July 31, we celebrated the Feast of St Ignatius with much joy and enthusiasm. After the solemn Mass and breakfast, we had some fun games conducted by **Sch. Manish Tigga**. There were volleyball and basketball matches in the evening. Some MC Brothers who were making their Long Retreat also joined in the matches and shared our joy.

On August 14, we had a novitiate get-together to celebrate the birthdays of the month. It was an evening of fun and laughter and everyone enjoyed it a lot. On the next day, we celebrated the Feast of the Assumption of our Lady with a solemn Eucharist. The novices took part in the parade and flag hoisting

ceremony, and novice Sylbanus (DUM) delivered a fiery speech in Bengali.

These days the first-year novices are learning the Bengali Mass responses and hymns so that we can begin celebrating Bengali mass. The second-year novices are preparing to begin their Sunday ministries.

-Novice Francis Murmu (DUM)

Juniorate:

On August 8, the juniors began their Sunday ministries. On August 15, we patriotically commemorated the 75th Independence Day of our country with a parade, singing patriotic songs, and speeches in three different languages (Bengali, Hindi, English) delivered by a novice and two juniors respectively. The national flag was hoisted

by the Chief Guest, Mrs. Miloni, one of our co-workers. We, the 11 juniors, are currently involved in umpteen number of activities such as delivering short speeches, learning computer skills and presenting current affairs apart from our regular classes.

- *Sch. SundarlalIndwar*

Vidyajyoti College, Delhi

As usual, the first semester at Vidyajyoti is a busy one for **Fr. Valan C. Antony** with seven credits of teaching (Gospel of John, Introduction to Scripture and Pauline Corpus) in two months. He gave a three-hour webinar talk on St. Paul's Letter to the Romans to a group of 22 Tertians of the Presentation Sisters of the Southern Provinces on July 4, 2021. He was the second reader of the Ph.D. dissertation by Sr. Rashmi Kanta Kiro, DSA titled "Rediscovering Jesus Christ in the Adivasi Context with a Special Reference to the Mundas, Uraons and Kharias of Jharkhand," defended at Vidyajyoti on July 29, 2021. His weekend spiritual ministry in a few parishes in Delhi and guiding four Ph.D. students in their intellectual pursuit keep him engaged. **Fr. PouloseMangai** had his usual writing and online teaching in August. He had mini-celebrations of Independence Day and Rakshabandhan with a small group of Cycle Rickshaw Pullers of Asha ki Kiran.

-*Fr. PouloseMangai*

Raghabpur

The community bade farewell to **Fr. Anmol** and welcomed **Fr. Vivek** our new Minister and Curate. The Scholastics in the community have resumed their online classes.

On August 8, the parish offered a Mass for the youth who are going to continue the next level of their higher studies in different streams after achieving good results in the board exams. The youth were all felicitated by **Fr. Salvator** and Fr. Vivek. Followed by the Holy Eucharist. The youth were given sessions on "Future Goal setting."

Online classes in the School and the College are continuing unabated. The School has successfully tuned the students' intellect by providing them Task based Study materials. The School is presently active in conducting online Yoga Competitions for the students.

The Rotary Club, Kolkata has planted some

saplings in the School, College and Kalahrdaya campuses on August 21. They also have sponsored a few rickshaw vans for the poor families in the parish (which includes 3 cycles for Girl students). These were distributed in the presence of our Superior **Fr. Johnson Padiyara, Fr. Thottam, Fr. Joseph Toppo** and **Fr. Saju George**.

- *Sch. Albin Thomson*

Prabhu Jisur Girja



Parish:

In remembrance of late **Fr. Stan Swamy S.J.**, our Parish observed 'National Justice Day' on July 28, 2021 with a special evening Mass. The C.A.B. distributed bread to the poor in his memory.

On August 7, our C.A.B. Unit organized a Special Prayer Service to pray for the people who died during the Covid-19 pandemic. On August 15, we celebrated the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the 75th anniversary of our Independence Day. Our Youth organized the Flag Hoisting ceremony. After the 6:30 a.m. Mass, people gathered in front of the church. The outgoing Superior of PrabhuJisurGirja Jesuit Community, **Fr. P. J. Joseph**, hoisted the national flag. On the same day, the C.A.B. served free lunch to 100 poor people.

On August 22, the National Youth Sunday, Mass was celebrated in our Church by His Grace Rev. Archbishop Thomas D'Souza, Archbishop of Kolkata. **Fr. Kurian Emprayil**, the new Superior of Prabhu Jisur Girja, **Fr. Mahananda Singh**, our Parish Priest and four other priests concelebrated. The Mass was live-streamed on the Archdiocesan website and social media. After the Mass, a function was held in our Parish Hall. Thereafter, our Parish Youth Group had an Orientation Program for its new members in the same venue. **Fr. Roshan Tirkey**, and **Sch. Rakesh Mondol** conducted the

Program with a Power Point presentation on Youth life, activities, their role in the parish, etc. The rules and regulations of the ICYM were also discussed.

- *Mr. Andrio Arup Gomes*

Community:

The Feast of St. Ignatius was celebrated on July 31 with a Mass in the morning and adoration in the evening, followed by the festive dinner. A Table Tennis tournament was conducted and prizes were distributed. The PJG scholastics made the feast day a memorable one by their elegant decoration of the chapel. A beautiful painting of La Storta was inaugurated on the feast day by **Fr. Kurian**.



Fr. P. J. Joseph returned to the PJG community on August 4 after seven months of Ayurvedic treatment. He is fit and healthy and has taken over Chitrabani after a weeklong quarantine period. On August 19, Fr. P. J. Joseph handed over his responsibility to Fr. Kurian, the new Superior.

Fr. Dipak conducted recollections on 2nd and 14th August at M.C.Sisters, Nimtola and SJA Sisters, Weston St.

The renovated Duff-Hall was inaugurated. **Br. Kuriakose** deserves our appreciation for it. **Sch. Santosh** got admission in St. Xavier's College, Kolkata for B. A. Bengali Honors. We wish him all the best for his studies.

Chitrabani: The members of Chitrabani were happy to welcome Fr. P. J. Joseph, the Director. Fr. P. J. Joseph meticulously planned the 1st Death Anniversary function of **Fr. Gaston Roberge** which was held in the Chitrabani hall on August 26 at 4 p.m.

Fr. Soumitro Makhel, the Coordinator of RVA Bengali Service was the anchor of the Death Anniversary Prayer Service to make the day a very

meaningful one. The members of RVABS transmitted the prayer service online in order to welcome all the participants to be part of this important event. The PJG Youth Choir was well appreciated for making the prayer service a memorable one. Fr. P. J. Joseph, **Br. Carlo Thomas** and Mr. Subimol shared their personal journey with Fr. Gaston and the inspiration they received from him.

- *Fr. Arun Lucas*

St. Xavier's, Burdwan

The month of August was an awesome one for the whole community at St. Xavier's, Burdwan. It



was replete with numerous activities and events. 75th Independence Day of India was celebrated in the School as well as in the College. Many teaching staff from the School took an active part in the short Independence Day cultural event. In the College, while **Fr. Masillamani's** splendid speech kept the audience spellbound **Fr. Shymal Makhel's** singing was mind-blowing. The same day, Sch. Rohit Ekka from MAP Province joined our Community. He will be pursuing B.A. (Hons.) in English Literature in our College. Our young scholastics are pulling their socks up before they begin their new academic year. On August 19, with immense joy, the Community celebrated the 60th birthday of **Fr. Paul Arockiam**. Neighboring Jesuit Communities joined us in thanking God for the gift of Fr. Paul. 'I am celebrating my 60th birthday but I am not yet 60,' says Fr. Paul.

Schs. Manik and **Sebastian** are at Dhyana Ashram doing their annual retreat. **Fr. Roshan Tirkey** joined our Community on August 25. **Fr. Maria Joseph** welcomed him with great cordiality. On the same day, while we bade farewell to Fr.

Massillamani who went to Pune, we celebrated **Fr. Sahaya Jude's** fifth ordination anniversary.

-Sch. Oscar Daniel Raj

St. Xavier's School, Durgapur

On the August 15, 2021, the School celebrated the 75th Independence Day. The National Flag was hoisted by one of the senior teachers of the school, Ms. Pushpa Singh, which was followed by her speech. She inspired all of us to be good and righteous citizens of our country and gave us her ideas about how to do that. She also explained beautifully what true patriotism stands for and how we can prove to be patriots in our daily lives.

The School Choir sang a melodious song 'Dhono Dhono Pushpe Bhora' which was followed by a speech by the Principal, **Fr. Zenith William**. He spoke about his idea of independence and educated the students on the Ideas at 75 proposed by the Government of India. The program ended with the National Anthem sung by all.

The ICSE 2021 Results were declared recently. The School's average is 86.6% with Sourodeep Sarkar topping the charts with 97%. The Mark sheets and Pass Certificates were distributed to the students in the last week of August. Fr. Zenith William extended his hearty congratulations to the former Principal, **Fr. Jimmy Keepuram**, the Vice-Principal, **Fr. Thomas Varghese**, the teachers, the parents and the students of ICSE 2021 batch for the outstanding results.

-Fr. Zenith William

St. Xavier's College, Kolkata

On August 7, the College organized an Orientation Program for all the staff and the topic was 'Jesuit Education for Leadership Formation.' It began on a note of meditative reflection as **Fr. Peter Arockiam**, the Vice-Principal (Eve.), shared his thoughts on the significance of the Ignatian year. **Fr. Dominic Savio**, the Principal, set the tone of the orientation program with his profound and insightful analysis of the relevance of Jesuit Education in his welcome speech. Fr. Francis Xavier (MDU), the resource person, commenced his lecture with an elucidation on the goals of leadership formation and further highlighted the need for intra and interexchange, entrepreneurship, and startup programs. The entire program was thought-provoking and intellectually stimulating.



The 8th Kanyashree Day was observed on August 14 by the Department of Women and Child Development & Social Welfare, West Bengal. Our College was felicitated as the best performing institution with a trophy, a sapling, and a certificate jointly signed by the Hon'ble Minister and the Secretary of the Department.

The 75th Indian Independence Day was celebrated on August 15, with a selected gathering of Jesuit Fathers, Teaching and Non-Teaching Staff, Students, NCC Cadets, and Alumni members. The celebration started with flag hoisting by Fr. Dominic Savio along with Brigadier H. K. Singh Bath SM, Deputy Director General of NCC, West Bengal & Sikkim Districts and Lt. Col. S. Mukhopadhyay, Commanding Officer, 20 Bengal Bn NCC Kolkata. The celebration was carried through with Cultural presentations by members of XADAM, Park Street, and Raghobpur Campus, followed by the Closing Ceremony of Mega Tree Plantation Initiative 2021 taken by the College & the Alumni across the state of West Bengal where dignitaries planted saplings at the College grounds.

On August 17, the inauguration ceremony for the 1st year PG and B.Ed. students was held.

Fr. Jeyaraj Veluswamy, the Rector, in his inaugural address, encouraged the newcomers to grow into the Xaverian Spirit and identity, which in other words is being 'men and women for others.'

Fr. Dominic Savio in his welcome address highlighted the salient characteristic features of the College and invigorated the students to walk in the footsteps of great men and women who made a difference in the lives of the poor through their selfless service.

The PG and Research Department of Physics in association with DBT Star College presented a National Webinar on August 27 and the topic was the Story of the Cosmic Microwave Background Photons. Fr. Dominic Savio gave the welcome address and Prof. Biman Nath from Raman Research Institute, Bangalore, was the resource person.

-Fr. David Paulraj

Jisu Ashram, Pandua



On July 24, as a preparation for online classes, the parents of our school children were called to the School to be trained to use the School website and WhatsApp features. On August 2, online classes for the students of St. Xavier's School, Pandua were started. A good number of students responded positively. On a regular basis, 45 students are attending our online classes.

On August 9, the School Inspector from the Pandua SI Office visited the School. He was happy about the School and its infrastructure. On the same day, **Fr. Benny Thomas** moved to Kalna to start his new mission. In the parish, with a limited number of people we started celebrating the Sunday Mass from the month of August. The guidelines of the Archdiocese were kept in mind while celebrating the Holy Eucharist for the faithful.

Fr. Amulya keeps evangelizing through visual (media) communication. The faithful are happy to receive the Word of God through online medium. **Fr. Augustine D'Souza** was busy with his spiritual ministry. After a long wait, his Aadhaar card has come. We have submitted the file to get the 'No Objection Certificate' (NOC) for our School from the West Bengal Government. We are grateful to the teachers and all the others who helped us to prepare the file for obtaining the NOC.

-Fr. S. Jeyakumar

Udayani



The World Indigenous Peoples' Day was celebrated at Pandua on August 9. It was organized by the initiatives of the tribal women. On that day all of them wore traditional dresses and performed different cultural dances to make it more meaningful. It was amazing to see the nontribal women participating in the dance program.

On August 12, an eye check-up camp was organized at Jamalpur block in Burdwan district with the help of Hope Foundation, a Calcutta-based NGO. They conducted free eye tests for 150 poor people. They provided them with spectacles and also gave them some vitamin tablets, eye drops, and other essential medicines. SHG women of 'Adarsa Nari Sanghathan' facilitated the entire camp efficiently.

On the 75th Independence Day, SHG women gathered together on August 15 to hoist the national flag in their respective places and they took a pledge to protect and propagate the country's sovereignty as enshrined in the Preamble of our Constitution. They read out the Preamble aloud in Bengali to show their allegiance to the Constitution.

Anti-plastic training and campaigns have been



very fruitful to conscientize the people in villages. Udayani organized the campaign with the help of SHG women who carried it out in a number of villages and marketplaces to avoid the excessive use of plastics. They distributed some jute bags to people and called for a plastic-free zone. 14 SHG women have been given training on solar lamp making at Pandua. They learned to assemble solar lamps after the training. 450 poor families have been given dry food kits and face masks under the Right to Food and work campaign network.

-Fr. John Kerketta

Young Priests Meet at Dhyan Ashram



The Young Priests of the Province met on August 20-21 at Dhyan Ashram for their live-in gathering. The guiding spirit in each one's sharing was to be connected and strengthened by one another's companionship to support in our mission. Br. Chottu and 14 young priests participated in the gathering.

Fr. Roshan, after his B. Ed studies at Sikkim, made it a point to be part of the sharing. As we were from different ministries, our sharing touched upon formation, pastoral, social, education, tribal mission and communication aspects. We were enriched by each other's sharing. The struggles that one goes through in the mission such as learning to overcome differences to live with Jesuit companions in spite of difficulties and brokenness reflected each one's deep faith and hope.

Fr. Sahaya Jude, the Coordinator of the Young Priests' Live-in Group had a lot of patience to bring

everyone together. We appreciate him and thank him for organizing this gathering. As the number of Young Priests was increasing, the coordinator proposed to divide the group into two. It was unanimously accepted and the group was bifurcated into two.

- Fr. Arun Lucas

INI launched on Inigo's feast

In an online function on July 31, 2021, the Feast of St. Ignatius, the Madurai Province launched a new venture – an e-magazine called INI. INI stands for 'Inigo' and 'initiative.' Fr. M.A. Joe Antony, SJ, editor, INI, said that INI would be a quarterly that would focus on 'Apostolic Preferences' of Jesuits. He said INI is meant for Jesuits everywhere and their associates – professors, teachers, alumni, students, all those who belong to the IGFA (Ignatian Family), who are drawn to the Ignatian spirituality, and all men and women of good will who collaborate with Jesuits in their work for faith and justice.....

In order to access the magazine, after you get into Chrome or Gmail, type on the slot on the top of the screen 'inimagazine.org' and it will take you to the home page of INI. To read the articles all you need to do is to click on 'Features' in the menu on the top. Please have a look at it (<https://inimagazine.org>).

-Fr. M.A. Joe Antony (MDU)

Rest in Peace

Fr. Cheruparambil J John, (AND, 72/56) passed away on 07.08.2021 in Secunderabad, A.P.

Fr. Gregory Naik (GOA, 88/70) passed away 09. 08. 2021, in Porvorim, Goa.

Fr. Roshan Lobo (KAR, 49/32) passed away on 13.08. 2021 in Bengaluru

Fr. Joseph Parekkattil (PAT, 85/65) passed away on 27.08.2021 in Patna

Fr. Placidius Kujur, (MAP, 70/51) passed away on 04. 09.2021, at Ambikapur

Fr. Jean Englebert (CCU, 91/72) passed away on 07.09.2021 in Belgium

Fr. Amritlal Thomas Xalxo (MAP, 62/39) passed away on 08. 09. 2021, in Holy Cross Hospital, Ambikapur.



Please send your news before the 25th of every month.

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Total Surrender



“Father, into Your hands I commend my spirit.” (Luke 23:46). “Let it be done to me according to your word.” (Luke 1:38) Jesus and Mary are the epitomes of total surrender to God’s will. We see in the life of St. Ignatius of Loyola the same kind of surrender after his conversion. As a young man, Ignatius was inflamed by the ideals of courtly love and knighthood and dreamed of doing great deeds to gain name and fame for himself. What made Ignatius to give up everything in life and surrender himself totally to God alone? What made him leave behind the life of name and fame and choose the life of humility and selfless service to win souls for God? If we stay with these questions for a while, we would realize a lot of questions deep within ourselves flashing across. We often read and hear about the ‘the experience of the cannonball moment’ which refers to the shattering of one of the legs of Ignatius of Loyola by a French cannonball at the battle of Pamplona. After the injury, although he was in pain, lonely and bored, this painful experience turned out to be a graceful one. Although Ignatius was in a dilemma, he allowed himself to see things differently. During this graceful moment, God revealed his love to him and he learned to discern the Spirits that affected his soul. This deep experience enabled him with a burning desire to surrender himself totally to God and

to lead the rest of his life for the Greater Glory of God.

As the sons St. Ignatius of Loyola, we have a moral obligation to look into our own life and be aware of how God has been the master and has been leading us in our life. A moment of reflection would enable us to find our own cannonball moments in our life which would help us to rejuvenate our own experiences of God where He reveals His love for us. Time is precious and so is our total surrender to God at every moment of that precious time. We must remind ourselves constantly that our total surrender is not limited to the day we made our first or last vows. Our total surrender is a continuous response to the call of God. Just like our Father Ignatius who constantly discerned the movements of the Spirit in order to seek the will of God. Therefore, we are called to surrender ourselves totally to God by responding to His call every moment of our life.

As we continue to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the conversion of St. Ignatius, it is a graceful moment to discern and realize the need to undergo a conversion in our daily life to make ourselves worthy instruments of God. The celebration is an opportunity to surrender ourselves to Him following the good example of our Lord Jesus and our Heavenly Mother.

- *Sch. Manish Tigga*



You have given it all to me. To you,
Lord, I return it. Everything is yours; do
with it what you will. Give me only your
love and grace. That is enough for me.

Ignatius of Loyola

