

2021/09 SEPTEMBER 2021 73RD Year

OFFICIAL.....

Fr. Provincial has appointed:

Francis Thattaparambil – Asst. Administrator,

Province Curia

On being presented by the Provincial of DEL,

Sherry Pelakudiyil - Faculty, SXCMT, Patna

Pastoral Ministry:

Denis Benjamin - Kurji Parish Devadoss Francis - Barbigha

PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

September 2021

03 - Ted Bowling's 80th Jubilee, Pune

11 - GB Atmadarshan Institute

13 – 15 – Vis. Aurangabad

16 - 17 - Vis. Bodh Gaya

23 - 26 - Vis. XTTI

October 2021

02 - Jeevan's Ord. Latonah (10:30 am)

07 - Prov. Consult

13 - 16 - Prov. Cong.

18 - 23 - Rest

24 - 30 - JCSA, Hyderabad

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

02 October 2021 Saturday 10.30 am – **Ordination of Dn. Jeevan P. Isahak, SJ**, in his native parish church, Sacred Heart Church, Latonah, by Rt. Rev. Cajetan Francis, Bishop of Muzaffarpur Diocese.

03 October 2021 Sunday 07.00 am - First Mass

13 October 2021 Wednesday 06.00 pm – **Province Congregation 2021 begins** in Atmadarshan.

05 November 2021 Friday **8.30 am – Meeting** of Local Superiors, Community Leaders and Ministry Coordinators in Atmadarshan.

05.00 pm – Eucharist followed by felicitation and dinner **in honour of the Jubilarians**, at XTTI.

06 November 2021 Saturday 10.00 am – **Ordination of Dn. Rajeev Ranjan, SJ**, in his native parish church, Ascension of the Lord Church Dumraon (Purana Bhojpur), Buxar, by Most Rev. William D'Souza, SJ, Apostolic Administrator of Buxar Diocese.

07 November 2021 Sunday 11.00 am - First Mass in the village of Rajeev's parental home, Durasan, Buxar.

LOCAL REPORTS

Online Meeting of Education Commission

On the 18th of August 2021, the education commission members came together virtually for a meeting. Fr. Norbert Menezes, SJ, the chairperson of the commission, organized the meet and made sure all the members actively participated in it. We discussed certain aspects of ongoing online and offline classes, and the celebration of Ignatian Year in all our schools. One of the points of the agenda was the future plans and educational needs of St. Ignatius School, Aurangabad. All of us actively took part in the deliberations, and had certain valuable suggestions to offer. We also discussed the online registration of schools, a new project initiated by the government. There was a proposal to get help from each other in this task and to be well informed about the development of registering schools Another agenda was certain local online. challenges in different schools in recruiting new teachers since some of their staff members were leaving school after getting government - K.P. Dominic employment.

Ara: As the government has allowed resumption of offline classes, both the campuses of Ara - old Catholic High School campus and new St. Xavier's School (ICSE) campus - are bustling with life once again. The energy and the enthusiasm of the children have enlivened the corona induced sagging spirit of the teachers as well as the Administrators. Hope it truly marks the end of the cocooned life that was imposed on us all due to no-other-alternative-other-than-online-classes.

The success story of St. Xavier's (ICSE) is something that makes our chest swell with pride. The glorious legacy of the Catholic School as a portal of learning where quality education is imparted by us Jesuits, so caught the imagination of the general public that it helped us immensely in the glorious take off of St. Xavier's. Within one and a half years of its inception we have more than 1100 students in the roll call, though it is only on 01

September that we had the first full-fledged classes for all sections, that is from LKG to V.

Both at Catholic High School and St. Xavier's, we conducted online classes very professionally during the Covid-19 lock down period. In both the schools, students appeared for online Class Tests and were given Home Tasks and Projects to be completed at regular intervals; they were evaluated and graded assiduously to the satisfaction of all. Art-Craft-Science Exhibition that was held at St. Xavier's during the pandemic was well organized and highly appreciated. During this time they also conducted Talent Search contest sponsored by HDFC Bank in which more than 350 medals and merit certificates were distributed to the winners in different contests -Music, Dance, speech, Declamation, Story Telling, Rhymes, Spell Bee, Quiz, and Painting. Fr. Amalan, a young priest of Buxar diocese; is a good organizer. He is part of the Jesuit community, A lot of construction work is going on in both the campuses. Lock down enabled us to complete a lot of work without much disruption.

With the relaxation in lockdown restrictions, our church is full once again. And Parishioners seem happy to be back together to worship the Eucharistic Lord. St. Ignatius' feast was celebrated with much solemnity. We invited all the Priests and Religious of our Shahabad Deanery for the Holy Eucharist and dinner that followed. The Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the Patroness of the MC Sisters, though it is replaced by Mary the Queen of the Universe, was celebrated with a large number of the faithful in attendance and thereafter we felicitated the Sisters. Women's Day celebration too was very solemn: women/mothers in large numbers dressed in their Sunday best, holding colorful candles, moving in procession to the altar singing sonorously, was a most heartening sight. - Francis Palliparambil

Barbigha: After a long break due to lockdown restrictions, the school opened on 7th August for the high school students and on 16th for the primary, and middle school students. Once again the campus became alive with the presence of students and staff. Fr. Jose Thayil, the new Secretary of the school was introduced by Fr. Dominic and welcomed joyfully by all the staff and students during the Assembly. On the of the Independence Day Rangoli occasion competition was held, based on the theme of 'Save earth, Save life'. Many girl students in 6 teams enthusiastically participated in it and made the campus colorful. 20 of our IXth Std. students were qualified for the National level merit scholarship holding a place of pride in our district. Fr. Antonysamy, a young priest of Patna Archdiocese, is fully involved in teaching English to the high school students and he trains them well in phonetics. Catechism classes too began for the Catholic students in the school. 15 boys joined the high school hostel in Shantinagar. Deacon Jeevan joined the pastoral team for family visits and Masses in villages along with Fr. Ranjan. Cruzveer meetings were held in the villages to bring the children back on track. **Dn. Jeevan** met the high school students to introduce YCS movement to them. St. Monica Diwas was celebrated on 29th Aug. Sunday with the sacrament of reconciliation for mothers followed by the Eucharistic celebration. Sr. Poonam, SSH, coordinated the women's celebration. All the mothers participated in a Bible Quiz competition and ended with sharing refreshments.

- Ranjan Lazarus

Bettiah - KR: In the month of August people of Bettiah experienced heavy rain fall and water logging. Our campus was also flooded but after a day or two water slowly drained off. On 3 August Fr. Paul had gone to Patna and Br. Tom joined him. On his way back to Bettiah Fr. Paul was accompanied by two deacons, Jeevan and Rajeev. On the feast of St. John Mary Vianney, some of our community members went to Bishop's House to wish Bishop Peter Goveas. In the second week of August Fr. Paul had hectic time in arranging and providing documents to fulfil the demands of the auditors. Fr. Joseph Maripuram, Rector, left for Vellore on 12 August for his regular checkup; Fr. Edward Mendonca accompanied him till Patna. As the lockdown was eased, St. Xavier's and K.R. School started classes for standard I - VIII on 16 August, adhering to the government's guidelines and regulations. Classes for standard IX - XII had already started on 7 August. Once again, the school campus looks alive with the presence of the children. Community was very glad to have Fr. Provincial as he was on a four-day visit to West Champaran. Fr. Rector was back in the community on 25 August. On 26 we had very inspiring sharing on the reflection points given by Fr. Anto Joseph on the theme 'Pathways of the Energy Level of the Magis'. The death of father (30th of Aug.) and mother (4th of Sept.) of our community member, Fr. Richard, brought much grief to all of us.

- Michael Ekka

Patna - Sanjivan Niwas - Pre-Novitiate: We began the month of August with an outing. We were divided into four groups and we visited the important places around, such as Golghar, Gandhi Maidan, Museum and the Ganges. On 15th August, we celebrated the Feast of the Assumption of our Lady with a special Mass. We offered special prayers for our country as we celebrated the 75th Independence Day. After the holy Eucharist, we had a short program, our Director Fr. Antonysamy hoisted the national flag. On the same day we played a basketball match with Khaspur village youth at Gyanoday. Though we, the Pre-novices put up a good fight, the village boys won the match. It was a good exposure for us. We express our heart-felt thanks to Fr. Edward Dungdung & community for their wonderful hospitality.



After the arrival of Raphael Banra for Jamshedpur Province, we are 21 Pre-Novices now. On 27th August, we participated in the funeral service of **Fr. Joseph Parekkattil** and we were inspired by his life. The Kurji Parish church is opened for the faithful now and we are happy to join the parishioners for the Sunday Eucharist. On 30st August, we actively participated in the program conducted by St. Xavier's College on the occasion of World Indigenous Day.

- Alphonse Kujur (Pre-Novice)

Patna – St. Michael's: School: Class X CBSE results were announced on 3rd August, 2021. The students have performed well. The topper of our school is Ketan Kumar with 99.4%. The much delayed Graduation Day programme was conducted for std. XII students on 11th August 2021. All the graduating students were felicitated and the school organized a short cultural programme in their honour. A few outstanding graduating students were awarded on that day.

In the month of August, staff, students, and a number of parents participated in the 'Singing of Rashtragaan' (National Song) event organized by CBSE as part of "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsava". The school organized online Independence Day program for students to mark the 75th Independence Day of the nation and flag hoisting was attended by the teaching and non-teaching staff in the school. A special Mass was organized on that day. On 17th August Orientation Program was organized for the freshers of class XI. Over 450 students and their parents participated. Students of classes VI to IX participated in 'Green Rakhi Celebration' hosted by Tarumitra. A number of teachers from the school participated in the CBSE webinar on the "Use of Graphic Novels for Effective Learning" on 23rd August. To mark the National Sports Day, the school conducted essay / poetry writing competition and drawing competition for the students of classes 6 to 12 on 29th August. The students of class XII participated in the speech competition on Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsava organized by Sri Krishna Science Centre, Patna, on 26th August and Utkarsh Dutta got 3rd Prize.

St. Xavier's College of Education (Autonomous): As soon as lockdown restrictions were relaxed, the college academic activities became more rigorous than before because of the End Semester exams. The 4th End Semester exams were held for B.Ed. and M.Ed. from 18th August and 1st End Semester exams from 21st August. Prior to the theory papers, practical exams were conducted. The first batch of Ph.D. scholars had the DRC on the 7th of August to finalize the last step of their Ph.D programme, whereas the second batch of AKU Ph.D. group had it on the 14th of August. Both of these groups are expected to submit their dissertation by August 2022 and September 2022 respectively. Admission process for the 7 seats of second batch of PhD scholars is on. The course work for this group will hopefully begin on 27th of September. Fr. Ignatius Topno went home to see his ailing mother. On his way back, he attended the second Christian Minority B.Ed. College Association meeting in St. Xavier's College Ranchi on 30th August 2021.

Community: Monthly Recollection on the theme 'Pathways to the Energy Levels of Magis' by Fr. Anto Joseph was taken up by Fr. Armstrong, who summarized and briefed the community by sharing the salient points This was concluded with the community Eucharist and sharing. St. Michael's community had the joy of release of another book, 'Spirituality And Psychology time Contradictory or Complementary' by Fr. Mathew Chemplany. In a very impressive and simple ceremony, the book was released on 19th Aug. Cake cutting was followed a delicious meal to celebrate the occasion. The chapel, recreation room, TV room and the refectory of the old Jesuit residence were remodeled into classrooms and were operative from 16th August.

The new Oxygen Plant at Kurji Holy Family Hospital, Patna was inaugurated by the Civil Surgeon of Patna, Vibha Kumari Singh, and blessed by **Fr. Gregory** on the 26th of Aug. It was a joyous occasion for all. KHFH will now have a regular supply of Oxygen.



Fr. Norbert Menezes, SJ, participated in the JEA Conference Apostolic Planning (CAP) online meeting from 19-21 August and gave an input on 'Ensure Quality Education' for PCEs. On 28th August he conducted an offline workshop for the teachers of St. Mary's Academy, a Patna archdiocesan school at Ashiyana Nagar, Patna.

- Gregory Gomes

DIASPORA

Bangalore - Xavier Nilaya: On 7th Aug. early morning Fr. Shailendra SJ (AND), our new community member, returned from Kerala after a month of treatment. Candidate Ronaldo was admitted to St. Martha's Hospital on 8th evening due to acute pain in his stomach. He got discharged on 11th afternoon. On 13th Schs. Nelson (PAT), Romero (DEL) and Macwin (KAR) from Mangalore made a very short visit to our house. On 15th we celebrated the Independence Day. Soon after the Mass we had a short flag hoisting ceremony. Mr. Francis Colaco the former DGP of Karnataka was the chief guest of the day. Candidate Snoban gave the Independence Day speech. On 24th Fr. Daniel went home to meet his sick aunt and returned on 30th. On 28th Sch. Prabhat (PAT) was here for a day and the following day he left for his college studies in Mangalore. Sch. Gnana Muthu (DEL) paid - Prakash Toppo (DEL) us a short visit.

Lucknow - Loyola Sadan: We began the month of August with paddy transplantation. Fr. Master joined us in this work. On the 4th of August once again we got back to the study of the life of our founder through his autobiography. We were privileged to be taught by Fr. Joseph Kootinal. He took classes on phonetics and we enjoyed the way he taught us. Fr. Master went to Chhattisgarh on the 5th to look for co-workers and returned on the 9th with two of them. With their arrival the burden of Mr. Sagar, our long standing co- worker, got alleviated. Fr. Joe went to give company to Fr. Kant at Kaiserganj as Fr. George Rajesh Nedumattam went to visit his father who had a fall, who after some days went to his heavenly abode. On the 15th August our choir group created an atmosphere of devotion through their melodious hymns.



After the holy Eucharist we had flag hoisting by **Fr. Mani**. March-past, national anthem, speech and a patriotic song were followed by breakfast and a friendly football match. Fragrance from the kitchen

increased our appetite since some specials were being prepared by our brothers. Before lunch we sang a hymn in honour of Our Lady on the feast of her Assumption and then enjoyed the fellowship meal. In the evening we paid tributes to Fr. Stan Swamy by keeping half a minute silence and we put up a skit based on his life. On the day of Rakshabandhan the sisters from the OLP community showed their sisterly love to us by tying rakhis. Fr. Master conducted two tests on the autobiography of St. Ignatius to keep the interests of the novices growing. On the 25th we had a pleasant surprise by the visit of Fr. Jose Elampassery who came to conduct an eight day retreat for MC Sisters in Lucknow. God showered His blessings upon us from time to time with shinning drops of rain and our lush green campus became a sight for all eyes. - Ralph Rajesh

Mangalore – St. Aloysius: The month of August brought a lot of joy and happiness to each and every community member of St. Aloysius College, Mangalore. We had an enriching monthly recollection by Fr. Joe Xavier, SJ. His recollection points were his personal experiences with Fr. Stan Swamy. Sch. Pramod started his offline classes in full swing. St. Aloysius Institute of Education celebrated the Independence |Day online due to the weekend curfew. On 19 August, the institute had the Convocation Day for the super seniors. The internal exams were held in the last week of the month. The Institute is hopeful to conduct the first semester exam in mid-September.

– Pramod Peter

Mumbai – Juniors: The month of August began with full gusto. It has been a month full of courses. On the 2nd of August we had a 2-day course in Critical Thinking & Inquiry (CTI) conducted by Fr. Jeevan Mendonca SJ. The course enhanced the boundaries of our understanding to analyze fake news and bits of information which are circulated through social network and through other means of communication. It helped us be more critical, analytical and sharp in our thinking.

For our weekend ministries we go to train the boys at Snehasadan. Snehasadan is a Jesuit apostolate comprising 12 houses all over Mumbai in which boys from the streets are given a home, cared for and reinstated into society. It is a challenging ministry yet a very fruitful one. On 14th of August the Juniorate family went out on a Bombay *Darshan*. That day the weather tried to play trick with us but it could not stand firm in front of our firm determination to travel and explore Mumbai. We also visited many Jesuit communities and met different Jesuits across the city.

Independence Day was a memorable day, which brought all our neighboring communities together under the National Flag. Fr. Trevor, the Rector of the house, hoisted the flag in the midst of

tiny drops of rain, and **Sch. Sagar Barwa** delivered an electrifying speech. On the following day we began a four-day intensive course on 'Personal Growth' by Dr. Nirmala Almeida, through Zoom. This course included psycho-sexual integration as a vital component. All the Juniors learnt a lot regarding better integration of life. Classes are on in full swing and our Continuous Assessments have begun.

- Anísh Sah

Sitagarh - Juniors: The feast of St Ignatius on 31 July was full of joy and happiness. We had a football match between the Juniors and Novices. On 7th of Aug. we welcomed the Tertian Fathers. We were blessed to celebrate the final profession of Fr. Vinod Kerketta (HAZ) on the feast of the Assumption of Mother Mary and Independence Day. We had a five-day seminar on Media Education led by Fr. Benny Moolan. We were very happy to have Fr. Benny with us and learnt a lot regarding media, a field in which he has vast knowledge and experience. At that time Fr. K.C. Philip was away for blessing the marriage of his niece and returned after a week. On 23rd and 24th all the Juniors had vaccination and rest. Now we all are hale and hearty as well as busy in our studies.

- Avinash Kujur

Sitagarh - Tertians: At the end of our quarantine, We the 24 Tertians, were formally welcomed by St. Stanislaus College on August 07. We are fully immersed in the School of the Heart as we are going through Ignatian Resources: the Autobiography, the Spiritual Exercises and the Document on Tertianship by Peter-Hans Kolvenbach.



Fr. Benny Moolan and Fr. Joy Pulikunnel visted us. Fr. Benny came to give a course on Media to the Juniors. Fr. Joy had come to give 'Group Dynamics' to the Tertian Sisters of the Holy Cross. Through 'Inward Journey', Fr. R.C. Chacko, SJ (HAZ) helped us to prepare ourselves for the Long Retreat. We will be in our Long Retreat from August 28 to September 30.

- Devashish Prasad

Spain - Madrid-Cantoblanco: The month of August was filled with many graces and blessings from the Almighty. I passed the B2 level Spanish exam. On 15th

I began my annual retreat along with the Jesuit companions of the Province of Spain. After the retreat, I bade farewell to St. Estanislaus community, Salamanca, where I stayed and learnt Spanish language. On 26th, I reached my new community Cantoblanco, Madrid.



Initially, we had a two-day orientation programme conducted for all the newcomers. I have completed the admission process for Ignatian Studies at Comillas University. The classes will start from the 1st of September. The community members and the staff faculty from the college were very helpful to do the admission and the Visa extension paperworks. Kindly continue to keep me in your prayers.

- Felix Marshal

ANNOUNCEMENTS

➤ Intention of the Holy Father [Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network – PWPN] for the month of September 2021:

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.

Books released:

- 1. "I Am Not A Silent Spectator An Autobiographical Fragment, Memory and Reflection" by Stan Swamy. [Posthumously published by Indian Social Institute, Bangalore; 2021.
- 2. "Spirituality and Psychology Contradictory or Complementary?" by Mathew Chemplany, SJ. Published by Gujarat Sahitya Prakash, Anand; 2021.

The above books have been distributed to all our communities.

3. "Paul *Jackson,* SJ – A Contemporary Christian Sufi" – Testimonies compiled by Victor Lobo, SJ and Joseph Victor Edwin, SJ. Published

by: Prasaranga, St. Joseph's College (Autonomous), Bengaluru – 560 027.

We received a limited number of copies. So, copies have been sent to only major communities; they are requested to share their copies with their attached communities.

- 4. "Fr. Stan Swamy: A Maoist or A Martyr?" by Dr. Prakash Louis. Published by Media House, New Delhi; 2021.
- 5. "आंतरिक झरोखा नैतिक शिक्षा ,प्रवचन एवं मनन-चिंतन की पुस्तिका", (Aantrik Jharokha) by Dr. (Fr.) Raymond Cherubim, SJ. Published by आत्मोन्नति प्रकाशन (St. Paul's Publications). It is a 2 Volume resource book for value education, helpful for precahers, teachers and catechists. Copies are available in Prabhat Prakashan, Patna.
- ➤ Christ at play in all seasons: A new tool for prayer and reflection for the Ignatian Year: Christ Plays in 10,000 Places, a publication of the Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States available as an e-book to download to your computer, tablet or smartphone. The thirty or so writings, including several prayers, are divided into four seasons, throughout the liturgical year. The book invites those who experience Ignatian spirituality to make the connection between the feasts of the Church or the Society of Jesus, their prayer life and their daily life.

Whether you are new to Ignatian spirituality or have been nourished by it for many years, this electronic publication will be a useful companion along the pilgrimage of the Ignatian Year. Link: https://www.jesuits.org

➤ Masihi Satsang Mandali — MSM (मसीही सत्संग मंडली) presents passages of the Bible and the message of Jesus in local dialects of Bhojpuri, Magahi and Sadri. The kirtans (कीर्तन(or hymns are set in folklore tunes and so have a cultural appeal to the masses. The hymns of MSM can now be accessed in YouTube link: https://youtu.be/aRi2d22WY0E.

- S. Shilanand

REQUESTING YOUR PRAYERS

For the Sick and Recovering:

- > Frs. Joseph Sebastian and M.M. Mathew have returned to Patna after their treatment in Kerala.
- Frs. Alphonse Crasta, Joseph Njarakulam Andrew James and Anil Minz were admitted in KUFH Patna during this month and discharged after treatment for their different ailments.
- Frs. Joseph Maripuram and KM Joseph went to CMC Vellore this month for their routine checkup and have returned with encouraging results.
- Frs. Francis Chinnappan and Christie Savariraj visited their mothers who were sick and have returned with the joyful news of their recovery.

- Fr. Pius Thekemury had a successful cataract surgery on his right eye on 21 Aug.'21 in Banka Clinic, Kurji, Patna and has returned to Allahabad with a new vision.
- > Mr. Narayan, 37, brother-in-law of Sch. Chinna Siddaiah N. (Siddhu), suffered kidney ailment and is recovering.
- Fr. Sebastian Kanekattil was admitted in KHFH Patna on 02 Sept.'21 with giddiness, vomiting and BP; he is feeling better.
- Mrs. Anasthasia, 69, mother of Fr. Junas Kujur, is seriously sick; Fr. Junas has gone home on 04 Sept.'21 to be with and attend to her

For the Departed:

- † Fr. Cheruparambil J John, SJ (AND, 72/56) died on 07 Aug.'21.
- † Fr. Gregory Naik (GOA, 88/70), passed away on 09 Aug. '21, in Porvorim, Goa.
- † Mr. T. V. Joseph, 86, maternal uncle of Fr. George Nedumattam, SJ, returned to the Lord on 10 Aug.'21.

[Fr. George's father died 5 days ago, on 05 Aug.'21.] † Mr. Paul Cyprian D'Souza, 75, maternal uncle of Fr. Donald Miranda, SJ, entered Eternal Life on 10 Aug.'21.

[Fr. Donald's mother died on 07 July '21.]

- † Fr. Joseph Pampackal, VC, 91, **paternal uncle of Br. Mathew Pampackal, SJ**, returned to the Lord on 24 Aug.'21 in Lissie Hospital, Ernakulam.
- † Mr. A.P. Jose, 75, **father of Fr. Raneesh Jose A., SJ**, died of an accident on 26 Aug. '21.

[When his father died just before midnight, Fr. Raneesh was on his flight to USA for studies. Fr. George Ayyankanal, SJ represented the Province at the funeral.]

- † **Fr. Joseph Parekkattil, SJ** (PAT, 85/65), answered the final call of his Master and Lord on 27 Aug.'21. [Obituary is attached to this issue of Ganga Lahar.]
- † Fr. Roshan Lobo (KAR, 49/32) had a massive cardiac arrest and went to his Eternal Home on 13 Aug. '21.
- † Mr. Bonifas D'Souza, 83, **father of Fr. Richard D'Souza, SJ**, entered the abode of Eternal Peace on 30 Aug.'21 and (after 4 days)
- † Mrs. Agnes D'Souza, 75, **mother of Fr. Richard D'Souza, SJ**, answered the final call of her Master and Lord on 04 Sept.'21. Both died of Covid-19.
- † Fr. Placidius Kujur, SJ (MAP, 70/51), passed away in Holy Cross Hospital, Ambikapur on 04 Sept.' 21.

Place note: The last data for conding reports t

Please note: The last date for sending reports to the Socius for Ganga Lahar is the **2**nd **of every month**. If possible, attach 2 or 3 photographs.