



# GUJARAT JESUIT SAMACHAR

Premal Jyoti, PB 4002, Ahmedabad - 380 009



71/908 GJS SEPTEMBER 2019

## From The Provincial's Desk

My dear friends in the Lord,

We've just completed the process to help Fr. General in appointing the next Provincial Superior for our Province. The process began with the letter of the Provincial to Fr. General, asking for permission to start the process; here is the timeline of the process:

- **November 6, 2018:** Fr. General granted permission to start the process to appoint the next Provincial.
- **November 24, 2018:** The Provincial informed the Consult.
- **March 3, 2019:** PCM & Local Superiors were informed and details of the process explained.
- **March 13, 2019:** Communities were asked to undertake the process of discernment, taking into consideration (i) the Challenges the Province is facing now and is likely to face in the years ahead and (ii) Qualities needed in the next Provincial Superior to respond to them. They were to do so by May 25, 2019.
- **May 31, 2019:** Last date for communities to send a short report of these meetings and for individuals to submit their 'terna' along with three significant qualities and limitations of the person they have voted for. These community reports were later summarised.
- **June 13, 2019:** The Provincial, the Socius and two other Consultors counted the indicative votes. The qualities and limitations of the persons voted for were then tabulated.
- **August 6 to 24, 2019:** Visit of the Regional Assistant, Fr. Vernon D'Cunha. He met all the Jesuits who wanted to meet him. He also met Bishops and collaborating Sisters.
- **August 25-26, 2019:** Extended Consult. Members of PCM and Local Superiors. There were thirty-four in all, along with Frs. Provincial, his Consultors, Fr. Vernon D'Cunha, the Regional Assistant and Fr. George Pattery,



the President of JCSA. The group met together for communitarian and individual Discernment in a prayerful atmosphere, maintaining silence to create an atmosphere of prayer and recollection. The Provincial briefed the gathering about the 'Challenges/Needs' that arose from the community meetings, followed by comments from the floor. The main points would be sent to Fr. General. This was followed by profile of the Provincial that emerged from the community meetings, followed by comments from the floor. The main elements would also be sent to Fr. General.

- The first day ended with a Holy Hour to thank God for what has happened in the recent past, to pray for the needs and challenges that lie ahead, for the grace to make a good discernment, for the candidates who would be considered and for the Province in general.
- The second day began with the Eucharist. Fr. Vernon D'Cunha exhorted the group about the attitude necessary for a good discernment. This was followed by considering candidates, their shadows and lights. Throughout the process, the Provincial, his Consultors, the Regional Assistant Fr. Vernon D'Cunha and the President of JCSA, Fr. George Pattery were expected to pay close attention, but not to participate in the proceedings. After silent reflection, all 34 members, except the seven mentioned above cast their secret ballots, writing up to three names.
- **August 26-27, 2019:** Canonical Consult to discuss recent 'informaciones' of the candidates, followed by arriving at a consensus 'terna'. Then each one wrote his personal 'terna'. He was free to accept the consensus 'terna' or opt for other names, briefly giving reasons in support of his choice.
- **August 27-29, 2019:** These days were set aside for the Provincial and the Socius to prepare the dossier to be sent to Fr. General. Fr. Vernon takes the dossier with him.

A total of 204/248 (82.26%) Jesuits had cast their indicative votes - the fact that such a large number cast their votes is also indicative of the keen interest shown by most. I congratulate all who have cast their votes. I also urge the small number of 44 who have not exercised this responsibility towards the governance of the Province to reflect as to why they opted out.

Regarding the communitarian discernment process, 14/23 (60.87% of our communities (along with their satellite communities) went through the process and sent in their responses. I express my gratitude to the members of these communities. One community sent in a letter saying that they did not have any meeting for the communitarian discernment. Seven others did not respond at all. Though a large number of individuals (204/248) have cast their indicative votes, 7 + 1 communities have not submitted their report of their communitarian discernment process. I urge the Superiors of those communities to reflect as a community as to why they showed so little interest in carrying out this basic Jesuit responsibility.

Fr. Vernon D'Cunha, the Regional Assistant responsible for Gujarat made a hectic visit to several communities of our Province and also made himself available for one-to-one conversation. He has expressed great satisfaction with his extensive visit stating that he has met as many as 125/248 (50.4%) of our men. If we leave out the men outside the Province, the percentage would be much higher. He also met some communities that wanted to meet him as a group. He is impressed by the spirit of the Province and very specifically by its generous hospitality. He has left with the dossier and has said that we can expect the appointment of the next Provincial Superior latest by the end of this November.

I am glad the whole process went off well. Please keep praying for the guidance of the Holy Spirit to get a well-suited person to guide the Province.

**01: World Day of Prayer for Creation:** We pray that we may contribute our mite to help the creation reach its Omega point.

**02: Bl. James Bonnaud & Companions; Joseph Imbert & John Nicolas Cordier; Thomas Sitjar & Companions, Martyrs:** May these martyrs due to hatred of the name of Christian and of the Catholic Church, inspire us to be loyal to our calling as Companions of Jesus.

**Ganesh Chaturthi:** May these birthday celebrations of the god of new beginnings and the remover of obstacles inspire us to begin things seeking divine blessings.

**Samvatsari:** May this festival of seeking forgiveness inspire us to daily examen and to periodic reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

**03:** We join **Fr. Galdos** in thanking God for granting him 70 long years in the Society and pray for his health.

**05: St. Teresa of Kolkata:** May this saint of the gutters inspire us to serve the poor and destitute with respect, love, concern and care; the day is also observed by the UN as the International Day of Charity.

**Teachers' Day:** We pray that we all may be teachers like the Lord.

**07:** We join **Fr. Franco** in thanking God for granting him 60 long years in the Society.

**08: Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary:** Being a Sunday, it may not be liturgically observed, yet we remember and pray to our loving Mother for her continued intercession and protection.

**09: St. Peter Claver:** May this 'slave of slaves', inspired by St. Alphonsus Rodriguez inspire us to serve the downtrodden with humility and grace.

**10: Bl. Francis Garate:** May this holy, pious, kind and courteous Brother inspire us to do small chores with great dedication.

**Muharram:** May this memorial of martyrdom of Hussain Ali, Grandson of the Prophet and seventy-two of his followers encourage us to be prepared to die for our faith.

**14: Exaltation of the Cross:** May we carry out the God-given Crosses, believing in their salvific value.

**17: St. Robert Bellarmine:** May this outstanding theologian of his days inspire us to understand our faith deeply and to help others to do the same.

**21: Apostle St. Mathew:** May this apostle inspire us to leave behind our jobs and securities to follow the Lord and proclaim His message through our lives and works.

**International Day of Peace:** We once again storm heaven today for global peace

**26: International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons:** the threat of another nuclear holocaust has never been as close as it is today. Let us pray that a sense of responsibility may prevail over all world leaders

**29: World Day of Migrants and Refugees:** Pope Francis invites us to reflect, pray and act on the theme "It is not just about migrants". Let us do all we can to prevent exclusion, displacement and xenophobia.

*Keep praying that we may get appropriate person to lead us as Provincial Superior.*

**A.M.D.G.**





## PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

- 01-02 : Vidyanagar: Gov Body; JESA
- 05 : Gandhinagar Cathedral
- 06-07 : PDT
- 08 : Karamsad Parish
- 09 : CCD, Sevasi: Books Release
- 11-12 : Consult
- 13-16 : Dangs: Visitation
- 17-20 : Zankhvav: Visitation
- 21-22 : Sevasi: JEAG
- 28 : SXCA
- 29-30 : Sevasi: Superiors' Forum; GB, CCD.
- 30/9-2/10 : Sevasi: PCM
- 03-04 : Meeting: PDT-ALBOAN

## APPOINTMENTS

### ►► PROVINCIAL has appointed

- **Fr. Ishwan Gamit** - Superior, Pimpri-Subir-Shamgahan
- **Fr. Devasia Muthuplackal** - Director, Gurjarvani, Ahmedabad

## JUBILARIANS OF THE MONTH

### 70 YEARS

#### IN THE SOCIETY OF JESUS (03 September)



► **Fr. Ignacio Galdos**



► **Fr. Fernando Franco**



### 60 YEARS

#### IN THE SOCIETY OF JESUS (07 September)

PRAYERFUL WISHES TO YOU

DEAR FRs. GALDOS AND FRANCO

## PROVINCE HIGHLIGHTS

### ►► Belgaum Blossoms

On 3 July the Feast of St Thomas, the Apostle of India, the probationers were given a warm welcome to the Novitiate with a question of confirmation by Fr Novice Master, "Are you all ready to enter into the novitiate?" The reply was a unanimous "yes" from the eleven brothers. After the Eucharist, the new comers planted their vocation plants with help from their guardian angels. The evening culminated with an entertaining football match between the two batches. This year, the four provinces are blessed with twenty novices in all. On the feast of St. Ignatius, Fr. Vijay Chokar, our new socius, presided over the Festive Eucharist, which was also attended by some of the parishioners from around. His homily focused on following in the footsteps of St. Ignatius.

Multiple celebrations marked 15th August: the assumption of Our Lady, the anniversary of the first vows of our founding fathers, Independence Day and Raksha bandhan. After the Eucharist we had the flag hoisting ceremony and also a brother - sister bonding between two houses of formation. (II year XTC Novices)

### ►► Chennai Points

It has been an eventful month for us at Satya Nilayam. We began with diligent preparations for and giving our second CA exams. On 12 August we released the poster for our annual drama which will be coordinated by **Schs. Aric Makwana** and **Sandip Makwana**. We were happy to have several visitors from our Province in our midst: **Frs. Vinayak Jadav, Nagin Macwan, Lancy Lobo, Caesar D'Cunha** and **Rolphy Pinto**. On 15 August Fr. Vinayak was the chief guest at the flag hoisting ceremony. Fr. Vinayak and the JIVAN team also addressed the scholastics and encouraged them to write for the magazine. On 27 August the philosophy department held the 'Loy Memorial Lecture' on *Francis Xavier through the prism of Narsinh Mehta*, and it was delivered by our own Dr. Fr. Rolphy Pinto. (Sch. Aric Makwana)

### ►► Golden Culfest

On 21 August St Xavier's and Mt Carmel Gandhinagar held a cultural fest as a part of their golden jubilee celebrations. Different competitions (debate, declamation,





poster-making, folk dance) were conducted for thirteen participating schools from Baroda, Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar. 'Ecology' was the overriding theme of the festival.

The Indian folk-dance competition was a treat to watch: 'Kalabeli' a traditional folk dance was performed by the students of St. Xavier's Gandhinagar; whereas the students of Mt Carmel school performed the 'Bihu', the Assamese tribal dance. The success of entire cultural festival was due to the meticulous planning and hard work put in by Sr Jennifer AC, **Fr Durai Fernand** together with their committed team of teachers and other collaborators. Kudos to all – very specially to the students for their active participation in this golden event! (Ms. Leena Michael)



### ►► Anand Acts

Plenty has been happening in and around Anand Parish. On 11Aug, the National Youth Day Mass and celebration was organized in the Parish. There were 150 youth from five villages and the boarding who participated in the programme. Prof Sanjaybhai Macwan was the Chief Guest and **Bro. Alpesh Chauhan** was the guest of honour.



**Fr. Moieson Dhas** presided over the Eucharistic Celebration. The celebrations also included garba, DJ, skits and a delicious meal. On 24 August the youth of Rawdapura organized a Plantation day. **Fr Kamlesh Raval** gave a retreat on 24-25 August for the students of Xavier's Hostel. Besides, there was also a personality development programme conducted for them by Mr. Ratilal.

### ►► Subir Specials

It has been an eventful few weeks for us at Subir. It began with a month-long inter-house Ignatian tournament for the boarding children as preparation for the feast of St Ignatius of Loyola and Hostel day. The games included outdoor sports and indoor competitions. The hostelites actively participated. On 13 July, there were about 250 parents of the boarding students who took part in a 'Parents Meet.'



**Fr Alpesh Macwan** met the Inigo group boys on 26 July and gave them a talk on life of Ignatius and Ignatian charism. On 30 July, the hostelites put up a marvelous





programme on 'Hostel Day'. Prizes were awarded to the meritorious students and new office bearers took the oath. St Ignatius of Loyola feast was celebrated with all solemnity in the school. Later that day the Fathers and the Sisters gathered at Pimpri for the festive meal.

Earlier, on 28 July, Satbabra village celebrated the feast of St. Alphonso and also had a three days Couples-for-Christ programme for new couples. Inputs were given by **Fr. Ashok Macwan**, Fr. Pravin (Baroda Diocese) and a lay couple. (Sch. Alam Parmar)

### ►► Bible Convention

A multilingual Bible convention, Healing and Deliverance retreat was organized in English and Gujarati at St. Ignatius Loyola Church from 10-12 August. It was conducted by a team led by Fr. Augustine Mundackat, Director of Divine Retreat Centre, Goa and the Vice provincial of Vincentian congregation; and Fr. Peter V.C, Director of Tabor Retreat Centre, Chhatral, Gujarat. Sr. Indu from Gandhinagar also gave inspiring talks on the Bible. The retreat ended with the Eucharistic celebration by Bishop Rethna Swamy. The retreat had the necessary impact thanks to the efforts put in by the Parish Priest **Fr. Jerry Sequeira**, the Assistant PP **Fr. K.P. Vincent** and the members of the Parish Pastoral Council.



### ►► Indigenous Intervention

**Fr. Raymund Chauhan** was one of the speakers at the Annual Meeting of the Gujarati Lekhak Mandal (Gujarati Writers Association), held at the Gujarat Vidhyapith, Ahmedabad on 18 August. Fr. Raymund was on the panel on '*Adivasi lok sahitayama vyakta thata vishisht ane manviya mulyo*' (special



and human values reflected in the tribal oral and written literature). Fr. Raymund presented values of four different tribes: Gamit, Dangi, Vasavi, Chodhari, in a lucid and captivating manner highlighting solidarity, sharing and sensitivity among them. He quoted from all four tribal languages in a spontaneous and passionate way. The audience was spell-bound when they saw the four huge volumes of the grammars, he has written over the last 25 years. Mr. Manishi Jani and **Fr. Varghese Paul** were instrumental in organizing the meet.



▲ BIRTHDAY  
OF OUR BLESSED MOTHER MARY

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ►► SUPERIORS FORUM & PCM

#### ► Superiors' Forum Meeting

**Date:** 29th Sep, from 04.00 PM till supper

**Place:** XTI, Sevasi

#### ► Common Session of Superiors' Forum and PCM

**Date:** 30th Sep, from 08.30 AM till lunch

**Place:** XTI, Sevasi

**Theme:** Spiritual Conversations

**Resource Person:** Fr. M.I. Raj

#### ► PCM Meeting

**Date:** 30th Sep, 04.00 PM to 02nd Oct, 04.00 PM

**Place:** XTI, Sevasi

### ►► DIWALI RETREAT

**Preacher:** Fr Jose Changanacherry SJ

**Place:** Glen View, Mount Abu

**28 October - Monday:** Retreat begins after supper

**05 November – Tuesday:** Retreat gets over by supper

Glen View opens on 26th October noon around 12.00 for those who would like to have a break before retreat and closes on 06th November by 07.00 AM.

## PROVINCE SAMMELAN & FELICITATION OF JUBILARIANS - 2019

**-:Date:-**

**Tuesday, 12 November, 2019**

**-:Place:-**

**Rosary School, Vadodara**

**-:Time:-**

**Breakfast to Supper (07.30 AM:  
Registration)**

**Theme:**

**“Accountability in Jesuit Life and Mission”**

**-:Organizing Committee:-**

**Frs. Anand, Packiam and Robert Parmar**

## JESUIT SAINTS OF THE MONTH



► Bl. James Bonnaud  
& Companions



► Bl. Joseph Imbert



► Bl. John Nicolas Cordier



► Bl. Thomas Sitjar &  
Companions



► St. Peter Claver



► Bl. Francis Garate



► St. Robert Bellarmine



► Approval of the  
Society by Pope Paul  
III, 'Regimini Militantis  
Ecclesiae', 1540.







## R.I.P

- † **Fr Barry John O' Loughlin SJ (HAZ)**, 80/60, on 05 Aug in Melbourne, Australia
- † **Fr Theodore Toppo (MAP)**, 80/57, on 08 Aug in Ambikapur
- † **Fr. Arul Joseph Maria Antony (AND)**, 55/37, on 29 Aug in Guntur
- † **Fr. Gavin O' Sullivan (HAZ)**, 96/76, on 29 Aug in Sitagarha



**May Mary's pure and  
simple smile be a source of  
joy for each one of us as we  
face life's difficulties.**

Pope Francis

## GREEN CORNER

### MONSOON BLESSINGS

Aadiaushadi (AA) has acquired a name as an Agricultural cooperative movement with expertise, commitment and reliability in the Gujarat State Agricultural, Forest and Horticultural and Departments and at the Central Govt. level. Officials are aware that whatever is offered to AA will reach genuine Adivasi small famers and will also be well utilised. At the end of June, 2019, fifty (40 of these women) Adivasi Farmers of AA were given a three-day training on 'Value addition training for Horticulture crops' by the Horticulture Dept., Gujarat.

In July, AA Farmers were given Rs.13.68 Lakh worth of Agricultural processing equipment and tools (a Multipurpose Processing Machine, a Distillation Unit, and a Packaging Machine) by the same Dept. These machines help AA Farmers to expedite production of aloe vera juice, shampoo, gel, and soap; energy drink from pomegranate and 'mukvas' from pomegranate seeds, hair oil from its peel; energy drink and chocolate from jamun; mango pulp and sherbet; carrot, cucumber, beetroot juices.

Besides, 157 Farmers were also given tarpaulin sheets, costing Rs. 3,000/- each; 353 farmers were given crates for gathering agricultural produce; mango cultivation subsidies of Rs. 60,000/- were given to 15 AA farmers. With the onset of monsoons in July, AA was given 4,500 Drumstick saplings. From those the Kanewal Farm planted 1,000, Zankhvav and Fokdi Farms 500 each; the rest by AA members.ww

(Mr. Francis Macwan)



## BIRTHDAYS & DEATH DAYS 2019

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| 01 Piyush Gamit<br>Vincent Vaghela<br>Fr Dabhi John Khengar – 1995+   | 11 Vincent Braganza<br>Fr Ferrao Osborne – 2007+<br>Fr Alphonse Thomas – 2009+  | 19 Fr Ignacio M. Savall – 1973+<br>Fr Espasa Luis Maria – 1988+  |
| 02 Cyprian I. Monis<br>Roy Miranda  | 13 Antonydoss Savarimuthu<br>Bishop Godfrey de Rozario<br>Patras Mundu<br>Raymund Chauhan<br>Fr DeSouza Frederick – 1997+<br>Fr Amalraj Sebastian – 2014+ | 21 Jacob Kulangara<br>Sudhir Chettiar<br>Fr Martin Patrao – 1990+<br>Fr Rafael Aguinaga Moreno – 2017+ |
| 03 James Savarimuthu<br>Richard Lopes<br>Fr Francisco Gabarre – 1968+<br>Fr Francisco Borobio – 1968+<br>Fr Ignacio M. Zavala – 2007+ | 14 Isaac Rumao  | 22 Christopher Baraik – 2018+  |
| 04 Thomas Puraydathil   | 15 Fr Eusebio Azcoitia – 1996+<br>Rt Rev Charles Gomes – 2002+  | 24 Chandresh Christi<br>Jerry Fernandes  |
| 06 Sunil Solanki  | 16 Anthony Mailadumpara   | 25 Juan José Morondo   |
| 08 Louis Lopes<br>Robert Arockiasamy<br>Br Jethabhai Didacus – 1993+  | 18 Alam Parmar<br>Joaquín Civiac<br>Velanganni S.<br>Fr Jeyaraj Bastin – 1994+<br>Fr Gazo Ignacio – 2006+   | 26 Andrew Dabreo<br>Vinay Macwan   |
| 09 Sandesh Gonsalves  |   | 27 Luis Maria Moreta – 2015+   |
| 10 Charles Kispotta<br>Fr Diaz del Rio – 2001+  |   | 28 José A. Arroyo<br>Mahesh Bagul<br>Vincent Mookenthottam   |
|   |   | 29 Varghese Mannarkulath   |
|   |   | 30 Sumitkumar Jadav  |

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