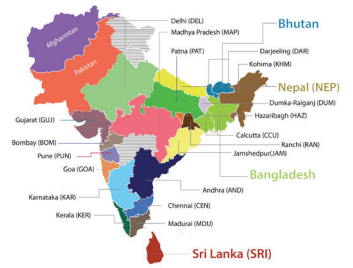




# SAAJN



SOUTH ASIAN ASSISTANCY (CONFERENCE) JESUIT NEWS

Issue-9 | April 2021

## News Events & More...

**Resurrection**  
is the fruit of crucifixion



*Happy  
Easter*

Message from

# Fr Stany, the POSA



I recently saw a video with a moving story: a beautiful woman in an expensive dress came to her psychiatrist saying that she was depressed and that her life was meaningless. The psychiatrist told her, "I am going to ask Mary to narrate her story as to how she found her happiness. All I want you to do is to listen to her." The psychiatrist called the old lady who cleaned the office floors. So, the old lady put her broom aside, sat on a chair and narrated her story.

"My husband died of cancer. Three months later my only son was also killed by a car... I had nobody... I had nothing left... I couldn't sleep, I couldn't eat. I never smiled at anyone. I even thought of taking my own life. Then one evening, a little kitten followed me when I was returning home from work. Somehow, I felt sorry for that kitten. It was cold outside, so I decided to let the kitten in. I got it some milk, and the kitten licked the plate clean. Then it rubbed against my leg, and, for the first time in months, I smiled... Then I stopped to think: if helping a little kitten could make me smile, may be doing something for people could make me happy. So, the next day I baked some biscuits and took them to a neighbour who was sick in bed. Every day I tried to do something nice for someone. It made me so happy to see them happy. Today I don't know of anybody, who sleeps better than I do. I have found happiness by giving it to others..." When the rich lady heard that she cried...

I am sure you have watched this video. The lesson of the story is clear. Your happiness does not depend on what you have, but on what others have because of you. Easter celebrates precisely this. It is in giving that the Lord receives everything. Resurrection is the fruit of crucifixion. In fact, the life and death of the Lord was defined by kenosis. He demonstrated it again in his resurrection. The risen Lord too went on doing good.

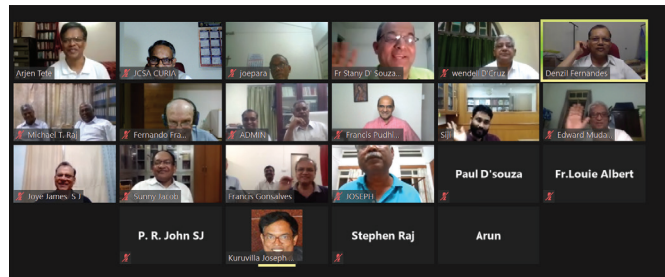
One of the attributes of God is Ananda, joy. God is the source and summit of joy. What makes God joyful? God is joyful because God gives till there is nothing left to give. We desire happiness, don't we? Pope Francis is categorical in this. He invited the religious to be joyful. He asked the Jesuits to pray for consolation. To be happy we need to reclaim our identity: image and likeness of God, reflect and represent God in our life. It is a decision to give happiness to others with what we are, with small little things. During this Easter shall we take this decision? Shall we make life around us happy? We should as we are Easter people.

Happy Easter to you.  
Fr Stany D'Souza, SJ

## Programs of the Conference

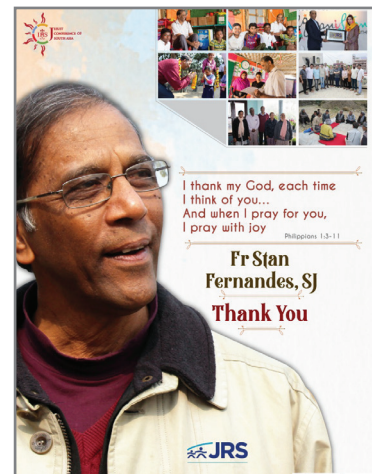
11 March 2021

The POSA had a meeting with all the Superiors and Directors of Works of the Conference Common Works and Secretaries with the members of the Apostolic Planning Committee.



## Farewell for Fr Stanislaus Fernandes (PUN)

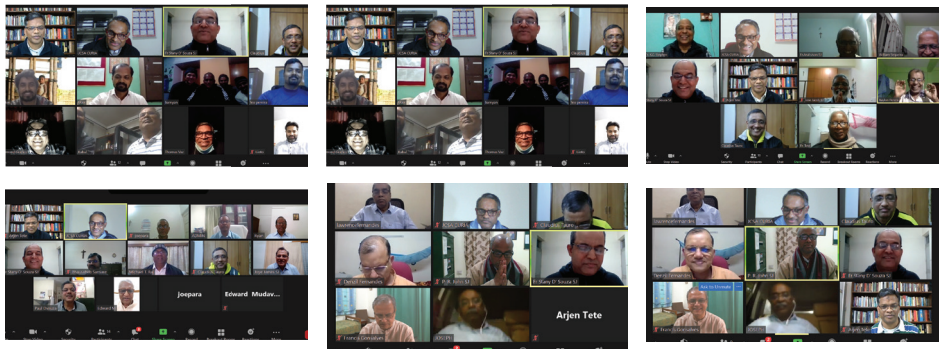
The Jor Bagh Community gave a farewell to Fr Stan Fernandes on 28 February 2021. Fr Stan has been working with JRS since its inception. We had a beautiful prayer service in which we recounted the manifold blessings of God on Fr Stan. Several Provincials were present in the house on the occasion, Fr Danis Ponniah, Fr Santosh Minj, Fr Melvil Pereira, Fr Roland and Fr Wilfred Lobo. Fr Stany, the POSA thanked Fr Stan for his dedicated work to the Conference.





## Meetings

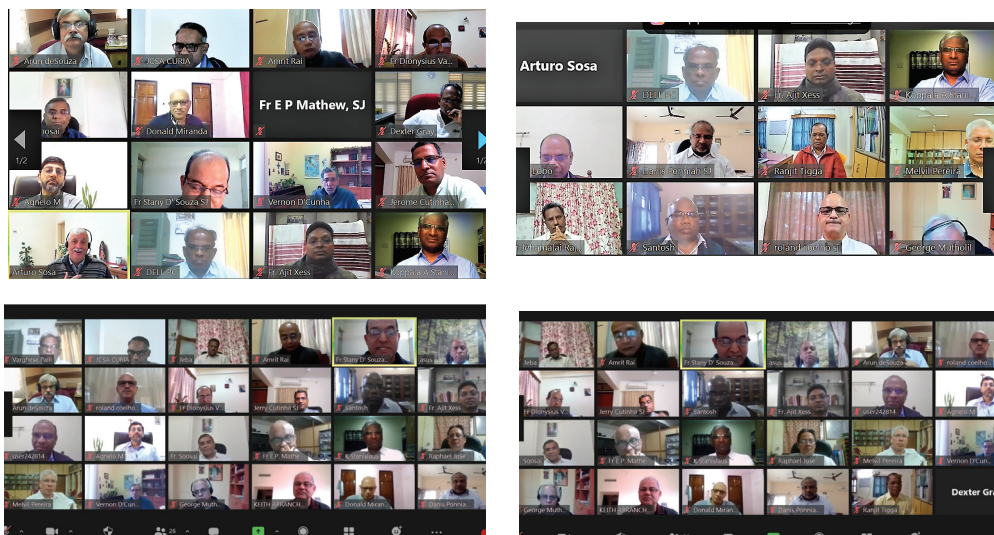
The POSA had a series of meetings in the month of February with the Common Works personnel: with the JRS men on 10th, with the Tertian Instructors on 11th, with the editors of JIVAN, IGNIS, Rally, and directors of PWPN, Centre for Safeguarding on 12th, with the coordinators of the Forums and Networks on 13th, with the Conference Secretaries on 15th, with the Superiors on 16th and with the Directors of works on 17th. These meetings were in preparation for the JCSA and sharing of consolations and desolations.



## JCSA Meeting

For a second time in a row JCSA meeting was held in online mode from 22 February to 26 February 2021. All the Provincials along with the Regional Assistants Fr Vernon and Fr M.K. George participated in it. Fr General was present for one session on the first day. Besides the regular sharing, interacting with the Conference Secretaries, the main theme of the meeting was the shrinking space of secularism in South Asia. The keynote address was given by Dr Brinelle D'Souza, a faculty member of TISS.

During the JCSA, Fr Stany inaugurated the center for Migrants Assistance Information Network (MAIN) at ISI, Delhi on 25 February. All the JCSA members and the Regional Assistants were present online for the program.





## Fr Nithin Monteiro (KAR) writes from Boston

I reached Boston safely on the 20th January and was in isolation for a week and then in quarantine for another week. I took a while to settle down here. My classes have begun and it is quite demanding. I am still getting used to the cold weather, and hoping for the warmer days. Here is my cell number: +1 6173978610

## POSA's Program

### April

- 7 Meeting of the Conference Presidents  
Meeting with Fr Stefano (JWL)
- 8-11 ToT Conference Apostolic Planning
- 11 Visit to Bengaluru
- 13 Inauguration of the New Church building (Vijayapura, Karnataka)
- 15 Visit to Mangaluru

### May

- 24-28 ToT Ignatian Leadership (Prerana, Bengaluru)

Please note the email addresses of Fr James Arjen Tete, the Conference Secretary for Formation:

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