

IGNITE

The way of Ignatius



Ignatius
seeing all things
new in Christ



greetings from posa

Warm greetings of the Ignatian Year!

The root word of the name Ignatius is 'ignis' meaning fire. Ignatius was indeed a fire. As a result, this short man with a pronounced limp, almost unlettered and born in a hill country, became a person who set millions of hearts afire.

The driving principle in the life of St. Ignatius is called 'Magis', a Latin word, which can be translated as 'more'. He wanted to excel! He picked up this drive from his family and early upbringing. He always aspired to greater good, always higher. Hence, he made use of every opportunity to grow, develop and improve. In other words, whatever he learnt, Ignatius learnt it well, and whatever he did he did excellently well.

Once transformed, Ignatius integrated this desire for more in his life and mission, and made it the lifestream of his organisation, the Society of Jesus. Hence, a galaxy of great men made a great contribution in the horizon of the Church and the world.

The conversion of Ignatius was ultimately a conversion to Jesus. Hence, to seek and find him or what he famously said: 'to know him intimately, love him ardently and follow him closely' became an obsession for him. The goal of the Ignatian year is to seek and find that fire within and enkindle other fires as Ignatius did. Hence, let us row into the deep and thus make a difference in and around us.



Fr. Jerome Stanislaus D'Souza, SJ,
President, Jesuit Conference of South Asia

greetings from coordinator



reetings from Francis Pudhicherry on behalf of the organizing committee for the Ignatian year. In announcing the Ignatian Year, Fr. General desired that 'at the heart of the Ignatian Year, we would hear the Lord calling us, and we would allow him to work our conversion inspired by the personal experience of Ignatius.' Such a conversion allows us to realize the motto 'To see all things new in Christ'. The Ignatian Year invites all of us to 'go back to the Ignatian experience' and use it as 'a good opportunity to make known our spiritual root, that spiritual source that feeds and nourishes us in so many different ways and places.'

Two key words which make up the mandate are 'renewal' and 'sharing'. The first part of the mandate is an invitation towards 'renewal' both at the individual and communitarian level with one flowing into the other. It invites us to be focused on having a new outlook towards our identity and mission. Patchwork solution limited to only specific issues will not take us too far. The Venetian experience of the first companions is a reference point for us Jesuits today. While keeping in mind the historical process of renewal within the Society of Jesus' history, it needs to be understood within the unique context of each Province's reality. Renewal is thus seen as a process of personal conversion as well as structural transformation within the SJ. During the past few years, we have engaged in various processes such as SAP, REGAE, and Apostolic Preferences at the universal (UAP), Conference (CAP) and Province (PAP) levels. These processes have touched all Jesuits in greater and lesser degree leading to a 'redrawing of boundaries within the heart'. The Ignatian Year thus calls us to a process of conversion by gathering together the fruits of these processes so far, courageously and honestly taking stock of our present reality in the light of faith and moving forward in order to 'see all things new in Christ'.



Fr. Francis Pudhicherry, SJ,
Ignatian Year Coordinator

*At the heart of
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The renewal proposed is founded on a conversion experience of St. Ignatius and oneself, but fundamentally centered on Christ and His Kingdom. The experience of a new life necessarily impulses us to share the graces and gifts with members of the larger Ignatian family. They include other religious as well as lay persons of various faiths who participate with us in the larger task of realizing the Kingdom of God. We have been blessed with a large network of collaborators who stand shoulder to shoulder with us in our life and mission. They are part of a tradition which embraces our entire history, pedagogy, mission and spirituality.

The second part of the mandate consists in 'sharing the riches of our heritage' and this takes on special importance during this year because of the unique context we find ourselves in – a context characterized by fundamentalism, covid-19, the plight of migrants and various other challenges. The Incarnational and Trinitarian dimensions of our spirituality invite us to be collectively rooted in the present-day context and inter-connected with others. We collaborate and network with others by drinking from the same source, learning from one another and allowing ourselves to be affectively moved to action through discernment in common and spiritual conversation. Sharing involves concrete shifts for both collaborators & Jesuits. Our collaborators move from being implementers of our decisions to being co-discerners and Jesuits move from being administrators to animators. Other religious who form part of the Ignatian family as well as laity of various faiths are drawn into a new relationship leading to an interaction which is more process oriented rather than program driven.

The General has consciously avoided calling this an Anniversary so that the focus can be on an inner process of conversion at a personal and collective level. Only when the affect is touched will there be an authentic process of transformation leading to concrete and effective action. Let us keep this larger framework in mind while engaging in various activities during this year. We pray that the efforts at conversion, renewal and sharing of our heritage lead to an interior transformation towards Christ and the Kingdom ideal, ultimately resulting in structural and corporate conversion.

Ignatian Year is a special time of renewal and grace for the Jesuits and collaborations. This newsletter of Ignatian Year -JCSA is an attempt to give a glimpse of some of the programmes and inspirations from the Provinces and Regions of South Asia.

We do realize that the Ignatian family with Jesuits, partners and collaborators are much inspired by the life and example of St. Ignatius our founder. May this digital newsletter help us reflect further on the inspiration of St. Ignatius, whereby we are able to recommit ourselves "EVER TO LOVE AND TO SERVE".



Fr. Siji Chacko, SJ
Director- CDO, JCI/JCSA

EDITORIAL TEAM

Dr. Siji Chacko, SJ • Vivian Richard, SJ • Ms. Ashima Mukherjee • Ms. Surbhi Saxena

**IGNATIAN YEAR:
AN INSPIRATIONAL OPENING!**



**CELEBRATION
BY
VARIOUS
PROVINCES**

Various provinces had the opening of the Ignatian Year in a very meaningful and creative ways. Pune Province had a Eucharist with Fr. Angelo Mascarenhas, SJ, the Provincial as the main celebrant, joined by seven others as celebrants. The mass was live streamed had 1500 people attending online. Several promotional materials were created and circulated which had messages of Fr. General, history of Pune province and many others.

Goa province had the Inagural mass at Bom Jesus, the old church of Goa, where the body and relics of St. Francis Xavier is preserved. The Provincial presided over the Eucharist with a unique message.

Dumka Jesuits had the inaugural celebration with many collaborators participating in it. In Hathimara the Ignatian Year Jubilee flag was hoisted after the Eucharistic celebration.

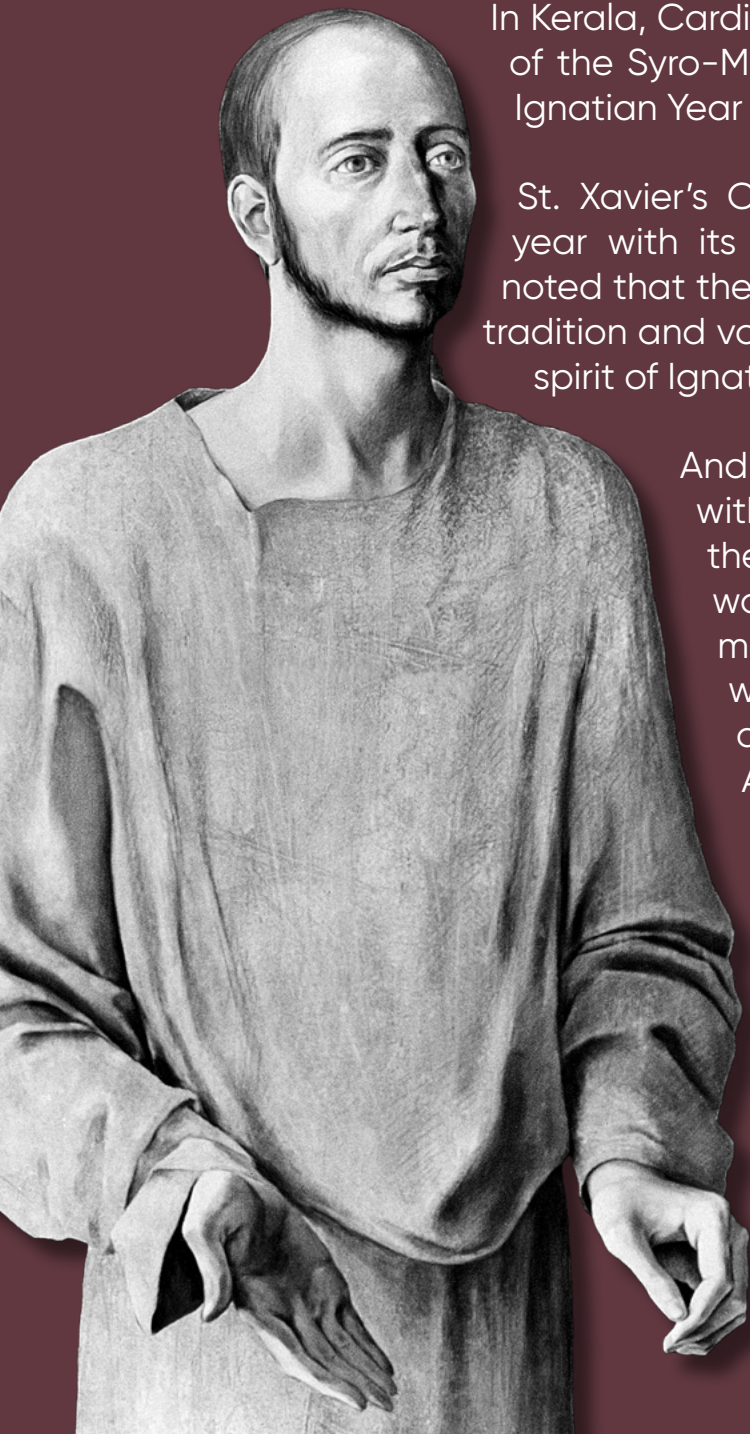
In Kerala, Cardinal Mar Baselios Cleemis, Major Archbishop of the Syro-Malankara Church, officially inaugurated the Ignatian Year in the presence of Fr. Provincial and others.

St. Xavier's College, Burdwan, celebrated the Ignatian year with its faculty members and students and they noted that they were proud to be part of this great Jesuit tradition and vouched to commit themselves to imbibe the spirit of Ignatius.

Andhra Province had a virtual celebration along with Rev. Fr. Provincial of Andhra Pradesh. During the year of Ignatian conversion message was shared to help the poor physically and materially as well as through prayer. A province wise Eucharistic adoration was organized and was conducted by the Jesuit Novices of Andhra Province.

Karnataka Province celebrated the Ignatian Year online. Fr. Mariyaraj, SJ shared some insight from the imitation of Christ and Fr. William Sequeira, SJ shared a reflection on Cannonball moment.

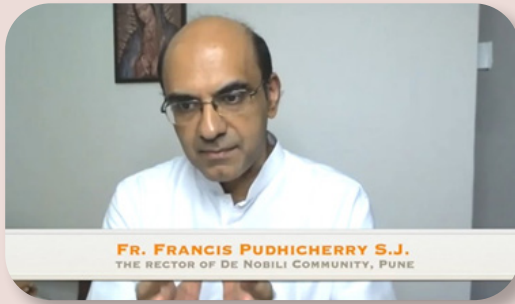
Fr. Amrit Rai, SJ from Nepal along with his team celebrated the Ignatian year and shared a message which encourages people to create a greater intimacy with God just like St. Ignatius.





IGNATIAN YEAR REFLECTIONS

"Be seen". Daniel Leblond, SJ.



Fr. Francis Pudhicherry, SJ shared his reflection on The Conversion of St. Ignatius as depicted in his 'Autobiography'.



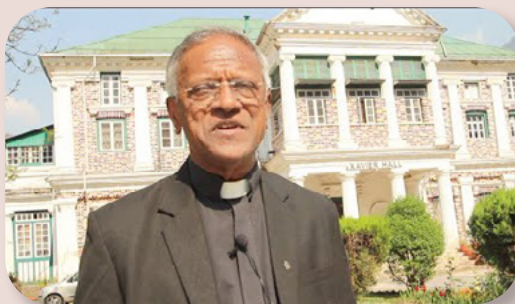
CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE VIDEO



A quiz was conducted which was to enrich the participants with Ignatian wisdom.



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Fr. Lawrence Maniyar, SJ from Nepal shared the reflection on "how St. Ignatius was a frontier missionary".



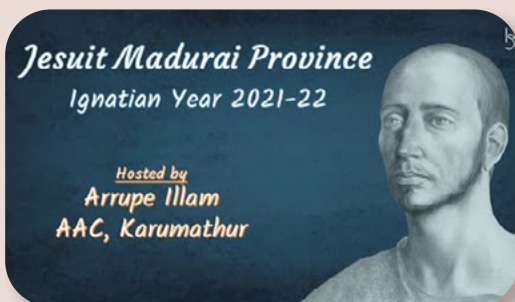
CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE VIDEO



Calcutta Province as part of the Ignatian Year, organized a monthly prayer service Part 4.



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Madurai Province had a series of programmes. Experience sharing of senior Jesuits and their community for the Ignatian Year anchored by Fr. Vincent Sekhar, SJ was one of the inspirations.



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Pune Province had also conducted six days of "5 minutes with St. Ignatius" reflections on various topics such as Discovering the image, Familiarity with God.



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Seven days of Ignatian Year talks was conducted on the topic A Spiritual journey of Jesuits to fulfill God's mission.



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Sri Lanka Province had the theme sessions for 31 days by Fr. Robert SJ. on "Who is St. Ignatius and his Conversion".



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*Lord Jesus, teach me to be generous.
Teach me to serve as you deserve,
To give and not to count the cost,
To fight and not to heed the wounds,
To labor and not to seek to rest,
To give of my self and not ask for a reward,
Except the reward of knowing
that I am doing your will.*

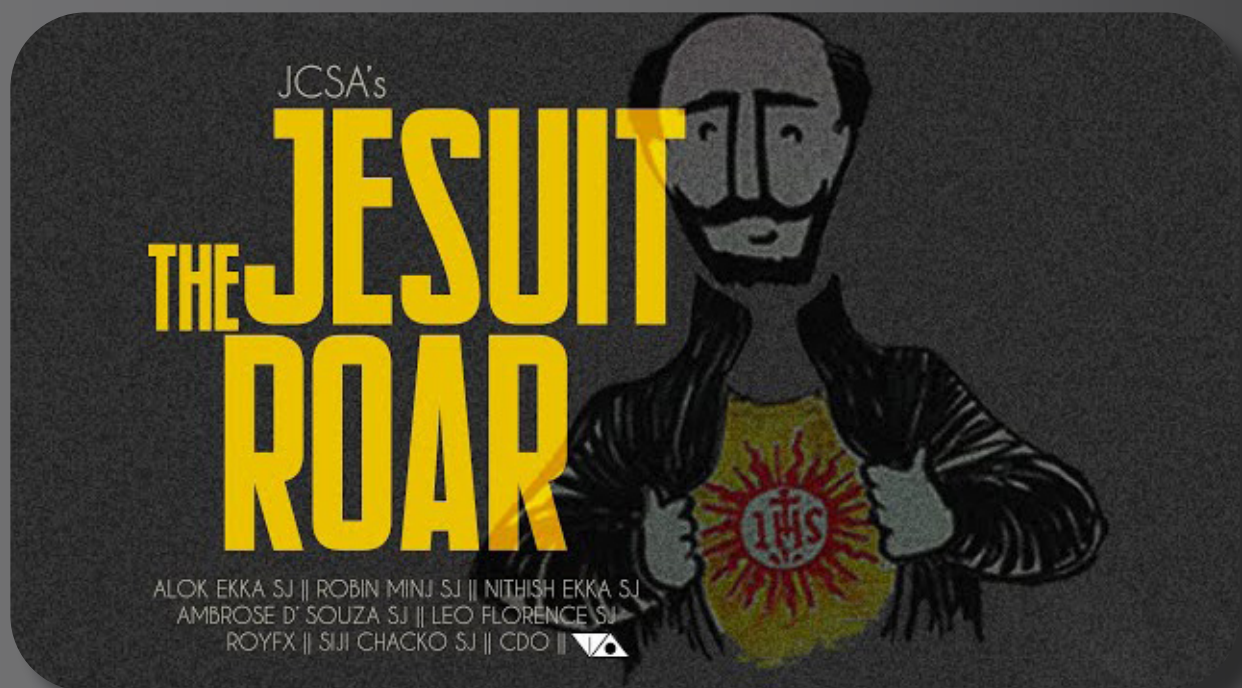


IGNATIAN YEAR EVENTS



Artwork sculpture by the Belgian artist Johan Tahon, offered to the General Curia for the Ignatian Year.

THE JESUIT ROAR




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*On the Ignatian Year and the Independence Day, the Jesuit Conference of South Asia released a video called "**The Jesuit Roar**" the Suscipe...the traditional "**Take Lord Receive**" was treated with modern vibes.*

The Manresa Experience

Digital Jesuits, JCSA, and XIM University jointly organised an online prayer experience as a prelude to the Ignatian Novena. The prayer was broadcast LIVE on YouTube on 21 July, 2021 at 07:00 PM (IST) in 13 languages (at the same time) such as **English, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Khasi, Konkani, Malayalam, Marathi, Nepali, Sinhala, Tamil and Telugu.**

The theme of the event was "Let the Manresa experience from the eyes of the Pilgrim' help us deepen our God experience."




Ignatius

The Manresa Experience

from the eyes of the pilgrim

A prayer experience as a prelude to the Ignatian Novena
broadcasted in 13 languages

বাংলা ગુજરાતી हिन्दि ಕನ್ನಡ
Khasi Konkani മലയാളം
मराठी नेपाली සිංහල தமிழ்
తెలుగు English

 07:00 pm (IST)
 YouTube

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A webpage dedicated for Ignatian Year was prepared by the Conference Development Office in collaboration with the Ignatian Year co-ordinating committee. Dr. Stanislaus D'Souza, SJ the President of the Conference launched the webpage which has very unique features including a repository of resource materials.

Dr. Francis Pudhicherry, SJ, Ignatian Year Coordinator anchored the entire event.

Dr. Jerome Stanislaus D'Souza, SJ, President, gave a profound message in which he mentioned "opening a new door means opening up for new opportunities. Web page is an apostolate not only of the ear but also of the eye. It's a communication through words & images, videos & audios. It's one of the best ways to engage with others especially the youth".

Dr. Siji Chacko, SJ, Director, CDO explained the various features of the website and also presented the layout of Ignatian Year newsletter.

The program ended with a hope that the Ignatian Year web page would help people interiorize the life and inspiration of St. Ignatius.

<https://jcsaweb.org/ignatian-year/>



IGNATIAN YEAR FEAST CELEBRATION

Statue of St. Ignatius made by the Mexican Jesuit Juan Manuel García de Alba



Indian Social Institute, New Delhi

On the occasion of Ignatian Feast (July 31), the CDO released a short video introducing the meaning and relevance of Ignatian Year.



CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE VIDEO

St. Aloysius PU College, Mangaluru

St. Aloysius PU College observed the feast of Ignatian Year with the staff of St Aloysius PU College also joined together at the Loyola Hall on Jul 30, 2021 to celebrate the Feast of St Ignatius of Loyola. The event began with an inter-religious prayer service with harmonious reflections and reading from various religious texts.



The chief guest of the occasion, Fr. Pradeep Crasta SJ, director of Loyola Pre-Noviciate, Mangaluru, in his address, shared their creativity. Like St Ignatius, the great dreamer and enthusiast who experienced desolation during his convalescence and then gained greater clarity about his life's mission, we must also come out of this lockdown clear about our mission of life. The Ignatian values that we can make our own are surrendering to God's will, leadership which is other centric and making a glorious vision of one's mission.

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Loyola Institute of Business Administration (LIBA)

The Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola was celebrated on 30th July 2021 at LIBA at 11:30am. The programme began with a prayer song by LIBA choir. Father Rector, Father Director, Priests, Sisters, LIBA officials, staff and student representatives paid floral tribute to the portrait of the Saint.

In his welcome address Fr C. Joe Arun, SJ, Director of LIBA said that it was the impulse of interiority that touched him most in his understanding of the Saint. Fr. Jerome Stanislaus D'Souza, SJ – President of the Jesuit conference of South Asia (POSA) took part in the celebration virtually. He shared his reflections as to how a Jesuit Business School

should look at education and formation of business leaders who would be responsible and ethical in their business enterprises. Fr. Francis P Xavier, the Rector of Loyola College Institutions addressed the gathering with his inspiring thoughts on the 500th year of conversion of the saint.



IGNATIAN YEAR MAGAZINES



May 2021

JIVAN

NEWS AND VIEWS OF JESUITS IN INDIA

IGNATIAN YEAR

To see all things new in Christ

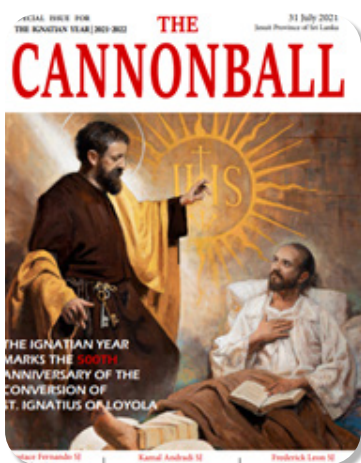


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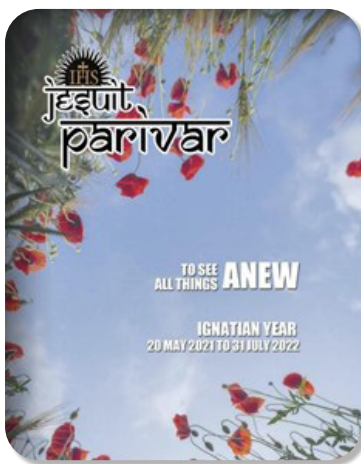
Andhra Province
published a
magazine in
Telugu titled
"**Bharathamitram**"
on Ignatian Year

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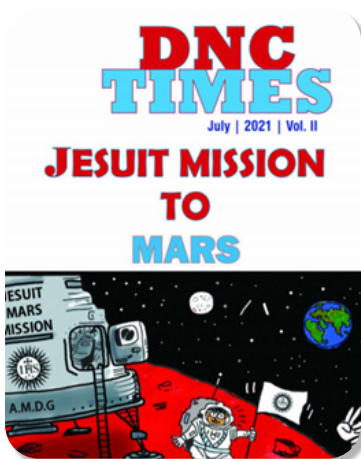
Srilanka Jesuit
Province published
a magazine titled
"**The Cannonball**"
on the occasion of
Ignatian Year

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Bombay Jesuits
released a
magazine "**Jesuit
Parivar**" reflecting
on the Ignatian
Year.

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De Nobili College,
Pune published
"DNC Times" on
Jesuit Mission to
Mars

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IGNATIAN YEAR ARTICLES



Ignatius in the neogothic chapel of the Oude Abdij in Brongsen, Belgium, spiritual centre of ELC.

Hedwig Lewis, SJ wrote an article on how 'Saint Ignatius of Loyola converts his inner-fortress into a sanctuary'.

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Myron Pereira, SJ from Mumbai Province contributed by writing an article on "A modern-day lesson from the conversion of St. Ignatius".

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A modern-day lesson from the conversion of St. Ignatius

The pandemic's disastrous effects should convince us that a conversion from a profligate lifestyle is required from us all



Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556) was canonized by Pope Gregory XV in 1622. (Photo: Wikidata)

On May 20, Jesuits will recall a 400-year-old event that changed the life of their founder Inigo (Ignatius) de Loyola and the world's history.

Personal conversions — not always religious — take place when an individual changes not just his thinking but his whole value system. Such changes usually come about gradually as one progressively jettisons the habits of the past and embraces a new framework of thought and action.

Rev. Fr Dominic Savio SJ, the Principal of St Xavier's College (Autonomous), published an article in Telegraph India about St. Ignatius of Loyola and the service rendered by the Society of Jesus, which he had founded.

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TO
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Ignatian Year

(The Jesuits are observing an Ignatian Year - 20 May 2021 to 31 July 2022 - to celebrate the fifth centenary of the Conversion of St Ignatius of Loyola.)

500 years ago, on 20 May 1521, while defending the fortress of Pamplona, Spain, in a battle with the invading French army, Saint Ignatius of Loyola was wounded by a cannon ball ... and that literally set the ball rolling for his eventual process of 'conversion' to God. Yes, the cannonball was instrumental in bringing Ignatius to his knees - but only after a prolonged and painful struggle, first battling with his life from the infection that had set in with the serious wounds he had received in his legs, then the emotional combat in his 'inner fortress' to restore his shattered dreams and ambitions. The man who had taken a cannonball head on and had fallen flat on his face, would rise determined to set the world on fire!

The Battle of Pamplona serves as a metaphor for a common human experience: We all have our 'inner fortresses', the private spaces in our minds and hearts, to protect our dreams, our ambitions, our emotional cravings and attachments. We build them with 'walls' cemented by our convictions, values, personality and character. We guard them might and main against potential threats or 'invaders'. We may occasionally let a trusted person into our fortresses, but usually the sign at the entrance would read: 'Restricted Area. Keep out!'

And then, there are the 'cannonball' attacks: unexpected, sudden and sizeable tragedies - loss, sickness, failure, accidents - that we all inadvertently encounter sometime or other in life. They knock us off our feet or derail our pursuits. The fainthearted take long to recover from the shock and may remain paralyzed by the wreckage. Those who are resilient and resolute, bounce back and get going with renewed vigour, enthusiasm and determination... just as Saint Ignatius did.

Ignatius was raised in a family of great personalities. His grandfather, father and brothers had won laurels for their military prowess and global enterprises. Stories of their success and exploits were dinned into Ignatius' ears day after day, at dinner table or fireside. He felt both the honour and the responsibility to carry this heritage forward. He dreamed of exquisite and unimaginable things he would do to make his family proud, and win fame for himself.

Loyola was not a big enough field to launch his lofty ambitions. But an opportunity was extended to him, when at the age of about 17, he was invited to be part of the family of the Royal Treasurer, at Acevallo - a bustling city with access to the King's court. For Ignatius it was a dream come true. In the company of the other young courtiers, he made the most of the education he received in the arts, culture, music, reading and writing, for ten years. More importantly, the courtiers had to undergo basic military training in the use of arms, sword-fencing, horse-riding. And, of course, there were the parades where he could show himself off before the ladies!

The treasurer's palace contained a large library with the latest editions of the books of chivalry that had come into the market only recently. Ignatius got hooked onto these romantic novels. The heroes engaged in adventures that matched his own and fuelled his imagination to fantastic heights. Ignatius devoured every book he could lay hands on. He crumbed his inner fortress with posters of his favourite supermen, knights of valour, the supermen of his time, who captured his imagination, crowded his day-dreams, and were icons worthy of imitation nothing would stop him from playing out his dreams. And it helped no little bit that the imposing walls of the

Saint Ignatius of Loyola converts his inner-fortress into a sanctuary

The New Leader, May 10-31, 2021

Celebrating Jesuit service to society through education

The feast of St Ignatius is celebrated on July 31 and 2021 is the 500th year of the Cannonball Moment in his life



Rev Fr Dominic Savio SJ
File picture

Rev Fr Dominic Savio SJ | Calcutta | Published 30/07/21, 12:06 AM

Rev Fr Dominic Savio SJ, the principal of St Xavier's College (Autonomous), writes on St Ignatius of Loyola and the service rendered by the Society of Jesus, which he had founded. The feast of St Ignatius is celebrated on July 31 and 2021 is the 500th year of the Cannonball Moment in his life.

July 31 every year marks the celebration of the Feast of St Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Society of Jesus.

Ignatius was reared to be a courtier in the service of the Crown. His desire was to win fame as a soldier of great valour. Sensual, proud, belligerent, he was the typical self-seeking young man of his time. Then an incident took place that transformed his life totally. It is known as the Cannonball Moment and it took place on May 20, 1521.

This year, we are celebrating the Ignatian Year to commemorate the 500th year of the Cannonball Moment in the life of St Ignatius.

Prayer for the Ignatian Year

IgnatiusSoo

We come before You asking for Your special grace as we go through the year dedicated to the memory of the conversion of Saint Ignatius.

We remember the battle of Pamplona, the bravery of Ignatius, his recklessness, his ability to relate to his comrades. We remember his wound; his broken dreams; his apparent failure; the vulnerability of his health; his return to Loyola and the long days of soul searching to try to find his way in life, finally surrendering his life to You as he listened to Your voice speaking to him through his reading, his dreams, his prayers and his imagination. We remember his journey to Manresa; his inner struggles; his desire to reach out to others, helping souls to discover the consolation of Your Risen Son. We ask, Lord, that You renew, also today, Ignatius' spirit in us.

May we grow closer to his total trust in the Holy Spirit, following Him faithfully, neither running ahead or falling behind. May we make our own his ability to discern, his courage, his vulnerability, his search for companionship; his openness to young people and his desire to share with them his wisdom. May we learn from his fearlessness in going forward even if it meant, sometimes, making mistakes. Grant, Lord, that we may be on fire with his apostolic zeal and full of love for this beautiful but broken world.

Help us, Lord to set aside our narrow views, our preconceptions of ourselves, of each other, of our world and to see everything with new eyes. Help us to live ever more deeply the Ignatian charism of seeing all things new in Christ, of seeing Your grace at work, even in darkness and suffering. May this Ignatian Year help us to know Jesus poor and humble, to love Him more dearly, and follow Him more closely.

We ask the intercession of Our Lady of the Way. May she help us journey with Your Son, Jesus, putting our hand in His, stepping out, every day, into the world with a sense of adventure, of love and hope.

Amen.

