



POPE APPOINTS

Fr. Juan Antonio Guerrero Alves of Spain, Prefect of the Secretariat for the Economy of the Holy See beginning in January 2020.

PROVINCIAL APPOINTS

Fr. Amalraj Arulsamy, Chair, Voc Promotion
Diaconate Approval: Scholastics Antony Arul, Joseph Kurapati and Leo Arokiaraj have been approved for diaconate.

PROVINCIAL'S JANUARY PROGRAM

- 05-07 Visitation, DNC, Pune
- 08-10 Visitation, Premal Jyoti, Ahmedabad
- 11-14 Gyanoday, Patna
- 15 Back in Sahayog
- 27-31 Visitation, Loyola Sadan, Lucknow

PROVINCIAL'S FEBRUARY PROGRAM

- 08 DJS Budget Meeting
- 09 DJS Finance Commission Meeting
- 10 Province Consult
- 16-18 Class to SRA Novices, Varanasi
- 19-21 SRA Varanasi Province Animation
- 23-29 JCSA Meeting, Kathmandu

2019 PROVINCE DAYS

On Dec 28 around 67 Delhi Province members came together as a family for fraternal sharing. Every morning the VJ scholastics helped the gathering come in touch with the Divine by a meaningful prayer service. On the first day Provincial Fr. Jeera led the gathering into the mood of reflection and sharing through a short input. He invited the gathering to introspect on our life's consolations and challenges during the year 2019. The sharing took place after half an hour of personal prayer. It was done in seven groups. After the sharing, the members of the groups felt that it was really meaningful and stirring. It was then followed by sharing by superiors of different communities and the directors of works. What was unique was the invitation of Fr. Provincial to the gathering to

pray for the respective communities after each sharing. It was indeed a touching moment. The sharing continued after the lunch break too. The day ended with the Jubilee Mass by Fr. George Manimala. The Jubilarian took the congregation through the by-lanes and alleys of his vocation story. The second day was dedicated to reflection on the Deliberations of the First Companions. Fr. Jossie D'Mello (KAR), the resource person, led the group to reflect upon the deliberations, which were held between 1534 and 1539. He dealt with communal discernment, Ignatian experience and then posed before the group some imperative questions reminding us of our roots. We were reminded that we are pilgrims in this world. The gathering was called upon to resonate with the interior movements of our Founding Fathers. We need to find answers to the very important questions raised by Pope Paul VI to GC32: Where do we come from? Who are we? Where are we going? The animated way the members took part in the discussions, by asking questions and contributing reflections, clearly showed that all of us felt the pressing need to get back to our roots in order to retrieve our identity and practice genuine discernment. The final day witnessed the general sessions where Treasurer Fr. Xavier presented before the gathering the financial situation of the Province. PDD Fr. Jose Kuriakose briefed the group about the functions of PDD office. It was followed by the address of Fr. Provincial. He gently exhorted the members of the Province to diligently write the Information for Final Vows. The Province Days concluded with the Eucharist presided over by Fr. Provincial.

Jejimon

FROM THE DIASPORA

Tony Andrade: I had lots of activities in December. I had CRI recollection for Middle Andaman at Rangat on Dec 2. After that I had CRI recollection for North Andaman at

Ramnagar on 4th. On 5th, I had recollection for diocesan priests at Kalapahar, North Andaman. This parish is situated in the midst of forest. They have no electricity and running water. They manage by solar electricity and rain water or stream water. Two priests are residing in a simple hut. After returning to Port Blair I had recollection for 6 regents working in the diocese. We had a gathering of women religious superiors called by Diocesan Administrator. I too was invited to speak to them. We highlighted some of the issues affecting the Sisters in our diocese and a plan of action. There was good participation of the superiors in this meeting. We had CRI carol singing on 14th and 15th. I joined them for one day. Nearly 50 of us were there going around giving Christmas message to all religious communities and close by parishes. On 16th, I had CRI recollection for South Andaman at Port Blair. Good number of religious priests and nuns turned up. On 19th, I proceeded to Delhi to attend Province Days and to spend some time with our veteran Jesuits in Delhi. For the last two months I have been assisting at Prothrapur Jesuit Parish since the assistant priest was away in Ranchi for treatment. I had lots of chances for pastoral ministry, saying Mass and hearing confessions in various localities of the parish. In the process I came to know many families. It is a lively parish.

Arock: At the outset, I want to wish and pray for everyone in the province that the new year may assure us with ample graces for our life and mission. From my side, I have completed my PhD thesis and it will be submitted in the next week for evaluation. I hope to get an appointment for my final defence by the end of January. From here, I plan to go home and spend a few weeks with my mother and visit my near and dear ones. Then, I hope to be in the province in March to take up responsibilities. At this moment I also want to thank each one of the province members for your prayerful support.

SAHAYOG

Mathew Padayatty directed the retreat of a group of Sisters at NRC from Nov 26 to Dec 3. In Dec **Fr. T.K. John, Fr. Augustine Pantha, Fr. Mathew Padayatty, Fr. K.P. George, Fr. Alex Chinnappan and Fr. Arun Panackal** helped out at parishes like St. Mary's, Rosary and Shahbad and also in several convents; they heard confessions and celebrated Mass. **Fr. Ed Daly** was hospitalized on 20th and after a few days of personal care by Dr. Tenzin and others in Jivodaya Hospital, he was discharged on

26th. **Fr. John Chathannatt** took meticulous care of Fr. Daly. The community organized a lunch for the co-workers of Sahayog and NRC on 23rd. We had carol singing by different groups: MCs from Shishu Bhawan on 18th, VJ scholastics on 19th and nightingales of Jahangirpuri on 22nd. The community celebrated birthdays of **Fr. P.T. Augustine** on 21st and **Fr. Xavier Ignatius** on 23rd. With these celebrations Fr. P.T. Augustine entered the elite club of octogenarians and Fr. Xavier Ignatius joined the 'Wise Men's Club' of "Senior Citizens" qualifying for all the rights and duties of the privileged clubs. Fr. T.K. John had his second eye operated on 18th for cataract. No more does he see "people like trees upside down walking around", but everything is crystal clear! With his regular dialysis at Fortis Hospital Fr. Alex Chinnappan feels better. After the Province Days he shifted to Shahbad, his new community. For Christmas the buildings and cribs were tastefully decorated. On 25th night the community had Christmas gathering and dinner together with the campus community of St. Xavier's. Carol singing - a mixture of multiple voices including some cacophony - started at 7:00 pm followed by a delicious dinner. Then came the Province Days; all except Fr. Ed Daly participated in it. The community shared generously its hospitality with many guests, both Jesuits and non-Jesuits, in Dec. Delhi CM Mr. Kejriwal has re-christened **Fr. Job Kozhamthadam** as *Naukari* Kozhamthadam and has invited him to join the senior citizens' pilgrimage sponsored by Delhi Govt. Fr. Mathew has joined the Gym at St. Xavier's. *K.P. George*

NRC: NRC entered December with the continuation of the retreat of 11 Sisters directed by Mathew Padayatty from Nov 26 to Dec 3. JESCOM had their annual meeting from Dec 4th to 8th. This was followed by Caritas India Staff Seminar from 9th to 13th which saw 38 participants from all over India. Fourteen teachers, including two Sisters from St. Peter's School, Tengnopal, Manipur who came for Delhi sight-seeing, stayed at NRC from 13th to 15th; they enjoyed our hospitality. The EFICOR, an Evangelical Group, had their Christmas get together on 14th which attracted 129 members under the leadership of Pastor Kennedy Dhanapalan. Navjivan Calendars and Brochures 2020 got printed on 17th and they are being distributed to various stakeholders and well-wishers. The last and the culminating item of 2019 was the Delhi Province Days from 28th to 30th; a record number of 67 attended. The gathering witnessed serious deliberations,

devout prayers, delicious food and relaxing entertainments including enriching movies. Special thanks to Fr. Ravi and Community for Cake Pastry, Cookies and Chocolates, to Fr. Varkey Perekatt and Community for delicious Cakes, Cookies and toffees, to Fr. Glenn Menezes and Community for the tasty pork preparation ('Sorpatel') and to Fr. Jose Philip for preparing the fish curry with a south Indian taste. Many contributed in different ways towards making the Province Gathering very enjoyable. May many more communities and individuals generously come forward to contribute to the common joy in the years ahead. NRC hosted a special lunch on 31st for those who helped NRC in its smooth functioning throughout the year 2019. hey enjoyed the grand lunch.

K.P. George

ST. XAVIER'S, BEHROR

School: The school organized a mini-marathon 'Xavier's Run for Unity' on Dec 1. The event saw active participation of our students, alumni, and parents. The feast of St. Francis Xavier, our school patron, was celebrated with a special assembly at which the life journey of St. Xavier was enacted. Students gave special attention to their books due to the unit tests and periodic tests conducted from 5th to 11th. The students of Class 12 are glued to their books as they prepared for their Board Exams. Their first Pre-Board Exams were held from 9th to 20th. Our Class IV employees went on a picnic on 7th to Joy Goan, a fun park near Jhajjar. Beautiful Christmas decorations set the mood of Christmas. Our students decorated their classrooms and blocks with their creative ideas and enthusiasm. The most well-decorated class from each block was awarded a prize. The annual Sports Day for the students from Prep to Class 9 was conducted on 21st. Our children had their Christmas celebration on 23rd with a special assembly followed by Christmas carnival. The PTM was held on 24th; despite the cold wave, many parents came to meet with the teachers. On the same day, a Christmas get-together was organized for our school staff followed by a fellowship lunch. The winter break began on 25th.

Community: Sr. Abhaya and Sr. Suma of SCJM made their 8-day retreat in Behror under the guidance of Fr. Joe Manna. The community had a meaningful Christmas celebration. Many teachers and friends visited our community during the Christmas season. **Fr. Sebastian A., Fr. Joe Manna** and **Sch. Anish** took part in the

Province Days, while **Fr. Joe Vila** took care of the House and Parish.

Parish: Four days of carols with the full cooperation of the parish youth brought Christmas joy and the mood of celebration not only to the Christian families of our Parish but also to the non-Christian families who joyfully joined the carols. Christmas Vigil Mass was meaningful and the exchange of gifts among the parishioners doubled the joy.

Anish Raj

ST. XAVIER'S, BHIWADI

Community: Christmas came a little early in Bhiwadi as Fr. Glenn decorated the House well in advance to give us the feel of Christmas. The biting cold made the Fathers think twice before coming out of their rooms, but driven by the apostolic zeal they were in the field to see the happenings in the school. Fr. Glenn shared specially prepared sweets with the staff and co-workers. **Frs. Glenn, Sangeeth, Sebastian M. and Amalraj** attended the Province Days. **Sch. Pawan** looked after all the works in their absence. The community missed the presence of **Fr. Manimala** as he was in Delhi for treatment.

School: On the occasion of the feast of St. Francis Xavier the students conducted an hour-long program that highlighted the untiring commitment and zeal of the saint through a skit and dance performance. On 3rd the school remained closed. The grounds sprang to life on 4th, with exam fever spread in the bones of students which made them feel warm even in this biting cold. The school conducted Arrupe Cup, an inter-school dance competition. Six schools around Bhiwadi took part in this competition; Mother's Touch bagged the first place and rolling trophy. Career guidance program was held for Classes 11 & 12. Inter-class carol singing and notice board decoration competitions were held with the theme "Caring for the Common Home" and winners were awarded attractive prizes. The much-awaited Christmas celebrations dawned on 21st wherein **Frs. Sangeeth and Glenn** tried to infuse in the mind of students the true meaning of Christmas. At noon we had a small gathering to felicitate **Fr. Amal** and **Fr. Manimala** and to exchange gifts with our advent friends. To share the joy of Christmas with the staff, we had a get-together for the teaching staff, support staff and co-workers along with their families. Besides prayer, games and dance, our teachers took part in carol singing too. Fr. Glenn captivated everyone's attention by moving rhythmically amidst swinging bodies of our teachers. It was a

time to mingle with one another and to drop some moves on dance floor. It was a family gathering to interact, celebrate and share the joy of Christmas with one another.

Parish: We started the month on a spiritual note with Fr. Deepak IMS preaching an inspiring recollection to the parishioners. We started carol singing on 13th, going to the homes of our parishioners, teaching and non-teaching staff and even to non-Christians to share the joy of Christmas. We saw many beautiful cribs. We celebrated with great solemnity and fervour the feast of Nativity with Fr. Amal as the main celebrant. Parishioners brought cakes as offering and distributed them after the Mass. The vibrant parish youth went to Gillette Company, along with Sr. Ranjana, to share the love and joy of Christmas with the workers.

Maria Sadan: On 3rd all the Fathers and Sisters came together for the Eucharist to celebrate the feast of St. Francis Xavier. After the Mass everybody exchanged greetings and wishes over a delicious breakfast. On 4th Fr. Amal was back from south. Fr. Amaldass interacted with the candidates and inspired them with his life journey. Our Director attended a two-day vocation promoters' program in Matigara. All the candidates actively participated in carol singing and shared short reflections in each house which was well appreciated by everyone. They made beautiful cribs in the parish and in the house.

Pawan

ST. XAVIER'S, JAIPUR

College: December was a month of preparations and celebrations. To begin with, on 6th, Academic and Administrative Audit (AAA) was conducted by Dr. Lourdasamy Arockiam from St. Xavier's College, Palayamkottai. He gave important insights for our preparation for NAAC accreditation. On 7th, a combined staff workshop was conducted for HFR and Nevta colleges at Nevta for Revised Accreditation Framework of NAAC. The resource persons were Dr. Devender Kawday, Dr. Dini Menon and Dr. Lourdasamy. On 14th, a memorial lecture on "Doubling Farmers' Income in India" was organized by the Dept of Economics in memory of Dr. Sapna Newar. Prof. V. V. Singh was the speaker on this occasion. Dept of Commerce and Management organized on 18th a national symposium on 'Strategies for Reshaping Business and Economy: Sustainable Development Perspective'. St. Xavier's Feast was celebrated on 2nd with an hour-long program highlighting the passion and zeal of the saint through a skit and band performance. The

AICUF students organised Christmas carols from 18th to 20th. On 21st, they organised a short Christmas program for the students and staff consisting of a Nativity Play, party games, carols and band performance. The Guest of Honour for the program was Mr. K. P. Paulraj. The College closed for Christmas vacation on 24th and will re-open on Jan 3.

Jose V.K.

School: The December activities began with the St. Xavier's Feast Day assemblies held separately in Jr and Sr school. **Fr. Dominic** and **Fr. Varkey** highlighted the salient features of the life and mission of the saint. In view of the Pre-Board starting on 7th regular teaching stopped for Class 12. Central Teacher Eligibility Test was conducted in the school for 600 candidates. Dominic participated in a meeting of the Catholic educational institutions' heads in Ajmer. Brandon Memorial Declamation took place for Class 11 on International Human Rights Day. Jr Sports Day was held on 14th with Fr. Varkey as the Chief Guest. The school timings were modified in the middle of Dec due to inclement weather. On 17th the Jr School began its Christmas preparations by having carol competitions in the presence of 1500 students. An NGO 'Sparsh' conducted an orientation program for the students of Class 8 regarding Touch (proper and improper). The icing of all the Dec programs was the Christmas assembly and the activities thereafter. Jr and Sr Sections vied with each other in presenting memorable Christmas assemblies with skits, ballets, etc. Sr School brought in 4 Santas arriving in 4 modes of transport (1 Santa even hired the non-polluting mobile of the Principal to drive in the message of Caring for the Earth!). **Fr. Joshy** and Fr. Varkey delivered the Christmas message to Jr and Sr School respectively. After the interval came the much awaited Christmas DJ starting with Jingle Bells. The demand was such that Vice Principal said a minimum of 10 times that it's going to be the last song. After seeing off the kids the teachers entered into the Christmas mood with carols and a powerful message by the Principal. The teachers lapped up his message with all their senses (true Ignatian methodology!) as they could not but relish the aroma of the delicious lunch being arranged in the same venue. Christmas cake almost ran short due to its taste bud tickling properties. The College Sports Dept made use of our sports infrastructure for conducting their inter-departmental competitions. On 26th the golden jubilee batch (1969) and the silver jubilee batch (1994) had their programs. The silver jubilarians conducted the school assembly by

standing in 2 lines and the prefects inspecting the tidiness of school uniform, shoes and nails and haircut, sang the school songs merrily one after another and proceeded in line to the respective classrooms where cards (pink and grey) were issued to the incorrigible ones. The eyes-welling moment came when they invited and honoured their (still living) teachers and recounted the experiences of how they were touched by the teachers and mores of the school. The AGM was conducted after a delicious lunch wherein a new Alumni Executive Body took charge. On 31st District Collector issued fresh guidelines regarding class schedule from Jan 1 in view of the falling mercury.

Sobin

Parish: Month of Dec began with the Thanksgiving Eucharist of the conclusion of the Ruby Jubilee of St. Xavier's Parish. It was presided over by Archbishop Albert D'Souza of Agra and concelebrated by Bishop Emeritus Ignatius Menezes of Ajmer, Bishop Oswald Lewis of Jaipur, Provincial Fr. Sebastian Jeera and some twenty-five priests. Mass began at 9 am in the well decorated Primary School ground. Bishop Ignatius Menezes preached the homily tracing the history of the establishment of the parish, its growth and Jesuits' contribution for the development of the parish. After the Mass the dignitaries were felicitated and prizes were distributed to the Runner Ups and Winners in various cultural events and games. Archbishop Albert D'Souza released the first copy of the Ruby Jubilee Souvenir. On 3rd, the feast day of our patron St. Francis Xavier, was the finale of the Ruby Jubilee celebrations. A large congregation assembled in the school ground for the Thanksgiving Eucharist at 4 pm. It was presided over by Archbishop William D'Souza of Patna and concelebrated by Bishop Oswald Lewis, Provincial Fr. Sebastian Jeera and a large number of Jesuit and non-Jesuit priests. The civic function began at 5:30 pm presided over by Bishop Oswald Lewis. Winners of all the cultural competitions were awarded attractive prizes and mementos. A new digital Mobile App of the Parish Directory was launched on this memorable occasion. Carol Singing began on 14th and went on till the 20th with good participation from all the zones. Jaipur Christian Fellowship, an Ecumenical Group, organized a combined carol singing on 19th at Birla Auditorium where the main city parishes participated. The three-hour program was really superb and put all in the auditorium in real Christmas mood. Lalarpura Parish organized an inter-parish Carol Singing

Competition on 21st where six parishes participated. We were awarded third prize, a Rolling Cup plus Rs. 2001 as cash prize. Christmas Vigil Mass in the Junior School Hall had a congregation of more than one thousand people. Beautiful singing of the choir, cake and coffee after the Mass and joyful exchange of greetings by one and all enhanced the joy of all. The Church was full for the morning Mass too. It was very heartening to see that on 24th night and on 25th during the day and night thousands of people paid respects to Baby Jesus in the Crib outside the Church and inside the Church praying devoutly seeking His blessings. Jesuit Community too had a long line of visitors from students, parents, well-wishers and alumni throughout the day, sharing the joy of Christmas and renewing old bonds. Some of the parish youth along with their animators participated in the concluding Eucharist of the Year of Youth at Sacred Heart Church, Ghat Gate at 4 pm and in the cultural program in St. Angela Sr. Sec. School Auditorium after the Mass. The year 2019 concluded on 31st evening with a thanksgiving Holy Hour at 6 pm followed by Holy Eucharist at 7 pm to welcome the New Year 2020, to celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God and World Peace Day.

Varkey

Community: This month too we welcomed several Jesuits from nearby communities who came to the city for their own work. **Fr. Packiam** left for Pune soon after the Ruby Jubilee for pre-tertianship program and returned just before the school closed for Christmas vacation. Fr. Rakesh Toppo spent a day in the community when he visited Jaipur with his friend. Fr. Edward Dungdung (PAT) spent a day with us he came to Jaipur to visit his relations. Fr. Joshy spent a few days here after his tertianship; he attended the Memorial Lecture of late Dr. Sapna Newar and welcomed some of his relations who visited Jaipur. **Fr. Jose Vattakuzhy** went home on 23rd to attend the Ordination and First Mass of his cousin Dn. Gladrin on the 28th. While all the other members of the community went for the Province days on the 27th **Fr. Mani** was all in all both in the community and parish. Fr. Antony Raj from VJ is here from 26th on, making his retreat. While returning on 30th after the Province Days, Fr. Pepe SJ from Spain, who is on a sabbatical, joined us to be in Jaipur for a few days.

Varkey

ST. XAVIER'S, NEVTA

On Dec 1, **Fr. Ravi** and **Fr. Jijimon** went to Nainital for their annual retreat. The next day, a

short program was organized to celebrate the feast of St. Xavier. On 7th the staff of HFR college came to Nevta for a workshop on NAAC accreditation. On 8th the Arts students with teachers visited Nevta Village for a field study and collected data on cleanliness and hygiene in the village and on the impact of social media on students at Rajakiya Shastri Sanskrit College. On 11th Frs Varkey, Sherry and I had a meeting to discuss the feasibility of hosting the annual JHEASA conference. We decided to host it at NRC Delhi. The date was fixed for Oct 16-18 and Jijimon was requested to coordinate the program. The processing of the annual exam forms got completed. Fr. Jijimon and Fr. Ravi came back after the retreat on 13th. Five students participated in a campaign to paint and beautify the walls of the neighbouring government schools. On 19th Jijimon left for Palayamkottai to prepare for his PhD viva. The college had the Christmas celebration on 21st. After carols and a short message by **Fr. Augustine**, gifts were distributed among 35 poor children from Mansarovar. XVI also participated. After the program, staff had some games, and exchange of gifts. The celebration ended with lunch. The work on the residence is progressing steadily. The main structure including the flooring and much of the painting is over. The ground around is being developed, along with the electrical fittings and furnishing. The work is progressing with the target of handing over the building by the end of Feb, though some external work like building the garage may be left.

Augustine

ST. XAVIER'S, SHAHBAD

COMMUNITY: **Br. Gyan** was out to attend the Brothers' Meeting in Ranchi from Dec 2 to 7. **Fr. Britto** left for Bangalore on 3rd to meet his doctor and returned on 6th. On 22nd **Fr. Remy** and **Fr. George Peter** helped out in hearing confessions at Resurrection Church, Rohini. On 24th Fr. Remy went to Sunlight Colony Church to help out in the Christmas services. Fr. Victor Edwin was with us from 21st to 27th. Fr. Manoj and Sch. Paul Mickey spent a night with us. Only four of us could take part in the Province Days this year.

PARISH: On Dec 1 we celebrated the feast of our parish patron St. Francis Xavier. Fr. Paul Roy, the director JJ Ashram Burari was the main celebrant at the Eucharist. After Mass and breakfast, there was a beautiful cultural program by the children and youth. A festive meal followed the program. On 7th and 8th we had parish recollection; Fr. Nishant IMS preached.

Fr. Mathew Padayatty, Fr. K.P. George and all the Fathers in the House helped out in hearing confessions. From 14th to 22nd we had carol singing. On 15th after Mass we had the election of the new Parish Council Members. On 22nd the last meeting of the old Parish Council took place. Vincent de Paul Society made the crib. On 24th Fr. Victor Edwin offered the Christmas Vigil Mass. Though there was a large gathering for the night Mass, a good number of people participated in the morning Mass too. On 31st we had the Thanksgiving Adoration and Mass in the evening.

Scaria

SCHOOL: The much awaited annual Sports Day was held on Nov 30 with great zeal and excitement with Mr. S. Sunil, Superintendent of Tihar Jail as the Chief Guest. All the four Houses presented march past eyeing for the first place. Lighting of the torch was done by national and international level players of yoga, shooting and taekwondo followed by oath taking ceremony. Book Balancing and Lemon Spoon Race were held for parents. A special assembly was held on Dec 2 in honour of St. Francis Xavier, Patron of our school. The skit on the life of the saint moved the audience. Students of various classes greeted the Fathers with cards and roses. Choir sang the hymn of Francis Xavier; it was followed by a dance of praise and worship. On the same day, our staff member Mr. Mahesh Yadav completed 25 years of service in the school; he was appreciated by everyone in the school and felicitated by School Manager **Fr. Scaria** with a memento. A farewell function was organised on 3rd in honour of Mrs. Aakshi Khanna. She was felicitated with a plant by both the Senior and Junior Staff for her selfless service at St. Xavier's for 35 years. Beautiful messages and best wishes were expressed by the staff through a PowerPoint presentation. Principal **Fr. Shaju** also extended his best wishes. She was presented a photo album capturing some beautiful moments of her life at Xavier's. The program ended with a melodious song which was especially sung for her. Xavier Fair was held on 14th. The campus was all set with enchanting music and mouth-watering food items. The carnival was organized during the regular school time. After the assembly, the Fair was inaugurated by Manager Fr. Scaria and Principal Fr. Shaju. The stalls offered rides, varieties of food, interesting games and lucky dips. The whole event ended on a good note with half-an-hour free DJ. Bhabha House conducted Christmas assembly on 20th. Nativity scene was enacted beautifully along with carols; dance performance on "O holy night..." was

most captivating. Quiz was conducted making the assembly more joyful and informative. Principal distributed prizes to the Best Decorated Class Board, class wise. The program concluded with an enchanting dance by all the participants on Felis Navada. OXAR Reunion was organised on the evening of 21st in the school premises; a large number of alumni attended it. They felt very happy and emotional to visit their alma mater. They enjoyed the meals, music and the lively DJ. The school staff also was present. Christmas get-together of management, teachers, ex-teachers and co-workers was held on 23rd in the auditorium, outside weather being very chilly. The program began with seeking God's blessings through a Bible reading and prayer. Christmas message of sharing and caring was shared through Advent friend and exchange of gifts. The celebration witnessed a lot of fun and frolic, and concluded with a grand meal. *Shaju*

LVI: A number of our students took the N.I.O.S. exams during Nov-Dec; but some of them gave only the L.V.I. exams. Three team members from the ADO office brought a nodal coordinator of PM's Skill Yojana Program for a visit to the L.V.I. with a view to possible collaboration. Fifty leaders of our Lok Manch had one day leadership program; we trained them to fill up forms for Aadhar, Voter Id and Ration Card. They in turn will train 1500 families with whom they are in contact. December was a month of celebrations: LVI put up a stall successfully during the School Fair in order to collect funds for Bal Mela. We brought together over 300 kids and 50 staff from our 20 tuition centres, scattered around Rohini Sectors 26 & 27, Bawana and from our remedial classes in the afternoon. They had a wonderful Christmas mela with games & dances, prizes & eatables. The LVI trainees had a grand Christmas celebration and graduation, with a spectacular show of songs, dances and drama. Dr. T.N. Giri, the Regional Director of NIOS was our Chief Guest and Fr. Scaria Guest of Honour. All our 50 staff, Jesuits and Sisters were given Christmas gifts, and we prayed for peace and justice during 2020. *George Peter*

ALMORA

In December Fr. Rakesh gave recollection to Canossa Sisters in Ranikhet. **Fr. Rakesh** and **Fr. Pradeep** attended the recollection cum Christmas get-together organized by Bareilly Diocese on 10th and 11th in Bareilly. Fr. Rakesh and Fr. Pradeep went to Delhi to purchase gifts for the staff. Big thanks to Fr. T.J. Jose and St.

Xavier's School Raj Niwas for their generosity in sponsoring the Christmas gifts and cakes. Fr. Rakesh went to Hazaribagh to attend alumni get-together in VTI. Thanks to VJ Rector for sending two theologians Deva and Denis for Christmas ministry. They taught carols and conducted fun games. They went to Christian families and Mission Hospital in groups and sang carols. Meanwhile Fr. Manoj and Sch. Paul Mickey too arrived in Almora along with Fr. Rakesh on 23rd to celebrate Christmas with us. We organized a training program from 20th to 25th for Tuition Teachers and Staff. Mr. S. Rawat from SBI Almora gave some inputs on Banking Services. Fr. Pradeep arranged a health check-up camp for all the staff. One of our staff Mr. Digar Singh took a session on Preventive Health Methods and Remedies. He is an expert in Ayurveda medicines. On 27th all Jesuits came down to Delhi to attend the Province Days. While returning back to Almora **Fr. Joshy** joined us. Now he will be our new community member. *Rakesh*

KHARAR/MORINDA/GSSSC ROPAR

In December, regular animation and meetings of the SHGs were conducted by our animator in Ropar area. Mr. Farhan Mughees and Fr. Jose Kuriakose were here from 10th to 12th to meet our animators to conduct baseline survey. They met a team of three people at GSSSC office, Kotla Nihang and discussed the tool for it. In the afternoon they met with Ex-Chairman of Nehru Yuva Kendra, Mr. Sukhdarshan Singh and other coordinators and described the need of baseline survey in Ropar, Mohali and Nawashehar. On 13th Fr. Provincial was at Morinda and Kharar, his presence motivated us. Fr. Viren conducted a training program for the SHGs on 20th at Malikpur. Fr. Robin was out of station from 5th to 20th to attend Pre-tertiary program at Pune. The staff and students of remedial classes celebrated Christmas Program at St. Xavier's, Ropar in the evening on 21st. **Fr. Robin** and **Fr. Viren** attended the Province days. A long stage play and a couple of *nukkad nataks* were put up by our volunteers in various villages as part of de-addiction sensitization program. *Viren*

VIDYAJYOTI

Solidarity with the poor was the prominent experience celebrated during Bal Mela on Dec 1, Christmas program for street children on 7th and Christmas celebrations with co-workers on 21st. We shared our joy of Christmas with our neighbours and VIPs on 22nd during a program with Mr. Kauhal, the former Superintendent of

Tihar Prison, as the Chief Guest. We were delighted to have a number of groups from our ministry places to come and sing carols at VJ; these groups included Eastern Christian Students' Communion, R.K. Puram Parish, MC Sisters and Jahangripuri parishioners. On 20th Fr. Alex Chinna of our Province was the Guest of Honour in the College for Christmas Program. He gave the Christmas message. That day **Sch. Devadoss** and **Sch. Denis** left for Almora to conduct seminars on various topics for the SEVA animators and tuition teachers. The House was decorated in a simple but elegant manner with LED lights, thanks to our ever energetic and gentle Minister Fr. Sunil Joseph. On 27th, third year scholastics preparing for Diaconate began their retreat at Navinta under the guidance of Frs. Fabian Bhuiyan, Francis Pudhicherry and Jimmy B. Dabhi. Fr. Paul D'Souza will preach Triduum to our 1st and 2nd years on Jan 2-4. Our college will reopen on Jan 6.

Leo

SHANTI SADAN, ALLAHABAD

In November we pre-novices went to Gaya for village exposure. First we were given three days of orientation by Fr. Anto, Fr. John Ravi, Fr. Lawrence, Fr. Cyriac and Fr. Sumit. Then we were sent to different villages in pairs. We stayed in families and shared their life. After returning from the villages we had three days of sharing. Then we went for Patna darshan and returned on 29th of Nov. **Fr. Abraham** went to Pune for the pre-tertianship program and came back on 24th of Dec. On 3rd we celebrated St. Francis Xavier's feast with solemn Eucharist by **Fr. Jose Elampa**. We ended the day's celebrations with a delicious meal. We were spiritually prepared for Christmas through a recollection conducted by **Fr. Soosai Mani**. He gave us a talk on "Centring Oneself in the Divine Scheme of Life". Then we had adoration, confession and the Eucharist. In the absence of Fr. Abraham, Fr. Soosai took Hindi classes for us. Meanwhile **Fr. Pius** guided some Sisters in their retreat. We enthusiastically prepared cribs from 21st on: one in the church and the other in front of the Pre-novitiate. On Christmas Eve we had Vigil Mass at 11 O'clock with Fr. Soosai Mani as the main celebrant and Fathers from the community and St. Paul's as concelebrants. On the feast day we had Mass at 8:30 offered by Fr. Abraham. On 26th we had "Christmas Tree" in the parish. We entertained the parishioners with games, songs and dance. We were appreciated by them for our assistance. Fr. Abraham and Fr. Soosai went to Delhi for the

Province Gathering and were back on 31st. Fr. Pius went to Lucknow to direct a retreat for CJ Sisters.

Wilson

XAVIER NILAYA, BENGALURU

We had a good starting of the month with the celebration of the feast of our Patron St. Francis Xavier on Dec 1 with the extended Xavier Nilaya family. Then on the 3rd we had the Sacrament of Reconciliation as a preparation for Christmas. We have already started practicing for our Annual Play scheduled for Feb. Well before Christmas we took part in a Christmas get-together with the CRI of Richmond Town Zone. On 16th Director **Fr. Daniel** left for Patna to be part of a meeting and returned on 18th. Scholastics from Inigo Sadan came to our community to share the good news of Christmas by singing carols. We visited nearly forty families, religious institutions, catholic houses and a few benefactors from other faiths. On 22nd, Fr. Donald Miranda, Provincial of Patna visited us as part of his annual visitation. Fr. Donald was the main celebrant for the Christmas Vigil Mass. On the Christmas day, we put up a short cultural program before Fr. Provincial. A group of scholastics from Satya Nilayam, about twenty in number, visited us. We also had other guests from Delhi and Patna, like niece of Fr. Job with her daughter, Fr. Alwyn D'Souza, Jose Kalapura and Sch. Savari, and also Sch. Rosan (KER), who arrived in XN on the 30th.

Arpit & Jack

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

January	February
02 Ayyankanal, George J.	04 Kayathinkara, Sobin
06 Jonnalagadda, Suresh	06 Tete, Paul Micky
16 Meesala Chanti Pawan	07 Chelakat, Anthony
18 Panthapallil, Augustine	07 R, Gnana, Muthu
22 Kuriacose, Thomas K.	13 Adaikalaraj, Arunmozhi
22 B, Denis Kumar	15 George, Ajay
24 Muthalakuzhy, Varkey	15 Mukalel, Sebastian
27 Dhan, Anupam	18 Nedumattam, Mani
27 Minz, Viren Lawrence	19 *Xalxo, Ruben
28 Ignatius, Rohan	20 *George Stephen
30 T.K. John	25 Andrade, Anthony

Gone for their Eternal Reward

Fr. Joseph Zerafa (DUM, 85/67) on Nov 30.
Fr. Felix Gonsalves (GUJ, 71/53) on Dec 8.
Fr. Louis Menezes (BOM, 85/66) on Dec 8.
Fr. Edwin Menezes (PAT, 68/47) on Dec 18.
Fr. Fidelis J. Packiam (AND, 71/55) on Dec 26.
Fr. Civiac Joaquin (Guj, 87/68) on Dec 27.
 Fr. Jose Vattakuzhy's aunt Mercy on Dec 10.
 Fr. Jebamalai's uncle Dominic on Dec 28.

Reports and photos for the next DM are due on January 31, 2020.