



Pope's Intentions For February 2020

Listen to the Migrant's Cries

We pray that the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered.



Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network
Mumbai INDIA

Notice

Looking at the educational needs of Manmad, Fr. Provincial began a process of consultation on opening an English Medium section at Manmad. There were several rounds of consultation with various stakeholders, culminating in an Extended Consult which was held at Manmad on 24th September, 2019. This issue was further discussed at the Province Consult of 2nd October, 2019.

After this process, **Fr. Provincial has decided to open an English Medium section in our present school at Manmad, with the KG section opening in June 2020.**

We ask you to remember this new venture in your prayers.

Fr. Provincial's schedule: February 2020

13	Budget + Finance Comm Meeting.
14	Province Consult
21-22	Nadiad, Gujarat. West Zone workshop on Ecology
23-29	JCSA, Kathmandu

La Storta 2020

20 2020 2020

PROVINCE DAYS,

Vinayalaya

19th April 2020,

6:00 PM -- Opening Prayer

“State of The Province”

Address by Fr. Provincial.

Dinner & Fellowship on the Lawns.

20th April 2020

Eucharist by our 3 newly ordained Jesuits

Main Speaker – Fr. Peter Balleis, S.J.

(former JRS International Director, Director Jesuit Worldwide Learning.)

Province Apostolic Planning

Spiritual Conversations

Dinner & Fellowship

21st April 2020

Guided Meditation.

Motivational Speaker: Mr. Errol

D'Souza. (Director IIM-A)

Province Apostolic Plan, continued.

Closing Eucharist -- Fr. Provincial

Closing Dinner.



The Diaconate Ordination of Lenoy Tharakan and Praful Ekka will be on Sunday, 9 February at 8:30 am at DNC, Pune. We accompany them with our prayers and good wishes.

Rural Camp 2020

Our Rural camp in Januray was one of the most memorable and enriching experience we will ever have to cherish in our lives. Each of us was delighted with the hospitality and generosity shown to us by the Jesuit priests and the little flowers of every school. It is said that teachers mould the lives of students but we future teachers were molded during the camp. Their vision, their perspective of looking at things, the optimism and their warn nature was something we will cherish forever.

We were welcomed and oriented by Fr. Yohan Alphonso, Director of the Centre who told us about the schools that Jesuits run in the peripheral area of Talasari which amounted to 15 educational institutions. The entire week's camp was chalked out by Fr. Yohan with number of students going to Talasari, Varkhanda, Zari and interior schools to give us the best possible experience. We also visited the leprosy centre where we conducted a small program for the leprosy patients. Before we retired for the day we had a feedback session and a reflection on our experience.

From second day to the last day of the camp each one us were divided in different schools where we taught English, Math, Science, clarified the students' doubts and conducted activities like poster making, action songs, role plays etc. We conducted a social analysis of the students' cultural background to understand

the rural set up, the challenges faced by then and how things work there.

The most important thing was that we learnt a lot from those students. We were struck with the value they had for education through their disciplined behavior. Their practice of removing footwear outside the class showed their belief of the school as a temple of knowledge. Shy in nature, they interacted with respect and care. They also taught us their traditional tarpa dance and warli paintings. We also got an opportunity to help in Faith Formation camp held at Talasari for catholic students. On the second last day we had a boarder's night where we future teachers had our dinner with the boarders of the school along with the priests. That was one of most remembered time of the camp where we, along with the boarders, spent quality time singing, dancing and eating together.



With a heavy heart we bid farewell to the place and especially the students who had become family by then. We surely learnt a lot of things especially to be grateful to God for everything we have and to be enlightened by widening our horizons. In many ways, the end of the camp was a time for new beginnings.

- **Students of St. Xavier Institute of Education, Churchgate**

Alternative New Year Celebration at Manor

Together with some Xavierites, Jahnvi Pandya and her musical quartet visited Manor on 31 Dec and 1 Jan to experience an alternative New Year celebration. They were accompanied by a media professional who was shooting a documentary for an international festival.

On 31 December evening at 5.30 pm Jahnvi gave an inspiring talk motivating students to study. The band performance at 6.30 pm with Janhavi and her brother, Varenyam, as lead singers kept the crowd, predominantly composed of boarders, enthralled with Hindi songs old and new. Varenyam, recently turned 15, was an instant hit as he inspired the students to participate actively in the singing.

After the 8 pm Mass, the congregation was on their feet with an Action Song on 'Blessing' which embodied the 3 minute homily on our call to be blessings to the universe. The youngsters demonstrated the truth of Rumi's wisdom: You are the universe in ecstatic motion. The unadulterated joy that was overflowing despite the absence of the abundant eats and drinks, lights and sounds of a wasteful consumerist culture was truly amazing. It was a beautiful celebration, steeped in rural simplicity, devoid of extravagance but the sheer spirit of celebration itself.

The interviews of teachers of the tribal village schools nearby were an eye-opener to the plight of the vast majority of those living on the margins of society. The environmental thrust of the mission was captured in a novel bathing practice. Boarders fill a bucket of water and have their daily bath near a plant which they have chosen as their partner.

- **Manor team**

Tidings of XTC

For our mission experiment, Ashley, Noel and Vishal were in Shirampur, where they had the experience of being in the villages, staying in the chapels, experiencing the lifestyle and simple faith of the villagers. Rohan Pradip and Swapnil were in Belewadi with a lay person – Guru Santaji Lobo, to be a part of his interreligious dialogue mission among Hindus, Muslims and Protestants. His prayer life and life experiences were an inspiration for them. Joel, Cajetan, and Joswalt were in Nasik with MPSM. They learnt about water-shed projects and also conducted camps for teachers and students in Shirpur mission. The mission experiment helped us to grow in humility and spirit of service.



The next experiment was 'seeking alms and walking pilgrimage to Bom Jesus Basilica of Old Goa.' We began on 18th November and reached on 21st November. We experienced the Lord walking with us as we journeyed on foot seeking alms from our home Desur to Goa. After that was the pastoral experiment in Goa where, we helped during the novenas and the feast day of St. Francis Xavier – this lasted for a duration of ten days. We were given the tasks of Mass writings, helping in control room, communion distribution, tea-coffee selling etc. Doing these small works with great love – we received plentiful blessings from St. Francis Xavier. We also learnt to grow in team spirit and enjoyed our free time in recreation, visiting the fair and beautiful churches around. We also managed the queue where, the simple yet strong faith of the people was evident. All these experiences helped us deepen our faith in God.

In October the 1st years began their preparation for the long retreat when helped them enter it with a calm and peaceful mind. On November

2nd, All Saints day, with the blessings of all the heavenly saints we began our Long Retreat - our foundational experience of being Alone with God Alone. In this we discerned our vocation and received abundant graces from God and experienced the Lord more intimately. It was indeed a life transforming experience.

The last course of the year was 'The Dynamics Of Spiritual Exercises' conducted by Fr. Fermin. It gave us a lot of clarity, helped us broaden our horizons and see things differently in the light of the Spiritual Exercises. It was really amazing, and we couldn't have ended the year any better than this.

Christmas season was a time for fun where each one shared their own creative and innovative ideas in doing things differently. This was the time where we the 1st years and 2nd years worked together and got to know more about each one's skills and talents. We grew in brotherly Love for each other and were truly living like "Friends in the Lord". We express our deep gratitude to our Novice Master for being our friend and guiding us internally and externally.

- Rohan and Clayton

Our Beloved Br. Pacu Colaco (16 Feb 1941 – 31 Dec 2019)

Br. Pascoal Colaco was fondly called 'Pacu', and his very name recalls the feast of Easter. Indeed he was really alive and fresh during all his days spent in the missions with the poor of God. It is not at all a coincidence that he was very intimately close to his Risen Lord Jesus and Our Blessed Mother. He was buried on the Feast of the naming of Jesus and the Feast of Mary, Mother of God.



Br. Pacu spent most of his apostolic years in various missions of Bombay Province- Ambatha, Manor. Nandurbar and Shirpur. His simplicity was remarkable. He had a small suit case consisting of a few clothes, a Bible, rosary and a pair of glasses. He enjoyed visiting people and they eagerly awaited his visits for his joy was contagious.

He experienced two scary incidents on his visits to faraway villages. Once he was carried away by a very strong current while crossing the river at Nandurbar and was saved in the nick of time. On another occasion, when returning home late evening, he was about to wash his face at a stream when he saw a tiger drinking water on the other side and had to run for his life. These fears never left him, so he always said his pet line: आठवणी

विसरायच्या असतात, पण विसरण्याच्या वाटा सापडत नसतात ! Memories are great. You cannot easily wipe them away. Man cannot be Human without his memories.

I was Parish priest in Holy Cross Nashik, when he came there for a change of work. He was simply worn out but in a month's time he was feeling fit. He simply loved the poor. He was in-charge of the Tilak Library. So his poor included not only the parishioners of Holy Cross but all the people coming to the library. It was his silent way of carrying out Inter religious dialogue. Thus he had a wide "Mitra Parivar" known as "Bhartiya Ekamata Samiti" which initiated various celebrations. He has been the Pioneer of inter cultural programmes in Holy Cross, Nashik, which are carried on even today.

Pacu enjoyed reading. He would read Spiritual books in English and Literature in Marathi, of which novels and poetry and नाटक were his favourites. On his way to the bazaar and to purchase new books he used to pass the famous Kalidas Natyamandir and Parshuram Saikhedkar Natyagruha to see the posters of

Marathi plays. He never went alone but always encouraged others to come along with him. Whenever he dropped in at Nashik he went for the Marathi plays. Many who accompanied him started to enjoy Marathi Drama and the language, so much so that those who came in his contact this way speak good Marathi, that too quite spontaneously. This is another good contribution of Pacu to our Bombay Province.

Fr. Tony D'mello SJ was Rector of Vinayalaya when I was a novice and Br. Pacu was the sub-minister. We had a small group of prayer meeting in Pacu's room. We sat on a mat with Pacu's vows crucifix and a diya for more than an hour every week. We really got a taste for prayer during those hours, praying and reflecting on the Word of God. In Holy Cross again I had the opportunity to pray together with him every week.

In the early hours of the morning on 31st December he experienced severe pain, went to Br. Maxim's room and collapsed in his arms. By falling into the arms of Br. Maxim it was as if Br. Pacu was saying, "We Brothers in the Society of Jesus are still very important even today." He always cherished being a Brother in the Society. Our Dearest Br. Pacu, we truly appreciate you being with us. Do intercede for more young men to be Brothers in the Society of Jesus. खरच पाकु, आठवणी विसरायच्या असतात, पण तुला विसरण्याच्या वाटा मुळी सापडणारच नाहीत !

➤ **Tony George**

Errol D'Lima – A tribute from ITA

We, the members of the Indian Theological Association (ITA), are saddened by the news about the departure of our colleague and fellow-traveler in faith Fr Errol D'Lima SJ to meet the Lord of his heart and thought forever. As the Vice-President and twice President of the ITA from 1992-2001 he gave leadership to the ITA with clarity of vision and purposeful commitment to

theologizing in the Indian context. His sharp theological acumen, knowledge about the changing trends in theological conversations and proficiency in drafting the statements have greatly enriched Indian theologizing. His vision of the Indian Church with its unique identity and mission in a multi-religious and multi-cultural society to build bridges through dialogue and collaborative action for the welfare of all would always remain a guiding star for the ITA. May he rest in peace!

- **Fr. Vincent Kundukulam**
(President, ITA)

ERROL D'LIMA, SJ **(16 July 1942 – 05 Jan 2020)**



Errol enjoyed discussion. Especially theology. My meetings with him invariably led to speaking of the mysteries of faith and their relation to life. I too relished those themes. My family tended to such dialogues with Errol – and even without him!

Our reflections had many starting points - the situation around, family topics, the Church, national and world issues, anything that struck us as worth exploring. As we gathered momentum expressing what we knew, putting forward our information, ideas, perceptions, we would try to get to the heart of things – the changes needed to keep to one's vision and inspiration.

In the first reading from the Apocalypse chosen for the funeral Mass, the phrase 'New Heaven and New Earth' characterized what we desired most through all our explorations of thought. Errol steeped in academic theology could see that scholarship would be incomplete without an attempt to bring newness into thinking and living. He realized that the efforts to meet the ordinary needs of people were as important as sacred texts and speculations on them. He accepted that to be Christian the cry of humanity for food, clothing and security were to be accepted as a religious task no less than secular.

This explains Errol's regular participation in the Mumbai Jesuit's erstwhile Rural Jesuit Meetings. He saw in them the translation of faith into action for human uplift. Whether because of his speculative bent or facing his limitations in field work, he himself did not join any rural programme. But he valued such things greatly and always showed his support for them in thought and word if not in deed.

The Gospel of the funeral Mass describes Jesus in crucified agony. The cry "My God, my God why am I forsaken!" expressed the last days of Errol in his infirmary bed. The New Heaven and the New Earth come with their price of great struggle and suffering. It is the way Jesus lived, agonized and died. To rise and show the way to his followers.

Discussing the New Heaven and Earth can remain an exercise far removed from human transformation. The complacent security of having thought systems, economic means and supports more than adequate for our survival will not affect the world of struggle. Jesus' way of being part of the human quest for salvation was to share our anguish.

Errol's last days were marked by great pain and struggle. Some who interacted with him found him accepting this suffering as God's

will for him. It was hard to see him unable to eat – again in line with the inability of Jesus to drink the vinegar – breathing heavily, discomfort written all over his face, helpless to lift his hand to hold a spoon or tumbler for sustenance, pained even from his catheter. And our infirmary staff, Sister-in-charge and my sisters in the tradition of those women by the Cross tried every way to comfort him.

So that was the way he would share the task of bringing in the New Heaven and the New Earth. Nothing enviable in his situation, but in many ways reminiscent of his Lord. I think to myself. I just hope the New Heaven and Earth come upon us. And pray for strength to bear some part of the Passion of the Christ that Errol went through.

– **Godfrey D'Lima**

In Christ's Peace

+ **Br. Pascoal Colaco (BOM), 78/55**, passed away at Shirpur on 31 December

+ **Fr. Errol D'Lima (BOM), 77/61**, passed away at Mumbai on 05 January

+ **Br. Arockiasamy Sebastian (MDU), 72/52**, passed away at Madurai on 19 January

+ **Fr. Thomas Pullenkav (CCU), 80/37**, passed away at Kolkata on 20 January

+ **Fr. Joaquim D'Mello (GOA), 68/46**, passed away in Guyana on 21 January

Feast of the Infant Jesus, Nashik



The annual Feast of the Infant Jesus will be celebrated on **Sat. 8th February, 2020**. The Novena begins on 30th January. If you are coming and need a room, contact Assis Rodrigues **7798809409** <assisisj@gmail.com>