



Delhi Jesuits

February 2020 Vol. XXXII No.2

### PROVINCIAL'S FEB PROGRAM

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

### PROVINCIAL'S MARCH PROGRAM

- 01 POSA Consult, Kathmandu
- 02 Back in Delhi
- 03 Province Consult
- 04-07 Visitation, Shanti Sadan, Allahabad
- 08-13 SRA Varanasi Province, Animation
- 14 Back in Delhi
- 16-20 NZ Leadership Training for Jesuits, NRC
- 20-22 XLRI Board Meeting, Jamshedpur
- 27 ISI Delhi GB Meeting

House History 2019 is due by Feb 15, 2020

#### From NRC Director

**Those coming for Budget Meeting kindly inform the NRC Director at [directornrc@gmail.com](mailto:directornrc@gmail.com) about their arrival, departure and the time of their first meal in NRC. No message on the mobile, please, in this regard.**

#### FROM THE DIASPORA

**Tony Andrade:** After the Province Days I visited my two elder religious sisters, 89 and 90, in Patna and Hazaribagh. Both of them were anxiously waiting for the visit of their 'little brother'. Many of the Sisters in their community remarked what a miracle I

had done to them; both of them bounced back to full life. I too felt good to be connected to both of them since I am the only one who could visit them now and then. I met Patna Provincial and some of the senior Fathers at Xavier Sadan. It was a joyful meeting. On returning to Port Blair, I felt what a relief enjoying the pollution free warm weather here. My whole system got cleared and I felt really good. Soon after reaching Port Blair, I had to go to Baratang Parish to substitute for Sunday Mass since the Parish Priest was out of station. From the middle of January till the end, I was at Prothrapur Jesuit Parish to assist the Parish Priest since he was all alone. To celebrate Pongal we had Mass at our Prothrapur Parish and nearby Mass centres. It was celebrated in a grand style because we have a good number of Tamils in our parish. I had recollection for SFN Sisters middle of the month. On Jan 21, Ranchi Provincial and his team visited Andaman to work out the details of acquiring land to start a school at Diglipur. They plan to start Pre-Primary Class this year in Diglipur Parish premises because it will take some time to construct the school building.

#### SAHAYOG

**NRC:** On Jan 2 NRC hosted a group of 15 students and staff from Fordham University; they were brought by Fr. T.J. Jose. They had Mass presided over by Fr. Tom Kunnunkal in the NRC chapel where a short description of the painting on the wall was given by Fr. George Mla. It was followed by an hour-long informal chat on the implications of the Encyclical "Laudato Si". A few teachers and Jesuits from the campus participated in the chat and the

lunch thereafter. A Christian denomination under "Timothy Initiative" had their meeting in NRC on 14th. Next day some officials of the Solar Energy Set Up came to inspect; they found everything in NRC superb. Isha Foundation conducted a seven-day program on Inner Engineering from 15th to 21st; more than one hundred persons attended the program.

*K.P. George*

**Sahayog:** The first month of the New Year witnessed minimum activities in Sahayog. On Jan 4, **Fr. John Chathanatt, Fr. K.P. George** and Fr. Mario Joseph SJ, a visitor from Barcelona made a trip to XLRI Delhi Campus in Jhajjar. They also visited the neighbouring community of CJ Sisters and their upcoming school. On their way back they dropped in at the SCJM Novitiate. Thanks to the generosity of Fr. Joseph Kochupura, Fr. K.P. brought a lot of gooseberry from Jhajjar and got it pickled by Mrs. Sheeba, NRC Secretary. **Fr. Mathew Padayatty** directed a retreat of three Sisters from 7th to 14th. **Fr. Augustine Pantha's** birthday dinner was held on 18th at St. Xavier's. That day our co-workers joined the School Class IV workers for a two-day picnic to Jaipur. While they were out on picnic St. Xavier's community was generous to feed the Sahayog men. On **Fr. T.K. John's** birthday a special program was organized at NRC. In the evening before supper a sharing cum discussion was organized on the prevalent protests and their implications. Our men from Shahbad and Raj Niwas also took part in this special gathering. The meeting was chaired by Fr. Victor Edwin and the issue of concern was introduced by Fr. T.K. John. Fr. John Chathanatt the main organizer presented a few video clips relevant to the topic in order to accelerate the sharing.

*K.P. George*

Fr. T.K. John participated in a meeting at India International Centre dealing with the controversial Citizenship Amendment Act. It was convened by Kamal Faruqi of pro-democracy group that meets regularly. TK also took part in three sessions of religious groups discussing three different documents.

*T.K. John*

**IISR Report:** IISR Delhi released two books recently. *Science-Catholicism Interfacing: Some New Perspectives*, by Job Kozhamthadam, was released in Bangalore by Dharmaram Publications on Jan 13. It is a modified and updated version of the *Dharma Endowment Lectures* given by Job at DVK one year ago. It is a detailed study of the interaction between the Catholic Church and modern science during the last 450 years. If any member of the Province would like to have a personal copy, IISR Delhi will be happy to send it free of cost (iisrdelhi@gmail.com). A second book was released at St. Francis de Sales College, Nagpur, on Jan 28, with the title *Modern Science and Religious Beliefs: Response of Contemporary Religions to Recent Developments in Science*, edited by Dr. Susan John and Job Kozhamthadam. Moreover, Job delivered two Invited Lectures. He presented a paper at the 15th International Seminar in honour of Rev. Richard De Smet SJ and Rev. Jean de Marneffe SJ on "Humanization of Social Life" on Jan 17 at Jnana-Deepa Vidyapeeth. The paper presented was "The Teilhardian Vision of Humanization and Social Life." It was organized by JDV in collaboration with Christ College, Pune, and St. Xavier's University, Kolkata. He also presented another paper at the National Seminar on "Laws of Nature and Openness to Change," organized by CDRESS, SFS College, Nagpur, and IISR Delhi, on Jan 28. The paper presented was "Laws of Nature in a Dynamic Universe: Change as a Natural Path to Creativity & Progress."

*Job*

**Jivan Editorial Board Meeting:** As a member of Jivan Editorial Board, Job attended the Editorial Board Meeting on Dec 14 at Anand, Gujarat. The new Editorial Board of Jivan under the leadership of Vinayak Jadav is making every effort to make Jivan more meaningful and relevant, particularly to our South Asian Assistency. If anyone has suggestions to make Jivan better, please share it with the Editor or members of the Editorial Team.

*Job*

## ST. XAVIER'S, BEHROR

**School:** Cold wave gripped Behror in the beginning of this month. The school reopened on Jan 6 after the winter break. Due to the lack of visibility in the foggy morning, we had to cancel the school assembly a number of days and had the prayer in the classes. Classes 10 and 12 had their Board Practicals. A seminar on 'Experimental Learning' was conducted for our school staff on 25th. Our students staged a colourful and exhilarating program on the Republic Day with an elegant march past. For some, the day was very special: some students and teachers were awarded "Xavier's Excellence Award" for their contribution to the school in excelling in various genres. Notably, **Fr. Sebastian A.** was awarded excellence award for his continuous effort in building up a wonderful green campus. **Fr. Joe Manna** is busy in the school giving counselling to the higher class students apart from distributing toffees to the little ones flocking to his office. Fast Tag is added to our school vehicle. The admission process for the next academic year has begun and a positive response from the people is noted. A new signboard indicating our school, larger in size and height, has been installed by the side of the National Highway. Three officials from the Municipality addressed our students highlighting the Clean India Movement and the importance of cleanliness in the school and the common places.

**Community:** We had community meeting twice this month discussing and deciding on the community and the school budget in addition to the various aspects of the community issues. **Sch. Anish** made a short home visit to attend a family function. We celebrated the 25th anniversary of the priestly ordination of **Fr. Joe Vila** on 2nd. The extended celebration of the same with the parishioners was on the following Sunday with a Solemn Eucharist followed by a high- tea.

**Parish:** We celebrated the New Year with a meaningful Vigil Service and sharing of sweets after the Eucharist. Our youth organised a new year get-together with tea party and games. The lobby in front of the auditorium is adorned with some spiritual

images to help the parishioners to pray well during the Sunday worship. A newly installed statue of Our Lady of Fatima in a glass cabin adds to the spiritual atmosphere of the place.

*Anish Raj*

## ST. XAVIER'S, BHIWADI

**School:** After Christmas holidays the school reopened on Jan 3. The pre-board exam of Classes 10 & 12 began that day. As the cold wave persisted, on the orders of the DM, the school started only on 6th for the lower classes. The application for Prep Class got kickstarted from the first week of the month. With the purpose of putting book knowledge into reality, **Fr. Sangeeth** permitted students to have Xavier Fest wherein they could have the first-hand experience of marketing their products. Graduation Day on 25th was a proud moment for the students of Class 12 and their parents who accompanied them. A play staged by Class 11 conveyed a clear message of school life, as tears of joy rolled down the cheeks of some students. **Fr. Glenn** in his speech urged students to be generous as they move out from the portals of Xavier's. The program concluded with a message from Fr. Sangeeth. Republic Day was celebrated with patriotic fervour though only a few students attended the program as it fell on a Sunday. Mrs. Lincy, the chief guest of the program, unfurled the National Flag. On the day of martyrdom of Gandhiji, the school observed a minute's silence as a mark of respect to the Father of the Nation.

**Community:** We celebrated the birth day of **Sch. Pawan**; our collaborators and nearby Jesuit communities were invited to partake in his joy. The community had a meeting to prepare the budgets of different apostolates. **Fr. Manimala** bubbles with happiness as he is back in the community after his treatment in Delhi.

**Parish:** With a thanksgiving Holy Hour and Eucharistic celebration we bid goodbye to 2019 and ushered in 2020. The feast of the Mother of God was celebrated with great solemnity. The Parish Family Christmas Gathering took place on 5th. The vibrant youth of the parish organized fun-filled games catering to people of all ages. It

concluded with a fellowship meal. We had election for the parish Youth President.

**Maria Sadan:** We celebrated Sch. Pawan's birthday. Fathers and Sisters participated in the mass to pray for Sch. Pawan; this was followed by breakfast. Class 12 candidates are busy preparing for their Board Exams which will begin soon.

*Pawan*

## ST. XAVIER'S, JAIPUR

**College:** Important activities kept us warm in the cold days of the New Year. To begin with, Dept of Management organised a mega Youth Summit INYOUTH 2020 - *Beyond What's Believed*, on Jan 7. More than 300 students from 3 colleges participated in the event. IPR Cell of the College organised a Lecture on "Relevance & Importance of Intellectual Property Rights" by Dr. Manu Sikarwar, Project Director, Patent Information Centre, Govt of Rajasthan on 9th. On the same day, Dept of Eco and Pol Science, organised a guest lecture on "Community Development and Engagement - A South African Perspective" by Ivan Gunass Govender, Senior Lecturer, University of Technology, Durban, South Africa. As part of exposure program, Dept of Commerce organised an industrial visit to Clay Craft India Pvt. Ltd., Jaipur on 10th. This was followed by the much-awaited star attraction of the month, 7th National Intercollegiate Annual Cultural Youth Fest, *ZEST 2020* organized by our Student Council from 17th to 19th. Over 3000 students from 103 colleges, both outstation and local, participated in various events. *ZEST* taught our students how to prepare a mega event and how to raise funds for the same. After 3 days of intense competition, dance, fun and frolic, Manipal University, Jaipur won the overall Winner's Trophy and St. Xavier's College, Jaipur had to be content with Runners Up Trophy. Towards the end of the month, we had the Research Project Presentation Day on 25th organised by Xavier's Research Project Committee. Dr. Shobhita Rajgopal, Director and Associate Professor, IDS, Jaipur and Dr. Manju Singh, Professor, Dept of Humanities and Social Sciences, MNIT Jaipur evaluated the presentations.

The main areas covered by students were Jaipur Metro, Water Crisis, Single Use Plastic, Moment Marketing, Impact of Attendance Percentage in Education, Gamification Learning, Online Education and Classroom Teaching.

*Jose V.K.*

**School:** Even though severe winter persisted, the winter holidays got over with the reopening of the school on Jan 3 for secondary and senior secondary classes with the lucky ones of Classes 1 to 8 still coiling under the famous Jaipur quilts. Dec and Jan are the season of Pre Boards for Classes 10 and 12. **Fr. Varkey** conducted a workshop for teachers of Classes 1 to 8 on 'Finding God's Will in One's Life.' Principal **Fr. Dominic** is having a harrowing time as many teachers are out on CBSE exam duties. This year even the principal and vice principals have to be Observers of Practicals in various schools for a couple of days! Spell Scan, an activity to check the proficiency and depth of the Queen's language, was held separately for Classes 6 to 8. Graduation Day was held on 25th morning and Farewell Program in the evening with Class 12 students coming dressed in their best. Though Republic Day fell on a Sunday yet the fervour wasn't in any way less with speeches, patriotic songs and marchpast by NCC, Scouts and Guides. One of ours participated in the Republic Day Parade in Delhi as part of Rajasthan NCC contingent. In the afternoon the Scouts and Guides and NCC Cadets put up cultural programs in the presence of Governor at Scouts and Guides Headquarters. PTA and Management meetings also were conducted on the same day. Preparations are afoot for the draw of lots for Std 1.

*Sobin*

**Parish:** New Year was welcomed with a special thanksgiving Holy Hour and Eucharistic celebration in the evening of Dec 31, 2019. On Jan 1 we celebrated the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God and World Peace Day with a well-prepared liturgy, and refreshments for all after the Mass. On 5th, after celebrating the Solemnity of the Epiphany the entire parish gathered in the football field for its annual

family gathering. The day was made enjoyable and memorable by the Parish Youth by organizing different games and sports for children, youth, men and women with attractive prizes. The Charismatic Group of the Diocese organized a Night Vigil in St. Xavier's on 11th from 6 pm to 9:30 pm with 100 plus people in attendance. Christian Unity Octave concluded on 25th with its culminating event organized at Mar Thoma Church at Manasarovar. A number of us took active participation in the events and common prayers organized at the worship places of different denominations. Annual General Body Meeting of the Diocesan Women's Commission was held at the Pastoral Centre on 26th and new Office Bearers were elected. Ms Neelam Chopra of our parish was elected as Secretary of the Commission.

*Varkey*

**Community:** In spite severe cold days in Jan, we had a steady flow of guests. Most of us participated in the New Year gathering, an annual event, of the clergy and religious in Jaipur at St. Tresa's School, Jhotwara. The community was quite busy with meetings for budget preparation, managing committee meetings of different institutions and the AGM of JXEA so as to finalize the budgets of its own and the budgets of individual institutions under the JXEA umbrella. **Fr. Sherry**, the khajaanji was burning midnight oil to get the individual budgets of different institutions ready for discussion during the AGM of JXEA on 14th. On the 14th morning, Fr. Dominic attended the meeting of the Managers and Principals of the three dioceses of Rajasthan held in Ajmer. Jesuits from nearby communities did bring in joy to the community as and when they visited Jaipur for their work. FSLG Sisters from Punjab felt at home as they used Jaipur as a transit point when they were on a visit to Udaipur. A group of parishioners from Kodaikanal was our guests for a day or two. Fr. Jose Philip chaperoned 50 plus supporting staff of Raj Niwas for a day of unwinding in Jaipur. A family of three from Kalimpong, friends of Fr. Jeba, stayed in the community for a few days when they came visiting Jaipur. Similarly, Fr. Mukti

Clarence SJ (JAM) was our guest for a few days when he visited Jaipur from 25th. Month end meeting of religious collaborators was held at SCJM convent with discussion, sharing, mass and agape.

*Varkey*

### ST. XAVIER'S MAHWA

**School:** After a long winter vacation classes resumed on Jan 13. The students came to the school refreshed and with new zeal. During holidays teachers went from village to village advertising the school. On 24th LKG and UKG had counting competition. We had English elocution for Classes 5 to 8. We celebrated Republic Day in our school with Sarpanch Mrs. Santra Devi Saini as the chief guest; we had a short cultural program. After this, some of our students went to the Govt School ground to perform a dance which kept the audience spellbound. On 31st we had class wise photo session. We had a friendly cricket match between Xavier's staff and Axis Bank employees. On 26th journalists and police administration played a friendly cricket match in our campus.

**Community:** After home visit **Fr. Jugal** came back on 10th. **Fr. Tony** is keeping well and is engaged in gardening and beautifying the school campus.

*Anvind*

### ST. XAVIER'S, NEVTA

**School:** The school was supposed to reopen on Jan 3 after the Christmas vacation. But classes could be held only for the senior students due to bad weather conditions, and the junior students were asked to stay back at home till the end of second week. The second round of pre-board exams for Class 10 started on 16th. We celebrated Republic Day in the school premises with Fr. Amal as the chief guest. The short program commenced with the unfurling of the national flag to the echo of the national anthem. The students gave bravura performances in the form of patriotic songs and dances showing unity in diversity. Towing the same line as the chief guest, Principal **Fr. John Ravi** appealed to all the staff and students to uphold the Indian constitutional values at all levels. He also urged the students to

read the preamble to the constitution regularly and internalize its spirit. Class 9 students spent a day in a camp of Rock Sports in the outskirts of Jaipur. They were introduced to a variety of skill-based adventurous activities.

*Ravi*

**Community: Fr. Amal** joined the Nevta community in the last week of Dec. He is entrusted with the responsibilities of Campus Treasurer and a Lecturer in the college. He joyfully takes part in all the community activities and is looked after well by fellow Jesuits. Fr. Ravi went to Trichy to attend the JAAI National Congress held at St. Joseph's College from Jan 16 to 21. **Fr. Jeba** came back to the community fully refreshed on 18th after spending almost three weeks with his family and relatives. The new Jesuit Residence is nearing completion. We hope to bless the building in the first week of May.

*Ravi*

**College:** On Jan 6 the college held the annual sports and games competition Udaan 2020 with Fr. Ravi as chief guest. The highlight of this year was that the event involved the XVI and some neighbouring colleges. On 14th Punjabi festival Lohri was celebrated. We hosted Zest 2020, the national-level cultural festival of HFR College. It started off well, though the programs were all delayed. A fashion show, a musical night by Punjabi folk singer Maninder Buttar and an artist's performance were the highlights of the event. Internal exams started on 27th; it will go on till Feb 1, and with that the countdown has started for this academic year.

*Augustine*

### **ST. XAVIER'S, RAJ NIWAS MARG**

The School reopened after the winter break on Jan 6. Selection for School Nationals in the Korfball was held at Ludlow Castle and two of our students Manya Rasotgi 11D and Akansha Rajoria 11E have been selected for the same. On 7th Tushar Gupta of 2012 batch addressed Class 12B students. He is a software engineer with

Google in California. He advised the students to question everything around them and seek relevant answers. On 14th representatives from Tata Power Ltd conducted a workshop for Classes 6 and 7 on 'Energy Conservation and Safety'. We have started a 15-day yoga classes for the selected students of Classes 8 & 9. On 18th our teachers, 103 of them, had a trip to Udaipur along with Principal **Fr. T.J. Jose** and returned after an exciting experience. On 23rd the Inter-School Street Play and Art competition AAINA - 2020 were held. Students from 8 schools participated in each category. Pre-Board exams for Classes 10 & 12 were held this month. Board Practical Exams for Class 12 in different subjects are going on now. Rector **Fr. Jose Philip** took 55 maintenance staff for an outing to Jaipur and they came back beaming with joy as they experienced the breaking of traditional borders and boundaries. In the Junior School Parent-Teacher Meeting was held on 11th after the pre-annual exams. Classes 2 and 3 were taken to St. Xavier's School Shahbad on 30th. There, our tiny tots met fellow Xaverians and absorbed the best qualities that Xavier's can inculcate in them. On 17th, Bits and Bytes Contest was organised for Classes 5-7. On 25th a special assembly was held on account of Republic Day. Classes 5D, 5E and 5F were given charge to conduct the assembly. Class teachers of these sections guided students to put up a spectacular show. Students prepared dance, songs, poems and a short skit conveying social message. Maths Quiz for Classes 2 and 3 was conducted on 27th in the Auditorium. These children experienced what it's like to participate in a quiz and it helped them to brush up their mental skills. On 28th Spell Bee was organised for Classes 5-7. One team per section from each Class participated in the competition. It was an interesting event as there were multiple tie breaker rounds in order to get a clear result. On 29th G.K. Quiz was conducted for Classes 2-4. For Classes 5-7 the same was conducted on 30th.

**Community:** Professional GYM equipments have been put in Room 101 of Jesuit residence. It consists of items which

help increase muscle strength, improve the nervous system and blood circulation. It includes a tread mill and a cycle, both with multiple electronic indicators. The wellness seekers are **Br. Ittoop** (82), **Fr. K.T. Thomas** (84), **Br. John** (79); Fr. Mathew (77); Fr. T.J. Jose (54) and **Fr. Tom** (94) The six days a week program, under a trained guide lasts an hour and concludes with a short 10-minute meditation. Use of the Gym equipment is available to members of St. Xavier's and Sahayog communities.

*Tom*

### ST. XAVIER'S, SHAHBAD

**Parish:** On Jan 1 we celebrated the feast of the Mother of God and New Year Day. On 5th we celebrated the feast of the Epiphany and honoured our new priests, Jinesh and Amal Raj. After mass we had the Parish Christmas gathering. On 12th we celebrated the feast of the Baptism of our Lord during which the oath taking ceremony of the new parish council members took place; it had its first meeting after the mass. On 19th we celebrated the feast of Blessed Devasahayam Pillai and the Laity Sunday. The parish finance commission met after the mass. On 26th we celebrated the Republic Day with Fr. Balaraju Anthony, Archdiocesan SCC Coordinator offering mass. After mass and unfurling of the National Flag we had a short meeting of the parents of the children who would like to receive First Communion and Confirmation in 2020 and a SCC Seminar conducted by Fr. Balaraju and Mr. Emmanuel Johnson.

*Scaria*

**Community:** On New Year's Day we had a gathering with the collaborators. On 4th evening community honoured our new priests. On 10th **Fr. Remy** and **Br. Gyan** went to Meerut to buy some implements for use in the play field. On 12th Fr. Remy attended the Bettiah Christian gathering in Pitampura Church. On 19th Fr. Scaria, **Fr. Alex** and Fr. Remy participated in the ecumenical gathering in Rosary School. On 24th, we went with **Fr. Varkey Muthala** to Jhajjar to celebrate his birth day. On 30th Fr. Scaria along with two parishioners attended the annual SCC council meeting

in Goldakkhana. Five of us took part in the discussion on the present Indian situation at NRC on the occasion of Fr. T.K. John's birth day.

*Remy*

**School:** The school reopened on Jan 2 after the winter vacation. On 18th the class teachers along with 2 subject teachers visited the homes of some of the students to know them more personally so that they could be understood better and helped in all possible ways. The parents took the visit very positively and even suggested that it should be made a monthly affair because these visits can definitely bring a change in the lives of their children. Republic Day was celebrated with a special assembly organised by Naidu House with a prayer, unfurling of the National Flag by Principal Fr. Shaju and felicitation of Mrs. Bhavna Sharma and Mr. Sanjay for their 25 years of selfless service in the school. Graduation Ceremony of Class 12 was held on 25th. The function started with the lighting of the lamp by Superior **Fr. Scaria**, Principal **Fr. Shaju**, Vice Principal **Fr. Britto**, Head Mistress **Sr. Tomcy**, one parent and one student. Mrs. Sangeeta Bagha gave a beautiful message to the children and advised them to work hard if they want to excel in life. In his speech Fr. Shaju reminded them of the school motto 'Prem Prerit Sewa' and urged them to become good citizens. Then the graduates were presented with a citation and a CD of their memories in the school. Light refreshments were served to all the parents and students which they enjoyed while getting their photographs clicked with their teachers.

On Jan 4, PTM for Classes Prep to 5 was held and parents got a detailed feedback on the progress of their children from their teachers. To bring out the singing talent of the students an Inter House Duet Song Competition was held on 15th. Each House showed their mastery over voice modulation, pitch, rhythm and tone. A flag colouring competition for Prep Class was held on 22nd. Children coloured the outline flag of India with great enthusiasm. They thoroughly enjoyed the colouring activity and made very neat and beautiful flags.

*Shaju*

**LVI:** LVI reopened on Jan 2 after the Christmas vacation. We started with a staff meeting to evaluate 2019 and to plan ahead for 2020. A number of new admissions took place for various courses in the new year. Beauty Culture lab got a face lift with the addition of modern equipments. Some of the trainees from our tailoring centre in Sector 27, Rohini gave their practical exams and graduated. LVI being the Nodal Centre of NIOS for 21 schools for distribution of books, we received thousands of books, and we have been busy giving out the books to hundreds of students. Meetings of SHGs and LOKMANCH were regularly held in sector 26 & 27. Two of our campaign facilitators went to Patna with Fr. Jose to participate in the Lokmanch North Zone meeting, facilitated by Fr. Sunnybhai & Team. We conducted two training programs for Lokmanch leaders in Sectors 26 & 27, preparing them for the coming elections and instructing them about Voter Ids and the use of EVMs.

*George Peter*

### **ROPAR**

**Community:** On Jan 2 Chandigarh Deanery arranged a picnic to Renuka, Himachal Pradesh, for the clergy and religious of the Deanery. About forty joined the picnic including three from our community. On 22nd we celebrated the birthday of **Fr. Thomas Kuriacose**. Nearby communities were invited to join the celebrations and the fellowship meal in the evening. On 27th we celebrated the birthday of Fr. Viren Minz.

**School:** The school reopened after winter vocations on Jan 6. Principal **Fr. Shekhar** wished all the students and staff 'Happy New year' and encouraged them to excel in academics. On 13th we celebrated Lohri along with the teachers and students. On 22nd a special assembly was organised in honour of Manager Fr. Thomas on his birthday. Fr. Robin gave an input to the teachers on 'Emotion Regulation' which was well appreciated by them. As part of the Republic Day celebrations Patriotic Song competition was organised house wise on 25th. On 26th Fr. Thomas unfurled the flag in the presence of the teachers. The preamble of the constitution was read

out after that. He gave a short message on the importance of our constitution and the present situation of our country. On 31st we bid farewell to our accountant Mr. Gagandeep. We are on the lookout for a new accountant.

*Ginesh*

### **KHARAR/MORINDA/GSSSC ROPAR**

Despite severe winter, our animators succeeded to link 8 SHGs to bank related savings. Our animators organized celebration of Lohri, the Punjabi festival, in three villages. These were celebrated in clusters, which further enhanced team spirit and togetherness among communities. Now preparations for Mother Tongue Day/Punjabi Day and for Women's Day are on. Three long stage plays and three Nukkads were presented in villages as part of de-addiction sensitization program. We worked with Ambuja Cement Foundation for organizing one such program. As part of our effort to heal the people of Punjab from drug abuse, we could successfully admit one patient to Red Cross Clinic for treatment. Lack of advanced medical facilities at the centre prompts us to refer other patients either to district civil hospitals or to PGI, Chandigarh. Courses under DBTech progress at a slow pace. Another batch of paramedical course is nearing its conclusion with their field work at Kharar civil hospital. The two lady animators had to run from pillar to post to gather girl students for another batch of beauty culture. The next batch with 30 students will commence in the first week of February.

**Fr. Viren** went for a short home visit for his nephew's baptism and other religious ceremonies. He is back with new vigour. **Fr. Robin** oriented the staff of St. Xavier's School through a weekend seminar on Jan 19. Viren's birthday was celebrated on 28th for which the Jesuits residing at Ropar also came over to Morinda. Vegetables harvested from our Kharar land partly provide us homegrown healthy food.

*Robin*

### **GYANODAY, KHASPUR**

The months of Dec and Jan were hectic with lots of activities and celebrations. We were also delighted to receive Ranchi PCF



Fr. Medard Xalxo on Dec 17, and on the same day we began our first semester exams. We were busy with Christmas decorations on 23rd and 24th. On the eve of Christmas we were very happy. We experienced that baby Jesus has been born in our heart. From 28th to 30th we had triduum at which we renewed our vows. On Jan 1-2 we celebrated community days; they were days of fun and frolic and togetherness. Then we began English Homily. On 3rd onwards we started practicing Hindi and English plays. On 4th, **Fr. Tony Matta** left for Pune to attend Ignatian spirituality Course for two months. On 11th we had the assistancy level short story competition. Delhi Provincial Fr. Sebastian Jeera visited our community and met Delhi scholastics. Meanwhile, **Fr. K.C. Philip** went to visit our Gaya community. On 17th, Dumka PCF Fr. Prakash Hansda visited our community and met Dumka scholastics. On 18th, we had assistancy level essay writing competition. On the same day, **Fr. Josey** had a minor surgery on his vocal cord; he is advised to give complete rest to his vocal cord at least for 10 days. On 23rd, we celebrated the birthday of Sch. Bikant Kullu (JAM) joyfully. On 26th we celebrated Republic Day enthusiastically in Danapur parish with our parishioners.

*Nithin James*

### SHANTI SADAN, ALLAHABAD

We began our adventurous journey of the New Year with Benediction followed by Solemn Eucharist. We shared our New Year exuberance with our Jesuit family through sweets and delicious food. On the same day **Fr. Jose Elampa** set out on his journey to Bangalore to take classes for the MSFS scholastics. On Jan 3 we began our new session. The Christmas gathering of the diocese for both the lay people and religious was awe-inspiring. We put up some entertaining items such as games and dances. We won their hearts through our outstanding performance in both the items. Each of us was given a token gift. In mid-Jan **Fr. Soosai Mani** went south to visit the scholastics. **Fr. Pius** was back from Jammu after directing a retreat. We are fortunate to have **Fr. Robert Athickal** as the new member of our community. We

welcomed him wholeheartedly and we are happy to have him in our midst. The Sisters who made their retreat under the direction of Fr. Pius were extremely happy. On 14th we celebrated Makar Sankranti and Pongal. Fr. Robert celebrated solemn Mass in honour of creation. We prepared special food for all as part of the celebration. Fr. Robert went to Kolkata via Patna and was back on 30th. We participated in the Unity Octave Prayer program on 6th and on the concluding day. On 6th we had the service in the Cathedral Church. We expressed our aspirations through a song which was admired by everyone. On the concluding day, held in St. Joseph's Seminary, we - Catholics and other Christians - were divided into eight groups to debate on the divisions and how youths could be a binding force in bringing unity in Christianity and how we can be a victim for Jesus in our country. The discussions enlightened us on the magnitude of the problem. We are delighted to have Fr. Joy Pulikunnal as the latest addition to our community. He arrived on 28th. This month we were fully engaged with the preparation for our final exams. On 30th Fr. Jose and Fr. Robert were back and on 31st Fr. Soosai. An added engagement these days is the practice for the cultural program for the annual day. On 31st Patna Provincial arrived here for visitation.

*Chacko*

### XAVIER NILAYA, BENGALURU

We started the first month of the year 2020 in a pleasant note. Right at the beginning of 2020, we ventured into polishing our mission-tongue (Hindi) with Mrs. Francina our guru. Amidst our busy schedule **Fr. Daniel** had to rush to Tamilnadu to see his cousin who was diagnosed with jaundice and was put on respirator. In due course of time his cousin passed away. The forthcoming Annual Play and uninterrupted classes keep us fully engaged. Although we are extremely busy, we don't fail to welcome our guests with joy in our hearts. Fr. Bernard, Fr. Jose Elampa, Fr. Joe Kootinal, Fr. Soosai Mani, Fr. Selvin, Fr. Kuldeep MSFS and a few parents of our candidates enjoyed our hospitality. We took active participation in the Mission Sunday Program in our parish. As a

community we went on a pilgrimage to the Infant Jesus Shrine, Viveknagara, Bengaluru on 14th. The attack on the Church at Kengeri by unknown miscreants on 21st shocked us. Keeping this desecration in mind, as urged by Archbishop Peter Machado, we had a well-organized adoration in our chapel on 24th. On Republic Day we had a very good gathering of Catholic Community for the flag hoisting which was followed by an exciting and inspiring speech by candidate Sandeep (DEL). At the close of the month we made a trip to Mysuru.

*Alfin & Devashish*

### ALMORA MISSION

**Fr. Rakesh** and **Fr. Joshy** celebrated New Year mass in Ranikhet. On 2nd they joined Leela to console Geeta Rautela, one of our animators in Kaflogair, who lost her son on Dec 30. Fr. Rakesh offered thanksgiving mass on his 9th ordination anniversary. He also remembered his sister-in-law who celebrated her 60th birthday and their 31st marriage anniversary. **Fr. Pradeep** and Fr. Joshy offered mass for Ranikhet parishioners on 5th and joined in the fun games and activities conducted by them. On 6th the three of us were busy in distributing Baseline Survey Forms in Dasaon, Bhehta, Danya, Jalna, Gaijol, Hawalbagh and Basauli Villages. Fr. Pradeep and Fr. Joshy were with Barecheena staff on 11th for evaluation and upcoming Spoken English Centre. Next day Fr. Rakesh and Fr. Pradeep celebrated mass for Bhawali parishioners. On 13th the three of us were in Jaipur, Fr. Joshy to meet his guide and Fr. Rakesh for health check-up. We went to Nevta to spend some time in ZEST 2020 program on 18th. We met old friends, teachers and staff. Early morning on 19th we reached Almora. Fr. Joshy joined the group of tuition teachers and staff in Uttarayani Mela Bageshwar. After running around for a whole year we received the renewal certificate of SEVA on 20th, a day of great joy for us indeed. Next day Fr. Joshy and Fr. Pradeep went to Gaijol with Ms. Leela to repair the fencing broken by some unknown vehicle. On 26th evening we were in Ranikhet to celebrate Fr. Ivan's birthday. Same night Fr. Pradeep left for Delhi on his way to Ranchi to settle

his family's land problem. On 27th Fr. Rakesh and Fr. Joshy went to Jalna for monthly staff meeting. Fr. Joshy and Ms. Leela went to Basauli on 28th. Meanwhile Bishop Ignatius D'Souza, on his way back to Kathgodam, dropped in for lunch at Almora. Along with him were VG Fr. Harry, Fr. Royal Anthony and Fr. Marian Pinto. On 29th Fr. Rakesh was to go for recollection in Kathgodam but due to continuous rain and snow fall he could not go. Fr. Joshy went to Hawalbagh and then to Someshwar for monthly meetings. He missed the snow fall. On 31st we were invited by Salesians for celebrations of the feast of Don Bosco at Jeolikote.

*Rakesh*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Sch. Satyasiva Nayak** has applied to leave the Society of Jesus.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

February	March
04 Kayathinkara, Sobin	01 Kalathingal, Shaju V.
06 Tete, Paul Micky	01 Mannaravelil, Joseph
07 Chelakat, Anthony	08 K.P. George
07 R, Gnana, Muthu	08 Toppo, Rakesh
13 Adaikalaraj, Arunmozhi	13 Kavatt, Chacko C
15 George, Ajay	14 Toppo, Prakash M.
15 Mukalel, Sebastian	15 Jeera, Sebastian J.
18 Nedumattam, Mani	15 Ruban Praveen Kumar
19 *Xalxo, Ruben	24 Ariapilly, John M.
20 *George Stephen	28 Indwar, Deepak
25 Andrade, Anthony	29 Maria, Amaldass
	29 *Thekemury, Pius
	30 Vattakuzhy, Jose

### Gone for their Eternal Reward

**Fr. Errol D'Lima** (BOM, 77/61) on Jan 5.  
**Br. Arockiasamy Sebastian** (MDU, 72/52) on Jan 18.  
**Fr. Thomas Pullenkav** (CCU, 79/37) on Jan 20.  
**Fr. Joachim D'Mello** (GOA) 68/46 on Jan 21.  
**Fr. Lankapalli Prasad** (AND, 53/34) on Jan 27.

Fr. Britto's aunt Royalamma on Jan 28.

**Reports and photos for the next DM are due on or before February 29, 2020.**