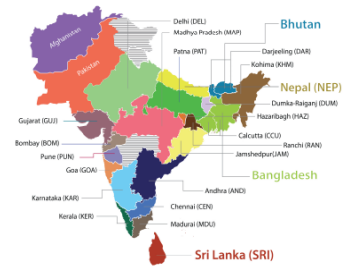




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Fr Stany D'Souza, the POSA, attended the Expanded Council of Fr General in Rome from 12 to 16 September 2022, besides participating in various webinars, meetings, and visiting provinces of the Conference and houses of formation and common works.



Photo taken from <https://www.jesuits.global>

THE POSA PROGRAM

OCTOBER

- 01-5 Visitation - VJ
- 08-11 COJET (DAR)
- 12-14 Visit to Darjeeling Province
- 17 Meeting of LS & DoW (Online)
- 18 Meeting of Secretaries (Online)
- 19 Meeting of Forums, Networks (Online)
- 20-21 Visitation - Tertianship (Shembag)
- 22-30 JCSA (Shembag)
- NOVEMBER
- 01-02 POSA Consult
- 05 AGM of JCI

07-12 Visitation - DNC

15-16 Jesuit Counsellors Meeting (RAN)

17-19 Visitation - Tertianship (HAZ)

20-25 Visit to MP Province

DECEMBER

03 POSA Consult

05-18 DLP - Prerana

09-11 Jesuit Artists Meeting (KER)

18-20 Conference Presidents Meeting (USA)

23-28 Visit to Mangalore

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CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT FOR SERVICE OF FAITH (CSSF)



As the newly appointed director of the Centre for Ignatian Spirituality and Research (CISR), Arun Kumar, the Secretary for Service of Faith studied the needs and requirements of the centre and prepared a brochure for academic



year 2022-23. With the help of scholastics of De Nobili College (DNC) CISR is in the process of setting up a website. The scholastics and the neighboring religious make use of the professional studio of CISR to produce videos on lives of Jesuit saints and other faith related issues.

Two meetings of Ignatian Scholars, one online and an in-person meeting were held to design an online course on Ignatian Spirituality in collaboration with XLRI, Jamshedpur. A team comprising of Somy Mannoor (Convener), Jossie D'Mello, Francis Pudhicherry and Arun Kumar will finalize syllabus for the

course commencing in May 2023. Fr Rolpho Pinto will look after the annual seminar and publications by Ignatian Scholars of South Asia. Fr Stany D'Souza, the President of South Asia, was present for the meetings. He with his enlightening and encouraging talk brought in clarity on the proposed online course. The Province Coordinators for the Service of Faith had an online meeting to take stock of all the events and initiatives, especially the implementation of the CAPs. The annual meeting is scheduled from October 13-17, 2022, in Phesama, Nagaland.



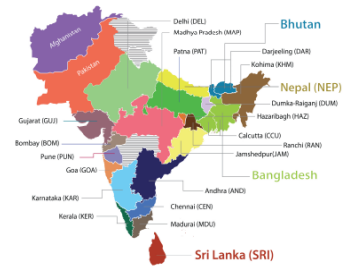
The CISR is slowly getting its visibility and people from different geographical locations are applying for the courses and retreats.

The Secretary for Service of Faith gave a talk at a webinar on "Fostering Peace in the present culture of hate" organized by the Institute for Study of Religion, Pune. He visited two parishes of Pune Jesuit Province and directed two retreats. He addressed DNC community on Conference Secretariat structure and roles and functions of Conference Secretariat for Service of Faith.

*Arun Kumar SJ
Secretary, CSSF*



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CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT FOR SCHOOL EDUCATION (CSSE)

Fr John Ravi, SJ, Secretary, CSSE

Secretary's visit to Kolkata and Darjeeling Provinces

Kolkata Province. Fr John Ravi, SJ visited all Jesuit Schools of Calcutta Province from August 14-25, 2022. He interacted with Jesuits, staff, senior students and alumni.

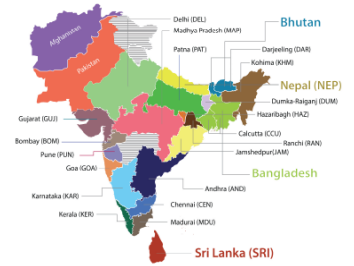


Darjeeling Province: The Secretary visited all Jesuit Schools under Darjeeling Province except Gandhi Ashram School, Kalimpong from August 28 to September 8, 2022. He had fruitful discussions with Jesuits, staff, students and alumni.





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Seminars & Workshops conducted by the Secretary

Leadership Training to Holy Cross Sisters in Raipur. Fr Ravi, SJ conducted a leadership training program for three days for a



group of 35 Holy Cross Sisters of Central Province in Raipur from August 7-10, 2022.

Leadership Training to Apostolic Carmel School Principals in Delhi. Fr Ravi, SJ conducted a



leadership training program for 60 Apostolic Carmel Principals from all over the country and abroad at Navinta Retreat House, New Delhi from September 12-13, 2022.

Teacher Training Program for Bambina Sisters working in schools. Fr Ravi, SJ conducted

a two-day educational seminar for a group of 25 teacher sisters of Nazareth Sisters at the Provincialate of Northern Province, Delhi from September 10-11, 2022.



Seminar for Teachers. Fr Ravi, SJ conducted a daylong seminar for the teachers of St Michael's Senior Secondary School, Delhi on July 23, 2022.

Seminar on NEP 2020. The Archdiocese of Imphal, Manipur invited Fr John Ravi, SJ to conduct a daylong seminar on implementation of NEP 2020 on September 17, 2022. Around 95 priests, nuns and religious took part in the program.



Leadership Enhancement & Animation Program (LEAP) for Jesuit School Principals

North Zone

36 Jesuit School Principals from Darjeeling, Patna, Delhi, Kolkata Provinces and Nepal and Kohima Regions took part in Leadership Enhancement & Animation Program at Dhyana Ashram, Kolkata from September 21-24, 2022 organized by Conference Secretariat for School Education.



West Zone

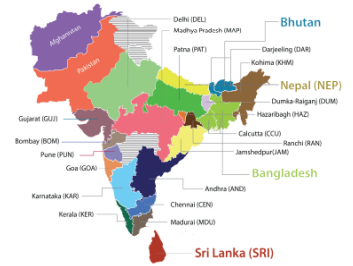
32 Jesuit School Principals from Bombay, Gujarat, Pune and Goa Provinces attended the Leadership Enhancement & Animation Program at PG Block, Jnana Deepa, Pune from September 24-27, 2022 organized by Conference Secretariat for School Education.

The annual PCEs Meeting was held at Good Shepherd Centre, Bangalore from October 3-5, 2022.





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POPE'S WORLDWIDE PRAYER NETWORK & EUCHARISTIC YOUTH MOVEMENT

After I shifted my residence to Jor Bagh, Delhi, I continued my trips to various places for my ministry. In the months of May and June I gave talks on Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network and the Eucharistic Movement to 28 Salesian



philosophers at Sonada, Darjeeling Diocese, 19 Jesuits of Jor Bagh and ISI communities, 100 laity of Delhi Archdiocese, 115 Sisters and formees of 9 Religious Congregations at Barasat, Calcutta Archdiocese. I was able to meet the new Superior of Bangladesh Mission, Fr Ripon Rozario for our work in Bangladesh. I was invited by the Nuncio for lunch when I shared about my activities in South Asia.



and handed over the report of my activities in India as my work come under the CBCI.

August was a very fruitful month with regard to the number of people that I was able to reach out, 86 Sisters of 7 Congregations, 13 Jesuit Novices, 95 Minor Seminarists, 132 laity of Lucknow Diocese, 30 SRA Sisters, 85 Major Seminarists at IMS Seminary in Varanasi Diocese, 19 Jesuit Pre-Novices, 100 laity and 55 CRI Sisters of Patna Archdiocese, 38 Jesuit Novices and Juniors at Sitagarha and 100 Priests and Sisters of Hazaribagh Diocese, 23 Jesuit Scholastics



and 9 Jesuit Priests at Manresa, Ranchi and 30 Jesuit Scholastics and 4 Jesuit Priests at Berhman's Illam and 120 Parishioners of Madras-Mylapore Cathedral.



in Belgaum and Dharwad including 12 Jesuit Scholastics of Karnataka Province, 40 Sisters of 2 Congregations in Goa Archdiocese, and 51 Sisters of 3 Religious Congregations in Mumbai Archdiocese. I was able to meet Cardinal Oswald Gracias, CBCI President

In July, I was in North Karnataka, Goa and Mumbai, addressing 95 priests of Belgaum Diocese, 64 Sisters of 4 Religious Congregations

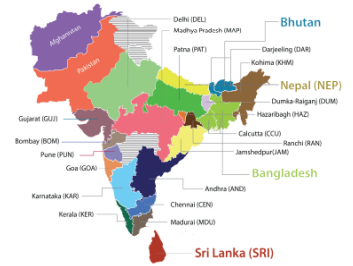


“All in all, from May to September 2022, I went to 31 places in 13 Dioceses and addressed 1440 persons on the mission of Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network and Eucharistic Youth Movement.”

*Jagdish Parmar,
National Director, PWN & EYM*



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SACRED HEART COLLEGE, SATYA NILAYAM, CHENNAI

Fr Martin SJ



ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

The Academic Year 2022-2023 was inaugurated with the Mass of the Holy Spirit and Schola Brevis on the theme 'The Wisdom of Synodality'

scholastics had their 'Chennai Darshan' and the second-year scholastics had their cultural visit to Mahabalipuram. A two-day workshop on

Institute, Chennai. The first-years had their Diagnostic test for English proficiency on 05 September. We had a very meaningful Teachers Day celebration organized by the student body on 05 September. A philosophizing session on 'Smartphones as Transitional Objects and Potential Spaces: A Phenomenological Study' was conducted by Dr Patrick Arokiaraj SJ on 09 September. On 16 September, 'Life-Skills Programme' for the first-year scholastics was given by Mr Arvind Joseph, a well-known professional skill trainer from Chennai. On 16 and 17 September, we had Satya Nilayam Faculty Development Programme (FDP) on the theme 'Practical Aspects of Intellectual and Learned



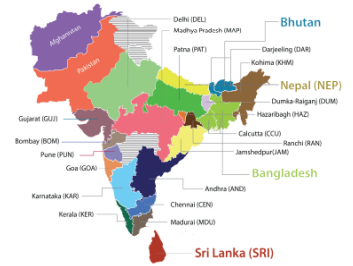
by Most Rev. Dr A Neethinathan, Bishop of Chengleput Diocese. The scholastics had their academic orientation on the theme 'Discovering through Philosophy: Self, Word and God' coordinated by Dr Patrick Arokiaraj SJ and Fr Vinod Soreng, SJ. The new restructured syllabus, Learning Outcomes Based Curriculum Framework (LOCF) came to be in effect from this academic year. On 13 August, the first-year

'Social Analysis' was given to the scholastics by Mr Sudhir Nag, Person In-charge, Backward and Minority Communities Employees' Federation, New Delhi. On 26 August, the faculty had Loy Memorial Lecture on 'Come, Follow, Listen to the Fish' by Dr Joe K. Kizhakudan, Principal Scientist, Central Marine Fisheries Research





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Approach in Education Today' conducted by Dr Lancy Lobo, SJ, Professor Emeritus and Dr Denzil Fernandes, SJ, Executive Director, Indian Social Institute, Delhi. Fourteen scholastics participated in a Symposium on 'Public Sphere: Interventions and Interrogations' at Sacred Heart Institute of Philosophy and Theology, Poonamallee on 16 and 17 September. From 12 to 23 September 2022, the first-year scholastics had their yoga classes under the scholarly expertise of Dr Murala Jagadeeswaraiah, SJ and the second-year scholastics under the guidance Mrs Padmavati. Scholastics participated in Ovations program (cultural competitions) at Loyola College. They also participated in inter-departmental sports events and our TT team consisting of Schs. Niroshan, Maxwell, Shashi

and Abhinav won the First prize in Division I and Runner-up in Division II. Kudos to Satya Nilayam Table Tennis team. Thanks to Dr Lawrence Fernandes, SJ, the Principal and Fr Francis D'Souza, SJ, the Registrar for meticulously planning and organizing all these above academic activities.

Congratulations to Fr Patrick Arokiaraj, SJ, who successfully defended his doctoral thesis on 'Smartphones as Transitional Objects and Potential Spaces: A Phenomenological Study of Consecrated Religious Men' from Pontificia Universita Gregoriana, Rome. Kudos to Fr Martin, SJ whose article 'Post-Covid Isolated Self from the Ethical Lens of Emmanuel Levinas' was published in Jnanodaya Journal of Philosophy in July 2022. We congratulate Dr Robin S. Seelan,

SJ on his article 'Poverty: Understanding Holistically and Living Authentically' published in IGNIS. A book chapter by Dr Robin S. Seelan, SJ titled, 'Re-Centring Interfaith Dialogue for Peace-building' was published in Pathways to Harmony: The role of religion in conflicts and peace, edited by Walter Fernandes, and published by NESRC in September 2022. The National Commission for Vocations, Seminaries, Clergy & Religious of the Catholic Conference of Bishops of India (CCBI) invited Dr Robin S. Seelan, SJ to offer a Five-Day Course on Discernment to the Rectors and Formators of all the Propaedeutic Seminaries in India from 25 September to 02 October in Varanasi.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

We had a fruitful Staff Colloquium from 25 to 28 July in Suhalayam, Irudayakulam. Faith sharing, various discussions, scenic outings enriched our journeying together as a staff community. On 31 July, we had celebration of the feast of St Ignatius and the concluding of the



Stany D'Souza, the POSA, and Fr Arjen Tete, the CSF, from 31 August to 06 September.



Ignatian year with a solemn Eucharistic celebration presided over by Fr Boniface SJ and a fellowship meal with our invited guests. On the same day, we placed on record our appreciation and gratitude to three of our support staff Mrs Amala, Mr Amalan, and Mr Anandam who completed 25 years of service in Satya Nilayam.

The scholastics reached Satya Nilayam by 04 August. We have 12 priests and 79 scholastics making our number to 91 this year. We had our community orientation on 05 and 06 August conducted by Satya Nilayam Cultural Committee. On 15 August, we had meaningful Independence Day celebrations in which Sch. Vikas Lakra (MAP) gave us a speech inviting us to protect the noble values enshrined in our constitutions. We had the annual visitation of Fr



On 03 September, the entire community celebrated Mass on the fifth day of the novena in Annai Velankanni shrine, Besant Nagar. Fr Stany D'Souza, SJ was the main celebrant who preached a soul-stirring homily on the theme Mary's Shared Mission.

ECOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Fr Robin S. Seelan, SJ conducted early morning retreat for the laity of our neighborhood parishes in the meditation garden from 09 to 15 May. A session on 'Eco-sensitization' was conducted for the entire community by Fr Robin S. Seelan, SJ on 16 August 2022. A total number of 38 new saplings were planted and 12 plants were adopted by 50 scholastics so far in five phases. A few more plants will be planted in the coming months.



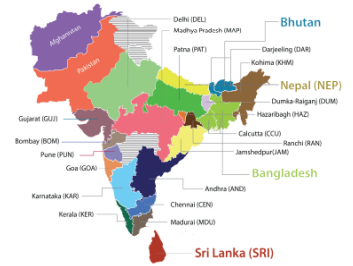
The community had its Onam celebration on 17 September coordinated by scholastics from Kerala. Solemn Eucharistic celebration presided over by Fr Valerian Mendonca, SJ, Onam games and a grand Onam sadya were part of the



celebrations which brought the entire community into festive spirit. We also had Karam celebrations in our community beautifully organized by the scholastics from Chota-Nagpur region. The festive ambience meaningfully unfolded in Karam ceremony, the Eucharist presided over by Fr Benedict, SJ, Karam dance and a special Karam meal.



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OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

The scholastics and staff in Satya Nilayam revived the pastoral, educational, social and charity apostolates and the ministries are in a full-swing. Nearly 15 scholastics have their ministry among the migrants in collaboration with the Chennai Jesuit province. The staff of Satya Nilayam continue to render their pastoral services to the convents and the parishes of Madras-Mylapore and Chengalpatu dioceses. The entire community catered to the spiritual needs of thousands of people by means of hearing confessions during the novena days in Annai Velankanni shrine, Besant Nagar. On 17 July, some of our scholastics and staff donated blood in Dhyana Ashram to the poor patients of Government

General Hospital, Royapetah. On 8 September, as part of migrant ministry, nearly 150 migrants were brought to the campus for the Holy Eucharist in Hindi and fellowship meals thereafter. Accompanied by the scholastics, they went on foot to Besant Nagar shrine as pilgrims. Logos, a laity faith-sharing group, has been revived after a lull period due to the pandemic. The group, animated by Fr Robin S. Seelan, SJ, meets every second Saturday. They have met thrice so far on 09 July, 13 August and 10 September respectively. Thanks to Fr Boniface, SJ, the Rector and Fr P.S. Arul, SJ, the Minister for the continuous guidance and support in all the above-mentioned activities.

SATYA NILAYAM RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF PHILOSOPHY AND CULTURE (SNRI), CHENNAI

Satya Nilayam Research Institute inaugurated its academic year on 05 July 2022. The key-note address on 'Philosophy in the Public Space' was given by Prof. S. Lourdunathan from Centre for Philosophy, Jawaharlal Nehru University. SNRI is now officially known as Satya Nilayam Research Institute of Philosophy and Culture. Kudos to Fr Robin S. Seelan, SJ, Director of SNRI, for the research project titled 'Study on the Role of Religious Symbols in Inter-Faith Dialogue' which received a research grant of ₹7,89,000/- for this academic year 2022-2023 from an international funding agency. SNRI conducted a Study Circle in



a New Society' and Dr Bernard D' Sami, Director of LISSTAR, Loyola, Chennai, presented a paper on 'A Philosophy of Counter Discourses in Iyothee Thass Pandithar'. On 17 September, SNRI had a PHILXPO in which Mrs Sribala presented the synopsis of her thesis on 'The Role of Women in Inter-faith Reconciliations: A Socio-Philosophical Analysis'. On 23 September, SNRI had conducted Research Method Seminar on the theme 'The Indian ways of Learning Experiences: Aesthetic Models' in which nearly 50 scholars from different institutes in Chennai actively participated. It had three paper presentations namely 'Music as a Model of Learning' by Dr Dusi Ravi Sekharan, SJ, Indian classical and liturgical musician, 'Dance as a Model of Learning' by Dr Marie Stella, Assistant Professor & Research Supervisor, Tamil University, Tanjavur, and 'Drama as a Modal of Learning' by Dr Preethi Shanti, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Loyola College, Chennai. Thanks to Fr Robin S. Seelan, SJ, the director for the systematic planning and effective execution of all the SNRI programmes.

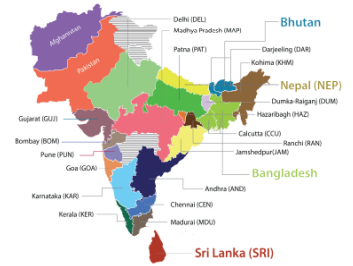


which Fr Anbrarasu, research scholar, presented a paper on 'Hospitality and its Link with Social Justice' and Fr Antony Roopan Doss, research scholar, presented a paper on 'Intersectional Justice for Dalit Women'. Fr Patrick Arokiaraj, SJ, gave an extensive lecture on 'An Introduction to Grounded Theory'. On 20 August, SNRI conducted Tamizh Mei Thedal (Tamizh philosophy) on 'Exploring Tamizh Way of Thinking in its Literature' by Dr T. Sebulon Prabhu Durai, Madras Christian College, Chennai. Thanks to Chennai and Madurai Jesuit provinces for funding SNRI research initiative Tamizh Mei Thedal through which five research seminars will be held this year. On 02 September, SNRI conducted Philosophy Conversation Forum on 'Religious Symbols and Social Realities'. SNRI conducted Zetesis International Webinar on 15 September on 'Decoding Iyothee Thass Pandithar for Modern Times' in which Fr Yesu Anthony presented a paper on 'The Socio-Cultural Contribution of Iyothee Thass Pandithar towards





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VIDYAJYOTI COLLEGE OF THEOLOGY, DELHI

COLLOQUIUM IN MUSSOORIE

Colloquium in the hills is one of the longstanding and cherished traditions of Vidyajyoti (VJ). Because of COVID19 pandemic, this tradition had to be broken for the past two years. This year we were happy to revive this tradition. All Jesuit staff members of VJ left the heat and dust of Delhi behind and journeyed towards Mussoorie, popularly known as the Queen of Hills. Sr Prabina Rudum, PBVM, the only non-Jesuit staff member, could not attend the colloquium. Fourteen of us spent six days from 20 – 25 June 2022 in the serene and pristine mountains of Mussoorie. Capuchin Fathers at the Franciscan Institute of Spirituality and Psychology on the campus of St George College were our gracious hosts. They made our stay very pleasant and comfortable.

The first day was mostly spent travelling. The second and third days were devoted to community matters. On 21 June, we had a very fruitful faith sharing on the topic Renewing Community in Fraternity. On 22 June, practical concerns

of the community related to formation were discussed. 23 June was a day set apart for relaxation and sightseeing. The last two days, the concerns related to the college were taken up for deliberation. The Golden Jubilee celebration and the revival of fieldwork after the Corona virus pandemic were two main areas of discussion. There were discussions on other matters related to the College, and its departments such as DEPT_H, VJTR and VIDIS.

Overall, we had a very pleasant and peaceful time in Mussoorie. It was a wonderful opportunity for us to rejuvenate ourselves, re-establish community bonding through sharing, treks, happy hours, etc., and to have serious deliberations on important matters concerning the community and the college.

INAUGURATION OF THE JUBILEE YEAR: VJ@50

The inauguration of academic year 2022-2023 began on 11 July 2022 with a solemn Eucharistic celebration, presided over by His Excellency Most Rev. Leopoldo Girelli, the Apostolic Nuncio to India and Nepal. The occasion was graced by Archbishop Anil J.T. Couto, Metropolitan Archbishop of Delhi, Bishop Deepak Tauro, Auxiliary Bishop of Delhi, and Fr Stanislaus



D'Souza, the President of JCSA. The Apostolic Nuncio preached on the jubilee year: 'Theology at the service of Kerygma'. He shared that all theological studies must eventually prepare us to become effective proclaimers of the Gospel in word and deed, and it is the basis for restoring human dignity. Fr P.R. John meticulously planned and executed the entire programme along with the faculty and students. At the end, Fr Nirmal Raj, the Rector of Vidyajyoti expressed heartfelt gratitude to all who took an active part in the meaningful Eucharistic celebration. After the mass, we had a short felicitation programme for the Nuncio, the former principals of VJ and other dignitaries present for the programme.



RELEASE OF THE NEWLY REVISED STATUTES

After the mass, Most Rev. Leopoldo Girelli released the newly revised Statutes of Vidyajyoti Institute of Religious Studies, Faculty of Theology, Delhi. It was approved by Joseph Cardinal Versaldi, the Prefect of the Congregation for Catholic Education, Rome on 4 March 2022. The first copy of the statutes was given to Fr Stanislaus D'Souza by Most Rev. Leopoldo Girelli and then to other staff, Fr Nirmal Raj, Fr P.R. John and Fr Hector Pinto.

INAUGURAL LECTURE

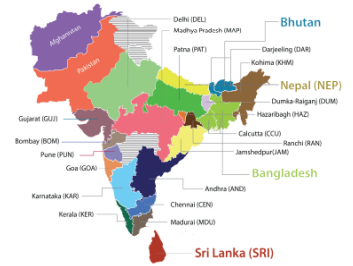
On 12 July 2022, Vidyajyoti College of Theology organized an inaugural lecture at Navjeevan Renewal Centre, St Xavier's School at 9.15 am. The staff and students were privileged to have three former Principals of Vidyajyoti, Fr T.K. John SJ, Fr George Mlakuzhiyil SJ and Fr John Chathanatt SJ, gracing the occasion.



The theme of the inaugural lecture was 'VJ@50 (1972-2022) and the Question of Method in Theology'. Around 140 students and staff participated in the inaugural lecture addressed by Fr T.K. John. Fr George Mlakuzhiyil moderated the session. Fr T.K. John shared with us the motive behind shifting of the college from Kurseong to Delhi. It was necessary to take the institution to the streets of Delhi so that we could listen to the voice of the poor, the marginalized



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and the destitute. He insisted that the text has to be contextualized and the world of the poor is our first classroom. There was a short time for an

interaction during which students raised some questions. The lecture was indeed a thought-provoking and enlightening one for all of us.

COMMUNITY ORIENTATION

'Listening Hearts and Helping Hands' was the theme for the two-day orientation programme, which began on 8 July with the inaugural Eucharist celebrated by Fr Nirmal Raj, the Rector of VJ. On the first day, the community members welcomed the newcomers with cultural songs and dances. All the community members actively participated in the ice-breaking session and other activities to get to know each other better. In the evening, we had a fun-filled football match, and after that, the students showcased their talents in singing, dancing and playing musical instruments. The day was well spent and ended with a sumptuous meal and community recreation.



On the second day, we had a variety of programmes, which included input sessions by staff members and officials, fun games and a community quiz. Fr Nirmal Raj, the Rector, Fr P.R. John, the Principal, and Fr Sunil, the Minister, and other officials explained to us 'Our Way of Proceeding' in VJ. The students' orientation committee did an excellent job conducting a quiz on Jesuits and VJ. It was well appreciated by the community members. In the evening, Fr Rector addressed the entire community. He shared his experiences in the Society, particularly in VJ and his expectations of the community for the academic year 2022-23. The orientation programme ended with the Holy Eucharist celebrated by Fr Edwin Rodrigues and a fellowship meal with the co-workers.

COLLEGE ORIENTATION

As mentioned earlier, the inaugural Eucharist was celebrated His Excellency, Most Rev. Leopoldo Girelli, the Apostolic Nuncio to India and Nepal, on 11 July 2022, and on 12 July, Fr T.K. John conducted the inaugural lecture in Navjeevan Renewal Centre. The Principal, the Registrar and the librarian addressed the students regarding the rules and regulations of the college. Fr Rector gave an inspiring talk to the students. The second session was conducted in the respective class rooms. The professors explained the theme of each year to the respective classes, and explained how the courses in that particular year are organized accordingly. The orientation programme ended with a vote of thanks by



Fr P.R. John and a reflective prayer by the orientation committee.



FEAST OF ST IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA



On 31 July, we celebrated the conclusion of the 500th anniversary of the conversion of St Ignatius of Loyola with around 300 guests. The entire programme was organized under the leadership of Fr Stanislaus D'Souza SJ,

the President of the Jesuit Conference in South Asia and Fr Soosai Mani SJ, Provincial of Delhi Jesuit Province. There was a Solemn Eucharistic Celebration at 5.00 pm, presided over by Most Rev. Deepak Tauro, the Auxiliary Bishop of Delhi. Bishop Deepak Tauro complimented the Jesuits for their



commitment and challenged the Jesuits to live out the legacy of the mission entrusted by the Universal Church. After the mass, there was an engaging and interesting cultural program staged by the students of St Xavier's Senior Secondary School, Delhi and the Scholastics of Vidyajyoti. The school students enacted the life of St Ignatius while the scholastics performed a short musical piece. Thereafter, everyone enjoyed a sumptuous dinner together.

EDUCATIONAL TOUR TO VARANASI



The first year students of Vidyajyoti Institute of Religious Studies went on a study tour (thirthyatra) to the holy city of Varanasi for eight days (3 – 10 September 2022). This thirthyatra was undertaken as part of their course on Popular Hinduism. It was organized by Fr Anil D’Almeida, SJ, the course instructor. The group consisted of 28 students, including three religious sisters. The purpose of the week-long sojourn at Varanasi was to gain a first-hand experience of the cultural and religious practices of our Hindu brethren. Varanasi, which is also known as the cultural capital of India, was best suited to serve the purpose of getting to know the norms and practices of Hindu religion.

The students stayed at ‘Maitri Bhavan’, the interreligious dialogue centre of the Diocese of Varanasi. As part of the thirthyatra, the students visited several important Hindu temples. They also visited Kabir Panthi Ashram, Sarnath (the

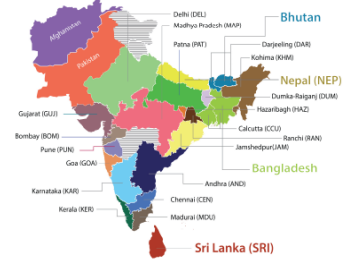
place where Lord Buddha delivered his first sermon), the Central Institute of Tibetan Studies, Banaras Hindu University, IMS Ashram and Seminary, Christnagar, and St Mary’s Cathedral, Varanasi. Some of the temples visited by the students are Kashi Viswanath Mandir, Sankatmochan Mandir, Manas Mandir, Thrideva Mandir, and Durga Mandir. The temples are not only architectural masterpieces, but are also a source of solace to thousands of pilgrims who flock to the city from various parts of the country. The devotion of the pilgrims cannot but inspire admiration in the heart of an onlooker. The students also spent a considerable time at the ghats like Shivala Ghat, Harischandra Ghat, Assi Ghat, and Manikarnika Ghat.

The temples and the ghats along the river Ganga offered a glimpse into the rituals and practices of our Hindu brethren. The students stood in awe as they witnessed corpses being cremated one

after the other along the banks. The Hindu belief in karma and moksha was in full action on the banks of the river Ganga. It was also a pleasant sight to see hundreds of pilgrims rushing to take a dip in the holy river, hoping to obtain liberation from the endless cycle of birth and death. The thirthyatris also got several opportunities to interact with the pandits and monks at various locations. This helped them clarify their doubts about various aspects of faith and practices. The speakers were kind enough to answer the queries of the students, thus offering a clear picture of their faith. The thirthyatris also visited the Bishop of Varanasi, Most Rev. Eugene Joseph, who surprised them with his cordiality and hospitality. He offered a bird’s eye view of the history of the diocese and its mission in the Hindu heartland. The thirthyatris returned from Varanasi with hearts full of gratitude for all those who helped them make their thirthyatra a memorable experience.



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SOUTH ASIAN ASSISTANCY (CONFERENCE) JESUIT NEWS

October 2022

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ASHA KI KIRAN: MINISTRY AMONG RIKSHAW PULLERS

Vidyajyoti Jesuit Community and Asha ki Kiran ministry group jointly organised a get-together for the rickshaw pullers and street dwellers on Sunday, 18 September 2022. The rickshaw pullers and street dwellers, who are affectionately called 'VIPs' are no strangers to the community, as they enjoy meals provided by the community every Sunday. They also repose their trust in us by entrusting their hard-earned

income of the week to the staff coordinator of Asha Ki Kiran ministry. The organizing team of the event consisted of Fr Anil D'Almeida, SJ, the staff coordinator of fieldwork, members of Asha Ki Kiran ministry group and a few volunteers from the community. The event witnessed the participation of about 80 rickshaw pullers and street dwellers. The programme began at 11.30 am at the Vidyajyoti College Hall. The get-

together included various fun games, action songs, video shows, motivational talks, and cultural performances by the participants. The cultural performances and games were followed by a sumptuous meal, which was served in the courtyard of the Vidyajyoti Institute of Religious Studies. It was a joy to see the rickshaw pullers returning to their daily routine after having spent some quality time with us.

ISLAMIC STUDIES ASSOCIATION, VIDYAJYOTI, DELHI

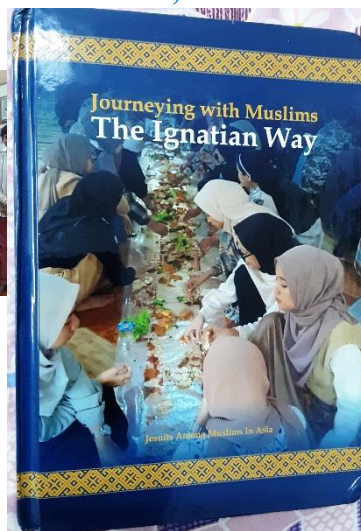
The Dalit Christians and Pasmada Muslims (DC-PM) Platform organized a program to pay tributes to two Pasmada icons, Baba-e-Qaum Abdul Qaiyum Ansari Sahab and



Paramveer Chakra Shaheed Veer Abdul Hameed Sahab on the eve of their birth anniversaries on July 1. There were pasmanda students, advocates, activists, academics, media persons, social workers, businessmen and others who participated in the event along with OBC/Dalit Christian participants. Joseph Victor Edwin, SJ of Islamic Studies Association (ISA) organised the program.



Islamic Studies Association organized two sessions on Christian-Muslim relations for the first year students of Vidyajyoti College of Theology, Delhi. In the morning sessions Sister Naaz made a presentation on Pasmada Muslims. It was an eye opener for most of the students. With clarity and commitment Sr Naaz made a presentation on 'Pasmada Muslims'. Afternoon was a great mehfil of spiritual conversation with Sister Gerardette. Sister Gerardette spoke on 'Meeting Muslims: What have I learnt?' She shared with us some of her beautiful experiences with Muslims. Storytelling is an Asian characteristic in theology and spirituality. Stories and images that emerge from the heart 'indwell' in the hearts of others. They do not explain but lead the listeners to 'experience' the colors of truth. Thanks Sister Gera. On the



occasion Islamic Studies Association honored Mr Masroor Ahmed for his continued service to ISA as a collaborator. He recently returned after performing his Hajj, the fifth pillar of Islam.

Islamic Studies Association organised a symposium on Islam in the Modern World conducted by the members of the Centre for Peace and Spirituality, Retd. Professor Farida Khannum and Maulana Omeri Sahib. The



first-year students of Theology attended the symposium.

A little booklet titled Journeying with Muslims: Listening, Praying and Working Together by Cardinal Michael Louis Fitzgerald, published by Islamic Studies Association, New Delhi was released by Professor Emeritus Akhtarul Wasey in a program jointly organized by Indialogue Foundation, New Delhi, Indian Social Institute, New Delhi and Islamic



Studies Association, New Delhi on 3 September 2022. Professor Ravi Nandan Singh conducted the proceedings. Around 50 people attended the event that included a number of students from Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi and Vidyajyoti, Delhi.

The Jesuits Among Muslims in Asia (JAMIA) published a book that seeks to contribute to the theological discourse on Christian-Muslim dialogue through the teachings of St Ignatius of Loyola, particularly the Spiritual Exercises, and how Ignatian Spirituality is lived and shared in the 21st century by Jesuits and companions with their Muslim friends. 'Journeying with Muslims the Ignatian Way' is JAMIA's response to the challenges of Muslim-Catholic relations in Asia. Joseph Victor Edwin, SJ, the secretary for South Asia attended the program online.

Dr Shahriar, the Secretary General of the World Forum for the Proximity of Islamic Schools of Thought, Tehran along with his delegation visited Vidyajyoti Institute of Religious Studies on Thursday 8 September 2022. They engaged with the second year students of Theology on wide ranging issues connected with Christian-Muslim Relations.

Professor Michael Calabria OFM, Professor of Islam and Arabic Studies at St Bonaventure University, USA,



Joseph Victor Edwin and Professor Najma Akhtar, the Vice-chancellor of Jamia Millia Islamia attended the lecture of Fr Michael Calabria on 'The Spirituality of the Taj Mahal' at the Nehru House Guest Lecture Hall on 12 September 2022. Islamic Studies Association collaborated with the Department of History and Cultures at Jamia Millia University in organising the programme. On that occasion, Joseph Victor Edwin had an opportunity to discuss 'Persianate Culture' of Delhi with Professors Khurshid Khan of Delhi University and Michael Calabria OFM.

Joseph Victor Edwin

INDIAN SOCIAL INSTITUTE, DELHI

Fr Tom Perumalil, S.J

Retirement of Mr Vijender and Ms Rufina Lawrence



On 4 June 2022, the Staff Forum Committee & Management of ISI, New Delhi, organized a farewell to Mr Vijender, who worked as Maintenance Assistant in Indian Social Institute for more than 30 years. He had taken voluntary retirement w.e.f. 11 April 2022, due to his poor

health condition. Mr Vijender was felicitated by Dr Sebastia Raj, SJ, who as Executive Director of ISI Delhi had appointed him 30 years ago. On 6 June 2022, the Staff Forum Committee & Management of ISI, New Delhi, organized a farewell to Ms Rufina Lawrence, who retired as a Senior Administration Officer in

The factsheet of the research 'Impact of COVID-19 in Rural India: A Cross Sectional Study from 12 States', which was conducted by the Jesuit Collective comprising of Indian Social Institute, Conference Development Office, Migrant Assistance and Information Network (MAIN) and Social Justice and Ecology Secretariat of South Asia, was released during the webinar titled 'Conversations on the Factsheet' held on 21 June 2022. Ms Tanvi Dogra welcomed the gathering and introduced the speakers. After the electronic release of the factsheet, Dr Alwyn D'Souza, SJ and Mr Shinu Joseph presented the findings of the study presented graphically in the factsheet. In response to the presentation, Dr Stanislaus D'Souza, SJ, the President of the Jesuit Conference of South Asia, appreciated the

Release of Factsheet on 'Impact of COVID-19 in Rural India'

collaborative work done to understand the struggles of people in rural India during the COVID-19 pandemic and the lessons learnt for policy makers and civil society. Mr Ashish Kothari, Ms Roshan Rathod and Mr Koustav Majumdar shared their insights based on the factsheet as well as their own studies and experience of people in rural areas, who suffered during the pandemic. Dr Denzil Fernandes was the moderator for the online programme. The webinar concluded with a vote of thanks by Ms Suman Runda.

One-day Orientation with Tribal Youth from Gujarat

ISI and CBCI Office for Tribal Affairs organized a day-long orientation and interactive session for 40 tribal youth from Gujarat on 28 June 2022.

Fr Stan Swamy Memorial Lecture

The first Fr Stan Swamy Memorial Lecture on 'Human Rights Defenders and their importance in a Vibrant Democracy' was delivered by Dr Neera Chandhoke, Distinguished Fellow at the Centre for Equity Studies. Dr Denzil Fernandes, SJ was the moderator of the programme, which was organized by the Federation of Catholic Associations of the Archdiocese of Delhi (FCAAD) on 5 July 2022 at Yusuf Sadan, Delhi.

ISI along with India Indigenous Peoples and other tribal groups in Delhi organized the following activities on the occasion of the 28th International Day of World Indigenous Peoples: (i) Press Conference at the Press Club of India, Delhi, on 6 August, (ii) Walkathon outside Jawaharlal

28th World Day of Indigenous Peoples



Nehru Stadium on 7 August morning, (iii)

Seminar on 'Celebration of Indigenous Worldview: Contribution of Indigenous Women towards Building a more Humane and Equal Society at St Xavier's

School on 7 August evening, and (iv) Cultural programme on the occasion of the 28th International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples 2022 at Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium on 9 August. Mr John



Barla, Minister of State for Minority Affairs, was the Chief Guest for all the three programmes.

Release of the book An Indian Face of the Christian Faith

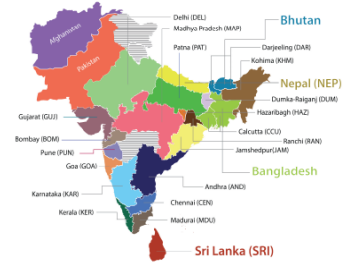
ISI and Dhrama Raj Vedi organized the release of the book *An Indian Face of the Christian Faith* by Acharyasri Sachidanand Bharathi in the premises of the Institute on 12 August. Retired

Justice Kurien Joseph was the Chief Guest on the occasion. As a follow-up of this programme, National Council for Peace and Reconciliation (NCRP) was constituted on 3 September 2022,

and it was announced at a Press Conference at the Press Club of India, New Delhi, on 4 September 2022.



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The 75th Independence Day of India was celebrated by ISI along with National Council of Churches in India (NCCI), Zakat Foundation of India (ZFI), Interfaith Coalition for Peace (ICP),

Celebration of 75th Independence Day

Institute of Harmony and Peace Studies (IHPS) and Christian Institute for the Study of Religion and Society (CISRS) on 15 August at CISRS House. After the flag hoisting, the Chief Guest,

Dr Deepali Bhannot spoke on the theme 'Ek Bharat Shreshth Bharat'.

The book *Journeying with Muslims: Listening, Praying and Working Together* by Cardinal Michael Louis Fitzgerald was released by Prof. Akhtarul Wasey, Professor Emeritus of Islamic Studies at Jamia Millia Islamia University Delhi, at a programme organized by ISI, Islamic Studies Association and Indialogue Foundation on 3 September 2022, in the premises of the Institute. The programme began with the recitation of verses from the Holy Quran and the Bible. Dr Denzil Fernandes, SJ delivered the welcome address and Mr Behzad Fatmi, Secretary General of Indialogue Foundation delivered a message of

Release of the book *Journeying with Muslims*



felicitation on the occasion. The programme concluded with Dr Victor Edwin, SJ, Secretary of Islamic Studies Association, proposing the vote of thanks.

Indian Social Institute, New Delhi, and Indigenous Peoples Advisory Forum (IPAF) organized a one-day consultation on 'Sustainable Mining' in the premises of the Institute on 12 September 2022. Social activists from Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Odisha

One-day Consultation on Sustainable Mining

participated in the consultation. The meeting was attended by a representative of Aluminum Stewardship Initiative (ASI), a global non-profit standard setting and certification organisation. Based on the outcome of this consultation, Dr Vincent Ekka, SJ made a presentation at the 10th

International Bauxite, Alumina and Aluminium Conference on 'Sustainability Challenges of Bauxite, Alumina and Aluminium Industry, at Courtyard Marriot Hotel, Raipur, from 14 to 17 September 2022.

'Shanti Sadbhavna Manch' National Sharing and Learning Workshop

The Indian Social Institute organized a workshop on National Sharing and Learning for 40 peace trainers of 'Shanti Sadbhavna Manch' from seven states from 27 to 28 September 2022. Towards the end of the 5th phase of the project, state peace coordinators and zonal peace trainers from seven states evaluated their peace building efforts and its impact in schools and villages in their regions. The sessions included the presentation of the impact study conducted for the project and the "Do No Harm" approach for peace-building activities. There was also a sharing of peace activists from Varanasi of their peace building efforts and methodologies.

Faculty Development Programme at Satya Nilayam

Dr Lancy Lobo, SJ and Dr Denzil Fernandes, SJ conducted a Faculty Development Program on 'Practical Aspects of Intellectual and Learned Approach in Education Today' at Sacred Heart College, Satya Nilayam, and Department of Philosophy, Loyola College (Autonomous), Chennai, from 16 to 17 September 2022. The

Sacred Heart College, Satya Nilayam & Department of Philosophy Loyola College (Autonomous), Chennai

Organizes a **FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM** on

Practical Aspects of Intellectual and Learned Approach in Education Today

16 & 17 September, 2022
8.30 am to 12.40 pm & from 3 pm to 4.30 pm
Satya Nilayam, Thiruvanniyur, Chennai

RESOURCE PERSONS

Rev. Dr. Lancy Lobo SJ
Professor Emeritus
Indian Social Institute, Delhi

Rev. Dr. Denzil Fernandes SJ
Executive Director
Indian Social Institute, Delhi

Prof. Dr. Lawrence Fernandes SJ
Principal

sessions focused on promoting an intellectual and learned approach to ministry and a deeper understanding of contemporary society. Spiritual conversation was used to arrive at practical steps that could be taken to improve the intellectual approach among the faculty and students.

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INDIAN SOCIAL INSTITUTE, BENGALURU

Fr Francis Balaraj, SJ

Stan's Legacy

On 5 July 2022, Jesuits, religious members, social activists, CSOs, NGOs, and faculty and students from various institutions paid respects on the first death anniversary of Stan Swamy by reminiscing his legacy. Stan's life and mission has been a special



trajectory for ISI Bengaluru. To celebrate his life, the institute organised on 9 July Volken-Stan Swamy memorial lecture on 'Democracy and Human Rights Defenders'. The Chief guest, Adv. Vrinda Grover, Supreme Court of India (Human Rights & Women's Rights Activist) addressed over 200 people, hailing Stan Swamy, as a model human rights defender who fought for the liberty and dignity of Adivasis. While remembering all human rights defenders, she was vocal in saying that the law itself needs to be reformed in the country. Mr Henri Tiphagne, Madurai High Court Bench, Executive Director of People's Watch, who moderated the lecture remarked that human rights defenders need to be united to face the challenges ahead.

On 12 July 2022, Fr Joseph Xavier delivered Stan Swamy memorial lecture organised by St Aloysius College, Bengaluru in which over 200 youth participated. He inspired the youth on the need for 'Defending the Constitutional Values' remembering the mission of Stan Swamy'. On 29 July at DNC, Pune, Fr Joe shared his personal experiences with Stan, as a friend and Jesuit companion, and the values he stood for. Fr Frazer Mascarenhas, SJ, former Principal of St Xavier's College, Mumbai, Fr P M Tony, SJ, Director of Bagaicha and Adv. Mihir Desai, High Court of Bombay also spoke on Stan.

An international webinar was organised, remembering Stan Swamy, by School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London. Mr Sagar, son of

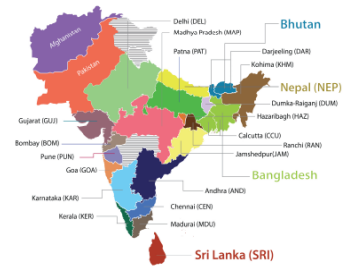


Vernon Gonsalves hosted the event remembering Stan Swamy and Human Rights defenders. Fr Joe along with Prof. Jean Drèze, Welfare Economist and Social Activist, Adv. Mihir Desai, spoke on Stan's Legacy.

Fr Joe Xavier wrote two articles on Stan Swamy, titled 'Stan Swamy a living legacy' and 'Take forward the struggles of Adivasis', published by Pax Lumina and Indian Currents, respectively.



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Social Inclusion and Democracy



Social Inclusion and Democracy Unit conducted the first module of the 6-module workshops for youth on 'Self and Society' in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, and

Kerala. The training was aimed at building self-confidence, self-esteem and leadership. This year, the institute has begun Advanced Training cum Workshop to select youth from batch I, who had undergone 10-module basic capacity building, from 2018-2022. Five-day Advanced Workshop was organised by ISI B from 14-18 September for 40 select youth from Tamil Nadu & Puducherry, Andhra Pradesh & Telangana, and Karnataka, on leadership, social animation, and social media Skills.



Labour Migration

Keeping the spirit of UAP, the institute has been accompanying migrants, in collaboration with 5 Jesuit organisations – Jesuit Migrants Service (JMS) Chennai, Jesuit Migrants Ministry-External (JMME), Thiruvannamalai, Ashirvad, Bengaluru, Jeevika, Calicut and SWADES Goa - to reduce their vulnerabilities, by organising motivational workshops and leadership training, and providing health, educational and emergency support, a



project sponsored by Caritas Germany. Ongoing capacity building training programmes for persons working with migrants are supported by Jesuitenweltweit Germany.



Feast of St Ignatius of Loyola

On 31 July ISI B concluded the Ignatian year by celebrating the feast of St Ignatius with staff, collaborators and well-wishers acknowledging their



constant support and prayers to the institute. Fr Shiju, the administrator provided a sumptuous meal.

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Workshops

Frs. Selvin Raj and Francis Balaraj along with Ms Rosey Mukherjee, a course on 'Social Analysis' in batches, for about 3000 students at St Joseph's Commerce College, from 2-6 August, as part of an orientation programme. As part of JESCOL organised by Karnataka Jesuit Province on 11 July, Fr Joseph Xavier spoke on 'Socio-Cultural and Political Analysis' to the faculty from Jesuit Institutions.

From 5-6 July Fr Joseph Xavier guided Patna Caritas Regional Forum in which 40 persons participated including 2 Bishops, diocesan clergy, religious and lay. He spoke on 'Techniques of Community Mobilisation'. Fr Joseph offered a 3-day workshop for 32 CST fathers in Cochin, on 'Social Orientation and Apostolic Planning for Social Ministry of the Congregation'.



Fr Joseph Xavier animated the First Synodal Assembly of the Archdiocese of Nagpur from 15-16 August in which about 200 persons participated. The final synod of Nagpur Archdiocese will be from 24-25 October 2022. Fr Joe Xavier gave a presentation on Human Rights defenders, specifically on Stan Swamy for delegates of World Organisations Against Torture (OMCT) and European Union (EU).



Research and publications

Fr Joe Xavier worked on a research titled '60-Years of Building Community Resilience and Journey Ahead' and edited a coffee-table book titled 'The Joy of Accompanying with the Poor' for Indo Global Social Service Society (IGSSS). He is now busy with Regional Forum Assessment study of Caritas network, at the request of Caritas India (CI) and Catholic Relief Services (CRS).

Inspired by the governance of Fr Arturo Sosa, SJ, Fr Joe wrote a piece titled 'The style of Governance of Arturo Sosa', which was highly appreciated by many Jesuits. This article was published by INI <https://inimagazine.org/2022/07/29/the-style-of-governance-of-fr-arturo-sosa-sj/>

Book review

Brother To All, The Life and Witness of St Charles de Foucauld, Edited by Joseph Victor Edwin, SJ, Orbis Book, Maryknoll, New York, 10545, 2022. Pp. 118. ISBN 9781626984844 (print), ISBN 9781608339464 (e-book).

The book is a compilation of articles that express true devotion to Charles de Foucauld, to his unique personality, his spiritual legacy, his model of piety and his commitment to Jesus of Nazareth. The articles are composed by authors, both women and men who are eminent scholars, activists, theologians, Church dignitaries, and contemplatives. They are sincere and ardent in their affectionate praise, awe and admiration for St Charles de Foucauld.

The book, released in September 2022, is now available at <https://www.amazon.com/Brother-All-Witness-Charles-Foucauld-ebook/dp/B0B4BCVJSX>

Joseph Victor Edwin