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PROVINCIAL'S MUSINGS

Higher Education in the province has reached another milestone. The Ministry of Education, Government of India, on the advice of the UGC has declared St Aloysius College (Autonomous) as an Institution Deemed to be University in the name of St Aloysius University, Mangaluru. It has been a long struggle to achieve this status and we need to congratulate the MJES, the Rector, the Principal and the staff of SAC for their persistence, patience and persuasion. While improving their NAAC and NIRF rankings they kept on knocking at the doors of the UGC and the Ministry of Education and finally succeeded in appropriating this status.

The debate on General Elections has already begun in our News channels and Newspapers. An important point that comes through many of the speeches of our politicians and elected leaders is the growing gap in the promise and performance of so many political leaders. Many powers that be start with the promise of development and good governance and then switch on to communalism, Nationalism resulting in polarisation of the minorities from the majority. We experience a time of political turmoil when the temple has become a weapon, spirituality has been turned into militant saffron, and scriptures are cited carelessly or to lend an aggressive tone to texts that are known for communicating and celebrating oneness.

The reign of God requires a world organized not around violence, but around love and compassion. We need to create men and women in our educational institutions, pastoral and social centres who enter into the dynamic of God's reign with a nonviolent heart, confronting injustice responsibly and courageously, unmasking the inhumanity hidden in every society that is built on violence and indifference to the suffering of its victims. They will be authentic witnesses to God's kingdom in the midst of an unjust and violent world.

With the arrival of the season of Lent, we are invited to re-turn, to re-new, to re-enter to explore our relationships with Jesus. It is a time of sincere relationship building (right relationships), a time of surprisingly deep joy and interior freedom, all in the name of Christ.

The meeting of the JCSA will be held from 18-24 February at Calicult, Kerala. Fr General will be with us and we will be taking up for discussion important challenges facing the country, the Church and the Society in South Asia. Please pray for all of us that we may ably lead the Society of Jesus in challenging times.



- DIONYSIUS VAZ, SJ



APPOINTED BY FR GENERAL

Fr Thomas Hollweck: Provincial of the Central European Province (ECE)

Fr General has approved **Fr Arun Prashanth D'Souza** and **Fr Lancy Manoj Fernandes** for the profession of final vows in the SJ.

APPOINTED BY FR PROVINCIAL

Fr Antony Pais: Acting Principal of SJPU, Anekal

Fr Provincial has approved **Scholastics Joseph Jerald A, Joswin Pereira, Kiran Anthony Leema, Maxim Martin D'Souza, Paul Anand Prasad D** and **Wilson Saldanha** for the diaconate.

PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

February 2024

04: Young Priests' Meet

06-08: Visiting New Priests

10-11: Province Consult (Budgets): LM (Bengaluru)

18-24: JCSA (Kerala)

26: Meeting with Fr Sanji Yamaoka, Japan Province

27-29: Budget Approvals: Missions

09-10: Meeting of LS, DoWs, CCMs: Prerana (B'luru)

11: Province Consult: LM (Bengaluru)

13-14: Visitation: Loyola Mandir (Bengaluru)

15-16: Visitation: Xavier Sadan (Mysuru)

17: Meeting of Formators of Early Stages: Loyola Mandir (B'luru)

18: Meeting would-be theologians: LM ((B'luru)

19-24: Re-imagining & Restructuring: KHM Region

25: Province Consult: LM (Bengaluru)

26: GBM of ISI-B (Bengaluru)

March 2024

01-05: Visitation: Vidya Jyoti (Delhi)

06-08: Visitation: MSJ Novitiate (Bengaluru)

CONGRATULATIONS

To **Frs Anthony Lawrence, Cyril Castelino, and Pratap Chandru** on pronouncing your Final Vows in the Society of Jesus

The Ministry of Education, Government of India, on the advice of the UGC has declared St Aloysius College (Autonomous) as an Institution Deemed to be University in the name of **St Aloysius University, Mangaluru**. Our hearty **CONGRATULATIONS** to the MJES, Fr Melwin J Pinto, the Rector, Fr Praveen Vijay Martis, the Principal and the staff of SAC for their persistence, patience and persuasion. May the Lord of wisdom guide us in our pursuit for holistic formation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Scholastics Joseph Jerald A, Joswin Pereira, Kiran Anthony Leema, Maxim Martin D'Souza, Paul Anand Prasad D and **Wilson Saldanha** will be ordained deacons on Saturday, 2 March 2024 at 3.00 pm by Most Rev Anil J.T. Couto, Archbishop of Delhi, in the Millenium Hall of St. Xavier's School, Delhi.

February 24-25, 2024: Spiritual Directors' Colloquium at Ashirvad, Bengaluru

March 9-10: Meeting of Local Superiors, DoWs and CCMs at Prerana

April 12: Province level felicitation of the Jubilarians at Mount St Joseph, Bengaluru

Change of Mobile Number: Fr Joseph Lobo – Italian mobile number: 0039-3717983540

St. Joseph's Community College is now recognized as **St. Joseph Skill Academy** by Indian Centre for Research and Development of Community Education (ICRDCE).

Loyola Yomiuri PU College, Bijapur has been changed. The word 'Yomiuri' is removed. Hereafter, it will be known as **Loyola PU College, Bijapur**.

The Holy Angels School, Pandithahalli has a new name: "**St Joseph School**".

The inauguration of the additional block of St. Joseph School, Pandithahalli is scheduled at 4 pm, on the 16th February, 2024. Mr U T Khader, Speaker, Karnataka Legislative Assembly will be the chief guest and Fr Provincial will preside over the programme. All are welcome.

Province Retreat on *De Statu Societatis Iesu*:

April 12-20, 2024, Place: Dhyanaashrama, MSJ, Bengaluru, **Preacher:** Fr Michael Pavulraj, SJ (MDU).

May 20-28, 2024, Place: Prerana, MSJ, Bengaluru, **Preacher:** Fr Stanislaus Alla, SJ (AND).

July 2-10, 2024, Place: Xavier Sadan, Mysuru, **Preacher:** Fr Frederick D'Silva, SJ.

POPE'S WORLDWIDE PRAYER NETWORK (PWP): FEBRUARY 2024

For the terminally ill: We pray that those with terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.



FINAL VOWS at Mount St Joseph



Frs Anthony Lawrence, Cyril Castelino and Pratap Chandru pronounced their final vows in the Society of Jesus, on January 21, at Mount St Joseph Chapel. Provincial, Fr Dionysius Vaz received the

vows. Fr Joseph D'Mello, in his inspiring homily, exhorted the vovents to become bridge-builders in today's world which is fragmented by sectarianism and discrimination. Felicitating the vovents after the Mass, Fr Provincial welcomed them to the Society of Jesus as full-fledged members. The vovents, in response, expressed their gratitude for the blessings they had received through their parents and relatives, their formators and superiors and their Jesuit companions, not forgetting the MSJ Community for hosting the event. Present on the occasion were a good number of Jesuits of the province and close relatives of the vovents.

- Fr Pratap Chandru

Colloquium of Jesuits pursuing PhD



Eleven Jesuit Ph.D. scholars of Karnataka and one from Kohima presented their work-in-progress during the two-day Jesuit Research Colloquium on 23-24 January 2024 at St Joseph's University, Bengaluru. While nine of them were on-campus, Frs Rayan Lobo, Alwyn R D'Souza, and Lumnesh Kumar joined us on Zoom.



Fr Provincial kicked off the colloquium by his fervent appeal to the promising scholars to be deeply immersed in research and produce socially

relevant and good quality research publications, which was followed by an open question-answer session.

In addition to the work-in-progress by our scholars, they also attended two workshops on idea-to-articles and another on scientometrics and publishing in indexed journals, by experts. Our deep-felt gratitude to Frs Melwyn D’Cunha and Melwyn S. Pinto, Drs Nikhil Jha, and Niel Tannen (SJU), and Fr Joseph Lobo (Rome) for moderating the sessions efficiently. The Jesuits

from Arrupe Nivas, notably Frs Arun Prashanth D’Souza and Roshan Castelino, went out of their way to make this colloquium a resounding success. Karnataka Province is grateful to Fr Richard Rego for organising such a scholarly colloquium and accompanying Jesuit scholars in their intellectual pursuit.

- Fr Richard Rego & Fr Jossie D’Mello

Inauguration of Loyola PUC, Vijayapura



At 4 p.m. on January 3, the new building of Loyola PU College, on Ukkali Road, was inaugurated and blessed. The momentous occasion was graced by Most Rev Robert Michael Miranda, Bishop of Gulbarga who was the chief guest of the day, and presided over by Fr Dionysius Vaz, Provincial of Karnataka Province. The event witnessed the esteemed presence of Mr Sangamesh Bableshwar (Chairman of the Oxford Group of Schools and a prominent Congress leader). The new building has

spacious classrooms, well-equipped labs and other facilities conducive to students’ learning experience. The presence of Jesuits from different communities as well as of religious sisters from various places was a token of goodwill and support for the college. On this occasion the College took a moment to honour and award scholarships to deserving students on their academic excellence. After the formal programme, students enthusiastically presented a vibrant cultural programme, highlighting the rich cultural heritage of North Karnataka.

- Fr Ronald Serrao



Young Priests’ Meet at SJCL, Bengaluru



Thirty five young priests attended the second Young Priests’ Meet on 3-4 February at St Joseph’s College of Law. Fr Sunny Kunnappally

SJ (KER) served as the resource person, guiding the young priests on a spiritual journey towards self-awareness. The emphasis was on raising awareness, fostering acceptance, and facilitating inner healing. The methodology involved brief inputs followed by reflective questions and spiritual conversations. The concluding session, led by the Provincial, underscored the integrated nature of a Jesuit Young Priest, prompting deep introspection among all attendees. Overall, the event was likened to an Emmaus experience, leaving hearts truly burning with inspiration and insight.

- Fr Kiran Pashan

KJES YOUTH WORKS (PCYM)



Ignitors from various Jesuit colleges in Bengaluru, 15 in all, took part in a training programme designed for the formation of resource persons for the task of spreading awareness on the Indian Constitution among school students. AICUF, in association with

Indian Social Institute, Bengaluru, organized a training programme for Animators on the skills requisite for understanding and accompanying youth. Nearly 25 animators from the state participated. AICUF also organized a training programme on Social Analysis for

the AICUFers at ISI, Bengaluru, in which more than sixty students from across the country participated. AICUF celebrated Republic Day at KS Gardens, Lalbagh Road, along with individuals of diverse backgrounds including students, families, and local residents.

- Fr Joel Fernandes



ARRUPE NIVAS



The New Year was ushered in with a pat on the back to Bembala Outreach Centre of SJU as it received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Govt of Karnataka for organising a World AIDS Day Programme in collaboration with National AIDS Control Organisation and the Karnataka State AIDS Prevention Society. Three units - SJU's Inter-Religious Harmony Club, Ashirvad Centre for Inter-Religious Dialogue, Bengaluru, and the Islamic Studies Association, Delhi - jointly conducted a seminar on "Human Fraternity Document".

We are greatly pleased with the achievement of Dr Tulika Bhattacharya (Asst Professor, Economics at SJU) one of whose research articles has been adjudged the most popular in 2023; as also with Dr Rita Pal (Asst Professor, Chemistry at SJU) who has secured a research grant to the tune of Rs 20 lakhs from the Vision Group of Science and Technology, Government of Karnataka. Currently, Dr Ram Mohan (eminent scientist at Illinois Wesleyan University, USA) is spending a semester at SJU as part of Fulbright-Nehru Distinguished Scholarship programme; his regular talks to our students are highly appreciated. Twenty four students from New Zealand visited SJU and interacted with our staff and students. A friendly cricket match

between the visiting New Zealand students and the host SJU students strengthened the bond of friendship between the two.

The 5th Rev Dr Ambrose Pinto SJ Memorial Lecture was delivered by Dr Sukhadeo Thorat, (former Chairman of UGC, former Chairman of ICSSR, and current Chairman, State Educational Policy, Govt of Karnataka). MediaCon-2024, a two-day international conference was held by the SJU School of Communication and Media Studies. Renowned figures from the media sector graced the event and offered valuable perspectives on the ever-evolving communication landscape. "Open Heart 2024" – the annual flagship programme of SJU - featured the Honourable former (14th) President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, as the distinguished chief guest. About twenty of our Master's students (nearly half of them from the Department of English) successfully cleared the UGC National Eligibility Test held last December.

A group of Jesuits from St Joseph's College, Tiruchirapalli, visited our campus to carry out a study on the University.

- Fr Roshan Castelino

FATIMA RETREAT HOUSE



The sudden departure of Bro Benedict Rosario was a rude shock to all of us. The gloom and grief is still hovering. We miss him. We are grateful to God for the gift of him to our community, for his friendly and helpful presence. Freed from all that enslaves us, he now rests in eternal peace and bliss. May his intercession convert into blessings on our world. Frs Ivan Sequeira, Joseph Monteiro, Joseph Rodrigues & Anil D'Mello directed some sisters through

their retreats. Fr Arun Sunil Lobo preached a Triduum to our four scholastics from Dharwad. Fr Joseph Rodrigues conducted a 3-day programme on counseling skills to teachers in Shimoga. Fr John Gomes had a fall in his room resulting in hip-bone fracture. He had to undergo a surgery as a partial replacement. He is back in FRH recuperating. Do keep him in your prayer.

- Fr Thomas Quadras

INIGO SADAN



A marathon was organized by St Joseph's Indian Institutions on January 28 to commemorate

the Golden Jubilee of the transfer of the Institution to its current location. The funds collected

are intended for use in the education of visually impaired and underprivileged students. Mr N A Haris, the local MLA, gave a start to the marathon by waving the Institution flag. Thousands of people, including a good number of dignitaries, participated in the event. The success of the event owes much to Fr John Lang Bosco and his team for their hard work and meticulous planning.

St Joseph's Indian Primary School students had a session, arranged by Toyota, on road safety. Many teams participated in the inter-school football tournament organized by the School. The Family Day organized by the School for the display of talents of the tiny tots from Nursery to UKG thoroughly entertained the parents and families. The staff members had a day out to refresh and relax.

The Graduation Day of the batch of 2024 at SJICPUC, held on January 13, had Mr Lakshminarayan M (Chairman of ZF Commercial Vehicle Solutions Ltd. and, an alumnus of the School) as the chief guest. On National Voters' Day, students and staff enthusiastically and collectively expressed their commitment to democratic values by resolving to exercise their right to vote re-

sponsibly. Ekanandan scholarships (instituted in memory of the Late Vijayalakshmi Ekanandan) were awarded to deserving students on January 29 by Mrs Vani Ravichandran (niece of Mrs Ekanandan). The programme was a fitting tribute to the great benefactress of the school on her first death anniversary.

The musical performance at SJS-CBSE by the Japanese Band – a harmonious blend of melodies, conceived and executed by Ms Chiyo Kaiga and Mr Kackey Dabigtree for promoting sustainable development - greatly fascinated the students. The school observed National Youth Day in memory of Swami Vivekananda. The art and craft exhibition, put up by the School, had Mr Krishna Setty CS (Veteran Artist and a former Chairman of Lalit Kala Akademi) as the chief guest.

Fr Xavier Alphonse (MDU) and his team addressed the students of St Joseph Skill Academy and briefed them about the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC). Fr C John Baptist attended the 'JesuTec' meet held at Loyola College, Chennai.

- Sch Avin A

JESUIT NIVAS



SJBHS - in collaboration with Social Innovation Lab: Sustainable Environment Education Foundation (SIL-SEEF) - organised a field trip to Hoskote. Samagra, Holistic Wellness Centre of St Joseph's, conducted KAIROS (Gratitude Sessions). Ten Jesuit schools of our province participated in the STEM Fest, 'AURUM' which was inaugurated by Fr Joseph A D'Mello. The OBA and the PTA jointly organized "Josephite Run" (Marathon for Education) to raise funds for the benefit of underprivileged students and staff welfare. A team from St Joseph's Institution, Singapore, visited our school to explore areas of collaboration. Our student, Mudit Bafna, was honoured by the School for his 100% attendance, year after year, from UKG to Std XII. The School organized a memorial service

to mourn the sudden and untimely demise of our staff member Mr Nickson.

SJPUC held the valedictory for graduating II PU students, and the College Annual Day on January 13. On National Voters' Day, we had the recitation of the Voters' Pledge. The campus resonated with patriotic fervour as the 75th Republic Day was celebrated.

The Debating Society of SJCL had their flagship event for the first year students: a debate on "Search for Cicero". The Mental Health Week marked the event with weeklong activities culminating in the launch of the first issue of the biannual Mental Health Magazine. The 75th Republic Day celebration witnessed the students taking part in a variety of activities and competitions under the title of "suvarna samvidhana" and a bike rally from the campus to MG Road. The Gratitude Day, celebrated under the initiative of the Environmental Law and Justice Committee, was in recognition and appreciation of the maintenance staff of the college.

SJCC conducted its first intercollegiate fest

“Samsara” – the economic nexus. Other events conducted in the College included “Nakshtra” by the Hindi department, “Dhwani 24” inter-collegiate cultural fest, “ResumeGPT” by the Depart-

ment of Business Administration, and a Research Workshop “What’s Going on in this Picture” by the Quest Club, etc.

- Fr Joel Fernandes

JNANA JYOTHI, Anekal

Christmas and New Year were celebrated together, on the feast of Epiphany, for the benefit of the children of Balajyoti Hostel. Fr Henry D’Almeida engaged the JFCT scholastics in discovering the richness of the popular religiosity in Karnataka. The PCF’s visit in the month of January paved the way for the Provincial’s visit in the same month. Both these visits helped us grow in the spirit of Magis. Fr Ivan Mendonca preached a retreat to the Ursuline tertians in Mysuru.

The MSW students and a few staff of St Joseph’s

JOSEPH NIVAS, Hassan

St Joseph’s English Medium School celebrated the National Day of Girl Child and highlighted the contribution of women in the growth of our nation. Martyrs’ Day was celebrated to commemorate the sacrifice of our great leaders. Students flew kites on the occasion of Makara Sankranti.

At St Joseph’s High School, the Alumni of the batch of 1977 organized what they called a “Scholarship Distribution Day”. They pooled their contributions and disbursed the sum to 20 deserving students. Twelve of our students participated in the inter-school AURUM fest conducted by St Joseph’s Boys’ High School, Bengaluru. On Republic Day our NCC students participated in the common celebration at the Stadium and won the Second Prize in the march past. At the PTA meeting, organized by the School, parents were given helpful hints on how to prepare their children for the forthcoming Board exams.

LOYOLA MANDIR

Fr Joseph D’Mello travelled to Ranchi for the second round of Discerning Leadership Programme (DLP). Fr Olvin Veigas attended an international conference on Business Ethics at XLRI, Jamshedpur. He addressed the BBA and BCom Students on motivation and career planning of St Xavier’s College (Autonomous) Ranchi and XITE, Jamshedpur. He also organised a global online novena prayer to St Joseph Vaz along with Joseph Naik Vaz Institute, California. Fr Dionysius Vaz guided the

University, with the collaboration of CIRW, had a 10-day “Unnati Rural Camp-2024”, in Choodahalli village. They were involved in diverse activities such as PRA, hygiene, legal awareness and cultural display. Our trainees in the tailoring section had sessions on stress management and media awareness. CIRW has started one more tailoring centre in Laxmipura. Novices Pruthvik Pavan and Anthony Ranjit reside in the villages of Badrahalli and Rachamanahlli respectively for their mission experiment.

- Sch Noel Dias

As the exams are round the corner, St Joseph’s College is busy fulfilling the formal requirements of the new Hassan University. In the meantime, the second and third year students are on their toes preparing for the odd semester exams the dates of which have been announced by the University of Mysore. Fr Daniel Fernandes was on the NAAC peer team that visited Meeraj for assessment of a college in view of accreditation.

Fr Henry Saldanha gave retreats to three groups of UMI Sisters. He also conducted an orientation programme for the students of St Joseph’s PU College, Chikmagaluru. Fr Cyril Castelino made his Final Vows at MSJ along with 2 other Jesuits. We went, as a community, on a two-day picnic to Virajpet. The construction of our new residence is in progress as per schedule.

- Fr Santhosh D’Souza

General Chapter of the Sisters of St Charles Borromeo in Bengaluru. The community went to Kutta, Virajpet, for an outing. Our ever-alert Shali, who saw many a Provincial and Socius coming and going under her watchful canine eyes, passed away recently. Many will miss her friendship, loving gaze, and boisterous bark at Loyola Mandir! From now, she will be part of the Archivist’s file.

- Fr Olvin Veigas

LOYOLA SADAN, Kalaburagi



Fr Provincial was here on visitation. Needless to say his presence and guidance rejuvenated and energised our community. The two deacons of Gulbarga diocese had a three-day retreat under the guidance of Fr Anand Prabhu.

St Xavier Pre-University College bid farewell to the second-year students of the batch of 2022-2024 with Mr Ramesh Madiyalkar (lecturer, Government PU College) gracing the occasion. The chief guest at the celebration of the 75th Republic Day was Dr Sharanappa Saidapoor (author, faculty in Gulbarga University).

At St Xavier's English Medium School, the chil-

MANVI



Six lecturers from St Joseph's PU College, Bengaluru gave one week's coaching to our PUC students in various subjects. Fr Nithin Machado came from MSJ to visit Novice Jayanth Christi who is doing his mission experiment in our Mission. Fr Jerome D'Souza, who was our guest for a few days, gave a talk to all the staff of Loyola Institutions on inter-religious dialogue. The Jesuits divided themselves in two groups to join the celebration of the feast of Infant Jesus, on January 14, in Raichur and Gangavathi. On the following day, we went for an outing to a holiday resort near Gangavathi, and returned quite relaxed.

dren of the pre-primary section actively participated in the Colours Day and Cotton Day activities. The teaching and administrative staff had a two-day relaxing and enjoyable tour of Dandeli. As a token of collaboration, a few teachers from SJBHS, Bengaluru, visited our institution for three days providing guidance to some of our academically challenged students to undergo evaluation using Pragati Assessment Tool (PAT) which focused on academic concepts against a socio-economic backdrop. The findings from the assessment were profitably discussed during the half-day teacher orientation programme.

- Fr Roshan Pinto

MOUNT ST JOSEPH



Fr Alphonse Fernandes attended the meeting of Jesuits in Higher Education, South Asia (JHE-ASA) at St Xavier's College, Kolkata. Fr Balaram A is busy giving classes in Church History for our theologians at Anekal. The Community had a Memorial Mass to pray for the departed soul of Mrs Eliza D'Souza, mother of Fr Prashanth Wesley D'Souza. The BJES inter institution Sports Meet, "Vamos Amigos", for all the staff members was held at Loyola Institution playgrounds on 20 January, 2024. The day was truly marked

Eleven business companies had a campus selection (Udhhyoga Mela) which was attended by students from several colleges. In all, 71 students have been selected "on the spot" to different companies including 18 for SBI. The staff and students of Loyola School paid a visit to the School for the Blind and distributed food provisions and sweets to the inmates. Loyola Institutions celebrated the 75th Republic Day in a worthy manner. The skit by Loyola children on compassion and change of attitude towards literacy won the attention of all.

- Fr Maxim Rasquinha

MUNDGOD



A health check-up camp was held at Loyola Vikasa Kendra with the help of two doctors from Composite Regional Centre, Davanagere. Close to 800 people benefited from the medical camp. MBA students from AIMIT, Mangaluru, spent a few days in Mundgod for their rural exposure programme. A residential leadership development programme was conducted for 40 Siddi youths with the assistance of Fr

by the spirit of sportsmanship, with cordiality and friendship. MSJ was happy to arrange the liturgy and the fellowship meal, on January 21, on the occasion of the Final Profession of our Fr Pratap Chandru along with Frs Anthony Lawrence and Cyril Castelino. The farewell ceremony for the outgoing Pre-University students was held on February 3 by LCPUC. Dr Srinivas V K of Vydehi Hospital was the chief guest.

- Fr Clarence D'Souza

Joyson Vas and Ms Sharada Dabade. Frs Arun Luis and Jason Furtado paid a short visit to LVK to assess the follow up of the APPI project.

On Republic Day the students of Loyola Children's Home were taken to Baada, the birth place of Kanakadasa. The first "Fr Lawrence Pinto Memorial Lecture", organized by NKJCS for the staff of all the Loyola Institutions, had Mr Shivsundar

as the resource person. Children of Classes V and VI of LKV were given an opportunity to visit some small scale industries and to interact with the workers. Twelve of our students participated in, and returned enriched from, the Aurum Fest organized by the LTC at SJBHS. The students

of Loyola Composite PU College took part in and benefited from the Anti-Drug Awareness programme organised by Mundgod Police Officials. The outgoing II PU students had a moving farewell.

- Fr Leo Florence

NAVASADHANA



The second-year pre-novices have passed the batons on to the first years as office bearers for household responsibilities. Fr Edward Philip was with us to conduct the psychological assessment of the second-year pre-novices. Fr Dheeraj D'Souza, in collaboration with the Inigo Sadan community and SERRA, successfully organized the "One Day with Christ" programme for the altar-serving boys at St.

Joseph's Indian High School. After the preparatory exams, the pre-novices marked the celebration of Republic Day by distributing food packets to the homeless poor and having a brief interaction with them. Fr Francis Menezes, who had come to conduct the four-sheet exam for the second years, also preached a day of recollection for the pre-novices.

- Sch Darshan Kumar

ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE, Harihar



The presence of Fr Provincial who came to Harihar in early January for his annual visitation was a time of blessings to us – Jesuits, lay collaborators and students. As many as 30 students from our college participated in the NCC camp and were trained in the use of guns. (That needn't deter you from visiting our campus; the guns are without cartridges, for the time being). The college organized Yuvajyothi

camp for the tenth standard students of Morarji schools of our area. The camp was designed to provide students with techniques to write SSLC exam. Martyrs' day was celebrated on January 30 highlighting the significance of the day. The farewell which the college organized for our II PU students was truly a moving experience for students and staff alike.

- Fr Avinash Lobo

SWAMI RAJENDRA NILAYA, Pandithahalli



Fr Provincial's annual visitation early in the New Year was a time of grace in more than one sense. The renovation of spirit in the community was accompanied by a shower of many blessings, chief among them being the government circular which permitted the change of name of the existing Holy Angels School to the new name, St Joseph School.

Provincial. In a rather rare coincidence, both Fr Provincial and Fr PCF were present at the two-day Regents' Meeting which was held at Pandithahalli with 16 Scholastics participating. Schs Larren Menezes and Marvin Apose were of great help in organising the annual sports meet, and a sports day for parents as well. The school has successfully procured the domain name 'sjs.edu.in' from the ERNET portal of the Government of India.

- Sch Shaun D'Silva

VIDYA NIKETAN, Dharwad



The Juniors began the new calendar year with a triduum at Dhyanaashrama, Bengaluru. They then travelled to Vijayapura to attend an eye-opening Social Analysis Course conducted by Fr Teyol Machado. On their return, they had two enriching courses (between January 22 and February 2): one by Fr Joe Mathias on Psycho-Spiritual and Psycho-Sexual Integration, and the other by Fr Clarence D'Souza on World History. Earlier, on January 15, we had

a fun-filled and relaxing community picnic to Dandeli. VN celebrated the Republic Day with due patriotic fervor the chief guest on the occasion being the Treasurer General of the Sisters of Charity. The college-going scholastics had their triduum of renovation at Fatima Retreat House under the guidance of Fr Arun Sunil Lobo.

- Sch Joseph Melvyn Govias

VIJAYAPURA



Harmony and Family was the theme around which Loyola School Sindagi celebrated its

Annual Day on January 19. The sub-theme underscored the fact that an educated girl

promotes and builds harmony. Mr Sangamesh Bableshwar (Chairman of Oxford Group of Schools) was the chief guest. Punarmilana, the second Alumni Meet, was attended by over 40 students. Our school has been granted the status of an exam centre for the X grade exams for the first time.

On Republic Day, Loyola school welcomed Mr Ravi Kale, a proud parent from the nearby slum, as the chief guest, inspiring students with his journey of resilience. Our teachers, amidst their academic responsibilities, worked tirelessly for the promotion of our school. In a remarkable achievement, our school students emerged victorious clinching the overall Championship trophy at the prestigious AU-RUM-STEM fest held at St Joseph's Boys' High School, Bengaluru.

Loyola PU College students, in collaboration with the District Health Department, participated in a rally focused on the eradication of leprosy. Our new staff attended a seminar, facilitated by Fr Cyprian Tellis, on Child Safety and Protection.

The Centre for Non-Formal Education (CNFE) organized a Chinnara Mela, inaugurated by Mr Dhanesh Awati (Lawyer, Child Protection

Unit). Christmas and New Year celebrations were held in an inter-religious atmosphere during which the slum residents were handed their land right certificates. Furthermore, CNFE facilitated an exposure visit followed by a course on Social Analysis for the scholastics of Vidya Niketan, Dharwad. The exposure and the course facilitated the scholastics' interaction with some of the socially discriminated groups. CNFE also joined like-minded organizations at Ambedkar Circle to welcome and celebrate the Supreme Court's verdict on Bilkis Bano's case. A significant highlight was a drama, staged in Navachethana in collaboration with DVP, on the life of Savitribhai Phule – well attended by the people of Bijapur and the children from hostels. Other programmes conducted by CNFE are: a legal aid workshop for women at Darga and Hamal Colony, a programme for youth on democracy and good governance, observance of World Leprosy Rehabilitation Day at Mahatma Gandhi Leprosy Colony, pre-examination training for SSLC students, and a leadership training programme for slum leaders of the Slum Development Committee. In addition to these initiatives, CNFE conducted 14 health camps across Bijapur District, benefiting 831 beneficiaries.

- Fr Ronald Serrao

DE NOBILI COLLEGE, Pune



The Annual De Smet – Marneffe memorial lecture, organised by Jnana Deepa, had for its theme the "Contemporary Indian Education: Contestation between Progressive Philosophy and Political Agenda." The resource person was Dr Thomas Thennadiyil, CMF (Principal of St Clare College, Bengaluru). Balamela for the children from Kalyaninagar slum was organized and conducted under the leadership

of Sch Macwin D'Souza. The beauty and success of the Balamela was due largely to the collaboration we had from Papal Seminary seminarians, Jesuits from other provinces, and a good number of lay people. The recent spiritual conversation we had on De Statu Societatis was valuable and fruitful.

- Sch Maria Divij

DHYAN ASHRAM, Kolkata



Early in the New Year we had our Renovation triduum guided by Fr Masillamani (CCU). A few Juniors and the First Year Novices received the minor orders of Acolyte and Lector from the hands of Bishop Shyamal Bose of Baruipur. Our pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady at Bandel was a spiritually enriching experience. We also enjoyed our monthly picnic which comprised a boat ride in the river Hoogly and a visit to Victoria Memorial and Howrah Bridge.

lightening session and video presentation we had on POCSO Act, 2012 and POSH Act, 2013. We hosted a 'formees gathering' for the neighbouring religious communities on the theme 'Collaboration among Religious'. The resource person at the gathering was Fr John Rogers (CCU). Fr Vernard Antonyraj (DUM), Conference Secretary for JESCOM, gave us a talk on Media and the Church, and enlightened us on the importance of media in our future mission. We had a short course on homiletics conducted by Fr Pradeep Gomes, CSSR.

- Sch Sudarshan

Sr Mary Scaria (an advocate in the Supreme Court) and Sr Rosila Rebello (a human rights lawyer) were the resource persons at the en-

SATYA NILAYAM, Chennai



The New Year which commenced with a lively community picnic, ushered us into spiritual renewal with a triduum preached by Fr Pavulraj Michael (MDU) who focused on the key themes of De Statu Societatis. The visit of our PCF Fr Francis Fernandes deepened our collective spirit and renewed our commitment to academic excellence. In collaboration with Loyola College, Satya Nilayam organized a thought-provoking two-day national seminar on Peace and Reconciliation during which Fr Lawrence Fernandes presented a paper titled Sarvodaya – A Mantra for Reconciliation with the Cosmos. SN was the venue for the meeting of the Jesuit Faculty Forum of South Asia (JFF-

SA), attended by the Superiors and DOWs of common house formation centers. The theme of the Faculty Development Programme for SN staff was Innovative Styles and Methods of Teaching with Use of Technology. The resource persons were from the faculty of Loyola Institute of Business Administration (LIBA). On the sports front, our Department of Philosophy emerged victorious in the inter-department football tournament at Loyola College. Additionally, our badminton team, which included Sch Reoin Barnes, secured the runners-up position in the badminton games.

- Sch Ovin Rodrigues

VIDYANIKETAN, Thiruvananthapuram



Our triduum of renovation (January 2-5) was guided by Fr Xavier Tharamel (KER). The course on Psycho-Spiritual Integration, given by Fr Sunny Kunnapalli (KER), was a great help to our growth in emotional and spiritual maturity. Pongal, the festival of thanksgiving, was celebrated with a Mass at which Fr Arul G (MDU) was the main celebrant and Fr Swaminathan

(CEN) the homilist. Commemorating the 75th Republic Day of India, we prayed, during the Mass celebrated by Fr Augustin (KER), for peace and unity in our country. The formal programme that followed had Fr Shajimariyanadu (KER) as the chief guest.

- Sch Felix Vinal

VINAYALAYA, Mumbai



The highlight of the first month in the New Year was the visit of Fr Dionysius Vaz, our Provincial, which was a moment of grace for us Karnatakans. The much anticipated course on World History was taught by Fr Luke Rodrigues (BOM). Next, we attended a session on "Internet Addiction and Psycho-Sexual Internet Traps" by Sr Joeyanna D'Souza FSP, who opened our eyes to the wide scope the media has for advancing the greater glory of God. On Vocation Sunday,

we Juniors had the opportunity to share our vocation stories with people in the places we visit for pastoral ministry. When the domestic staff of Vinayalaya went out for their picnic, we gladly stepped in to do the household chores. Two of us, Juniors, attended the Bombay Jesuit Family Gathering which had for its theme, 'We are Because of You'.

- Sch Abhishek A



OURS IN PUBLICATION

Fr Jeevan Prabhu, SJ, "Aser 2023: Can Our Education Go Beyond Basics?", *Indian Currents*, Vol 36, Issue 05, January - February 2024, pp. 20-23.

Fr Jeevan Prabhu, SJ, "Gandhi's Ramarajya vs Modi's Ramarajya", *Indian Currents*, Vol 36, Issue 06, February 2024, pp. 18-21.

Fr Melwyn S. Pinto, SJ, "Community radio as an alternative medium in India: Challenges and possibilities." *Media Asia*, February 5, 2024 DOI: 10.1080/01296612.2024.2306035

Sch Joseph Jerald A, SJ, (Book Review) "Broadening the Horizons of our Minds: Reflections on Faith and Science", *Vidyajyoti Journal of Theological Reflection*, Vol 88, No 2, February 2024, pp. 81-82.

REST IN PEACE

Fr Ignatius Fernandes, SJ, (BOM), 75/56, on 19 January, in Mumbai.

Br Michael Kujur, SJ, (HAZ), 90/68, on 01 February, in Hazaribagh.

Fr P.C. Mathew, SJ, (KER), 84/66, on 11 February, in Kolkata.

Fr Emmanuel Horo, SJ, (RAN), 82/62, on 12 February, in Ranchi.

Mrs Eliza D'Souza, 70, mother of Fr Prashanth Wesly D'Souza, on 19 January, in Banakal.

Mr Faustine Mascarenhas, 82, father of Fr Richard Mascarenhas, on 27 January, in Puttur.

IGNATIUS – THE GOD SEEKER: A NEW FILM ON THE SPIRITUAL EXERCISES

- By Godehard Brüntrup, SJ

What moves the Jesuits at their core? The classical answer to this question is: “The Spiritual Exercises” of St Ignatius. But what are they about? What happens in the Spiritual Exercises? The film “Ignatius - the God Seeker” attempts to answer these questions with both educational information and compelling imagery and narratives: it speaks to the mind and to the heart.



In his radical quest for God, Ignatius discovers in his mystical experience at the Cardoner river in Spain that God speaks to him not only in scripture and tradition but is truly present in everything. Ignatius systematizes his experiences in his “Spiritual Exercises” into a path for all seekers of God. To this day, the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises are not only the spiritual foundation of Jesuits worldwide but have shaped the relationship with God of thousands of people.

This new and beautifully animated documentary about the founder of the Jesuits reveals his inner quest for God for a broad audience and invites the viewers to become spiritual seekers themselves. God is not to be found by withdrawing from the world, but in its discovery, appreciation, indeed in its loving embrace. This has been the message of the Jesuits through the centuries, a message that can change the Catholic Church to this day, so that it becomes more mystical, more open, more embracing, and above all, more loving.

Can you really find God in everything? How do I find God’s will for me? The film “Ignatius - the God Seeker” takes up the essential insights and processes of the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises and translates them into a compelling and sometimes provocatively vivid visual language. In his Spiritual Exercises, Ignatius asks the retreatant to make use of all mental faculties, especially the imagination. True to this Ignatian method, the film uses artistic imagination to activate all mental faculties. There is a theoretical background in psychology at work in this approach. It is the thesis that our subconscious mind is not good at understanding propositional language. It does, however, understand symbols and pictures.

It can be argued that Ignatius in his exercises discovered this psychological fact long before Carl G. Jung spoke about the collective archetypal unconscious, or before more modern psychological approaches discovered the holistic, non-linguistic subconscious information processing in the right hemisphere of the brain. The pictures in the film are meant to speak to the unconscious mind. They are partly based on images created by great painters of Ignatius’ time, like Titian and El Greco. More than trying to intellectually grasp the meaning of those images, the viewer should let them sink into the subconscious mind which is so important for religious knowledge. The rational mind will get nourished by the expert interviews that provide essential knowledge about the Spiritual Exercises.

The film is available in four language versions which were independently produced with experts from the different traditions: English, Italian, Spanish, and German. It was produced in 2023 under the direction of Fr Christof Wolf SJ and Siegmur Warnecke at Loyola Productions Munich.

Website of the Movie: <https://www.ignatius-godseeker.org>

<https://www.jesuits.global/2024/01/16/ignatius-the-god-seeker-a-new-film-on-the-spiritual-exercises>