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KARUNĀḌA SAURABHA
KARNATAKA JESUIT PROVINCE NEWSLETTER



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KARNATAKA JESUIT PROVINCE

September 2026

PROVINCIAL'S MUSINGS

September is a month of moments that allow us to stop, listen and acknowledge the many ways in which God continues to speak to us through people and events. Teachers' Day, the Feast of St Teresa of Calcutta, the Nativity of the BVM celebrated as Monti Fest, my visit to Japan for the ordination of Nithin Coelho, and the suffering caused by the floods in Nepal, appeared to be very different experiences. Underneath these moments, there was a common thread: to see, to discern, and to respond.

Teachers' Day reminded us that our educational ministry is ultimately a ministry of formation. We are called not merely to fill minds with knowledge but to form persons of competence, conscience, compassion and commitment, men and women who are for/with others. In a world where technology and artificial intelligence could provide information and answers almost instantly, our deeper task is to help young people ask the more important questions: *What is worth pursuing? What is for the greater good?* The MAGIS is therefore not simply doing more, but discerning what is truly greater in God's eyes.

The witness of St Teresa of Calcutta takes us a step further. She teaches us to notice those whom the world often overlooks and to encounter Christ in the poorest of the poor. Her life challenges those of us in a comfort zone. The Jesuit mission calls us to move from seeing to compassionate presence and accompaniment of the excluded.

Mary, whose birth we celebrated with joy, shows us what it means to respond with availability. Her greatness is in her openness to God's invitation. Her YES reminds us that discipleship began with a heart ready to listen and to be sent where the need is the greatest. The ordination of Nithin Coelho in Japan offered a beautiful reminder of this same availability, the willingness of a young Jesuit to place his life at the service of God and the Church in a distant land as a missionary.

The floods in Nepal, meanwhile, remind us to listen to the cry of Mother Earth, our common home, and to the struggles of people. The suffering of others pricks us because we belong to one human family. Prayer, therefore, has to open our hearts in solidarity, generosity and concrete action.

Perhaps all these experiences invite us to renew one simple disposition: availability. The teacher forms, the missionary accompanies, Mary responds, the earth cries, and the ordained priest is being sent.

I thank God for the smooth process of searching for the new Provincial. As we now await the appointment of the new provincial by Fr General, I entrust this transition to the Lord and ask that we remain united in prayer and openness to God's will. I sincerely thank each one of you for your prayers, cooperation and support throughout this entire process. May we continue to seek His will and to be apostolically available, ready to discern where He leads us and to respond generously, saying: "Here I am; send me."



- FR DIONYSIUS VAZ, SJ



APPOINTED BY FR GENERAL

Fr. Francis Minj, SJ as the New Provincial of Ranchi Jesuit Province

APPOINTED BY FR PROVINCIAL

Fr. Eugene Lobo: Admonitor to the Superior of Ashirvad community, Bengaluru

Fr. Maxim Rasquinha: Assigned to Fatima Retreat House, Mangaluru

PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

September 2026

01-02: Visit: Bijapur Mission

03-04: Visit: Loyola Sadan (Kalaburagi)

05: Inauguration of SJU B Block

07: Visit: Mount St Joseph

09-17: Visit to Japan for the ordination of
Deacon Nithin Coelho

12: Ordination of Deacon Nithin Coelho

18: Governing Body Meeting of SJU

19: Meeting with Young Priests

23: Visit: Visit: Pannur-Manvi Mission

27: Convocation: SJU (Bengaluru)

October 2026

02: Ordination: FRH (Mangaluru)

10: Ordination: SJBHS (Bengaluru)

11: Province Consult

17: Final Vows of Frs Alwyn D'Souza, Edwin Antony
and Royston Madtha

25-31: JCSA: Dumka

CONGRATULATIONS

To our newly ordained Priest **Fr. Nithin Coelho, SJ**. May God bless you and your priestly ministry.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

19-20 Sept 2026: Meeting of Young Priests

17 Oct 2026: Final Vows of Frs Alwyn D'Souza, Edwin Antony and Royston Madtha

Deacons **Larren Joy Menezes, Prajwal Marvin Apose** and **Roshan Kelvine Goveas (BOM)** will be ordained to ministerial priesthood by Most Rev. Leslie Clifford D'Souza (Bishop of Udupi), on 2nd October at Divine Mercy Church, Fatima Retreat House, Fr. Muller's Road, Jeppu, Mangaluru, at 10.00 AM.

Deacons **Arun Lobo, Cannon Antony Fernandes** and **Santhosh Kumar M** will be ordained to ministerial priesthood by Most Rev. Francis Serrao, SJ (Bishop of Mysore), on 10th October at St Joseph's Boys' High School Chapel, Museum Road, Bengaluru, at 10.00 AM.

POPE'S WORLDWIDE PRAYER NETWORK (PWP): SEPTEMBER 2026

For the care of water: Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.



Regents Meet 2026



On 29 and 30 August, twelve of us gathered at Ashirvad, Bengaluru, for our first Regents' Meet of the year. Fr. Roshan Castelino SJ guided us through a half-day recollection, inviting us to consider regency as "The Laboratory of the Real"—a time of testing, learning, and preparation for future ministries. Following the recollection, we shared our experiences of the



three months of regency and engaged in fruitful conversations about the joys, challenges, and lessons encountered in our respective places of ministry. Fr. Dion, our Provincial, appreciated the contributions of the regents in various apostolates across the Province and reminded us of the letter “Regency as Formation” by Fr. Peter Hans Kolvenbach, our Former General, to develop the qualities and attitudes required during regency,

thereby fostering growth in virtues and psychological maturity. Fr. Pratap, our PCF, spent these days with us, listening to our joys and challenges and encouraging us to move from the 3 M’s—*Marketing, Managing, and Maintenance*—to the 3 A’s—*Accompanying, Animating, and Administering*.

- Sch. Joshua Fred Lobo

ARRUPE NIVAS, Bengaluru



St Joseph’s University inaugurated its B-Block at Mount St Joseph on September 5. Mr Ramalinga Reddy, Minister of Forests, Ecology, and Environment, was the chief guest. Archbishop Peter Machado recited the prayer of blessing in the presence of the Provincial Fr. Dionysius Vaz. SJU was admitted as a member of the Confederation of Indian Private Universities (CIPU), joining a distinguished network. The Rushes Film Society, an association of the School of Communication



and Media Studies, hosted AKtion, an interactive session with acclaimed filmmaker and actor Anurag Kashyap.

The Office for International Affairs (OIA), in association with the Department of Political Science and Jesuit Higher Education Association of South

Asia (JHEASA), organised “Hiroshima & Nagasaki Remembrance Day 2026”, a commemorative programme, which was graced by Mr Hiroshi Nawata, Consul-General of Japan, Bengaluru, and Mr Maxence Linière, Academic Cooperation Officer at the Consulate General of France in Bengaluru. The University, in collaboration with Ferris University, Yokohama, Japan, organised an academic exchange workshop with Dr Tatsuya Hikichi, associate professor in the Department of Communication Studies at Ferris University.

The Centre for Religion and Culture (CRC) hosted three town hall discussions on contemporary issues and organised an online public lecture titled “The Vachana Movement: Religion and Society.” Fr. Bala Kiran delivered a TEDx talk on “Ethics and Education in the Age of Artificial Intelligence” at St Joseph’s College of Commerce. The Ecology Commission meeting was held at SJU and was hosted by Arrupe Nivas. A retreat for a group of Catholic university students was organised at SJU. It was conducted by Bread of Life preachers. Fr. Vishal Pinto left for Namur, Belgium to pursue his PhD studies in Physics.

- Fr. Joswin Pereira

ASHA KIRAN, Mangaluru



One of the highlights of this month was the Inauguration of the Silver Jubilee of Asha Kiran House, held on 15 August, coinciding with the Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady and the Independence Day of our nation. Fr. Dionysius Vaz SJ, Provincial of the Karnataka Province, presided over the Holy Eucharist and inaugurated the Silver Jubilee celebrations. The celebration brought together Jesuit Fathers and Brothers from different communities, religious Sisters and Priests, neighbours, benefactors, and well-wishers. On the same day, we had a



friendly football match with the brothers of Jeppu Seminary, in which scholastics emerged victorious.

We were also privileged to welcome Fr. Vernon D’Cunha SJ, who was on an official visit to our community. He addressed the Scholastics and enlightened us on the Universal Society of Jesus, encouraging us to deepen our sense of mission and companionship with the wider Society. The simple advice he gave us was “Be a Jesuit”. The Scholastics successfully completed their

mid-term examinations. The community also celebrated Onam together with the Kerala Scholastics, making it a joyful and fraternal occasion. As the month draws to a close, we are now on the threshold of celebrating the *Monthi Fest*, with the community preparing through the novena.

Frs Henry Saldanha, Maxim D'Souza and Arvin Pais are ever available for pastoral ministry in the parishes and religious houses. Fr. Henry was out for an evaluation of a school in Belgaum.

- Sch. Jayanth Christy M

ASHIRVAD, Bengaluru



On August 5, the Ashirvad community warmly welcomed Fr. Vernon D'Cunha for his official visit. Fr. Arun Luis SJ gave an interview to the *Eedina* News Channel and spoke on every citizen's right to vote. On August 8, Fr. Eugene Lobo SJ joined the Ashirvad Community. Fr. Arun Luis SJ met the Honourable Chief Minister of Karnataka along with the Archbishop. Fr. Dionysius Vaz SJ, Provincial of Karnataka Province, was with us for his annual visit. IRHM organized a talk on Independence Day by Mr. Gokul Muthu, from the Ramakrishna Ashram, to talk on "Why should India get freedom? Answers from our Freedom Fighters." The children at Spandana Study Centre celebrated Independence Day at the SJU centre with cultural performances, patriotic songs, and speeches.

Fr. Arun Luis SJ, along with the *Eddelu* Karnataka group, met the Honourable Chief Minister of Karnataka and expressed concerns about SIR. Fr. Francis Pinto left for Mumbai on research work. He was residing at St. Xavier's College community in Mumbai. The "India Land and Development Conference" Karnataka regional workshop was organized at Ashirvad. MAIN organized a Football tournament for migrant youth from different parishes of Bengaluru. Jigani Parish team lifted the cup, competing alongside 12 other teams. The Regents of the Karnataka Province were in Ashirvad for Recollection and faith-sharing. HRDC organized a JESCOL II programme for the selected staff from our institutions.

- Fr. Pruthvi Ryanal Rodrigues

FATIMA RETREAT HOUSE, Mangaluru



The visit of Fr. Vernon D'Cunha, Assistant 'Ad Providentiam', was a joyful occasion, bringing with it a sense of fraternity and encouragement. We warmly welcome Fr. Maxim Rasquinha, our latest addition to the community, who brings fresh energy from his years of experience and service in the Manvi Mission. Fr. Joyson Vas conducted a counselling training programme for religious and teachers in Shimoga, an enhancement programme on self-awareness and mental health for nurses in Honnavar, and a one-day workshop for vocation promoters of the Mangalore Apostolic Carmel Congregation. Fr. Edward Rodrigues besides retreats, conducted an in-service teachers' training programme in the Diocese of Udupi.

Frs. Fredrick D'Silva, Ivan Mendonca and Joseph Monteiro continued to be actively engaged in preaching retreats to the religious and in the ministry of listening and accompaniment. Frs. Merwyn Fernandes and Dheeraj D'Souza conducted a three-day MAGIS Retreat for 35 young people, providing them with an opportunity for prayer, reflection and deeper discernment of their life. We are happy to see Fr. Terence Farias back from the hospital. He is gradually regaining his health. *Monthi Festh*, preceded by the Novenas, drew devotees in large numbers to the Divine Mercy Church.

- Fr. Edward Rodrigues

INIGO SADAN, Bengaluru



The Inigo Sadan community celebrated the Assumption of Our Lady and Independence Day. Our Rector, Fr. Joseph D'Souza, presided over the Mass. On 15 August, all the units of St. Joseph's Indian Institutions celebrated the 80th Independence Day at the Football Ground. The celebration was graced by Lt. Cdr. Anil Prem D'Souza, Founder & Managing Partner, Fairwinds Capital, Ex-Indian Navy Officer and Alumnus, SJIHS, as the Chief Guest.

The staff and students participate in the Eucharistic Celebration, strengthening their faith. On 24 and 25 August, a Dome Planetarium and Virtual Reality Show was organised for students from LKG to Class 7. On 26 August, students of Classes 5, 6 and 7 participated in an awareness programme conducted by Ms. Leane Edward, Counselling Psychologist, focusing on the responsible use of social media and the prevention of bullying.

SJIHS: A special awareness programme for girl students focused on personal safety, emotional

wellbeing, respectful behaviour and digital responsibility, strengthening our commitment to the holistic care and protection of our students. The Installation of the Interact Club renewed the spirit of "Service Above Self", inspiring young people to take greater responsibility for serving the community and becoming men and women for others. The PTA felicitation programme honoured retired staff members for their years of dedicated service, while the academic achievements of our Board Examination toppers were celebrated.

St. Joseph's Indian Composite PU College: The inauguration of AICUF provided an opportunity for students to deepen their sense of social responsibility, leadership and service. Theology classes offered Catholic students' meaningful opportunities for faith formation and spiritual enrichment, while the inauguration of the ELC Club encouraged students to grow as responsible citizens.

St Joseph's School: The month commenced with a Positive Parenting Session on 1 August, focusing on adolescent development and effective parenting. This was followed by ARCANUM 2026, the School Cultural Fest held on 6-7 August, which brought together 476 participants from 24 colleges. The event featured Mr. Pradeep K as the inaugural guest and Mr. Martin D'Souza for the

concluding DJ Night. On 14 August, Classes I & II celebrated Jolly Joeys – "Little Heroes, Big Freedom", highlighting freedom for the little ones. Promoting the spirit of compassion and service, students of Class X participated in an outreach programme at the Little Sisters of the Poor from 17 to 19 August. On 20 August, students of Classes VI-X attended the Traffic Safety Awareness Programme – "Catch Them Young", conducted in collaboration with Bangalore Traffic Police. The month concluded with the Career Guidance Workshop – "Career Compass: Chart Your Future," engaging students and parents on career choices, higher education, emerging careers, and the responsible use of Artificial Intelligence. It was conducted by Prof. Manoj Louis. The pre-primary section celebrated Fun 'N' Frolic Day on the theme "Market".

St Joseph Skill Academy: Students took part in several enriching sessions and seminars on Professional Skills, Communication Skills, Mental Health, AI, Dementia Awareness and Financial Management. The month also provided opportunities for leadership and personal development through the Student Council Election. A Staff Enrichment Session was organised, featuring fun and engaging team-building games and activities.

- Sch. Lloyd Lobo

JESUIT NIVAS, Bengaluru



SJCC inaugurated a new Computer Lab at the G Block Campus in the presence of distinguished alumni and Chief Guests Mr Dilip Surana (B.Com, Batch 1987), Chairman of Micro Labs Ltd., and Mr F. R. Singhvi (B.Com, Batch 1973), Joint Managing Director of Sansera Engineering Ltd. A new Food Court was also inaugurated on the ground floor of the SJCC Magis Block. The Third Edition of TEDxSJCC was hosted under the theme "Artificial Minds, Natural Limits: The Sustainability Paradox in the Age of AI". The campus witnessed a wide variety of events, including All Cultures Day, Kalotsav (cultural fest), Cipher (business fest), Quantera (Department of Economics), and Vividha (Department of English), while Sadhbhavana Diwas promoted harmony and unity alongside Independence Day celebrations.

The Legal Aid Cell of SJCL organised legal awareness sessions for students of St. Teresa Girls High School and St. Anne's PU College, focusing on the Indian Constitution and the POCSO Act.

Ms Aprichida Marak facilitated a session on career opportunities in the field of law at the Career Conclave held at St. Joseph's School, CBSE. Dr Pauline Priya addressed religious sisters at St. Peter's Pontifical Seminary on the theme "Christian Response to the Constitution". The College commenced a 15-day Bridge Course to support students' transition into the field of legal education.

SJIM conducted an awareness programme on SIR, facilitated by Fr. Don Prem Lobo, and organised a Blood Donation Camp in collaboration with St. Philomena's Hospital, Bengaluru, with 82 faculty members participating. Independence Day was celebrated with Group Captain Dr Pooja Gupta of the Indian Air Force as the Chief Guest. Adding to these moments of pride, Dr Caren Rodrigues was appointed by Pope Leo XIV as a Consultor to the Vatican Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, while Dr Poornima and Dr Sindhu David successfully defended their doctoral theses.

Senior Prize Day at SJBHS featured Dr Rakshit Srinivas as Chief Guest, while Ms Chinmaiee P, IAS, graced the Junior Prize Day. Eucranium, the 12th intra-school Science & Tech Fest, was graced by Ms Sahana L of Ecoconnect Services. Classes 7–9 attended a resilience-building wellness class by Shloka Devaya Trust, while ISC students had a Wellness Retreat by Rev. Dr Ivon D’Almeida. ISC girls attended an empowering “Women Who Lead” session by alumna Ms Aparna Vinod, in collaboration with the OBA. Independence Day was celebrated with Maj. Gen. Vinod Mathew as Chief Guest, and Team AVANI held a plantation drive at Bembala. SJBHS won the Centenary

Shield U-17 title and were runners-up in the Fr. Eric Vaz Memorial U-14 tournament.

At SJPU, the highlights of the month included Patriotic Week and Independence Day celebrations, National Space Day activities, the *Spread a Smile* food distribution drive, and educational visits to a waste management learning centre and the Post Office Museum. There was “Navaras” Cultural Fest at SJEPUC. HRD sessions and other student- and staff-oriented programmes were conducted,

- Fr. Ashwin P Cordeiro

JNANA JYOTHI, Anekal

St. Joseph’s School: On 4 August, nursery students celebrated Friendship Day. On 8 August, various competitions were held for the students in the lead-up to Independence Day. On 14 August, a special fancy dress competition was held for the students in view of Independence Day. On 15 August, Independence Day was celebrated. The chief guest was Ms. Sindhu and Brahma Kumaris from Anekal. On 25 August, the school celebrated Onam and Eid Milad.

St. Joseph’s PU College: From 10th to 12 August, two of our lecturers attended the JESCOL II held at Ashirvad. The College held an orientation for the parents on 18th August. Fr. Shantharaj Thomas was the resource person. On 20 August, the college celebrated Sadbhavana Diwas. Our student Anil Kumar of Second PUC won first place in the district-level yoga competition and was selected for the state level.

Navasadhana: After the first internal examinations, the pre-novices had a short home visit. Fr. Vinod Saldanha gave a talk to the JMJ Sisters on “Nurturing Vocations in Today’s Changing Times”. Fr. Pruthvi Rodrigues led a recollection for



the pre-novices on the theme “Time Management.” The pre-novices had an outing that included visits to St. Mary’s Basilica, Vidhana Soudha, Cubbon Park, and some Jesuit institutions in Bengaluru. They also had some relaxing time at the SJBHS swimming pool and experienced the warm hospitality of the Jesuit community at Jesuit Nivas. Sch. Arun Raj attended the Regents’ meet at Ashirvad. CIRW: CIRW organised a one-day agricultural training programme for 64 women farmers in collaboration with the District Agricultural Training Centre. The staff joined the Independence Day celebration at the CIRW Centre, Bala Jyothi Hostels, and in their respective working areas. Ms. Teena trained CIRW staff in the Health campaign, namely – Namma Arogya and Namma Hakku, and joined them on the village visits. The renovated tailoring room at Gaurenahalli was inaugurated and games were conducted for the participants. Certificates were distributed to the students who completed their six-month tailoring course at CIRW. The Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola was celebrated at Bala Jyothi Hostels through a prayer service and fellowship meal.

- Sch. Arun Raj

JOSEPH NIVAS, Hassan

At St Joseph’s Eng. Med., the JEE NEET Foundation Course exam was held for Grades 6 & 7 for the first time after the introduction of the syllabus this year. To promote critical thinking, debate competitions on ‘Banning mobiles for children below 12’ and ‘Bad effects of Junk Food’ were organised. A capacity-building programme on “Empowering Educators with AI Tools for Effective Teaching” was held, with Dr Santhosh Bappalige from AIMIT as the resource person. A day of relaxation for Staff Fun Fest helped to relax, rejuvenate



and build better bonding. The Annual Sports Day of the year was held with Mr N Janarthanan,



Principal of PM Shri Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya as the chief guest. This was followed by Parents Sports Day.

SJC: A team of 14 resource persons from Amossys and Vlinkin companies conducted a workshop for the entire student body on dynamic upskilling and entrepreneurship. A new student council took charge at the investiture ceremony. The freshers' day brought a lot of cheer to the newly joined 336 students. AICUF conducted a programme for its members. A free placement drive for UG/PG graduates elicited a huge response, with 381 candidates participating in interviews and over 600 registering online. 30 companies from Hassan, Mysore, Bangalore, and Dharwad, along with 43 HRs, descended on the campus. Prior to that, a day was devoted to a pre-placement



workshop attended by 150 candidates. The local press and digital media gave extensive publicity to our press meet at the press club in Hassan. At the 14th Graduation Day, 223 students of BBA, BCom, BCA and MCom graduated where Fr. Praveen Martis, VC, SADU was the Chief Guest. Fr. Olvin Veigas gave a half-day programme for the animators of Sisters of St Joseph of Tarbes (SJT), in Bangalore.

- Fr. Olvin Veigas

LOYOLA MANDIR, Bengaluru



The Canonical Consult took place here on the 25th after the Extended Consult at Mount St Joseph on the 23-24. Sch. Anson Alex has been helping us with in the Province Archives. We are glad to have Sch. Shaun D'Silva as a regent to assist in the Archives. Fr. Ronald Serrao and Fr. Bartholome, both of whom had been with us for some days, left for Sri Lanka to commence their tertianship. We celebrated the golden jubilee of Fr. Vernon D'Cunha (BOM) in the Society of Jesus. Fr. Vernon was simply thrilled and pleasantly surprised by the celebration. The birthday of Fr. Dionysius

Vaz was celebrated with great joy and gratitude. The Superiors of the various Jesuit communities in the city, along with the members of Inigo Sadan, joined the celebration. Our community also joined the family and friends of Mr Felix Victor (a former Jesuit) in mourning his demise and attending his funeral in Kalena Agrahara. Meanwhile, Fr. Provincial, Fr. Arun Kumar and Fr. Jason Furtado visited the communities of the Bijapur Mission and Gulbarga.

- Fr. Ajay D'Silva

MAITRI SAADANA, Vijayapura



The Bijapur community was blessed by the visit of Fr. Vernon D'Cunha on August 12 and 13, who came in the context of the search for the new Provincial. A day of recollection and shared reflection was held, focusing on concrete steps towards greater holistic depth through the RRSJSA journey. On September 1 and 2, the community had the further grace of welcoming Fr. Dionysius Vaz, accompanied by Fr. Arun Kumar, the Socius. As Fr. Dionysius prepares to complete his term as Provincial, the occasion became a meaningful moment of remembrance and gratitude, as the community expressed its heartfelt appreciation

for his leadership, vision and generous service to the Province over the years.

At CNFE, Independence Day was celebrated with the students of Navachethana and in several slum communities. POCISO awareness programmes



were conducted at study centres, while youth participated in Yuva Sangama at Loyola School, Sindagi, with sessions on cybercrime, democracy, government schemes and nation-building. CNFE also hosted rural exposure programmes for students of St Joseph's College of Commerce and Birds College. The Pragati Tailoring Centre

continued its skill training for women, while 23 health camps provided basic health services and awareness across various communities. At CIRD, Sangama conducted health check-ups for farmers in Yaragal B.K. and leadership and health-awareness sessions for former Devadasi mothers. Awareness programmes on labour welfare schemes and government benefits were held for workers and SHG members. Sangama also facilitated the rural immersion programme of students from St Joseph's University and St Joseph's College of Commerce in villages around Sindagi.

At Loyola Private ITI, Vijayapura, a two-day Student Orientation programme was organized under the guidance of Fr. Merwyn Fernandes and his dedicated team. As part of the Green Campus Initiative, staff and students planted 100 fruit-bearing trees. Students also participated in

the Job Mela organized by Government ITI, Vijayapura, gaining valuable exposure to employment opportunities. At Loyola English Medium School (LEMS), Mrs Ganga was given a warm farewell and felicitated along with her family after more than 25 years of dedicated service. Fr. Vernon D'Cunha visited the school and appreciated its work. The 80th Independence Day was celebrated enthusiastically with Mr Shivashankar Galagali, an ex-serviceman, as the Chief Guest. The FA-II examinations were conducted smoothly. At Loyola PU College (LPUC), the Parent-Teacher Meeting witnessed enthusiastic participation from parents. In the taluk-level sports meet, the boys' Kabaddi team qualified for the district level, while the girls' Kabaddi and Kho-Kho teams and the boys' Tennikoit team secured second place.

- Fr. Sharun D'Souza

MOUNT ST JOSEPH, Bengaluru



The month of August began with the Parish animation at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Kalena Agrahara, led by the first-year Novices. Fr. William Sequeira, the tutor of the novices, took REBT (Rational Emotive Behavioural Theory) for the first-year novices. The Novices enjoyed the Flower Show at Lalbagh Botanical Garden and then visited the Forum Mall in Konanakunte. This month was special because an Inter-Novitiate Course on Prayer and Prayer methods was conducted by Fr. Joseph Rodrigues. Fr. Vernon D'Cunha, the Regional Assistant for South Asia, motivated the Novices with his inspiring talk on the Society of Jesus and encouraged all community members with his vibrant presence. Fr. Clarence D'Souza gave classes on European history that laid the foundation for studying Jesuit History and the *Spiritual Exercises* of St. Ignatius, thereby developing historical consciousness among the Novices. The Novices tuned their vocal cords during Fr. Mohan's singing classes. Fr. Ronald Pais attended the Novice Directors' meeting at Baga in Goa.

Prerana successfully completed a 10-week programme in preparation for the final profession, culminating in the grand graduation day ceremony. Sr. Ida Lobo SSpS, Provincial Superior, was the chief guest. Currently, we have 28 Pilar Fathers for a renewal programme. A group of 30 religious are having a programme in preparation for their Golden and Ruby Jubilees. From 17th to 21st August, Fr. Joe Matthias conducted a course on 'Personality Integration for Holiness and Whole-

ness in Consecrated Life' at NBCLC, Bengaluru, for a group of Novices from 8 Religious Congregations of women and men. Fr. Joseph A D'Mello gave a two-day session on Religious Formation to some of the Seminary formators of Karnataka, along with some formators of women religious at KROSS, Bengaluru. He also gave an input on spiritual governance to the Local Superiors and DoWs of the Bombay Province, at Vinayalaya, Mumbai.

Loyola Degree College and SJUB witnessed a range of academic, cultural and student activities. The Department of Commerce organised a talk for students, while the NSS Investiture welcomed the new student leaders. Activities such as Pick and Speak and the observance of Sadbhavana Diwas promoted confidence, communication and communal harmony. The Kannada Sangha was inaugurated to foster interest in the Kannada language and culture. A scholarship briefing session familiarised students with scholarship opportunities. The Hindi Parishad organised a movie screening, while a Cyber Security Seminar created awareness about safe digital practices. The Literary Society also conducted a quiz to encourage interest in literature and general knowledge.

Loyola Higher Primary School invited a social worker to be the Chief Guest for Independence Day. Our children actively participated in the Cluster-level sports events: girls' section, Kho Kho winners, Kabaddi, and Throwball runners-up.

Boys' section Kho Kho and throwball Winners and Volleyball runners-up. We had a well-attended PTA meeting for all sections.

Loyola ITI, in collaboration with Hulimavu Fire Station, organised a Fire Safety Awareness Programme for students and staff. Second-year Fitter trainees participated in a five-day Carpentry and Power Tools training programme at Bosch, gain-

ing valuable hands-on experience. Mr. Manjunath S., Regional Parts Manager, Kia Motors, visited Loyola ITI to discuss the possibility of setting up a laboratory for the MMV trade. Loyola ITI achieved a 100% result in both NSDC and NCVT across all trades, reflecting the hard work of our students and trainers. Culinary students attended a four-day workshop at Hotel TajSATS.

- Fr. Clarence D'Souza

SADHANA, Mundgod



On the birthday of our local MLA, Mr Srinivas Mane, LVK Hangal actively participated in the inter-religious dialogue organised in the MLA's office. Fr. Deepak Joseph, representing Christianity, shared insights into the Christian perspective and the importance of inter-religious harmony. The annual feast of St. Lawrence Church was celebrated with great devotion and joy. Fr. Deepak Joseph was the main celebrant. The SJCC AICUF students visited LVK as part of their outreach programme.

Fr. Provincial visited the Haliyal unit on 7th August and extended his support and encouragement towards ministry among the Siddi people. Fr. Alwyn and Sch. Sujay are busy visiting the parishes and villages to strengthen collaboration and support for the Siddi project. They have already started computer and spoken English classes for Siddi students.

Loyola Children's Home organised a Parents' meeting. Mrs Mangala More, the resource person, offered valuable guidance to parents on right parenting and encouraged children to be responsible. Fresher's Day was celebrated to help the new students feel at home in the hostel. Fr. Avinash D'Souza encouraged the students through his inspiring message.

LVK Mundgod organised ABCD follow-up training in Chowdalli and Gotgundikoppa villages. Regular VDC meetings provide a platform for people to discuss village-level issues, needs and review activities. Fast-food training was organised for 24 participants to develop practical food preparation and business-related skills. It was a pleasant experience for the participants to receive the certificate from the Government of Karnataka.

Other important programmes and training, such as Health Check-up Camp, Job card Mela, Support to Outstanding Students, Child Rights and Child Protection Training, Child Protection Survey, and Taluk-level MATES training, were conducted. LVK added 3 more new Self-Help Groups to the tally to encourage women to come together for savings, mutual support and collective decision-making.

Fr. Pradeep's artwork was selected in the 17th International Art Expo conducted in the Nazrul Tirtha Art gallery, Kolkata. We congratulate him on this great achievement. Sch. Shaun D'Silva left for Loyola Mandir to continue his regency, and Sch. Vivian Saldanha joined our mission for his regency.

- Fr. Rayappa M

ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE, Mangaluru



Fr. John D'Souza, together with his dedicated St Aloysius ITI team, guided students through their NCVT examinations, achieving an impressive 96.86% success rate among the 255 students who appeared. Soon after, the team headed to Pandithahalli for a well-earned rest and breathing space. The Institute also signed MoUs with other colleges, strengthening its academic and institutional collaborations.

St Aloysius PU students continued to bring laurels to the institution by making their presence felt in a wide variety of fields. Their achievements included surfing, sports, plant exhibitions, Genesis 2026 –

the Science Exhibition, Emporia, inter-faith visits, and SAPMUN (St Aloysius Pre-University Model United Nations) Assembly.

Fr. Prashant Madtha was invited to the High School to release the Annual Magazine *Littleman*. The High School students also secured several victories in sports, bringing pride to the school. Fr. Johnson's conversation on Radio Sarang about his vocation and his mission among the Siddis in Mundgod was warmly received and proved to be a great hit with listeners. Meanwhile, Radio Sarang continued its service to the community by hosting a series of health-related talks in association

with doctors from KMC Hospital—proving once again that good communication can also be good medicine!

Fr. Brian Pereira conducted JESCOL II for PUC teachers at Ashirwad. The community stood in solidarity with Fr. Manoj D'Souza at the passing away of his beloved mother. Fr. Balaraj and Fr. Derrick Anthony attended the funeral of Felix Victor in Bangalore. Sch. Christon Gonsalves attended the funeral of Bro. John Bosco Asadu in Belgaum.

The community participated in the monthly recollection preached by Fr. Prashant Madtha, with a special emphasis on faith-sharing in the spirit of RRSJSA and he, together with Fr. Rohan D'Almeida, attended seminars and symposia in Goa focusing on the Konkani language and culture. Their participation also opened avenues for collaboration, with SADU signing MoUs with institutions in Goa. The Konkani language, it seems, continues to travel well—and the Jesuit interest in it travels even better!

Fr. William Marcel Rodrigues graced the Independence Day celebration at St Aloysius High School as the Chief Guest. The Konkani Manyata Diwas was also celebrated with unique symbols and meaningful programmes. Guests visiting various units shared their reflections on the richness and importance of Konkani, the language of the Konkan belt, reminding everyone that language is not merely a means of communication but also a carrier of memory, culture and identity.

The sports teams of St Aloysius University continued to make the institution proud by securing laurels in various disciplines, including swimming and football. Meanwhile, Fr. Praveen Martis was

conferred an Honorary Award at the MPC–Rotary Coastal MSME & Startup Conclave 2026, organised by the Mangalore Productivity Council in association with Rotary Club Mangalore Central.

The University also held a successful PU Fest, which saw the participation of more than 1,000 students. The Community members attended a talk organised by CRI Mangalore on the struggle against fear, fundamentalism, fanaticism and fascism in the Indian Christian context. A few also participated in a “Day with the Diocesan Clergy” organised by CRI. The community had the privilege of welcoming Fr. Vernon D'Cunha, General Assistant, during his visit to the Jesuit communities in Mangalore. His presence provided an opportunity for fraternity, interaction and sharing.

St Aloysius Gonzaga student Ashmith AJ made the staff and his parents proud by winning *Sa Re Ga Ma Pa Little Champs*, the popular Kannada singing reality television show—a reminder that some talents simply refuse to remain inside the classroom! Fr. Rohan D'Almeida visited Belgaum to evaluate the staff. He also spearheaded a series of events at Gonzaga School, with “Gonzaga Got Talent” emerging as a highlight.

The Annual General Body Meeting of the PTA was graced by Fr. Brian Pereira. Alumni also interacted with senior students. The community welcomed Fr. Sujay Daniel as its newest member following the completion of his tertianship in Indonesia. Meanwhile, Fr. Royston Madtha had an article published in the JPAM Journal, adding an academic feather to the community's cap. All the institutions meaningfully celebrated Teachers' Day through *Guruvandana* programmes organised by students and alumni groups.

- Fr. William M. Rodrigues

SWAMY RAJENDARA NILAYA, Pandithahalli



Our Nursery children celebrated ‘Colours Day’ with great enthusiasm, understanding its beauty and importance. ‘Independence Day’ was celebrated with patriotic spirit in the presence of Mr. Narayan V. (Assistant Sub-Inspector, Malavalli) and Mr. Shiva Kumar, (Army Personnel), who inspired the students with valuable insights on discipline, dedication, and hard work. The ‘Talent Hunt’ for the primary classes was a great success. Fr. Alwyn D'Souza conducted a recollection for the Minor Seminarians of the Diocese of Mysore. We are happy to share that our school property has been successfully compounded.

'Raksha Bandhan' was celebrated with joy. For 'Krishna Janmashtami' the school came alive with many little Krishnas and Radhas, adding charm to the celebration. Our students participated in the Zonal Level Sports Meet and brought laurels. For the first time, our school also participated in the cricket tournament, marking a new milestone in our sporting journey. Fr. Anthony Pradeep and

Fr. Alwyn D'Souza have also been rendering their pastoral services in the nearby parishes during the Novena in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary. As part of the 'Teachers' Day' celebrations, the Student Council organized engaging activities for the teachers as a heartfelt expression of gratitude and appreciation.

- Sch. Gevin D'Souza

VIDYA NIKETAN, Dharwad



We began the month with the change of officials, with Sch. Abhishek handing over the responsibility of Beadle to Sch. Princeton. Fr. Pratap led the community into an orientation programme. On 10 August, we celebrated the birthday of our Superior, Fr. Pratap. The Superiors of the neighbouring communities joined us for the celebration. On 11 August, we were blessed by the visit of Fr. Vernon D'Cunha, who spent time interacting with the Fathers and scholastics. His visit was a joyful and grace-filled experience for the community.

We had a NEET aspirant as the Chief Guest to hoist the flag on Independence Day. We also began our pastoral ministry in the parishes of Hubli-



Dharwad. Fr. Dheeraj conducted the community recollection on the theme "Imbibing the Spirit of Mary."

Scholastics, along with Fr. Dheeraj, participated in the CRI programme at Belgaum. Fr. Dheeraj was engaged in various ministries, including student and teacher orientation programmes in Hubli, a session for the UFS Sisters in Mysuru, and a counselling programme in the Siddi villages of Mundgod. Fr. Pratap organised a two-day Regents' Meeting at Ashirvad. Meanwhile, Fr. Tom was in Mangalore to attend his nephew's death anniversary. He also underwent his routine health check-up and returned to the community with renewed energy and a youthful spirit.

- Sch. Askhay Kumar V

XAVIER TRAINING COLLEGE, Belagavi



In the middle of July, the XTC novices were delighted to welcome our new Novice Master Fr. Shekhar Manickam (GUJ) and also Fr. Francis Lobo (PUN), as Assistant to the Socius. During the Eucharistic celebration, Fr. Shekhar officially took over as our Novice Master on 20 July, in the presence of Fr. Pedro Rodrigues, the Provincial

of Goa, representative of the West Zone Provincials. The novices bid a farewell to Frs. Francis Fernandes (BOM), the outgoing Novice Master, and Jose Changanacherry (GUJ).

On the feast day of our founder, we had a solemn Mass celebrated by Fr. Shekhar, who preached an inspiring homily. The First-Year novices began their weekend ministry at Karunalaya. On 12 August, the novices had an outing that gave them a chance to strengthen their camaraderie and explore the city of Belagavi. On 15 August, Fr. John Fernandes (GOA), Socius to the Novice Master, celebrated the Eucharist, followed by flag hoisting and a short programme.

- Nov. Ronald Charles



DE NOBILI COLLEGE, Pune



Following the celebration of the feast of St Ignatius of Loyola, the DNC scholastics were busy with their mid-semester examinations. Sch. Sanson D'Souza's paintings on the themes of Independence Day and the feast of the Assumption were much appreciated by the community.

Fr. Francis D'Souza guided the DNC community to its monthly recollection in July. Fr. Joseph Lobo addressed the AICUF coordinators and student

representatives from various states on "The Role of Youth in Nation Building." He also led the clergy of the Diocese of Aurangabad through a day of recollection and conducted week-long sessions on Ignatian discernment for a group of priests and religious. The monthly recollection in August included a talk on the Maharashtra Freedom of Religion Act, providing moments for reflection and discussion.

- Sch. Melwil Vas

SATYA NILAYAM, Chennai



The scholastics completed their Mid-Semester Examinations as part of their ongoing academic journey. A significant formative course was conducted by Fr. Jerry Rosario (CEN) on "*Rethinking Justice, Equality, and Human Dignity from the Margins: A Philosophical Dialogue between Gandhi, Ambedkar, and Periyar.*"

The community also commemorated the 20th death anniversary of Sch. Loy Fernandes, SJ, who passed away while pursuing his philosophical studies in Chennai. His younger brother, Fr. Lancy Fernandes, SJ, presided at the Requiem Mass, attended by their parents and members of the community. The family later visited his grave at Loyola College, Chennai, remembering his life

with gratitude and prayer. As part of holistic formation, Fr. Jagadish Murala SJ (AND) conducted a Yoga course, encouraging greater integration of physical, mental, and spiritual well-being. The second-year scholastics also participated in a two-day course on Sri Aurobindo. As part of the course, they visited the Sri Aurobindo Research Institution, Museum, and Ashram in Auroville, enriching their learning through direct engagement with his philosophical and spiritual legacy. The month concluded on a joyful note with the Onam celebration. The community shared a festive Onam Sadya and participated enthusiastically in a tug-of-war.

- Sch. Frewin D'Souza

VIDYAJYOTI, Delhi



The 80th Independence Day was observed solemnly by the community, with Fr. Johnson Siluvaipillai, the resident Theology lecturer, as the Chief Guest. The community organised Delhi Darshan on 22 August, for the newcomers. The outing gave us an opportunity to discover the beauty, history and cultural richness of Delhi, while also helping us become more familiar with the city and strengthening community bonds. The college celebrated Onam on 26 August under the title "The Onam", providing an opportunity for the Theology students to learn about and appreciate the festival's richness. The celebration brought us together, from diverse backgrounds, and highlighted the

values of culture, togetherness, and sharing. The college also organised "The Big Debate" on the theme "Should the Church be Politically Active in Promoting Peace and Justice?" with Nandita Narain, HOD of Mathematics at Delhi University, and Dr Cyril Anthony, SJ (MDU), Director of ISI, being the judges. The programme encouraged thoughtful encounter and theological dialogue on the Church's role in society and its responsibility towards peace and justice. The scholastics have been engaged in preparing for their mid-semester examinations, which begin on 31 August.

- Sch. Elson Lobo

VINAYALAYA, Mumbai



August was a memorable month filled with different courses. We had a course from August 10th to 14th by Fr. Dudley Mendonca SJ (BOM) on "A psycho Spiritual Pathway to God Within". This course helped us heal our past wounds and free us from the past baggage. We celebrated Independence Day meaningfully. In honour of our nation on 15 August, we sang two Patriotic

songs. The neighbouring communities joined us for the Independence Day celebration. From August 17 to 21 we had a course on Pastoral Management and Leadership by Mr Adrian Rosario. This course taught us how to be good leaders and to think critically.

- Sch. Aaron Francis Colaco

Worcester is still enjoying the warmth of the summer season, even though we have already begun the Fall semester with the celebration of the Mass of the Holy Spirit. The Mass was held on an open football field and was marked by much colour, joy, and festivity. After a relaxing summer break, the members of the community have returned.

The first-year students arrived before the seniors. We also had a two-day orientation program for the new faculty members. Interestingly, the Convocation took place at the very beginning of the academic year. It was an occasion to formally welcome the first-year students, with the President, Provost, and the entire academic community coming together.

Classes began on August 25. My teaching is going well, and my research work is also progressing. I feel quite comfortable with the students. In our Jesuit community, there are nine Jesuit priests. Every Monday evening, we celebrate a community Mass in which all the members of the community participate.

Apart from its strong academic focus, the college also places considerable emphasis on co-curricular activities. Students are encouraged to participate actively in a wide range of activities, which provide opportunities to develop their talents, interests, and leadership skills beyond the classroom. Overall, it has been a good beginning to the new academic year.

- Fr. Lawrence Fernandes

NOTRE DAME DE LA PAIX, Namur, Belgium



onjour from Namur – a city that is home to the rivers Sambre and Meuse! I reached Namur on 11 August around 3 PM after my connecting flight from Dubai to Brussels was rescheduled to next day. Fr. Alwyn D'Souza, accompanied by the Superior of the community Fr. Henri Aubert (EOF), picked me up from the airport. After a one-hour drive to Namur, we reached the *Communauté Notre Dame de la Paix*. The community has 18

Jesuits who welcomed me warmly. Fr. Alwyn and I are the only two Jesuits from South Asian conference. Fr. Alwyn on one hand is busy with his research work, I, on the other hand, am preparing earnestly to begin my Doctoral studies as I engross myself in this calm, student - friendly city. Please do keep us in your prayers.

- Fr. Vishal Melroy Pinto

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OURS IN PUBLICATION

Fr. Ajay Nelson D'Silva, From Ithaca to Instagram: Finding Our Way Home, in *Daijiworld Network*, on August 23 2026.

Fr. Ajay Nelson D'Silva, Teachers: Connected, Focused and Collaborative, in *Daijiworld Network*, on September 01 2026.

Fr. Eugene Lobo, "India's Independence: The Cry of the Earth, the Cry of the Poor", in *Navajyothi*, Vol. 01, Issue 04, August 2026.

Fr. Jeevan Gomes, Can we all be Manjummel Novices? *Jivan*, August 2026, p. 27.

Fr. Joseph Lobo, "Revisioning the Jesuit Theological Agenda for Indian Today", in Rajkumar Joseph & Xavier Tharamel (ed), *Revisioning Theology for Today: Revisiting Jesuit Theological Legacy*, (Delhi: ISPCK, 2026), pp. 14-28.

Fr. Joseph A D'Mello, "Reimagining from the Lens of First Jesuits," *Ignis*, 2026/1, pp. 20-33.

Fr. Lumnesh S. Kumar Joseph, Seitz, J., Yajima, M., Zhu, Y., Yang, J., Lacroix, F., Luo, Y., Schaumberger, A., Bahn, M., Zaehle, S., and Caldararu, S.: A general physiologically driven representation of leaf turnover in grasslands in the QUINCY land surface model (revision: 974a6b7f), *Geosci. Model Dev.*, 19, 8289–8319, <https://doi.org/10.5194/gmd-19-8289-2026>, 2026.

Fr. Royston Pinto, Why Mahatma Gandhi Still Relevant Today?, *Smart Companion*, Vol. 16, August (2026), pp. 08-10.

Fr. Ryan Savio Rodrigues, "A Pilgrim's Journey Rooted in Prayer." *AUC: Asian Journal of Religious Studies* (Pune) 71, No. 3 (September 2026): pp. 38–51.

Frs. Vishal Melroy Pinto & Richard Rego, An Eight-Day Ignatian Film Retreat, *Jivan*, August 2026, p. 10.

Sch. Arun Lobo, “ಮಾತೆ ಮರಿಯ: ಧೈರ್ಯದ ದೀಪ”, *Tabor Vaani*, Vol. 16, September (2026), Issue 09, pp. 11-12.

Sch. Avin A, “ದುಃಖದ ನಡುವೆಯೂ ಭರವಸೆ ನೀಡುವ ತಾಯಿ ಮರಿಯಮ್ಮ” *Tabor Vaani*, Vol. 16, September (2026) Issue 09, p. 07.

Sch. Royster Monis, “ತಾಯಿಯ ಹಾದಿಯಲ್ಲಿ... ವಿನಯತೆ, ವಿಧೇಯತೆ, ಸೇವೆ”, *Tabor Vaani*, Vol. 16, September (2026), Issue 09, pp. 05-06.

REST IN PEACE

Fr. Hilarius Anand Tigga, SJ, (DUM), 74/53, on 04 August 2026, in Dumka.

Br. Sadhu Shilanand, SJ, (PAT), 86/67, on 06 August 2026, in Patna.

Fr. Giles Goluckmu, SJ, (DAN), 86/60, on 23 August 2026, in Matigara.

Fr. Emmanuel Arockiam, SJ, (MDU), 72/54, on 07 September 2026, in Chennai.

Fr. Leslie D'Souza, SJ, (GUJ), 77/57, on 08 September 2026, in Vadodara.

History in lighter vein

“In the seventy-eighth year since the foundation of the College, in the twenty-fifth after the introduction of fluorescent lighting in Mangalore, after overcoming much opposition and listening to endless suggestions from within and without the Community, to the great satisfaction of the few people who come to our Church for services and as a mild symbol of the illumination of certain minds, fluorescent lights were installed in our Church for the greater glory of God. (SAC House Diary March 5, 1958)

The Provincial Fr Monteiro brought Fr Berna and two more of the Social Institute for a visit to the Farm. Two cows and one bull of the Farm secured first prizes in the Cattle Exhibition held at Hassan. Albeit unbeknown they were awarded a cup, diplomas and some other prizes! (KNL, December 1965)

Our Jersey breeding bull is at the disposal of the public for breeding purposes. This has contributed very much in improving the milch animals of the town. Our cows are the best in the town and they are likely to get all the first prizes in the Milch-breed exhibition which is going to take place soon. (Fr Austin's letter to Provincial, October 17, 1967)

Fides et ratio

“The Jesuit team meets once a week to evaluate, reflect and plan together their course of life and action in this area. But the light of reason is compelling them more and more to seek the light of faith.” (KNL September 1983)

Ashirvad a blessing for all

“It is our prayer that this house will be blessed by one and all, and in its turn will be a source of blessings. And so, we have named it tentatively ASHIRVAD, which means Blessing.” (KNL August 1974)

Fr Rossi gave a number of courses and seminars at Ashirvad and more of them outside on various topics - for instance, intellectual development and emotional adjustment of children - to several groups of parents and teachers, both in English and Kannada in various schools of Bangalore. In each group there were about 300 participants - a proof how well the seminars were appreciated. Fr Paul Raj, who had joined the community on July 1, gave a workshop on his forte - RET and an Intensive Journal Workshop followed by a retreat away in Hongkong, and then nearer home. Fr Tony organized a two-month course for retreat directors, that included a month's retreat directed by him and Hank. Fr Terence Farias' ten-year term as the secretary of JAMI (Jesuits among Muslims in India) was drawing to a close on October 4. On the occasion the Provincial of India wrote to Terence: “Starting from scratch you have built up this work and interest in it among Jesuits and other priests, religious and laypeople in a truly admirable manner, though little known, or appreciated. If there is so much awareness among Bishops and religious of the importance of this ministry, it is in large measure due to your efforts and dogged interest and perseverance. For all this and much more, I am deeply grateful to you, and thank you very sincerely also in the name of the entire Assistancy.” (KNL September 1987)

Contributed by Fr Jerome D'Souza, SJ