



KS » December 2023 » Vol 96 » No. 12



## PROVINCIAL'S MUSINGS

**M**y visit to Japan recently has been memorable. I met our three men from Karnataka – Cyril Veliath, Arun D'Souza and Nithin Coelho – each one contributing uniquely to the mission of the Society. I also visited the Jesuit communities and apostolic institutions, made a pilgrimage to the places where St Francis Xavier preached and visited places of historical interest. What inspired me most was the international character of the province, the disciplined life, capacity for resilience and development of Japan, their respect for persons and love for their culture. What touched my heart the most was celebrating the Eucharist in the Novitiate Chapel at Hiroshima where Fr Pedro Arrupe nursed the atom bomb victims, seeing the site of the dropping of the atom bomb and the museum depicting pictures and stories of that deplorable event.

What moved me most was the epitaph in the Hiroshima Museum: "No one else should ever suffer as we have." This heartrending message of hibakusha, forged in a cauldron of suffering and sorrow, transcends hatred and rejection. Its spirit is generosity and love for humanity; its focus is the future of humankind. As a response to the hibakusha's appeal, the epitaph on the Cenotaph of the Atomic bomb victims reads: "Let all the souls here rest in peace; for we shall not repeat the evil." I suppose this is a strong message to the Ukraine, Gaza and Manipur crises.

There is no Christmas celebration in Bethlehem this year. The Christmas Crib in Bethlehem is a manger in the midst of rubble, resembling a destroyed house in Gaza and Jesus as a child under the rubble. We've seen so many images of children being pulled out of the rubble. What is the meaning of Christmas in the context of the brutal murder of children in Gaza? God is in solidarity with those who are oppressed and with those who are suffering. While the world is celebrating the children of Gaza are under the rubble. While the world is celebrating the families of Gaza and Manipur are displaced and their homes are destroyed.

I wish you the Joy and Peace of Christmas filled with God's choicest Blessings. Let us stand in the light of Christ – where Love overcomes hatred; Truth overcomes deceit and Hope overcomes despair.



- DIONYSIUS VAZ, SJ



## APPOINTED / APPROVED BY FR GENERAL

**Fr Erik John J. Gerilla:** Regional Superior of East Timor

**Fr Thomas Perumalil (PAT):** Socius to the POSA

**Fr Cyril Royan Castelino** is approved for the Final Vows.

Fr General promulgated the revised **Statutes on Religious Poverty in the Society of Jesus and Instruction for Administration and Finances (SOP-IAF)** on 14 November, 2023.

## APPOINTED/ APPROVED BY FR PROVINCIAL

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

**Karnataka Province task force for reimagining and restructuring process in South Asia:**

Frs Brian Pereira (C), Melwin Mendonca, Ronald Pais, Shantharaj Thomas, Sujay Daniel, Teyol Machado and Sch Sharun D'Souza

## PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

### December 2023

02-10: Visiting Japan Province

11-15: Visitation: SAC, Mangaluru

16-17: Meeting of Lay & Religious DoWs: Fatima Retreat House, Mangaluru

17: Platinum Jubilee : FRH, Mangaluru

18: Province Consult: FRH, Mangaluru

19-20: Visitation: Ashirvad, Bengaluru

21-23: Programme for Tertians on Governance: CISR, Pune / Visitation : DNC, Pune

28-30: Province Sammelan: MSJ, Bengaluru

05-06: Visitation: Loyola Sadan, Kalaburagi

07-08: Visitation: Vinayalaya Juniorate, Mumbai

09-12: Reimagining: Kohima Region

14-15: Visitation: Swami Rajendra Nilaya, Pandithahalli

17-18: Programme: General Chapter- Sisters of St Charles Borromeo: Bengaluru

20: Province Consult: LM, Bengaluru

21: Final Vows

23: Jesuit PhD Scholars' Colloquium: St Joseph's University, Bengaluru.

24-25: Visitation: SAC, Harihar

26-27: Regents' Meet

28-31: Visitation: Jnana Jyothi, Anekal

### January 2024

03: Blessing and Inauguration of Loyola PU College, Vijayapura.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**December 16-17:** Meeting of Lay & Religious DoWs: Fatima Retreat House, Mangaluru.

**December 28-30:** Province Sammelan: Mount St Joseph, Bengaluru.

**January 3, 2024:** Blessing and Inauguration of the Loyola PU College, Vijayapura.

**January 21, 2024:** Final vows of **Frs Anthony Lawrence, Maxim Dias** and **Pratap Chandru** at MSJ, Bengaluru. Holy Eucharist will be at 10.30 AM.

**January 23-24, 2024:** Jesuit PhD Scholars' Colloquium: St Joseph's University, Bengaluru.

**February 24-25, 2024:** Spiritual Directors' Colloquium: Prerana, Bengaluru.

**Province Retreat on De Statu Societatis Iesu:**

**April 12-20, 2024, Place:** Dhyanashrama, 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.

**New Email ID of Fr Rohan D'Almeida:** <rohansj@jesuits.net>

## POPE'S WORLDWIDE PRAYER NETWORK (PWPN): DECEMBER

**For persons with disabilities:** We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.





## YUVOTSAVA 2023:

Together Towards Transformation: (Empowering the Youth for the Church of Today)



The scholastics from Jesuit Formation Centre for Theology (JFCT), Anekal, along with the community members, organized “Yuvotsava 2023,” a one-day youth convention for around 200 youth from nine parishes of the Begur Deanery along with the students from Loyola College, Bannerughatta on November 19, 2023, at Jnana Jyothi Campus. The purpose was to bring together the Catholic youth in the vicinity and help them grow in awareness of their role and contribution to the Church and society in the current times under the theme “Empowering the Youth for the Church of Today.”



Fr Jacob Anil D’Sa, SDB, the Director of DB Yuva Spandana, resource person of the event, inaugurated the ceremony with a symbolic gesture of lighting the lamps and unveiling the “Yuvotsava” stage letters. Schs Nishanth Noronha and Sharun D’Souza conducted a vibrant praise and worship service followed by a short dance by the scholastics.

Sch Arun Lobo opened the day with an ice-breaking session, after which the resource person addressed the youth on the synodal church and the pivotal role of youth in the church followed by group discussion and interaction. The second half of the day was marked by a “youth walk” which had the entire group of participants divided into five sub-groups, each exploring the 5G’s of Yuvotsava: Gift, Gratitude, Generosity, Guide, and Glow.

## KJES YOUTH WORKS (PCYM) //



AICUF students from various units had a Rural Exposure Programme at Mundgod to acquire a deeper understanding of daily life in village communities. AICUF celebrated Constitution



The day culminated in a solemn thanksgiving Eucharist, bringing spiritual closure to an eventful day. It was wonderful to see the priests and scholastics of the Jnana Jyothi community working, walking, interacting, and dancing - with their cassocks on! This was also a small token of our efforts to promote vocations, recalling a few stories of youngsters being attracted by the cassocks worn by brothers or priests.

To keep the flame of Yuvotsava burning, we circulated an online feedback form, and also created a WhatsApp group for the purpose of networking and follow-up action. A million thanks to Jesuit communities in Bengaluru and Mangaluru and also a few parishioners who generously supported us financially to make this event a grand success. Special thanks to the Province Youth Coordinator, Fr Joel Fernandes and his team.



**To see the highlights of YUVOTSAVA-2023, please click on the link and subscribe:**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c1-WwR-snzW>

- Sch Johnson R

Day at St Joseph’s University marking the event with talks, discussions, a street play, inter-unit sports items and a thematic flash mob. The event concluded with the students joining the



## ARRUPE NIVAS



The month of November began with a grand celebration of the Kannada Rajyotsava in the campus. Noted Kannada cine stars Prem Kumar, popularly known as Nenapirali Prem, Mr Aravind K P and Ms Divya Uruduga were the chief guests for the celebrations. One of our staff members, Dr Premajyothi D, Assistant Professor at the School of Social Work, was honored with the Kannada Rajyotsava Award 2023 by the Government of Karnataka for her exemplary service as a social worker, particularly in the uplift of various marginalized communities.

The School of Communication and Media Studies of St Joseph's University (SJU) celebrated 10 years of the launch of two of its B.Voc programmes. The school also hosted the biggest media and arts festival in Bengaluru which was fusion of three of its fests namely, Allura, Artistica, and Rushes National Film Festival. Prominent people from the industry Mr D Satya Prakash, film director and Ms Anuja Chauhan, novelist and advertiser visited the campus and interacted with the students. The undergraduate Chemical Society brought together chemistry students from various PU colleges in Bengaluru for their fest 'Elementia'23. It aimed to break the ice between heavy scientific jargon and everyday life by popularizing the chemical sciences. The event received a very good response from the city colleges.

## ASHIRVAD



Fr Anthony Arul attended a two-day workshop on 'Empowering Advocacy', organized under the aegis of MAIN and held at De Nobili College, Pune. Along with Fr Vijay (AND) he gave a session, at the same workshop, on the 'Role of Social Media'. Fr Arun Luis attended the meeting of PDDs at Sathyodayam, Hyderabad.

three-day rally of farmers and labourers in the city, which had eleven colleges across Karnataka participating in it. The "Youth for Democracy" initiative, in collaboration with CRI Units of Bengaluru, Mangaluru, Hassan, and Chikmagalur, reached out to 20 institutions covering thousands of students awakening their political consciousness and raising their awareness about the Indian Constitution.

- Fr Joel Fernandes

One of our third year B.Sc. students, Ms Aditi Ashwin was selected for the prestigious Khordana Programme for Scholars 2023 awarded by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Govt. of India. As part of the Programme, she did her internship at the School of Medicine at Washington University in St Louis, USA from June to August 2023.

The University hosted its first Family Day celebration for all the staff and their families. Over a thousand people, family members of SJU fraternity spent an evening filled with fun, frolic and making friends.

Fr Victor Lobo delivered the inaugural address at the 7th All India Medical Conference held at Bangalore Medical College on the theme "Save Public Health and Medical Education. Stop Corporatisation". Over 600 doctors and medical professionals from across India, Sri Lanka and Africa attended his talk.

Fr Swebert D'Silva, Rector and Fr Arun D'Souza, the finance officer had been to Boston, USA to connect with some American Universities like Boston College, College of the Holy Cross and Fordham University. The visit was very fruitful and enlightening in terms of fund-raising, student Formation, campus ministry, service learning, research collaboration, faculty scholars exchange, faculty training programmes, etc.

- Fr Roshan Castelino

He addressed several groups on the upcoming general elections, including the CRI units of Telangana, Shimoga, Hassan, Goa and Mangaluru; Diocesan Commissions and Catholic Sabha in Mangaluru; PPIC meet of the Capuchins in Lucknow, and the Diocesan Clergy in Goa. Fr Joseph Lobo taught a course at JD, Pune;



was the resource person at the meeting of the heads of Pune Jesuit Province Commissions, and animated a day's orientation programme for the provincial chapter of a religious congregation in Hyderabad.

Ashirvad hosted a two-day leadership training programme for the social action personnel of our mission units, and a day's programme for the young priests of the province awaiting final profession. In collaboration with SJBHS, SJCC, SJCL Dotdash Meredith, and CARE (Centre for

### FATIMA RETREAT HOUSE



A good number of religious of Mangaluru attended and appreciated the talk on *Laudate Deum* (Pope's pastoral exhortation), given by Fr Frederick D'Silva on December 3, as part of Advent preparation. Frs Joseph Monteiro, Ivan Sequeira, Anil D'Mello, Terence Farias and Joseph Rodrigues directed retreats to groups or individuals.

Our 16 regents had their Triduum here directed by Fr Joseph Monteiro. Sch Deslon Vas was with us for a couple of months attending to his back pain. We appreciate his quiet presence

### INIGO SADAN



The staff of SJIPS went on an educational tour, during the Dasara holidays, to Delhi, Agra and Jaipur. The school organized EXPLORICA (a science exhibition) showcasing students' talents and creativity in the field of science. Many were fascinated with their experience of a mobile planetarium.

In the outreach programme organized by the Harmony Club of SJHS, our students interacted with the members of the Soliga tribe on BR Hills and witnessed their dances and their harmonious pattern of life. So also the excursion to Coorg proved to be a glimpse into nature's grandeur. The annual athletic meet had two of our alumni as chief guests: Mr Karunakar at the inaugural ceremony and Mr Abhishek at the closing ceremony. The Agro Educational Tour organized by the School Eco Club gave our students valuable insights into the different facets of agriculture. Interact Club Week (November 20-25) was observed with a variety of activities to create awareness on social issues. The Club succeeded in collecting some resources for an orphanage through cash donations and by the sale of old newspapers, books, etc.

The Electoral Literacy Club of SJICPUC

Amenities, Rehabilitation and Education), Ashirvad Centre for Social Concern organized a Bala Mela for the students of our tuition centres, enabling 400 children from the under-privileged sections of society to have a fun-filled day and to carry home gifts sponsored by the benefactors. Along with the celebration of Deepawali, we had a fruitful meeting with the IRHM members to plan for a wider participation in its programmes.

- Fr Joseph Lobo

and thank him for all the varied services he rendered. We wish him the very best as he resumes his regency at Loyola Mandir. Fr Joseph Rodrigues attended a meeting of Jesuit counsellors in Kolkata.

Gratefully commemorating 75 years of its existence, Fatima Retreat House celebrated 'Founder's Day' on Sunday, 3rd December, with Bishop Francis Serrao presiding over the Eucharist in the Divine Mercy church.

- Fr Thomas Quadras

arranged a guest lecture by Fr Dr Maxim Dias who engaged the audience in a lively discussion after speaking to them convincingly on the Role of Youth in Indian Democracy. The Social Service League arranged a friendly encounter between our students and those of Sri Vidyanketan School, Medahalli. Mr Muralidhar Koteswar (Mg Director of Mentor Cloud India) was our chief guest at the Inter-Religious Prayer Meet, which had the theme: Unity-in-Diversity. The annual Interclass Cultural Fest provided a platform to our students to exhibit their talents and skills in performing arts particularly around the theme 'Elements of Nature.' The chief guest on the occasion was Mr. Thomson Thomas, a popular music composer and fusion violinist. On November 17, the Mind Gym Club introduced a new scheme 'Study Hour' which invites students to participate in focused and silent learning sessions and provides them with a structured platform for intellectual growth and academic development.

St Joseph's School, CBSE conducted 'Building Synergy', a capacity building programme for the teachers. A much appreciated picnic was organized for the support staff. The students of

Classes IX and XI went on an educational tour to Vijayapura where they had a cultural exchange with their twinning partners at Loyola School and PU College, and learned much about the historical and architectural heritage of the city. In the meantime, students of Classes VII and VIII had a day's picnic to Grameen Camp. Several of our students took part in the CBSE National Athletic Sports Meet 2023. Our staff and students had an opportunity to interact with representatives of a few universities in the United States who had come on a visit to our country. The School put up "Symphony of Diversity" on November 25 with

## JESUIT NIVAS



TIMES School Survey 2023-24 has ranked SJBHS No.1 in Karnataka in recognition of the affordable holistic education we provide. Bala Mela - Makkala Habba had 400 children from the underprivileged section of society taking part in a fun-filled day. The Pre-Primary Annual Day was celebrated with the Christmas Musical as its highlight, while the Primary School Fun Fest 'Chilgala' was a joyous extravaganza. The first ever MERAKI, Art & Craft Festival was inaugurated by Ms Rachel Shibani (Founder, My Master's Strokes) and Mr Vimalanathan S A (an international artist). We had 'Eucranium' and 'Infinity' – intra-school science and maths fests – stimulating the creative genius of students. The Annual Aquatic Meet was inaugurated by Mr Sharath M Gayakwad (Programme Director - Zee Swim Academy). While a few staff attended a two-day fire safety training workshop, our students had seminars on cyber security and road safety. Our U-16 Football team are the champions in the Baldwin Shield Inter-school tournament and the U-16 & U-18 Basketball teams emerged winners in the Alumni Clarence Cup.



At SJPU, Equinox 2023, an Inter-Collegiate Fest, had 'Eminence' as its theme, and offered students a platform to showcase their talents in

a message on social harmony. The little Josephites (from LKG to Class II) had a Bag-less Fun Day, and cherished the event as a day of boundless joy and laughter. A group of forty students had the rare opportunity of visiting the Laboratory for Electro-Optic Systems of ISRO as part of an educational field trip. Class X students had a workshop on "Math Magic and Memory Development" conducted by the renowned "Mathe-magician" Mr Minoos Jokhi who gave a demonstration of the tricks and techniques of improving memory and mathematical skills.

- Sch Avin A

literary and cultural spheres. The Committee for Social Concern organised a Vigilance Awareness Programme, featuring thought-provoking paper presentations as well as creative competitions. The rural exposure camp to Manvi allowed both staff and students to immerse themselves in the realities of rural life. The Electoral Literacy Club celebrated National Voters' Day by conducting a variety of impactful activities. Samagra (St Joseph's Holistic Wellness Centre) conducted a 20-hour training programme for our staff in basic skills in Mentoring and Counselling. Simultaneously, Sadhana (Counselling Unit of SJPU), in collaboration with Samagra, organized 'Kairos', a positive wellness session (Nov 8-18) for II Year students. The Art Club conducted a workshop titled 'Artful Equations.' The grand 140th Annual Sports Meet was graced by the presence of League Cricketer, Mr C M Gautham. The PU Level Sports Fest, 'Solstice', held on the following day, added to the athletic fervour. The Assistant Electoral Roll Officer (Estate-BBMP), addressing the students, stressed the importance of civic responsibility in registering for and casting one's vote. Closing the month on a compassionate note, the Committee for Social Concern organised the 'Make Someone Smile' campaign – a drive that encouraged students to carry extra food in their lunch boxes and share it with their less fortunate brethren, in the premises of Majestic and Shivajinagar bus stands.

SJCL welcomed the new entrants with an orientation programme which had Fr Brian Pereira (Director, Samagra), Dr Rahul Singh (Professor, NLSIU) and Ms Sritha Sandon (Faculty, Monfort College) as resource persons. The College organized a quiz competition on the Indian Constitution – 'Consti Q' - in Kannada, for the children of Government schools in the city. Around

16 teams participated in the event. Notable among the programmes organized by the Constitution Committee of SJCL are: workshops for the underprivileged children studying in rural or semi-urban schools; "Vox Cad", an elocution competition simulating the Constituent Assembly; "Constitutional Palette," a poster making competition on slogans based on the Constitu-

### JNANA JYOTHI, Anekal



In the whirlwind of November, JFCT scholastics found themselves navigating a bustling schedule. Amidst their studies, they managed to carve out moments for crafting short videos on the significance of Constitution Day. Yuvotsava – 2023, a youth programme organised for the catholic youth of Begur Deanery, has left an indelible mark on the youth which, hopefully, will be cherished for a long time.

Students of St Joseph's PU College returned to the campus in an exuberant mood after their mid-semester holidays. They took part in the various activities of Kalotsava – 2023 in a spirit of competition and teamwork. The culmination of this mega event on November 2 was combined with the celebration of Kannada Rajyotsava. Cricket matches between various teams, conducted on this occasion, cheered many a face in the campus. We had the celebration of Constitu-

### JOSEPH NIVAS, Hassan



Kannada Rajyotsava, celebrated at St Joseph's English Medium School, had Mr Uday Ravi, (President of Indian Languages Newspapers Association) as the chief guest. On Children's Day, our teachers thrilled the students with a variety entertainment programme. The school picnic helped students to explore the picturesque spots in Madikeri. Our teachers and students are taking new delight in learning, thanks to the digital interactive panels with which our classrooms are now equipped. The foundation for the new Jesuit residence has been laid, and the construction work is in progress.

Many students participated in the inter-school literary competitions conducted by St Joseph's High School on November 29. The event was sponsored by our alumnus, Mr Nagaraj. Chil-

### LOYOLA MANDIR



Fr Joseph D'Mello was on the move holding sessions on *De Statu Societatis* (DSS) for Jesuits in Bengaluru, Mangaluru, Dharwad and Vijayapura. He found time to conduct a renewal

programme. Students of I BA, LLB visited St Joseph's Special School as part of their outreach programme. The Law & Development Committee of the College organised a panel discussion on Women's Reservation in Parliament. The Legal Aid Committee visited Manvi to assist in the 'Balamela' organized by the Loyola Educational Institutions.

- Fr Joel Fernandes

tion Day on November 25 highlighting the theme of unity in diversity and radiating the themes of fundamental human rights and inter-religious harmony.

Other activities conducted at JJ were: Children's Day at Balajyothi Girls Hostel, and Kannada Rajyotsava, Ayudha Puja, and Deepavali with the tailoring students. The celebration of Constitution Day - at which Prof Bhaskar Simha underscored the relevance of the Constitution in our lives - ensured the participation of SHG members, youth, and facilitators of study centres. Catholic teachers in our institutions organized a Mass and a cultural programme in the parish on November 12 to celebrate Children's Day in which about 20 children participated in the Bible Quiz organized by the Begur deanery.

- Sch Noel Dias

dren's Day celebration was made special by our teachers who organized a Food and Games Fair in which the parents too joined.

St Joseph's College has begun the new academic year with much joy and hope. The sizeable intake of students to the new batch of BCA has not only added to the strength of the student community but also instilled new enthusiasm among the teachers. *Shramadana*, among other celebrations in the campus, marked the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. The cultural fest of the College, 'ZEST', saw students participating in a variety of fun games and activities. The Graduation Day, held on December 2, had Dr Girish D P (Principal, Government Engineering College, Hassan), as the chief guest.

- Fr Santhosh D'Souza

programme to JMJ Sisters and classes to Silver Jubilarians of the Sisters of the Holy Cross (Hazaribagh) at Kothanur. He also travelled to Ranchi as a resource person for the Discerning

Leadership Programme. In the meantime, the Province Finance and Building Commission had its meeting at Loyola Mandir under the leadership of Fr Jason Furtado. He flew to Hazaribagh to attend the COJET meeting and thence to Kozhikode as revisor of Kerala Province. Fr Julian Fernandes (KHM) spent a few days with us before and after his trip to Europe. His sister, Sr Angelica/Lucy, MSI, who works in Hong Kong, joined him for a couple

## LOYOLA SADAN, Kalaburagi



St Xavier's PU College, Kalaburagi, observed Constitution Day (Samvidhana Habba) with Prof Dr I S Vidyasagar as the chief guest. Earlier this month we hosted a successful, interactive session on 'Psychological Well Being of the Students.' The participants were students from St Xavier's PU College and 75 students from the Department of Psychology, Central University Gulbarga. In celebrating Kanakadasa Jayanthi we recalled the legacy of the saintly poet in the fields of Carnatic music and devotional songs. Through their messages and songs on this occasion, Mr Jagdish Doddamani (Hindi and Political Science lecturer) and Dr Mahesh Rudhrakar (Kannada lecturer), created an atmosphere of reverence in the audience.

## MANVI



Loyola Institutions celebrated Rajyotsava Day with Smt Ambamma Pratap, teacher, as the main speaker. On this auspicious occasion the Alumni Association had its get-together.

Thirty Bethany Tertians, accompanied by their Asst. Instructor, Sr. Anita, arrived from Mangaluru to live among the rural families in Manvi and Sindhanur talukas. Enriched spiritually, socially, and experiencing the pinch of poverty and discomfort, they returned at the end of the month, a little pulled down in weight.

Fr Maxim Rasquinha celebrated his 91st birthday in the community as well as in the various units of the mission. Frs Leo Pereira and Don Prem Lobo joined the Raichur Zone CRI outing to Vijayapura. St Joseph' College PU students and the MBA students spent two and three days respectively for exposure in different villages of Manvi. Fr Don planned and executed the entire programme. Fr Ashwin Cordeiro accompanied the PU students.

We were sorry to hear that Sr Mary Beena (SC), who was Principal of Xavier School for three years around 2010, passed away in Bengaluru after a

of days. Fr Vincent Crasta, after being away from the province for several years, celebrated his birthday at Loyola Mandir and experienced a fresh attachment to the Province. Sch Deslon Vas, having recuperated at FRH, has joined the LM community and resumed his role as assistant to the Socius with, of course, a lot of TLC of LM.

- Fr Olvin Veigas

The Fifth Annual Day of St Xavier's English Medium School was held on November 29 with the captivating theme, "Celebrating Unity in Diversity." The chief guest on the occasion was Mr Vijaykumar Jamakhandi (B.E.O., Kalburagi South), and the guest of honour was Mr Mallikarjun Ikkalaki (Inspector of Faratabad). The entire school, from Nursery to 7th Standard, actively participated in the programme, showcasing their diverse talents and richness of culture. The festivities concluded on a communal note with a shared meal, fostering a sense of togetherness among students, parents, and staff.

- Fr Roshan Pinto

lingering illness. May her soul rest in peace.

The Balamela, organized by Fr Don Prem with the assistance of Fr Vinod Paul, had about 700 children from Manvi and Sindhanur talukas participating. Mr Shashikanth Shivapure (DSO, Zilla Parishad Raichur) was the chief guest. Loyola staff members had a two-day outing in Bengaluru guided by Fr Wilson Moras. Two staff members of St Joseph's Boys' High School were with us to audit our Loyola students.

Mrs Dinah Findlay, Mr Peter Findlay and Mr Andrew Lewis, our friends from England, were with us for ten days. They spent time meeting students and staff and taking part in various activities, mainly in Kapepaladi School and Arrupe Hostel. They visited several villages too. A few old students, beneficiaries of Dinah, met with our English friends and Jesuits to discuss how we could inspire the Old Students to join hands with us in helping their brothers and sisters to come up in life through education. It was the first meeting of the kind, and was successful.

With an eye on admissions, Loyola Degree College



organized an inter-PU College sports competition in which 18 PU colleges took part. Fr Praveen

Kumar and his staff organized a Science Exhibition.  
- Fr Maxim Rasquinha

## MOUNT ST JOSEPH



We were privileged to have Fr Provincial to celebrate the mass on the All Souls day. The novices were enriched by a talk by Ms Dorita (one of our collaborators) on Mother Mary. They were captivated by the insights on 'Jesuitness' shared by Fr Jerry Rozario (CEN). The Novitiate community warmly welcomed children from various parishes under the banner 'One Day with Christ', to give them an opportunity to spend some time together and to feel drawn to the Jesuit way of life. The novices conducted the Triduum in honour of St Stanislaus Kostka. 'One Day with Companions' provided a new experience to the novices as they explored the streets of Bengaluru with responsible freedom, obtaining daily bus passes and enjoying time with their companions. Beyond these activities, the Novitiate is undergoing beautification through the creativity and hard work of novices in the garden, providing them a chance to care for the common home and the visitors with an opportunity to meet God in His creation.

We hosted an inter-ITI volleyball tournament, promoting sportsmanship and camaraderie among participants. A session on First Aid and CPR (Car-

dio-Pulmonary Resuscitation) was conducted to enhance the knowledge and skills of participants to assist in medical emergencies.

The Loyola Degree College celebrated its 4th Graduation ceremony on November 11. Nadoja Dr Wooday P Krishna (Educationist and Social Activist) was the chief guest on the occasion and Dr Srinivas Chowdappa (Registrar of Evaluation, Bangalore University) was the guest of honour. Weeklong competitions were held on the occasion of Constitution Week. The College and Loyola ITI jointly organized a blood donation camp in association with Suraksha Blood Centre, Yadiyur. Congratulations to Fr Alphonse Fernandes who delivered a talk at the inter-religious harmony meet at Kaginele on the occasion of the 536th birth anniversary of Kanakadasa.

As always, Dhyanaashrama is busy hosting month-long and 8-day retreats, providing retreatants with a serene environment for spiritual rejuvenation.

- Fr Clarence D'Souza

## MUNDGOD



LKV had Ms Bincy Joseph (athlete and our alumnae) as the chief guest at the Annual Sports Meet. The Student Cabinet of the School, in a unique way, observed a day of gratitude to the support staff. The new cabinet had the investiture ceremony in the presence of the BEO of Mundgod. The presence of Sch Austin Rodrigues, a budding Jesuit advocate, added particular value to our observance of Constitution Day. Our students have fared well and won prizes in the kho-kho tournaments held in Hubli. Our staff went on excursion to Goa and enhanced their team spirit. Class X students, accompanied by a few staff, went on an educational tour to Mangaluru and Udupi. Amidst all this hustle and bustle, the School held an open house for parents and teachers to discuss the general and academic progress of our students.

It was a privilege to have Mr Vinod Balnaik, Civil Judge and JMFC, Mundgod, visit Loyola PU College on the occasion of Constitution Day, and address the staff and students on how important it is for us as citizens to know the Constitu-

tion. Our II PU (Com) student, Anupama, having won the first place in District level folklore singing competition held at Vijayapura, is being selected to represent our College at the State level. Fr Leo Florence was invited to be the chief guest and to deliver a message on the occasion of the Inter-Religious Harmony Prayer Meet conducted at Roshni Social Service Centre, Hangal.

LVK, Mundgod had a 3-day residential Leadership Programme for the Siddi youth from Mundgod, Haliyal and Yellapur talukas. LVK celebrated Constitution Day on a grand scale with a candle light procession with the collaboration of some of the Siddi communities and local youth. Nearly a hundred students of St Aloysius College, Mangaluru, accompanied by three of their teachers, spent four days in Mundgod villages for rural exposure. While here, they collected data for a baseline survey for the Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives. The construction of a light roof on LVK building is in progress.

Five of the LVK-Hangal staff attended a 5-day

training programme on Social Analysis at ISI, Bengaluru. The new tailoring centre at Hullatti has 15 adolescent girls in training. Nearly 120 children took part in the Children's Day programme. We joined hands with other like-minded organizations to celebrate Constitution Day which consisted of a mega rally, Lamba-

ni dance and dollu-kunitha. Shri Jnana Prakash Swamiji from Mysuru and Mrs Mallika Ganti, the former Vice Chancellor of Hampi University were the chief guests. Students of SJIM, Bengaluru-60 young men and women- were here at LVK Hangal for their rural immersion programme.

- Fr Leo Florence

## NAVASADHANA

Navasadhana Day was celebrated on December 3, preceded by a number of games and competitions aimed at strengthening the bonds of community. In tune with the theme "Kristhanalli Hosa Belaku," the house acquired a cheery ambience with colourful festoons and artistic decorations. At the Holy Eucharist, Fr Cyril Castelino was the main celebrant and Fr Rayan Periera the homilist. The cultural program that followed was

much appreciated by all present: parents, teachers from St Joseph's PU College, our collaborators and neighbours. The cultural tour, that took the pre-novices to Mangaluru, served not only to broaden our horizons with cultural explorations, but also to give us a well-deserved break from the daily routine. Fr Ronald Pais gave a course on psycho-sexual integration for the pre-novices.

- Sch Darshan Kumar

## ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE, Mangaluru

St Aloysius Gonzaga School celebrated Kannada Rajyotsava with Ms Tanvi Rao (a renowned Kannada film and theatre artist), as the chief guest. On Children's Day which coincided with our celebration of Deepavali, the teachers presented a variety entertainment programme to entertain the children. Class X and Class XI students were taken to Mysuru and Madikeri respectively for their field trips. The School NCC Unit celebrated NCC Day on November 24. In the national level competitions organised by CBSE, Yuvaraj Kunder (Class VI) bagged two gold medals in Roller Skating; and Diya Naik, Shanvi K and Janice D'Souza (all three of Class V) bagged gold medals in Swimming. Classes VI to XII had their Annual Sports Day on 17 November at Mangala Stadium, whereas Classes I to IV had theirs on November 20 at Pathala Ground.

On the occasion of Kannada Rajyotsava, celebrated with due grandeur, the members of the Centre for Social Concern of SAPUC visited the district prison and presented to the inmates a touching cultural programme. Pre-Unique-2023, the two-day Inter-school and Inter-Collegiate Fest, had over a thousand participants from 35 institutions contesting in mind-boggling competitions. Music Day, celebrated on November 1, had Ms Ester Valeria Noronha (actor, singer, and an alumna of SAPUC) as the chief guest, and Rev Fr Melwin Pinto SJ, Rector, as president. The buddy programme, a brainchild of the Department of Counseling, had for its theme: 'Together We Belong: Celebrating Diversity'. One of the first ventures of the programme was an interaction with specially-abled youth of Mangaluru.

The Centre for Inter-religious Harmony organized Harmony Week on the theme 'Celebrate Diversity and Embrace Unity.' A variety of programmes like talks on inter-faith harmony, prayers during the morning assembly, quizzes, etc. were conducted to deepen our awareness and need of, and commitment to, inter-religious harmony. As many as 41 teams participated in the second edition of the Aloysian Premier Cricket League. At the Annual Sports Meet of the College, Dr Gerald Santhosh D'Souza (Dean and Chair, Department of Physical Education, Mangalore University) was the chief guest. Fifteen of our students attended a one-day workshop on life skills organized by St Agnes College (Autonomous). Our students attended the National Students Leadership Training Programme (NSLTP) at Navintha Pastoral Centre in Lucknow. The Centre for Ecological Concern organized an expedition to Kanthavara Forest aimed at the study of biodiversity and ecology. The AICUF members celebrated Constitution Day by visiting the District Prison and presenting before the inmates a meaningful skit on the social evil of drug trafficking. Children from five government Kannada medium schools participated in the Balamela, an initiative of the Centre for Social Concern. Constitution Day was marked by a series of sessions creating awareness of Constitutional Values in the present context. The resource persons were: Dr Joyce Sabina Lobo, Mr Alwyn D'Souza, and Dr Rose Veera D'Souza - from SAC (Autonomous). Special sessions on theology were organized for the Catholic students as part of their faith formation. The Festival of Lights was celebrated with a cultural show that was designed to promote inter-faith harmony.

On this occasion, the Student Council initiated a donation drive to encourage in students the “spirit of giving back” as a token of their social responsibility. Among other significant activities of the College were: address to students on career options in Merchant Navy, a workshop on designing, a visit by Kannada Sangha members to the Sri Manthibai Smaraka Government Museum on the occasion of World Heritage Week, participation of students in the Drug Awareness Walkathon, and various other competitions and activities organized by clubs and associations. Students won prizes in several inter-collegiate competitions organized by different colleges and institutions.

Students of St Aloysius ITI joined the City police to participate in the Anti-Drug Awareness Walkathon. These days, students and staff of many institutions (like high schools, ITIs, and Polytechnics) come to visit our ITI to see our lab facilities and to interact with our students and staff. Among these were the staff of Jeevan Jyoti ITI, Honnavar, who

spent a fruitful day receiving motivational inputs and learning techniques to improve admissions. In addition to technical training, our students are taught life skills including the art of cooking; yes, even the recipe for watermelon mocktail as taught by Mr Norbert from Sydney. The recent visit of our students to Belthangady was for them an unforgettable experience as they witnessed new experiments in paddy cultivation and harvesting, by the rural folk who lived a simple life. While in Belthangady, our students had the pleasure of an adventurous climb to Jamalabad Fort. Back in town, they took part in the Sangeeth Tsunami, a concert put up by a local well known singer. Fr John D Souza attended the AGM of SKIP and got elected to the Governing Board.

Our I Year B.Ed students are sent to different schools in the city for their ‘block teaching’ programme, while the II Years are completing their ‘internship’ in fulfilment of the requirement for their B.Ed. degree.

- Fr Leo D’Souza

### SWAMI RAJENDRA NILAYA, Pandithahalli

We are glad to inform you that Pandithahalli village has now got a stage stop for KSRTC Express buses thus making access to Swami Rajendra Nilaya easier. On the occasion of Deepavali, our students and staff had an enlightening talk by a local Swamiji who explained to us the significance of the festival. The three-day talent fest,

“Srujana” was a great opportunity for our students to explore and display their talents. A few alumni of SJBHS, Bengaluru, accompanied by Fr Sunil Fernandes, came on a brief visit to Holy Angeles’ School and a pleasant interaction with our students.

- Sch Shaun D’Silva

### VIDYA NIKETAN, Dharwad

The VN Juniors spent a few days at Vinayalaya, Mumbai, for a short course on phonetics, conducted by Fr Vincent Saldanha (GUJ). Our community played host to Jesuits from Bengaluru, Harihar and Mundgod for an enriching, daylong seminar on *De Statu Societatis* (DSS) with Fr Joseph D’Mello as the resource person. The newly ordained priests of the Province spent two days at VN, reflecting on their pastoral experience. Bishop Francis Serrao SJ, who had come on a visit, addressed the new priests and gave them a few practical hints on pastoral ministry. VN community as well as the Nirmal Nagar parish community had the privilege of having the new priests celebrate a thanksgiving Mass for them. We are grateful to Sch Nikil Robin (outgoing beadle) and his team for the service they rendered to the com-

munity in the past six months; and we welcome Sch. Melvyn Govias (new beadle) and his team, and wish them a fruitful tenure. Prof. Shiva Sundar from Bengaluru was the resource person on Constitution Day, jointly organized by the Samarasa Vedika of VN and Kittel Arts College, Dharwad. Fr Joyson Vas attended a transformative training program organized by PWP/ EYM at Pilar House in Goa. He conducted a session for the vocation promoters of the Sisters of the Holy Cross (Hazaribagh) in Bengaluru, and a workshop on self-growth and leadership for the Siddi youth of Mundgod. Fr Jerome D’Souza made a quick visit to Vijayapura and Shivamogga, and conducted a one-day seminar on Scripture for the diocesan clergy in Shivamogga.

- Sch Merinth Aamose

### VIJAYAPURA

Through the intervention of Sangama CIRD, gram sabhas were held, in the month of November, involving special children in 15 panchayats

of Sindagi taluka. Simultaneously, the Chinnara Mela emerged as a milestone, attracting 350 rural children who joyously participated, winning



attractive prizes that brought happiness to their families. Loyola Sindagi recently conducted its inaugural session of the School Parliament, providing student leaders with a platform to navigate challenging questions from the opposition leaders and refine their own roles as leaders. To mark Children's Day, the school staff organized FUN FEST 2023 with an array of games and food stalls. The school also observed Constitution Week, culminating in a grand assembly themed "Country Comes Before Religion." The event had Fr Prashanth Sequeira, Jesuit lawyer, as the chief guest and Mr Peter Antony Pinto, a JCI member and Trainer, as the guest of honour.

Loyola English Medium School saw its staff bringing joy to the students on Children's Day as they entertained the students with spirited acts and dances. Parents of X Std students had a meeting with the subject teachers to discuss the significance of upcoming exams. Some teachers followed up on the meeting by visiting the homes of the students. The two-day sports extravaganza took centre stage as the High School and Higher Primary School conducted their sports event on the first day and

#### **XAVIER SADAN, Mysuru**



After the completion of the Jubilarians' Renewal Programme, Fr Arokiasamy guided an eight-day retreat at XS. Following the retreat, Frs Edward Philip and Arokiasamy conducted a course on Psycho-Spiritual and Psycho-Sexual Integration. Scholastics of JFCT, Anekal, accompanied by their mentors Frs Cyprian Tellis and Shantharaj Thomas, were with us for the Kannada Deevige Programme, after which they had their triduum under the guidance of Fr Freddie D'Silva. Frs Freddie and Arokiasamy guided five-day and eight day-retreats of a few groups of Sisters. Fr Arokiasamy also directed a retreat for SDB priests in Hyderabad.

#### **DHYAN ASHRAM, Kolkata**



The affirming presence of Fr Dionysius Vaz, our Provincial who came here on visitation, uplifted our spirits. Classes on introduction to literature by Fr Shaju Scaria (CCU) helped us develop a penchant for literature. Sch. Semon Berkman (CEN) pronounced his First Vows in November. The talk by Fr A X J Bosco (AND), who came on a visit to DA, enlightened us on the social and

#### **DE NOBILI COLLEGE, Pune**



The month of November began with the visitation by Fr Somy Matthew SJ, CSIF, followed by

the Primary School on the second day. We observed Constitution Day, the occasion being highlighted by the Principal, Fr. Santhosh Fernandes, addressing the staff and students on the importance of the values enshrined in the Constitution.

In an impressive gathering and participation at the PTA meeting, held in the new campus of Loyola PU College, the parents expressed their deep appreciation to the Management for providing state-of-the-art infrastructure and modern facilities for the benefit of the students. The festive spirit continued with the staff celebrating Deepavali and bringing the spirit of the festival to the new campus.

Vijayapura and Sindagi Jesuits joined together to go on a pilgrimage to Bhalki and strengthen their bonds of community. They were happy to meet Fr John Crasta. On December 2, the Jesuits of Kalaburagi, Manvi, and a few from Mangaluru and Bengaluru came together in Vijayapura for an input and reflection on the *De Statu Societatis*.

- Fr Ronald Serrao

Fr Freddie D'Silva was the resource person at the Faculty Development Programme at AIMIT, Mangaluru, followed by a course on Spiritual Direction for SJT Sisters, and a retreat for Bridgettine Sisters in Bengaluru. After delivering an inspiring talk on Laudate Deum at Fatima Retreat House, Mangaluru, he flew to Pune to conduct a 5-day seminar to Jesuit Tertians at DNC. In the meantime, Fr Edward Philip was fully engaged, visiting CRI units in Mysuru and organising the CRI Annual Meeting.

- Fr Edward Philip D

political state of affairs in our country. Activist-cum-journalist, M Dayamani Barla, shared with us her experiences of fighting for justice for tribal women. Her talk was at once an inspiration and a challenge to us in our commitment to the cause of justice for the marginalized.

- Sch Sudarshan

Fr Stanislaus D'Souza SJ, POSA. They spent time with us and addressed the community on the

needs of the Conference of South Asia, with particular reference to Formation. Soon after this visit, we had Fr Francis Fernandes SJ, PCF of Karnataka, who came on his official visit - a time of grace for us Karnatakans. We also had two rounds of fruitful sharing on *De Statu Societatis*.

### SATYA NILAYAM, Chennai



The month of November proved to be intellectually demanding for us scholastics here as we navigated through our semester exams. Following the academic rigors, we actively participated in a two-day community event, "Ohana," symbolizing family, which not only revitalized our communal spirits but also fostered creativity and strengthened our bonds. Subsequently, during the semester break, we embarked on a culturally enriching five-day tour to various places of interest in the southern part of India.

Satya Nilayam and Jnana Deepa jointly organized an interfaculty students' seminar (SN-JD Seminar) on the theme: "The Shadow of Power: Philosophical Perspectives on Violence and Politics". The event witnessed the participation of and intellectual exchange between esteemed faculty and students from both philosophy centers. Schs Prathap L and Rudolf Dhiraj D'Souza were on the organizing committee. In the team of paper presenters, we had a large contingent from Karnataka - Schs Ovin Rodrigues and Kiran Allen Branco in the SN team, and



Schs Maria Divij B, Suman D'Souza and Agil Roy J. in the JD team. Among the prize winners in various competitions were Schs Rudolf Dhiraj D'Souza, Anu Vimal Raj and Pradeep D'Souza.

Fr Francis D'Souza travelled to Pune for re-visor's work at Jnana Deepa. Adding to the grace and blessings of this academic phase was the annual visit of our provincial superior. He enlightened us, among other things, on the value of unwavering faithfulness in the observance of religious life.

- Sch Pradeep D'Souza

### VIDYANIKETAN, Thiruvananthapuram



Some of the important events at VN in the month of November were: a two-day seminar by Fr Paul Mike (MDU) on "Understanding Democracy and Challenges Ahead"; evaluation of the first term by the community with the Juniors and the staff; a quiz competition on current events; and a three-day course on Film Appreciation by Fr George Sebastian Vallocheril (KER). The course on Skills in Pastoral Ministry by Fr Linto (KER) gave us the pleasant opportunity of interacting with Bishop Christudas Rajappan, Auxiliary Bishop of the Latin Archdio-

cese of Trivandrum. We are grateful to God for the successful surgery Sch Felix Vinal (KAR) had to go through owing to the fracture of his right hand. Back in the community, he requests us prayers for strength to bear his pain and for his speedy recovery. The Provincials of the South Zone were with us on visitation, and we Juniors had an interactive session with them. We felt their presence with us and their concern for us as tokens of inspiration and grace.

- Sch Anvil Mascarenhas

### VINAYALAYA, Mumbai



The three-day camp at Kune Mission, Khandala, was an occasion for us - after the grueling first Semester - to relax and refresh ourselves in the bracing climate. Five Karnataka scholastics - Steve Rodrigues, Nikil Robin, Joshua Lobo, Prakash and Melvyn Govias - came to Vinayalaya for a week's course on the Phonology of English, guided by Fr Vincent Saldanha

(GUJ). In the evenings, the juniors joined the scholastics for a variety of activities which included a visit to our Jesuit institutions in South Mumbai, a basketball match, and a visit to the ITI College, Shilpalaya. In Shilpalaya, we had the opportunity of interacting with the young trainees. We were much impressed by the creative initiatives taken by Fr John Rose

in collaboration with other registered groups. It was a joy for us to meet with Jesuits at St Xavier's College and School. The Juniors had the privilege of taking part in the three-day Mag + s programme organized by the Bombay Jesuits (Nov 12 – 14) at St Peter's, Bandra, which was attended by about 250 youth who renewed their spiritual quest. Mr Conan Pereira conducted a workshop for the juniors (Nov 16 –

20) on Speech and Drama, and introduced us to the world of histrionics and visual media, and its potential for communicating social and spiritual values. Fr Anil Pereira, Provincial of Bombay, inaugurated and blessed the newly built memorial on 19 November. Six jubilar-ians of the Bombay Province were felicitated during a community celebration.

– Sch Royal R K

## JCCU TERTIANSHIP, Portland, USA



The cold months have descended, and the holiday season is here. It is time to seek out "hygge," the Danish term for winter refuge and spiritual warmth. The tertianship provides exactly that spiritual refuge and warmth. For us seven tertians, November has been a very intense month. We just finished our classes on the autobiography of St. Ignatius and the Constitutions of the Society of Jesus. Fr Thomas McCoog, S.J., fascinated our imagination through his witty anecdotes dug out from history, making history classes relentlessly enjoyable. Thanksgiving Day celebration was a

special occasion and an opportunity to introduce myself to American culture. It was a family celebration that reminded me of *Monti-fest*, except for many steaks, turkey, and pumpkin pie. I have had the opportunity to visit Seattle University and get to know the Jesuits working there. Right now, I am in Los Angeles, at Loyola Marymount University, immersing myself in the documents of the Second Vatican Council before we begin our intense deliberation on the same in the coming weeks of December.

- Fr Bala Kiran Kumar

## OURS IN PUBLICATION



Fr Lumnesh Swaroop Kumar, "Complex socio-ecological reality in India and a dream for a better future," *Jesuit Year Book -2024*, pp.40-43.

## REST IN PEACE



Br Lalith Fernandopulle, SJ, (SRI), 53/25, on 16 November, in Kandy, Sri Lanka.  
 Fr Joseph Chitoooparambil, SJ, (KER), 95/64, on 26 November, in Kozhikode.  
 Fr Joseph Karunaidass, SJ, (AND), 77/60, on 29 November, in Bengaluru.  
 Br Xavier S. Arockiasamy, SJ, (MDU), 92/68, on 3 December, in Tiruchirappalli.  
 Fr Peter Marandi, SJ, (DUM), 77/53, on 05 December, in Raiganj, West Bengal.  
 Fr. Lourduraj Arokiasamy, SJ, (CEN), 78/60, on 12 December, in Dindigul.  
 Mr Vinod Rodrigues, (50), elder brother of Fr William Marcel Rodrigues, on 16 November in Mangaluru.

