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PROVINCIAL'S MUSINGS

The 16th General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops began in Rome on 4 October 2023 with synodality as the theme of discussion. Fundamentally, synodality is about journeying together. It has been a “journeying together” so far from the local Church to the Universal Church. “Walking together” is at the heart of what the Church is all about, as the People of God on pilgrimage in the midst of the world. A “synodal Church” is a Church which listens. In the words of Pope Francis, “It is a mutual listening in which everyone has something to learn. The faithful people, the college of Bishops, the Bishop of Rome: all listening to each other, and listening to the Holy Spirit.” A synodal Church is a Church of encounter and dialogue. It promotes the passage from ‘I’ to ‘we’. It is also a Church of discernment. (*Instrumentum Laboris*, no. 25).

What’s unique about this Synod on synodality? Unlike past synods, this one is not about addressing a particular issue, but about becoming who God calls us to be as a Church, all of us together, amidst the reality of today’s world. It is no longer only a one-month Synod of Bishops but a three-year synodal process for the entire People of God! All are invited and no one is to be left behind or excluded. Lay people have played a significant role in the preparation of this Synod, and now, for the first time ever, lay participants are full voting members. What is significant is that among the members of the Assembly include 14 Jesuits. Among the experts and facilitators, there are eight.

So, accompanying the members of the Synod, let us pray for the Church, “that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a style of life at every level, allowing herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the world’s peripheries.” At the same time, let us reflect on synodality and its implications on Jesuit life and mission: by travelling and reflecting together we will learn how to live in communion, to achieve participation, to open ourselves to mission. Our journeying together in synodality will make us a province that is truly pilgrim and missionary.



- DIONYSIUS VAZ, SJ

APPOINTED BY FR GENERAL

Fr Xavier Olin: Provincial for the Philippine Province. .

Fr Roberto Jaramillo, (COL): Director of the Secretariat for Social Justice and Ecology. **Fr Roberto** will succeed Fr Xavier Jeyaraj, SJ, (CCU), who has been serving at the General Curia since 2017.

APPOINTED BY POSA

Fr Somy Mathew, (JAM): Conference Secretary for Integral Formation.

APPOINTED BY FR PROVINCIAL

Fr Jeevan Prabhu: Juniorate Staff, Vidya Niketan, Dharwad.

Fr Ronald Serrao: Director, Loyola PU College, Vijayapura.

Sch Adline Monteiro: Regency, Joseph Nivas, Hassan.

Sch Austin Rodrigues: Regency, Siddi Project, LVK Mundgod.

PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

October 2023

02-05: Visitation: Mundgod Mission, Mundgod

06-08: Visitation: VN, Dharwad

10-12: Programme on Mid-Life Transition:
Prerana

14: Ordination: FRH, Mangaluru

15: Province Consult: FRH, Mangaluru

16-17: Visitation: Asha Kiran

18-20: Visitation: Arrupe Nivas, Bengaluru

21: Young Priests' Meet, Ashirvad /
KRCR Training Program for CRI units

22-27: JCSA, Pune

28: MAGIS: Mundgod

30-31: Visitation: SAC, Harihar

November 2023

01-05: Visitation: MSJ Seniors, Bengaluru

04: Ordination of Fr Aravind Royce J: SJBHS
Chapel, Bengaluru

07-10: Visitation: Jesuit Nivas, Bengaluru

11-12: Meeting of LS, DoWs, CCMs: Prerana,
Bengaluru

13: Province Consult: LM, Bengaluru

15-17: Jesuit Psychologists' Meeting

18: Governing Board Meeting: SJIM, Bengaluru

19: Meeting with young priests awaiting Final Vows

22-24: Visitation: SN, Chennai

25-27: Visitation: SICJ, Trivandrum

27: Meeting of South Zone Provincials, Trivandrum

30: Governing Board Meeting: SJU, Bengaluru

CONGRATULATIONS

To our newly ordained priests, **Frs Arvin Jeevan Pais, Ashwin D'Silva, Avinash D'Souza, Jaison Lobo, Leston Baptist Lobo, Vishal Melroy Pinto** and **Vinod Mathias Saldanha**. May God bless you and your priestly ministry.

To **Sch Nishanth Noronha** and the scholastics of Jesuit Formation Center for Theology, Anekal for bringing out ಆಧ್ಯಾತ್ಮಿಕ ದಿಕ್ಕಾಚಿ - ಕ್ರಿಸ್ತನೊಂದಿಗೆ ನಮ್ಮ ನಡೆ: ಜೆಸುಟ್ ಸಮುದಾಯ ಪ್ರಾರ್ಥನಾ ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತ Karnataka Province is grateful to their valuable contribution.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deacon **Aravind Royce J** will be ordained to ministerial priesthood by Most Rev. Dr. Peter Machado, Archbishop of Bangalore on Saturday, 04 November in St Joseph's Boys' High School Chapel, Bengaluru at 5:00 PM.

Scholastics **Joseph Jerald A, Joswin Pereira, Kiran Anthony Leema, Maxim Martin D'Souza, Paul Anand Prasad D** and **Wilson Saldanha** have applied for their diaconate ordination. If anyone has information or suggestions for a discerned decision on this matter, please send them to the Provincial by 25 October 2023.

October 27-29: North Karnataka Mag+s, Mundgod Mission

November 11-12: Meeting of LS, DoWs, CCMs: Prerana, Bengaluru

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

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



POPE'S WORLDWIDE PRAYER NETWORK (PWPN): OCTOBER 2023

For the Synod: We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.



ORDINATION: Deacon Avinash D'Souza, SJ

Deacon Avinash D'Souza was ordained a priest on September 30 in the chapel of St Joseph's Boys School. The ordinandus had aptly chosen the theme for the occasion: "Pilgrim of Love and Service." Most Rev. Peter Machado, Archbishop of Bangalore, was the ordaining prelate. The homilist on the occasion was Fr Leo Florence who suc-

of joy and fellowship for Jesuits and the near and dear ones of Fr Avinash to come together and



celebrate the gift of priesthood to Fr Avinash. A short felicitation programme and the Agape that followed brought the event to a close. Thanks to the community of Jesuit Nivas who spared no efforts to make the event a memorable one.

cinctly explained the concept of priesthood and its relevance in today's context. It was a moment

- Fr Pradeep R S

ORDINATIONS: Fatima Retreat House, Mangaluru

Six Jesuit deacons were ordained priests by Rt Rev Francis Searrao, Bishop of Shimoga, on October 14 in the Divine Mercy Church, Fatima Retreat House. The newly ordained priests are: Frs Ashwin D'Silva, Jaison Lobo, Vinod Saldanha, Vishal Pinto, Arvin Pais and Leston Lobo.

friends and relatives of the new priests.

After the Mass the new priests and their parents and relatives were felicitated. Fr Leston Lobo spoke on behalf of the new priests and thanked all the persons who had, at different stages of their life, accompanied them on their journey towards priesthood.



In his homily, the Bishop expressed his joy in ordaining the six zealous young men of the Society of Jesus for the service of Christ and His Church. He exhorted the ordinandi on their privilege as well as their responsibility in participating in the ministerial priesthood. He invited the deacons to reflect Christ in their life as servants after the heart of Christ who washed the feet of His disciples.

Fr Anush D'Cunha and Sch Elson Lobo prepared the deacons for the ordination ceremony with the beautiful liturgy. Fr William Marcel Rodrigues was the Master of Ceremonies at the Ordination Mass. Fr Anil D'Mello and the FRH community as the host went out of their way to make this event a memorable one.

- Fr Anush D'Cunha

KJES YOUTH WORKS (PCYM)

A programme called "Tea with Jesuits" was arranged by PCYM in which 23 Jesuits from different communities had personal conversations with youth from our different institutions. A Jesuit Youth group ('Ignitors') of 44 volunteers visited Kuvempu Government School



near Kengeri, interacted with the children, and cleaned up the surroundings - a gesture well appreciated by the villagers as well as the school management. The North East Youth Ministry

ARRUPE NIVAS

The Student Council celebrated Teachers' Day - both for the teaching and non-teaching staff - not only with sports and fun activities, but by personally delivering gifts to every staff member. A MoU between Pontificia Universidad Javeriana (Bogota, Colombia) and St Joseph's University has been formally signed. Prof Lope Hugo Barrero Solano (Dean, Dept of Industrial Engineering) and Dr Gloria Bernal (Co-Director, Lab of Economics of Edn) toured the campus and engaged in discussions with the Centre for Global Initiatives, exploring avenues of collaboration.

A hundred Tibetan PUC students from Bylakuppe - the world's second-largest Tibetan settlement - visited SJU campus, interacted with the faculty and students, and attended an orientation by the School of Business. SJU hosted the book release of "Gandhi, the Soul Force Warrior" written by Ambassador Pascal Alan Nazareth IFS (Retd). The book was released by our alumnus, Justice Sri Nitte Santhosh Hegde (former judge of the Supreme Court and Lokayukta of Karnataka).

The Office for International Affairs of SJU, in collaboration with Loyola University Chicago and other universities, organised a synodal encounter between Pope Francis and university students. The event, which was live-streamed on YouTube, displayed one of our students addressing the Holy Father on behalf of the SJU youth community. All the Schools and Departments of SJU put their best foot forward show-

held a candlelight vigil at St Joseph's University (SJU) under the guidance of Fr James Chin SJ (KHM) to demonstrate the urgency of restoring peace in Manipur. The North East Catholic students attended a Holy Eucharist presided over by Most Rev Dominic Lumon DD, the Archbish-



op of Imphal. Seventy students from different colleges in Karnataka took part in the AICUF leadership camp held at SJU.

- Fr Joel Fernandes

ing their exhibits, specimens, models and presentations to scores of school children, students and the general public on the occasion of "Elixir," the Open Day University. The cynosure of all eyes was on the 'Jesuit Room' where portraits of Jesuit saints and posters on the history of the Society of Jesus were displayed. The secret behind this creative presentation was the efforts of Frs Francis Pinto and Maxim Dias and the assistance rendered by the scholastics.

The Karnataka State Higher Education Council sent a team of experts to visit our campus and assess the feasibility of starting new academic programmes. Going by the positive impression our infrastructure made on the team, we are hopeful of starting soon an MCA programme and a PhD in Biotechnology.

Fr Victor Lobo and the SJU team managed to secure the long awaited and much needed "Minority Certificate" from the State Government. What paid off in the long run in achieving this milestone was the persistent hard work of Fr Victor in preparing the documents, overcoming bureaucratic hurdles and engaging in negotiations with the authorities.

Jesuits of Arrupe Nivas had their community outreach day by visiting Mother Teresa's Ashram, Hesaraghatta Road, and spending quality time with the inmates. Arrupe Nivas also hosted a talk on "Challenges to Democracy" by Prof K E Radha Krishna - as an ongoing formation venture for the Jesuits of Bengaluru.

- Fr Roshan Castelino

ASHA KIRAN



On the occasion of the Feast of the Nativity we had Fr Praveen Martis, Principal of SAC (Autonomous) presiding over the Eucharist. Following the Mass, he released our Annual Magazine "Chilume." A memorable celebration was organized by the Karnataka Scholastics along with others AK scholastics. Fr Joseph Martis (former Rector of St Joseph's Seminary, Mangaluru) gave a talk on "Synod for a Synodal Church" and related to us the activities conducted in the diocese. Fr Francis Fernandes (PCF) was with us for his annual visit. Ms Clara D'Cunha (an internationally certified addiction professional) gave a talk on promoting

awareness of substance abuse and suicide. Another enlightening session was conducted by Ms



Sarah Crasta (a clinical psychologist) who spoke on Emotional Intelligence. - Sch Anson Alex

ASHIRVAD



Fr Arun Luis has become a much sought-after resource person all over India for his sessions on creating awareness in view of the upcoming General Election. He addressed groups of bishops, CRI units, priests, religious, diocesan thinktanks and lay leaders in Bhopal, Ranchi, Guwahati, Baroda and Bengaluru. We don't think, he is working for a cabinet post for himself! Fr Arul Anthony attended the MAIN meeting at Sathyodayam in Hyderabad.

Fr Joseph Lobo had a handful of programs to animate: a JESCOL III - Ignatian interreligious retreat, guiding a Chapter of the religious, a few sessions on the Vatican II document Dei Verbum to a group of lay persons at Palanabhan, a minicourse on Ignatian discernment to a group of religious and a few sessions on "Re-telling the deep-story of Jesus today", for a group of religious men and women.

At the national level meeting of various civil society groups, organized by Eddelu Karnataka in Bengaluru, there were 270 participants from 24 states. The Ashirvad Inter-Religious Harmony Movement (IRHM) is slowly but steadily reviving as seen in its monthly meetings. A training programme is being planned to train agents of peace and harmony from among the interested persons in our educational institutions in Bengaluru.

With the addition of eight new study centres, the Spandana Study centres now has 15 centers with 17 full time volunteers, not counting 10 part time volunteers from SJU. All these centres had the celebration of Teachers' Day along with Parents' Day. Mr Sridhar, an alumnus of XLRI, was the chief guest who, besides delivering an inspiring address, made a good donation to the cause as well. Other donors to the cause are: Mr Anand Naik of ITC and the Dot Dash Meridith Company. In a gathering of nearly 25 volunteers from the study centres, held on 2 October, the new volunteers were given inputs on our goals and objectives and a brief training on how to run the centres. Fr George Pinto and Sch. Kumar Praveen (CEN) were the resource persons.

The HRDC organized three JESCOL II programs – one each for our collaborators in Education of the Bengaluru, Mangaluru, and North Karnataka zones. The collaborators from Hassan and Mysuru joined one or the other of these zones. One four-day interreligious Ignatian JESCOL III retreat was conducted at Dhyanaashrama, MSJ.

The feast of the Nativity of BVM was celebrated for the benefit of our staff and their families and a few other guests. Fr Elvis Lewis welcomed the guests and explained the significance of the feast. - Fr Joseph Lobo

FATIMA RETREAT HOUSE



The feast of the Nativity of Mother Mary was celebrated with devotion and gaiety. Fr Jason Stewart Martis presided over the festal Mass in Konkani at which new paddy was blessed and distributed. Fr Dionysius Vaz, Provincial, who was on Visitation, celebrated the noon Mass.

The community was at home to all our collaborators for the nostalgic 'novem jevan' (dinner with new corn) at which, besides the blessed paddy, 15 varieties of vegetable were served. Kudos to Minister, Fr Joseph Monteiro and the kitchen team.

Provincial Visitation of three days (Sep 7-9) was a time of grace for all of us - to count our blessings and at the same time introspect personally and as a community. Thank you, Fr Dion.

Fr Raymond D'Souza (KHM) is back from the hospital, back to his old self, cheerful and recuperating. Sch Deslon Vas is here with us since a few weeks, attending to his back injury. Fr Clarence D'Souza, while on a visit to Mangaluru found

INIGO SADAN



The month of September began with the annual visitation of the Provincial. It was indeed a grace filled time for our community and to all our collaborators. The priests had a day out for a recollection and faith sharing.

The Eco Club of St Joseph's Indian Primary School made a visit to Lalbagh and revived their sense of value of 'care for our common home.' At the Annual Athletic Meet, the chief guests were: Mr Jayaprakash C Shetty (an international athlete) and Dr Bharath Kumar B (founder of Ziathlon). As alumni of the school, they both reminisced their happy days with their alma mater. Grandparents' Day, celebrated in the school, saw children accompanying their grandparents for the special function.

Notable activities at SJHS during the last month were: installation of the Interact Club, celebration of the Rector's birthday, and felicitation of Mr Madhu Bangarappa (an alumnus, and at present a Cabinet Minister in the Govt of Karnataka). Other vibrant programmes in the School were: Prerana Intramural Cultural Fest, National Sports Day, and Parent-Teacher Meeting (PTM). Various clubs in the School initiated campaigns to promote creativity and environmental awareness. The School's commitment to holistic growth is evidenced by programmes like First Aid Training session, international exchanges, outreach projects, and awareness initiatives such as Suicide Prevention Awareness Drive.

The Annual Athletic Meet of St Joseph's School

JESUIT NIVAS



An inter-faith prayer service and a few visits to shelters for the poor and the differently-abled were an enriching experience for SJBHS students and to their parents and staff. An instructive 'Safe and Unsafe Touch' programme created awareness among the students. We had a much appreciated intra-staff 'Sports Fiesta.'

himself unable to walk due to intense knee pain. Being treated in Muller's for some days, he was with us here recuperating. He is since back to his community.

Frs Joseph Monteiro, Ivan Sequeira and Joseph Rodrigues directed retreats to individuals or small groups. Fr Joseph Rodrigues gave a two-day programme to SRA Sisters at Vamanjur.

- Fr Thomas Quadras

had Padma Shri Dr Syed Kirmani, an alumnus of the School and Former Indian Cricketer as the chief guest. Important days observed in the School were: Hindi Diwas celebrated in the school assembly, Grandparents' Day at which Ms Phyllis Farias (educational consultant and counsellor) was the chief guest. A seminar on Positive Parenting was conducted in two sessions by the resource person, Mr Muralidhar Koteswar (CEO of Uplad & SimpliTrain).

Christian Student Association of St Joseph's Indian Composite PU College provided students with opportunities to connect in small groups, retreat settings, social gatherings, and competitions focused on the tenets of the Christian faith by organizing Gospel competitions themed 'Revelation 2023.' The Annual Athletic Meet had Ms Bindu Rani (Kempegowda Awardee and International Athlete) as the chief guest. The SJII Auditorium hosted the educational fest, "AAKRUTHI," comprising a diverse range of events and showcasing the talents and skills of the participants (students of Commerce and Humanities streams). International Institute of Hotel Management Bangalore has awarded the principal, Mr Vinod Amrithraj, with the Best Principal award and Mr Vinod Joseph, Lecturer in Commerce, with the Best Teacher award for their contribution in the field of education. On the occasion of the PTA-AGBM, meritorious students of the academic year 2022-23 were felicitated, and the retired staff - Ms Nola D'Lima of SJHS, and Mr Sagayaraj of SJICPUC - were honoured and thanked for their dedicated service at the institutions.

- Sch Avin Anthony

The STEM workshops conducted by Loyola Technology Centre for the benefit of our sister institutions in Pannur-Manvi, Sindagi, Mundgod and Pandithahalli will, hopefully, serve as an incentive for similar labs in their respective places. Hindi Diwas and Gandhi Jayanti were duly celebrated.

September epitomised a harmonious blend of academic, cultural, spiritual, and recreational engagements at SJPU. An Eco Visit to GKVK, the launching of the official Instagram account, Teachers' Day celebration, Novena prayers, Confessions for Catholic students, and the celebration of the feast of the Nativity of Mother Mary are some of the notable events. "Andromeda," the intra-collegiate cultural and literary fest, provided an opening to students to showcase their talents and creativity. "Genesis-2023," the annual inter-collegiate Gospel Fest strengthened our spirit of faith. The 8th edition of SJPU Model United Nations involved a good many students and made them aware of global issues and international relations. The "Helping Hands" drive which enabled our students to collect stationery for the use of less privileged students also gave them a sense of the joy of sharing.

Significant seminars and programmes were conducted by the different departments of SJCC: A guest lecture on 'Contemporary Tamil Literature' and an intercollegiate literature festival

JNANA JYOTHI, Anekal



A few hours of manual work, a creative street play highlighting social issues, and community games for the village folk filled a day of the JFCT scholastics outreach programme in Choudhalli village and gave them a hands-on experience of people's daily hardships.

We felt happy to contribute, with our much-appreciated choir, to the devotion and solemnity of Deacon Avinash D'Souza's priestly ordination at SJBHS. Fr Cyprian Tellis gave a seven-day online course to the Ursuline Sisters on Catholic Social Teaching. Members of the self-help group had a day's training session, organized by CIRW, on le-

LOYOLA MANDIR



Fr Alwyn R D'Souza spent some time at Loyola Mandir before leaving for Namur, Belgium for his doctoral studies. Fr Harry Terry put his legal knowledge into good use at LM before he left for Lebanon for his tertianship. Br Herman (NEP) spent a few days at Pratiksha convalescing from his Coronary artery bypass surgery for CAD. After attending the Ignatian Scholars' Meet in Pune, Fr Jossie D'Mello flew to Guwahati to give sessions to the Local Superiors and DoWs of Kohima Region. He took a course on discernment at KJFCT, Anekal. He also took classes at Prerana, Bengaluru, for various groups including Major Superiors and Councillors, and the Provincial Team of the Sisters of St Joseph

'Vividha-2023' by the Department of English, Hindi Diwas and an international seminar in Hindi by the Department of Hindi. The Student Council celebrated Teachers' Day, and the intercollegiate cultural festival Kalotsav. The Men's Basketball Team of SJCC came out victorious in the James Naismith Cup organized by the Mangalore Basketball Club. The Research Centre conducted a Ph.D. Scholar Interface. Ms Divya Shree, a research scholar under the guidance of Dr Raja Jebasingh, successfully defended her thesis on Human Resource Audit Practices. The Quiz Club organized a quiz on famous personalities, the NSS organized a clean-up drive and an awareness programme on health and fitness, and the Youth for Democracy and Constitution arranged a visit to Vidhana Soudha for its members.

The Jesuit community went on a pilgrimage to St Mary's Basilica, Shivajinagar. Deacon Avinash D'Souza had his ordination to the priesthood in SJBHS Chapel. Jesuit Nivas community made the arrangements.

- Fr Joel Fernandes

gal aid and climate change awareness. The tailoring students had a day's training programme on financial literacy and self-employment. Girl students - 64 of them from the Sacred Heart Girls High School and PUC - had a two-day outreach programme, arranged by CIRW. A survey was conducted by CIRW on the status of the migrants in and around Anekal and Jigani with regard to their educational and socio-economic status. Special novena, rosary and Eucharistic celebrations were organized for two days to help the parishioners of Anekal to welcome the "Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima." - Sch Johnson R

of Lyon. Fr Provincial's Shastipurthi was celebrated with a Mass, preceded by a Basketball match and followed by dinner.

The POSA-appointed "Committee for Reimagining the Society of Jesus in South Asia" had their two-day meeting at LM. The committee consists of Fr Prakash Louis (PAT) - Convenor, Fr Francis Minj (RAN), Mrs Brinelle D'Souza, Mr Alwyn D'Sa, and Fr Dionysius Vaz. Inigo Sadan Jesuits were present for the session during which Fr Prakash Louis and Mrs Brinelle shared their experiences of visiting the violence-affected State of Manipur. Fr Suman Balu has joined the LM community and is now busy with

his LLM classes at Christ University. Loyola Mandir is slowly turning from Josephite to Christite with two of our community members, Frs Suman and Yesunath Karlekar, being fas-

LOYOLA SADAN, Kalaburagi



The one-day CRI programme in Gulbarga Diocese, organized by Fr Maxim Misquith, had for its theme "The Role of Women in the Church." At St Xavier's Hostel, the Nativity of Mother Mary was celebrated as the Girl Child Day. Teachers' Day was also celebrated on the same day.

Two of our teachers took part in the three-day JESCOL II seminar organized at Ashirvad Bengaluru, for the North Karnataka zone. We announce with pride that one of our students has been selected to represent the State in the basketball match in Mandya. Additionally, our students have excelled in the Prathiba Karanji competition, seven of them being selected at the Taluka level.

MANVI



Fr Maxim Rasquinha joined the retreat for senior citizens of Karnataka Province at Fatima Retreat House. "Bembala", outreach group of St Joseph's University, sent eight batches of about 60 students each (between mid-July and September), for rural experience in different villages of Raichur, under the guidance of Fr Don Prem Lobo.

On the occasion of the feast of our Lady's Nativity, we had a special prayer service conducted by our sisters – collaborators - followed by a rich multiple veg meal in the "traditional style." Fr. Vinod Paul was in Bengaluru to record some music prepared by him and his brother. Frs Leo Pereira and Don Prem Lobo took part in the Diocesan CRI meet held in Bellary. On 17 September, Kalyana Karnataka Amrutha Mahoth-

MOUNT ST JOSEPH



The novena honouring Mother Mary infused an exquisite essence into the Monti feast celebration, making it truly aromatic. Fr Joe Mathias was the main celebrant at the festive Mass in the Main Chapel. The entire community along with our collaborators joined in the traditional festive lunch. The novices embarked on a significant pilgrimage experiment, walking a distance of nearly 15 kilometres from Davanagere to Harihar. The journey on foot to Our Lady of Health Shrine, Harihar, played a pivotal role in their faith formation. The pilgrim novices had the chance to witness the faith of the devotees and their votive offerings,

cinated with Christ! Sch. Amith Anthony got a taste of LM life as he helped out at the Treasurer's Office, before he proceeded to commence his BA studies in Dharwad. - Fr Olvin Veigas

Students of St Xavier's PU College have excelled themselves in the Taluka level Sports Meet held on September 15 and 16. The College observed September 17 as Kalyana Karnataka day to commemorate the historical event of Hyderabad's accession to India and the incorporation of some portions of Hyderabad into Karnataka. The members of the Student Council planted green saplings to make the campus more eco-friendly. Three of the staff of SXPUC attended the JESCOL - I seminar held at Mungod. Some of our students who participated in the district level sports events have been selected for the state level sports. The College organized a one-day picnic to refresh the spirits of the staff. - Fr Roshan Pinto

sava [75th anniversary] was celebrated in a fitting manner. Fr Maxim Rasquinha hoisted the flag and spoke a few words on the Amrutha Mahothsava.

"Udbhava", the cultural unit of Loyola PU College, organized an inter school talent competition on 25 September for high school students. 10 schools took part in it. Xavier School Manvi won the overall championship. Br Sujay Paul, having completed his studies at Dharwad, joined our community on 26 September. Fr Provincial's annual visitation was a time of grace for our community. His words of appreciation and encouragement are a source of inspiration to each of us to carry on our mission. - Fr Maxim Rasquinha

and even to animate the choir. The novices were moved, as they listened to the Canossian nun Sr Clarine D'Silva who recounted her personal vocation and challenging missionary life.

Dr Anil Pinto (Registrar of Christ deemed-to-be University), delivered an enlightening talk to the novices on the 'The Relevance of Reading Habit in Religious Life.' The novices were brimming with joy as they participated in the ordination ceremony of Fr Avinash D'Souza. The newly formed Novitiate team, led by Novice Jayanth Christy as the beadle, is poised to bring innovation and fresh

The Leadership Course for Major Superiors and their Councillors took place from September 5-10 with a total of 54 participants. The course fea-



ured prominent resource persons: Frs Dionysius Vaz, Freddie D'Silva, Jossie D'Mello, and Jason Furtado. The course received widespread appreciation and was deemed a timely response to the needs of the community. Additionally, a Renewal Course was conducted from September 16 to 30, with the participation of 21 Golden Jubilarians.

Fr Joe Mathias conducted a course on "Aging gracefully during the Twilight Years" at Prerana and conducted a Seminar for M.Th. students at the Indian Institute of Spirituality at Rajajinagar. Fr Prashanth W D'Souza attended the annual meeting of the Assistancy Commission on Service of Faith in Kolkata. Later in the month he accompanied the Jesuit Volunteers of our Immaculate Heart of Mary

Church to Mundgod for a two-day exposure programme. Fr Jerome D'Souza on his transfer to Vidya Niketan, Dharwad, was given a fond farewell. Fr Rector accompanied him to Dharwad.

Under the guidance of the parish priest, Fr Balaram A, our parish observed Teachers' Day by honouring nearly sixty teachers of the Parish with a prayer of blessings and a felicitation programme organized by the Parish youth. The Parish also arranged a programme to felicitate the consecrated women of the Parish and recognize their selfless service.

At the taluk level athletic meet, our Loyola Primary School performed well, and Loyola High School had eight of its students qualifying for the District Level in various athletic events. Loyola High School, under the guidance of the Headmaster, Fr Edward Rodrigues, arranged an Alumni Meeting. The Alumni contributed Rupees One Lakh towards helping the poor students of the school. A day's programme was organized by Loyola Degree College, with Fr Daniel Fernandes as the resource person, to familiarise and prepare the Staff for a likely visit of the NAAC team.

- Fr Clarence D'Souza

MUNDGOD



This time JESCOL-1 was organised at Mundgod, in Kannada, for the benefit of the Staff of Loyola Institutions, Mundgod and Xavier Institutions, Kalaburagi. Frs Edward Philip, Cyril Raj, Francis Fernandes, and Joyson Vas were the resource persons. Fr Jeevan Gomes and Ms Lathika Shibu attended the Principals' Conference organized by CBSE Sahodaya. Hindi Diwas was celebrated in Loyola Kendriya Vidyalaya by staging a 'nukkad natak.' Students of LKV staged a street play in the Bus Stand and Market areas of Mundgod on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanthi. Class IX students of LKV visited the School for the Blind, spent time with the inmates, shared a meal with them and even learned the rudiments of Braille!

In Loyola Children's Home, the feast of the Nativity was celebrated, among other things, with a meal served on banana leaves. The spirit of scientific thinking and articulation was instilled into our hostel students with a science model-making competition. Sch Noel Prabhu judged the mod-

els and interacted with the participants. The staff of Loyola Children's Home had an initiation into Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives project design.

A group of about twenty-five students of St Aloysius PU College, Mangaluru, accompanied by Fr Anthony Derrick and five other staff, had an enriching experience as they visited our Loyola institutions, as part of the Twining Programme. Two of our PUC students have been selected for State Level Sports in Hurdles and 400m running.

Eight novices of the Ursuline Franciscan Sisters had a day's orientation at Loyola Vikasa Kendra, preparing them for their month-long "village experiment." 10 Jesuit volunteers from Immaculate Heart Parish, Kalena Agrahara, accompanied by Fr Prashanth W D'Souza, paid a visit to our schools and hostels in order to learn about the work of Jesuits here in Mundgod.

- Fr Leo Florence

Close to 350 delegates took part in SAPMUN (St Aloysius Pre-University Model United Nations) held on September 1-3. The chief guest at the inaugural function was Dr Derek Lobo (retired Regional Advisor for United Nations WHO). The SAPUC Centre for Social Concern organized a beach clean-up drive and a session on basic life support training. To mark the Teachers' Day, the Student Council organized a delightful cultural program and demonstrated their love and appreciation for their teachers. Jaagruthi Nithin Adka of II PU won the Vermeil Medal at the Asian International Stamp Exhibition held in Taipei, Taiwan. Student leaders had a series of sessions on topics like the art of decision-making, creative thinking, realizing one's potential, and personality development. The Department of Counselling arranged talks for students on peer support in times of psychological crisis, self-esteem and body image, etc. Our students took part in the 'Walk of Life' to commemorate World Suicide Prevention Day. The Twinning Programme (associating our institutions with their counterparts in Mundgod) enabled a team from SAPUC (comprising 26 students and 4 teachers along with the Campus Minister) to conduct sessions on leadership training, cultural performances, career guidance and Characteristics of Jesuit Education for the students of Loyola institutions. The Centre for Inter-religious Harmony (CIRH) organized celebrations of festivals like the Nativity, Ganesh Chaturthi, Eid-Milad and Krishna Janmashtami. On September 21, our students attended the district-level seminar in the Town Hall on Saint Mother Theresa. Faculty Development Programme conducted sessions on such subjects as "Harnessing AI Tools for Innovative Learning and Teaching," "Psychological First Aid" and "Becoming an Effective Teacher through Developing Personality." Informative sessions were conducted for the students on: Adolescent Health and Well-being (by Ms Divya J D'Souza), Art of Being Happy (by Dr Mona J Mendonca) and the Importance of Civic Responsibility in Today's Society (by Dr Vidya Vinutha D'Souza). II PU students, in view of their social commitment, visited orphanages, homes for the destitute, senior citizens' homes and government schools. Students achieved recognition and won prizes in various competitions organized by Sharada PU College, St Aloysius College (Autonomous) and Srinivas college of Pharmacy. Several students distinguished themselves and won prizes in out-

door sports and games as well as in table tennis, karate, and swimming. The spirit of Magis led our SAPUC teachers as well to participate and win prizes in talent competitions organized by other institutions, including "Yenergy 4.0" of Yenepoya Institutions.

In the AICS Inter-School Swimming Competition, in which more than 300 students from 34 schools participated, St Aloysius Gonzaga School emerged as the overall champion. For the benefit of students, SAGS organized training sessions on Psycho-Sexual Development (for Class IX), Choosing Fields of Study & Careers and Developing Right Mindset (for Classes XI and XII), Digital Technology & Safety (for Class VIII) and Career Guidance (for Class X). Teachers' Day, celebrated on September 5, saw students and parents honouring and felicitating the teachers. Our students of Class VIII made a successful online presentation on 'Human Rights Violation in Our Country' as they participated in Educate Magis, a project connecting our School with other Jesuit schools in Chile, Mexico, Brazil and Poland.

A three-day educational tour took our B.Ed students to Coimbatore, Ooty and Kodaikanal. A seminar on "Exploring Diverse Faiths," wherein experts of different religions shared on the salient features of their respective faith, was an eye-opening experience for all. The college organized an instructive session on the use of AI Tools for Innovative Learning and Teaching.

St Aloysius Industrial Training Institute signed a few MoUs with agencies dealing with international training and recruitment for job placement. Six of our staff members attempted the Teacher Eligibility Test and came out in flying colours. In their final exams, the outgoing students secured 98% results. As part of their social outreach measure, our students distributed stationery for the HIV affected students on Independence Day. The NIOS Study Centre in our campus was inaugurated by the Joint Director. Students participated in the Suicide Awareness Walkathon organized by Leo clubs of Mangalore. A grand convocation ceremony was held in the morning and the inauguration of the Alumni Association in the afternoon. Ms Navyalakshmi (I Year EM student) won the gold medal in the District Level Karate Tournament.

- Fr Leo D'Souza

VIDYA NIKETAN, Dharwad



Nine scholastics successfully completed their final semester exams and have begun preparing for their future missions, including regency and juniorate. As classes were set to begin only in October, Schs. Amith Antony and Frewin D'Souza left for Bengaluru (Loyola Mandir) and Hangal respectively to render their services. Schs. Frewin D'Souza, John Samuel, and Merinth Aamose were fortunate to assist at Our Lady of Health Shrine in Harihar during the feast of Nativity. We acknowledge the services, to VN community, of

the four scholastics, Schs. Adline Monteiro, Arun Raj, Shaun D'Silva, and Sujay Paul, who have since departed for their assigned missions as regents. We held a camp at Vidya Niketan to promote vocations. Fr Joyson Vas conducted the second phase of the "barefoot counseling" training program for the teachers of the Gulbarga Diocese. He is also occupied with training volunteers in Mundgod for the upcoming "North Karnataka MAGIS," scheduled for October 27-29 in Mundgod.
- Sch Frewin D'Souza

VIJAYAPURA



The annual visitation by the Provincial infused into us new vigour and provided us with invaluable insights and guidance for our mission. We are happy to welcome Pre-novice Jokim who contributes his services at Loyola School while residing at St Ann's Parish. Fr Ronald Serrao assumed the role of Director of Loyola PU College, while Mr Shreeshaail Rathnakar took charge as the new Principal. Our students celebrated Gandhi Jayanthi with a commendable act of community service by participating in a much applauded shramadhan at the bus stand. The Student Council organized a few engaging competitions to celebrate Teachers' Day and to appreciate their invaluable service. Our college hosted a one-day workshop, attended by 130 lecturers (from the political science and chemistry faculties). Underscoring the significance of the workshop was the presence of the DDPU of Vijayapura. The highlight of the celebration of Hindi Divas was a Qawwali competition.

organized youth and construction workers to donate blood. These initiatives, apart from making a positive difference in the lives of those we serve, also brought us significant local media coverage. Additionally, Sangama hosted a press meet, to address the pressing issues faced by our rural communities under the MNREGA program. Led almost entirely by our stakeholders, the event engendered wide publicity in the local newspapers.

Ten schools from Vijayapura District participated in "SCIXPLORE 2K23," the Inter-school Science Exhibition organized at Loyola School CBSE Sindagi. The exhibition revolved around the theme of 'Exploring Sustainable Future Science for a Greener Planet.' Retd Prof Prabhulinga Goni was the chief guest. On September 16 we, in collaboration with the Centre for Excellence (CoE), Bengaluru, hosted the Capacity Building Programme for school teachers. The PTA Executive Committee had their first meeting of the year with Fr Santhosh Walder presiding over it. Thanks to the BJES we now have a basketball facility for our students. The primary school celebrated Flowers Day. Our NCC cadets, Scouts and Guides lent their services and shramadhaan at public places in the town on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanthi.

- Fr Ronald Serrao

XAVIER SADAN, Mysuru



Fr Edward Philip addressed the Benson Town CRI zone at ISI, Bengaluru, on family counselling and pastoral care, took a few sessions at the JESCOL seminar in Mundgod, and helped out in the retreat for the youth of Shimoga Diocese and conducted a session on Discernment.

Sisters - 34 of them along with their Provincial - spent three days here chalking out a detailed programme for the celebration of their Province Jubilee. Also, 11 PDDM and Mercy Sisters are currently attending their Jubilee Renewal Programme. The resource persons are Frs Arockiasamy and Freddie D'Silva. A few individuals and some small groups made their retreats under the guidance of Frs Arockiasamy, Bartholome and Freddie.
- Fr Edward Philip

The Holy Cross Sisters, who are observing this year as the Ruby Jubilee Year of their religious life, had their renewal programme at XS. Mercy

DE NOBILI COLLEGE, Pune



We celebrated the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary with fervour and joy. Fr Lancy D'Cruz (GUJ) guided us through a day's recollection on the theme, "Care for our Common

Home." The feast of Karam was marked by a paraliturgical service, followed by a cultural evening - including a dance and a festive meal - organised by the Jesuits of the central provinces.

- Sch Maria Divij

DHYAN ASHRAM, Kolkata



The Juniors had the privilege of visiting the Mother House of the Missionaries of Charity where Saint Theresa of Kolkata lived. The grace emanating from her tomb, her small plain and austere room and the strong faith of her followers were a boost to our spiritual life. Fr PJ Joseph (CCU), Director of Chitrabani Studio, shared with us his experiences in the field of audio-visual communication. Fr Vivekanandan C (CCU), Assistant Director of Chitrabani, helped us to explore the history and

mystery of Calcutta city. We were fortunate to witness the installation of the new provincial, Fr James Arjen Tete, who took over the reins of the province from his predecessor Fr Raphael Joseph Hyde SJ. The juniors' choir musically articulated our sentiments of welcome to the former and gratitude to the latter. Fr Sunny George, our Rector, introduced Sacred Scriptures to us, and Fr George Ponnadath (CCU) tutored us in the art of film appreciation.

- Sch Vivek D'Souza

SATYA NILAYAM, Chennai



The presence Fr Jerome Stanislaus D'Souza, POSA, at SN, was a blessing to all of us. The community witnessed the final vows of Fr Patrick (PUN). The feast of the Nativity of our Blessed Mother was another remarkable event. The spirit of unity, service and companionship - manifested in our service to the parish - continued with the Onam celebration through which the Kerala scholastics engaged us in several cultural activ-

ities, preceded by the Holy Eucharist. Also, the entire community joined in the celebration of Karam, a cultural event unique to our brothers from Chotanagpur.

As part of the academic curriculum, the II Year scholastics visited Mazhai Malai Madha Shrine, Acharapakkam; and the I Years visited a few places of worship of different religions.

- Sch Reoin Barnes

VIDYAJYOTI, Delhi



VJ community had the opportunity to listen to the well-known journalist Mr Anto Akkara, on August 25, when he spoke on "Challenges and Good News of Kandhamal." Coming from a man who fought for the rights of the victims of Kandhamal, his words were for us a humbling yet challenging experience. The newcomers to VJ had a "Delhi Darshan" programme on September 16 as they went on an exploration of the city and visited its historical monuments. On September 18, we had the inauguration of the renovated Flynn-Meagher Library at Vidyajyothi. The event was graced by

the presence of Archbishop Anil J T Couto, Fr Stany D'Souza, POSA, and Mr Sivakumar (a friend of Flynn Meagher and the sponsor of the library). We joined the Kanara Cultural Association, Delhi, for the celebration of the feast of the Nativity. For the celebration of the Karam festival, there was a gathering of more than 200 of our Adivasi friends at Vidyajyoti. We also had the joy of playing host to a group of 20 German students (from Cusanu-swerk) and their mentor, Dr Milan Wehnert, who are in India for the program of 'connectivity.'

- Sch Joswin Pereira

VIDYANIKETAN, Thiruvananthapuram



On Teachers' Day we had a short cultural programme to felicitate our six staff members. The feast of the Nativity of our Blessed Mother became even more festive and meaningful by reason of the First Vows of Schols Anvil Mascarenhas (KAR), Alfwin Cross (CEN) and Maria Gladwin (CEN), who pronounced their vows in the presence of Fr Jebamalai Irudayaraj, Provincial of the Chennai Province. Our course on Spoken English ended on September 15 with our participation in a skit competition which was also an occasion to

explore our talents and skills and to cement our companionship. A heap of thanks to our Minister, Fr Arul GP SJ (MDU), for organizing the competition. Four of our staff members attended the Assistant level Juniorate Staff Meet at Vinayalaya, Mumbai. We were happy to be invited to a sound-and-light programme at St Vincent's Seminary on September 27, the feast of St Vincent De Paul. We logged out of our first term with a cultural tour of Ernakulam (September 28-30). Pouring rain did not deter us from visiting several places of interest.

- Sch Jeevan Santhosh L

Fr Jeevan Mendonca (BOM) gave us an enlightening course in critical thinking. Juniors, along with the Pre-novices, put up a memorable programme to felicitate the Juniorate staff on Teachers' Day. Fr Lawrence S Fernandes (KAR) paid a casual visit to Vinayalaya. Among the many privileges we Juniors enjoyed were: a pilgrimage to Mount Mary Basilica, Bandra, and a visit to St Peter's Church where we were served with Bombay delicacies - Panipuri and Shevpuri. We played host

to the Assistency Level Juniorate Staff Meeting at Vinayalaya. The art appreciation course, given by Fr Wendell D'Cruz (BOM), helped us identify the sparks of our own life apart from giving us a taste for painting. The course on swimming which we have just begun finds us bouncing with joy. A course on homiletics, given by Fr Oswald Gonsalves (BOM), is currently training the juniors to prepare homilies. - Sch Manvith D'Souza

LEBANON



Greetings from Lebanon! I reached Beirut safely on September 20. Frs Dany and Charlie were there to receive me at the airport. Before beginning my tertianship, I had a few days free to get acclimatized to the new place and people. This is a picturesque place bordered by a long coastal stretch and a lush mountain range. The tertianship centre is situated in the town of Bikfaya on Mount Lebanon from where one gets a splendid view of the Mediterranean Sea. The country is still coming to terms with the long drawn civil war, and political uncertainties due to factors within and without. The pandemic Covid, the terrible explosion at Beirut port in 2020, and the Syrian refugee crisis have crippled the economy and the socio-cultural fabric of Lebanon.

We are thirteen tertians for the 2023-2024 programme: 3 from the Philippines, 2 from India, 2 from Canada, and 1 each from Myanmar, Poland, Hungary, Germany, France, and the US. The programme began on Sunday, September 24, with

a holy Eucharist followed by self-introductions. We had a common reading of Fr Kolvenbach's Directives on Tertianship so as to familiarise ourselves with the aims, objectives and means of our programme. Presently we are reading St Ignatius' autobiography, while each tertian is given time for writing his own autobiography.

Fr Salah, Vice-Rector at St. Joseph's University, Beirut, gave us a talk on 'The Society and the State of Lebanon.' The context of Lebanon leads us straight into the theme of Reconciliation which is the focus of this programme. Fr Michael Zammit Mangion, Provincial of the Near-East Province, addressed us and introduced us to the province territory and all its apostolates spread across several countries. We also had a pilgrimage to the monastery, tomb and the hermitage of St. Charbel, a popular Maronite monk and the patron saint of Lebanon. I request you for your prayers as I slowly get into the spirit and dynamics of the tertianship. - Fr Harry Noel Terry



OURS IN PUBLICATION

Sch Cannon Antony Fernandes SJ, et al. "Biogenic Synthesis of Zinc Oxide Nanoparticles Mediated by the Extract of Terminalia catappa Fruit Pericarp and Its Multifaceted Applications". ACS Omega: DOI: 10.1021/acsomega.3c04857.

Sch Cannon Antony Fernandes SJ, et al. "Differential Approach of Bioremediation by Sclerotium Rolfsii Towards Textile Dye". Current Trends in Biotechnology and Pharmacy 17, no. 3s (October 5, 2023): pp. 1159-1169.

Sch Denver A Pushpam SJ, Season of Creation (Cover Story 2), The MAGNET, Vol. VII, Issue 10, October 2023, pp. 25 - 26.

Sch Maria Divij SJ, "Desire", A Perfect Muse, Writer's Pocket (2023), pp. 29-30.

Fr Rodrigues, Ryan Savio SJ, "Pūrva Mīmāṃsā Philosophy of Language - A Critical Enquiry into the Abihitānvayavāda Theory of Sentence Meaning." Centre of Advanced Study in Sanskrit (CASS) - SPPU Pune XVI, no. 1 (Dec 2022): pp. 183-205.

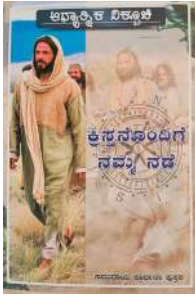
Sch Vivek D'Souza SJ, "Beneath your blue veil", JIVAN, September, 2023, p. 02.



REST IN PEACE

Fr Dion Lobo, SJ (BOM), 78/62, on 24 September, in Nashik.
 Fr Joy John Arackal, SJ (DEL), 79/58, on 07 October, in Delhi.
 Fr Avellino Remedios, SJ (BOM), 93/72, on 10 October, in Mumbai.
 Fr Vijay K Kachhap, SJ (JAM), 76/47, on 30 October, in Jamshedpur.
 Fr S John Britto Bonaventure, SJ (MDU), 76/61, on 13 October, in Tiruchirappalli.
 Mrs Gladys Pinto, 61, younger sister of Fr Archie Fernandes, on 16 September, in Mangaluru.
 Mr Felix Mathias, 86, eldest brother of Fr Joe Mathias, on 21 September, in Mumbai.
 Sr Cornelia (SCCG), 91, sister of Fr Norbert Fernandes, on 22 September, in Mangaluru.
 Sr Lydia Mary (OSM), 86, sister of Fr Chinnappan Mariaraj, on 03 October, in Trichy.
 Mrs Clara Mendonza, 59, maternal aunt of Fr Santhosh Walder, on 04 October, In Mumbai.
 Mrs Cecilia Pinto, 86, maternal grandmother of Sch Ovin Rodrigues, on 09 October, in Mangaluru.
 Mr Lawrence, 55, maternal uncle of Sch Harish Kumar, on 11 October, in Manvi.

CONGRATULATIONS



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