



KS » March 2023 » Vol 96 » No. 03

## PROVINCIAL'S MUSINGS

This year, 2023, has been declared as the Year of the Family by a number of dioceses in Karnataka. Many families have been dysfunctional today due to individualism, addiction, marriage breakdown, abuse, domestic violence, stress, etc. It was David Cameron, who said, "If we want to have any hope of mending our broken society, family and parenting is where we have to start." A healthy family is one in which each member of the family is valued and respected; one in which each member of the family feels safe and secure; one in which each member of the family is supported, comforted, encouraged, guided and challenged to grow. Pope St John Paul II said that "the family as the first vital cell of society is the foundation of humanity and must be the prime concern of the whole of society because the future of humanity passes by way of the family". I would like all our communities to be actively involved in building healthy families in their own parishes, wards, and apostolates.

"Telling the story of Jesus in our context today" has become a challenge to us religious in a country that is wounded and caught in the web of violence and communalism, politicization of religion, electoral authoritarianism, crony capitalism, a majoritarian State that systematically denigrates and demonizes the minorities with a divisive and violent agenda, omnipresent corruption, rural under-development, and injustice perpetrated against Dalits, tribals, and minorities. We discover our calling in response to these turbulent surroundings. Our surroundings shake us, sift us and draw our vocation from us. We continue to tell the story of Jesus boldly and with conviction. We need to be actively involved in the electoral processes as we approach elections both in the State and the Centre so that we elect a government that upholds democratic and Constitutional values.



- DIONYSIUS VAZ, SJ



## APPOINTED BY FR GENERAL

**Fr Sebastian Šujević:** Provincial of the Province of Croatia.

**Fr Dalibor Renić:** President of the Jesuit Conference of European Provincials (JCEP).

## APPOINTED BY POSA

**Fr Ryan Savio Rodrigues:** Tertianship, Kandy, Sri Lanka



## PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

### March 2023

06-09: Visitation: MSJ Novitiate, Bengaluru

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

13: Province Consult: LM, Bengaluru

14-15: Programme for Priests of Gulbarga Diocese

15: Approval of Budgets: Kalaburagi

16: Approval of Budgets: Vijayapura

18: GBM: ISIB, Bengaluru

19-20: Programme on Discerning Ignatian Leadership: Prerana, Bengaluru

21: Consultation on Siddi Project, Mundgod / Approval of Budgets: Mundgod

22-23: Visitation: XTC, Belagavi

24-25: Programme on Good Governance: UFS Provincial Team

26: Meeting of Young Priests awaiting Final Vows

28-29: Meeting of would-be theology students

30: KRRCR Executive Meeting, Bengaluru

31: Visitation: Loyola Pre-Novitiate, Mangaluru

### April 2023

02-04: Programme on Religious Leadership: Prerana, Bengaluru

05: Visitation: Navasadhana Pre-Novitiate, Hassan

10: MSJ Development Meeting

11: Silver Jubilee: Sisters of Charity, Dharwad

13: Province Consult: LM, Bengaluru

14-15: Programme on Religious Leadership: SMMI Sisters, Bengaluru

16: Final Vows: MSJ, Bengaluru

17: Meeting with II Year Theology students of JFCT: MSJ, Bengaluru

18-19: Programme for Superiors and DOWS: Kerala Province

22-25: Retreat Directors Course: Prerana, Bengaluru

29: Meeting of SJU Governing Board Meeting, Bengaluru

30: Meeting of Tertians: Loyola Mandir, Bengaluru

## CONGRATULATIONS

### To our newly ordained deacons

Scholastics Aravind Royce J, Arvin Jeevan Pais, Ashwin D'Silva, Avinash D'Souza, Jaison Lobo, Leston Baptist Lobo, Vishal Melroy Pinto and Vinod Mathias Saldanha.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Frs Jerald M D'Souza, John Lang Bosco, Kanikiaraju M** and **Robert C Rodrigues** will be pronouncing their Final Vows in the Society of Jesus on Sunday, 16 April, in Mount St Joseph, Bengaluru. The Holy Eucharist will be at 10:00 am.

**Fr Ronald Fernandes,** will be pronouncing his Final Vows in the Society of Jesus on Thursday, 18 May, in Vidya Niketan, Dharwad. The Holy Eucharist will be at 10:00 am.

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

### Province Retreats:

**May 14-22, 2023, Place:** Prerana, Bengaluru, **Preacher:** Fr Cedric Prakash, SJ (GUJ)

**July 01-09, 2023, Place:** Xavier Sadan, Mysuru, **Preacher:** Fr Amalanadan, SJ (AND)

The **Jesuit Family Get-together:** 14 May 2023 in Bengaluru; 21 May 2023 in Mangaluru; 28 May 2023 in Hassan.

## STATUS OF SCHOLASTICS

### Philosophy

1. Sch Kiran Branco – SN, Chennai
2. Sch Pradeep D'Souza – SN, Chennai
3. Sch Reoin Barnes – SN, Chennai
4. Sch Rudolf D'Souza – SN, Chennai
5. Sch Anu Vimal Raj – SN, Chennai

6. Sch Agil Roy J – DNC, Pune
7. Sch Christon Gonsalves – DNC, Pune
8. Sch Macwin D'Souza – DNC, Pune
9. Sch Maria Divij – DNC, Pune
10. Sch Steven Joseph – DNC, Pune

### Regency

1. Sch Elson Lobo - Loyola, Mangaluru
2. Sch Darshan Kumar - Navasadhana, Hassan
3. Sch Chethan Kumar - Bijapur
4. Sch Noel Prabhu AB - LVK, Mundgod

5. Sch Royster Monis - Manvi
6. Sch Noyel Serrao - Anekal
7. Sch Deslon Vas - Hassan
8. Sch Harish Kumar - LCH, Mundgod

## POPE'S WORLDWIDE PRAYER NETWORK (PWPN): MARCH 2023

**For victims of abuse:** We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.



### Meeting of the JAAIKAR



The directors and office bearers of the Jesuit Alumni/ae Associations of Karnataka (JAAIKAR) had their meeting on March 5 at St Joseph's Boys' High School. Participating in the meeting were the directors and as many as 160 office bearers and leaders from 25 alumni units. The purpose of the gathering was to realize the role and importance of alumni associations in our Jesuit institutions in the Province, and to start or strengthen the units in every educational institution of the Province. The meeting was an occasion for the leaders to come together, know each other and forge bonds among themselves for a united front as Jesuit alumni/ae.

In his address, Fr Dion Vaz, Provincial, underscored the part alumni/ae can play in the efficient management of our institutions. There was an input talk by Fr Denzil E Lobo on Jesuit Vi-

sion & Mission as well as on the UAPs & KPAPs. In the panel discussion that followed, the panellists dwelt not only on the ways and means of making the alumni/ae units more vibrant but also of meeting the constraints that make them less functional. The panellists were Dr Praveen Rodrigues (President of SJBHS Association), Dr Richard Gonsalves (President of South Zone JAAI), Frs Henry Saldanha and Edward Rodrigues. Mr Roger Lashley was the moderator.

The occasion offered the participants an opportunity to share information on JAAI (Jesuit Alumni Associations of India) and WUJA (World Union of Jesuit Associations). After lunch, a consultation of Jesuit directors was held, to bring in renewed enthusiasm in their units. The entire programme was well appreciated by all the participants.

- Fr Swebert D'Silva

### KJES Youth Works (PCYM)



KJES Youth Works collaborated with the Indian Social Institute in Bengaluru to organize an Indo-French student interaction on February 10 at St Joseph's University, Bengaluru. The event was attended by 41 French students and 30 AICUF students. Besides interaction of cultures, exchange

of ideas and campus darshan, there was a Round Table sharing on the theme "Unity without Uniformity and Diversity without Fragmentation". Participants went back with memorable experiences of Bengaluru and its people.

- Fr Maxim Dias

### ARRUPE NIVAS



St Joseph's Research Institute (SJRI) of St Joseph's University inaugurated its first batch of PhD scholars on 10th February. The chief guests on the occasion were Prof B Thimme Gowda (Vice Chair-

man, Karnataka State Higher Education Council, Former Vice Chancellor, Bangalore University), and Dr S Madheswaran (Director, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore); they



delivered their addresses on the importance of research in higher education.

The report by the Dept. of Physics (covering the period from July 2020 to December 2021) on "Space Science Research in India" was presented at COSPAR 2022 (Scientific Assembly held in Athens, Greece) on July 20, 2022. Ms Parul Goel from Dept. of Physics won the first prize for his oral paper presentation in the International Conference on Research in Materials Science and Spectroscopy (ICCAMS 2023) conducted by St Joseph's College (Autonomous), Trichy. Our students, Shyama and Greeshma M.Com won the Best Paper award during the sixth National Research Conference on "Innovation and Advances in Inter-disciplinary Business Research (IAIBR'23). In the AICPA Strategic Finance examination, 71% of SJU students cleared in the first attempt. The global pass percentage is 50%. Our student, Janvi Dodeja (B.Com, IFA) was honoured in Guru-gram for securing Global 3rd rank and all India first rank in the Financial Management paper of ACCA.

St Joseph's Alumni/ae Association celebrated 100 years of its formation. The chief guest, Mr

## ASHA KIRAN

In early January, the scholastics had their renovation triduum, guided by Sr Severine Menezes, SAP. A few scholastics played a significant role at St Aloysius College during the visit of the NAAC team. We went on a pilgrimage to the Minor Basilica of St Lawrence, Attur, for the feast of St Lawrence. Fr Ramesh Vanan was at AK on a visit, and spoke to us about the Mission in Guyana

## ASHIRVAD

Congratulations to Fr Prashant Madtha on the recent release of the second (revised) edition of his Padanidhi (Kannada Thesaurus), published by St

Bijou Kurien, released the special postal cover commemorating the centenary. The United States Airforce Band of the Pacific, 'Final Approach Ensemble', which was in Bengaluru as part of the larger contingent from the USAF participating in the Air Show, performed a rock music concert at SJU.

SJU signed an MOU with Mazumdar Shaw Medical Foundation, a research wing of Narayana Hrudayalaya, Bengaluru, for exchange of scientific, academic and technical information as well as exchange of UG, PG students and research scholars for joint projects, internships and studies from all departments of Life Sciences, Electronics and Computer Science.

The BJES inter-unit staff sport 2023 - Arrupe Cup was hosted by SJU. Mr Charles D'Souza (national hockey champion and an alumnus) was the chief guest at the Annual Athletic Meet of SJC - the first of SJU. Niharika Bajaj and Saishyam Srkanth (our students of Journalism and Mass Communication) visited Ostrava in Czech Republic as part of their Erasmus+ programme. SJU organized "Neerathon", (a marathon involving nearly 1300 participants) designed to create awareness on conservation of our environment.

In preparation for Lent, our community went to Oriyur to visit the shrine of St John de Britto, and other holy places. Fr Xavier Savarimuthu SJ (CCU) delivered the keynote address to the PG students of St Philomena's College, Mysuru, on "The Significance of Publications in Higher Education". Fr Francis D'Almeida's interview was published in the Kannada fortnightly magazine 'Namma Nagara'.  
– Fr John Baptist

and inspired some of us with a desire to be part of the mission. The AK media team has come up with a new initiative of sharing everyday Lenten reflections. Fr Ronald Pais conducted a workshop for the Propaedeutic brothers at St Joseph's Seminary on "Healing the Wounded Child".  
- Sch Agil Roy J

Joseph's University. Fr Anthony Arul has begun a systematic documentation of our missions, starting with our centres in Manvi, Vijayapur and Sind-



-agi. Fr Joseph Lobo was away teaching a course in Mangalore Seminary and another at Prerana. He conducted a two-day seminar for the clergy and religious of Shimoga Diocese on 'Women in the Sociological and Biblical Perspectives'. He delivered the annual 'Bishop Basil Memorial Lecture' at Mangalore seminary on the topic "A Green Pope and a Green Bishop: Two Inspiring Legacies". He also addressed the South Asian Conference Secretaries on "Restructuring the Conference Secretariates: Opportunities & Challenges". He also presented a paper on "Costly Freedom: Anchoring the Indian Constitution in the Spiritual Resources of Religions in India" at the Golden Jubilee celebration of Vidyajyoti, Delhi.

Among our prominent guests at Ashirvad were Ms Rosemary, a benefactor from England, Ms Liz Kim from the Australian mission and our own Fr Bala Kiran from Innsbruck.

We began the New Year with distribution of school bags to the students of seven of our Spandana Study Centres in six slums. Fr Arun Luis' impressive speech to the students of SJU inspired 16 UG students to come forward to help out in the study centres.

With the help of Diya Ghar (an NGO), the Centre for Social Concern organised two medical camps

in the slums. A new MoU with St Martha's hospital ensures medical assistance in conducting these camps. Currently we are busy creating awareness on the helpline for Migrants. The MSW students of Kristu Jayanti College had a fruitful exchange with our staff. The programmes organized for the unorganised youth had 70 participants at Auxilium school, KR Puram, 30 at CIRD, Anekal, and 50 at Ashirvad. The resource persons were: Frs Edward Philip, Antony Pais, Joyson Vas and Praveen Kiran Martis.

The 5-day workshop on 'Discernment and Decision-making', conducted by HRDC, was much appreciated by the participants. Fr Joseph Lobo was the resource person. After a fruitful first series of 'Laitiy Formation' program in Oct-Nov, 2022, the second series on 'Know your Bible' was held on 8 successive weekends in January and February. Fr Jerome D'Souza was the resource person. The participants got a good taste for the Scripture and are asking for more such workshops.

The activities of the IRHM for this year (2023) began with the celebration of Christmas and New Year on January 1, 2023. We had the differently abled children performing on stage and visually impaired artists singing Carols.  
- Fr Joseph Lobo

## BIJAPUR



The Small Christian Community (SCC) groups of the parish meet from time to time for gospel sharing. The different zones of the parish take turns to conduct the Stations of the Cross creatively and meaningfully. Christha bhaktas are looking forward to their annual Lenten pilgrimage.

Fr Francis Menezes guided two retreats - one each in Mangaluru and Bengaluru. Frs Teyol Machado and Alwyn D'Souza attended a training programme at the Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA) at Thrissur. Frs Prashanth Sequeira and Teyol Machado helped out in arranging an outing for the CRI members. II PU students and 10th Std students were given a farewell.

CNFE organized legal awareness programmes: one for constructions workers on labour laws, and another for women at Butnal LT on laws pertaining to women. Fr Prashanth Sequeira was the resource person. A protest was held near

DC's office and a memorandum was submitted against reduction in the PDS. A team of students from St Joseph's College of Law spent a few days at CNFE for their research work.

At Sangama, animators from 8 different units participated in the Lok Manch meeting during which they received training on viral infections, visits to the primary health centres, and on formats of reporting. Awareness programmes were conducted for students in govt-run school hostels. College students had awareness sessions on Constitutional rights and RTI. Women members of the Village Development Committee held a protest in front of the Gram Panchayat demanding pure drinking water and good roads.

Loyola CBSE students brought laurels to the institution by winning 8 silver medals in Olympiad exams. A three-day Library Week was held to instill reading habits in students. The Pre-Prima-

-ary school celebrated World Mother Tongue Day drawing attention to the value and worth of mother tongue in one's life. The Scouts and Guides organized Thinking Day to commemorate the birthday of their founder, Lord Baden Powel. National Science day was cherished by the students as they witnessed the hour-long mesmerizing ex-

## FATIMA RETREAT HOUSE



Frs Terence Farias, Joseph Rodrigues and Joseph Monteiro directed retreats of individuals or small groups. Fr Joseph Rodrigues preached a retreat to a group in St Joseph Seminary. Fr Devadatta Kamath is back home after spending over a week at Fr Muller's Hospital due to abdominal disorders. Fr Joseph Rodrigues too, had a few days' stint at Muller's, attending to his toe-injury. The robust Fr Santosh Kamath suddenly felt unable to walk one day. Being taken to Muller's, he was admitted for 'observation' and 'investigation'. He made good use of his hospital stay observing and investigating others around.

Fr Raymond D'Souza (KHM) was with us for about a month (to avoid the freezing cold of Kuzhama); and edified us with his quiet and gentle presence and helped out in Masses and Evening Prayers. Frs Charles D'Souza and Hector D'Souza of Ko-

## INIGO SADAN



Our community hosted a get-together of religious sisters who collaborate with us. "MAGIS Day" a programme put up by the scholastics enabled them to display their talents. Jesuits from the city added flavour to the programme by their presence.

Some important events at St Joseph's School CBSE were: a health check-up for all the students; positive parenting session for parents of LKG and UKG children; and supporting adolescents in their challenging life stage, for the parents of primary and high school. "Akiyam", an inter-religious prayer service, had thanksgiving for its theme. "Benedictio" was another meaningful session designed to seek God's blessings on Class 10 students as they begin a new phase in their life.

## JESUIT NIVAS



BJES has finally obtained a license to put up an Outreach Centre in Nelamangala property. Poultry farm and vegetable cultivation has begun under the scheme of Entrepreneurship and Sus-

periments conducted by their fellow students.

Hostel Day was celebrated, for the first time, at Loyola Boys' Study Home, Sindagi, on February 22. Sr Divya Reshma UFS was the chief guest.

- Fr Lancy M Fernandes

hima Region also spent a few days with us attending to their health issues. Though many of us are mobility-challenged, almost all had an outing one evening to a river-side at Gurpur. The one who enjoyed most is Fr Rossi Rego, who became a crowd-puller with his unique group songs. Bishop Francis Serrao gave a talk to a hall-full of nuns here on Feb 26th on the spirit and grace of Lent.

Fr Denis Rasquinha's 93rd Birthday celebration was unique and memorable. Besides the continuous flow of visitors hopping in to greet him all through the day, the culminating evening program was grand. Responding to our invitation, a dozen Sisters from Casa Gaia convent (Sisters of Charity) were with us for prayer, felicitation and dinner. Fr Denis was exceptionally alert and responsive, visibly happy, enjoying every moment.

- Fr Thomas Quadras

The Primary School (SJIPS), in collaboration with Spic Macay, organized a musical concert on Rajasthani Folklore. For the first time, the school hosted "Joseph's Premiere League," a cricket tournament with six franchises owned by the PTA members. The month ended with "Suvidaya," the valedictory ceremony for the outgoing VIIIth standard students.

St Joseph's Community College conducted an effective and informative fire safety drill of a two-hour duration. A team from Decathlon conducted a workshop on Yoga. Fr Jeevan D'Souza and Ms Cristel briefed the students on how to write resumes and face interviews. The hotel management department conducted a two-day workshop on baking.

- Sch Larren Menezes

tainable Development. The land in Ramasandra village of Kolar District is protected with enclosure. BJES Institution Day, celebrated on February 25, marked the Golden Jubilee of BJES. Dr Thimappa

Hegde was the chief guest at the event.

Loyola Technology Centre (STEM Lab) at St Joseph's Boys' High School enabled students to imbibe qualities of sustainable development in growing mushrooms at their homes. SJBHS-PTA Triathlon (a triad of three phases: 50m swimming, 2.5 Km cycling and 1.2 Km running race) was conducted as a single non-stop event. Grandparents' Day was celebrated by the Pre-Primary students. The US Air Force Band of the Pacific performed live at the school auditorium. Harmony Week focused on a triad: harmony with nature, harmony with self, and harmony with community. Two fruitful programmes for the staff were: retreat (guided by Fr Jossie D'Mello) and personality development (conducted by Ms Shachi Irde). The staff and students made an outreach visit to Jyothi Seva School for the Blind in Bengaluru.

St Joseph's College of Law (SJCL) had its very first Alumni Meet on 11th Feb. The Debate Society organised the 1st Inter-class Model Youth Parliament on the amendment to the Indian Majority Act, 1875 to reduce the age of majority from the present 18 years to 16 years in the light of the changing times. The Sports Committee conducted Kairos 2023 with a host of events. Students of the Legal Aid cell visited Hangal Taluk to spread legal awareness.

At St Joseph' Evening College, a Faculty Development Programme included a visit to Srinagar. The learning activities were centred around the realities of Kashmir. Col David Nehemiah (Commanding Officer of Para Regiment and an Alumnus of SJC), Dr Salim (Director General, Medical Health Service, J&K) and Shri Amit Sinha (of CRPF) addressed the group on issues related to Kashmir. Fr Michael John and Fr Brian Pereira accompanied the staff to Kashmir.

St Joseph's Wellness Centre (SAMAGRA), conducted wellness sessions for more than 300 staff of St Jo-



seph's Institutions. These well-appreciated sessions served to strengthen team spirit among the staff. Samagra also conducted a course on Life Skills for a group of religious brothers and sisters.

At the annual Sports Day of St Joseph's College of Commerce, Mr Ikkery Mohammed Muddasir (former international athlete) was the chief guest. Kannada Sangha organised 'Kalarava' event in which 750 students from more than 45 colleges took part. 'Resound 2023', a musical concert organized by the SJCC choir Serenata Chorale, had college choirs from around the city participating. Fr Roshan Castelino gave a lecture to the staff on 'Impact Factor Publications'.

Bembala, the outreach unit of BJES, regularly conducts a variety of activities to develop social concern among students. Some of the activities are awareness drives, rural exposure camps, paper cover making and distribution, government school visit, public rallies, candle light vigils, sapling plantation, distribution of food kits, kill-bill campaign, etc. More than 250 students are benefitting under the Bhavishyajyothi programme for skill development. - Fr Praveen Kiran Martis

## LOYOLA MANDIR



While on his canonical visitation of Loyola Mandir, Fr Provincial appreciated the work done by the members of the community towards province development and gratefully acknowledged the support extended to him. Ms Liz Kim (International Program Coordinator of Jesuit Mission, Australia) stayed at LM while visiting the Mundgod Mission. Fr Daniel Bara (DAR), having recuperated after his angioplasty surgery, returned to Nepal where

he had been working. Fr Jossie D'Mello gave the following sessions: an online session on Discernment to the members of the International Union of Superiors General (IUSG) organised by the Discernment Leadership Programme (DLP) from the General Curia, and a day-long retreat to the teaching staff of St Joseph's Boys' School, Bengaluru. Fr Yesunath Karlekar went through an internship for B.Ed and the International Baccalau-

-laureate program (IB Diploma Program) at Legacy International School, Bengaluru. He is fascinated by the new models of educational institu-

tions and curricula that are becoming popular in Metro cities.  
- Fr Olvin Veigas

## MANVI



Pre-novice Lestern D'Souza, after three months of experience in the Mission, has left for Mangaluru. Novices Harris Linus and Jeevan Santhosh completed their one-month experience in Pannur and have proceeded to the novitiate.

At the farewell function organized in honour of the II PU students, Dr Kamala Ratna from LVD College Raichur, gave a touching message. Fr Leo Pereira gave some tips for life, and Fr Maxim Rasquinha made a prayer over them.

Bellary Diocesan CRI unit had half-a-day's programme on Consecrated Life in the Arrupe Hall. Fr Prem Prakash CSSR gave a talk on holiness. There were about 70 participants.

Fr John Crasta went to Fr Muller's Hospital for a thorough check up. The community had an enjoyable outing to a place near Kishkinda. Fr Wilson Moras went to Patna for the Jesuit Alumni Meet. In the absence of a biology lecturer, Fr Ash-

win Cordeiro took classes for PU students provisionally.

Jayappa (21), son of our parishioners Balaswamy and Lalithamma, Pannur, met with an accident in Manvi and died in the hospital. He was a degree student in a private college. May his soul rest in peace.

Fr Don Prem Lobo attended a programme on local governance at Thrissur. Fr Francis Fernandes, PCF, and 17 regents had two days of "Regents' Meet" at Manvi. Fr Provincial along with Fr Joseph D'Mello, the Socius and Fr Jason Furtado, the Treasurer, visited our community in connection with the annual budgets.

Loyola College organised a one-day seminar on the Constitution of India. Sri Basavaraju Bhagvathi of Prajavani team was the main speaker.

- Fr Maxim Rasquinha

## MOUNT ST JOSEPH



Mr Patrick Sequeira, younger brother of Fr Richard Sequeira, passed away in Mangaluru on February 27. The community had a requiem Mass for Mr Patrick and prayed for the bereaved family. We celebrated with much joy the Golden Birthday of our Rector, Fr Anthony Joseph UG, at the Exotica Convention Resorts. A special thanks to Fr Victor Lobo for helping us with the arrangements.

January is the month of tweaking the physical and spiritual needs of the Novices. The six first year novices experienced the foundation of Jesuit life through the Spiritual Exercises under the caring guidance of the Novice Director. The twelve second year novices had an experience of the Jesuit missions in Karnataka through one-month Mission experiment under the coordination of Fr Socius. The sharing of the enriching experiences of these foundational experiences enhanced the spiritual and vocational growth of the novices. The novitiate community is extremely grateful to the Mission Superiors and the Jesuits of Anekal, Mundgod, Vijayapura, Manvi and Kannada mis-

sion of Deshnur, Belgavi for the fraternal care and guidance offered to the second year novices during their Mission Experiment. The novices benefited much from the resourceful sessions on Social Analysis and POCSO offered by Fr Cyprian Tellis. The novitiate community went to visit the Bible Museum at St Peter's Seminary, the ISKON temple as part of inter religious harmony outing. The novices also paid a flying visit to the Jesuit farm and the community of the Sisters of Charity at Solur. Fr John Pradeep offered a seminar on Ignatian Spirituality at Indian Institute of Spirituality at Rajajinagar, and on Vocational Discernment to the Sisters of St Anne Bangalore at TC Palya. Fr Nithin Machado gave online sessions on the Gospel of Matthew to the FSI Sisters.

It was a feather in the cap of the Loyola Degree College when five of its students secured ranks in the University Examinations conducted in August – September 2022. The LCPUC had its Graduation Day on March 4 for its outgoing students.

- Fr Clarence D'Souza



Having completed his B.Ed. Final Exam in St Aloysius Institute of Education, Schol. Harish Kumar left for Bijapur on March 2 for a few months of mission service. While here, he had endeared himself to the community by his availability for service.

SAC (Autonomous) mentored a few other colleges (Milagres College, Kallianpur, St Joseph's Engg College, Mangaluru, etc) - to prepare them for the NAAC peer team visit. The Department of Counselling conducted a week-long programme to create awareness on mental health. The three-day programme, IMPETUS-2023, was organized to foster idea generation and promote startup initiatives. The play 'Kendonians' has been selected by National School of Drama for the International Theatre Festival. Our II B.Com student, Ms Nishal Delphina D'Souza, won the Bronze medal in weightlifting competition at the Khelo India Junior and Youth National Women's Weightlifting Competition, Patna. Karnataka's first ever Period Pain Simulator was unveiled in the programme titled 'Cramp Swap'.

Gonzaga School organised class-wise outreach programmes for students: Class XI students to Tannirbhava on a beach cleaning drive, and Classes VI to X on visits to NGOs and senior citizens' homes. An amount of over a lakh of rupees (contributed during the year by students on

their birthdays) was donated to the senior citizens' homes. Our first batch of NCC displayed a rhythmic march-past. Sathvik Sujir of Std VIII won a gold medal and two bronze medals in various swimming events at Rajkot. The solemn ceremony of "Jyothi Pradaan" (farewell to Class X students) witnessed the graduating students receiving the symbolic light of knowledge. Two teachers from Instituto Leone XIII, Milano, Italy – Prof Marcella Valvo and Ms Sara Blandini – visited our school from 19 to 24 Feb to explore plans for student exchange programmes between the two schools. On National Science Day on 28 February, SAGS organized an ATL workshop for the neighboring schools. Students of classes VI to VIII exhibited their science models on this occasion.

In collaboration with Tata Motors and SKIP, our ITI organized a three day All India Tech Fest in which 20 ITIs from all over India participated. The sponsors were much pleased with the competitions involving both students and staff as well as their creative project work. Our Leo Club received the Hall of Fame award from Lions Club of Mangalore. At present, the second year students are on On-the-Job training in different industries. A written agreement signed between SAITI and Arvind Motors ensures training, stipend and job placement for our automobile trade students.

- Fr Leo D'Souza

The two noteworthy events at VN in February were YUVA (an interfaith youth gathering), and the Silver Jubilee of our parish (Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Church). YUVA (initiated at VN in 2012) was held this year at Shanthi Sadan School on 5th February. Close to 160 youth from different colleges and study centres attended the programme.

The input sessions covered a wide spectrum of sessions on self-enhancement, soft skills, skill-based learning, motivation, peace and harmony, and use of media. The success of the programme is to be attributed to the meticulous planning by VN community, the cooperation of youth volunteers from Bengaluru and Mangaluru, and of course, the creative inputs by renowned resource persons.

The celebration of the Silver Jubilee of OLPS parish on 19th February became a memorable event thanks to the enthusiastic participation and joyful contribution of the parishioners and the religious.

The lion's share of organizing the celebration was assumed by Vidya Niketan community who helped the parish priest in training the altar servers, joining the choir, assisting in the liturgy, and entertaining the audience at the cultural programme with an amusing skit. In the two-day Ignatian Leadership seminar, organized by Fr Joyson Vas at Fatima Retreat House, Mangaluru, 55 students from seven Jesuit colleges participated. Fr Joyson was one of the resource persons at the youth animation program organized at Ashirvad, Bengaluru.

- Sch Sujay Paul

## XAVIER SADAN, Mysuru



Right now Fr Willie Sequeira is giving a course on Mind-Body Behavioural Therapy. Twelve youth leaders from different parishes of Mysore Diocese spent a weekend here for youth leadership programme. There were also a few individuals for annual retreat, discernment and inner healing. One Salesian Priest is here for a 3-month renewal programme. Fr Provincial's visitation was, as usual, a relaxed, refreshing and renewing experience for all of us. A major renovation work has been completed on our sanitary and sewage system. Frs Arun Luis, Elvis Lewis and Anthony Arul from Ashirvad brought their staff for Mysore Darshan and were with us for breakfast and lunch.

Fr Edward Philip was involved in planning and organising the diocesan level youth convention at Mysuru, conducted a Leadership and Orientation programme for the unorganised youth jointly organised by Ashirvad and FIDES at KR Puram, Bengaluru, gave a two day orientation programme for the high school students of Ashirvad school at KR Pete, and went to Navasadhana, Hassan



for the screening of the prospective entrants to the Novitiate, and flew to Kohima Region for the same purpose.

It was house full for a whole month with 20 Ursuline tertians and 6 Precious Blood Jubilarians making a 30 Days Ignatian Retreat directed by Fr Freddie D'Silva, who also gave a 6-day course in Religious Leadership here. Fr Ivan Sequeira is much sought after in the parishes for masses and novenas, the latest being in K R Pet, in addition to his normal work as the administrator and daily priestly ministry in the house and the neighbourhood. He directed an 8 days retreat for the Ursuline sisters here, and then went to the Novitiate of the Fathers of Compassion for a 4-day retreat to their novices.

- Fr Edward Philip

## DE NOBILI COLLEGE, Pune



Fr Francis Fernandes, PCF, was here to meet the scholastics. Sch Aravind Royce was among the 12 scholastics ordained deacon by Bishop Thomas Dabre on 19th February. Fr Richard D'Souza from the Vatican Observatory gave a talk to the community members on the contribution of Jesuits in the field of astronomy. Underscoring the importance of the mission (of the Observatory) that the Church has entrusted to the Society, he encouraged the scholastics to contribute to the field of science and research.

- Sch Aravind Royce



## SATYA NILAYAM, Chennai



A philosophizing session on cybercrime was animated by Dr Ranjit Abraham - a prominent lawyer, academician and a cyber law specialist. Hearty congratulations to Sch Ovin Rodrigues on his having secured fourth rank in Civil Engineering at Visvesvaraya Technological University, making his institution (St Joseph Engineering College, Mangaluru) and the Karnataka Jesuits proud. The POSA, Fr Stanislaus D'Souza, was with us at SN for the Governing Body Meeting. The PhD scholar Maria Delasal Viswas, guided by Fr Lawrence Fernandes, had his PhD viva on Raimon Panikkar at Satya Nilayam Research institute.

Fr Lawrence Fernandes presented papers at two national seminars held at Loyola College: one on 'Tribal Migration: An Exploratory Study' and the other on 'Women and Sacred Space'. Fr Lawrence, after serving for nine years as the vice-president of the Alumni Association of Madras University Department of Christian Studies, passed on his mantle to his successor. Fr Francis D'Souza attended the Assistancy-level Treasurers' Meeting in Delhi. Fr Jerry Rosario (CEN) guided the community recollection on 'Fratelli Tutti'.

- Sch Vivian Saldanha

## VIDYAJYOTI, Delhi



On the occasion of its golden jubilee of its inception in Delhi, Vidyajyoti Institute of Religious Studies organised a national seminar (13-15 February) on "The Role of Theology in Nation-Building". Justice Kurien Joseph (ret'd) of the Supreme Court of India delivered the inaugural address. The keynote address was given by Abp. Em. Thomas Menampampil SDB. Significant among the papers presented was Fr Joseph Lobo's online presentation on 'Costly Freedom: Anchoring the Indian Constitution in the Spiritual Resources of Religions in India'. On 18 February, 38 scholastics were ordained deacons by Abp Anil J T Couto of the Archdiocese of Delhi. Seven of the newly ordained deacons are of Karnataka Province: Dns Arvin Pais, Ashwin D'Silva, Avinash D'Souza, Jaison Lobo, Leston Lobo, Vinod Saldanha and Vishal Pinto. Congratulations to our new deacons as they take a step closer to the priesthood. Fr Shantharaj T and Sch Joseph Jerald from Jnanajyoti, Anekal, who had come to VJ for the plenary

academic council meeting, stayed back to witness the diaconate ordinations.



The Third-Year theology students had their Ad Auds examination in the first week of February. The one-day outing of the VJ community to the Millenium Park on February 25, was a welcome break from the hectic week of diaconate ordination and examinations.

- Sch Jaison Lobo

## VIDYANIKETAN, Trivandrum



On 31st January we went on an "eco-tour" to Kannur, which was followed by a three-day course (1-3 February) on ecology by Fr Rajesh Panthalackal (KER). Academy Day, celebrated on 18th February, had "Friends in the Light" for

its theme, and was a memorable event. Msgr Dr C Joseph, Chancellor of the Latin Archdiocese of Trivandrum, was the Chief Guest.

- Sch John Samuel Robert

## VINAYALAYA, Mumbai



We had a delightful opportunity of watching 'The Hunchback of Notre Dame' and "Cindy" - staged by St Michael's, Mahim and St Blaise's, Amboli. The plays provided us with practical insights into our course on Speech and Drama. We had a taste of pastoral exposure when we spent three days (11-13 February) at the Infant Jesus Shrine, Nasik. The experience of distributing communion,

monitoring money collections, etc. brought us a variety of takeaways. The course by Sr Sagaya on Gender Inclusiveness and Sexual Abuse dealt with POCSO and other issues related to abuse of minors; and their relevance in our formation in mission. With this course the major portion of our learning for this academic year comes to an end.

- Sch Amith Antony

## XAVIER TRAINING COLLEGE, Belagavi



The experiment that makes a deep impression on a novice is the 'walking and begging pilgrimage'. This time our pilgrimage was to Goa for the feast of St Francis Xavier. The experiment reminded us of the grace we asked for in the long retreat, viz. a complete surrender to God and total dependence on Him. Our trust in His providence was amply rewarded as we begged for food on our journey. At the Basilica of Bom Jesu we had an experience of 'pastoral ministry' as we assisted in Adoration, Communion distribution, etc.

Fr Francis Fernandes (KAR) was with us to give a course on Dynamics of the Spiritual Exercises. His sparkling wit made the course enjoyable. Fr Agnelo Mascarenhas, Provincial of Pune, was at XTC for his canonical visitation. He conferred the Ministries of Reader and Acolyte on fifteen of our first year brothers. The second year novices were eagerly and zealously looking forward to their month long 'hospital experiment' (15 Jan to 14 Feb). Novice Felix was assigned to (Pune), Novice Lloyd to Mumbai, and Novices Fean and Da-



Daran to Gujarat. The experiment shaped our vocation as it helped us to labour with Christ poor and humble in serving the elderly, the leprosy affected, the destitute, the mentally challenged, etc. The course on the Letters of St Ignatius by Fr John

Fernandes (GOA) and the course on the History of the Society by Fr Francis Fernandes (BOM) helped us to widen our knowledge of and deepen our love for the Society. - Nov Fean Almeida

## OURS IN PUBLICATIONS

ಜೋಸೆಫ್ ಲೋಬೊ, ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವನಾ ಅಧ್ಯಾಯ, ದೇವರ ವಾಕ್ಯ [ದೇಯಿ ವೆಬುರ್ಮಾ]: ವ್ಯಾಟಿಕನ್ // ಮಹಾಸಭೆಯ ಅಧಿಕೃತ ಅಧಿಕಾರಯುತ ಬೋಧನೆ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪ್ರಾಂತೀಯ ಬೈಬಲ್ ಆಯೋಗ - ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು, 2023.

**Joseph Lobo**, "The Silence of God: An Incarnational Response," in Re-discovering Inigo the Pilgrim in South Asianness, ed, Elil Rajendram SJ, (Delhi, India: ISPCCK, 2023), pp. 125-149.

**Richard Mascarenhas**, "Dying to Self = Living for Christ" in *The New Leader*, Feb 16 - 28, 2023, page 17.

**Richard Mascarenhas**, "Dying to Self = Living for Christ" *The Magnet*, March 2023, page 12.

**Roshan Castelino**, et al. Higher-indexed Moiré patterns and surface states of MoTe<sub>2</sub>/graphene heterostructure grown by molecular beam epitaxy. *2D Materials and Applications* / 6, 48 (2023).

## REST IN PEACE

**Fr Mathew J. Moollel**, SJ (MDU), 90/71, on 19 February, in Dindigul.

**Fr Fernandes Jesuadimai**, SJ (MDU), 76/47, on 24 February, in Dindigul.

**Fr Dominic Fernandes**, SJ (BOM), 70/50, on 04 March, in Talasari, Maharashtra.

**Fr Britius Ekka**, SJ (RAN), 72/52, on 5 March, in Ranchi.

**Mr Patrick Sequeira**, 86, brother of Fr Richard Sequeira, on 27 February, in Mangaluru.

**Mr Suresh**, 53, brother of Fr Mohan, on 03 March, in Doddaballapur.

## LENTE PENANCE AND THE SYNODAL JOURNEY

"Lenten penance is a commitment, sustained by grace, to overcoming our lack of faith and our resistance to following Jesus on the way of the cross. This is precisely what Peter and the other disciples needed to do. To deepen our knowledge of the Master, to fully understand and embrace the mystery of his salvation, accomplished in total self-giving inspired by love, we must allow ourselves to be taken aside by him and to detach ourselves from mediocrity and vanity. We need to set out on the journey, an uphill path that, like a mountain trek, requires effort, sacrifice and concentration. These requisites are also important for the synodal journey to which, as a Church, we are committed to making. We can benefit greatly from reflecting on the relationship between Lenten penance and the synodal experience".

"In his 'retreat' on Mount Tabor, Jesus takes with him three disciples, chosen to be witnesses of a unique event. He wants that experience of grace to be shared, not solitary, just as our whole life of faith is an experience that is shared. For it is in togetherness that we follow Jesus. Together too, as a pilgrim Church in time, we experience the liturgical year and Lent within it, walking alongside those whom the Lord has placed among us as fellow travellers. Like the ascent of Jesus and the disciples to Mount Tabor, we can say that our Lenten journey is 'synodal', since we make it together along the same path, as disciples of the one Master. For we know that Jesus is himself the Way, and therefore, both in the liturgical journey and in the journey of the Synod, the Church does nothing other than enter ever more deeply and fully into the mystery of Christ the Saviour".

- Taken from the Message of the Holy Father Francis for Lent 2023.