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KARUNĀḌA SAURABHA
KARNATAKA JESUIT PROVINCE NEWSLETTER

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KARNATAKA JESUIT PROVINCE

September 2024

PROVINCIAL'S MUSINGS

The month of September is very special to all of us. On 27 September 1540, Pope Paul III promulgated the bull *Regimini Militantis Ecclesiae* and approved the Society of Jesus as a religious order. We are all called to revitalize the Society anew in our age and time. The JCSA is in the process of Reimagining and Restructuring of the Society of Jesus in South Asia in the light of the current global and local contexts of South Asia. We have begun the process of Reimagining and Restructuring in the province. We have completed the pre-process in our communities and commissions, the actual process will be done from 20-22 September and thereafter the post process.

As we enter into this process of RRSJSA, we should not think in terms of "me" and "mine." We should think in terms of "we" and "ours" as a province and as a conference. We should not *think* outside the box, we should *live* outside the box. No matter what our community or province is, we should think of ourselves as global citizens, responsible to the universal Society, responsible to the earth, responsible to the human family, and aware that our well-being is tied to the well-being of others. We need to be balanced and in tune with our own inner life, and we need to be awake to the immense possibilities that erupt when the inner lives and imaginations of our partners in mission are fully engaged. In this context, it is important to read the signs of the times and creatively explore possibilities of collaboration and networking across provinces and zones and with partners in mission.

During this month, we celebrated a number of Marian feasts: the Feasts of the Nativity of Mary, the Holy Name of Mary, and Our Lady of Sorrows. Ignatius had a special devotion to Mary. His prayer to Mother Mary to be placed with her Son Jesus becomes a reality in the vision at *La Storta*, which confirmed his desire to serve the Church and the world under the banner of the Cross.



- FR DIONYSIUS VAZ, SJ

APPROVED BY FR GENERAL

Fr Arun Kumar as Superior of Loyola Mandir, Bengaluru

APPOINTED BY FR POSA

Fr Jason Furtado appointed as Revisor of JCI

APPOINTED BY FR PROVINCIAL

Fr Felix Monteiro appointed as a Consultor of Kohima Region

Fr Gregory Coelho appointed as a Socius of Kohima Region

Fr Richard F Jarain appointed as a Novice Director of Kohima Region

PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

September 2024

01-04: Visitation: Bijapur Mission (Vijayapura)

06: First Vows: Trivandrum

07: AGM, MJES (Mangaluru)

08-10: Visitation: FRH (Mangaluru)

11-13: Visit of Fr Martin Lenk, Provincial of Caribbean Province

14: South Zone Triennial: Secondary Education (Bengaluru)

15: KRCR: Training of CRI Unit officials

16: CRI: Bellary

17: AGM, HJES (Hassan)

17-19: Visitation: Joseph Nivas (Hassan)

20-22: Reimagining and Restructuring of SJ in South Asia: Prerana (Bengaluru)

22: Meeting on JD University: Pune

23: Province Consult: LM (Bengaluru)

24-26: Visitation: Pannur-Manvi Mission (Manvi)

27: Convocation: St Joseph's University (B'luru)

28: Ordination: SJBHS (Bengaluru)

October 2024

01: Mass-General Conference: SND Sisters (B'luru)

02-05: Visitation: Mundgod Mission (Mundgod)

07-09: Course for Silver Jubilarians: Prerana (Bengaluru)

10: MAGIS: Gulbarga

12: Ordination: FRH (Mangaluru)

13: Province Consult: FRH (Mangaluru)

14-15: Visitation: Asha Kiran

16-17: KRCR Meeting: Goa

20-26: JCSA (Delhi)

27-29: Visitation: Vidya Jyoti (Delhi)

CONGRATULATIONS

To **Sch Anthony Jackson** on pronouncing your First Vows in the Society of Jesus.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

20-22 September 2024: RRSJSA in Prerana

28 September: Deacons **Anand Paul** and **Joseph Jerald** will be ordained to ministerial priesthood by Most Rev. Dr Peter Machado, Archbishop of Bangalore, along with the Auxiliary Bishops of Bangalore, Most Rev. Dr Joseph Susainathan and Most Rev. Dr Arokiaraj Satis Kumar on 28th September in St Joseph's Boys' High School Chapel, Bengaluru at 10:30 AM.

28-29 September 2024: Meeting of Jesuits in Science and Technology Forum in Loyola College, Chennai

03-11 October, 2024: DSS Retreat Place: FRH, Mangaluru, **Preacher:** Fr Stan Alla, SJ (AND)

10-12 October: North Karnataka Magis 2024 at St Xavier's Gulbarga

12 October: Deacons **Joswin Pereira, Kiran Anthony Leema, Maxim Martin D'Souza** and **Wilson Saldanha** will be ordained to ministerial priesthood by Most Rev. Dr Peter Paul Saldanha, Bishop of Mangalore, on 12th October in Divine Mercy Church, Fatima Retreat House, Fr Muller's Road, Mangaluru, at 10:00 AM.

Fr Melwyn S Pinto, is in Sophia University, Tokyo to teach in the department of Journalism and to engage in some research till march 2025.

New Email of **Fr Cyril Raj:** cyrilrajsj2084@jesuits.net

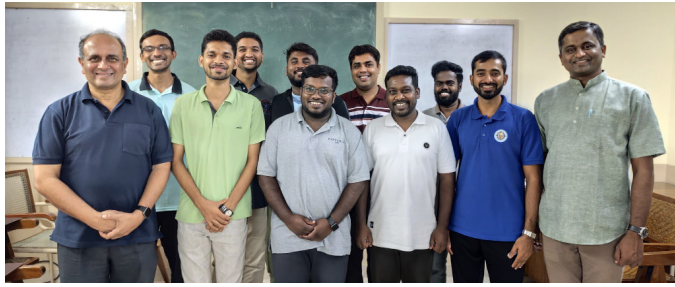
POPE'S WORLDWIDE PRAYER NETWORK (PWPN): SEPTEMBER 2024

For the cry of the earth: We pray that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the Earth and of victims of natural disasters and climatic change, and that all will undertake to personally care for the world in which we live.

REGENTS' MEET



Nine regents, including two from the Delhi Province, attended the Regency Meet on August 24-25 at Ashirvad, Bengaluru. It began with a half-day recollection led by Fr Prashanth Sequeira. In



the sharing sessions, the regents expressed their experiences of consolation, desolation and crisis

moments during the past three months, and the impact of these factors on their Jesuit formation.

Fr Dionysius Vaz, the Provincial, addressed the regents, encouraging them to become integrated Jesuits with intellectual, spiritual, and emotional depth. He emphasized the role of self-formation in managing loneliness and embracing interculturality. The second day included a Eucharistic celebration, further sharing, and evaluation and planning for the next gathering. The presence of PCF, Fr Pratap Chandru during all the sessions was an encouragement to the regents.

- Sch Suman D'Souza

SUPERIORS' MEETING



The Superiors' Meeting held on 20-21 July 2024 at Prerana, was centred on the theme 'sent to collaborate in the reconciliation of all things in Christ'. Day 1 began with a prayer focused on the 'Examen on DSS,' and Fr Provincial emphasized the importance of union of hearts and minds and discernment in leadership. The morning session included reflections on the 5 issues of DSS (Identity, Collaboration, Mission, Structures, and Governance), and in the afternoon it was dedicated to discussing the implications of *Tempo Forte* and engaging in spiritual conversations. The key insights from *Tempo Forte* discussions included the need for integrating cura personalis with cura apostolica, promoting Jesuit ethos in ministries, and initiating peace and reconciliation programmes.

On Day 2, the focus shifted to reimagining and reviewing our life-mission, starting with a Holy

Eucharist by Fr Anil D'Mello (the birthday baby) and reflections led by Fr Brian Pereira on the RRSJSA process and JESCOL. The importance of safeguarding, with clarity, was highlighted by Fr Cyprian Tellis, along with updates and plans for



KPAP by Fr Rony Pais. The afternoon session included insights on financial administration by Fr Jason Furtado and a concluding address by Fr Provincial highlighting the duties of the Superiors. The meeting concluded with an evaluation highlighting the fruitful deliberations, satisfaction and enthusiasm to make the governance effective.

MEETING OF DOW'S



The meeting of the DoWs was held at FRH-Mangaluru from 17-18 August. Fr Arun Kumar set the tone for the meeting with an inspiring introduction and Fr Kiran Cotha led a meaningful



prayer. The Provincial emphasized reflection on how to be collaborative leaders and urged us to interpret the Society's charism in our respective

ministries as DoWs. Fr Joseph D'Mello conducted a session on the five issues of DSS and thereby led us to delve deep into those issues and personalize them. The key points included the need to balance Jesuit identity with the demands of contemporary contexts and the importance of collaboration within the Society. The afternoon session by Fr Jason Furtado focused on financial management, emphasizing the understanding of financial management, accountability and the need for clarity in financial matters.

Fr Jerald D'Souza provided insights into the political landscape and the role of Eddelu Karnataka in recent elections. He highlighted both achievements and areas for improvement in their political

engagement. The second day featured Fr Melwyn Sunny Pinto's session on implementing the priorities of *Tempo Forte* such as integrating cura personalis with cura apostolica, promoting Jesuit ethos, and focusing on peace and reconciliation.

Fr Cyprian's input on safeguarding, emphasizing the need for Internal Complaints Committees (ICC) and strict adherence to legal requirements brought in a much-needed clarity. Fr Rony Pais

reviewed KPAP updates and highlighted the importance of effective implementation and analysis. Finally, Fr Provincial made observations on collaborative leadership and the need for adapting to various contexts. He also made special observations to all the campus animators to be more proactive in promoting the Jesuit culture in our institutions. The meeting concluded with evaluations and with a deep sense of gratitude.

- Fr Ashwin Cordeiro

KJES YOUTH WORKS (PCYM)



The pastors of different denominations of the North-East region came together for a meeting on peace and reconciliation. North-East youth visited internally displaced persons (IDPs) in their institutions offering them hope and encouragement.

AICUF Karnataka held a two-day seminar on transformational leadership at St Joseph's College, Hassan. Around 120 participants from 20 units across the state took part. AICUF has also launched an initiative to establish libraries in rural areas to promote literacy. AICUF, in collaboration with local NGOs, organized a relief

drive in aid for the people affected by the recent Wayanad landslide.

Nine students from AICUF Karnataka attended a four-day workshop in Chennai on digital journalism and have returned enriched with skills in article-writing, photography, video-recording, etc. which are essential in journalism for social change. Fifteen of our youth volunteers participated in the two-day meet of Jesuit Youth Collaborators, held at AIMIT, Mangaluru, which featured inspiring talks by Frs Melwyn S Pinto, Kiran Cotha, and Sujay Daniel.

- Fr Joel Fernandes

ARRUPE NIVAS, Bengaluru



Fr Victor Lobo was invited to speak on the 'Future of Higher Education at the exclusive Colledunia X Coursera Round table Discussion' held at Sheraton Grand, Bengaluru. Mr Nakane Tsutomu (Hon'ble Consul General of Japan in Bengaluru) delivered a talk on campus to celebrate Indo-Japan relations. Rev. Fr John Joseph Puthenkalam SJ, Trustee for Global Academic Affairs and Professor at Sophia University, Japan, addressed the university staff and research scholars, seeking collaborative contributions for his book series on "Sustainable Development Goals."

"ELIXIR", an annual open-day event showcasing 133 exhibits, provided a comprehensive overview of SJU and its programmes and career guidance opportunities, attracting sizeable participation of students, educators, industry professionals, and distinguished guests. The University has been active in organizing and participating in awareness campaigns and peaceful protests on social issues, particularly in the light of recent occurrences of crimes against women. SJU also supported various initiatives, such as TUDI (Tribal Unity

for Development Initiatives) in Wayanad. Overall, the University continues to make significant strides solidifying its commitment to excellence, social responsibility, and progressive growth.

One of our students of B'Com IFA achieved top affiliate rankings, securing 3rd place in India and 25th globally. Our students have also excelled in sports, winning accolades ranging from state-level kickboxing events to World Athletics Under 20 team selections to shining at the International and Asian Taekwondo Championships. SJU student teams also emerged victorious at a national-level dance competition and Model United Nations 2024.

The Jesuits of Arrupe Nivas community, under the leadership of Fr Francis Pinto, set up an exhibition stall at "Elixir," as a means of promoting vocations to the Society of Jesus. Arrupe Nivas hosted one of the meetings of the Assistency Coordinators of Province Commissions of Higher Education.

- Fr Aravind Royce

ASHA KIRAN, Mangaluru



Early in August, Fr Sujay Daniel attended a workshop in Delhi incidental to his doctoral re-

search. In their turn, the Scholastics at Asha Kiran conducted "Your Opinions Matter",

a thought-provoking session on the new criminal laws.

Fr Rony Pais conducted a week-long course for the scholastics at JFTC, Anekal, on Awareness-Attachment-Affection. On 15 August, being Independence Day, we also celebrated our Foundation Day with a gathering of neighbours,

ASHIRVAD, Bengaluru



Inter-Religious Harmony Movement (IRHM) members organised a talk on St Ignatius of Loyola as part of their celebration of our founder. Fr Cyril D'Mello was the keynote speaker.

As part of Centre for Social Concern (CSC), the Spandana study centres have been running well. The Independence Day celebration was made colourful by Spandana children. Nearly 26 volunteers from SJU have come forward to support the Spandana study centers for this academic year.

Fr Arun Luis attended the meeting on Wayanad relief organised by the Archbishop of Bangalore and conducted a programme for the social work Directors of Bethany Congregation in Mangaluru on the topic, Spirituality of Social work.

Human Resource Development Centre (HRDC) under the aegis of Fr Brian Pereira organized a three-day JESCOL-II programme for 45 PU staff

FATIMA RETREAT HOUSE, Mangaluru



The Directors of Work from across the Province had a two-day meeting at FRH for an exchange of ideas and for mutual collaboration. The novena in honour of BVM has occasioned an increased attendance at masses in our church. Fr Joseph Rodrigues gave a weeklong course at the Jesuit Juniorate at Trivandrum on Psycho-Sexual Integration. He also conducted one-day sessions for groups of Bethany Sisters –Superior General and her council, Provincial Superiors, and Formators- on accompanying formees in the context of current challenges in the formation ministry. Fr Edward Rodrigues led a one-day seminar for PU College lecturers in Bijapur on contemporary strategies for effective teaching. Meanwhile, Fr Joseph Monteiro and Fr Anil D'Mello have been actively supporting the religious and the faithful through recollections, counselling, and the Sac-

HOMBELAKU, Manvi



All 40 of our Final Degree Arts students, along with the Principal Fr Vinod Paul and his staff, went for a day's outing to Hampi. For the AGM,

followed by a full-day outing for the Scholastics. We had Fr Sunil Ranjar to guide our recollection on Restructuring and Reimagining, while Fr Sujay shared his insights on the subject. The Scholastics were actively involved in 'Utsav', an interclass fest at St Aloysius Deemed-to-be University.

- Sch Anson Alex

members. Fr Brian conducted a session on Basic Counselling skills for the lecturers of Loyola Degree College and Life-Skills training for a group of religious sisters at Prerana. He also conducted Training of Trainers programme on RRSJSA for the Jesuits of Central Zone in Ranchi and visited the Northeast and spent two weeks there, as part of his sabbatical programme. Ashirvad community had recollection on RRSJSA and Fr Brian was the resource person. Ashirvad hosted a two-day regents' meeting and three-day higher education commission meeting under the leadership of Fr Joe Arun (MDU) and Fr Melwyn D'Cunha being the local coordinator. Ashirvad community had its outing in Hindhupur Jesuit community. It was a time of sharing & relaxation for all. All enjoyed the hospitality of Andhra Jesuit province. Fr Arun D'Souza along with 15 students from Japan stayed with us. They visited many places and had good interactions with different schools and college personnel.

- Fr Elvis C Lewis

rament of Reconciliation. Fr Ajay D'Silva conducted a day of recollection for college-going seminarians of Shimoga Diocese. We recently hosted a two-day retreat for 400 students from Athena College of Nursing. On the invitation of the alumni of St Joseph's Boys' High School, Fr Norbert Fernandes attended a meeting in Bengaluru and was warmly honoured by his former students.

The senior Jesuits at FRH continue to serve as an inspiration to us all and to the faithful. We are pleased to announce the publication of Volume 3 of Fr Oswald Mascarenhas' book, *A Primer on Critical Thinking and Business Ethics: Critical Thinking in Unpredictable Corporate Business Contexts*.

- Fr Edward Rodrigues

Provincial, Frs Arun Kumar (Socius), Arun Louis (PDD), Jerald D'Souza (PCSA) and representatives from Mundgod were present. Frs Leo Pereira,

Avinash Lobo and Cyril Raj represented the community at the AGM at Mundgod.

After three days of input from the Province, the community had a special recollection on the RRSJSA. On the eve, we had the points shared by the PRSJA committee, and in the morning, we went through the summary of POSA's talk and other material on RRSJSA. After a period of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, we had a sharing session in groups on the questions regarding RRSJSA.

INIGO SADAN, Bengaluru



The beginning of August brought in a lot of joy as we celebrated the birthday of our Rector Fr Joseph D'Souza. The time of visitation of Fr Provincial filled the community and our apostolates with still greater fervour. His interaction with the Jesuits, collaborators and students in the campus brought in new energy. The scholastics were introduced and ably guided into Vipassana meditation by Fr Felix Anand. The pin-drop silence in the community showed the effects of Vipassana as well as the fact that the scholastics were glued to their desks preparing for their mid semester exams. Frs Rohan D'Almeida and Vishal Pinto represented the community at the jubilee celebration of Fr Anand Prabhu held at Kalaburagi.

St Louis Boarding House (SLBH) hosted a series of events in August that showcased the vibrant community life within its walls. The highlight was the birthday celebration of the Director, Fr Joseph D'Souza. The students expressed their gratitude through a special birthday mass and cultural programme, reflecting the profound impact Fr Joseph has on the boarders. The students also benefited from counselling classes designed to help them manage stress and emotions, promoting personal growth and mental well-being. An educational trip to Vidhana Soudha and the Lalbagh flower show provided the students with insights into the beauty of nature, offering a break from their academic routine. Fr Provincial during his Visitation met the boarding students, providing guidance and support.

St Joseph's Indian High School hosted *Prerana* the annual cultural fest, which was a vibrant two-day celebration filled with a variety of competitions. The students showcased their talents in music, dance, debate, art, and many other categories. It was a wonderful opportunity for them to express their creativity and compete in a healthy, support-

St Joseph's University students, 65 of them, had three days of rural exposure in our Mission under the guidance of Fr Don Prem Lobo. Two Jesuits - Frs Martin and Mario - and their team of five lay persons, all from Slovakia, came to Manvi to meet their beneficiaries, the students. Mother General of Sisters of Tarbes along with her Councilor and the Provincial of Mysore Province were with us for a dinner along with all the sisters from Premanjali. Fr Pratap Chandru, PCF, stayed with us for a day to meet the Scholastics.

- Fr Maxim Rasquinha

ive environment. The NCC cadets participated in a 10-day camp that not only helped them build discipline and leadership but also enhanced their physical fitness and teamwork skills. The cadets returned with valuable experiences and a deeper sense of responsibility. The students had the unique opportunity to visit the local science museum, where they engaged in interactive exhibits and gained first-hand experience with scientific concepts. This field trip helped bring classroom lessons to life and sparked curiosity in various scientific fields. The school's Eco Club organized a weeklong awareness programme focusing on cleanliness and sustainability consisting of various activities, including clean-up drives, workshops on recycling, and discussions on reducing waste. The staff underwent a half-day training programme in Christ University Campus on integrating AI technology into the classroom.

The 78th Independence Day was celebrated with grandeur, beginning with the hoisting of the national flag. The chief guest for the event, Group Captain Nirmal Kumar Bakshi of the Indian Air Force and an esteemed alumnus, delivered an inspiring message, followed by the presidential address by our Rector, Fr Joseph D'Souza. The celebrations were further enriched by a vibrant cultural program presented by students from various units. The inauguration of the Commerce Club was marked by the presence of Mr Christo Selvan, Dean and Prefect of the School of Business at St Joseph's University, who addressed students on the "Importance of Skills in the Job Market." A group of 59 students, accompanied by 5 staff members, visited the U R Rao Satellite Center (URSC), the leading facility for satellite development. Students were briefed on *Chandrayaan-3*, India's third lunar exploration mission, and were also introduced to future ISRO projects such as *Gaganyaan* and *NISAR*. The Annual Athletic

Meet took place on 24 August with great enthusiasm. The inaugural ceremony was graced by the presence of Mr S D Eshan, Arjuna Awardee, while the valedictory function featured Ms. Mevis Rosebel Aiman, retired lecturer from SJIC-PUC, as the Chief Guest. Students participated in a variety of track, swimming, and field events, showcasing their athletic talents in a highly spirited and competitive atmosphere. The history students embarked on a field trip to the Mysore district, visiting the Chennakeshava Temple in Somanathapura and the Daria Daulat Bagh in Srirangapatna. A total of 71 students, accompanied by 4 staff members, participated in this enriching educational tour.

SJIPS enjoyed a series of notable achievements and events. The students showcased their athletic prowess by becoming the Runner-ups in the Zonal Level Throw ball tournament. An orien-

JESUIT NIVAS, Bengaluru

The College Day at SJCL had Mr Vivek Chandy (Managing Partner, J Sagar Associates) as the chief guest. The College organized an inter-religious thanksgiving prayer service to bid farewell to the outgoing batch of students; and an exhibition highlighting the cultural heritage of indigenous communities.

A good number of SJPUC and SJPUCE teaching staff attended JESCOL-1 at SJIM. The OBA Day marked the celebration of the alumni and their achievements. The insightful IPP session conducted by Fr Jeevan Prabhu threw light on the role of educators in Jesuit Institutions. The elocution competition hosted by the KPAP Team helped students to focus on social issues. 14 of our staff participated in the JESCOL-2 program in Ashirvad.

The 78th Independence Day Celebrations at SJBHS had Colonel Divakar Nagarajan (alumnus of the Batch of 1973) as the chief guest. Two distinguished alumni - Mr Jimmy Anklesaria and Mr Sabeer Bhatia - interacted with our ISC students. Teachers' Day was celebrated at the school assembly during which the students honoured their teachers. The school also held two fests: Commerce Fest (Bifrost) and Meraki Art & Craft Fest (Meraki). Mr Vinay Basavaraj and Mr Sabeer Bhatia were the chief guests at the opening and closing ceremonies of the Annual Athletic Meet. Loyola Technology Center organised a hands-on Arduino workshop for young learn-

ers. The History Club students visited the heritage home which houses the Postal Museum. (Note: Our road, "Museum Road" was named after the Postal Museum in 1880).

Fr Jason Martis assumed the role of Principal of St Joseph's Skill Academy in the presence of Rector, community members and the staff. SJSA conducted Parents' Orientation programme stressing on the importance of skill development for their children.

- Fr Vishal Melroy Pinto

SJIM (in collaboration with NIPM and IIHM) organized two full-day MDP's for corporate executives. We are honoured and pleased with the "Best Campus 2024" award conferred on us by Acuity Knowledge Partners Company. The rejuvenated SJIM Catalyst/Incubation Centre is designed to promote students as innovators. Dr. Prathasarathi Shome, the distinguished professor at SJIM and a world-renowned economist who worked for IMF, delivered a captivating talk on the topic "The Creation/Genesis/Fountain head of Poverty and Inequality in India: Its Economics, Sociology, and History, and Redressal Policies" as part of the ongoing formation of Jesuits in Bengaluru. More than 70 Jesuits attended the lecture delivered by Dr Parthasarathi on "Poverty and Inequality in India and Its Redressal Policies." Fr Olvin Veigas attended an FDP on "Gen AI and Academic Excellence" at XLRI-Delhi and later presented a paper on the Life and Works of Angelo Maffei, SJ (renowned for his first-Dictionary in Konkani and the first book on Konkani Grammar) in Mangaluru.

The NSS students of SJCC planted 145 fruit-bearing plants in four villages around Nelamangala as part of their 'sapling planting drive.' More than 20 colleges in and around Bengaluru took

part in “Kutumbh”, a BBA Inter collegiate fest. Mr Kamal Panth, IPS, was the chief guest at the Independence Day. Our students raised Rs 5.5

lakhs for the Wayanad flood victims.

- Fr Olvin Veigas

JOSEPH NIVAS, Hassan



Soon after the first test at St Joseph’s Eng. Med. Primary School, a PTA meeting was held during which, among other things, queries relating to ERP software were addressed. The Spell Bee competition helped the participating students to improve their spelling skills and vocabulary and develop confidence in learning a language. The PTA, held on 12 August, elected its office bearers and entrusted them with specific responsibilities. Our students won the championship in the cluster-level sports and brought laurels to the school in the Prathibha Karanji competitions.

an active PTA committee. Two of our staff, Ms. Jenifer Shery Pinto and Ms. Monisha, attended a weeklong staff training programme organized by JESA at Kodaikanal.

At the inauguration of the Student Council of St Joseph’s High School, Fr Jeevan Prabhu addressed the students on collaboration, cooperation and Jesuit ethos. On the Feast of St Ignatius, prizes were distributed to winners of weeklong competitions, the special attraction being the quiz on Jesuit matters. Independence Day, celebrated with song and dance, had Mr Phaneendra (Ex Navy Officer, and our alumnus of the Batch of 1983) as the chief guest. At the first PTA meeting the main point of discussion was students’ academic progress. It was an occasion to form

The odd semester at St Joseph’s College, Hassan (SJCH), commenced on 5 August with a couple of engaging orientation programmes for students. Fr Sunil Ranjar was the chief guest at the Independence Day celebrations. He delivered a thought-provoking address stirring the hearts and minds of the audience. On the same day, the Student Council as well as the Extended Student Council had a well-appreciated leadership programme facilitated by Fr Maxim Dias, Sch Princen and Sch Ovin. Another such programme was organized for about 70 AICUF members. SJCH also hosted a Leadership Camp (August 30-31) for about 120 students (from nearly 20 colleges in Karnataka) for the AICUF State Council. The Investiture Ceremony of the Student Council had Fr Henry Saldanha presiding and Mr Jagadeesh, KAS (Registrar of Hassan University) as the chief guest.

- Fr Santhosh D’Souza

LOYOLA MANDIR, Bengaluru



The Loyola Mandir community welcomed a few guests this month. Fr Freddie D’Silva SJ spent a few days with us. Fr Stephen Ekka (MAP) is here with us to undergo a treatment for his eyes. Fr Jeevan James SJ was given a fond farewell as he left for Kenya (East Africa Jesuit Province) for his mission work at the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS). Frs Wilson Moras and Kevin Sequeira travelled to Sri Lanka for their tertianship programme.

Fr Arun Kumar SJ had been to Goa for the annual Socii meeting which focused on building and preserving the Jesuit Archives. Fr Jason Furtado organized the meeting for all the Province Treasurers of the South Zone at Xavier Sadan, Mandya. He also visited Satya Nilayam, Chennai, and Indian Social Institute Bengaluru as Revisor of JCI.

- Fr Harry Noel Terry

LOYOLA SADAN, Kalaburagi



The campus saw significant infrastructure developments in the months of June and July. St Xavier’s English Medium Primary section, refectory for the hostel boys, and the roofing of the school quadrangle – all under the supervision of Frs Maxim Misquith and Anand Prabhu. Evening showers, so unusual in Kalaburagi during this season, provide a refreshing contrast to the typical daytime warmth these days. Enrolment in the hostels for boys and girls has noted a significant increase this year. Fr Cyprian Tellis enlightened the staff of our institutions on the importance of safeguarding minors and vulnerable adults.

St Xavier’s English Medium School has registered an enhanced enrolment of 547 (348 boys and 199 girls) from Nursery to Std VIII. World Environment Day and International Yoga Day were observed with due formalities. The Student Council had its investiture ceremony on 23 June. On the same day, the renovated Nursery, LKG, and UKG sections were blessed and inaugurated. Pleased with these improvements, parents and teachers expressed their gratitude to the management.

The reopening of St Xavier’s PU College on 11 May was followed by an orientation session

for the lecturers with Fr Rony Pais as the resource person. Mr Jagannath Koralli (Forest Range Officer) was the chief guest on World Environment Day on 7 June. World Yoga Day activities were conducted under the guidance of the principal, Fr John Thomas. Other important events were: a session on drug addiction awareness by the Farhatabad Police on 26 June, and a festive celebration of Freshers' Day on 28 June with Fr Vincent Pereira as the chief guest.



The Diamond Jubilee of Fr Anand Prabhu was celebrated in Loyola Sadan Community on 3 August, graced by the presence of Bishop Robert Miranda, homily delivered by Fr Anthony Dass, toast proposed by Fr Frederick D'Silva, felicitation offered by Fr Provincial, and the presence of Mr William Rodrigues, the jubilarian's younger

brother. Over two hundred priests and religious attended the event, making it a grand success.

Fr Francis Menezes was the resource person at the Gulbarga Diocesan CRI meeting convened by Fr Maxim Misquith. The celebration of the 78th Independence Day became special for the boys of St Xavier's Hostel thanks to a volleyball match they had with the inmates of the Gulbarga Central Jail.

Among the many significant events that were organized at St Xavier's School the following are noteworthy: a Parent-Teacher Meeting (PTM) on 2 August; the second Formative Assessment (FA2); participation of our students at the Taluka level sports meet in which the girls' basketball team emerged as runners-up, and the girls' football team qualified for the division level; the Annual Athletic meet of the school held on 16 August.

For St Xavier's PU College, the month of August encompassed a series of notable events such as the following: On 10 August, students from Central University's Psychology Department conducted counselling sessions on personality development. On the occasion of the 78th Independence Day, Mr Basavaraj Biradar (Ex Army Officer) was the chief guest. On the same day, students took part in a Swachh Bharat Abhiyan initiative. The Sports Week (August 13-23) culminated in the 15th Annual Sports Day celebration.

- Fr Roshan Pinto

MAITRI SADHANA, Vijayapura



A health checkup camp for the students at Loyola PU College was a mark of the college's focus on *cura personalis*. Other important events were a seminar on Political Science in which nearly 150 lecturers from various colleges participated; a leadership training programme for student leaders conducted by Fr Joseph Vaz Monteiro; and a faculty enrichment session which had Fr Edward Rodrigues as the resource person.

CNFE deserves our appreciation for a series of useful programmes and activities conducted in August. 30 awareness programmes on POCSO; 22 health camps; and the celebration of Independence Day in various slums. Our Pension Adalat scheme has enabled many to access social security benefits. The AICUF Students from SJCC made a 3-day visit to Bijapur for their rural exposure programme. Certificates were dis-

tributed to the first batch of tailoring students on completion of their 3-month course. We joined hands with the Karnataka Jal Biradari to clean up Surangbawdi.

Loyola School, Sindagi celebrated Independence Day with patriotic spirit. Pre-primary children had a day out to celebrate 'Birds Day' in the magnificent world of nature. Six schools participated in the various competitions conducted in the inter-school fest 'ARIVU 2024.' On Parents' Day, Fr Joyson Vaz gave a talk on modern parenting.

Loyola School Vijayapura, celebrated Independence Day with due solemnity. Our educators had a session on the Code of Ethics and Jesuit values. Furthermore, our teachers participated in an advanced training programme on the integration of media in education. The Director and staff

of CIRD were at the service of the students who came from Bengaluru to Sindagi for their out-

reach programme in the city slums.

- Fr Suman Balu

MOUNT ST JOSEPH, Bengaluru



The feast of the Assumption and Independence Day was celebrated with a solemn Mass followed by the Flag Hoisting ceremony, the flag being hoisted by Mr Lawrence Fernandes, our former driver. Novice Noha Veigas delivered the Independence Day message. We had a talk given by Fr Cyprian Tellis on Safeguarding. We were also inspired by the sharing of the vocation story by Fr Donald Miranda the former Provincial of Patna Province.

in 3 different batches of two days each and for all the province superiors for three days - on Community building for Apostolic Mission.

Loyola Degree College organized a three-day FDP on counselling and mentoring by Fr Brian Pereira, and on IPP by Dr. Vincent A. "Arambha-24" for the students and "Parichaya-24" for the parents were designed for the orientation of students and parents for the academic year.

The community had memorial masses for the departed younger sister of Fr Mariaraj; and for the departed elder sister, a Bethany nun, of Fr Joe Mathias. Fr Jossie D'Mello, our Rector, gave a series of talks on Discernment of Spirits to the organizers of the Jesus Youth Movement at the Holy Cross House, Sakalavara. Fr John Pradeep attended the ten-day Novice master's conclave at Kandy in Sri Lanka. Congratulations and best wishes to Ms. Gayathri Poojary (daughter of our head cook Mrs. Sharadha) who, having completed her CA studies, has been placed to work at Deloitte MNC as a CA.

Students and staff of Loyola High School and PU College came together to celebrate the 78th Independence Day. Our science students of 1st and 2nd year PU participated in a Space Art contest held at Alliance University.

Loyola ITI commenced its new academic year with an enrolment of 320 students, surpassing last year's enrolment of 294. Mr David Isaac (Head of Legal & Compliance, India) was the chief guest at the Independence Day celebration. We are excited to announce that Loyola ITI has partnered with PPS FORD Bangalore to offer a specialised training program on maintenance of AC systems in Ford cars. We are also happy that Mr Santhosh Sequeira (TTK Prestige Bangalore) visited our campus and offered employment opportunities to several students.

At Prerana, a group comprising junior sisters had a course preparing for their final profession, and another group including sisters from St Ann's of Bangalore attended the course for Silver Jubilarians. The most significant program during this period was a course for Major Superiors and Council members, which was well received by the 37 participants. Fr Joe Mathias conducted seminars for the Holy Cross Sisters at Kothanur, Bengaluru

Fr Cyprian Tellis addressed the teaching and non-teaching of Loyola Institutions on Safeguarding.

- Fr Clarence D'Souza

NAVASADHANA PRE-NOVITIATE, Hassan



The pre-novices participated in the Independence Day flag hoisting ceremony at St Joseph's Degree College, followed by an outing in the afternoon. A few days earlier, we had another half-day outing, this time to Shettihalli and Gorur Dam which

provided a welcome change from our daily routine. We are grateful to Fr Santosh D'Souza who led us through a day of recollection which helped us to deepen our spiritual experience.

Sch Princen made his contribution to the AICUF and leadership programmes by helping to conduct them. Fr Vinod Saldanha continues his vocation promotion efforts. Our regional vocation promoter, Fr Joyson Vaz, was with us for a few days, meeting us individually and as a group, and offering valuable guidance about our formation.

- Sch Princen Michael



There was good representation and participation at the Mundgod Mission Consultation held on 9 August at LVK. In his keynote address, Fr Dionysius Vaz, Provincial, emphasized the critical role of collaboration among mission partners. He recalled the Jesuits' initial choice of Mundgod and the Siddis as their mission focus and stressed



the importance of community participation and collective responsibility. The consultation raised key issues such as faith formation and leadership, and the contributions made by the Sisters of Charity, Sisters of Mercy of the Holy Cross, and the Society of Jesus. SWOC analysis brought to surface important issues for discussion such as overlapping works, staff capacity and the need for greater community involvement. The consultation concluded with a call to action by Fr Provincial who urged the mission partners to rework their agreements, prioritize pastoral care and avoid compartmentalizing their work. Sr Archana (Provincial of Holy Redeemer Congregation), Sr Rosy Cutinha (Provincial of the Sisters of Charity, Dharwad Province), and their respective teams of Sisters actively participated in the consultation.

A good number of Jesuits took part in the AGM of NKJCS chaired by the President, Fr Dionysius Vaz. Children of Loyola School (both in primary and high school) excelled in the cluster level sports events and won the championships in group as well as individual categories. Students

were exposed to an awareness program on the safeguarding of minors. The Scouts, Cubs and Bulbul teams of LKV secured second place in the district level group singing competition held at Sirsi. Independence Day was preceded by a week-long series of activities and competitions designed to enhance the patriotic spirit in students and staff alike.

Loyola School was the venue for the Taluk level PU sports meet which attracted a good number of student participants and local dignitaries to witness the event. Dr Nagaratna Shetty (Lecturer in Kannada at LPUC) was honoured by Hampi Publications with "Sri Krishnadevaraya Award" for her contribution to Kannada literature. More than 70 Siddi youth participated in a one-day training programme on competitive exams, with Mr Simon Bilkikar (a Siddi himself) as the resource person. The programme was organised by Siddi Development Project team.



LVK staff attended a one-day training session on 'Understanding Disability,' conducted by Mr Shivkumar of Roshni Trust. The feast of St Ignatius was celebrated with parents of our hostel students, the event being graced by Fr Melvin Lobo. Sch Harrison from Vidyaniketan spent two weeks with us offering invaluable support to our hostel students both in English language and computer skills. At the celebration of the annual feast of St Lawrence Church, Fr Felix Pinto was the main celebrant and Fr Jeevan Gomes the homilist.

- Fr Melvin Lobo

St Aloysius International School had the honor of welcoming visitors from Slovakia. This cultural exchange was a valuable opportunity for our students and staff to engage with international guests, fostering global connections and understanding. Independence Day, celebrated jointly by the school and the PU College, had Mr Ian Thomas from the UK as the Guest of Honor.

The Bunny Movement and the Investiture Ceremo-

ny were jointly celebrated as a special event for our kindergarten students. The Student Council members participated in a three-day leadership program at Ashirvad. St Aloysius College campus hosted the Taluk-level sports event. We are pleased to announce that our PU College secured the overall championship. We had the privilege of hosting a pilgrimage visit by 23 CRI members from Hangal, accompanied by Frs Jerald D'Souza SJ and Vincent Jaison.

- Fr John Baptist C

The 78th Independence Day of India was celebrated at Gonzaga School with patriotic zeal, the chief guest on the occasion being Lt Col Vivek Bindra (District Works Officer, Indian Coast Guard, Mangaluru). The school has launched AICUF for the Catholic students of Classes XI and XII, and CLC for the Catholic students of Classes VIII to X. The inaugural event was graced by the presence of Fr Leston Lobo. Our students have brought laurels to the school in interschool football tournament (first place) and chess competition (runners up). Students of Classes XI and XII participated in the Aloysian Fest at St Aloysius University and won prizes in several competitions. Our Scouts have won first place in the patriotic singing competition conducted by Bharat Scouts and Guides. Class XI and XII students took part in the plantation drive at Moodbidri.

At SAPUC, the three associations (Centre for Social Concern, Centre for Environmental Concern, and the Campus Ministry) jointly organized a donation drive in support of the Wayanad landslide victims. The drive made a collection of 300 cartons of essential items, 100 rice bags, and a sizable sum of monetary aid. The 78th Independence Day, celebrated with great enthusiasm, had Lt Col Gracian Sequeira, (administrative officer, Karnataka Battalion, NCC, Mangaluru) as the chief guest. 'Genesis' and 'Finanza' (Science and Arts fests of the college) offered to the students a variety of competitions designed to inspire excellence, ignite passion, and foster personal growth. The Women's Forum of the Student Council and the Centre for Social Concern held

a prayer session and participated in a rally in the city to protest the rising violence against women. Five SAPUC students attended an AICUF leadership programme at St Joseph's College, Hassan. Twelve students have cleared the CA Foundation exam. Eleven faculty members participated in the Advanced JESCOL workshop at Ashirwad. Student Council members attended a seminar on "Constitution and Harmony" at St Aloysius Deemed-to-be University.

The Aloysian Fest, conducted at St Aloysius Deemed-to-be University (SADU) attracted close to a thousand PU students from several colleges to get a glimpse of a graduate student's life. Incidental to its Ph.D. programmes, the different Schools of SADU have been conducting workshops and FDPs on research, ethics and publications, and also on instrumentation, biomedical research, sustainable family business and entrepreneurship. A certificate course in teaching excellence has been started for the benefit of newly recruited staff. St Aloysius Prakashana, the in-house publication unit of SADU, launched Nav-Rang: A collection of Konkani one act plays by Eddie Sequeira. Other events at SADU were: Rural immersion programme for the PG students, entrepreneurship and consultancy, SAMVADA, Prof KA Krishnamurthy memorial lecture, Alumni interaction series, Eco-Economics, online certificate courses, and student-oriented activities like National Space Day, Aloysian leagues (chess, table tennis) and KALOTSAVA.

- Fr Melwyn A Lobo

VIDYA NIKETAN, Dharwad

Parishioners of Nirmal Nagar joined us in the celebration of the feast of St Ignatius. We were introduced to RRSJSA through a day's recollection guided by Fr Shantharaj T. The flag hoisting in our campus, on Independence Day, was done by Ms. Sheela Naik (cook at VN), and a meaningful speech was given by Sch Harrison highlighting the significance of the feast of Assumption. Since the classes were yet to begin, the first-year scholastics went for an experience in mission stations, and the second-year scholastics made their retreat at Xavier Sadan, Mysore. Fr Sunil Ranjar was with us on a short visit.

Fr Pratap Chandru conducted a day of recollection for the AC Sisters at Bailhongal. As PCF, he organized a two-day Regents' Meet at Ashirwad,

and visited Inigo Sadan and Bijapur and Manvi Missions to meet the scholastics there. Fr Francis Almeida conducted an orientation for the first-year students of Fatima College, Hubli and also addressed the outgoing students at their graduation ceremony. Fr Joyson attended the NLP practitioners' training program in Mumbai and has returned with an international certification, having added another feather to his multi-coloured cap. He conducted a two-day motivation seminar for the staff of St Ignatius Hospital, Honavar, and a two-day enrichment programme for the students of Presentation CBSE School, Dharwad. Wherever he goes, Fr Joyson makes it a point to put in a word with youngsters to attract them to the Society.

- Sch Robert C

XAVIER SADAN, Mandya



We had a 3-week long pastoral preparation programme for the six deacons of our Province, with several resource persons pitching in, and capped by an 8-day retreat guided by Fr Arokiasamy. Fr Arok also directed an 'Inward Journey Retreat' of Junior Sisters and gave a 3-day course on Mid-life Transition to 20 Silver Jubilarians of St Anne's of Bangalore at Prerana, followed by an Inner Healing retreat at Xavier Sadan to the religious of various congregations.

The feast of St Ignatius was celebrated first with some 80 guests from the neighbouring religious communities, on the feast day itself, during which Fr Oswald Crasta OCD gave a beautiful message, and then, on the following Sunday, with the parishioners of St John the Baptist Church, Palahalli.

Fr Freddie D'Silva preached a DSS retreat to the Jesuits of Jamshedpur province at Bhubaneswar,

another to the Holy Cross Sisters at Raipur and a third one to the diocesan Priests of Karwar, sandwiching a quick visit to Gulbarga to felicitate the Diamond Jubilarian Fr Anand Prabhu, and on his return here he conducted a 5-day course on Prayer for the Novices of different Congregations and is now busy with classes on Religious Vows to the SJL Novices.

Fr Edward Philip conducted orientation programmes for the teachers and students of St Joseph's Skill Training in Mysore and St Anne's School, Mysore. He also conducted two days' training programme for Social Workers of three Dioceses at Sevalaya, Dharwad, and now, together with Fr Steeven Gonsalves, is much in demand for the novenas in several parishes in preparation for the feast of Our Lady's Nativity. The province treasurers of South Zone were here for their two-day annual meeting.

- Fr Steeven Gonsalves

DE NOBILI COLLEGE, Pune



The Karnataka Scholastics at DNC had (simultaneously with the Karnataka Scholastics at Satya Nilayam) an online recollection and spiritual conversation on the *Reimagining and Restructuring of the Society of Jesus in South Asia*



(RRSJA). Fr Brian Periera was the resource person. On Independence Day which began with a meaningful celebration of the Eucharist, we had a flag hoisting ceremony. Frs Clement Santham (MDU) and Gideon Warisa (KHM) left for Kandy for their tertianship. We had an inspiring Eucharistic celebration in the Syro-Malabar rite, celebrated by Fr Chacko Nadakkeveliyil, which was followed by video presentations on the culture and ministries of both Kerala and Karnataka Provinces. The DNC Digital team organized workshops on Film Making and Audio Editing.

- Sch Maria Divij

SATYA NILAYAM, Chennai



A good number of neighbours of SN joined us in the celebration of India's 78th Independence Day. A living group basketball match, organized on this day, helped a great deal in fostering our companionship and celebrating the joy of life together. In the badminton tournament for all the staff, organized by Loyola College in view of Teachers' Day, Fr Francis D'Souza and Fr Linday (GOA) won the championship.

Fr Brian Pereira led the Karnataka scholastics through a day of recollection (online) on Restructuring and Reimagining. Among our welcome visitors were Fr Anthony Joseph who had come to Loyola College on official work, Fr Jason Furtado as revisor, POSA Fr Stany D'Souza on canonical visitation, accompanied by the CSIF Fr Somy. The entire SN community participated in the Novena Mass at Annai Velankanni Shrine celebrated by Fr Stany D'Souza.

- Sch Reoin Barnes

VIDYAJYOTI, Delhi



The saga of Vidyajyoti men visiting Jivodaya Hospital with dengue and typhoid continued even this month, not sparing Fr Anil D'Almeida and the house beadle Sch Noel Dias, who also joined the unending chain of those experiencing the tender

care of the Jivodaya Sisters.

The patriotic spirit was tangible in Delhi, the capital city, and made the spirit of Independence truly distinct. Adding to the excitement, VJ organized

a debate on the theme: 'The Church, the State, and the Constitution.' We extend our congratulations to Sch Sandeep Gonsalves who, being on the 'Against' team, won the debate with his compelling arguments. This month also served as a reminder to stand up for justice. Vidyajyoti scholastics participated in the National Day of Prayer and Protest at Jantar Mantar on 10 August, demanding the repeal of the infamous Presidential Order of 1950 and advocating for scheduled caste status for Dalit Christians and Dalit Muslims. We also joined the protest on 17 August,

condemning the brutal rape and murder of a medical student and the mob attack on protesters at RG KAR Medical College.

We, the Karnataka scholastics, had a day of prayer and reflection on RRSJSA. Sch Sharun, a member of the PRSJSJA Task Force, prayerfully guided us through the recollection process. Vidyajyoti was pleased to have Fr Jossie Lobo deliver a course on Faith and Revelation to the first-year theologians.

- Sch Sharun Roy D'Souza

VIDYANIKETAN, Thiruvananthapuram



The celebrations this month commenced with a Eucharist led by Fr Biju Joseph (KER) from St Xavier's College community. We were happy to have Fr E P Mathew, Provincial (KER), who was here on a brief visit. We had a triple celebration on 15 August: Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Independence Day, and the birthday of our dean Fr Anush D'Cunha. Dr Sunil Vattappalam (Faculty in the Physics Dept at St Xavier's College) was the chief guest on Independence Day. On this occasion, Sch Sai Lokesh (AND) delivered an inspiring speech on 'The Spirit of Independence'.

of Adivasi culture and traditions.

A memorable event at VN was the visit of few Japanese collaborators led by Fr Boney (KER). We were delighted to welcome Fr Dionysius Vaz, our Provincial, who presided over the Mass on 6 September, during which Anthony Jackson PF



We were enlightened by Fr Joseph Rodrigues (KAR) who conducted a course on Psycho-Sexual Integration. Adivasi Divas was celebrated with much joy. Fr John Francis celebrated the mass in Hindi. The event was meticulously organized by our brothers from Madhya Pradesh and Ranchi provinces. We were enriched by the knowledge

pronounced his First Vows. In his homily, Fr Dionysius spoke on the theme 'Called to Love and Serve,' and urged us to integrate in our lives a personal love for Jesus Christ.

- Sch Jayanth Christy

XAVIER TRAINING COLLEGE, Belagavi



We began the month with an enlightening session on the History of the Society of Jesus, presented by Fr Anthony Tribhuvan (PUN). Following this, we participated in an enriching session on Enneagram, led by Fr Dinesh Braganza (GUJ). We were blessed by the presence of Fr Pedro Rodrigues, Provincial of Goa, who was here for his annual visitation. Fr Pedro was the main celebrant at the Eucharistic celebration on the feast of the Assumption and Independence Day and shared with us his insights. Novice Sanjan Babu delivered a speech on the occasion of Independence Day.

ern Zone, meant specifically for college students. We novices were actively involved in organizing various activities for the Eco-Warriors, who came from different parts of the Western Zone. The three-day camp was a memorable experience for all of us. Following the camp, we were exposed to Group Dynamics, led by Fr Felix D'Silva (GOA), which has greatly helped us in strengthening our group cohesion. Meanwhile, Fr Francis Fernandes, our Novice Master, attended the Novice Masters Meet, and on his return, shared with us his valuable experiences. On Teachers' Day, we honoured our Novitiate Staff and thanked them for their dedicated service.

- Nov Adarsh Paul

FORDHAM UNIVERSITY, New York



I arrived in New York on 13 August, where I was warmly received at the railway station by Fr Thomas Reagan, the Rector of the Jesuit Community at

Fordham University. I will be residing at Spellman Hall, the Jesuit Community of Fordham, for the next year. After two intense days of new faculty



orientation, the semester commenced on 26 August. This semester, I am teaching “Faith and Politics: Catholic Social Teaching” to freshmen and sophomore students. The class has thirty-five students, mostly non-religious, and the experience of teaching Catholic Social Teaching to New York’s Gen-Z has been both challenging and enriching.

- Fr Bala Kiran Kumar

LOYOLA HOUSE OF STUDIES, Manila



I am well settled down at Loyola School of Theology now. I am residing at the Jesuit community of ‘Loyola House of Studies’ with nearly 60 members of the Jesuit community consisting of four groups: Fathers, Theology and Philosophy students, Juniors who pursue their studies and Tertians. We all come together for meals except on Weekends where we have meals in different groups. The elderly Jesuits of the Province also are attached to us but live separately in a ‘Wellness Centre’ taken care of by the nurses. There are very many other Jesuit communities around us on the campus like Jesuit Residence (JR) running a Co-ed School and the University on the campus, San Jose Seminary (SJS), Arrupe International Residence (AIR), East Asian Pastoral Institute (EAPI) etc., and the last two including the Tertianship are run by the Jesuit Conference of Asia Pacific. My three courses for this semester are on alternate days with three hours of class each. Besides, I guide a student for an individual reading course, help in the thesis proposal defense, say Mass for different groups of students in the school and in the community etc., I teach also Meditations and Yogasana to the students which, of course, are part of my course on Prayer. Occasionally, when invited, I say Mass on Sun-

days at the parish of Our Lady of the Pentecost a 20-minute walk from my community closer to the Jesuit Provincial House. This month I have agreed to give two talks on Eastern Prayer and Ignatian Spiritual Exercises, one Zoom talk to the International Jesuit Scholastics and another to the lay animators of the Centre for Ignatian Spirituality (CIS). I am engaged in writing some research articles, too, relating to my subjects. Thus, I am kept busy and enjoy my teaching ministry here. The Jesuits are very loving and the community provides me with good facilities and good Filipino food. By God’s grace I keep good health and am provided with the Province’s Maxicare health card and service. The Provincial Curia is working on obtaining for me a missionary visa for three years. Since the Jesuits holding the needed Ecclesiastical degree (STD) are very few here, my addition to the faculty at the Jesuit School of Theology (JST) here is a significant contribution from the part of our Karnataka Province and the Jesuit Conference of South Asia. I thank the Lord for our Jesuit superiors who chose to send me here for this great mission! Assuring my prayers and requesting for the same.

- Fr Selva Rathinam

SOPHIA UNIVERSITY, Tokyo



I reached Narita airport in Tokyo on 10 September. Sch Nithin Coelho came to pick me up at the airport. It was over an hour’s journey to my community for the next six months. I am here in Tokyo as an ‘Invited professor from Overseas’ to teach in the department of Journalism at Sophia University and also to engage in some research.

seems to have had no effect on the summer season: it is apparently as good or bad as ever.

Meanwhile, I also went to the University and did my initial formalities of getting myself registered. I also met the Chancellor of the University, Fr Sali Augustine (KER) who is a very simple man.

When I reached the Jesuit House, Br Mike Milward, the house minister, warmly welcomed me. Later Fr Cyril Veliath, formerly of Karnataka province, showed me around. In my community there are over forty Jesuits from over ten nationalities. I am slowly getting used to the place. The weather is quite warm here as it is the peak of summer. The recent typhoon in Japan unusually



I was pleasantly surprised to hear that despite his many administrative preoccupations, he will teach three courses in South Asian Politics in the

University in the coming semester. "I do not want to be just a manager," he said.

- Fr Melwyn S Pinto

ST PETER FABER, Paris



A significant milestone in the history of the city of Paris is Paris Olympics 2024 which has brought together both talent and tourists to the City of Love. We had the privilege of witnessing the opening ceremony which happily coincided with the conclusion of our month-long French language course at Blomet. For the second part of our course, Steve Gibson Rodrigues and Noel Prabhu were sent to Brussels, Belgium, while

Joyal was assigned to Marseille, France. We attended classes at the Alliance Française and took the opportunity to explore new places and acquaint ourselves better with the local culture. Back at the Blomet Community, we are ready to begin our intensive French language course at the Institut Catholique de Paris (ICP) starting on 8 September.

- Sch Joyal D Sa

DOWN MEMORY LANE

Fr Joseph Benedict Mathias, SJ

In the year 1947 when India gained Independence, I too received mine 4 months earlier on 16 April. I was born in a traditional Catholic family with 12 children, 8 boys and 4 girls, of whom 6 have gone to their eternal reward. My house was situated in the vicinity of Parish Church, Church of Our Lady of Health, Shirva, presently under Udupi diocese. Looking back with nostalgia, the ambience in which I grew up was predominantly Catholic in all its outward expressions. And that shaped and moulded me considerably, gradually giving birth to my vocation to religious life and priesthood. I must admit without any hesitation, that a vibrant Catholic neighborhood with plenty of friends and playmates to interact with, and this lively spirit of camaraderie had a lot of impact on me in terms of acquiring some of those social skills which have helped me immensely to navigate all through the years of my life.

I attribute the origin of my vocation to priesthood and eventually to the Society of Jesus, thanks to a number of young priests serving as Assistants to the Parish Priests, whom we looked up to, as our Role Models because they were very much involved in our religious and social lives, be it through the Altar Servers Sodality, Mission League, summer camps, excursions, cricket tournaments, May-devotions, etc. However, the inspiration to join the Society of Jesus, came primarily from the Vocation Promoters from the Province of Ranchi who shared with us youngsters, the stories of Mission-

ary adventures of great stalwarts like Fr Constant Lievens, SJ, the apostle of Chotanagpur, now declared the Servant of God whose iconic image mounted on a horse was so captivating to the impressionistic minds of youth like me. Thus, I opted to join the Ranchi Province but once I arrived there, I was disappointed not to find any missionaries on horsebacks but rather on bullet motorcycles or land rowers and Mahindra jeeps.



When I recall the years spent in formation, from Novitiate to Tertianship, I would say mine was the typical traditional Jesuit formation, with heavy emphasis on learning the classics like Latin, Greek, Gregorian chant, Shakespeare, staging of renowned plays and dramas, operas, etc. without the modern distractions of Internet, mobile phone, etc. I dare say that it had its own formative value in many ways in the sense that it created in us a taste for what is classical like music be it Indian or western, English literature, scholastic philosophy and theology, etc. Mention must be made that during my first year of theology, the then the most revered Superior General of the Society of Jesus, Fr Pedro Arrupe of happy memory, made that momentous decision of the historic transfer of the theologate {St. Mary's} founded towards the end of 19th century at Kurseong, Darjeeling to the bustling and bustling Capital of India, Delhi

in January 1972 rechristened as VIDYAJYOTI.

After completing the formal years of formation, I was ordained priest in my native place, Shirva, on 11 May 1974. In the year 1975 I was sent for post graduate studies to the Gregorian University, Rome, in view of joining the staff of Vidyajyoti, Delhi. I obtained both a Licentiate and MSc. in clinical psychology that gave me a solid foundation integrating spirituality with psychology in the context of formation to priesthood and consecrated life. And this has helped me considerably to have a holistic approach to my future ministry as formator, spiritual director, psychotherapist and Rector. The exposure I had in Europe and USA during my studies helped me to have an experience of the universal character and identity as a Jesuit.

I was on the staff of Vidyajyoti as Professor of pastoral psychology, Registrar of the Institute and finally, Rector from 1979 to 1994. During those 15 years of my ministry at Vidyajyoti, what impressed me most was the sincere efforts made by the Society of Jesus in South Asia to systematically work out a new pedagogy for a contextualized and integrated formation at all stages of Jesuit formation. And it was based on the recommendations made by the Inculturation Commission and in response to the clarion call given by Vatican II Council for aggiornamento. Keeping the same objective in mind, in the year 1982, a few of us the first Indian graduates from the Institute of Psychology, Gregorian University, Rome ventured into a three-year training programme for formators in India. I was requested to be the founding director of this Institute for Formators for 12 years and still continue to serve as a staff member. Another memorable event was my Final Profession in the Society of Jesus on 15 August 1984 at Vidyajyoti, Delhi.

Thereafter followed a series of quite challenging assignments for me down the years: the Assistency Delegate for Formation (ADF) from 1994 to 2000 at the same time superior of JCSA Provincial Residence, Jor Bagh, New Delhi; Rector of Papal Seminary, Pune, from 2000 to 2004; appointment by CBCI, as Director of National Vocation Service Center (NVSC), Pune, from 2004-2014 simultaneously holding the responsibility as CBCI Secretary for Clergy & Religious. It was during my stay at NVSC, that I delved deeply into the research and writing,

mainly in the area of human formation and as a result I wrote and published over 20 articles related to Integral priestly and religious formation. Then at a critical juncture, my services were called for, as Rector of St Peter's Pontifical Seminary, Bengaluru from 2015 to 2021. From 2021 onwards I'm on the staff of Prerana, Mount St Joseph, Bengaluru. Thus, I had the lived experience of over 43 years serving in various capacities of the universal mission of the Society of Jesus, which is being very much spoken of today in the context of Reimagining and Restructuring of Jesuit life and mission in South Asian Assistency.

Looking back at these memorable years, (50 years a priest and 60 years a Jesuit) what has sustained me and helped me to persevere through ups and downs, twists and turns of my journey, is the tangible experience of God's loving Providence, daily nourishment from the Holy Eucharist, comfort and strength derived



from the contemplation of the Crucified and Risen Lord, the never-failing accompaniment of the Holy Spirit, devotion to Mother Mary. And in addition, also the trust and support I always enjoyed from my Jesuit superiors, Bishops, staff and students, community members, religious men and women and my family members. All these years my services have been sought both from within India and abroad for directing retreats, counseling and spiritual direction, moderating Provincial and General chapters and



conducting various courses and seminars on topics like Vocation Promotion, Personality Integration in Consecrated life and Priesthood, Transformative Leadership, Discernment of Spirits, Formation, Mid-life Transition, Growing gracefully during twilight years, etc. Now

that I am cruising through the twilight years of my life, I'm consciously shifting the gears from doing to being and I am relishing very much the time at my disposal focusing more on what uplifts my body, mind and spirit.

"THE SECOND HALF OF LIFE"

When many of us reach the half-time point of our lives, we make a right-angle turn. What's truly important comes into much sharper focus. We become more contemplative. We start to wonder if we've been true to our talents, loyal to our values and successful on the terms that feel right to us. The second fifty years then become less about me and more about we. Less about selfishness and more about service. We stop adding more things into our lives and begin to subtract – and simplify. We learn to savour simple beauty, experience gratitude to God for

small miracles, appreciate the priceless value of peace of mind, spend more time cultivating human connections and come to understand that the one who gives the most is victorious. We are asked to enter a passage in the spiritual life – the journey from false self to true self. We are asked to dismantle old masks and patterns and unfold a deeper, more authentic self – the one God created us to be. And what's left of our life then becomes a phenomenal dedication to loving life itself as well as a ministry of kindness to the many.

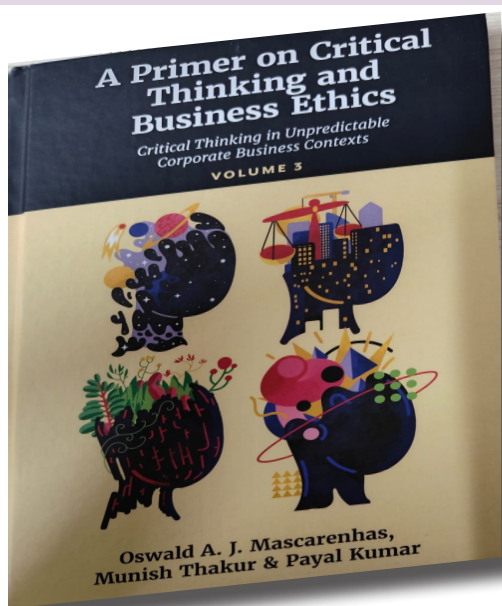
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REST IN PEACE

Fr Joseph Podimattom, SJ, (KER), 95/74, on 30 August 2024, in Kozhikode.

Fr Antony Arockiam, SJ, (MDU), 79/60, on 4 September 2024, in Dindigul.

Sr Fabiola BS, 80, beloved sister of Fr Joe Mathias, on 23 August 2024, in Mangaluru.

Mrs Annie Pereira, 90, beloved sister of Fr James Gonsalves, on 13 September 2024, in Dubai.