

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ

KARUNĀDA SAURABHA
KARNATAKA JESUIT PROVINCE NEWSLETTER

KS Vol. 98 No. 03

KARNATAKA JESUIT PROVINCE

March 2025

PROVINCIAL'S MUSINGS

The JCSA had its biannual meeting in Loyola College, Chennai from 16-22 February 2025. The theme for the Major Superiors meeting was "Deepening the Process of Reimagining in South Asia." All the Major Superiors reviewed the progress of RR process both at the Province level and at the Conference level. The Conference Secretaries also presented a short report of their activities in the light of the RR process. All of us realized that the RR process is basically a call to the ongoing spiritual renewal and that it should be continued in the spirit of Ignatian *Magis*.

Fr. General, who was present during the meeting reflected on the following important issues on our life-mission:

1. He brought to our awareness the issue of our displaced loyalty to cultural identities like, race, ethnicity, language and caste. He invited us to become aware of this issue and discuss openly without fear. Every Jesuit is expected to introspect and transcend narrow loyalties to such cultural identities and celebrate his Jesuit identity.
2. The importance of maintaining the necessary tension between the 'Cura Personalis' and 'Cura Apostolica'. Excessive emphasis on either of this, at the cost of the other, will affect our life-mission.
3. To pay special attention to the implementation of the second phase of the UAPs.
4. Governance and Authority in the Society is for the mission. Governance should change and be adapted to the mission.
5. In the context of Reimagining and Restructuring, Major Superiors should strengthen the various apostolic networks, promote interprovincial collaboration and be responsible for interprovincial and supra provincial apostolic works.

During the meeting, the *Magis Digital Home* was inaugurated by Fr General in the presence of a number of youth. Chennai province partnering with Karnataka province has begun the initiative and eventually the whole Society will be involved in the whole project. During the inauguration, Fr General said, "We are starting this initiative because the Society of Jesus believes in young adults. We believe in their creativity. We believe in their energy. We believe in their deep spirituality and interiority. We believe in their sense of solidarity. We believe in their hopefulness about the future. We believe in their passion about the common home in the face of the challenges faced by our planet."



- FR DIONYSIUS VAZ, SJ



APPOINTED BY FR GENERAL

Fr Ramesh Vanan Aravanan: New Sectional Superior of the English-Speaking Section of the Caribbean Province

PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

March 2025

09: Meeting of Superiors of College going Scholastics: LM, Bengaluru
10-11: Visitation: Xavier Sadan, Mandya
16: Mass: Feast of Sisters of St Joseph of Lyon
20: Meeting with the Archbishop regarding Jesuit Mass Centres
23: Mass: Sacred Heart Parish
24: Inauguration of Girl's Hostel, Manvi & Diamond Jubilee of Fr Maxim Rasquinha
26-27: Visitation: Loyola Mandir (Bengaluru)
29-30: Meeting of LS, DoWs, CCMs: Prerana (B'luru)

30: Inauguration of St Joseph's Hostel (Victoria Layout, Bengaluru)

31: Province Consult: LM (Bengaluru)

April 2025

09-11: Religious Leadership: Prerana (Bengaluru)
16: Meeting II year Theologians
23-24: Visitation: XTC Novitiate (Belgaum)
26: Convocation: SJIM (Bengaluru)
27: Province Consult: LM (Bengaluru)
30: Programme on Leadership: Bethany Sisters (Bengaluru)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

24 March 2025: Inauguration of Girl's Hostel, Manvi & Diamond Jubilee of Fr Maxim Rasquinha

29-30 March 2025: Meeting of LS, DoWs, CCMs: Prerana, Bengaluru

26 April 2025: Convocation: SJIM, Bengaluru

16 May 2025: Province Jubilee Celebration at Mt St Joseph, Bengaluru

PhD Defense of **Fr Lumnesh Swaroop Kumar Joseph** on 18th March at 15 hours (CET).

Topic: Individual and combined effects of warming, elevated CO₂, and drought on grassland canopy greenness and phenological shifts.

Fr Lumnesh Swaroop Kumar Joseph is attached to Loyola Mandir Community *ad tempus*.

STATUS OF SCHOLASTICS

COLLEGE STUDIES

Avin Fernandes - Asha Kiran, Mangaluru
Jayanth Christy M - Asha Kiran, Mangaluru

PHILOSOPHY

Anvil Mascarenhas - SN, Chennai
Saul Abhishek - SN, Chennai
Abraham Clinton - DNC, Pune

Mathew D'Souza - DNC, Pune
Anson Alex - Paris
Joel Dias - Paris

REGENCY

In the Province

Agil Roy J - SJS, Pandithahalli
Anthony Jackson - LSC, Manvi
Kiran Branco - LVK, Mundgod
Macwin D'Souza - Navasadhana
Maria Divij - Loyola School, Mundgod
Reoin Barnes - CNFE, Bijapur
Rudolf D'Souza - Loyola Pre-Novitiate

Vivian Saldanha - St Joseph School, Hassan

Outside the Province

Anu Vimal Raj - Chennai Province
Christon Gonsalves - Goa Province
Pradeep D'Souza - Jamshedpur Province
Prathap L - Bombay Province
Steven Joseph - Patna Province

THEOLOGY

Dilip Xavier - VJ, Delhi
Suman D'Souza - VJ, Delhi

Ovin Rodrigues - Hekima, Kenya
Princen Michael - Hekima, Kenya

POPE'S WORLDWIDE PRAYER NETWORK (PWPN): MARCH 2025

For families in crisis: Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.



AICUF, Karnataka

In preparation for the AICUF Centenary celebrations due in May, our AICUFers attended a Constitutional Training Programme at Chennai. Our Superior General, Fr. Arturo Sosa, had an interactive session with the AICUFers on February 20, which was attended by 10 members from Karnataka.

- Fr Maxim Dias



ARRUPE NIVAS, Bengaluru

A delegation from Boston College visited SJU in view of collaborative initiatives. Fr John Dardis SJ (Assistant Ad Providentiam) spent quality time

by organizing an interactive awareness session on cancer. The Dept of Botany, in tune with UAP of Caring for our Common Home, developed an online quiz designed to raise awareness about the importance of wetlands.



with the faculty to discuss strategic alignment in apostolic endeavours.

Fr Victor Lobo was awarded the Outstanding Education Leadership Award by the Education Growth Network (EGN) India in recognition of his contributions to the field. He was a distinguished speaker at the CXO Higher Education Table Talk Discussion on AI in Education. Similarly, Dr Regina Mathias, the Pro-Vice-Chancellor, received accolades from EGN for her contribution to higher education. Fr Victor participated in a roundtable discussion on the Draft UGC Regulations 2025.

The sports teams at SJU (Hockey, Football, Cricket, Kabaddi, Basketball, etc – men's and women's teams) have been on a roller coaster ride, winning championships and accolades in all the sports fests they participated in and around the state.

We congratulate: Mr C S Vaidyanathan, an alumnus from the class of 1967 and now a renowned advocate, who has been honoured with the Padma Shri award for his contributions to public service; Dr A A Surya Prakash, an alumnus from the class of 1966, who has been conferred with the Padma Bhushan for his contributions to literature and education & journalism in Karnataka; and Mr Vikram Gadagkar, an alumnus and currently Assistant Professor of Neuroscience at Columbia University, who has been awarded the prestigious 2025 Sloan Research Fellowship.

The Placement Cell at SJU has achieved great success in securing placements for a good number of students in various companies, both national and international. The NSS successfully organized the National Integration Camp 2025. The Association of People with Disabilities expressed its appreciation for Bemba, recognizing its valuable contribution as a partner in conducting accessibility assessments of public spaces in Bengaluru. AICUF observed World Cancer Day

Fr Paul Anand and Fr Joseph Jerald, new priests of our province, celebrated a thanksgiving Eucharist in Arrupe Nivas and were felicitated by the community. "Exubria," a 3-day talent show for the hostel students, was organized by Fr Jaison Pais, the hostel director. Aside from bringing out the hidden talents of the hostellers, the event served as a time for bonding and togetherness.

- Fr Aravind Royce J

ASHA KIRAN, Mangaluru



The Kohima scholastics played a pivotal role in organizing the annual sports meet for Northeast students at Aloysius. Frs Ronald Pais and Sujay Daniel led the RRSJSA at FRH. In tune with the first UAP, we conducted a webinar on Ignatian prayer methods, featuring Fr James Martin as the resource person. We were blessed with the visit of

Fr John Dardis, Assistant Ad Providentiam, whose inspiring address rekindled our passion for our Jesuit vocation. This was followed by three days of Community Days, which reinforced our community spirit. The Provincial of Sri Lanka was with us for a brief stay on visitation.

- Sch Anson Alex

ASHIRVAD, Bengaluru



An assessment of the living conditions of 51 North Karnataka migrant families in Veerabhadra Nagara was made by our Centre for Social Concern, particularly with reference to the challenges faced by the children attending Spandana Study Centres. The MAIN unit is providing assistance to the migrants who are in distress owing to deaths in their families. Fr Anthony Arul conducted a workshop to make a SWOC Analysis of MAIN's work and helped the members gain valuable insights. Nearly a hundred selected students from

our Spandana Study Centres took part in the Science Expo – 2025 held on February 23 at the campus of St Joseph's University. The event was inaugurated by Frs Vishal D'Souza and Anthony Arul.

Even in the midst of his meticulous and successful organization of RRSJSA both at Prerana and FRH, Fr Brian Pereira found time to conduct a Life-Skills course to a group of 30 religious in Prerana.

- Fr Elvis C Lewis

FATIMA RETREAT HOUSE, Mangaluru



The three-day session on RRSJSA, which had 52 Jesuits participating, was the highlight of the month of February. Fr Jossy Rodrigues led a weeklong course for the Ursuline Tertians (UFS) at Deralakatte, and an Intensive Journal Retreat for the Tertians at Prerana. Fr Edward Rodrigues facilitated two-day sessions on the Evangelical Counsels for UFS Juniors at Deralakatte and addressed a gathering of Clergy and Religious at Kadaba on *Pilgrims of Hope*. Fr Anil D'Mello prepared the zonal-level AC Sisters for the season of Lent. A three-day extended council for the UFS Congregation was held, led by Frs Frederick

D'Silva, Anil D'Mello, Edward Rodrigues and Ronald Pais. Fr Ajay D'Silva helped the Bethany and UFS Sisters for their recollections, and gave a talk at St Agnes College (Dept of Psychology) on Healing the Inner Child. The Jesuits residing in Mangaluru gathered at FRH and met Fr John Dardis, Assistant 'Ad Providentiam'. During this gathering, the birthdays of our nonagenarians, Frs Denis Rasquinha and Leo D'Souza, were celebrated. Fr Joseph Monteiro led a team of Jesuits to Hassan to participate in the inauguration of the new Jesuit Residence, Joseph Nivas.

- Fr Edward Rodrigues

HOMBELAKU, Manvi



On February 2, the feast of the Presentation, the CRI of Raichur met at Pannur to celebrate the World Day of Consecrated Life. Fr Francis D'Almeida gave a talk on the significance of consecrated life. On this occasion, Frs Wilson Bennis and Praveen Kumar who had made their Final Vows on January 19, were felicitated by the CRI.

Fr Roberto Jaramillo Bernal (SJES Secretary for Ecology and Justice) arrived here on 8th February to visit Pannur-Manvi Mission. He was accompanied by Fr Jerry D'Souza, Province Co-ordinator for Ecology and Justice.

Informal meetings - planned by Loyola Social Centre, Manvi - between government officials and a few groups of rural women, were effective

in creating awareness among the village folk of the various facilities available from the Government and the means of tapping these sources.

Frs Vinod Paul and Cyril Raj attended a seminar on higher education on the occasion of the tenary celebrations of Loyola College, Chennai. Fr General, Arturo Sosa was among many who addressed the gathering. A group of twelve PTA members of SJBHS, Bengaluru, accompanied by Fr Norwin Pereira, spent a day in our Mission. Fr Francis Balraj met 60 of our unorganized youth and gave them a short session on social media.

Novice Edmund Sequeira completed his month-long mission experiment and returned to Mount St Joseph on February 6.

- Fr Maxim Rasquinha

INIGO SADAN, Bengaluru



The Inigo Sadan community hosted several Jesuits from Bangalore for “Koinonia,” the annual day of the Scholastics. The scholastics greatly benefitted from an online interaction with Fr James Martin on Ignatian Prayer Methods, organized by Asha Kiran, Mangalore. We were privileged to welcome Fr John Dardis, General Counsellor for Discernment and Apostolic Planning. His interaction with the community and students filled us with renewed vigor. The community also hosted a dinner for the sisters of the MCC and SND convents, our collaborators in pastoral care. A community outing to “White Escape” resort provided relaxation and fostered stronger bonds.

St Joseph’s CBSE School: In collaboration with PETA, St Joseph’s CBSE School launched Asia’s first hyper-realistic life-size animatronic elephant, a testament to the growing artificial intelligence industry. The Kindergarten Graduation Day was celebrated with grandeur, where the UKG students, adorned in graduation robes and hats, stole the show. An inter-religious prayer service, “Aikyam,” was held to pray for students and the institution. “International Mother Language Day” was celebrated to honour linguistic diversity and to foster the importance of preserving native languages and cultural heritage.

- Fr Vishal Melroy Pinto

JESUIT NIVAS, Bengaluru



Congratulations to Fr Pradeep RS, who has been honoured with the Gold Award at the Future Star Artist National Online Exhibition & Competition hosted by the Manikarnika Art Gallery. He is one of the 12 awardees (among 96 who contested at the national level). Fr John Dardis (General Counsellor for Discernment and Apostolic Planning) made a brisk visit to different units of BJES, listening to and encouraging us as he addressed a gathering of Jesuits in Bangalore. St Joseph’s Estate in Biccodu was inaugurated and blessed

SJIM had over 220 alumni in attendance, with Dr Parthasarathi Shome as the chief guest. St Joseph’s College of Commerce (SJCC), in collaboration with Holy Cross College (Autonomous) Nagercoil, hosted a one-day national seminar on “Green Finance and Impact Investing.” Other notable events at SJCC were: the intercollegiate sports fest “Spiel” which witnessed participation from over 50 colleges; the annual charity concert “Resound-2025” performed by Serenata Chorale, the 100-member performing choir; and a lecture by Ms Aruna Roy at the Annual Republic Day Lecture Series. St Joseph’s College of Law (SJCL) organized a one-day workshop for the SJCL faculty on “the art of discernment in teaching” which had Frs Prashanth D’Souza and Jerald D’Souza as resource persons. St Joseph’s Boys High School (SJBHS), keeping to its culture of spiritual and pluralistic traditions, conducted a thanksgiving Eucharist and an Inter-Faith Prayer Service. As part of the twinning programme, the PTA and staff members visited Pannur-Manvi. Five of our SJBHS students secured top positions in the annual Diocesan-level catechism examination.

- Fr Olvin Veigas



by the Provincial, Fr Dionysius Vaz, in the presence of a good number of Jesuits.

St Joseph’s Institute of Management (SJIM) hosted “Utkarsh-2025”, the International Business Conference, in collaboration with Regis University, Denver, USA. The annual Alumni Meet of SJCBA/

JNANA JYOTHI, Anekal



The month of March was a rich source of nourishment - spiritual, apostolic and academic - for us Jesuits at Anekal. It included the canonical visitation of Fr Provincial, the visit of Fr Bernard Burgler, former Provincial of ECE Province, and participation of a few members of our community in the actual process of RRSJSA held at Prerana and FRH.

campus of St Joseph’s PU College - had 650 children (from our 14-night study centers, 4 children’s clubs, and a few children of migrant workers) participating. In addition to fun games and sumptuous food, each child was given a gift as a token of love. CIRW also organized a gathering of about 150 alumni/ae of our tailoring students. On the same day CIRW, in association with Videhi Cancer Centre, organized a free Cancer Screening program for local patients.

- Sch Royster Monis

The Balamela, - jointly organized by CIRW and Jnana Jyoti Community on February 2 on the

JOSEPH NIVAS, Hassan



The Blessing and Inauguration of our new Jesuit residence, Joseph Nivas, and its chapel was held on February 28. It began with the unveiling of the plaque and cutting the ribbon by Fr Dionysius

Province Treasurer and Fr Joseph Monteiro, Provincial's representative, were acknowledged. Fr Henry Saldanha, Superior, expressed his gratitude to one and all present, particularly to all the Jesuits who graced the occasion with their presence, prayers and good wishes.



Vaz, our Provincial and Rt Rev Dr Antony Swami, the Bishop of Chikmagaluru. The Bishop conducted the House Blessing which was followed by the blessing of the new chapel during the solemn Holy Eucharist. Fr Edward Rodrigues was the homilist. The event was graced by the presence of more than 70 priests, most of them Jesuits. During the felicitation programme that followed, VIPs, donors and contributors were thanked and honoured. Among these were: Fr Dionysius Vaz, Provincial, Fr Daniel Fernandes, former superior, Mr Chandan, the architect and Mr Vijay Kumar, the contractor - not to mention the site engineer, electrical contractor interior designer and others. The efforts and guidance of Fr Jason Furtado,

Child Day, Martyrs Day, Republic Day, Mathematics Day). Likewise, the Nursery School had its celebrations: a picnic at Pawaraputra resort, a fancy-dress competition, Graduation Day, etc.

The frequent and erratic delays in the University's schedule of examinations and semester breaks made it possible and convenient for St Joseph's College to conduct a series of FDPs focusing on research and publication. The most recent FDP was on Academic and Scientific Writing; it was conducted by Dr Roshan Castelino SJ. Also, the final year students had a day-long workshop on career guidance led by Ms Rita Marshal on February 25.

- Fr Santhosh D'Souza

LOYOLA MANDIR, Bengaluru



Frs Archie Fernandes, Royston Pinto, and Harry Terry Noel attended the Actual Process of RRSJSA at Prerana. Fr Royston Pinto attended the online Seminar on Jesuit Archives by Ms Barbara Baudry (Director of French Jesuit Archives, Paris). Among our distinguished guests in February were: Fr Bernhard Bürgler, the Former Provincial of the

ECE Province, and Fr John Dardis, the Assistant Ad Providentiam of the Society of Jesus. The latter journeyed to three zones (Bengaluru, Mangaluru & Mundgod) to see and to interact with all the Jesuits and lay collaborators. Both of them were deeply touched by the hospitality of our Province.

- Fr Royston Pinto

LOYOLA PRE-NOVITIATE, Mangaluru



The month of February kept the second-year pre-novices busy with multiple tests and trials in view of their graduation to the novitiate. Their individual "four-sheet" exams were followed by meetings with psychologists Frs Edward Philip and Joyson Vas. All this in the midst of their practical exams in the college and their preparation for the final PU Board examinations. The first-year pre-novices claim to have passed 'summa cum laude' in their exams, though their

director, Fr Leston, thinks they have achieved *chumma cum claude!* Fr Peter Pinto, young at 88, travelled solo by train to Mumbai to see his sister and other near and dear ones. Fr John Dardis, General Assistant, was warmly welcomed by the pre-novices with a full-throated song. In spontaneous response Fr Dardis sang an Irish song in praise of Jesus and was rewarded with a glass of tender coconut water.

- Fr Peter Pinto



LOYOLA SADAN, Kalaburagi



February marked a period of notable academic accomplishments at St Xavier's PU College. The farewell programme for the outgoing students was held on February 11. The staff embarked on a rejuvenating tour (February 21-24) to Dandeli, Badami and other places of interest. The PTA

meeting was held on February 22 which also gave an opportunity for the parents to visit and appreciate the Science-&Math Exhibition put up by the students in the school premises.

- Fr Roshan Pinto

MAITRI SADHANA, Vijayapura



Our zealous parish priest, Fr Joseph Vaz, alongside his regular pastoral visits to the families, has kindled the interest of the altar servers through a Bible Quiz followed by a Fancy Dress Competition portraying popular saints. Loyola English Medium School bid farewell to its 10th standard students as they started their preparation for state-level preparatory exams. Loyola School, Sindagi, had an array of programmes and activities like: Fathers' Day in the KG section, participation & achieving the first place by the Scouts and Guides at the taluk level Republic Day celebrations, Alumni Meet *Punarmilana*, Kindergarten Day for the UKG children, and the participation of three staff members in the JESCOL-III Seminar held at Dhyanshrama.

was attended by CNFE staff and Bijapur mission partners. Later the same day, Fr Roberto, along with Frs Jerald D'Souza and Teyol Machado, inaugurated a tailoring class for about 40 students at Innapur Lambani Tanda. CNFE observed



The accountants and finance officers of the various units of BJECS, along with their respective DOWs, had a training session to streamline our accounting system. The resource person for the four-day seminar was CA Vittal Rao who successfully imparted useful hints and insights on the art and skill of effective financial management.

Domestic Workers' Union Day with approximately 250 women participating in the celebration. CNFE also inaugurated another tailoring class at Hamal Colony, benefiting yet another 40 students. Throughout February, CNFE organized several legal aid awareness programs in nine slums.

- Fr Suman Balu

MOUNT ST JOSEPH, Bengaluru



The Month's Mind Mass for Fr Richard Sequeira, celebrated on February 16, had Fr Jullian Fernandes as the main celebrant. Fr Rector, Jossie D'Mello, conducted a week's seminar in Sri Lanka on Discerning Leadership. The newly built Grotto of our Parish Church was blessed and inaugurated by Auxiliary Bishop of Bengaluru, A. Satish Kumar on February 11, the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes.

Fr Julian Fernandes, John Dardis and Dheeraj D'Souza. Towards the end of the month, Fr Provincial was here at MSJ on visitation, and during this time of grace, we also had the Investiture (Cassock) Day for the first years and the conferring of the ministries of Lector and Acolyte. Fr Joe Mathais conducted a course on 'Transformative Leadership' to a group of trainees at NVSC, Pune.

The Novice community is extremely grateful to the Mission Superiors and the Jesuits of Mundgod, Manvi and Vijayapura for accommodating and guiding the five Second year Novices during their Mission Experiment. The novices were privileged to have a course on the Dynamics of the Spiritual Exercises given by Fr Jossie D'Mello and a few insightful talks on Jesuit Formation and Mission by

Three staff members from LCPUC attended JESCOLL 3. Fr Daniel Fernandes, Vice-President of BJES, was the chief guest at the farewell given to the second-year PU students.

Loyola ITI had the following programmes and activities in February: planning for setting up an electriclab; a legal awareness session on emergency

contacts, the POSCO Act, cybercrime, and substance abuse; training in retail sales, product demonstration, MS Office, soft skills, and communication; talks on job placements in the Electric Vehicle sector; and Digital Empowerment Programme.

Bangalore City Police conducted a road safety awareness session. A 15-day Mehandi workshop was arranged for tailoring and beauty students, with 50 participants honing their artistic skills.

- Fr Clarence D'Souza

NAVASADHANA PRE-NOVITIATE, Hassan



The First-Year pre-novices actively contributed to the joyous and memorable occasion of the inauguration of the new residence, Joseph Nivas, by assisting in altar service, liturgy, and other necessary requirements. Having completed their final exams the First Year pre-novices are now preparing for their Mission Exposure and Work Camp in Bijapur, alongside the pre-novices of Loyola Pre-Novitiate. Another joyous occasion was the

birthday celebration of our regent, Sch Princen Michael, made more festive, thanks to the guidance of Fr Vinod Saldanha.

The Second-Year pre-novices have intensified their preparation for the upcoming annual exams thus witnessing to their commitment and perseverance as they move closer to the next stage of their formation.

- Sch Princen Michael

SADHANA, Mundgod



The most notable event in Mundgod in the month of February was the visit of Fr John Dardis, General Assistant Ad Providentiam. Of particular interest were: Fr Dardis' interaction with the Siddi community, his visits to village hostels, his exchange of news and views with the Jesuits, and the

Lobo, and Jesuits Frs Denzil Lobo, Roshan Castelino, and Francis Pinto, paid a brief visit to Mundgod to finalize the programs (for the academic year 2025-26) for the Siddi Development Project.

Loyola Children's Home (LCH) bade a heartfelt farewell to Regent Sch. Anvil Mascarenhas as he was leaving for his next stage of formation. A two-day career guidance session was organized for our SSLC and II PU students.



felicitation programme brought up in his honour by Fr Jeevan Gomes. We are grateful to Fr Arun Kumar, Socius, who accompanied Fr Dardis and acted as his guide through the day-long programme.

Observer for the CBSE annual board exams held at a school in Sirsi.

All of us are happy that the 30-year-old land dispute involving Loyola School has been successfully resolved. And the credit goes to Fr Leo Florence, Secretary and Treasurer of the NKJ ECS, for his painstaking efforts to bring about an amicable settlement. Congratulations, Fr Leo! A team of experts from St Joseph's University, Bengaluru - accompanied by the VC Fr Victor

Loyola Higher Primary School (LHPS) arranged a visit for its student leaders and class representatives to a school for the visually impaired children.

Hostel Day was celebrated at LVK-Hangal on February 3 with Fr Melvin Lobo as the chief guest. The following programmes were designed for empowering people: A session for women, organized in Hubli-Dharwad, on modern farming techniques; a three-day training program for

youth, conducted in collaboration with ISI, Bengaluru, on government entitlements; a special training session for the Metis group on environmental conservation.

LVK-Mundgod played the host to 115 students from St Aloysius Deemed-to-be University, Mangaluru, who came for their rural immersion camp. A significant step toward women's economic

empowerment was achieved through an IGA (Income Generating Activity) training program, whereby 26 women learned the skills required for branding and labelling their products and strengthening their entrepreneurial ventures. Additionally, the JEEVA Career Guidance team conducted comprehensive career sessions for the PU and 10th Std hostel children,

- Fr Leo Florence

ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE, Mangaluru

St Aloysius Gonzaga School had an outreach programme for its students of Classes VI to X. They visited a few centres for disadvantaged children, spent time with the inmates, and donated their birthday collection fund to the centres. Our students of Class III had an interaction with Ms Silvana Rizzi, a well-wisher from Italy, who had come to visit St Aloysius Institutions. Students of Class VIII had an online interaction with (EMCC) Educate Magis Connected Classroom on the theme of interreligious dialogue. Six students of class XI, accompanied by three teachers, went on a 9-day visit (February 22 to March 2) to a Jesuit institution, Leone XIII School in Milan, on a student exchange programme.

St Aloysius Deemed-to-be University had, throughout the month of February, an array of programmes and activities, organized by the different Schools, providing students with a plethora of opportunities for academic and professional growth. In addition, the following alumni interactions were held: Career opportunities in Food Science, Pathways to Discoveries and Innovations, Heroism in Sports, Myths and Realities.

VIDYA NIKETAN, Dharwad

Having completed our semester examinations on February 8, we set aside a few of our holidays for house maintenance. In the meanwhile, we attended two workshops: one by Fr Roshan Castelino on Writing skills, and the other by Fr Anthony Dass on Digital Well-being. We also went on a two-day trip to Honavar and Yellapur. You will be glad to know that Sch Robert C has been selected to represent Karnatak University in Folk Arts at the Amity University Inter-University National Youth Fest in Noida. Fr Joyson conducted a one-

The University is taking a leading role in promoting initiatives in the regional cultural milieu, particularly through Ranga Adhyayana Kendra, in collaboration with prominent cultural associations in the district and the state. Notable among the programmes was Utsava-2025, a four-day Art & Theatre Festival (February 28 to March 3), with LCRI Hall as the venue.

The visit of Fr John Dardis (General Counsellor of the Jesuits for Discernment and Apostolic Planning) on February 25 included an interaction with the administrative officials and academic heads of the University. Other significant events at the University were: inauguration of Al-Sushadi Vana; the 145th College Day; Swaranjali (a choral and orchestral concert); FDP for the new batch of research scholars; a one-day orientation programme for second-semester students; and observance of National Science Day. Forty-five NSS volunteers visited Snehalaya (Home for the Destitute) and donated 51 kg of usable clothes collected in a campus clothing drive.

- Fr Melwyn Anil Lobo

XAVIER SADAN, Mandya

Fr Edwadr Philip conducted two days of leadership and animation programme for the Dominican Provincial and team and preached the DSS Triduum for the scholastics of Vidya Niketan, Dharwad. He addressed the General Body of

day seminar for the Vocation promoters of the Dharwad Province of the Bethany Sisters Congregation. Additionally, he coordinated the final phase of the counseling program for teachers of the Shimoga Diocese Education Society. He also preached a recollection for the diocesan clergy of Hubli-Dharwad Deanery. Fr Francis D'Almeida conducted a one-day session for the CRI in Manvi on The Challenges of Religious Life Today.

- Sch John Samuel

the CSST Educational Society and also visited Navasadhana and Loyola Pre-novitiates to conduct a psychological assessment of the prospective entrants into the novitiate.

Fr Steevan guided an eight-day retreat to religious and also attended the first Death anniversary of his father. Fr Arokiasamy guided an eight-day retreat for 35 Sisters of St Joseph's of Lyons at Vocational Discernment for the Novices of different religious congregations, a one-day retreat to the teaching faculty of Loyola College Chennai, and, at present, is guiding one diocesan priest in his 3-month personal renewal programme while simultaneously giving a retreat to 2 religious sisters.

The Xavier Sadan and Swamy Rajendra Nilaya Communities took time off from their busy schedule and teamed up for two days of enjoyable outings



to Kushalnagar, Madikeri, and Thala Kavery and returned refreshed and resurgent. Fr Bernhard Bürgler, the Former Provincial of the ECE Province visited our community. His presence and short interactions were filled with wit and wisdom.

- Fr Steevan Gonsalves

XAVIER TRAINING COLLEGE, Belagavi



The First Year Novices prepared themselves to receive the ministries of Acolyte and Reader to be conferred on them on February 7. We are

ministries, assisted by the Novice Master and the Socius.



grateful to Fr Pedro Rodrigues (Provincial of Goa) for celebrating the Eucharist and conferring the

We thank Fr Savio Abreau (GOA) for his course on the History of the Jesuits in India, and Fr Pravin Severeekar (BOM) for leading us through the Intensive Journal. Special thanks also to PAI, Raia community, who sponsored the exterior painting of the novitiate chapel; to XIE-Mahim and Champion school, Mumbai for providing us with sports items for the novices, and Anand Press, Gujarat for sending us free copies of the Constitutions of the Society.

- Fr Francis Fernandes

DE NOBILI COLLEGE, Pune



The month of February began with a recollection led by Fr Francis Gonsalves (GUJ). Nine of our brothers were ordained to the diaconate, conferred by Most Rev. Malcolm Sequeira, Bishop of Amaravati, on February 15. The West Zone

cultural gathering was held on February 20 (involving scholastics of Bombay, Gujarat, Pune, and Goa provinces).

- Sch Sanson Cleteres D'Souza

SATYA NILAYAM, Chennai



The highlight of the month and a special privilege of our community was the visit of Fr Arturo Sosa, General of the Society of Jesus. He spent an

evening with us at SN. Adding to our joy was the presence of all the Provincials of South Asia who had come to Chennai for the JCSA meeting and graced us with their visit. Their presence brought a sense of unity, encouragement, and shared mission, further deepening our Jesuit identity and commitment.



Fr Francis D'Souza attended the meeting of Common House Treasurers at ISI, Delhi. The month ended with a philosophizing session on "Perceptions and Media Messages," led by Ms J.S. Chithra (Viscom Department, Loyola College).

- Sch Sujay Paul A



After meticulous planning, intensive practice, and systematic rehearsals under the guidance of the staff, we celebrated our Academy Day on February 22 on a grand scale. The chief guest on the occasion was Most Rev. Dr Christudas, Auxiliary Bishop of Trivandrum (Latin). Fr John Francis, Superior, welcomed the gathering. The event provided an occasion for the juniors

to showcase their talents in music, drama, folk dance, fusion dance, orchestra and mime.

We visited the Loyola Jesuit Community in Sreekaryam and played a friendly basketball match against the Loyola CBSE School team.

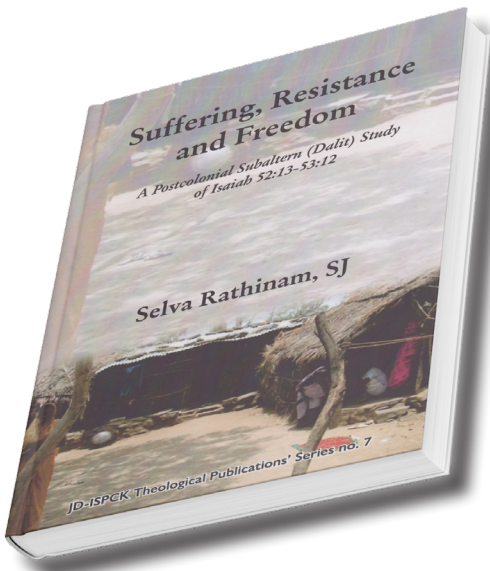
- Sch Avin Fernandes

OURS IN PUBLICATION

Fr Lawrence S. Fernandes, *Women and Sacred Space*, in *Humanities and Social Science Studies Journal* (UGC care approved, peer reviewed) ISSN 2319-829X with IF=7.28 Vol. 13, Issue 02, No. 13, July - December: 2024. pp. 43-50.

Fr Royston Pinto, *Consecrated Life: A Historical Journey*, *Smart Companion*, Vol. 15, February (2025) 2, pp. 24-26.

Sch Royster Monis, “ನೀತಿವಂತ ಸಂತ ಜೋಸೆಫರು, ಸಂತರಲ್ಲಿ ಶ್ರೇಷ್ಠರು”, *Tabor Vaani*, Vol. 15, March (2025), Issue 03, pp. 17-18.



Fr Selva Rathinam, *Suffering, Resistance and Freedom: A Postcolonial Subaltern (Dalit) Study of Isaiah 52:13-53:12*, JD-ISPCK Theological Publications, Series no. 7, 2025.

REST IN PEACE

Mrs Lenny Sunitha Pinto, 49, younger sister of Fr Alwyn Prakash D’Souza, on 17 February 2025, in Wales, UK.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

Fr Louis D’Souza SJ

I was born on 11 February 1949 and was baptized as Louis. We were 10 siblings at home. My elder brother, younger sister, and two more younger brothers have gone up. I am kept in line to make a journey without a return ticket.



St Joseph’s Higher Primary School – Fajir Parish School initiated me to a routine school life till I wrote my 7th std public exams in Anand Ashram High School at Kotekar as an outsider. In 1961, my Parish Priest, Fr Rosario Fernandes, helped me to sneak into the then Gonzaga House, the apostolic school for Jesuit aspirants. I could hardly distinguish between a Jesuit and a diocesan Priest till I passed 10th std. in St Aloysius High School in 1965. Along with 7 others, I was able to pass PUC in 1966. I had expressed my desire to join the Jesuits without knowing much about

them, except a few in the Gonzaga House. Hardly any Jesuit dared to visit any parish across the river Nethravathi or to Fajir before the river was bridged. Yet, to my good luck, Fr Alexander Castelino taught us rudiments of the ecclesial language – Latin, from 1962 till 1966 in Gonzaga House.

I proceeded to Bangalore with 4 other companions to join the Novitiate on 19th June 1966. The bus journey then was worth Rs. 16 from Mangalore to Bangalore. Only at the main gate of Mount St Joseph I said to myself, “I shall not take a step back home.” It was a nondescript Novitiate formation, with a large number of Jesuits only, in and around the house. June 1968 onwards was a year of Juniorate at Mount St Joseph, with Fr Hilario Fernandes and Aloysius Prabhu as our mentors. Both are guiding us from above at present. 1969-1972, during college studies, I earned a BA and a BSc. We migrated to 3 venues in 3 years within the campus. All the Jesuit faces of those days, have gone up and away, never to return. The 3 years of Philosophy that followed from 1972-1975 was a crucial mix with Jesuits of other provinces, at Sacred Heart College, Shembaganur. Here, I could not pursue my desire to learn German and Greek with determination. What little I had learned is coming in handy even now; after 50 years, it was a lost opportunity that I regret.

Two years of regency in 1975-76 and 1976-77, at first in St Aloysius High School, Mangalore, and there at St Joseph’s Church, Anekal, were decisive years in learning to practice religious life while at work. I got strengthened in my formation without much help from anywhere. I learned to live in the way I could.

1977-80, the 3 years of theology at De Nobili College, Poona, was an eye opener in a Jesuit crowd. One could easily be lost without focus in a vast campus crowded with students. I did not take chances, even with a delayed approval for the diaconate in 1980 and subsequent ordination. We were 5 deacons for ordination at the Milagres Church, Mangalore on 28-04-1980. Thereafter, it was at St Louis Boarding House and St Joseph’s Indian High School, Bangalore, that the work made me shed weight, learning field games, and the like to be at service in the school till 1983, after a year of B.Ed. At R.V. Teachers’ College and my subsequent Tertianship at Varanasi, I learned to combine work and worship. The tertianship for a mere 6 of us in 1983 was an unusual experience since there was hardly a house to conduct classes and conferences, solely by Fr Anthony Coelho, yet it was the time I learned to celebrate Mass in Hindi.

In May 1984, I returned to St Joseph’s Indian High School for the next 6 years. The experience of a course in Ignatian Spirituality at four centers in different states of India was a semblance of a sabbatical for 8 months in 1990-91. On returning to Bangalore, I left for St Joseph’s High School, Hassan, and had a taste of teaching in a rural school for 3 years. I returned to St Joseph’s Indian High School, Bangalore, in 1994, and returned from School life in February 2007.

Since June 2007, Fatima Retreat House, Vidya Niketan, Dharwad, St Aloysius PU College Harihar, St Joseph’s College Bangalore, and Loyola School Sindagi have been my temporary ‘homes’ for 16 years.

I landed at St Aloysius College, Mangalore, in May 2023. Looking for meaningful associations through Archives; I will be one of the subjects of archaic or archival material sooner or later.

