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KARUNĀḌA SAURABHA
KARNATAKA JESUIT PROVINCE NEWSLETTER

August 2025

KARNATAKA JESUIT PROVINCE

KS Vol. 98 No. 08

PROVINCIAL'S MUSINGS

August 15th is a day of profound convergence for us in India, where two important celebrations come together: India's Independence Day and the Feast of the Assumption of our Blessed Virgin Mary. This coincidental convergence invites us to reflect more deeply on the important aspects of **freedom** and **fidelity**, which are fundamental to our nation's history and our personal vocation to the Society of Jesus.

As we celebrate 78 years of India's independence, we thank God for the visionaries like Gandhi and Nehru, who fought tirelessly to build India on the solid foundation of a Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic Republic State which aims to secure justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity for all its citizens. It's not a day for mere commemoration but a clarion call for introspection. In India and in Karnataka, our mission stands at the intersection of rising inequalities, ecological crises, and cultural-religious-political polarization. Our immediate task is to enable and empower the poor, the marginalized, and the voiceless to experience and celebrate freedom.

The Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary reminds us that true liberation transcends the political and external, and it is in the realm of the spiritual and interior. Mary's life was marked by a total YES to God, and that YES was actualized in the continuous action of self-emptying love. Her Assumption is a beacon of hope for us, the 'Pilgrims of Hope'. Assumption shows us the way to God and makes us faithful in walking with the excluded. As Jesuits, we are called to this inner freedom which can only be obtained by being united with Christ (SE. 179-183).

Let us draw courage from Mary's example of contemplative courage and the commitment of the freedom fighters of our nation. May all our apostolates: educational, social action, pastoral, spiritual, and ecological be such that the people of these ministries experience freedom from within to establish freedom around. In a world of noise, let us listen deeply. In a society of division, let us stand as bridges. In times of war, death, and despair, let us be a source of hope.

Wishing you all a grace-filled Independence Day and a joyful feast of the Assumption. May we continue to be men of the *Magis*, ever seeking what more we can do for Christ and our people with interior freedom and fidelity to the Gospel.



- FR DIONYSIUS VAZ, SJ



APPOINTED BY FR GENERAL

Fr Alfred Toppo: Provincial of Madhya Pradesh

APPOINTED BY FR PROVINCIAL

Fr Joseph Jerald A - House Minister of Loyola Sadan, Kalaburagi

PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

August 2025

02: AGM, MJES (Mangaluru)
04-06: Visitation: FRH (Mangaluru)
09: AGM, ISIB (Bengaluru)
09: Meeting of Magis Digital Home: Ashirvad (B'luru)
10: Meeting of Higher Education Commission (B'luru)
11-13: Visitation: Inigo Sadan (Bengaluru)
16-17: Meeting of DoWs: FRH (Mangaluru)
16: Jubilee Celebrations of our Seniors: FRH (M'luru)
18: Province Consult: SAC (Mangaluru)
19-21: Visitation: Mundgod Mission (Mundgod)
22: Religious Leadership - Montfort Brothers:
Prerana (B'luru)
23: Meeting of JCSA – Online / Regents Meet
24-26: RRSJ for JAM Jesuits in Higher Education:
XLRI, Jamshedpur
28: Programme for Novice Masters: Prerana (B'luru)

29-01 Sept: Visitation: Bijapur Mission (Vijayapura)

September 2025

02: AGM, HJES (Hassan)
03-05: Visitation: Joseph Nivas (Hassan)
06-08: Leadership for Major Superiors: Prerana
(Bengaluru)
09: Meeting with Fr Joseph Christie, Secretary
University Education
10-12: Visitation: Pannur-Manvi Mission (Manvi)
16-19: Visitation: Jesuit Nivas (Bengaluru)
19: Province Revisor Visit
20: Meeting of JCSA - Online
21: Province Consult: LM (Bengaluru)
22-26: Visitation: MSJ Seniors (Bengaluru)
27: Convocation: SJU (Bengaluru)
29: Ordination: Dandeli

CONGRATULATIONS

To **Fr Anthony D'Souza** on pronouncing your Final Vows in the Society of Jesus

ANNOUNCEMENTS

16-17 Aug 2025: Meeting of DoWs: FRH (Mangaluru)

16 Aug 2025: Jubilee Celebrations of our Seniors: FRH (Mangaluru)

27 Sept 2025: Convocation: SJU (Bengaluru)

Change of Email Id of **Sch Arun Raj:** arunsj16@jesuits.net

New Email Id of **Loyola Mandir House Treasurer:** loyolamandirhousetreasurer@gmail.com

Deacons **Noel Dias** and **Sandeep Gonsalves** will be ordained to ministerial priesthood by Most Rev. Duming Dias (Bishop of Karwar), on 29th September in St Michael's Convent Primary School, Township, Dandeli, at 10:30 AM.

Deacons **Johnson R** and **Roydon Misquith** will be ordained to ministerial priesthood by Most Rev. Joseph Soosainathan (Auxiliary Bishop of Bangalore), on 2nd October in St Joseph's Boys' High School Chapel, Museum Road, Bengaluru, at 10:00 AM.

Deacons **Nishanth Noronha, Preethesh Vijeth Misquith, Pruthvi Ryanal Rodrigues** and **Sharun Roy D'Souza** will be ordained to ministerial priesthood by Most Rev. Peter Paul Saldanha (Bishop of Mangalore), on 7th October in Divine Mercy Church, Fatima Retreat House, Fr Muller's Road, Mangaluru, at 10:00 AM.

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

For Mutual Coexistence: Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious or ideological reasons.



KJES YOUTH WORKS (PCYM)



The Youth Animation Programme at Biccodu empowered 15 young animators with the skills to lead and inspire. Youth Animators conducted a dynamic orientation at St Xavier's PU College, Kalaburagi, introducing students to value-based leadership. The 4th Death Anniversary of Fr Stan Swamy, SJ was solemnly observed, honoring his legacy of justice and service. An AICUF orientation at SJBHS ignited student enthusiasm for social responsibility and collective action. A Paper Bag Drive promoted eco-consciousness and

sustainable living among the student community. The Ignitors' Integral Formation Programme at St Joseph's College, Hassan, nurtured holistic growth and leadership. The AICUF State Council Meet and Elections set the tone for the academic year 2025-26 with renewed commitment. Together, these initiatives reflect a strong spirit of youth engagement, formation, and a social transformation.

- Fr Joel Fernandes

ARRUPE NIVAS, Bengaluru



During 'The Week's Education Conclave 2025' held in New Delhi, St Joseph's University achieved a significant distinction by securing the 10th rank among Private and Deemed Multi-disciplinary Universities in the South Zone. Fr Victor Lobo represented the University at the conclave and accepted the award for the University.

The Open Day 2025 welcomed high school students (9th to 12th), parents, and the public to explore our campus and academic opportunities. The event featured tours of research labs, faculty meetings, and information on programmes and admissions. Highlights included a leadership meeting with school administrators, a session for parents, a demo Parliament Assembly for students, exhibits, and awards. The Chief Guest was Prof Dr Chandrabhas Narayana, Director of the Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology.

The School of Communication and Media Studies welcomed Prof. Frank Barnas, an award-winning documentary filmmaker and Quadruple Fulbright Scholar from Middle Tennessee State University, for a Fulbright residency. His visit involves conducting workshops, curriculum enhancement, and delivering lectures on global media practices.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed with Bisleri International Pvt Ltd to promote civic awareness, responsible plastic disposal, and aim for "Zero Plastic to Landfill" on campus. The University hosted the Group Commander's Inspection for the 1 KAR ARMD SQN NCC TP-3 GP-B, attended by 40 colleges. A comprehensive series of workshops focusing on Outcome-Based Education (OBE) was organised for higher education institutions to rethink and restructure their

academic delivery models amidst these times of rapidly evolving pedagogical paradigms and dynamic global workforce demands.

Fr Victor attended the two-day All India Vice-Chancellors Conference 2025 on Values-Based Education, organised by Sri Sathya Sai University for Human Excellence (SSSUHE) at Sathya Sai Grama Campus, Bengaluru. He also participated in a private Google event for a joint degree programme in collaboration with Google at the Google Ananta Rio Business Park, Bengaluru, which aimed at enhancing academic opportunities and providing substantial value to institutions and students alike.

Sargam Dutta was selected to attend the Asian Science Camp 2025 in Thailand. Olivia Debroy and Mitreyi Venugopal, Journalism students, were chosen by the Israeli Consulate to visit Israel as part of a South Indian delegation, providing them with a direct cultural experience. The School of Humanities and Social Sciences and AICUF held a memorial gathering to honour the Late Fr Stan Swamy, advocating for the marginalised. The University celebrated Ignatian Week with various student-driven events, including competitions in arts, food, and quizzes to promote creativity and community bonding.

Arrupe Nivas celebrated the Golden Jubilee of Fr Swebert D'Silva in the Society of Jesus. We recounted his experiences and valuable contributions to society over the years. Many Jesuits participated in this joyous occasion and it was also a time of bonding and brotherhood.

- Fr Aravind Royce

ASHA KIRAN, Mangaluru



July was a spiritually enriching, fun-filled, and memorable time for all of us. The brothers have begun their ministries enthusiastically, encounter-

ing God in the people and situations they serve. A special highlight was the joyful celebration of our superior, Fr Henry Saldanha's 60th birthday

on 16th July, marked by heartfelt wishes and a lively community gathering.

In preparation for the feast of St Ignatius of Loyola, we had a meaningful community recollection guided by Fr Freddie D'Silva, helping us deepen our Ignatian spirit. During the same period, the drainage work on the campus was also completed, bringing a small but welcome improvement to our surroundings.

ASHIRVAD, Bengaluru



Center for Social Concern (CSC) handled six critical cases of Migrants, ranging from tragic death support, accident response, a PF claim of ₹5,00,000/-, a missing person search, to assisting with delayed remunerations. CSC distributed essential study materials to all the children of Spandana study centers and organized an awareness program for the parents of the study center children. Mr Somna Tugnait, Director at Gurukul Dubai and former HR Specialist with the Emirates Group, visited the SJU study center children and interacted with them, promising to support them. Fr Anthony Arul facilitated a two-day workshop for 19 religious sisters at Prerana. The session is titled "Critical and Creative Use of Media".

HRDC organized a training for trainers (TOT) programme for two days from the 14th to the 15th of July on IPP. Fr Norbert Menezes SJ (PAT) was the resource person. Nearly 26 participants from various Jesuit institutions participated in the programme. Fr Brian Pereira gave a programme for the CJ sisters in Nepal.

Fr Arun Luis attended the AGMs of Mundgod, Manvi, and Vijayapura along with the provincial's team. Fr Arul Anthony was the main media representative in-charge of the KRCR assembly.

Preparation for the feast of our founder, St Ignatius,

To mark the feast, the brothers led creative novenas both in the house and on social media, engaging others in prayer and reflection. On 27th July, we played a series of friendly indoor games, bringing together all the Mangalore Jesuits in a joyful spirit. The event was thoughtfully organized by our brothers. We concluded the month with a festive gathering at Fatima Retreat House, celebrating the legacy of St Ignatius with gratitude and joy.

- Sch Manvith D'Souza

began with the recollection preached by Fr Jerome Gonsalves of Montfort. We had the celebration of the feast of our founder, St Ignatius of Loyola, on the 31st morning with a solemn mass by Fr Anup Minj, SJ (MAP). The Mass was followed by breakfast for all the guests and lunch with co-workers and the students who come for meals regularly to Ashirvad. Ashirvad, along with Jesuit Nivas, were the champions of the Inigo Basketball tournament held on the 27th of July. The Richmond Zone CRI AGM meeting was held in Ashirvad on the 20th of July. It was organized by Fr Elvis.

Inauguration of the Golden Jubilee celebration of IRHM Ashirvad was held on the 3rd August in Loyola Hall. The celebration began with Holy Eucharist at 5 pm. The mass was offered by the Archbishop of Bangalore, Most Rev. Dr Peter Machado. Formal stage programme followed the Holy Eucharist. Fr Arun Kumar SJ was the president of the programme. Swamiji Bhodaswarupananda Adhyaksha of Ramkrishna Matt was the guest of honour along with Ms. Fatima Sarah. The students of St Joseph's Indian PU College, along with their staff, Ms. Anisha, conducted the interreligious prayer service. PDDM sisters presented the welcome dance. Fr Amal Bosco was the MC, and Fr Elvis coordinated the whole programme.

- Fr Elvis C Lewis

FATIMA RETREAT HOUSE, Mangaluru



We began with a Novena to St Ignatius in our community, fostering prayerful reflection and unity, followed by a Triduum in the Church, drawing many faithful into deeper Ignatian devotion. Fr Ajay D'Silva was the chief guest at St Aloysius Gonzaga School, where he inspired the students on the occasion of the feast of our founder. The spirit of friendly competition was alive during the Inigo Cup, where three Dominoes teams from our community showcased their skills and camaraderie in a lively tournament. On the feast

day, all Jesuits of the Mangalore zone gathered here for a meaningful celebration organized by the Asha Kiran Jesuits. It was a day of fraternity, thanksgiving, and deep spiritual renewal. On August 2nd and 3rd, we celebrated the feasts of St Ignatius of Loyola and St John Mary Vianney at the Divine Mercy Church with due solemnity. Fr Freddie D'Silva travelled to Visakhapatnam to facilitate the election process for the new Provincial of the Sisters of St Joseph of Annecy. He also led a staff orientation at St Aloysius PU College.

Whereas Fr Edward addressed the PU students on the relevance of St Ignatius in today's educational context. Fr Joseph Rodrigues visited Delhi and Mumbai to complete visa formalities for his upcoming studies in the USA. Frs Ivan Mendonca, Joseph Monteiro, Freddie D'Silva, Edward, and Joseph Rodrigues were deeply involved in spiritual ministry, accompanying people and re-

ligious through retreats and spiritual guidance. We are glad to have Fr Boniface Lewis (KHM) with us as he undergoes medical treatment. We are happy to share that our senior fathers are hale and hearty, continuing to be a source of wisdom and quiet strength in the community.

- Fr Edward Rodrigues

HOMBELAKU, Manvi

Frs Cyprian Tellis, Cyril Raj, and Praveen Kumar represented our community at the AGM of the Mundgod mission. At the AGM of Pannur-Manvi mission Frs Provincial, Socius, Jason Furtado, Arun Lewis, and representatives of North Karnataka Mission were present.

On 8th July, Fr George Pinto took over the office of Minister of the House from Cyril Raj, who served as Minister for two years. Brother Antony Arogyam of Kohima region, now in Arunachal Pradesh, arrived here from Vijayapura for a short visit.

PU College celebrated the Freshers' Day along with the Investiture Ceremony. Fr George Pinto was the chief guest. Fr Maxim Rasquinha was the guest of honour. On 16th July was the Founders' Day of the Bethany Sisters and AC Sisters. We had a prayer service followed by a substantial meal. The foundation cake was cut by Sisters Ida and Reshma, Bethany Sisters, who served our children. Frs Leo Pereira and Jeevan Prabhu arrived from Hassan. Fr Leo had to sign some



papers connected with the land.

We celebrated the birthdays of Frs Praveen Kumar and George Pinto on 14th and 18th July respectively with special prayers and Agape. Fr Henry Saldanha and Mrs. Renuka were with us to evaluate our schools. Frs Cyprian Tellis and George Pinto went to Bellary to pay a courtesy visit to the bishop. We invited the sisters who serve our institutions and those whom we serve for the Feast of St Ignatius on the 27th of July. About 30 Sisters responded. A prayer service, the superior's message, games, and a good meal were the highlights. On 31st July, we had a solemn mass at the hostel in honour of St Ignatius. On 1st August, children below 9th were entertained and given refreshments. On the 2nd August, there was a solemn mass for students in the 9th grade and above, and college students, and all teaching and non-teaching staff followed by a variety of entertainment and a sumptuous meal. Fr Sunil Fernandes was the main celebrant and preacher. Fr Jeevan James from Nairobi was present.

- Fr Maxim Rasquinha

INIGO SADAN, Bengaluru

The "Ignatian Month" set our institutions ablaze with a great admiration for the Soldier-Saint, Ignatius. Novena prayers, extra-curricular activities, and quizzes were the highlights of the month. The feast of St Ignatius of Loyola was celebrated with great fervour and solemnity by the Josephite family of St Joseph's Indian Institutions.



Fr Rudolph Pinto, OCD, the Secretary of the CCBI Commission for Liturgy, was the main celebrant. Following this, the units celebrated the feast with fun games and other activities. Fr Ronald



Pais, the Novice Director, was the chief guest for the day. The feast day was a memorable day for all. Fr Christopher (PAT) celebrated the Mass for us. We were glad to have the members of Loyola Mandir for the mass and the celebration thereafter. The highlight of the day was the Ignatian Quiz, 'Ignite 2.0', conducted by Schs Jeevan and Lloyd. We were glad to celebrate the golden birthday of Fr Melwyn Lobo, the Principal of SJS CBSE, and Fr Joseph D'Souza, the Rector.

St Joseph's School (CBSE) began the month on

a sportive note, by organizing “Sportiva Cup”, for senior secondary students. A session on positive parenting was also organized, thanks to Mr Sunil Mahajan, a Life Skills Coach, who provided insightful strategies on the subject. *Aikyam*, an inter-religious prayer service, was organised, and Fr Vivian Juan Maria Raj, Youth Director of the Archdiocese of Bangalore, graced the occasion as the chief guest. A historic moment unfolded on 21st July as St. Joseph’s School proudly inaugurated its NCC unit under the 40 KAR Battalion. The event, held at the school auditorium, was honoured by the presence of Air Commodore SB Arun Kumar, VSM, Deputy Director General of NCC Karnataka & Goa Directorate. The pre-primary students were all smiles at the “Fun and Frolic Day” celebration under the theme, ‘Exploring the Animal World’.

An eye check-up camp was conducted for the students at St Joseph’s Indian Primary School, free of charge. The very first PTA facilitated dialogue between parents and teachers regarding student progress. The Kannada teachers participated in a language-building session. Frs Royston Pinto and Anthony Pais visited the school for a teacher appraisal, supporting our commitment to quality education. Fr Arun D’Souza also visited the campus and the school as part of the revisors’ assessment.

Many activities, spirituality with a blend of creativity, were held in view of the feast day at St Joseph’s Indian High School. The Philatelic and

Numismatic Club, in association with the General Post Office, Bengaluru, organised an exhibition of stamps and coins. The exhibition focused on Mahatma Gandhi, the Heritage of India, Art and Architecture, and the Armed Forces, offering students a unique glimpse into history and culture.

July saw the inauguration of the Commerce Club and Humanities Club at St Joseph’s Indian Composite PU College, which created new platforms for entrepreneurial learning and creative expression. The college also inaugurated *Spardha 2025*, an array of intramural competitions. Students also benefited from an educational visit to ISTRAC, gaining valuable exposure to developments in space technology. A Leadership Workshop further enhanced student leaders’ communication and decision-making abilities. The Youth Champion Programme, organised by the MG Club in collaboration with ICMR, involved 34 student volunteers who received training on mental health awareness, suicide prevention, and observational skills to identify early signs of distress in others.

The new academic year at St Joseph Skill Academy began with a one-day orientation program to welcome and guide students into the new academic environment. A three-day motivational workshop was conducted by the Learning Matters team. To raise awareness on emotional well-being, a seminar on mental health was organised by the NGO SA-MUDRA.

- Sch Denver A Pushpam

JESUIT NIVAS, Bengaluru

The Jesuit Nivas Community commemorated the Feast of St Ignatius of Loyola on July 27th. To mark the occasion, a Eucharistic celebration was held for all the Catholic staff from the various units of BJES. Fr Norwin Pereira was the main celebrant, and Fr Prashanth D’Souza delivered a meaningful and inspiring homily. On the evening of July 31st, a short prayer service was followed by a cordial interaction and dinner with neighbouring priests and religious. The celebration highlighted the spirit of collaboration and fraternity shared with our religious and priest neighbours.

The Month was filled with events at SJPU, marked by leadership, learning, and celebration. The Investiture Ceremony saw the formal induction of our new student leaders. Andromeda, our month-long intra-collegiate fest, gave students a platform to showcase their creativity. At Excel-

lencia- 2025, our PU Board Exam Distinction holders were awarded for their outstanding academic performance. The month concluded with the Leadership Training Programme and Ignatian Week celebrations in honour of the feast of St Ignatius of Loyola. SJEPUC marked the meaningful activities to enable the personal growth of the students. The student leaders were formally installed in their leadership roles during the Investiture Ceremony. Thought-provoking awareness programmes were held on substance abuse and healthy relationships encouraging students to make informed, responsible choices. As the year progresses, students are steadily becoming familiar with the values and ethos of our institution.

St Joseph’s College of Commerce was marked by vibrant spiritual, academic, and cultural events. The month began with a First Friday Mass for

all Catholic staff and students, followed by a grand celebration of the Feast of St Ignatius with a special Mass concelebrated by 20 priests and attended by parents and students. A medical camp offering free health checkups and eyeglasses was organized for all staff. The Sports Induction Ceremony featured International Para Athlete and Rajyotsava Awardee Mr. Gopinath K as Chief Guest. The month concluded with Kalotsav 2025, the interclass cultural fest, inaugurated by renowned Kannada actor Mr. Vijay Raghavendra.

St Joseph's College of Law (SJCL) organized an orientation programme for the incoming batch of the 5-year integrated law programmes (BA LLB, BBA LLB, and BCom LLB) from July 28 to 30, 2025. The orientation marked the culmination of a month-long bridge course designed to ease students into their academic journey. To commemorate the Feast of St Ignatius of Loyola, a quiz competition titled "Ignite with Ignatius" was conducted for the faculty and staff on July 30, focusing on the life of St Ignatius of Loyola and the Jesuit order.

SJIM witnessed a dynamic series of events over the past month. Fresher's Day warmly welcomed the new batch of students, while a staff-student interaction session fostered mutual understanding and camaraderie. Guest lectures by indus-

try experts encouraged curiosity and knowledge sharing. The Ignatian Week celebrations included quizzes, collage-making, and cultural programmes, culminating in a festive Mass highlighted by an inspiring homily from Fr Arun Kumar SJ. The month also saw the inauguration of the Catalyst Centre, aimed at nurturing innovation and entrepreneurship among students.

SJBHS celebrated Harmony Day 2025 on July 1, highlighting the importance of living in unity and respect with all living beings, while fostering in students a strong sense of environmental responsibility. The Junior and Senior School Prize Days were held on July 5, recognizing academic excellence across the school. On July 19, Grandparents Day brought joy to the pre-primary unit, as the little ones expressed their love and gratitude to their beloved grandparents. The spiritually uplifting Feast of St Ignatius of Loyola was celebrated with great devotion, led by the Campus Ministry team. We also celebrated sporting excellence, cheering our cricket champions who clinched the 2025-26 Cottonian Shield in both U-16 and U-14 categories. Additionally, our U-19 Girls' Basketball team secured third place in the Shooting Star Interschool Basketball Tournament hosted by Vidya Niketan School.

- Fr Shanth Raj A

JNANA JYOTHI, Anekal

St Joseph's PU College, Anekal, began the month with a spirit of celebration and leadership as it hosted the Investiture Ceremony and Freshers' Day on 12th July. The chief guest for the occasion was K. L. Gowri, Senior Kannada Teacher from Government School, Haragadde, who inspired the gathering with her words of wisdom. Additionally, Frs Sunil Fernandes and Melvin Lobo carried out the staff evaluation at SJPUC.

As part of the academic and cultural initiatives, the Arts Department organised visits to various holy places in Anekal, encouraging students to foster unity and a deep respect for humanity. The Commerce Department arranged an insightful talk on Financial Management, while the Science Department marked the death anniversary of Dr A.P.J. Abdul Kalam with a quiz and essay competition that brought out the intellectual curiosity of the students.

The highlight of the month was Ignatian Week, which featured a series of exciting competitions



that showcased the talents and creativity of the students. The celebrations culminated on 30th July with the grand Feast of St Ignatius, observed with great joy, reverence, and festivity.

St Joseph's School Jnana Jyothi, Anekal: The school conducted the FA-I test from 14th to 17th July, assessing the students' academic progress. On 26th July, a Parent-Teacher Meeting was held, where parents expressed their appreciation for the school's efforts and their satisfaction with their children's academic achievements.

Ignatian Week was also celebrated in the school with a variety of engaging and fun-filled activities. On 2nd August, the school came alive with warmth and gratitude as it celebrated Grandparents' Day, honouring their love, wisdom, and invaluable role in shaping family life through meaningful programmes and heartfelt tributes.

Navasadhana: At Navasadhana, the month was marked by both inspiration and fraternity.

Fr Jeevan James addressed the Pre-Novices, sharing his enriching experiences in the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS), which left the young men deeply moved.

In honour of the Feast of St Ignatius, a series of enjoyable and community-building activities were organised throughout the month, providing a platform for the Pre-Novices to showcase their talents while nurturing brotherhood and camaraderie.

Jnana Jyothi: Jnana Jyothi hosted a number of formative and administrative events during July. The staff of ISI visited for an orientation programme, equipping the team with fresh insights and renewed motivation. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of AJECS – Anekal Jesuit Educational and Charitable Society, was successfully held on 23rd July.

The community came together in joy and gratitude for the Feast Day Mass, presided over by Fr Sunil Ranjar. The celebration was made even more special by the presence of our neighbouring religious communities. Following the Eucharistic celebration, the day concluded with a festive gathering and a fellowship meal, strengthening the bonds of unity and shared mission.

Balajyothi Girls' Hostels: The Feast of St Ignatius of Loyola brought the Balajyothi Girls' Hostels together in celebration. Students organised a vibrant cultural event that showcased their talents

and creativity. It was a meaningful occasion that united everyone as one extended family, fostering bonds of friendship and community spirit among the residents.

CIRW: We successfully organized the Okkuta Federation meeting, where members came together to elect a new leadership team that will serve for the upcoming three-year term. This year marked a significant milestone as we established 15 new study centres in and around Anekal. These centres are designed to serve 300 students, providing them with quality educational support, better learning opportunities, and valuable resources.

The Feast of St Ignatius was celebrated at CIRW with great enthusiasm, bringing together staff members, tailoring students, and community members. Fr Shantharaj, the Superior, presided over the celebration, while Sch Macwin served as the guest of honour. The tailoring students presented a fabulous cultural show that captivated the audience. In honour of the feast, various competitions were organised for the tailoring students, and prizes were distributed to the winners.

Orientation programme was organized for the social work staff at the centre. Fr Teyol, serving as the resource person, facilitated an engaging half-day session that equipped the staff with valuable insights and guidance on the innovative initiatives the centre has planned for the upcoming year.
- Sch Macwin D'Souza

JOSEPH NIVAS, Hassan



A two-day orientation programme was held at St Joseph's College, Hassan, as part of the beginning of the new academic year. The students of II and III BBA, BCOM, and BCA participated in it actively and were led by the IGNITORS of KJES Youth Work.

The college has begun with a good note, with all the 330 seats for BBA, BCOM, and BCA being filled, and with a demand for more. A two-day, intense staff orientation was held. In Association with Magic Bus India Foundation, a two-day career training programme followed by a placement drive on the college campus was organised with more than 190 graduates participating, even from other colleges as well. 11 companies from Bangalore came down to recruit our students.

As part of the Ignatius feast, an inter-unit quiz

and throwball match were conducted. The feast of St Ignatius of Loyola was celebrated in all the units culminating in a grand Mass on the day of the feast, preached and celebrated by Fr Patrick Jonas, the Parish Priest of St Antony's Church, Hassan. Fr Lancy Fernandes attended a three-day training programme for principals led by Fr Nibert Menezes, SJ (PAT) at Prerana.

The Annual General Body meeting of St Joseph's Primary School PTA was held on July 26th. School cabinet & Grade 6 & 7 students visited the orphanage and old age home in Shettihalli as part of an outreach programme, while the Eco warriors of Class 5 organised an awareness drive (jatha) on plastic ban in the city. Grade 4 visited government schools and distributed stationery materials.

The International Malala Day was observed in the school assembly to inspire girls to pursue education with zeal. A session on 'Personal Safety: Good Touch and Bad Touch' was conducted for all students in batches by the student counsellor. As part of the Inigo fest week, Quiz, Colouring, and Drawing competitions were organised. The special attraction was the *Jana Gana Mana* and *Naada Geete* competition for the KG section, as they showed their prowess at such a young age. The Feast of St Ignatius was celebrated with great pomp, with Fr Maxim Dias as the chief guest. Inter-class Spell Bee for Higher primary helped increase the accuracy and passion for spellings and vocabulary. The new website of the school, www.sjhes.edu.in, has been launched.

St Joseph's Boys' Hostel is delighted to have made computer facilities accessible to hostel students, enabling them to learn the basics of Python and other academically relevant topics. On the occasion of St Ignatius' Feast, a few hostel students, along with teachers from the higher primary section, beautifully led the choir with melodious singing. The hostel boys also provided significant support on the feast day, showcasing their teamwork and spirit. Sch Vivian Saldanha hosted an engaging quiz on the life of St Ignatius and the Society of Jesus, incorporating questions on popular brands to add a fun twist. Five teachers, each from four different units of St Joseph's institutions, participated, showcasing their knowledge and enthusiasm.

- Fr Olvin Veigas

LOYOLA MANDIR, Bengaluru

Fr John Pradeep travelled to Spain, while Fr Jerald M. D'Souza went to Gujarat as part of his sabbatical programme. Fr Prashanth Wesley D'Souza moved to the Jesuit Nivas Community as the Finance Officer of SJIM. Fr Royston Pinto conducted online classes on *Vocation and Formation in the Novitiate* for the Bethany Novices. Fr Gerald D'Souza (KHM) underwent a cataract operation at Narayana Netralaya.

KJES organised its AGM at Loyola Mandir. Nearly 50 Jesuits took part in it. Frs Pradeep R.S. and Archibald Fernandes decorated the chapel and made it very conducive to pray during the Novena to St Ignatius. Fr Anthony Pais returned rejuvenated from a Vipassana meditation retreat, while Fr Teyol Machado joined the same programme in



Madurai. Both Frs Anthony Pais and Teyol Machado are attending a month-long programme on counselling at Dindigul. Frs Bala Kiran Kumar and Sunil Clifford Ranjar visited our community, and a special meal was hosted in their honour.

On the eve of St Ignatius' feast, the community members shared "Who is St Ignatius for me?" which helped everyone to personalize the ideals and values of our founder. On the feast day, the community joined Inigo Sadan for the festive Mass and creative quiz competition, followed by a celebratory meal at Prathiksha. Fr Pradeep's artist profile published in the All-India edition of *Art Affairs*, an art magazine, has brought joy to us.

- Fr Royston Pinto

LOYOLA SADAN, Kalaburagi

St Xavier's school and college successfully completed FA-1 and Unit Test-1. In preparation for the feast of St Ignatius, several activities were held for students and culminated with a grand quiz competition for students and teachers. The Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola was celebrated on 1st August. Students performed a short skit and shared reflections on the life of St. Ignatius during the celebration.

In sports, both boys' and girls' basketball teams were selected to represent the school in the under-16 tournaments. Daily morning assemblies



continued with value-based messages and news headlines read in Kannada, English, and Hindi. To promote eco-friendly practices, the school started giving digital fee receipts instead of printed ones.

A Parent-Teacher Meeting (PTM) was held on July 26th for the school, where newly admitted students' parents were guided on how to use the school management software for better communication. Preparations are also going on in full swing for the upcoming Annual Athletic Meet scheduled for August 8th.

- Fr Joseph Jerald A

MAITRI SADHANA, Vijayapura

The Annual Feast of St Anne was celebrated in a meaningful manner, bringing together the entire parish community of Vijayapura in one faith and joy. The celebration began with a solemn Mass



honouring St Anne, followed by a candlelight procession with devotional hymns and prayers. The festivities concluded with a fellowship meal, fostering unity and a spirit of togetherness among

all parishioners and Christubhaktas.

Loyola English Medium School celebrated International Yoga Day on 21st June on a grand scale. International Olympic Day was celebrated on 23 June to instill the spirit of sports in students. Students gave a creative display of the programme. Students had a bridge course followed by tests for three days. On 26 June, International Drug Day was celebrated to create awareness among the students. We conducted an election to elect different office bearers of the student council and had an investiture ceremony on 5th July. Fr Santhosh Fernandes, former Principal of the school was the chief guest for the investiture ceremony. Late Fr Stan Swamy was remembered and paid respect during the programme.

Former Headmaster Fr Steevan Gonslaves visited the school and gave a short orientation to the staff. Parents' Day was celebrated in the kindergarten section. The parents highly appreciated the contribution made by the school for their children and for the Bijapur district. Various competitions were held as a preparation for the feast of our founder, St Ignatius Loyola. Fr Jeevan Prabhu visited the school to conduct the evaluation of the school. The feast of St Ignatius was celebrated with cultural activities and programmes. Fr Sunil Fernandes, the mission superior, presided over the program.

For Loyola School CBSE Sindagi, the month of July was vibrant and eventful, marked by several significant programmes and celebrations. Key highlights included the inauguration of the school clubs, the Investiture Ceremony, the Inter-Religious Prayer Service, and the First Periodic Assessments. The main highlight of the month was the feast of St Ignatius of Loyola. Under the dynamic leadership of Fr Santhosh Walder, BJECS organized the INIGOSAVA celebration at Loyola School CBSE, Sindagi. All the participating units came together in a spirit of unity and joy to celebrate this special occasion. At the Loyola Boys' Home, a variety of engaging activities were organized for the boys as part of the preparation for the feast of St Ignatius of Loyola, fostering spiritual reflection and joyful participation.

Sangama CIRD launched the 'Come Back to School' drive in 14 government schools during June and July, aiming to boost enrollment and reduce dropouts. We also conducted youth pro-

grammes to strengthen the core team of the taluka-level 'Yuva Sangama' federation. These programmes included leadership training, skill development, and community engagement activities. In July, Sangama hosted 4 batches of SJU students for their rural immersion program, which took place in various villages across Sindagi Taluka. The students participated in community service, learned about rural development, and gained valuable field experience.

Additionally, we organized two free health camps in Boragi and Mangaluru villages, providing essential healthcare services to the community. To promote ecological awareness, Sangama distributed 1,700 saplings to villagers, encouraging them to care for nature and protect the environment.

In July 2025, CNFE and its partners organized several initiatives focused on community empowerment, health, and welfare across slum communities in Vijayapura. Pragati Skill Training Center launched basic tailoring classes in Ainapur, equipping women with stitching and garment-making skills to promote self-employment. Health camps and awareness sessions were conducted across communities, offering check-ups and promoting hygiene. At CNFE, a support group meeting included eye check-ups for 40 participants and the distribution of nutrition kits. An exposure visit to the District Hospital was arranged for staff and Slum Development Committee leaders. A training on *Mother and Child Care* was conducted by Ms. Renuka Kotyal at Navachetana. A Good Governance training was held in collaboration with Jan Vedike to educate on government services. A capacity-building session at Navachetana engaged 15 youth in learning about constitutional values and welfare schemes. Support group meetings featured talks by officials like Mrs. Bharati Patil, who highlighted women's welfare programs under Mission Shakti. At St Anne's Church, the Jeevana Jyothi Federation discussed new schemes and planned participation in the state convention to advocate for the Devadasi System Eradication Act, 2018. On July 26th, a threefold event at Navachetana included a review meeting, a *Pranic Healing* session, and the Feast of *St Ignatius*, with reflections from Fr Anthony Lawrence. These efforts reflect CNFE's commitment to health, empowerment, and social justice.

- Fr John Thomas



We had a fruitful community faith sharing. Fr Melwyn Sunny Pinto helped us with a reflective recollection talk. The community prepared itself meaningfully for the celebration of the feast of our founder St Ignatius of Loyola. We had the days of novena, the Penitential rite, and a talk on St Ignatius of Loyola by Fr Joe Mannath, SDB. The feast day was marked by the festive mass after which we invited the faithful for breakfast, an exciting basketball match between the Novices and the Seniors, and a high-tea, together with our domestic staff. In the evening, we had invited our neighbouring Parish Priests, Religious, members of the Parish, and our lay collaborators for the evening celebration with a meaningful Prayer followed by a well-presented programme and finally the Festive dinner. It was a happy feeling to see all the members of the community, seniors, and Novices being involved. The feast of St Ignatius of Loyola was celebrated in our Parish on Sunday, July 27. Fr Rector was the main celebrant, and Fr Gerald Furtado gave a meaningful homily. The Novices led the singing.

The Rector, Fr Jossie D'Mello, gave a 5-day course on Ignatian Spirituality to the MTh students of the Indian Institute of Spirituality, Rajajinagar. Fr Joe Mathais conducted a workshop on 'Spiritual Direction' for 17 Spiritual Directors of Major and Minor Seminaries of Karnataka Region at KROSS, Bengaluru. He offered a course on 'Personality Integration' in Consecrated Life for 32 Novices of 6 Congregations of Religious men and women at NBCLC, Bengaluru. Additionally, he directed a seminar on 'Transformative Leadership' for 27 Superiors of the Congregation of St Joseph of Cluny, at Preethi Sadan, Provincialate, Kothanur, Bengaluru. Meanwhile, he also preached the retreat for 8 Deacons of our Province, at Xavier Sadan, Mysuru.

In the Novitiate, the month of July began with the triduum for the first probationers who formally entered the Novitiate. The entrance day was a grand success. We began the Saturday Social

and the Sunday Pastoral ministries. We also celebrated the birthday of Fr Socius and Fr Willie, who are dear members of the Novitiate team. The Novices kept themselves busy with the preparations for the Inigo basketball cup. We had an enlightening talk by Fr Norbert Menezes (PAT) on the Jesuit legacy of education and excellence. Fr Kanikiaraju helped the Novices to reflect on St Ignatius by guiding us in a short recollection. We are grateful to Fr Clarence D'Souza for the crash course on table reading skills. We also had talks given on the life of St Ignatius by Frs John Baptist Mendonca and Vincent Pinto. Fr Tom Quadras took classes on phonetics and basic English communication. We thank all the resource persons for taking time out from their busy schedules to help us grow in our intellectual prowess. The Novices had a number of activities in view of the preparation for the Ignatius feast.

Loyola Degree College began the new academic year with a fairly good admission for the first-year students. We had Mass of the Holy Spirit celebrated by Fr Mohan Joseph. The faculty development programs were conducted by various faculties of SJU, and an FDP on critical thinking was conducted by Fr. Melwyn Sunny Pinto. The College held an election for the students' council. Jesuit Volunteers, along with the association of Right Horizon group, gave a financial literacy program to our students. Additionally, these Jesuit Volunteers have committed themselves to providing industry-readiness training for the final-year students. AICUF conducted several competitions because of the feast of St Ignatius of Loyola. Fr Alphonse Fernandes shared with the staff the rich experiences that he had in the 'Jesuits in higher education' meeting held at Bogota in Colombia. To welcome and guide the newcomers, a two-day orientation program was held for first-year students, accompanied by a half-day orientation session for their parents. Dr. Shailaja addressed the parents, focusing on challenges commonly faced by college students.

- Fr Clarence D'Souza



July was anything but ordinary for the Jesuits of St Aloysius. A whirlwind of celebrations, civic engagement, ecological awareness, and even a world record kept the community on its toes—sometimes quite literally!

Fr Prashanth Sequeira and Fr Clifford Sequeira

represented the community at the Golden Jubilee celebrations of Fr Swebert in Bengaluru. Meanwhile, back home, Fr Rohan D'Almeida marched Gonzaga School students into action—quite literally—through a cleanliness drive and street play promoting civic sense. The monsoon couldn't dampen their spirits!

In another corner of campus, Class XI students of Gonzaga school engaged in an intellectually vibrant Global Connected Classroom session on *interreligious encounter*, hosted by Educate Magis. Their extracurricular achievements made waves too—quite literally again—with students bringing home laurels in swimming and yoga.

At St Aloysius ITI, Fr John D'Souza and his team got their hands dirty—in the best way—by leading students through a hands-on farming experience amid the rains. Fr John also brushed up his managerial chops by attending a Management Development Programme in Pune.

Fr Clifford Sequeira turned heads at Aloysius PUC with Eco Week 2025—a week-long ecological celebration that sowed the seeds of environmental consciousness and eco justice among students with plantation drives, Zero Waste Management, Pristine Class award, Drops of Hope, field visits, etc. The week concluded with Prakruti – A Care for Our Common Home, reminding everyone that Mother Earth deserves more than just a passing glance. An annual retreat for all the catholic PU students enriched them to be pilgrims of hope with mindfulness. The inauguration of the Centre for Social Concern, Environmental Concern, and Interreligious Harmony was a significant moment.

Fr Johnson Pinto proved that rain or last-minute holidays declared by civic bodies were no match for determination. He collaborated with the Karnataka Tulu Sahitya Academy to stage a powerful play, *Jagrute*, followed by a vibrant discussion on communal harmony. Not stopping there, he also organized Prathibha Kalotsava, a student talent hunt, amid the chaos of soggy roads and soggy schedules.

A few community members also joined the Diamond Jubilee birthday celebration of Fr Henry Saldanha, Superior of Asha Kiran Scholasticate—a cherished gathering marked with joy and gratitude.

Fr Melwin J. Pinto, Rector, along with Fr Praveen Martis, Fr Melwyn D'Cunha, and Fr Kiran Cotha, returned from a month-long academic odyssey across the Americas. Despite a few “journey glitches” (we’ll let your imagination fill those in); they came back enriched, refreshed, and re-armed for the mission of higher education.

But the crown jewel of the month was undeniably Remona Pereira, a third-year BA student,

who quite literally danced her way into history. Encouraged by Fr Praveen Martis and a team of mentors, Remona broke records by performing Bharatanatyam non-stop for 170 hours, with only short breaks. Her feat earned her a spot in the *Golden Book of World Records*, and the Jesuits of the house stood solidly behind her—visiting, cheering, and praying through her seven-day marathon.

Fr Prashanth Sequeira, the ‘Father in Law’, garnered all resources along with his staff for the inaugural programme of the BBA LLB programmes with a vibrant 12-day Deekshrambh programme.

In between, a few Jesuits found time to unwind by watching the Konkani film *Fondaso Mistear*, proving that cultural nourishment was also on the menu.

The month ended with a flurry of Ignatian celebrations. Jesuits across Mangaluru gathered for a half-day of sports activities, proving that Ignatian spirituality includes sprinting with sore limbs, winning with broken hands, and playing through heroic backaches. Naturally, St Aloysius Community emerged victorious! St Aloysius PUC also had Ignatian week with Ignatian values, with prayers and competitions, and eventually a reflective session by Fr Freddie D'Silva for the staff, concluding with a Eucharistic celebration.

On the eve of the feast of St Ignatius, Fr Rohan D'Almeida led a reflective recollection talk, followed by a penitential service organized by Fr Royston Madtha. The feast day Eucharist at Aloysius Gonzaga School was presided over by Fr Ajay D'Silva. Later, Fr Faustin Lucas Lobo, Director of Father Muller Charitable Institutions, celebrated the grand feast day mass with a homily inviting students and staff to emulate St Ignatius' love for the Church and his mission to “find God in all things.” The theme resonated deeply: “In all things, love and serve.” The feast day evening saw the confluence of Jesuits of the town with scintillating creative programmes. The Aloysius community staged a united, and frankly unforgettable, show—complete with action songs, foot-tapping dances, and melodious numbers in English and Tulu.

The month also witnessed Jesuits actively participating in a protest organized by Mangalore CRI, demanding justice for nuns falsely implicated in Chhattisgarh, and calling out the purveyors of

fake news and civil rights violations. A bold and timely stand indeed.

July was a month that celebrated faith, broke records, embraced ecology, and stood up for jus-

tice, with broken limbs, soggy fields, a seven-day dance marathon, and an unshakeable spirit. Jesuit life at St Aloysius? Always vibrant, never dull.

- Fr William M Rodrigues

SWAMY RAJENDARA NILAYA, Pandithahalli

This month marked a vibrant and meaningful phase in the school's academic calendar, bringing together leadership, celebration, cultural enrichment, and infrastructural progress.

The Investiture Ceremony was held with great dignity as newly elected student leaders were formally entrusted with their roles, symbolizing the values of responsibility, service, and integrity.

Muharram was meaningfully marked through a short assembly that highlighted its significance as a time of remembrance, sacrifice, and moral courage.

The Feast of St Ignatius of Loyola was commemorated



through the spirited *Inigo* Week celebration. Students engaged in a range of activities, including cultural performances such as dance, mimicry, and drama, literary events like quiz competitions, JAM sessions, and the *Buddy Book* reading challenge, along with various sportive events. These experiences fostered creativity, collaboration, and a deep sense of school spirit.

On the development front, a new borewell was successfully dug within the campus, ensuring a sustainable and independent water supply, a milestone toward improving the school's infrastructure.

- Sch Agil Roy J

VIDYA NIKETAN, Dharwad

At the beginning of the month, we presented Frs Tom D'Souza and Dheeraj D'Souza to the Bishop of Belgaum Diocese and obtained the necessary faculties for them to celebrate the sacraments. After their semester exams, the scholastics had a short home visit during their holidays. Frs Dheeraj, Tom, and Pratap visited Dandeli to plan for the upcoming ordinations. With the major renovation and painting work completed, the scholastics took the initiative to clean and organize the house in preparation for the feast of St Ignatius of Loyola. Fr Tom has adjusted well to the new environment; his gentle presence and fatherly care have been a true inspiration to the community. On the first day of the novena to St Ignatius, we installed a statue of the saint. Fr Tom blessed it and invited us to emulate the virtues of St Ignatius in our lives. We are grateful to Fr Pradeep R.S. for designing and donating the statue to our community. Fr Jaison Pais guided us in preparing spiritually for the feast through his recollection talks and the sacrament of reconciliation. Drawing from the life of St Ignatius, he inspired us to become agents of hope in today's world. We celebrated the feast of St. Ignatius on two occasions: first, with our parishioners in Dharwad, and then on the actual feast day, with priests, religious from the Hubli-Dharwad region,

and our benefactors. A total of 21 priests participated in the festive Eucharistic celebration. The scholastics added beauty to the liturgy through their melodious choir.

A highlight of the feast day celebration was the release of a new Kannada song based on the Prayer for Generosity, composed and produced by the Vidya Niketan community with Schs Felix and Abhishek, and Mrs. Stella Mary as the lead singer. The song was well appreciated by all in attendance. Earlier in the month, Fr Pratap made his annual retreat at Sevalaya, the pastoral center of the Belgaum Diocese, under the guidance of Fr Peter D'Souza. Amidst his busy schedule, he also gave a recollection talk to the Ursuline sisters in Hubli. We were delighted to receive Br Anthony, SJ (KHM) for a brief visit, and Fr Edward Rodrigues also visited our community after many years. Fr Dheeraj made his annual retreat in MSJ under the direction of Fr James Gonsalves. Starting this month, he conducts 3-day sessions every month for the students of the Mundgod mission. Additionally, he conducted a half-day workshop for the staff of the Belgaum Diocesan Social Service Society (BDSSS).

- Fr Pratap Chandru

XAVIER TRAINING COLLEGE, Belagavi



After the joyful celebration of First Vows, we welcomed 14 first-year novices into their probation in the Society of Jesus. They come from four different provinces: six from Bombay, five from Gujarat, two from Karnataka, and one from Chennai. Among them, Alfred and Lester from Karnataka have joined us. Under the guidance of the Socius, they had a fruitful probation day, accompanied by five Guardian Angels.

On 3rd July, they entered their second probation, and the second-year novices celebrated their Cassock Day. Our Novice Master was the main celebrant at the Eucharist. After the Mass, each first-year novice planted two saplings, symbolizing their vocation in the novitiate. This is a beautiful tradition followed when a novice enters the second probation in his own novitiate.

A special surprise awaited the second-year novices. They began their weekend pastoral ministry on 5th July. Novice Shawn Bernard D'Souza is serving

at St Milagres Church, Khanapur, and Novice Sanjan Babu at St Joseph the Worker's Church, Vaibhav Nagar. We are blessed by the love and warm acceptance shown by the parishioners.

On 8th July, Fr Xavier Tharamel SJ (KER), the current director of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (PWP), visited XTC. We were privileged to gain deeper knowledge about the PWP. His insights and session helped us to understand its history and significance within the Church.

At present, our community consists of 14 first-year novices, 12 second-year novices, and 3 formators, making us a vibrant group of 29. We had the feast of St Ignatius of Loyola celebrated in grandeur. Fr Nigel Alphonso, SJ (GOA) celebrated the Eucharist, before the feast, the community reflected on various themes on the life of St Ignatius of Loyola.

— Nov Sanjan Babu

SATYA NILAYAM, Chennai



The Academic rigour resumed its usual pace with regular classes, while both parish and social ministries were restarted with renewed enthusiasm. As part of our ongoing formation, a two-day course on Social Analysis was conducted by Fr Dr Selvaraj Arulnathan SJ (MDU). His sessions were both insightful and enriching, offering us a deeper understanding of the structural realities that shape our society.

On the fourth death anniversary of Fr Stan Swamy, a memorial service was organised, during which Dr Joseph Xavier SJ (MDU), a close associate of Fr Stan, was invited to speak. He inspired us by sharing his personal experiences of working alongside Fr Stan.

Our brothers also participated in the Victor Courtois Memorial Lecture, organised by Loyola Col-

lege, further contributing to their intellectual and spiritual growth through active engagement in academic events.

A blood donation camp was held at Arulkadal for all Jesuits and friends in Chennai. Many of our brothers took part generously, contributing to this noble cause and expressing our solidarity with those in need.

The feast of St Ignatius was celebrated with great devotion and joy. It began with creative novenas that deepened our spiritual preparation and culminated in a festive celebration. We were pleased to welcome our neighbours, friends, and well-wishers for a grand dinner, sharing in the joy of our Ignatian heritage.

- Sch Sujay Paul A

SHEMBAGANUR, Tamil Nadu



As part of the Tertianship programme, which places the Ignatian retreat at its core, we began with a pilgrimage to the Shrine of St John de Britto in Oriyur and visited the tomb of Fr Louis Leveil, SJ, Servant of God, praying for the grace to approach the retreat with generosity and magnanimity. Fr William Sequeira then led us through an intensive journaling course, followed by Zen meditation sessions at Bodhi Zendo under the



guidance of Fr Cyril (MDU). On the eve of the retreat, we made a pilgrimage to the Shrine of La Salette in Kodaikanal, seeking the guidance and blessings of Our Lady—a moment of grace for us all.



Our tertian instructor, Fr Arul Sivan (MDU), guided us through the Spiritual Exercises, helping us

recognize our inordinate attachments and discern God's will. It was a profound spiritual journey, allowing God to work within us—reforming our hearts and preparing us to be with Him and to be sent. God touched each of us personally in different ways, leading us to know, love, and follow Christ more deeply.

After experiencing the Spiritual Exercises, Fr Pavulraj (MDU) helped us study the text to gain a richer understanding of St Ignatius' vision, and Fr Illanko Xavier (CEN) guided us in grasping the dynamics of discernment. We are deeply grateful for your prayerful support during our retreat; Lumnesh and I held each of you in our prayers.

- Fr Jeevan Gomes K A

VIDYAJYOTI, Delhi

The month of July ushered in the refreshing monsoon showers along with the return of the Scholastics to Vidyajyoti, marking the beginning of a new academic year. The community embarked on this fresh chapter with a three-day orientation, centered around the thought-provoking theme: "Return to the Roots, Reimagine the Routes." A deeply meaningful memorial service commemorating the 4th Death Anniversary of Fr Stan Swamy was organized by the community at the Indian Social Institute (ISI), Delhi. It was a solemn occasion to honour his life, legacy, and unwavering commitment to justice.



insights on "Re-enchanting Democracy in Our Times."

Adding to the month's significance, the institute was privileged to host Archbishop Paul Richard Gallagher, the Vatican Secretary for Relations with States and International Organizations, and

Archbishop Leopoldo Girelli, the Apostolic Nuncio to India and Nepal, during their visit to VJ. The Scholastics had a rare and enriching opportunity to engage in an insightful dialogue with them on the pressing challenges faced by the Church amidst the growing wave of global authoritarianism.

The formal inauguration of the academic year at Vidyajyoti College began with a solemn Eucharistic celebration, presided over by Most Rev. Dr. Anil J. T. Couto, the Archbishop of Delhi. This was followed by the inaugural lecture delivered by Mr. Yogendra Yadav, a renowned political thinker and activist, who captivated the audience with his

The month culminated on a high spiritual note with the feast of St Ignatius of Loyola, celebrated with fervour, joy, and gratitude, a fitting conclusion to a month rich with inspiration, encounters, and Ignatian spirit.

- Sch Royster Monis

VIDYANIKETAN, Thiruvananthapuram

In July, we engaged ourselves deeply with both time and space. Various activities and courses kept us active and involved. At the beginning of the month, we had the 'Trivandrum Darshan'. Masses were organized at different levels -province-wise, living group-wise, and study group-wise -which helped us to relish and cherish our companionship.

A course on 'Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults' was conducted by Sr Lilly Pushpa. The

course on 'Study Skills and Time Management' by Fr Justine Emma, SJ (CEN), was also very effective. The new Provincial of Kerala, Fr Henry Pattarumadathil, visited our community. Malayalam classes, conducted by the scholastics of Kerala province, helped us improve our communication skills in Malayalam.

We were sent in groups of two and four to various places for our ministries in parishes and care homes. The novena prayers in honour of St Ignatius

helped us to walk in the path of the Pilgrim Saint. Alongside these prayers, we participated hand in hand in St Ignatius' Feast Day activities and made a pilgrimage on foot to St Ignatius of Loyola Church in Puthenthope. We concluded

this wonderful month with the celebration of the Feast of St Ignatius of Loyola, marked by cultural programmes and prayers.

- Sch Lestern D'Souza

VINAYALAYA, Mumbai



The month of July began with the juniors getting into the daily rhythm of the Juniorate. In the first week, we had a workshop on "Responsibility and freedom" By Fr Oswald Gonzalves, SJ (BOM), which was insightful and uplifting. In the week that followed, we were introduced to our professors and spiritual directors. We were also assigned and introduced to our ministry places. The ministry ranges from taking care of the street children

to ministry in the neighbouring parishes. Now, as the days are going by, the juniorate and the whole Vinayalaya community are gearing up for the feast of our founder, St Ignatius of Loyola. We have begun the novena to St Ignatius, reflecting the key elements of our charism. We look forward to the feast with great fervor.

- Sch Edmund Sequeira

GREGORIAN UNIVERSITY, Rome



In Rome, during the Ignatian month, the Jesuit family witnessed a moment of grace: the solemn celebration of Fr Anthony D'Souza's final vows, received by the Superior General himself at the Mother Church of the Society of Jesus, the Church of the Gesù. In his inspiring homily, Fr Arturo Sosa emphasized the primacy of prayer, calling Anthony, and indeed all of us, to live as praying priests, capable of discerning God's will in relation to people, time, and place.



On the Solemnity of St Ignatius, another significant milestone was reached. Fr Lancy Dias appeared for a prestigious State licensing exam for practice in psychology, conducted by the Italian Ministry of University Education. The intercession of the soldier-saint proved powerful, as Lancy passed the exam with flying colours—a sign of God's propitiousness in the foreign land-Rome.

Over the past two months, Rome has had the joy

of welcoming many Jesuits from the province. At the same time, the city has grown quieter with the absence of the Karnataka Jesuits in Rome. Each of us has taken a well-deserved short break following the end of the exam season. Some have returned to the province for holidays, while others remain here, channeling their time and energy into becoming ever more resourceful.

These days, Rome is witnessing something remarkable. It is alive with 'the now of God'—the youth. The city has been graced by the joyful presence of young pilgrims gathered here for the Jubilee of Youth. Their energy, dynamism, and faith have filled the Eternal City with renewed hope and vibrancy. As we look back on these recent blessings, we remain grateful for growth, for grace, and for the ever-renewing presence of God among us.

- Fr Nithin Machado

HEKIMA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, Nairobi



Princen and I arrived in Nairobi on 18 July. We are happy to be part of the Hekima Jesuit community. There are 80 Jesuits in total, distributed among seven smaller communities. From South Asia, we are eleven: six from Sri Lanka, two from Kerala, one from Delhi, and two of us from Karnataka.

The second-year theologians organized a week-long orientation programme for us. During this time, we were introduced to our way of life at Hekima.

We visited the Jesuit communities in Nairobi and also toured the city. A small outing was organized to help everyone get to know each other better.



The feast of St Ignatius was celebrated with a lively liturgy. We were glad to participate in the first mass of Fr Nahum Alysar SJ, Eastern Africa Province. We will soon have our annual retreat, after which

the new academic year will begin. We are very grateful to the Province for granting us this opportunity to theologize in Nairobi.

- Sch Ovin Rodrigues

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Fr Rayan Lobo, "The Unfolding of the Royal Status of Jesus: A Narrative Study of John 19.16b-24", in *Expository Times*, Vol. 136, Issue 11, pp. 473-482.

Fr Richard Mascarenhas, ಮರಿಯಳ ದೈವಕರೆ ಮಾನವ ಕೋಟಿಗೆ ದೈವ ಕೃಪೆ, ಹೊಂಬೆಳಕು, ಸಂಪುಟ.24, ಸಂಚಿಕೆ.2, ಸೆಪ್ಟೆಂಬರ್ 2025, pp. 13-14.

Fr Royston Pinto, Persecution in India: A Multifaceted Analysis, *Smart Companion*, Vol. 15, July (2025), pp. 18-20.

Sch Arun Lobo, "ಸೇವೆಯ ಸ್ವರೂಪಿ ಕ್ರಿಸ್ತ", *Tabor Vaani*, Vol. 15, July (2025), Issue 08, pp. 11-13.

Sch Royster Monis, "ನಮಗೊಬ್ಬ ಯಾಜಕ ಬೇಕಾಗಿದ್ದಾರೆ", *Tabor Vaani*, Vol. 15, July (2025), Issue 08, pp. 07-08.

REST IN PEACE

Fr Vedanayagam Ignatius, SJ, (CEN), 84/66, on 07 July 2025, at Chennai.

Fr Maria Anthony Sebastian, SJ, (SRI), 75/51, on 11 July 2025, at Sri Lanka.

Fr Sunil Kumar Toppo, SJ, (MAP), 56/34, on 18 July 2025, in Ambikapur.

Fr Xavier Rajan, SJ, (CEN), 85/68, on 20 July 2025, in Dindigul.

Fr Nazarius Baxla, SJ, (MAP), 72/52, on 21 July 2025, at Ambikapur.

Br Nicholas Topno, SJ, (RAN), 73/51, on 21 July 2025, at Ranchi.

Fr Bernard Murmu, SJ, (DUM), 76/56, on 30 July 2025, at Kalidanga.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

Fr Francis D'Almeida, SJ

After my 10th standard, I felt the call from Jesus to serve Him. My Parish Priest, late Fr William Veigas, the brother of late Fr Ferdinand Veigas SJ, said, "Don't become a diocesan priest because our life is lonely, and become a Jesuit priest because they live in a community." Through Fr William, I met Fr Manuel D'Souza, who was then the vocation promoter, and that is how I went to St Aloysius College and pursued my PUC studies there, staying in Loyola Hostel. My father did not want me to become a priest. But my mother supported me. We were 7 brothers and one sister at home. Today two of my elder brothers are no more.



My life in the Society of Jesus began on 2nd July 1975. My life in the novitiate was wonderful. I was literally taken care of by Fr Hilario Fernandes, our Novice Master at Mount St Joseph. Another beautiful aspect of the Novitiate was meeting young people from other provinces. It was an eye-opener to know that there are Catholics who speak a language other than Konkani. After my juniorate, I helped out for nearly three months at St Joseph's Indian High School Community. In that short period, I was able to do a lot of service to the community, help out Fr. Scotus Fernandez in preparing the exhibition of Karnataka Jesuit Centenary, and come to know many Jesuits. Initially, I was supposed to pursue my BA studies at Government College (presently University College), majoring in Kannada. But later, I enrolled for BA in Economics, Political Science, and Sociology at St Aloysius College. Life at St Aloysius Jesuit Community was superb. Though we had completed just 3 years in the Society, we were treated equally with other Jesuits. There were stalwarts in the community like Frs L.F. Rasquinha, Mathew Lewis, Alphonsus D'Souza, and others. We had very committed Rectors, ie, Fr Mathew Lewis and Fr Ronnie Prabhu. They were really inspirational.

After three years of UG studies, I proceeded to Sacred Heart College Satya Nilayam, Chennai in 1981

for my Philosophy. It was a wonderful experience with Fr Varkey Perekatt as our Rector. I had plenty of friends in Philosophy. I had the opportunity to go to the AICUF house in Chennai as part of my ministry. I was inspired to make a study of AICUF, and that was my term paper as a partial fulfillment of Philosophy. After completing the first year of Philosophy, I had the chance to conduct a Novices camp in Aloysian Boys Home, Nehru Nagar, in Mangalore. I really cherished those moments. After completing Philosophy, I was assigned to Fatima Retreat House as a regent to the Pre-Novitiate, and there were nine pre-novices.

After a year of regency, I was assigned to pursue my postgraduate studies in Political Science at Mangala Gangothri, Konaje, Mangalore. I completed the MA with first Rank, earning a Gold Medal. During these studies, I had the opportunity to organise a national seminar on “Shah Bano Case.” The theology studies at De Nobili College, a vibrant Jesuit community, were not only most worthy but also challenging. The great day of my life was my ordination on 01/05/1989 at my parish, Sacred Heart Church, Suratkal. It was the first ordination in my parish, and I am the first Jesuit. After my ordination, I went within a month to Nagaland. Initially, I thought that I would be engaged in pastoral ministry, but the Mission Superior Fr Boniface Lewis assigned me to St Joseph’s College, Jakhama, as Vice-Principal and Financial Administrator. I spent 3 years in Nagaland. I was also engaged in pastoral and retreat apostolate.

In 1992, after spending 3 years, I came back to Karnataka and was appointed as the Parish Priest and Superior of St Anne’s Church, Bijapur. By the end of 2 years, I was able to purchase a small property with a house, which is today called Maitri Sadan. In 1994, I was transferred to St Joseph’s College, Bangalore. I was also appointed director of Navasadhana, Pre-Novitiate. During the day I was in the College, teaching, campus ministry, and director of the centre for Social concern. I remember on certain days I used to go to the village and stay with the students in the camps and return early in the morning. I had a very efficient regent, Leo Pereira. Being in charge of Navasadhana was a unique experience. I was able to go for a vocational promotion too. After spending one year at Navasadhana, I moved to St Joseph’s College and continued my teaching work. The community experience was superb. I was very happy that on 25th September 1995, I was appointed full-time lecturer because that day I passed the State Eligibility Test for lectureship and I also came first in the entire Karnataka for social sciences.

In 1997, one year of Tertianship at XTTI, Patna, was a great experience of being grounded in the Society of Jesus under the guidance of Fr. Joseph Vellaringattu. After returning from Tertianship, I was appointed Principal of St Joseph’s Evening College, Bangalore. The regular visits to the students’ houses gave me firsthand information about them and their situation. The three years were a great learning experience.

In 2001, I became the first Principal of the bifurcated St Joseph’s PU College. I had the unique privilege of starting the “Equinox” an intercollegiate and cultural festival. St Joseph’s PU College at that time was an ocean. I did realize that the students were not able to let out their energy, so I started a P.T. period for all the classes once a week. In 2003, I once again became the Principal of St Joseph’s Evening College. It was a short period because in 2005, I went to Fatima Retreat House to complete my PhD studies.

In 2007, I was appointed Associate Professor at St. Aloysius Evening College, but for 9 years, I served at St Aloysius College (today Deemed to be University). At St Aloysius, I was the Campus Minister, Director of the Centre for Social Concern, and in charge of St Aloysius College chapel. In 2008, I became the Vice-Principal. After completing 22 years of service in higher education was superannuated in 2017. The six months of sabbatical were a refreshing period, and I could attend a few courses in counselling and pastoral ministry.

After retirement from active service, I was again called to start a new college at Mount St Joseph, namely, Loyola Degree College, as a founding Principal. Those five years were very fulfilling because I was given a mandate to serve the poorest of the poor. When I began college, we had only 145 students, but when I left after 5 years, we had 525 students. There were only two streams -BA & B.Com. I felt that by starting that college, we could provide higher education to the deprived and marginalized sections of society who were otherwise deprived. I was able to garner help for these students and provided a scholarship by begging from the donors. During those days, the whole community was involved in food kits distribution during the lockdown and the COVID-19 pandemic.

I spent one year at St Joseph’s University in 2022-23 as Campus Director. My experience of attending the World Youth Day in Australia and the World Social Forum in Mumbai has given me tremendous strength to work for the Youth. I was the Board member of the Xavier Board of Higher Education in India for 17 years. I was also a Board member of AIACHE. Participating in JHEASA has built a strength in serving higher education in a renewed way. In 2023, I went to Vidya Niketan Dharward to be the financial administrator. To cap it all, the Government of Karnataka appointed me as a task force member for the implementation of the State Education policy in 2024.

This year and in this month of August, is my golden jubilee in the Society of Jesus, and I thank God for my Vocation. I thank my parents, brothers, and sister for their continual support. I thank all the Jesuits of the Karnataka Jesuit Province for being companions to me. God bless us all.