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KARUNĀḌA SAURABHA
KARNATAKA JESUIT PROVINCE NEWSLETTER

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KARNATAKA JESUIT PROVINCE

November 2025

PROVINCIAL'S MUSINGS

This October, I had the grace to join Jesuit Major Superiors from across the world in Rome for the Third Meeting of Major Superiors of the Society of Jesus. Gathered around Fr. General Arturo Sosa, we prayed, reflected, and shared deeply on what it means today to be companions of Jesus – forgiven sinners, sent on mission.

We began, as always, with retreat. In silence and prayer, we placed ourselves once again before the Lord, asking Him to renew in us the desire to “be placed with the Son,” as St Ignatius once prayed. In a world so marked by division, noise, and speed, these days of recollection reminded us that all good things begin in prayer — that only in the stillness of our hearts can we hear the Lord’s call to serve anew.

Pope Leo XIV, in his audience with us, echoed this same call. He reminded the Society of Jesus that “the Church needs you at the frontiers – geographical, cultural, intellectual, and spiritual.” The frontiers are not far away: they are found wherever people search for meaning, justice, reconciliation, and hope. The Holy Father encouraged us to read the signs of the times with spiritual depth — to be creative and courageous, to walk with Christ to the peripheries of human life.

Fr. General, in his closing homily at the Church of the Gesù, invited us to humility – the humility of the tax collector who simply says, “O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.” It is in acknowledging our weakness that we discover our true strength: the companionship of Jesus, who calls us, forgives us, and sends us forth. To be a Jesuit is to live under the banner of the Cross, to struggle for faith and for the justice that faith demands.

As I return home from this encounter, I carry with me a renewed conviction: that our mission flows not from efficiency or success, but from mercy — from knowing that we are loved and forgiven. The Universal Apostolic Preferences continue to point the way: showing the path to God, walking with the excluded, accompanying the young, and caring for our common home. These are not mere programs but invitations to conversion, to deeper companionship with Christ and one another.

Let us, then, continue to walk humbly and hopefully as companions in mission — rooted in prayer, open to the Spirit, and ready to go wherever the Lord sends us. May Our Lady of the Way guide us always to her Son, that we may serve Him with joy, even at the frontiers.



- FR DIONYSIUS VAZ, SJ

APPOINTED BY THE POPE

Fr. Richard D'Souza (GOA): Director of the Vatican Observatory

APPOINTED BY FR GENERAL

Fr. Bernhard B rgler (ECE) as Regional Assistant for Central & Eastern Europe

PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

November 2025

03-07: Visitation of Scholastics: Paris
13-16: Personal Retreat
18-20: Visitation: Mundgod
22-23: Meeting of LS, DoWs, CCMs: Prerana (B'luru)
24: Province Consult: LM (Bengaluru)
25-27: Visitation: SICJ (Trivandrum)
26: Meeting of South Zone Provincials (Trivandrum)
29: Mangaluru
30-02 Dec: Visitation: VN (Dharwad)

December 2025

03-05: Visitation: SN (Chennai)
07-09: Visitation: Arrupe Nivas (Bengaluru)
08: Inauguration of the Centre for Religion and Culture: SJU (Bengaluru)
10-11: Visitation: SAC (Harihar)
12: Governing Body Meeting: SJIM (Bengaluru)
13: Province Consult: LM (Bengaluru)
15-19: Visitation: SAC (Mangaluru)
21: Mangaluru

ANNOUNCEMENTS

22-23 Nov 2025: Meeting of LS, DoWs, CCMs: Prerana (Bengaluru)

26 Nov 2025: Meeting of South Zone Provincials (Trivandrum)

08 Dec 2025: Inauguration of the Centre for Religion and Culture: SJU (Bengaluru)

POPE'S WORLDWIDE PRAYER NETWORK (PWP): NOVEMBER 2025

For the prevention of suicide: Let us pray that those who are tempted to commit suicide might find the support, care and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.



KJES YOUTH WORKS (PCYM)

The Karnataka Regional Convention - Yuvajanotsava 2025, organised by KRCBC, was held from October 02-05, 2025, at St. Joseph's PU College, Karwar, bringing together Youth from across Karnataka, where our AICUFers also participated. During the convention, Mr Amith Adam Pereira and Ms Lerin Dias were honoured with the prestigious Yuva Ratna Award for their dedicated service in AICUF and Youth Ministry. A Youth Leadership Programme for Animators was conducted on 13th and 14th October 2025 at St Joseph's Boys High School, with 25 participants taking part in insightful sessions by Fr Brian Pereira SJ, Ms Esther Noronha, Fr Joel Fernandes SJ, Fr Anthony Derick SJ, and Fr Merwyn Fernandes SJ. The programme concluded with the official handing over of responsibilities from Fr Joel to Fr Merwyn as Youth Director, followed by a touching farewell and evaluation. On 27th October 2025, Loyola Vikasa Kendra, Mundgod, organised an Orientation Programme for unorganized youth, where Animators Salman, Sohan, and Shaun served as resource persons and inspired the participants through their engaging sessions.



Finally, MAG+S 2025, held in Dharwad from October 31 to November 2, was inaugurated by Most Rev. Derek Fernandes, Bishop of Belgaum. The three-day gathering brought together around 250 young participants from various institutions and parishes across North Karnataka for an inspiring journey of faith and companionship. The event featured spiritually enriching sessions, including personal testimonies, the Holy Eucharist, Confessions, Taiz  prayer, and meditation. Personal sharing and counselling provided participants with opportunities to rediscover meaning



and direction in their lives. The joyful yet reflective atmosphere fostered a truly transformative experience. A highlight of the cultural evening was the much-acclaimed play *Maralida Kurimari*, performed by the Vidyaniketan scholastics. Heartfelt thanks to Frs. Roshan Pinto, Merwyn Fernandes, Praveen Kumar, and Maxim Dias for their inspiring presence and invaluable guidance throughout the event. *MAG+S Dharwad 2025* will be remembered as a time of grace, growth, and youthful enthusiasm—where faith came alive through prayer, reflection, and joyful celebration.

The NECCB organised a Faith Sharing and Spiritual Outing in Nelamangala (September 5–6) with 59 members engaging in prayer, reflection, and fellowship, guided by Fr. Stephen Kemp and

Fr. James Vaiphei SJ through inspiring sessions on testimonies, symbols, and moral values. On Sept 28, the First Gathering of Northeast Priests, Sisters, and Brothers in Bangalore brought together 45 religious members for fraternity, introductions, and a talk on Pope Francis's teachings by Fr Bala Kiran SJ. The 16th Foundation and Freshers' Day Celebration at St Joseph's University saw over 500 participants, including 50 freshers, celebrating unity and culture through Eucharistic celebration and performances. Concluding the month, on Oct 26, a Workshop on Mental Health & Career Guidance at ISI for the displaced Manipur students provided 70 participants with valuable insights and encouragement for their personal and academic growth.

- Fr Merwyn Fernandes

ARRUPE NIVAS, Bengaluru



A group of 93 Tibetan students visited the SJU campus for an exposure trip and to explore the opportunities available at the University. The Centre for Religion and Culture, headed by Fr. Bala Kiran SJ, successfully conducted its first Working Committee Meeting, marking a significant step in its institutional consolidation.

Under the auspices of the Office of International Affairs, Dr. Maura Mast, Dean of Fordham University, New York, delivered an inspiring lecture on *"Ignatian Spirituality and Lay Collaboration."* The staff of the SJU Counselling Department served as resource persons at St. Joseph's Indian High School on World Mental Health Day, conducting sessions on mental health awareness.

Dr. Lokesh A., Nodal Officer of the Youth Red Cross, was felicitated by the Indian Red Cross Society on Blood Donation Day for his outstanding dedication to organizing blood donation camps. Fr. Denzil Lobo published an article titled *"Remedies to the High-Marks, Low-Skills Crisis in Higher Education"* in the *Deccan Herald*. Ms. Wilma Laveena D'Souza (Dept. of Mathematics), Mr. Allen Lobo (Dept. of Physics), and Ms. Sana Begum (Dept. of Commerce) successfully defended their

PhD theses.

Students of III BSW organized an awareness rally at Lingarajapuram to highlight the importance of the Right to Free and Compulsory Education. MSc BDA students participated in initiatives promoting environmental sustainability. SJU inaugurated Vigilance Awareness Week with the Integrity Pledge, reaffirming the University's commitment to honesty and accountability. Dr. Maria (Dept. of Sociology) addressed the housekeeping staff on the importance of rejecting bribery and upholding integrity in daily life. The NSS Units also observed *Rashtriya Ekta Diwas*.

Fr. Bala Kiran Kumar SJ presented a paper at the Annual Meeting of the Association of Moral Theologians of India (AMTI) held at SPARC, Trivandrum. He also presented another paper titled *"Populism and the Erosion of Social Trust"* at a National Seminar organized by Vidyajyoti, Delhi. In addition, he delivered two lectures on *"Social Justice as Participation"* at St. Aloysius (Deemed to be University), Mangaluru, and addressed the Jesuit community there.

- Fr. Aravind Royce

ASHA KIRAN, Mangaluru



We were delighted to welcome Fr. Praveen Martis, Vice-Chancellor of St. Aloysius (Deemed to be University), who encouraged us to strive for academic excellence and embody the Jesuit mission in our daily lives. The Asha Kiran scholastics were privileged to assist at the ordination of four Karnataka deacons at Fatima Retreat House. During

his visitation, Fr. Dionysius Vaz, our Provincial, listened attentively to our experiences and inspired us with renewed joy and zeal. Meanwhile, Fr. Sujay Daniel attended a seminar on Midlife Transformation at Prerana.

We, at Asha Kiran, gained valuable insights from

Fr. Bala Kiran's talk on Catholic Social Teaching and Justice at St. Aloysius College. Despite our packed schedules with classes, exams, and Deepavali celebrations, we were glad to volunteer during the Xavier Board Triennial Conference hosted by St. Aloysius (Deemed to be University).

We also experienced a few anxious days when some members contracted chickenpox, but timely care and preventive vaccination helped protect the rest of the community.

- Sch. Avin Fernandes



ASHIRVAD, Bengaluru



Ashirvad joyfully celebrated Deepavali and Karnataka Rajyotsava across all its centres. Fr. Arun Luis attended the Province Development Directors' meeting held at Dumka on October 12. Fr. Brian Pereira joined the SJPU staff in organizing and conducting a staff training programme in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Fr. Arul Anthony participated in the Media Commission Meeting at Fatima Retreat House, Mangaluru.

Ashirvad hosted 23 Jesuits for a two-day meeting on Social Action. Congratulations to Fr. Arul Anthony for his short video on ecology, "Ashirvad: Eco-Initiative," which won First Place at the Eco

Jubilee Fiesta organized by the Ecology Commission of the Archdiocese of Bangalore. The Centre for Social Concern (CSC) has expanded its outreach with two new study centres at Pilligena Halli and B.K. Circle slums near Mount St. Joseph. The CSC team, led by Fr. Arul Anthony and Fr. Anup Minj, conducted field visits to motivate students for Bala Mela 2025.

We offer our heartfelt prayers for the repose of the soul of Anok Jose P (19), nephew of Fr. Arul Anthony, who tragically passed away following a road accident on October 24.

- Fr. Elvis C. Lewis

FATIMA RETREAT HOUSE, Mangaluru



Fr. Freddie D'Silva directed retreats for priests and sisters in Bangalore, Jagdalpur, and Mysore. Frs. Edward Rodrigues, Joseph Monteiro, and Ajay D'Silva conducted retreats for sisters in and around Mangalore, while Fr. Pradeep Sequeira led a retreat for a group of Jesuits. Frs. Ivan Mendonca and Joseph Monteiro represented the community at the thanksgiving Masses of newly ordained priests. Fr. J. B. Saldanha, Parish Priest of Bejai, invited the Mangalore Jesuits to the presbytery to celebrate the ordination of Fr. Roydon Misquith, who has been assigned there for his pastoral ministry.

Fr. Maxim Rasquinha, who came from the Manvi

community for his routine medical check-up, had to be hospitalized for a few days. Fr. Tom D'Souza has returned to his community after undergoing treatment. Our campus also hosted several delegates of the Xavier Board Triennial Conference.

We joyfully celebrated the birthdays of Frs. Pradeep Sequeira, Roydon Misquith, Maxim Rasquinha, and Edward Rodrigues, marked by much cheer and camaraderie. A special Mass was organized by the neighbouring senior citizens at Santrupty Chapel in remembrance of their departed loved ones. We remain grateful that our senior Jesuits are hale, hearty, and in good spirits.

- Fr. Edward Rodrigues

JESUIT NIVAS, Bengaluru



The past month was a time of grace and active involvement for our community. Together, we joyfully planned and organized two major celebrations—the Ordination Ceremony and the Final Vows—both held at the SJBHS Chapel. A particularly moving moment was when Fr. Norwin Pereira, a member of our community, pronounced his Final Vows, becoming a full-fledged member of the Society of Jesus. During

the Dussehra vacation, several members attended First Masses, while others travelled to Mysuru to witness the installation of the new Bishop of Mysore, Most Rev. Francis Serrao, SJ.

St. Joseph's College of Commerce and its Research Centre signed MoUs with universities in the USA and Colombia and partnered with the Central Ministry of MSME to promote industry-aligned

research and certification programmes. Faculty members participated in the Xavier Board Triennial Conference in Mangalore. Some students explored heritage and sustainability in Nagarhole and Kuppalli, while others gained international exposure through immersion programmes in Europe and Dubai.

After extensive preparation, St. Joseph's Institute of Management hosted the NBA accreditation team from October 10–12 and now awaits the reaccreditation certificate. A group of 23 students took part in a five-day international immersion programme in Malaysia. Fr. Roshan Pereira represented SJIM at both the Xavier Board Triennial Conference in Mangalore and the XAMI meeting in Delhi.

St. Joseph's Pre-University College had the privilege of hosting JESCOL-I, which brought together educators from various Jesuit institutions. St. Joseph's Evening PU College celebrated Deepavali with enthusiasm and followed it up with insightful sessions on Artificial Intelligence for students.

St. Joseph's Boys' High School commemorated Mahatma Gandhi's 156th birth anniversary. The 13th edition of SJBHS MUN 2025 was a resounding success, inaugurated by Ambassador T. P. Sreenivasan and concluded by UN official Ms. Mahithi Bharatesh, with over 480 delegates

participating. NCC cadets completed a ten-day intensive camp at Jalahalli. The Art and Craft Exhibition, *Meraki* Season 3, and the Pre-Primary Fun Day brought colour and vibrancy to campus life. SJBHS received national recognition when Education World School Rankings 2025 placed it first in Karnataka and third in India.

St. Joseph's College of Law showcased its dynamism through a range of programmes: a Reading-Reflection-Dialogue session organized by the Law & Development Committee; an Answer Writing Workshop by the Research Committee; a clothes donation drive by the Student Council to support the "Home of Hope"; a screening of the film *Gladiator* by the Film and Documentary Committee; and a panel discussion on the "Rohit Vemula Bill" hosted by the SC/ST Cell. Other initiatives included a leadership workshop for Christian students at Ashirvad, a seminar on placement opportunities for LLM students organized by the Placement Cell, a talk on "Launching a Career in Sports Law" by alumna Ms. Rushika of LawNK Partners, a plantation drive near Chinnaswamy Stadium and a workshop on environmental impact assessment by the Environment Committee, and *Samvada*—An Open Dialogue on Women in the Field of Law, organized by the Law and Gender Committee.

- Fr. Shanthraj A.

JNANA JYOTHI, Anekal

Local NGO leaders gathered at CIRW to discuss key developmental issues affecting Anekal and its neighbouring areas. The meeting focused on fostering collaboration among organizations representing Dalits, women, minorities, and backward classes. The Dasara and Ayudha Pooja celebrations, organized by the tailoring students and CIRW staff, were graced by the presence of Fr. Shantharaj and Sch. Macwin.

St. Joseph's School and P.U. College marked Deepavali with great enthusiasm. The School celebrated Talents Day, showcasing the creativity of its students, while the P.U. College hosted *Rhythm Fest*, which saw participation from over 400 stu-



dents across various institutions in a range of competitions. Additionally, six students from the college participated in the *Magis* programme held in Dharwad.

The regent, Sch. Macwin D'Souza, assisted the Dharwad scholastics in organizing the ordination ceremony at Dandeli. He also visited the homes of the Pre-Novices in Hubballi. The Pre-Novices attended the ordinations at SJBHS, Bengaluru, where they helped manage a vocation promotion stall and contributed to the liturgy and choir. They later went on a three-day cultural tour covering Hassan, Mangalore, and Udupi.

- Sch. Macwin D'Souza

JOSEPH NIVAS, Hassan

All final-year degree students of St. Joseph's College participated in a weeklong capacity-building programme. The district-level fest *Zest-2025*, held on our campus, attracted nearly 500 students and 35 teaching staff from 19 PU colleges, who took part in a range of competitions. A welcome



"side-effect" of the event was increased visibility for our college.

Our BCA students visited Mysuru for their industry trip, while NSS volunteers attended a three-day camp in Nelamangala under the aegis of

BJES Bembala. Gandhi Jayanti was observed with due reverence to the Father of the Nation. We extend our gratitude to SPARSH Hospital for conducting a free medical check-up for our students. The BCA students also benefited from a two-day hands-on workshop on Android mobile app development, conducted with the support of the MSc students and faculty of AIMIT.

The talent week, *GALA 2025*, provided a platform for students to showcase their creativity and skills. The Catholic students attended a spiritual retreat at St. Joseph's Estate, Bikkodu, guided by Fr. Maxim Dias and his team. Fr. Maxim also addressed the MAGIS pilgrims in Dharwad, reflecting on faith in life and action.

LOYOLA MANDIR, Bengaluru

Fr. Arun Kumar accompanied the Provincial to attend the installation of the new Bishop, Most Rev. Dr. Francis Serrao SJ, in Mysuru. Fr. Royston Pinto participated in the Annual Conference of Canon



LOYOLA PRE-NOVITIATE, Mangaluru

With three grand rehearsals by pre-novices, deacons and acting bishops, the ordination ceremony in Mangalore turned out to be both an occasion of grace and an opportunity for the pre-novitate to prove their managerial skills. The success was the fruit of genuine collaboration and coordination among the Jesuit communities in Mangalore.

Fr. Leston Lobo, the director, received a last-minute call from the organizers of the meeting of vocation promoters and directors of the pre-novitiate in the Western and Southern zones, asking him to attend an urgent meeting at DNC. Until then, he had no inkling that such a group existed! Fr. Leston considered this as an opportunity to make his maiden visit to DNC and Pune.

LOYOLA SADAN, Kalaburagi

Beginning October 15, the 8th and 9th Standard classes of St. Xavier's English Medium School commenced in the newly renovated classrooms on the ground floor of the college building. The Arts

At St. Joseph's English Medium School, several noteworthy programmes were held: a Faculty Development Programme for the staff; a three-day fest, *Talenton-2025*, aimed at nurturing student talent; debates for classes V to VII; and a Planetary Show on campus that inspired curiosity and scientific interest in astronomy. The school also celebrated Deepavali, highlighting its cultural significance; organized its Annual Athletic Meet with Fr. Olvin Veigas as the chief guest; observed Kannada Rajyotsava Day with Mrs. Sajni as the chief guest; and inaugurated the first session of the School Parliament.

- Fr. Olvin Veigas



Law at Dharmaram, Bengaluru, and subsequently led a six-day retreat at St. Ann's of Bangalore Provincialate, Bengaluru. On Ayudha Pooja day, the Loyola Mandir community held a blessing ceremony for the house vehicles, conducted by Mr. Divakar and Fr. Arun Kumar. Fr. Pradeep R. S. attended the Karnataka Province Media Commission meeting at St. Aloysius College, Mangaluru. Fr. Jason Furtado took part in a three-day course on Mid-Life Transformation at Prerana. Fr. Jerald M. D'Souza spent a few weeks in Manila, Philippines, as part of his sabbatical.

- Fr. Royston Pinto



The meeting focused on promoting cultures of vocation in our communities and addressing the challenges posed by technology and changing behavioural patterns.

Fr. Peter's 89th birthday was celebrated with heartfelt gratitude. Jesuits from the Mangaluru communities came together to honour our humble Jesuit, who continues to radiate energy and humour even as he guards our treasury with saintly diligence. Fr. Peter was moved by the warmth, prayers, and affection showered on him by the pre-novices, guests, and all the directors of Loyola, who have taken care of him with utmost respect.

- Sch. Rudolf Dhiraj D'Souza



Department of St. Xavier's PU College organized a one-day educational tour to Bidar. The PTA meeting of the School was held on October 17, while that of the College took place on November 1.



Fr. Roshan Pinto accompanied 13 students to Dharwad to participate in the MAGIS Programme.

Both the School and the College celebrated Rajyotsava Day with great enthusiasm and joy.

Fr. Maxim Misquith made his annual retreat from October 17 to 24 at FRH, Mangaluru. Fr. Robert Rodrigues attended the Mid-Life Transition Programme from October 24 to 26 at Prerana. Frs. Roshan Pinto and Joseph Jerald made their triduum at Bijapur during the Deepavali holidays.

- Fr. Joseph Jerald A

MAITRI SADHANA, Vijayapura



Special activities organized by SANGAMA CIRD included Dussehra celebrations at various centers, offering rural children a platform to showcase their talents, and an inter-religious celebration of Deepavali.

At Loyola School CBSE, Sindagi, Fr. Sunil Fernandes used the occasion of the first semester examinations (September 22–27) to meet the staff and offer valuable guidance. Some teachers participated in the JESCOL-1 programme held in Bijapur. The school also observed the Swachhata Hi Seva campaign (September 17–October 2). Additionally, events such as Hindi Diwas and Teachers' Day were celebrated with great enthusiasm.

The programmes and activities conducted by the Centre for Non-Formal Education (CNFE) continued to focus on empowerment, awareness, and community development. Notable events included Ayudha Pooja, a training programme in jewelry design for women at the Pragati Skill Training

Centre, legal awareness sessions on women's rights, Slum Samiti meetings to strengthen community participation, and awareness programmes on the POCSO Act and children's rights. CNFE also hosted Fr. Vernard Antony, JCSA Coordinator for Youth and Communications, whose visit inspired and strengthened the team's social commitment.

After the Dasara vacation, Loyola English Medium School resumed activities with the celebration of World Food Day on October 17, during which students prepared and shared a variety of food items. The Deepavali festival was also celebrated with joy and enthusiasm. The school achieved commendable success in sports—students secured first place in throwball and other athletic events, qualifying for the district level. Teams from both the High School and Higher Primary School won the basketball championship, advancing to the division level.

- Fr. John Thomas

MOUNT ST JOSEPH, Bengaluru



The community expresses heartfelt gratitude to Sch. Sanson D'Souza for his joyful presence and dedicated service during his five-month regency at MSJ. We wish him every blessing as he continues his regency at Mundgod. A warm welcome to Sch. Maria Divij as he joins the community.

The Novices took part in the priestly ordination of two new Jesuits at the SJBHS Chapel. Following the celebration, they enjoyed an outing to the Indian High School swimming pool, followed by visits to Cubbon Park and Vidhana Soudha. Their spiritual formation was enriched by an inter-novice course on *The Spiritual Wealth of the Psalms*, conducted by Fr. Salvador Fernandes, OFM Cap. The second-year Novices completed their three-week Hospice Experiment at various institutions: Sumanahalli Leprosy Rehabilitation Centre; Karunalaya, a home for the destitute run by the Charles Borromeo Sisters in Nanjangud; and

Nava Jeevan Niketan, managed by the Brothers of Mother Teresa in Mysore. The first-year Novices attended classes on *The Autobiography of St. Ignatius* conducted by our Novice Master, Fr. Ronald Pais, and a course on *The Basics of Photography* by Fr. Anthony Arul.

Fr. Jossie D'Mello conducted a two-day session for the local Superiors of the CSST Congregation at their Generalate in Geddalahalli, Bengaluru. Later, he guided the Province Assembly of the CJ Sisters of the Allahabad Province. Among the retreats offered during the month were: an eight-day retreat by Fr. Willie Sequeira for the JMJ Sisters at Nagavara, Bengaluru; a retreat by Fr. Arockiaswamy for the Canossian Superiors at Kotagiri; and a retreat by Fr. Tom Quadros for the Caritas Christi Secular Institute at Chalakudy, Kerala. Fr. Joseph Mathias led a course on *Personality Integration in Consecrated Life* for the Tertian Sisters

of the Apostolic Carmel Congregation at Maryhill, Mangaluru. He also conducted a workshop on *Transformative Leadership* for the community leaders of the Contemplative Fathers of the Missionaries of Charity in Gurugram, Haryana.

Several Loyola ITI students were selected for promising job placements in the UAE. Dr. Agarwal's Eye Hospital conducted a vision screening for 120 students and staff members. A three-month culinary course, which included a ten-day internship and job placements at Taj Hotels, was organized in collaboration with Vidya and TAJ Sats. Mr. Murali S.N. from the Wadhvani Foun-

dation introduced an AI-based learning platform designed to enhance students' confidence and employability skills.

At Loyola Primary School, regular classes resumed smoothly after the Dussehra break. The school community expressed gratitude to Sch. Sanson D'Souza for his service and warmly welcomed Sch. Maria Divij as the new regent. The Deepavali celebration was marked with joy and the lighting of lamps symbolizing the triumph of light over darkness.

- Fr. Clarence D'Souza

SADHANA, Mundgod



The JESCOL-I Programme, organized by the Province HR team, brought together 21 teachers from all our units. The well-received programme featured three expert resource persons: Fr. Brian Pereira, Fr. Arul Anthony, and Prof. Prashanth from SJU. Fr. Vijayaraju, the Campus Minister, provided organizational support.

A capacity-building training for 45 members of the School Development Committees - organized by LVK-Mundgod in collaboration with like-minded organizations - led to the formation of a Block SDMC Committee to monitor and enhance the quality of education in Mundgod Block. A one-day workshop on Child Protection and Safe-guarding, held at LVK, drew 162 participants including teachers, parents, hostel staff, and community workers. Dr. Vasudeva Sharma from the State Child Safeguarding Monitoring Agency facilitated the session.

Other programmes conducted at LVK included: Deepavali celebrations by women and youth groups; a two-day Training of Trainers for 16 partner organizations; a one-day Youth Animation Programme for 80 youth, jointly organized by Yuvaratna, Yuva Okkuta, and AICUF; a two-day workshop led by Fr. Alwyn Prakash D'Souza for five Siddi cultural teams on preserving cultural identity; a leadership training programme for 80 women on election readiness and participation in local governance.

At LVK-Hangal, two successive batches of AIMIT students participated in a Rural Immersion Programme in three villages. Local leaders appreciated LVK's sustained efforts and new initiatives, extending their continued support. Fr. Arun Luis evaluated the SDP Project. A five-day camp during the Dasara holidays offered hostel students a range of personality development activities. Fr.

Vincent Jaison represented LVK at the state-level Lokmanch meeting in Delhi. Sixty youth benefited from a three-day residential camp on "Gender Equality and Environment," jointly organized by ISI Bengaluru and Roshni Hangal. SAPUC students joined in the Deepavali celebrations in a nearby village. LVK-Hangal has also installed a 15-KW solar power system.

Frs. Anil D'Souza and Vincent Jaison attended a three-day workshop on Health Campaigns at ISI, New Delhi, to prepare for health action programmes in Mundgod, Hangal, and neighbouring areas.

Loyola Vikas Kendra celebrated Teachers' Day, Deepavali, and Gandhi Jayanti with due grandeur in an inter-religious atmosphere. The Monti Fest highlight was a traditional vegetarian fellowship meal. A community pilgrimage to St. Xavier's Retreat House and Bom Jesu in Goa provided spiritual renewal.

Students of Loyola Primary and High School participated successfully in various taluk and district-level sports competitions, bringing laurels to the institution.

At Loyola PU College, a counselling session for students was conducted by Fr. Dheeraj D'Souza. During the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, students took active part in a campus cleaning drive. The Inter-Religious Club celebrated Deepavali, highlighting unity in diversity. Staff and students from St. Aloysius PU College, Mangaluru, visited Loyola PU College and engaged in interactive programmes promoting mutual understanding and academic collaboration in the true spirit of Jesuit education.

- Fr. Melvin Lobo

ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE, Harihar



St Aloysius International School and PU College celebrated Gandhi Jayanthi, honouring the values of truth, simplicity, and service.

Fr. Richard Mascarenhas was the chief guest for the Mom-Dad Fiesta and Deepavali celebration. On this occasion, Fr. Anil D'Mello highlighted the importance of family and togetherness. Dr. Sneharoopu Pujar, Paediatrician, graced the Cooking-Without-Fire competition as the chief guest, engaging warmly with parents and students and making the session lively and enriching.

The PU College organised an awareness session on civil services, inspiring students to consider careers in IAS and KAS. Students also participated in the Spandana Programme at Sudhama

Destitute Home, where they interacted affectionately with the residents. Catholic students, accompanied by Sr. Katherine, attended the Magis Programme held in Dharwad. The Annual Sports Meet of the PU College fostered teamwork and sportsmanship among students.

The newly ordained priests, Fr. Noel and Fr. Johnson, celebrated their thanksgiving Mass with the St. Aloysius community. The institution has also acquired a new two-wheeler for official use.

We express our gratitude to Fr. Melwin Pinto, Rector of St. Aloysius Institutions, for visiting our campus and addressing the staff and students, motivating them to live the spirit of Magis.

- Fr. John Baptist C

ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE, Mangaluru



October was a month of movement and milestones for the SAC Jesuits. They attended ordinations and first masses in Bangalore and Mangalore and witnessed the installation of Bishop Francis Serrao as the new shepherd of the Mysore Diocese. At Bejai Parish, at the invitation of the Parish Priest, the Jesuits enjoyed a joyful evening and fellowship meal celebrating the ordination of Fr. Royden Misquith.

Fr. Johnson Pinto, Headmaster of St. Aloysius High School and the only aided staff member among the Jesuits, was appointed enumerator for a government-led socio-economic survey. In Bangalore, Fr. Prashanth Sequeira pronounced his final vows, celebrated later with joy by the community. Around the same time, Fr. Bala Kiran offered an enlightening talk on "Social Justice as Participation." Congratulations to Fr. Royston Madtha for adding a new patent to his growing list of accomplishments.

St. Aloysius (Deemed to be University) proudly hosted the 25th Triennial Conference of the Xavier Board of Higher Education in India, welcoming Catholic educators from across the country for days of exchange and inspiration. The loudest applause was reserved for Fr. Praveen Martis, newly elected President of the Xavier Board for the next three years. The University campus thrived with guest lectures, alumni gatherings, MoU signings, workshops, and celebrations - including a remarkable milestone of 100 ACCA affiliates. Former staff member Mr. Reuben Machado en-

tered the record books by playing the flute for 800 metres while swimming on his back. Jesuits also joined Dr Maura B. Mast from Fordham University, USA, for a stimulating session on collaboration in Jesuit higher education.

Radio Sarang, under the leadership of Fr. William Marcel, launched new programmes to mark Karnataka Rajyotsava. Meanwhile, Fr. John D'Souza of St Aloysius ITI kept activities buzzing with job fairs, trade skills training, and a visit to Kolkata. The ITI has now been recognized by the Central Ministry as an authorized agency to conduct interviews for Saudi placements.

At St. Aloysius Gonzaga School, Fr. Rohan D'Almeida led a flurry of engaging initiatives—a workshop on Child-Centred Pedagogy, the talent contest "Gonzaga's Got Talent", an exchange with Instituto Leone XIII in Milan, and a lively Sports Day graced by cricket legend Syed Kirmani, an alumnus of a Jesuit institution in Bangalore.

Fr. Clifford Sequeira and his team ensured students remained active and inspired through Harmony Week, outreach with persons with Down Syndrome, Deepavali celebrations, a Cultural Expedition to France, and the 146th Sports Meet, led by international athlete Ms Shreema Priyadarshini.

- Fr. William M Rodrigues

SWAMY RAJENDARA NILAYA, Pandithahalli



The celebration of Gandhi Jayanthi was marked by our staff's participation in *Shramadaana*. International Library Day was observed with a book exhibition and a short programme. Deepavali was celebrated with the lighting of lamps and a skit highlighting the significance of the festival.

The Annual Sports Meet, held over two days, featured Mr. Samarth Nagaraj, a renowned cricketer, as the chief guest at the opening ceremony, and Colonel Christopher Rego at the closing ceremony. Representatives from the 1977 batch of SJBHS added warmth and enthusiasm to the event through their presence and encouragement. Kannada Rajyotsava was celebrated with traditional festive spirit, and Hindi Diwas was also observed.



Our students represented the school in the state-level Judo tournament at Belgaum and the Chess tournament at Yadgir, delivering commendable performances.

- Sch. Agil Roy J

VIDYA NIKETAN, Dharwad



October, the month of the Holy Rosary, was a time of prayer and community for us. We joined our parishioners in their homes to pray the Rosary together. Sch. Abhishek has taken up the responsibility as the new leader of our team.

On October 27, we collaborated with *Samarasa Vedhike* to celebrate Deepavali. A major highlight of the month was *MAGIS*, organized by the



VN community with the support of the parish youth. The event brought together around 250

young people, creating a vibrant and enriching experience.

Meanwhile, Fr. Dheeraj, our youth coordinator, conducted a training programme for social workers in Belgaum and led an orientation session for nursing students at Lourdes Hospital. Fr. Pratap, our superior, attended the Province Coordinators of Formation meeting held in Jamshedpur. He also visited Sch. Pradeep D'Souza, who is doing his regency in Orissa, met the Karnataka Juniors at the Common Juniorate in Trivandrum, and later participated in the Midlife Transformation Programme at Prerana.

Fr. Tom D'Souza, who had travelled to Mangaluru for his elder sister's funeral, fell ill and spent a week in Fr Muller's Hospital followed by another at Fatima Retreat House. We are happy to share that he has now returned to the community and is recovering well.

- Sch. Harrison Sera

XAVIER SADAN, Mandya



Fr. Godwin Serrao was actively engaged during the months of September and October, directing two 30-day retreats for Religious. He also conducted a week-long course on prayer for novices from various religious congregations.

Fr. Edward participated in the annual meeting of the Conference-level Commission on the Service of Faith, held at Manresa House. His other engagements included conducting two sessions for

the MC Brothers on Psycho-Sexual and Spiritual Integration, participating in the Training of Trainers on Safeguarding at ISI, Bengaluru, and leading a one-day workshop on Capacity Building for the CNFE staff.

Fr. Steevan Gonsalves preached an eight-day retreat for Religious and also conducted a Triduum for Jesuit Regents.

- Fr. Steevan Gonsalves

XAVIER TRAINING COLLEGE, Belagavi



A group of youth from Khanapur spent a joyful and enthusiastic weekend at the Xavier Training Centre (XTC) from September 21–22, engaging in community activities and fellowship. Soon after, we hosted the *Eco-Warrior Program* (September 25–27), an initiative of JHEASA (Western Zone), which helped us novices deepen our awareness of our responsibility as stewards of creation. On October 7, we had a recollection on the theme “Mother Mary: Model for Religious Life,” guided by Fr. John Fernandes (GOA).

The Second-Year Novices began their mission

experiment on October 13, while the First-Year Novices commenced their preparation for the Long Retreat, which began on October 31. We humbly request your prayers for both groups, especially for the 14 First-Year Novices (BOM–6, GUJ–5, KAR–2, and CEN–1) currently in their month-long retreat.

The two novices from Karnataka making the Long Retreat are: Nov. Alfred Feodor and Nov. Lester Saldanha.

- Nov. Alfred Feodor A

DE NOBILI COLLEGE, Pune



We had the privilege of welcoming Fr. Mark Ravizza, SJ, General Delegate for Formation, who enriched our community with his inspiring reflections and valuable guidance.

The *Karam Festival*, observed with much joy and communal spirit, strengthened the bonds of fra-

ternity among us. Following the examinations, the semester break offered us an opportunity to celebrate Community Days - occasions that fostered renewal, joy, and companionship within the community.

- Sch. Harish Kumar

SATYA NILAYAM, Chennai



Amid preparations for the second internal examinations, our focus shifted to a two-day workshop on RRSJ, guided by Fr. Brian Pereira. He also set the spiritual tone for the monthly recollection that followed. On October 20, we celebrated Deepavali by illuminating our home with the gentle glow of lamps and marking the occasion with a solemn Eucharist.

Meanwhile, Fr. Lawrence Fernandes was making noteworthy intellectual contributions beyond our community. He presented three research papers during the month: beginning with “*Therapeutic*

Pathways Beyond Burnout” at the Association of Christian Philosophers in India (ACPI) seminar in Kerala, held from October 10 to 12. This was followed by “*An Exploratory Study of Migrants in Chennai*” at a national conference organized by the Satya Nilayam Research Institute (SNRI) on October 18. His third presentation, “*Popular Religiosity: An Intercultural Exploration*,” was delivered as the De Nobili Endowment Lecture at SNRI on October 25 — a day that also marked his 65th birthday.

- Sch. Saul Abhishek

VIDYAJYOTI, Delhi



Study trips were led by Fr. Anil D’Almeida – to Varanasi for first year theology students, and to Rishikesh for the one-year diploma students. We were privileged to have Fr. Mark Ravizza, General Counsellor for Formation, visiting us. We are grateful for his warm and inspiring presence among us.

The Karnataka scholastics had a cultural tour of Agra and Fatehpur Sikri. Meanwhile, Sch. Royster Monis represented VJ as a delegate at the 60th North India Theology Students’ Conference (NITSC) held in Jabalpur. We congratulate Royster

at being elected as the President of NITSC for the year 2026, the first Jesuit to be elected to this position.

The two-day National Seminar organized by Fr. Anil D’Almeida at VJ, brought together several distinguished speakers at which Fr. Bala Kiran Kumar, alongside other eminent scholars, presented a well-researched paper. The event was both inspiring and academically fruitful.

- Sch. Dilip Xavier

VIDYANIKETAN, Thiruvananthapuram



We were delighted to welcome our PCF, Fr. Pratap Chandru, on his visit to our community. The celebrations of Dasara and Karnataka Province Day were marked by vibrant enthusiasm and joy. A workshop on Street Theatre not only expanded our creative horizons but also deepened our appreciation for the art of drama.

Fr. Martin Puthussery (CCU) and Sch. Peter (MAP)

enriched our understanding of migrant ministry through their valuable insights and reflections. Likewise, the course on eco-spirituality held in Kodaikanal offered a profound awareness of our connection with nature. To conclude a lively month, a friendly basketball match between the VN juniors and the local minor seminarians added an exciting and spirited touch.

– Sch. Oswin Fernandes

VINAYALAYA, Mumbai



We began October with a series of classes on Ignatian spirituality conducted by Fr. Vincent Saldanha, Dean of the Juniorate. To mark Gandhi Jayanti, we participated in sessions on inter-religious dialogue led by two distinguished speakers, Mr. Irfan Engineer and Mrs. Teesta Setalvad.

Later in the month, we took part in a three-day MAGIS programme organized by the Bombay Jesuit Province at St. Stanislaus School, Bandra.

– Sch. Edmund Sequeira

GREGORIAN UNIVERSITY, Rome



After a brief holiday in India and a series of lectures in the Philippines, Fr. Sunil Ranjar assumed office as Secretary of the Pontifical Biblical Institute on 15 September 2025. We join in congratulating him on this well-deserved honour.

Fr. Lancy Dias participated in a three-day faculty development programme in Rimini, located on Italy's Adriatic coast. On October 4, the Jesuit Community of Bellarmino observed a day of prayer, reflection, and fellowship, with Fr. Orlando Torres as the resource person.

The Gregorian University inaugurated the new academic year on October 7 with the Mass of

the Holy Spirit, invoking God's grace and wisdom upon the entire university community for the year ahead.

We, the Karnataka Jesuits in Rome, had the joy and privilege of meeting our Provincial, Fr. Dionysius Vaz, who was in Rome for the meeting of Jesuit Major Superiors. Our interaction with him was truly enriching, enlightening, and encouraging. On October 28, we also had the opportunity to spend an evening with the Major Superiors of JCSA, a time marked by joyful fraternity and a deep sense of unity as Jesuits of the Conference.

– Fr. Nithin Machado

HEKIMA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, Nairobi



The Center for Interfaith Studies in Africa (CISA) at Hekima University College hosted a day-long conference to commemorate the 60th anniversary of *Nostra Aetate*. The keynote address was delivered by Prof. Francis X. Clooney, SJ, of Harvard Divinity School. The conference, organized as part of the college's Annual Research Week, also featured lectures by distinguished speakers, including Dr. Tecla Wanjala, a renowned peace activist, and Dr. Chris Lowney, an acclaimed American author and public speaker.

Another highlight of the month was the Cultural

Day, a spectacular celebration that showcased the vibrant diversity of Hekima's staff and students. The event featured energetic cultural performances, colorful traditional attire, and a delightful array of cuisines from around the world. The South Asian contingent - representing India, Sri Lanka, and Afghanistan - captivated the audience with a dynamic performance that began with Kolata and concluded with a lively lungi dance. We were delighted to have Fr. Jeevan James join us for the celebrations.

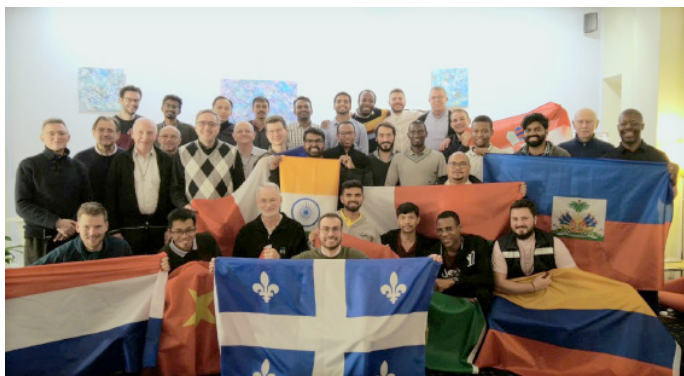
– Sch. Ovin Rodrigues

ST PETER FABER, Paris



In addition to our regular studies, we were delighted to gather at the conference level to welcome the new members to Paris. This event pro-

vided a wonderful opportunity for the newcomers to connect with members from different communities over a sumptuous dinner.



Our community also had the privilege of spending an evening with Fr. Dalibor Renić, President of the European Jesuit Conference, who offered us with an insightful overview of the conference. His presence encouraged us to appreciate and deepen our unity in diversity. We were further blessed by the visit of Fr. Dionysius Vaz, our Provincial, who met us officially, listened to our experiences, and guided us in our growth in Jesuit life.

- Sch. Joyal D'Sa

TERTIANSHIP, Sitagarha



We, the tertians, made our month-long retreat under the guidance of Fr. M. I. Raj (GUJ). Soon after, we began sharing our spiritual experience by guiding eight-day retreats for various religious communities.

Our mission experience with the MC Brothers in North India brought us profound insights and deepened our desire to be more firmly rooted in Christ. The warm welcome Don Prem and I received from the MC Brothers inspired us to engage wholeheartedly in their mission. Another moving moment came during our pilgrimage to Punyabhoomi - the sacred place where Fr. A. T. Thomas, the martyr of the Hazaribagh Province, gave his life defending justice for the poorest.

We are currently immersed in the study of the Constitutions, integrating our lived experiences



to grow in our understanding of Jesuit identity and mission.

We look forward to rejoining our communities and sharing with you the gifts and blessings we have received during this enriching time of tertianship.

— Fr. Joyson Sujay Vas

OURS IN PUBLICATION

Fr. Ajay D'Silva, *Understanding Different Types of People*, in Daijiworld Network, on Oct 17.

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Fr. Joseph A D'Mello, "Contemplación para alcanzar amor" in *Oración ignaciana*, Vol. 2: Método, José García de Castro Valdés, SJ and Hung Pham, SJ, Mensajero, 2025, pp. 479-502.

Fr. Joseph Jerald A, "Sonam Wangchuk: A Hero or a Threat?" *Indian Currents*, Vol. XXXVII, Issue 42, 20-26 October 2025, pp. 18-19.

Fr. Joseph Lobo, "Searching the Scriptures while Dodging the Saviour: Insights from Pope Francis' *Ad Theologiam Promovendam*." *Jnanadeepa: Pune Journal of Religious Studies* 29, No. 3 (Sept.–Dec. 2025): pp. 193–212.

Fr. Lancy Dias, & Hwang, J.Y. (2025), The Relationship Between Attachment to God and Psychological and Spiritual Well-Being: The Mediating Role of Shame and Guilt Among Indian Catholic Adults. *International Journal of Indian Psychology*, 13(3), pp. 4436-4456.

Fr. Melwyn S. Pinto, Political Populism and the Media: Journalism in the Age of Alternative Facts. In Eren Ekin Ercan (Ed). *Journalism in the Post-Truth Era: Ethical, Political, and Social Perspectives*. pp. 01-26. IGI Gloabl.

Fr. Richard Mascarenhas, “Spiritual Direction: Discern My Life in the Spirit” in *Magnet*, November 2025, p. 30.

Fr. Royston Madtha & Asha Abraham (2025), Culture Media for Growing Bacteria and Production Method Thereof (Indian Patent Application No. 202541061945 A). Indian Patent Office.

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Fr. Royston Pinto, Jesuit Spirituality of Ecological Discernment, *Smart Companion*, Vol. 15, October (2025), pp. 13-16.

Fr. Royston Pinto, Dilexi Te, Pope Leo XIV’s Call to Renewed Love for the Poor, *Indian Currents*, Vol. 37, October (2025) 42, pp. 25-26.

Fr. Royston Pinto, Mahatma Gandhi and Jesus Christ: Messengers of Peace and Truth, *New Leader*, Vol. 138, October (2025), p. 23.

Fr. Royston Pinto, Children’s Day: Are Children Safe Today?, *New Leader*, Vol. 138, November (2025), p. 37.

Sch. Arun Lobo, “ಕ್ರೈಸ್ತರು ಮತ್ತು ಶಾಶ್ವತ ಜೀವನದ ಭರವಸೆ”, *Tabor Vaani*, Vol. 15, Issue 11, November (2025), pp. 09-10.

Sch. Royster Monis, “ನಾನು ನಿನ್ನನ್ನು ಪ್ರೀತಿಸಿದ್ದೇನೆ: ‘ದಲೆಕ್ಸಿ ತೆ’ ಪ್ರೇಷಿತ ಪರಿಪತ್ರದ ಮೇಲೊಂದು ಕಿರುನೋಟ”, *Tabor Vaani*, Vol. 15, Issue 11, November (2025), pp. 13-14.

REST IN PEACE

Fr. Mathew Kattathara, SJ, (PAT), 73/55, on 15 October 2025, in Patna.

Fr. Anthony Victor D’Souza, SJ, (BOM), 78/61, 16 October 2025, in Vinayalaya.

Fr. Antonio Gimenez Jurschik, SJ, (BOM), 85/68, on 20 October 2025, in Nasik.

Fr. Kustas Lima, SJ, (GOA), 51/28, on 07 November, 2025, in Khanapur.

Mr. Prashanth Sydney Rodrigues, (44), eldest brother of Fr. Joy Rodrigues, on 03 November 2025, in Hosabettu.

Mrs. Leticia Goveas, (83), elder sister of Fr. James Gonsalves, on 08 November 2025, in Mulund, Mumbai.



In his address, Pope Leo XIV told the Jesuits: “The Church needs you at the frontiers. Go where the need is greatest and where the Gospel is least known. Do not be afraid of the difficulties.”

The Pope’s message was received as a source of spiritual encouragement for the Society and its collaborators, who are engaged in ministries ranging from education and ecology to refugee support and interreligious dialogue.