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PROVINCIAL'S MUSINGS

The Provincials and Regional Superiors of the Jesuit Conference of South Asia (JCSA) gathered for their annual meeting at De Nobili College, Pune from 22-27 October 2023. During the first three days, we had a very fruitful apostolic discernment in common, regarding 'Reimagining and Restructuring the Society of Jesus in South Asia'.

Fr General's talk on "Restructuring" delivered to the JCSA at XLRI, Jamshedpur in February 2023 is very insightful. He says, "While restructuring is more than merging, splitting, reshaping boundaries etc., it does not exclude these. The purpose, ultimately, is how to better serve the mission of the Church in South Asia today and how to do so in a way that we are able to economize on and better utilize our personnel and finances.

There are movements in some of the units of South Asia to expand existing works and start new ones. While this may be needed, these need to be well discerned in the wider context of South Asia and not only in within the narrow confines of your provinces and regions. On the other hand, there have been and always will be SEVERAL and IMPORTANT NEEDS. On the other hand, can we, should we and are we called to meet ALL THE NEEDS THAT ARISE? If we have surplus competent Jesuits in a particular field, can we share them with other units in the Conference that have a dearth of these? There needs to be much more inter-provincial sharing of personnel, personnel that are competent and wanted and not personnel that we would better do without." (JCSA, JAM, February 2023).

As the fruit of the deliberations of Reimagining and Restructuring of the Society in South Asia, the Major Superiors chose the following preferences to make our life-mission more fruitful:

- to increase spiritual and intellectual depth among us
- to form mission-driven communities
- to rebalance the apostolic efforts and to clarify what ministries to be retained or reformed, to be closed or to be transferred
- to intensify collaboration with the laity and the religious, inside and outside the province/region
- to foster interprovincial collaboration in formation and other areas
- to focus on project-based collaboration with other provinces and regions especially on burning issues
- to create new provinces from the several existing provinces/regions.



- DIONYSIUS VAZ, SJ



APPOINTED BY FR GENERAL

Fr Shajumon Chakkalakkal, SJ (DAR): Provincial of Darjeeling Province.

Fr Erik John J Gerilla, SJ: Regional Superior for the Jesuits in Timor-Leste.

On 31 July of this year, the Society of Jesus established the **Caribbean Province (CAR)** as a new territorial division integrating the former **Antilles Province (ANT)** - Cuba, Miami, and the Dominican Republic - with the Jesuits of the English Caribbean (former Guyana Region and Jamaica). Today 21 Jesuits work in Guyana and Jamaica, and 113 in Miami, Cuba, and the Dominican Republic.

APPOINTED BY POSA

Fr Jason Furtado, SJ: Member of the Finance Commission of Jesuit Conference of India.

APPOINTED BY FR PROVINCIAL

Fr Oswald Mascarenhas: Fatima Retreat House, Mangaluru.

PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

November 2023

11-12: Meeting of LS, DoWs, CCMs: Prerana, Bengaluru
13: Province Consult: LM, Bengaluru
15-17: Jesuit Psychologists' Meeting
18: Governing Board Meeting: SJM, Bengaluru
19: Meeting with young priests awaiting Final Vows
22-24: Visitation: SN, Chennai
25-27: Visitation: SICJ, Trivandrum
27: Meeting of South Zone Provincials, Trivandrum
30: Governing Board Meeting: SJU, Bengaluru

December 2023

02-10: Visiting Japan Province
11-15: Visitation: SAC, Mangaluru
16-17: Meeting of Lay & Religious DoWs: Fatima Retreat House, Mangaluru
17: Platinum Jubilee: FRH, Mangaluru
18: Province Consult: FRH, Mangaluru
19-20: Visitation: Ashirvad, Bengaluru
21-23: Programme for Tertians on Governance: CISR, Pune / Visitation: DNC, Pune
28-30: Province Sammelan: MSJ, Bengaluru



CONGRATULATIONS



*To our Newly Ordained Priest Fr Aravind Royce.
May God bless you and your priestly ministry.*



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Novice Vishwas B left the Novitiate on 31 October, 2023. We wish him God's blessings in his future life.

Sch Nithin Lisbon Coelho is the applicatus member of the Province of Japan since 01 October, 2023.

December 16-17: Meeting of Lay & Religious DoWs: Fatima Retreat House, Mangaluru.

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

January 3, 2024: Blessing and Inauguration of the Loyola PU College, Vijayapura.

January 23-24, 2024: Jesuit PhD Scholars' Colloquium: St Joseph's University, Bengaluru.

February 24-25, 2024: Spiritual Directors' Colloquium: Prerana, Bengaluru.

Province Retreat on *De Statu Societatis Iesu*:

April 12-20, 2024, Place: Dhyanaashrama, MSJ, Bengaluru, **Preacher:** Fr Michael Pavulraj, SJ (MDU).

May 20-28, 2024, Place: Prerana, MSJ, Bengaluru, **Preacher:** Fr Stanislaus Alla, SJ (AND).

July 2-10, 2024, Place: Xavier Sadan, Mysuru, **Preacher:** Fr Frederick D'Silva, SJ.



POPE'S WORLDWIDE PRAYER NETWORK (PWPN): NOVEMBER 2023

For the Pope: We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfils his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.



ORDINATION: Deacon Aravind Royce J, SJ



Deacon Arvind Royce was ordained a priest on November 4 at St Joseph's Boys High School Chapel in Bengaluru



ation of Fr Aravind Royce, went down memory lane to recall key moments in Fr Royce's transformative life journey. Fr Dionysius Vaz, Provincial, spoke on the role played by devout families in fostering vocations to priesthood and religious life. He extended his gratitude to the parents, parish priest, and all others who had played an important role in nurturing Fr Aravind Royce on his spiritual journey. He also

by Archbishop Peter Machado. The ceremony was witnessed by a congregation of Jesuits, religious, and an intimate circle of the family members and friends of Fr Aravind Royce. The JFCT, Anekal choir added to the solemnity of the occasion.

The Eucharistic celebration was followed by a felicitation programme during which the parents of the newly ordained priest were felicitated. Fr Ashwin Cordeiro, speaking in appreci-



thanked the Rector and the Jesuit Nivas community for hosting the ordination ceremony.

- Sch Larren Menezes

Meeting of Local Superiors, CCMs and DoWs at Prerana, MSJ, Bengaluru



The local Superiors, Commission for Choice of Ministries and directors of work (DOWs) came together to reflect and deliberate on the theme 'Leadership for mission-driven teams' at Prerana, Mount St Joseph, Bengaluru on November 11-12. There were over 75 participants. The keynote speaker was Anand Nayak, former HR, ITC and presently the HR Manager at St Joseph's University, Bengaluru. In his two-part address, Mr Nayak enumerated what it is to be a leader in a challenging modern world. He said: "A true leader is one who is true to oneself, transparent, living one's values, dependable, person of his word, one who walks the talk and one who does not speak ill of others in their absence." He added that personal trustworthiness is the foundation

of a high trust culture. "A leader leads himself to lead others. It is important that we increase the domain of our shared self, so that we become more open and proactive," he said. Mr Nayak also asserted that revisiting paradigms can result in quantum leaps in outcomes. "It is important that we make our so called adversaries in our organisation as our



partners or collaborators, rather than making them our enemies. For this, we must listen with an intent to understand. We must always see what could be the third alternative, particularly in times of conflicts," he opined.

Fr Dionysius Vaz, the Provincial, in his address called upon the Jesuit leaders to have mission-driven teams rather than activity-driven or report-driven teams. "The primary role of a superior is to seek and discern the will of

God. Further, his duty is *cura personalis*. It is important for superiors and DOWs to balance between administration and animation," he said. There was also a discussion and discernment on starting a CBSE school at Harihar. Fr Sunil Fernandes coordinated the two-day programme. The Province is grateful to the Rector and the community of MSJ and Prerana for hosting this memorable two day meeting.

- Fr Melwyn S Pinto

KJES YOUTH WORKS (PCYM)

Twenty-one AICUF students, hailing from different colleges in Karnataka, embarked on a transformative six-day rural immersion programme in Mundgod. Their participation was marked by rich experiences that broadened their perspectives, instilled empathy, and underscored the importance of

leges from Karnataka, 21 in number again, attended the South Asia level Magis programme at Ranchi. They had a wonderful experience which we hope to bring out as a video presen-



community engagement in education and personal growth. Students of various Jesuit col-



They also visited Fr Stan Sawmy's mission area. There were nearly 240 participants in the Magis 2023 at Mundgod which was well coordinated by Fr Joyson Vas and generously supported by the Mundgod Jesuit Community.

- Fr Joel Fernandes

ARRUPE NIVAS

The month of October was replete with talks, activities and a plethora of events on the campus. The "cloth exchange drive," organized on the campus by the Wildlife Awareness and Conservation Club (WACC), received an overwhelming response from the students and the staff. Even though it was an exchange, many students brought clothes with the sole purpose of donating them. It was indeed a moving experience to see students imbibing the culture of giving. The Municipal Corporation officials visited the campus to register all graduates and teachers in preparing electoral rolls for graduates' and teachers' constituency. All teachers and graduates belonging to assembly constituencies in Bengaluru made use of the opportunity.

In the wake of the Israel-Palestine war, students

from the School of Communication and Media Studies met and interviewed Ms Limon Blether (Deputy Chief of Mission of Consulate General of Israel to South India). The interview provided matter for a news story for the student practice journal of SJU on the on-going conflict in the Middle East. Ms Sristi, a student of mass communication, was a compere in the recently held Dasara celebrations in Mysuru.

Public Relations Office of the SJU hosted a G20 University Connect Lecture Series supported by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. The event featured prominent speakers like Sri J S Mukul (Former Ambassador, Government of India) and Prof Narendra Pani (Dean, School of Social Sciences, National Institute of Advanced Studies), both alumni of our institution. The talks highlighted key global concerns

and issues. SJU also organized, in collaboration with AIACHE, a two-day workshop, facilitated by an international team of experts, on professional development for administrators and faculty members. The annual 'Start-Up Mela', put up by the Entrepreneurship Cell and PR Office, had about 50 start-ups showcasing their services and interacting with our students.

Nearly 10,000 students participated in the Integral Formation Programme - "Ignitors" - organized by the Campus Ministry and Youth Works at SJU with the purpose of nurturing so-

cially responsible individuals. It was facilitated by 70 resource persons. Special emphasis was placed on instilling in all students the significance of active participation in the political process and elections, and fostering a sense of active citizenship.

Jesuits in Bengaluru attended the ongoing formation talk, organized by the Arrupe Nivas Community and delivered by Dr Radha Krishna (Vice-President, Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee). - Fr Roshan Castelino

ASHA KIRAN



The visitation of the Provincial infused new life and fervour in our community. The cultural excursion to Hassan and Bengaluru was an enriching experience for all of us in the community. We were touched by the kind and generous hospitality of the Jesuit commu-

nities we visited. Four of our Scholastics participated in the *Magis* event at Mundgod. All of us at AK enjoyed the celebration of the Karam Festival, arranged by the scholastics of Hazaribagh Province. - Sch Anson Alex

ASHIRVAD



Fr Arul Anthony attended a meeting of the Hub directors of MAIN (Migration Assistance Information Network), held at Satyodayam, Hyderabad. He then went to Chennai for the annual meeting of the province coordinators of JESCOM, at Dhyana Ashram. At this meeting, themes such as 'Effective use of Social Media' and 'Technologies and Artificial Intelligence in Communications' were deliberated upon. Fr Arun Luis is continuing to get requests from several corners of the country for

his 'election-related' talks for various groups. Fr Joseph Lobo was away at Vidya Jyoti, Delhi, for teaching a course. Apart from animating a few short animation programmes, he also was the guide at the second phase of the province Chapter of the JMJ Sisters. Dot Dash Meridith has once again come forward to sponsor three more Spandana Study Centres. At present, around 400 children are benefitting at 16 Centres in and around Bengaluru.

- Fr Joseph Lobo

FATIMA RETREAT HOUSE



The Province Retreat (October 5-13) arranged at FRH brought in 14 Jesuits from all over Karnataka, and had Fr Jose Jacob (KER) as the director. His gentle, friendly presence inspired the rest of us here also to pray. Two men of Betharam Congregation also joined in. The Priestly Ordination of six of our men here on October 14 was an awesome and grace-filled event. We are happy to welcome Fr Oswald Mascarenhas to the community. With his arrival, the intellectual tone of the community has shot up to high notch. While we wish him a joyful stay, we join in prayer that he may experience the Lord's healing touch and be his old self again. As personalized help, Fr Rossi Rego has already started his esoteric discussions with him on Osho and Krishnamurthi.

Having had a renewing recuperation, Fr Raymond D'Souza (KHM) winged his flight toward

Khuzama on October 20 only to be back here three days later. On the way, his ailment seems to have recurred, needing immediate medical care. Welcome back Fr Raymond. With the treatment he has been having, he feels a lot better. Frs Joseph Monteiro, Terence Farias, Ivan Sequeira, Anil D'Mello and Joseph Rodrigues directed retreats to individuals or groups. "Prayer for Peace in the world," especially in Palestine and Israel, was observed on Friday, October 27 with Adoration, Confessions and Mass in our church.

We had a strange, scary visitor who gate-crashed right into the kitchen one night while all were asleep. Possibly hungry, he looked for food all over, but did not find anything to taste. Our smart ladies of the kitchen arrived early in the morning, discovered him and skillfully overpowered him- directing him to move into a

bag which he slithered in naturally. The 7-foot python was carried away to safety – its own and ours!

As this is mailed, Bro Anthony Crasta is in Muller's - since two days- for general weakness. Do keep him in your prayer. - Fr Thomas Quadras

JESUIT NIVAS



SJBHS is ranked third in India (as the best Vintage Legacy Boys' Day School) by Education World and first (in the Vintage Legacy Day School) for affordable holistic education. The eleventh edition of SJBHSMUN, an inter-school Model United Nations Conference was a resounding success. Prof Nigam Nuggehalli (Registrar, National Law School of India University, Bengaluru) inaugurated the opening ceremony. The young, fiery delegates engaged themselves in three days of youthful debates, deliberations, negotiations and diplomacy. Std XII students made an industrial visit to Infosys-Mysuru and Desiri Naturals, a sustainable oil mill at Magadi. The SJBHS-OBA (Old Boys' Association) Football Team won the Khaleel Mekhri Trophy hosted by Old Cottonian Association. LTC (Loyola Technology Center) played host to teachers from four of our collaborative schools as part of an on-going training programme. The Primary School staff engaged in a valuable Teacher Exchange Orientation Programme at Holy Angels School, Pandithahalli. A ceremony was held to honour the memory of Capt. John Dalby (an alumnus),

who was martyred in the 1962 operations. The iconic Karnataka flag flew high as the school took on the hues of red and yellow to celebrate Kannada Rajyotsava with joy and fervour.

At SJCC, Dr Simon Thomas was the guest speaker at the Montpellier Business School, France, the partner University. Animum '23, a short film festival, was held. ALMA (the debating society) conducted an Art workshop (open to all the students of SJCC) and a panel discussion on 33% Reservation for Women. "Antharanga" Micro fest was conducted by the Kannada Sangha. The NSS club conducted a blood donation camp in the campus.

The ordination to priesthood, of Jesuit Deacon Arvind Royce, took place at St Joseph's Boys' School. The JN community took charge of the arrangements. Sch Anthony Avinash (MDU) has joined the community, and will be pursuing his law studies at St Joseph's College of Law. The BJES has bought an estate in Biccod, Sakleshpur. If any community wants to visit and stay, they can contact Fr Joy Rodrigues.

- Fr Joel Fernandes

JNANA JYOTHI, Anekal



The month of October saw our JFCT students put their heart and soul into preparing for their forthcoming exams. A well-planned two-day tour "Kannada Deevige" – an academic exposure to Karnataka culture and history - augmented our knowledge of Karnataka culture, history and people, by reason of our interactions with eminent personalities in and around Mysuru. The highlight of the programme was our participation in the Dasara celebrations which enhanced our esteem for the richness of our culture. Following these experiences, the scholastics entered

into a triduum guided by Fr Frederick D'Silva which helped us reconnect with the divine, rejuvenate our spirits and prepare us for the new semester. On Gandhi Jayanthi day, we had *shramadana* in our different units: CIRW, self-help groups, tailoring centre, study centre and Balajyothi hostel. Catechism children from the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Kalena Agrahara, accompanied by their mentors, 62 in all, came on a visit to our Balajyothi Hostel. The two groups had interactive sessions and group games and activities. - Sch Noel Dias

JOSEPH NIVAS, Hassan



A staff training programme, aimed at promoting teacher well-being and creating a positive classroom environment, was conducted by Fr Cyril Castelino. A separate session was organized as well on the use of digital content in our classrooms. The annual sports meet had Mr Girish (Physical Education Instructor, Govt High School, Hanumanthapura) as the chief guest, and Mr Valerian D'Souza

(Associate Professor at Govt. College, Hassan) as the guest of honour. We are happy to note that four of our students have been selected for the State Level Athletics Meet.

The staff of both our aided and unaided schools in the campus went on an excursion to Delhi, Agra and Jaipur. To many of them who were flying for the first time, it was a memorable experience.

In addition to visiting historical sites and monuments, they also had a glimpse of the Jesuit

schools in Delhi and Jaipur, as well as a taste of the kind hospitality of Delhi Jesuits.

- Fr Santhosh D'Souza

LOYOLA PRE-NOVITIATE



The pre-novices, like their fellow citizens in India, looked forward to the festive month of October. At Loyola it included the mid-term exam and the preparation for the ordination of six Karnataka deacons to priesthood. The pre-novices, along with Fr Anush D'Cunha and Sch Elson Lobo, had a major share in the preparations for the ordination ceremony which was to be conducted at FRH. The next important event was the 3-day celebration of "community days" which had, as its highlights,

indoor and outdoor activities, not to say sumptuous repasts. This event was followed by a 3-day Leadership Camp for 8th and 9th Std students and a few from 10th and PUC - 36 in all. The pre-novices gave a good account of themselves and positively impressed the campers. Five of our newly ordained priests celebrated a thanksgiving Eucharist for the pre-novices and inspired them to dream big and do great things for the Lord.

- Fr Peter Pinto

LOYOLA SADAN, Kalaburagi



Students of St Xavier's Hostel went on an excursion to Hampi. It is a moment of pride for St Xavier's PU College that 16 of its students are representing the institution in various state level sports events. While four students from SXPUC attended the Magis in Ranchi, thirty students participated in the Magis at Mundgod. Karnataka Rajyotsava was held at St Xavier's PU College under the leadership of our Kannada lecturer Dr Mahesh Rudhrakar. The chief guest on the occasion was Mr Harif Raja (a Kendra Sahitya Yuva Academy awardee). Eight of our students from St Xavier's English

Medium School, having excelled at the taluka-level Karnataka Rajyotsava competitions, have been selected for the district level. Furthermore, a number of our students have advanced to the higher level in Karate grading thus marking a significant achievement. Mrs Juliet, our esteemed school Principal, has been allowed to discontinue her services on health grounds. We record our sincere gratitude for her unwavering dedication and service to the institution for over a year. The second term kicked off with a successful Parent-Teacher Meeting.

- Fr Roshan Pinto

MANVI



On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanthi, an inspiring speech in English by Raveendra of 5th Std, Loyola School caught the attention of everyone. Our High School and PUC students, in the spirit of Gandhiji, swept the Manvi bus stand area as a gesture of Swach Bharath.

In the district level sports and games, our PUC boys and girls bagged several first and second prizes. Fr Vinod Paul took part in the Silver Jubilee

celebrations of the church in his hometown Harobale. Fr Don Prem Lobo involved many youth units in cake preparing programme sponsored by the Agricultural University, Raichur.

The staff of St Xavier's School left for Bengaluru for a two-day outing. Fr Wilson Bennis and Sch Royster Monis were with them. On Ayudha Puja Day, Fr Maxim Rasquinha blessed all the vehicles and the drivers.

- Fr Maxim Rasquinha

MOUNT ST JOSEPH



The month of October began with a well-planned Rosary Procession led by the novices, seeking the intercession of Our Lady of the Rosary. The novices showed forth enthusiasm to participate in the annual HORIZON activities while also dedicating time to broaden their horizons through book reading as part of a study experiment. Fr Nithin Machado conducted classes on 'Psycho-Sexual Inte-

gration' for the novices. In light of the escalating conflict in Israel and Palestine, the novices dedicated their time to fasting and prayer under the guidance of Fr John Pradeep.

A recollection talk was given by Br Rajesh Francis, a lay preacher based in Mysuru, who spoke on how God intervenes in history even today. We are also pleased to see that our First-year

novice Edmund Sequeira is recovering well after his surgery. Fr Joe Mathias underwent a cataract surgery. His was a flying visit to the hospital and back within a space of three hours.

The statue of our Lady of Fatima, all the way from Fatima in Portugal, was brought to our parish for veneration on October 11–12. The statue being placed near the main altar of the Church, the Eucharist was celebrated to mark the occasion which drew a packed congregation inside the Church and an equally large number outside.

MUNDGOD



October was a grace filled month thanks to the visitation of Fr Provincial. Fr Leo Florence went to Pedro Arrupe Institute Raia, Goa, to attend the course, designed for treasurers, on financial management. Three days of MAGIS programme, held at Mundgod under the leadership of Frs Joyson Vas and Joel Fernandes, drew in around 240 student participants. The participants benefited greatly from the assistance of LVK staff who arranged for them an exposure to rural areas.

Nearly a hundred children from all four hostels took part and enjoyed the Dasara camp organized by Loyola Vikasa Kendra. The camp had 'Chiguru' for its name and theme. At the valedictory function, Sr Sharol from Mainalli was the chief guest. We also started Dasara Super Day camp in our community tuition centres. The nicest part of the camp was the meal sponsored by the local village community. Sch Austin Rodrigues has become a member of the LVK unit and is now leading the Sididi project. A few AICUF students from Bengaluru stayed in some families in the villages around Mundgod for their rural exposure. A contingent of 57 students and 7 staff from St Aloysius PU College, Harihar were here for a two-day rural immersion programme. Fr Avinash Lobo, who had a share in planning this initiative, accompanied them.

LVK-Hanagal had a programme of greening the surroundings during which the unorga-

Mr Jerrin Chandan of SJU was the chief guest at the celebration of Kalotsava at LCPUC. To mark the Dasara celebrations, the PU College conducted the "notice board competition." The annual Collaborators Day (family gathering of staff of all Loyola Institutions) was organized by the Management on November 1. Fr Shantharaj Thomas addressed the staff. It was followed by games and entertainment and ended with a sumptuous lunch. - Fr Clarence D'Souza

nized youth, along with staff of LVK-Hangal, planted 150 saplings in 3 villages. LVK also organized a Dusshera vacation camp for children from Hanagal and surrounding villages. The unorganized youth had a half-day session with Advocate Shivandand BS who spoke to them on legal awareness. The donors of Lokmanch project visited LVK-Hangal, and had a day's interaction with the staff, leaders and other groups of Lokmanch.

The CBSE staff of Loyola Kendriya Vidyalaya were exposed to the TEEP programme to enhance their effectiveness as teachers. As part of the twinning programme students of SAPUC, Mangaluru, interacted with our students. 'Osmitay,' a Konkani film in which a few of our Sididis had acted, was screened at LKV. On World Migratory Bird Day, our Scouts and Guides participated in an awareness cycle rally, organized by the Forest Department. It was a proud moment for the school when five of our scout students were qualified for the Rajyapuraskar Award 2023.

A unique formative program 'pragathi' was organized for the hostel students during the holidays at Loyola Childrens' Home. Sessions on various co-curricular and extra-curricular topics were deliberated upon during the 3-day camp. Fr Vijayaraju was the chief guest at the inaugural. - Fr Leo Florence

ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE, Harihar



The NSS (National Service Scheme) Unit of SAPUC-Harihar was inaugurated with much interest and optimism. The II PU (Arts & Science) students visited Shri Shakti Senior Citizens Home, interacted with the residents, learned about their life stories and understood the plight of the elderly. Empathizing with the senior citizens, our students vowed

to cherish their families. Onam and Ethnic Day were celebrated with a traditional touch, marking the day with a competition on "cooking without fire," inter-religious prayer, traditional Kerala dance, singing of songs, a ramp walk, etc. thus showcasing ethnic attire and the crowning of Mr Aloysius and Miss Aloysius. The college emerged as overall champion for the

ninth time in the taluka level sports. It is a matter of joy and pride for us that 27 of our students have been selected for state level competitions. The campus of St Aloysius PU College came alive in the month of October as good many of our students represented the college at District Level Sports competitions and won laurels for the institution. In view of ensuring admissions – both in number and quality - Fr Eric Mathias has already begun the publicity work for the coming academic year. To begin

with, he has already visited Raichur, Gadag and Bellary. The hostel students and college staff benefited immensely from their stay in the villages of Mundgod as part of their outreach programme. We conducted a camp for the Catholic students (of high schools) to promote vocations. At the grand celebration of Kannada Rajyotsava we, the management, staff and students made a pledge to preserve Kannada culture and language. - Fr Avinash Lobo

ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE, Mangaluru



SAC (Autonomous): The plethora of programmes and activities lately conducted in the College included: the celebration of World Food Day and Wild Life Week; seminars, workshops and guest lectures (22 in number) on topics ranging from Science and Management to IT and Social Sciences; and signing of MoUs (Memoranda of Understanding) with Evolute IQ Solutions, St Teresa's College (Autonomous), Kochi, Lovely Professional University Punjab, and St Albert's College, Ernakulam. The College has introduced 120 Certificate Courses and 14 Diploma courses, including one for the District Prisoners on 'Integrated Agriculture and Organic Farming Methods.' Our success in achieving significant placements includes three students who have secured positions at Deloitte. "Anubandha" (the Parent-Teacher-Student meeting) and "Sahayaana" (Together We Can) facilitated constructive communication. Three students became ACCA affiliates, and Eshika Shetty was crowned 'Miss Teen Karnataka 2023' (First Runner-Up). The College awarded 'Vidyaspoothi' scholarships amounting to Rs. 20 lakh to over 400 students and celebrated the accomplishments of 103 students in sports and academics with scholarships worth Rs 9.5 lakhs. The College also conducted 18 other programs focusing on the environment, Swachh Bharat Campaign, and social themes and visits to orphanages and schools.

SAPUC: In the tour organized by St Aloysius Pre-University College, 18 students visited France on an enriching 10-day educational and cultural exchange/immersion programme. Fr Brian Pereira (Rector, Jesuit Nivas) and Dr Rekha Ahuja (Counsellor, Samagra Holistic Wellness Centre, Bengaluru) - were the resource persons at the workshop for the staff on "Mentoring and Basic Counseling Skills." The staff enrichment programme had sessions on counselling, mentoring and 'Learning and Unlearning' led by Dr Keerthi D'Souza (Dept of Commerce, SAC); and Physi-

cal and Psychological First Aid, conducted by Dr Manu Anand (Consultant Psychiatrist). Our II PU student, Sonia Cathy Lasrado, participated in the Global Immersion Programme of Friends Forever International (FFI) held at Belfast, Ireland. The logo created by another II PU student, Ms Jaagruthi Adka, has been selected as the official emblem for Karnapex 2024, a prestigious State-level Philately exhibition. Dr David Rosario (Senior Lecturer, Newcastle University, UK) spoke to the student on careers in astrophysics. Members of the Center for Inter-Religious Harmony participated in Dasara Celebrations at Bolar Halekote Maariyamma temple. Gandhi Jayanthi was celebrated in the campus to pay respect to the Father of the Nation. SAPUC students won prizes in a variety of competitions at the District and State level which included Quiz, CogNITive (QuizSoc LSD by NITK), Football Tournament, Powerlifting, Swimming, Handball, Karate and Boxing.

SAITI: Our ITI students who have taken the Tata Motors Course had an orientation, along with their parents, at Aravind Motors. Yoga classes have been started for all the students. In collaboration with the Lions Club, we had "Swachatha Hi Sewa," a programme for cleaning the roads. We had a seminar on Anti-Drug Awareness organized in collaboration with Leo Club, and a walkathon to the mall where we had a street play and an address by the ACP. Our Alumni Association, in collaboration with the Builders' Association, conducted Inter-ITI volleyball and throw ball matches for the ITIs in the undivided district. On this same occasion, our past students created a Poor Students Fund. Staff and students of SAITI actively participated in Ayudha pooja celebration.

B.Ed College: St Aloysius Institute of Education conducted Inter-BEd-College competitions under the banner "Edu Tarang 2023" providing a platform for students to showcase their diverse traditions and promote awareness of and appre-

appreciation for different cultures. The chief guest on the occasion was Ms Wencita Dias, heroine of the film 'Osmitay.'

High School: St Aloysius High School Swimming Team consisting of Diganth, Naithik and Nethan, won the State level championship and is qualified for the National School Games to be held in New Delhi. So too our Table Tennis players performed well and qualified themselves for the State level tournament. The Football, Handball and Basketball teams have been qualified for the Divisional level tournaments. A team of doctors from KMC, Mangalore, addressed our students on issues connected with mental health and mobile addiction. The students learned a great deal from this interactive session about self-confidence, concentration and healthy relationships. "Symphony for Peace and Harmony" was the title of an event organized in the School in which our students rendered 30 musical performances giving expression to their talents and, at the same time, resonating with the pains and sorrows of people in Palestine, Israel, Ukraine and Russia.

Gonzaga CBSE School: St Aloysius Gonzaga

School is the proud recipient of the 'Atal School of the Month' certificate for August in recognition and appreciation of the exceptional efforts of the School for innovation. Class XII students participated in the Educate Magis for the project titled "Global Voices for Sustainable Future". Our students interacted with the students representing Jesuit schools from Poland, Barcelona, Santiago, Chile and Brazil. As a part of the Student-Exchange Programme, four students and their teacher Prof Marcella Valvo from Istituto Leone XIII, Milan, Italy were on a visit to our school (Oct 30 to Nov 4), and interacted with our Class XI students. The School conducted a six hour Faculty Development program on "Harnessing AI Tools for Innovative Teaching and Learning." The talent show "Gonzaga Got Talent" was organized by the School for students from KG to Class XII and gave them an opportunity to bring out their talents. In the CBSE South Zone Skating Championship, held in Kalaburagi, our students displayed outstanding talent and determination. K Tasmayi Shetty (a Class VI student) won 2 gold medals in 1000mts & 500mts, and Yuvaraj D Kundar (also of Class VI) won 2 gold medals in 300mts & 500mts.

- Fr Leo D'Souza

SWAMI RAJENDRA NILAYA, Pandithahalli

Jesuits from the communities of Jesuit Nilvas and Inigo Sadan, Bengaluru, were our guests for a couple of days as they spent time in faith sharing. Fr Rayan Lobo (Innsbruck) who was in the Province on vacation also paid us a short visit.

We look forward with anticipation for the soon-to-be-completed construction of the additional section of Holy Angels School. The campus has come alive again with students returning after

Dussehra holidays. We were happy to have the staff of the primary section of St. Joseph's Boys' High School, Bengaluru, led by Fr Vishal D'Souza, who spent a day at SRN, interacting with our staff and students. On the occasion of Karnataka Rajyotsava, the school invited Mr Shivanna (Karnataka State Awardee for Organic Farming) to be the chief guest. He addressed the staff and students on the meaning and importance of organic farming.

- Sch Shaun D'Silva

VIDYA NIKETAN, Dharwad

A wave of blessings washed over VN bringing with it a profusion of activities that revitalized our community. The annual visitation of Fr Dion Vaz, our provincial, acted as a catalyst and paved the way for positive change and growth. His presence at the beginning of the Juniorate Program (ad tempus) - for the scholastics who missed it owing to Covid - it was a great encouragement. Frs Jerome D'Souza and Jeevan Prabhu have joined our community and are actively involved in nurturing and guiding the scholastics. Scholastics pursuing their undergraduate studies began their classes on October 3. Fr Francis Fernandes attended the annual meeting of the

Conference Secretariat for Integral Formation (CSIF) at Shembaganur. Fr Joyson Vas conducted a training program in barefoot counseling for 35 teachers of Shimoga Diocese and preached a recollection to the pre-novices of Loyola (Mangaluru) and Navasadhana (Hassan). He also organized the North Karnataka "MAGIS" in Mundgod with the help of scholastics and volunteers. The event was a huge success involving 240 active participants who benefited greatly from the event. Fr Francis D'Almeida took time out to preach an eight-day retreat to the Bethany Sisters in Vamanjur, Mangaluru.

- Sch Prakash

Chief among the recent initiatives taken by CNFE were: elections for the Slum Development Committee, in which Mr Muttu Bovi was elected the chief in place of Mr Akram. While the newly elected team was congratulated, the outgoing team was thanked for its tireless work in improving the living conditions in Vijayapura slums. A leadership training program was designed and conducted to cultivate second-line leaders within the Construction Workers Federation. An interface was organized with the Minority Department to explore schemes benefiting minority communities. CNFE also organized 16 health camps, one notably within premises of the district prison, offering vital medical services to approximately 1800 individuals across the district. In pursuit of empowerment and advocacy, legal aid sessions were conducted for members of the Women's Federation, while Mr Antony, a child rights activist, led an illuminating workshop for staff members on understanding children and their concerns. Another significant initiative was an awareness program tailored for individuals with disabilities, addressing issues encompassing disability, government assistance, and spinal cord injury rehabilitation. A leadership training program, guided by Mrs Laxmi Y (Professor from Akkamahadevi Women's University), enlightened and inspired the children of former Devadasis.

Loyola CBSE School, Sindagi, inaugurated a newly constructed stage on the school grounds, a contribution by the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA). Special appreciation goes to Fr Jeevan D'Souza for overseeing the swift completion

of this valuable addition. The two-day talent festival "Talenton 2023" provided a platform for students to display their hidden abilities. In the Inter-School Sports Meet for CBSE schools, our students achieved remarkable success: they clinched the winner's trophies in Kabbadi, Kho Kho, and Table Tennis. The Annual Sports Meet was held on November 4 with Mr Arif Bidadar (BEO) gracing the occasion as the guest of honour.

The JESCOL -1 Seminar for the Jesuit collaborators in Vijayapura, Kalaburagi and Sindagi was organized by the Vijayapura unit. It was inaugurated by Fr Francis Menezes and attended by nearly 70 collaborators. The two-day event was meticulously planned by Fr Santhosh Fernandes, and guided and supported throughout by Fr Swebert D'Silva. Our school and college buildings in the campus were made available for the government to conduct a competitive exam for about 550 candidates.

Thanks to the support of the Province, Loyola PU College has moved from its old location on the Station Back Road to an impressive new building on Utkali Road. This magnificent structure now stands as a beacon of hope for underprivileged children in and around Vijayapura. People of the neighbouring institutions who visit the new campus express their wonder at the magnificent edifice. The first programme to be held in the new campus, as the PU College moved to its new location, was "Kannada Rajyotsava." The arrival of the new regent, Sanson Cleter D'Souza, has added to the promise of bright future for our students.

- Fr Ronald Serrao

DE NOBILI COLLEGE, Pune



Our semester examinations gave us a red-carpet welcome to the month of October. After exams, we had our cultural tour. The I Year Philosophers and Theologians went to Ajanta-Ellora caves, while the II Year Philosophers and Theologians went to Goa, and the Final Year Theologians proceeded to help out in the parishes and the missions in

Gujarat. The three-day community days – with the theme, "Together Towards Tomorrow" – gave us a platform to express our talents, build our community and strengthen our team spirit. While we were engrossed in the community days, the JSCA meeting was going on side-by-side. Finally, October ended with the commencement of the new semester.

- Sch Maria Divij

DHYAN ASHRAM, Kolkata



The inclusion of Drama and Hindi in this second semester has been a welcome boost to our academics. Among other notable events at DA were: a 5-day workshop Inner Child Healing guided by Fr Joe Kootinial (PAT); a free health checkup for the Juniors

and other community members conducted by St Xavier's College; a skill training seminar on methods of teaching English conducted by Fr Irudayaraj, a Claretian from Kolkata; and a talk on the significance of the festival "Durga Pooja" by Diponkar Basur, a Jesuit Collabora-

-tor. Pooja holidays (Oct 21-28) was an occasion for us to visit Burdwan and gain enriching experience of the spiritual, cultural and tradi-

tional heritage of Kolkata. The Juniors are on the trot all the day preparing and getting ready for the First Vows of Semon Berkman (CEN).

- Sch Daran Cardoza

SATYA NILAYAM, Chennai



The I Year Philosophy students explored places of worship of Hindu, Jain, Islam and Sikh religions in Chennai as part of their course on "Introduction to World Religions." During our province Mass, we remembered and prayed for the repose of the soul of Mr Joseph Peter (brother of Fr Lawrence Fernandes), Mr Thiya Olivera (brother-in-law of Fr Francis D'Souza) and Ms Cecilia Pinto (maternal grandmother of Sch Ovin Rodrigues). We were happy to have Fr Anthony Arul with us for a short while after his meeting, organized by the Assistency with the heads of Province Commissions for Communication.

Fr Lawrence Fernandes gave a course on "Spir-

itual Persons and Movements in the 20th and 21st Century" to the MTh Spirituality students at Jnana Deepa, Pune, and attended the Heads of Catholic Faculties Meeting in the last week of October in Vidyajyothi, Delhi. Fr Francis D'Souza attended the Revisors' meeting in Pune. The entire community participated in faith-sharing held in living groups at different parishes. These sessions provided valuable opportunities for scholastics and staff to deepen their understanding of each other on an emotional and spiritual plane. It also provided the community with a much-needed respite from the academic routine and fostered camaraderie.

- Sch Rudolf D'Souza

VIDYANIKETAN, Thiruvananthapuram



A workshop on Group Dynamics and Community Building (October 4-6) by Fr John Kamilas (MDU) instilled in us the team spirit which enhances joy, contentment and unity in community life. We celebrated the



feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on Oct 7 with a car procession around the house. The other

significant events of the month were: visit of Fr Francis Fernandes, PCF of Karnataka, Oct 11; a community mass celebrated by Fr Shibu (KER); an informative talk on October 13 by Fr Frazer Mascarenhas (BOM) on current socio-political issues; and a motivational talk on October 17 by Fr Martin Puthuserry (CCU) on mission among the migrants, and an introductory talk on the organization called 'MAIN'. Our educational tour (October 17-20) to Madurai, Kodaikanal and Shembaganur was, in a sense, an extraordinary course on "Eco-Spirituality." Prof. Maria Raj enlightened us on the importance of protection and preservation of nature. We celebrated Dasara and Karnataka Province Day on October 28 with a Mass in Kannada celebrated by Fr T.V. Antony. We had a few fun-filled activities followed by a video (prepared by us) on the State of Karnataka and the Karnataka Jesuit Province. - Sch Robert C

XAVIER TRAINING COLLEGE, Belagavi



An array of programmes and activities has created a vibrant atmosphere among the novices at XTC. A course on Vipasana, led by Fr C Drago (PUN) has added greatly to our spiritual growth. We celebrated the birthday of Fr Anthony Tribhuvan, our Socius, with a Mass. In his homily Fr Tribhuvan touched upon the Jesuit way of life, our companionship, and our need to trust in divine providence. On the same day, the II Year novices took their departure to various stations for their month-long mission experiment. On their return, they will

embark upon a journey to Goa, on foot, to help out in the novena of St Francis Xavier and gain some pastoral experience.

In the meantime, our I Year novices – eleven of them - are preparing for their 30-day retreat. Fr Tribhuvan, our socius, is giving them practical sessions on methods of prayer, which will be followed by Fr Lawrie, our Novice Director, who will prepare them for the atmosphere of solitude and silence expected during the Long Retreat.

We request you to support the retreatants with your prayers. Among the eleven, two are our

Karnataka novices: Gevin D'Souza and Adarsh Paul.
- Nov Adarsh Paul

JCCU TERTIANSHIP, Portland, USA



Greetings from Portland, Oregon, far west of the world! After a long journey, I arrived in Portland at midnight on October 12. Fr Michael Weiler S.J., the tertian director, received me cordially at the airport. The tertianship programme commenced on October 17 with the Mass of the Holy Spirit. We are seven tertians from five provinces with three tertian instructors guiding us. These days we are preparing for the 30-day retreat by our intense faith-sharing sessions along with reading of the Autobiography. Portland is a port city in the Pacific Northwest at the confluence of the Willamette and Columbia rivers. The city is widely known for its Art, Museums, music, and public parks. I request your prayers for all of us at the Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States (JCCU) in the far west of the



world.

- Fr Bala Kiran Kumar

INNSBRUCK, Austria



This December marks the completion of my third year in Innsbruck, Austria, where I came to pursue a Ph.D. in Ecology at the University of Innsbruck. I have had a rich learning experience living in the Jesuit community of Innsbruck, which comprises over 40 Jesuits, many of whom are retired professors from the faculty of theology and philosophy. The community is also involved in various ministries, including a Jesuit Church, Youth centre, Canisianum (an international house for diocesan and other religious priests studying Ph.D.), and the Jesuit Novitiate. Among the nine Jesuit students here, six of us are from India. I have received invaluable support from Bala Kiran, who played a crucial role in helping me acclimate to this place. His unwavering dedication

community, complemented by his mastery of the German language, has left a lasting impression on the Jesuits here. In recognition of his commitment, the Provincial of the Central European Jesuit (ECE) province personally invited him to join the Novitiate community to contribute to the development of young Jesuits, a role he wholeheartedly embraced. Currently, he is in Portland, pursuing his tertianship.

My academic studies at the University are conducted in English. The University of Innsbruck, a state-run institution with 16 faculties and a diverse international student body, has been a remarkable place for my research. While the University's history is tied to the Jesuit school founded by Peter Canisius, Jesuits are now primarily associated with the faculty of Philosophy and Theology.

To date, I have successfully concluded the data collection phase of my experiments, with 50% of the data analysed. Furthermore, I have completed the initial draft of my forthcoming research article. My research is supervised by Prof. Michael Bahn, a distinguished scientist in the field of Ecology. Within our team, we comprise a total of seven Ph.D. students and two post-doctoral researchers. The diversity in our national backgrounds not only contributes significantly to our group's scientific dynamism but also enhances our collective cultural enrich-



to his academic pursuits and his ability to forge strong interpersonal connections with the local

enrichment. In my research, I explore the effects of future climate conditions on plant phenology, studying how climate change, specifically rising temperatures, increased CO2 levels, and drought impact on the timing of various life stages in plants, from spring to autumn. These changes have far-reaching consequences for ecosystems and even human populations that rely on these plants for their survival.

I have had the opportunity to present my research at international conferences, expanding my network and collaboration opportunities in the field of ecology. The Jesuit community,

particularly the Rector, has been instrumental in supporting my academic endeavours, and I have been fortunate to receive a scholarship from the University. This scholarship aids me to visit and learn from other research labs in Europe. I also had opportunities to foster connections with like-minded Jesuits working in ecology in Europe.

In the coming months, I look forward to visiting more labs in Europe, attending conferences, and gradually compiling my work for my thesis as I prepare for the doctoral defence in the years to come. - Fr Lumnesh Swaroop Kumar



OURS IN PUBLICATION

Novice Anthony Jackson P. F., "Listen, Talk & Walk", MAGNET, November, 2023, Page 18.

Sch Denver A Pushpam SJ, "Teachers: The Agents of Change," MAGNET, November, Volume VII, Issue 11, pp. 26-27.

Sch Maria Divij SJ, "If my desires had a name, It would be you", Echoes of the Unheard, Thoughts Hymn Publishers (2023), p. 149.

Fr Richard Mascarenhas SJ, "Our Families and Our Mission" The New Leader, October 16-31, 2023, p. 37.

Fr Richard Mascarenhas SJ, "Want to be a Successful Teacher?" The New Leader, September 01-15, 2023, p. 31.



REST IN PEACE

Br Polycarp Lakra, SJ (RAN), 85/63, on 16 October, in Mandar.

Fr Mani Nedumattam, SJ (DEL), 88/68, on 25 October, in Jaipur.

Fr Joseph Velinkar, SJ (BOM), 93/77, on 14 November, in Mumbai.

Mrs Anthonamma, 90, maternal grandmother of Fr Shantharaj Thomas, on 09 November, in Naganahalli, H D Kote.

Mrs Philomena D'Souza, 90, paternal grandmother of Fr Avinash D'Souza, on 09 November, in Mangaluru.

"Who are we?" or "Who are we, the Jesuits?" "Who are these other people called to contribute to the mission that is under the responsibility of the Society of Jesus?" The experience we have had in this time has led us once again to place at the center of our identity, the person of Jesus, poor and humble. And I think it's always been there. When we reread the texts, both ancient and from recent Congregations after the Second Vatican Council, and we wonder about our identity, the Society always references Jesus Christ. We call ourselves the Society of Jesus. Maybe now we can insist more on what Ignatius constantly repeats in his Spiritual Exercises: "We follow Jesus poor and humble." That combination of Jesus who empties himself, detaches, becomes poor to enrich and therefore humiliates himself – He becomes humble, a servant of us, like one of many, is the figure that inspires at this moment the answer to the question about our identity. Our identity, we can only understand it from below. We can understand it only when we recognize that we need to be forgiven. Remember Congregation 32 when it defined what a Jesuit is? "We are forgiven sinners called to serve the Lord." Our identity is not invented by us, it is something we receive. It is a gift. It is a charisma. Not for us but for the Society, for the Church and for the world. The charisms, as explained by Saint Paul, are as way to serve. It is a gift from the Lord, a special grace so that the body of the Church can better serve the mission in the world. That is why we have to open our eyes to reality and listen intently to what the Church asks of us.

- Words of Fr Arturo Sosa, SJ, Superior General of the Society of Jesus while introducing the *De Statu Societatis Iesu*