

Hazaribag Jesuits



Newsletter: Hazaribag Halchaal

Oct 2023, Arrupe Niwas P.B.-06, Hazaribag, Jharkhand, 825301, Vol. 70 No. 69

Pope's Intention For the Synod

We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.



Provincial's Itinerary

October 2023

- 01 – 02 Annual Meeting of School Headmasters/Headmistress/Principals of the Province
- 05 – 06 Visitation Kolkata SXC
- 07 – 11 Visitation Shillong & Arunachal Pradesh
- 14 – 15 Consult, AN
- 20 – 21 MAGIS National Youth Convention - Ranchi
- 23 – 27 JCSA, Pune
- 28 - 15 Nov Colloquium, ROME

November 2023

- 16 Back to Hazaribag
- 21 – 22 Consult, at AN
- 22 – 30 Personal Annual Retreat, Bandra Retreat House, Bandra
- 31 Visitation, Bombay

December 2023

- 02 - 04 Visitation, DNC, Pune
- 08 – 12 Discerning Leadership Program at Ranchi
- 15 - 16 Consult at AN
- 17 – 19 Visitation New Delhi
- 24 Christmas Vigil Mass at Hazaribag Cathedral
- 27 – 30 Ordination at Dumka

APPOINTMENT BY THE FR. PROVINCIAL

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| Fr. Basant Minj, SJ | Hostel-in-Charge & Treasurer, MMS, Charhi |
| Fr. Jacob Almeida, SJ | Rest and Medical Care, SSC, Sitagarha |
| Fr. Timothy OSM | Asst. Teacher & Asst. Hostel-in-Charge, St. Mary's School, Chiropath |
| Fr. Gregory Kerketta, SJ | Rest and Praying for the Church and Society, SXS, Hazaribag |

LEFT THE SOCIETY

Sch. Marcus Murmu 01/10/2023

Sch. Anand Tete 03/10/2023

APPLIED FOR LEAVE FROM THE SOCIETY

Fr. Birendra Tirkey

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE VOCATION AS A COMMUNITY

On following Dates

13-11-2023 St Stanislaus Kostka

03-12-2023 St Francis Xavier

VISIT OF MR. SIVA FROM AUSTRALIA

We were very happy to welcome back Mr. Siva Kumar, friend and benefactor of Hazaribag Jesuits, on September 19. He had, in February, graced the occasion of the inauguration of the St. Xavier's College Mahuadanr auditorium. On September 20, he went to Latehar to follow up on his project at the CMC hostel for disabled young girls and then moved on to Mahuadanr. The next day, he was the main speaker at an "international seminar" on the need for all to have a research mentality. The seminar was arranged by Fr. M.K. Jose in the college auditorium. In the evening, he addressed the girls in their hostel and there followed a meal with the girls which he himself sponsored. On September 22 on his way back to Hazaribag, he visited Pakripath to check on a project there. He also got a very pleasant surprise when the students of the school put on a very enjoyable entertainment programme at short notice. His visit was a joy to all who met him. His "bodyguards" on all his journeys were Fr. Prakash Baskey and Fr. Bob Slattery. After a very enjoyable evening meal at Arrupe, again sponsored by Siva, he left from Ranchi on September 25 for further engagements in Tamil Nadu.

AN INDIAN CONTEMPLATIVE RETREAT ON THE SPIRITUALITY OF ST. PAUL AND AN INTRODUCTION TO THE JESUS PRAYER

An Indian Contemplative Retreat on the Spirituality of St. Paul and an introduction to the practice of the Jesus Prayer will be conducted from 27th Nov. (9 am) to 4th Dec. (lunch) at NBCLC, Bangalore, guided by Fr. Sebastian Painadath SJ and Sr. Rose Pudukadan. There will be 6 guided meditations and 3 conferences daily.

Those interested may contact NBCLC via email: nbclcseminar@gmail.com

BOKARO

BOKARO, ST. XAVIER'S SCHOOL

The community had its monthly meeting in Bokaro on September 7. **Fr. Nirmal and Sch. Raymond** are sharpening their driving skills by attending their daily driving classes faithfully. **Fr. Arvind Beck** was our guest for couple of days in preparation to his forthcoming *Magis Youth program*.

Fr. Vincent Hansdak, the Provincial superior was with us for his annual visitation on September 21 and 22. The community feels uphold to carry out the legacy and identity of the Jesuits in the City. He too met the Vice-Principals of different sections in the school and acknowledged their contribution as our collaborators. Under the supervision and planning of **Fr. Arun** the residence chapel was renovated and it was inaugurated by Fr. Provincial's mass once again.

The teacher's day celebration was marked with a cultural program and followed by exchanging the gift cards and sumptuous meal. The first semester examination was held from September, 11 – 22.

On Sept 23, **Fr. Arun** attended the Superiors and DoWs meeting in Hazaribag, and on Sept. 24 evening after coming back from Hazaribag he left for Jamshedpur to participate in the Regional conference of the Association of Schools for the Indian School certificate Bihar and Jharkhand Region. Our school was awarded the best school to conduct the literary activities.

The prep admission has been stated from October 26. Our proposed Pre-primary building has been approved by the Bokaro Steel Plant to construct.

The regional Debate completion was well organized by our school on Sept 30. Dhanband-Bokaro zone represented by our school in senior category were declared runners-up.

Fr. Manoj Kujur

KAJARKILO

The Jesuit Community, Kajarkilo had its first recollection for Aug-Sept 2023 on September 16-17 under the direction of Fr R.C. Chacko. All the members participated wholeheartedly and enthusiastically. It was an enriching as well as eye-opening experience for all, especially the spiritual conversation. It opened our hearts and minds. It was a time of examen and self-reflection and a chance to see where the spirit is leading us. It was inspirational to listen to one another and move forward in our entrusted mission and excel in it.

Healthwise most of the community members fell ill one by one and recovered quickly. Sch. Anthony and Fr. Tintus were admitted to HFH, Koderma with urinary tract infections. Now they are back to the community. On September 5 we began the teacher's day celebration with Holy Mass followed by cultural dances.

The pastoral activities were reduced due to health issues and rain. This month we had heavy rain which disturbed our programs. From September 23 onwards, headmaster and PCF, Fr Pius has been on his official visitation of the scholastics in studies in different cities and the PCF's meeting at Kodaikanal.

BHURKUNDA

On September 3rd, Fr. Barnabas organized a BCC seminar for the faithful of the Parish. The Diocesan resource team, including Fr. Ereneus Tete, Fr. Subal Surin, Mr. Kishore and Mrs. Pratima, came to help them. On September 5th on the occasion of Teacher's Day, Fr. Thomas offered mass for the teachers of Catholic Ashram and Pawan Krus School in the Parish. After the mass, the students put up a cultural program to honour their teachers. Fr. Barnabas went to Patratu to offer mass for the teachers. On September 11th, Fr. Barnabas went to Kolkata for a pastoral coordinator's meeting. He also had a chance to meet the Servite brothers in Morning Star College who were with us last year for their regency in our

province. He came back on September 17th. In his absence, Fr. Thomas was the acting Superior.

On September 18th, Fr. Sasi, the new priest along with Fr. Medard Xalxo, the tertian instructor, had their flying visit to Bhurkunda. On September 18th and 19th, we had a recollection based on the follow-up of CP71 with the help of Fr. R.C Chacko. On September 23rd and 24th, Frs. Thomas and Barnabas attended a meeting of the Superiors and Directors of work at Arrupe Niwas.

Fr. Xavier was in Manresa house Ranchi, recuperating from his leg pain and came back to the community on 10th September. Sch. Paulus accompanied him as his Saathi. Later, he was also admitted in the Holy Family Hospital, Koderma with Dengue. Fr. Sebren too suffered from severe cold for a week.

Fr. Timothy was given a farewell from the community on September 28th. The community wished him all the best for his new mission. The next day, Fr. Barnabas reached him to Chiroprath and returned on September 30th. The students of Catholic Ashram participated in the Kevin Grogan football tournament at St. Xavier's school Hazaribag from September 6th to 8th and were the runners-up in the tournament.

CHARHI

Charhi community members were involved in various activities throughout the month. Marianus and Nicholas followed the pastoral work while Sch. Jeevan, Fr. Birendra and Fr. Basant worked in the school. Gregory was accompanied by Sch. Jeevan to Arogyam Hospital, Hazaribag to see the cardiologist. Thanks to St Xavier Hazaribag community for accommodating Gregory during his health check-up. The health of Fr. Birendra and Sch. Jeevan was down due to malaria and typhoid. Sch. Jeevan was admitted in Tarwa Holy Cross whereas Birendra managed with a local health clinic. The absence of Sch. Jeevan and Fr. Birendra created inconvenience among the high school staff.

Fr. Marianus Tigga attended the feast day celebration of Missionary of Charity Sisters with Kajri faithful in Hazaribag. The Catholic Sabha, Mahila Sangh and Youth of Charhi had a combined meeting to discuss the upcoming events and the evaluation of Monica Day celebration. "Khelo Jharkhand" had organized sports day for local government schools in our school campus from 6th to 8th September. The middle school had an inter-class Nagpuri dance competition.

Many children were sick during this month. Fr. Marianus Tigga offered The Holy Cross feast day mass in Ghato, Fr. Nicholas in Charhi and Fr Sameer Kerketta from Bishop's House in Kuju. Fr. Basant Minj joined the community on 15th September. He is appointed as the Hostel In charge, Treasurer of the school and assistant teacher in the high school. Fr. Gregory Kerketta handed over the school and hostel accounts to Fr. Basant Minj and moved to St Xavier community Hazaribag. Mrs Bina Tuti is appointed as the acting principal of Masi Marsal high school, Charhi. Fr Francis, Fr. Prakash Baskey and Mr Tizan came to complete the school account. The visit of Fr provincial boosted the moral of our community. Due to sickness, spiritual ministry was disturbed.

HAZARIBAG

ARRUPE NIWAS

At the beginning of the month, the Arrupe Niwas community welcomed, congratulated and wished a fruitful priestly life to the newly ordained priest Fr. Sasi who offered the Holy Eucharist for the community on September 8. Fr. R.C. Chacko conducted two workshops for the Superiors and directors of work: one in XLRI, Jamshedpur for the Jamshedpur Province and the second one at Arrupe Niwas for the Hazaribag Province from September 23 to September 24. He also gave a series of recollections on the Status of the Society to different communities of the province; St. Xavier's Hazaribag & Arrupe Niwas, Kajarkilo

and Bhurkunda and some more are in the pipeline.

Frs. P.O. Chacko and Prakash Baskey went to St. Xavier's College, Mahuadanr and Pakripath to finalize the site for the boys' hostel. Fr. Prakash Baskey was burning the midnight oil to complete the project and endorsement letters.

Mr. Siva Kumar the benefactor and well-wisher from Sydney, Australia was received by Fr. Bob Slattery and Prakash Baskey at the Ranchi airport on September 19. They escorted him to Latehar, Mahuadanr and Pakripath. He is very impressed by the mission that the province is involved in. He hosted a dinner for the Arrupe Niwas community.

Fr. Francis Marian is getting ready for the meeting of Treasurers of the JCSA to be held at Arrupe Niwas from October 8 to October 12. He also organized a workshop for treasurers and accountants at St. Joseph's Mahuadanr for Latehar and Palamau area.

ST. XAVIER'S HAZARIBAG

The constant outpouring rain in the campus has really blessed us. The campus has been filled with charming and adorable birds. The greenery of the campus and the flora makes everyone feel content and peaceful.

Unlike every year, this year in the month of September St. Xavier's school had an opportunity to organize the 37th Kevin Grogan memorial Football tournament from September 1-3, 2023. Fourteen teams turned up from various schools of our Province. Fr. Vincent Hansdak, SJ, the Provincial was the chief guest of the day. He officially opened the 37th Kevin Grogan memorial Football tournament 2023 and he delivered a motivational message to the players. The 37th Kevin Grogan memorial Football tournament ended on 3rd September. The final match was played between Masi Marsal School, Charhi and Catholic Ashram School, Bhurkunda. The first

champion trophy was lifted by Masi Marsal School, Charhi and the second place went to Catholic Ashram School, Bhurkunda. The 37th Kevin Grogan Football Match was concluded successfully. The success of this program was largely due to the effort of the principal, Fr. Rosner Xalxo, and the Vice Principal, Fr. Ranjit. As a result, everything went smoothly. Together with Arrupe Niwas Community, the Community held its monthly recollection on 4-5 September.

Sch. Jayant returned from Holy Cross Community Healthcare Center, Tarwa, Hazaribag. He was admitted there and spent a week recovering from Malaria and Typhoid. He feels healthy now. Fr. Varghese, the Superior, is really taking care of every member of the community. Fr. Raska Soren is regular in his work, and taking care of the province library. He is also exploring new information by engaging himself in the social media. On 30 September, Sch. Jayant went to TTI, Sitagarha for the monthly recollection.

In the middle of the month, the students of St. Xavier's were very much engaged with their Mid Term Exams. After the compilation of the exams, St. Xavier's started the second semester with great vigour. Hazaribag Nagar Nigam Team visited our St. Xavier's school. They explained to our students about the importance of cleanliness. They also made our students aware of how to recycle the waste material and segregate it.

PRERNA RESOURCE CENTRE

Fr. Tony was diagnosed with viral fever and was admitted to Holy Cross Hospital Tarwa. After a couple of days of treatment, he stayed in St. Xavier's to recuperate. He also attended the social analysis seminar conducted by the Central Zone Social Analysts team for the Juniors at SSC. In spite of his ill health, he was busy preparing the final report for Ankur II project which ends in October. He is looking forward to having a long holiday in Patna.

Fr. Maria Louis is as busy as a bee. There are constantly people visiting him or he is busy visiting 21 schools on a monthly basis. He is in and out braving the adverse weather most of the time. Though he is busy with Mary's Meal, he found enough time to arrange the Kuntpani Pilgrimage which was attended by 84 priests and religious. It was meticulously organised. Kudos to Maria Louis.

Fr. Peter Paul is busy with many programs. Of late he has been invited to train the referees on Khokho. His fame has shot up. He also makes sure that the community gets nutritious food. His intervention has made sure that there is no wastage of food in the kitchen. He is also seen busy in the vegetable garden. He once bruised his knee while cutting a bamboo. He was rushed to the hospital and was under medication for a couple of days. His rat trap is busy every night trapping the rodents. He is afraid that some good souls, who are engaged in the construction work, make sure that the rats are released before Fr. Peter reaches the trap in the morning. He went to TTI to celebrate the birthday of Fr. Silas.

Fr. Rajendar is busy with his studies and giving motivational programs. He also gave a recollection to Mandair sisters. He was the Pahan in one of the villages on the occasion of Karam Feast. Next month he will have his third semester final exams.

Fr. Shyju went for a medical check-up and was found to have typhoid and after medication he is fine now. He is seen busy with court cases. He also went to Jamuniatanr to give a seminar on safeguarding the children and vulnerable adults. He is also seen busy supervising the community building construction. The Casting of the first floor has been completed.

We were invited to Arrupe Niwas for dinner on the occasion of the birthday of Fr. Bob Slattery. After a long time, we managed to have our community meeting at Patra. Fr. Simon, who is

in Dumar, was also present for the community meeting. Frs. Christopher, Rajesh and M. K. Jose stayed with us at Prerna as they attended the meeting of superiors and directors of work at Arrupe Niwas.

CHATRA EXTENSION

Fr. Tony was away for much of the month but the team carried on well, with village touring and the usual monthly meetings. They held guardians' days at Bhamani, Bramachari and Chau Muhalla very successfully. The Ankur 2nd project is closing in October, but we have assurances of moving onto the Ankur 3rd. The main challenge at present is of whole villages adjacent to one another without any one person having a kathiyani and so not eligible for aawasiya recognition.

DUMAR

Fr. Simon Murmu was on holiday and was with Fr. Arun for a month. He came back on September 16 and assisted Fr. Arun in taking care of all the spiritual ministry of the center. The faithful and the Director of the centre highly appreciated his presence. He emphasized on taking care of the youth in the monthly meeting of ESP, which took place on September 20. Out of thirty Community Leaders, nine are very active and many students attended the meeting. He made them aware of the availability of pre and post metric scholarships. He also told them how the change in the environment is affecting the lives of the people and their cultivation. The regular monthly meeting of the Ankur Tutors and the staff was held at the center on September 27. Fr. Simon told the Ankur Tutors and the staff that they are special persons, since they are collaborating with a special group of people who are taking care of the neediest group of society. They must improve their commitment by keeping themselves up to date.

ST. JOSEPH'S TARWA

Early in the month of September our school football team went to Hazaribag to participate in the Grogan Memorial Football Tournament. This year our performance was not as good as last year. The major celebration of this month was the Teacher's Day. It was well organized by the senior students and the School Cabinet. This year all the teachers were presented with uniform blazers. We also celebrated our superior's birthday in Tarwa. Soon we had the First Terminal Examination for the whole school. Towards the end of the month our HM Fr. Theodore attended a meeting of Superiors and Directors of Work. This year again the students celebrated 'Karam' Feast here itself though some went home. Now the teachers are busy in paper corrections and result making. This month Fr. Theodore bought some more rice for the hostel. On 21st September all of us went to Patra for the Diaspora meeting. One of the weekends Fr. Tony Herbert came here for a rest but he was hospitalised due to fever and weakness. Sch. Binison and Fr. Theodore were also hospitalized. Now with the late rain our pond is full.

By Cyril

HUTPA TARWA

The month of September was filled with different activities. In spite of the uncertain shower, we with our staff continued to visit our contact villages on a regular basis. Our boundary wall was repaired by Md Anwar, which had been broken by the wild elephant. Many visitors came to visit us. Fr. Rajesh attended the community meeting at Patra and he also participated in the two days' workshop of work Directors and superiors at Arrupe Niwas in the absence of Fr. Sunil. Fr. Sunil had gone to Delhi to attend the Lokmanch workshop. He came back safely and then he conducted one day Hazaribag unit meeting at Prerna. Fr. Rajesh celebrated Karam feast with the hostellers. We had a monthly meeting with the

staff and Ankur tutors on the last Saturday of the Month. Chai Project has provided equipment for us to measure the weight, Blood Pressure and to check the sugar level. The villagers are very happy with this arrangement.

Fr. Sunil Minj

JOHN DE BRITTO COMMUNITY AND SHANTINIKETAN ASHRAM PATRA

We had two types of Karam celebrations: one was DJ karam which our SC brethren celebrated and the other one was traditional Karam celebration which our Tribal brethren celebrated with Mander and Nagara. Our Tailoring girls went to celebrate Karam Some came back and many are yet to come. We hope they will come back and complete the session. We are busy in preparing for the Sahid Fr. A.T. Thomas memorial football and khokho tournament and Sahid Diwas. The tournament will be held in Dhamanatanr from September 29 to October 1.

This year the Shahadat Diwas will be celebrated in Babupara on October 28, 2023. The chief guest will be Rev. Fr. Sebastian Lakra, S.J. who is the director of MAIN at A.T.C Campus Ranchi. The Holy Eucharist will be presided over by Fr. Sebastian Lakra, S.J. at Punya Bhumi (Chichi Jungle) on October 29, 2023.

Recently we conducted an essay, speech and painting competition in Babupara and it was very good to see the students speaking, writing and painting.

Fr. Chistopher went to attend the MAIN meeting in Hyderabad. The meeting was based on budgeting and orientation. In his absence Fr. Peter Paul Kerketta helped for the mass. Our boundary wall collapsed due to heavy downpour and we hope to get the boundary wall repaired soon.

Fr. Alex Toppo

PRIMARY TEACHERS' EDUCATION COLLEGE, SITAGARHA

The second half of August saw many trainees falling ill with malaria, viral fever, and typhoid; first the boys and then the girls. But most of them were able to return in time to celebrate Teachers Day, significant for them as present students and future teachers. Micro-teaching sessions began the next day and concluded on Sep 22nd. Fr. PJ James travelled to St. Francis School, Jasidih to conduct an orientation for parents and provide administrative consultation.

PTEC had dropped out of the list of the institutions eligible for ST/SC/OBC scholarships due to a wrong interpretation of relevant rules by local authorities. An alumnus of SXH, an IAS officer, facilitated the reinstatement of the college on the list. Applications for the year 2022-23 have been successfully submitted on the welfare department portal.

Early this year the Department of Education through communications from JCERT (Jharkhand Council for Educational Research and Training) demanded that internship (practice teaching) be conducted for four weeks in the first year and 16 weeks in the second year of training. JCERT was given the responsibility of assigning the trainees for internship in government schools to remediate the shortage of teachers. Accordingly, PTEC students were assigned to 97 primary schools in Sadar, Katkamdag and Daru Blocks. Considering the educational, logistical and safety issues involved, the principal appealed first through letters and later in person to JCERT and the Secretary, Secondary Education, Government of Jharkhand to permit PTEC to continue with the practices followed hitherto. Upon receiving a negative response, the trainees appealed directly to the Chief Minister's Office. This led JCERT to reassign the student teachers to 51 schools of Hazaribag Sadar Block. It was also clarified that as per the syllabus of Jharkhand Academic Council

the requirement is of 30 days of teaching practice each year.

Having sorted out these issues during the last week of September, the pre-service teachers are now ready for practice teaching from 3rd October to 11th November.

LOYOLA SCHOOL SITAGARHA

Loyola boys football team took part in the Fr. Grogan Memorial Football Tournament held at St. Xavier's School Hazaribag. The Teachers' Day was celebrated in a very meaningful manner, where the leadership qualities of the students were seen and highly appreciated. Then, the Semester oral examination began on 6th Sept., and from 11th to 18th Sept. the written examination began. The students were well prepared. The PTM (Parents-Teachers meeting) will take place on 30th Sept. The teachers are busy correcting and preparing report cards. In the midst of all these, the online virtual review inspection for CBSE inspection was carried out on 21st Sept. The school has tried its best to fulfil all the deficiencies, though some vital points still remain. We are praying that the school gets its affiliation, so that Class-IX students may do their registration. Class-IX PTM took place on 23rd Sept. to make them aware of the nitty-gritty of the registration, because the school may have very little time to do the same, and parents may cooperate with the school.

TEACHERS TRAINING PRACTICE MIDDLE SCHOOL, SITAGARHA

The month began with the preparation for the Teacher's Day celebration. The students showed their love and respect and honoured their teachers through gifts and different cultural programmes. Fr. Silas Minj went to the DC's court in Ramgarh for land related work. Sr. Pratima Xaxa, HC, an assistant teacher of the school was taken to Kunkuri Hospital for an operation. Her operation was successful. On the last day of the month, we had a parents' meeting in the school and the

distribution of the first terminal examination results.

ST. STANISLAUS COLLEGE SITAGARHA

Tertians finished their long retreat on September 4 under the guidance of Fr. M. I. Raj. They had a sharing about their experiences and then began to prepare themselves for the preaching ministry and the experiment. Fr. R. C. Chacko came to take a one-day class on Constitutions for them. Tertians had a two-day tour to visit Fr. Lievens' mission places and visited Ranchi, Gumla, Tongo, Bendora, Birri and Noadih. Fr. Medard Xalxo, the tertian instructor, made an arrangement for Tertians' retreat preaching ministry and experiment and they left SSC by September 30 for their month-long ministry. Fr. M. I. Raj began another long retreat with the Holy Cross Tertians in Sitagarha. Fr. Medard left for Ranchi for his medical assistance.

Juniors arranged a special felicitation program for the SSC staff on the occasion of Teachers' Day. Novices also expressed their gratitude towards the staff through a song and words of appreciation. Fr. Tom Kavala SJ (Dum) from Bagaicha gave a social analysis seminar for a week to the Juniors from September 18. Fr. Tony Herbert SJ (Haz) joined him for the same on September 21. Fr. Peter Martin SJ (Jam), a lawyer from Bagaicha, also came to address the Juniors on the legal concerns on the last day of the seminar. Fr. Michael T. Raj, the dean, and Fr. Ranjit Horo, the assistant dean went to Mumbai for the Juniorate Staff Meeting at the time of seminar. Fr. P. J. James gave the recollection points and said mass for the Juniors on their recollection day.

Novices also had a week-long seminar by Joe Kootinal, SJ (Pat) from September 25 on 'Inner Child Healing'. Novices served Br. Michael at night for many days in the absence of the night

helper. They also worked hard to clean the graveyard and its path.

Fr. Arokia Sasi Kumar, the new minister, returned to SSC on September 9 after his ordination. He said his first mass on September 13 for the community. Fr. Basant Minj, the outgoing minister, was given farewell on September 14 and he reached Charhi community the next day for his new mission there. Fr. Anil, the rector, and Fr. Manjit, the novice master, attended the meeting of Superiors & Directors in Arrupe Niwas on September 23 and 24. SSC staff had the recollection and spiritual conversation on DSS on September 28.

Fr. Jacob Almeda returned to SSC on September 27 after being treated in Tarwa hospital for rest and recuperation. Fr. Camille Kujur and Fr. Francis Lopez are stable regarding their health. Fr. John Xaxa is keeping good health; he walks every day up to Loyola School for his work there. Br. Michael seems to be getting weaker and weaker. His body at times becomes stiff. He needs much nursing care now.

ST. ROBERT BELLARMINE COMMUNITY

We had several activities in the school. Fr. P.O. Chacko came back from his home visit on September 3 and joined the community. Students were busy preparing for the Teachers' Day. The solemn Mass on September 5 was officiated by Fr. Kamal Kandulna followed by cultural programmes. Fr. Albinus Xaxa had gone to Kajarkilo for physiotherapy. We celebrated the feast of St Robert Bellarmine, the patron saint of the school on September 23 followed by a house-wise dance competition. The high school got the 'Desh Bhagti Nach' and the +2 sections got the 'Lok Nritya'. Fr. P.O. Chacko and Fr. Albinus Xaxa attended the meeting in Arrupe Niwas for the superiors and directors of works.

ANKUR, LOYOLA CENTRE

September has been a month of both challenges and celebrations for our close-knit Ankur community. Here is a recap of the events and updates from the past month: -

Teacher's Day Celebration: We began the month on a joyous note by celebrating Teacher's Day on September 5 in the school with great enthusiasm. Our dedicated educators were honoured for their unwavering commitment to nurturing the bright minds of the school.

Academic Excellence: We are proud to report that all our candidates continue to excel in their studies. They have been diligently engaging in their academic pursuits, displaying commendable dedication to their respective subjects. Our candidates have also actively participated in extracurricular activities such as sports, music practices, and recreational events, showcasing their all-around talents.

Cultural Enrichment: In the spirit of holistic development, the school organized a competition showcasing the vibrant Jharkhandi folk dance and the Patriotic dance. Our talented Ankur candidates enthusiastically participated and showcased their skills, leaving us in awe of their cultural prowess.

Community Care: In the midst of our achievements, we have encountered a few challenges. Some of our community members fell ill, exhibiting symptoms of typhoid and malaria. However, we are heartened to witness the compassion and solidarity within our community. Our members have shown tremendous care and support for those who are unwell, reaffirming the sense of togetherness that defines Ankur.

Community health: A moment of concern touched our hearts as Father Jacob, a beloved member of our community, experienced health problems. On a fateful day, he fell from his bed

due to weakness and a slight fever. On September 24, Father Jacob was admitted to Holy Cross Hospital Tarwa. We are holding onto hope and fervently praying for his swift recovery, wishing for his return to us in robust health. Despite these challenges, the rest of our community members are keeping well. Regular health check-ups and preventive measures are in place to ensure the continued well-being of our Ankur family.

Together, we shall overcome any obstacle that comes our way and continue to flourish in all our endeavours. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to each member of the Ankur community for their unwavering support and dedication.

DALTONGANJ

SAHODAYA

In the third week of August, Fr Vinod and Sr. Shery FCC went to Hazaribag to attend the treasurers' meeting. Fr Shyam made a quick visit to his home to collect his things and came back on the following day. The school also conducted the quarterly exam during the month of August. Another one will be conducted in the third week of December. The final exam will be in the month of March. In the fourth week of August, Fr Packiam attended the ordination of Fr Sasi Kumar and his first mass in his native place. Fr Sasi's village is close to Fr Packiam's place. On September 11, Fr. Shyam went to Ranchi to receive Fr Packiam at the airport.

In the month of September, there was a little rain, so the water level in the well was going down day by day. There was a managing committee meeting in Churadohar in the first week of September at the request of Sr. Jency and Fr. Pradeep. On September 15, all the Vivek Sadan community members gathered at Jamuniatanr to discuss the points sent to each community by Fr. R.C.

Chacko. Fr Santosh Minj explained each point and we had some interaction based on them, followed by prayer. After supper at 8 pm, we moved to our own communities. On September 19, Fr Packiam had a quick visit to meet Fr Sibrus Barwa. After spending a couple of hours, Fr. Packiam came back. On September 22, Fr. Packiam and Fr. Vinod went to attend the superiors and directors' meeting. On September 25, Fr. Antony Samy OSM visited Sahodaya to see his scholastic Bro. Valan Prakash and the next day they went to meet another scholastic Bro. Anto OSM at Jamuniatanr.

JAMUNIATANR

The month of September started on a happy note, with the showers of blessing. Our pond is full and overflowing. We had the special privilege to welcome the Diaspora Vivek Sadan Community in Jamuniatanr on the occasion of our 2nd community recollection on Sept. 17th. Fr. Santosh Minj guided the recollection to enrich ourselves with the spirit of mission. We celebrated the Karam Feast on 23rd at the parish level. Mr. Bernard Toppo and Catholic Sabha members took the initiative to organize it. Holy Mass and some cultural programs were organized and ended with lunch with parishioners.

Fr. Fredrick went to Hazaribag for the Director's meeting. On 26th, Servite Formator Fr. Anthonysamy came to visit Br. Anto. The tribal girl's hostel in Jamuniatanr received 24 ceiling fans as a gift from the generous heart of our Vidhayak Mithlesh Singh and he has promised to give PCC road connection to the school. Heavy lightning and thunder have caused a lot of damage to the power supply. There is a big group of elephants around the neighbouring forest area. Their frequent visits are creating fear and havoc.

The school football team returned with a happy heart after registering their first ever win in any match. Meanwhile, Sr. Emrencia was out for a meeting in Patna. The Teacher's Day was celebrated very meaningfully with a lot of colourful cultural programs. The BRC Chiniya circle had organized the football and athletics events in our premise. We had two rounds of TEEP sessions in our school, participated by other school teachers as well. On 27th, we had a Legal Awareness and POCSO seminar for all the village school teachers and other staff in Jamuniatanr School. Thanks to Fr. Shyju for gracing us with his presence and effective seminar.

VIVEK SADAN, SHAHPUR

The Pre-novices wished the staff on the occasion of Teachers' Day. The community participated in the Parish feast, where the Pre-novices performed a cultural dance. Fr. Sebastian, Fr. Santosh, and Fr. Anish went to Jamuniatanr for the community recollection. It was a very fruitful reflection and sharing session. Fr. Anish went to Hazaribag to attend the meeting of the Superiors and the Directors of Work. The Pre-novices had their first semester examination in the last week of the month. Fr. Santosh left for Raipur to guide the Sisters in their General Chapter.

MAHUADANR

MAHUADANR

The month of September was a busy month for Fr. Suresh Kindo and Fr. Emile Ekka who were fully engaged in offering Masses, blessing and administering the Sacrament of the sick. Sad to say that many lost their lives by motorcycle accidents and suicidal cases this month.

On September 7, a Core Committee meeting was held at Mahuadanr, where all the Parish Priests, head Catechists and Parish Sisters were present to plan out and discuss about the smooth functioning

of parishes and promotion of faith among children and youth. The new Dean, Rev. Fr. Morice Toppo of Gothgaon Parish was welcomed by the Core Committee of South Vicariate Deanery and the baton was handed over to him by Rev. Fr. Muktlal the acting Dean. The new Dean expressed his expectations, "We should work together as a team for the building of the kingdom of God. The Catechism classes for children should be started in all the schools and Parishes. We walk and work hand in hand". Fr. Roshan Kerketta and Sr. Sunita Turkey, SJA were appointed as South Deanery Youth Director and Assistant Director respectively. Fr. Xavier Tigga and Sr. Jolly Thomas, FCC were appointed as Youth Advisors.

On September 11, there was the Sacrament of Initiation and 14 children were baptized. Mr. Anand Toppo the head Catechist and Sr. Swati Kujur, HC. prepared the parents.

On September 20, a special Mass and prayer service was organized for the victims of Manipur. The prayer service was conducted in all the villages and the total collection of Rs. 46000/- was sent to the Bishop's house to reach out to the concerned authorities. The volunteers played a vital role in conducting and motivating people for prayers and contribution.

From September 26 to 29, a retreat was organized for all the heads and village Catechists of South Deanery in Mahuadanr Parish. 55 catechists participated in the retreat. Rev. Fr. Morice Toppo, the Dean, was the main preacher of the retreat. On September 26, there was a Deanery meeting in Dawna Parish. The main agenda was the awakening of the tribal soul, rectification of marriage and a new way of means for cash collection.

St. Joseph's School has introduced half blazer for class XI students and all the girls studying in class VII to X. The school campus was used for Khelo Jharkhand at Block Level. Around 60 students

from the school got selected to compete at district level. Practically all the Hockey Centre boys have gone to Ranchi for trial to be selected to the National level. Registration for classes IX and XI is going on for Board examination in X and XII. Admission in all the classes is closed. In the hostel kitchen shed is being built under the supervision of Fr. Moris.

We had distinguished guests from Australia: Mr. Siva Kumar and Fr. Bob Slattery. Both of them visited the school and motivated our students and teachers. Fr. Vincent Hansdak, the Provincial, came to Mahuadanr for his official visit. During our community meeting he addressed and encouraged us. Fr. Francis Marian came to give a one-day seminar to all the treasurers of the Chechari valley. He informed them about the latest changes in the accounting system.

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE MAHUADANR

On 26th August 2023, Freshers Day Celebration was organised in the college auditorium to welcome the newcomers. In a very well-organised program which included music, dance, speeches, the Principal Fr. MK Jose, exhorted the freshman students to set a clear and lofty goal at the very outset of their new journey and work hard to achieve it. The students were also informed about the weeklong orientation program that was to follow soon.

On 5th September, the Teacher's Day, students felicitated the teachers and presented them with a cultural fiesta. Student speakers representing the student community acknowledged their indebtedness to the teachers for their invaluable contribution. In the afternoon, a Throwball match between the lady staff and female students and a Football match for male staff and male students were organised. Both the matches were closely contested but students finally emerged winners in both the events.

Mr. Sivakumar from Australia visited the college on 21st September accompanied by Fr. Bob Slattery. Taking advantage of Dr. Sivakumar's presence, the College organized an International Seminar on Research and Innovation in Academic Excellence. Both Dr. Sivakumar and Fr. Bob addressed the participants in the seminar. Dr. Sivakumar urged the faculty and the students to develop a questioning mind as it leads to new discoveries and innovation. Fr. Bob drew the attention of the participants to the role of research in ordinary life like sports and games etc. On this occasion, two professors presented their papers. The day also saw the display of excellent tribal dance repertoire by our students. Dr. Sivakumar was greatly impressed by the art expression of our students.

On 23rd September the Karam Celebration was organised. Led by the Hindi department, the Karm Puja was performed felicitously as the Karam branch was brought and later immersed into water ceremoniously. Fr. Samir gave a short Karam message and highlighted on its significance on ecology.

On 26th of September, Chhechari valley Jesuits had a birthday celebration of Bro. David and Fr. Emile at St. Joseph' Community at Mahuadanr. We also had a community meeting, in which Fr. Jose shared with the community the key points from the recently concluded meeting of superiors' and directors of work. Fr. Patras and Fr. James Dungdung also added their observations. Coincidentally, Fr. Vincent Hansdak was present for the occasion and addressed the community briefly.

PAKRIPATH

A warm greeting from Pakripath to everyone. It is awesome to meet you all through this newsletter and let you know the happenings that take place here at Pakripath. On September 3, we had a

common meeting where all the three groups, namely: youth, catholic sabah and Mahila Sangh, gathered together to plan out for the future. On September 5, the Teacher's Day celebration was held. We had a grand eucharistic celebration animated by the students followed by a variety of cultural programs performed by our school children. The students honoured the teachers and presented them with gifts as a token of their gratitude. later a sumptuous meal was served to the teachers. On the same day, there was a reunion of all the three units at ALERT CENTRE to discuss and plan for the month of September.

On September 13, the Krusveer children had a day of recollection and on September 14, on the feast day of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, they animated the eucharistic celebration in which new Krusveer children took their oath and the old ones renewed the same. On September 15, on the feast day of Our Lady of Sorrows, Fr. Arun Abilash, being a Servite, invited the other two units for the holy eucharistic celebration on the feast day of the Patroness of his Order. Once the eucharistic celebration was over, we had 'Agape' prepared by Fr. Arun. It was on September 15 itself when Fr. Chacko and Fr. Prakash, from Hazaribag, visited our community to have a look at the site and to take measurements for the upcoming new hostel building. On September 17, in the parish we had an evaluation on the feast of St. Monica by the Mahila Sangh.

On September 22, Mr. Siva from Australia visited us with the intention of providing toilet facilities to the poor children. The school children gave him a warm welcome and presented him with a short cultural program. He assured the children that the next time he would visit, he would come with good news to them. On the same day, Fr. James Dungdung left for Hazaribagh for a meeting. On September 23, a Jesuit priest from Ranchi, with a nun from Holy Cross

congregation, visited us with the agenda of meeting the people of the parish to help them out in cultivation. On September 24, the process to get electricity continued and the electricians fixed the meter-box and in the evening Fr. James Dungdung returned home.

It was on September 26, at Dauna, that the deanery meeting was held. Many issues faced in the parishes were brought out for discussion and we also planned for the following month. On the same day in our school, the examination of the first trimester started. Last but not least, we are very much overjoyed to inform you all that we got electricity on September 28. We hope to have a better future. As a whole, the month of September was a bit busy one and we hope to have a fruitful mission in the upcoming days too. Wish you all a very good continuation.

TUNDTOLI

This year, there was insufficient rain until August, so some people could not cultivate their crops on time. However, those who managed to do it have a good harvest, as there has been enough rain since September. We are grateful to Fr. Dilip Ekka for providing two syntax water tanks for the boy's hostel.

Fr. Xavier Tigga's younger sister, Stella Maria Tigga, married Abhay Minz, a Telco Company employee in Jamshedpur. Stella's health worsened on 25 August. The doctor at the Tata Motor Company Hospital diagnosed her with advanced bone T.B. and prescribed a strong medicine that harmed her already weakened body. A few days later, she was admitted to Tata Medical Hospital in ICU. Her sodium level was critical, but it was controlled. However, she had multiple organ failure. She received the sacraments. On 6th September night, the doctors kept her for observation. On 7th morning, she passed away. The burial ceremony took place in the afternoon. On 17th September, the 'GAMI' mass in Golmuri

Church and a special prayer service in honour of Stella were organized at her house. They were attended by the family members, neighbours and well-wishers. She is survived by her husband and three children; the eldest daughter recently got a job. Fr. Xavier thanks all the Province men for their prayers and support. He expresses his gratitude to Frs. Provincial, M.K. Jose, Sushil Lakra, Patras Tirkey, and Dilip Ekka in a special way.

Fr. Provincial arrived at Tundtoli on 27th September for the visitation. It was very difficult to reach Tundtoli that day, but Fr. Provincial made it. He first took a route via Kuro-Shahpur village to Tundtoli, but the road near the river at Parhatoli village was very muddy, so he had to go back to Mahuadanr and reached Tundtoli via Rajdanda-Beltoli. The students of Lieven's Middle School welcomed him on his arrival and he addressed them and the teachers at the assembly ground. Then he proceeded to the Jesuit residence.

NEWS FROM OUTSIDE THE PROVINCE

KALWA, MUMBAI

The Chhota Nagpur Football Tournament is a great historical event of Migrant Ministry in Mumbai, which is organized by St. Arnold' Sport Club, Bandra. This tournament took place on September 10 this year, to which 16 teams participated from different Chhota Nagpur football clubs. The Toppo Brother's team was the winner, whereas St. Teresa "B" was the runner up. The day was a great meeting point for the migrants. I offered a few holy masses for the migrants in St. Peter's Church, St. Teresa Church in Bandra, and Good Shepherd Church in Navi Mumbai.

ISI Bangalore and CITRA, Secunderabad had organized a combined "Legal Literacy Training" program in Secunderabad from September 13 – 15, in which 38 religious and lay participants,

along with the Loyola Academy College Students (about 150 Students), took part. This was an eye-opening and enriching event for me. Soon after this program, on September 16, Fr. Martin, the MAIN coordinator, gave inputs on the MAIN operation for the participants who are directly associated with the MAIN from South Asian Assisstancy. He very much emphasized to us on giving assistance to the distressed migrants.

Our Karam celebrations have already started from September 24 and will go on till October 29. All of us agreed upon the unit wise Karam celebration. The Harvest Festival (Nayakhani) and Karam Festival on October 8 at St. Teres a 's Bandra will be presided and graced by His Grace Rev. Felix Toppo, SJ Archbishop of Ranchi. Hindi speaking priests are very limited in number, so we shall shuffle ourselves according to the needs and demands. I am sure of taking the role of the main celebrant in two places. Thus, the months of September and October are a Graceful and prosperous time for the migrants of Mumbai.

Fr. Amit Kujur, SJ

DNC, PUNE

In September 2023, we had a diverse array of academic and community events scheduled. The month was gracious indeed, as it began with First Friday Adoration, followed by various events like the Staff Picnic, the Quiz Competition, a recollection, the province mass, ministry and usual classes throughout the weeks. We had a Karam celebration in the community on September 22 and on September 24 with all the Chhota Nagpur brethren. It was indeed an enjoyable experience to share the joy of "Karam". We had the annual visit of the PCF and it was indeed enlightening and encouraging as he met us individually and in common as province men for mass and fellowship meal. Finally, we all are engaged in daily prayers, rosary processions, and

adoration, fostering a strong sense of community and spirituality.

PAPAL SEMINARY PUNE

I have been busy with the renovation work of our seminary hall since July. I hope to complete the work by the first week of October.

On 5th September, the Adivasi St. Mother Teresa Academy celebrated St. Mother Teresa of Kolkata's feast day. On 7th September, St. Mary's Tamil Academy celebrated the birthday of Mother Mary. On 8th and 9th September, we had our recollection, and Fr. Lindsay Lobo, SJ was the preacher.

The philosophers and theologians had their council meeting to discuss their progress in Papal Seminary and to express their concern towards its betterment.

On 15th September, we had Karam celebration at our seminary. On this occasion, Fr. Patras Tirkey, SJ delivered a meaningful message to the community. On 19th September, we had a spiritual conversation on "called to suffer". Fr. Babu HGN, a doctoral student of JD, addressed us on this topic.

SATYA NILAYAM, CHENNAI

We, the Satya Nilayam community, started off a new phase with hope, zest and determination to continue our academic year. The month of September brought happiness and we began with new expectations and a new spirit that we all received at the end of October with a meaningful and fruitful recollection talk given by Fr. Benedict. In the first week of the month, we had the final vows celebration of Fr. Patrick SJ of Pune Province. On 8th, we celebrated the Nativity of BVM at Besant Nagar Shrine, where we all experienced great and enriching blessings from Mother Mary. The next day, on 9th, we celebrated ONAM followed by a cultural program and

traditional ONAM food. It was a month of growth, learning, celebrations and social activities. We also had an energetic Karam celebration during which we performed lively dances, sang traditional songs and had a cultural program. It was a time for joy, community gathering and cultural celebrations. The energetic nature of the celebration involved us with vibrant music and dance performances, creating a festive atmosphere. Through the visitation of Fr. Pius Karketta, the PCF of Hazaribag, we received new spirits and energetic power within us all to do well in our studies. The latter part of the month was dedicated to our development through many virtual seminars. At present, we are having classes every day and preparing for the coming exams in the month of October. Kindly keep us in your prayers. May God bless each and every one with good health and mind.

Sch. Aseet Kumar Bharti SJ

JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE, NEW DELHI

The month of September was a busy month for me. The PRM project in North East completed its first year of the project on September 29. As per the requirement of the project, all the coordinators and the director of the project were gathered in Guwahati (Assam) for the Annual Review meeting on September 10. From the Regional office, the Regional Director, the Program Officer, the finance person and the HR Manager - Fr. Sunil Bara were present to observe and to guide the project for the next year. Four Jesuits were involved in the annual evaluation meeting and all of them stayed in Jesuit Residence of Kohima region where there is a regional superior office. This evaluation got over on September 13 and all regional office persons left for Goa on September 14. The Delhi Regional office had organized a three-day Annual Retreat for the Regional Office staff of Delhi in St. Xavier's Retreat House Baga Beach, Goa. There were 9 persons from Delhi Regional Office. Fr. Stephan -

Regional Director- guided the retreat. It was a time of personal reflection and meditation on our past activities of the project activities. The team was spiritually enhanced by this retreat. The team was back to Delhi on September 17.

From September 19 to 27, I was in Bangalore for the Annual Partner Review meeting with other 5 partners. Some 30 participants from each partner 5-6 members each, were present for this Annual Partner Review meeting along with all the directors of different partners. The program was organized in a professional way. It was a time for evaluating the past activities and learning for the future project. Now the appraisal recruitment process has been started for two teams: North East and Delhi. Fr. Sunil Bara SJ

JOR BAGH, DELHI

After returning from the International Magis and World Youth Day at Lisbon, I had an annual meeting with all the province youth coordinators at Yes-J (Youth Empowerment Service) Centre in the Andhra Loyola College campus, Vijayawada. It was a two-day meeting. The first day we spent together to know the various youth activities of different provinces. We also had a resource person Fr. Raja Donthi, SDB, the expert in youth ministry who led us to a deeper understanding of today's youth and their behavioural and emotional turmoil in general with his talk on the theme 'For the New Millennials'. The second day was dedicated to knowing the mission of Andhra Province.

At the beginning of this month, I was in Ranchi to form a local core committee and brief the committee about the Conference Level Magis programme at Ranchi. The programme is scheduled from October 18 to October 22, 2023. During these eight days of stay in Ranchi, I had an opportunity to go to Bokaro to meet Fr. Vincent Nirmal Kullu, the youth coordinator of Hazaribag Province, to discuss and make plans on

how to improve the youth ministry in the province. I also had a day to meet some of our province men.

On September 24, the domestic working girls at South Extension celebrated the feast of Karam. There were around 270 girls from the Chota Nagpur area. I was invited to celebrate mass for them. I was happy to see our Sch. Sushil Bage getting involved actively to help the girls in singing and dancing. After the mass we had a festive meal followed by Karam dance.

On September 29 we had an opportunity to come together as a province for a province dinner at Vidya Jyoti. From our province we are 5 of us in Delhi namely- Fr. Sunil Bara at ISI, Schs. Nelson, Suhil, Arockia at Vidya Jyoti and me, Fr. Arbind Beck, in Jor Bagh. All the three theologians are doing well.

VIDYAJYOTI, DELHI

The month of September began with the recollection, preached by Fr. Stan Alla SJ, on 'De Status Societatis.' It was a thought-provoking talk to examine and ponder over where the Holy Spirit is leading us. On this theme the entire community reflected and had spiritual conversations within the group. On September 8, the effect of G20 was strictly observed and we had online classes. From September 11 to 15, we had Mid-Semester Examination and on September 16 we had a Site Seeing of Delhi for the JFCT and NTC first year scholastics. On September 18, the new VJ, Flynn-Meagher Library was inaugurated. The guest of honor was Dr. Sivakumar; a facilitator of Flynn Foundation, Sydney, Australia. On September 24, we celebrated the festival of Karam and had guests from Germany with us to share the joy followed by an interactive session along with Fr. POSA. On September 27, there was a Qawwali show by Nizami Bandhu Youth for our German

guests as part of cultural exchange and sponsored by them.

Sch. Sushil Kr. Bage SJ

TIDINGS FROM XTC

XTC is currently brimming with joy and a multitude of activities and courses designed for our novices. In particular, Fr. Anderson Fernandes conducted a course on the Synoptic Gospels which greatly aided the novices in their spiritual growth and brought them closer together.

Following this enlightening course, our novices dedicated their time to preparing for a Scout and Guides program for the children of Chubby School. During this period, the novices organized and facilitated various games in a creative manner, while also learning about different activities related to the Scout and Guides movement. The culmination of this program was a grand campfire, which added an exciting and memorable touch to the experience.

Towards the end of August, Fr. Felix guided the novices in a course centred on self-awareness. This course allowed our novices to gain deeper insights into themselves and their own personal growth.

On the 8th of September, the novices engaged in a day of reflection and recollection with the theme "Following Jesus in the Footsteps of Mary." They contemplated how Mary followed Jesus and faithfully adhered to His commandments throughout her life. We were fortunate to have the presence of Fr. Dinesh and Fr. Lancy from the Gujarat province. Fr. Lancy presided over an ecological Mass, and Fr. Dinesh delivered a two-day talk on the Enneagram.

Fr. Anthony continued his ongoing course on discernment, illustrating how discernment is a recurring theme in the Bible, the lives of saints, and notably in the life of St. Ignatius of Loyola.

During one week, we had the pleasure of hosting ninth-grade students from St. Paul's Khanapur, who visited our farm. Additionally, over the weekend, our first-year novices were actively engaged in conducting a half-day camp for Scout and Guides participants from the 4th, 5th, and 6th standard students. Between the 18th and 20th of September, we organized a vocation camp. Our novices meticulously planned and executed the camp, ensuring its smooth operation. Presently, our novices are diligently attending their daily classes as part of their ongoing formation.

The Communication Team of XTC

OVERSEAS

PARIS, FRANCE

After a long summer holiday, at the beginning of September, we returned to our respective communities, bringing with us the enriching experiences of our annual retreat and our diverse summer apostolates in various locations. Our community life commenced with an orientation program, where we warmly welcomed newcomers arriving from different corners of the globe. Our academic journey at Centre Sèvres for this year officially kicked off on September 18th with a two-week back-to-school session program. This year's academic session is unified by the overarching theme, "Seeking and Rescuing What Was Lost." This session encompassed a multitude of conferences and discussions, all centred on the core theme of "Salvation." These discussions delved into critical questions, such as what is the profound meaning of salvation, who it is meant for, who is the agent of salvation, how it is perceived, and why it is crucial. This comprehensive two-week program concluded on September 29th, significantly broadening our comprehension of God's salvation.

While this session held immense significance, it was also marked by a deeply sorrowful event. We received the grievous news of the passing of Fr.

Philip Endean, a British Jesuit and esteemed theology professor at Centre Sèvres. Fr. Philip had been battling cancer for several months. On the morning of the 18th, he conveyed his message through the rector of Centre Sèvres, extending his best wishes to all of us for the session. Tragically, in the evening around 10 pm, he peacefully breathed his last. We came together to commemorate his life and bid our final farewell at his funeral, which took place on September 26th. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers as we remember his contributions and the legacy he left behind. George, Amit, Amardeep

MADRID, SPAIN

This summer I spent a whole month in the community of Alcalá, serving in the infirmary. It was great to be able to offer my help, spend time, listen and exchange experiences with fellow Jesuits who are praying for society. The new provincial Fr. Enrique Puiggrós Llavínés SJ made his first visit to the community of Alcalá, to appoint a vice superior. After the holy mass he addressed the entire community. It was a memorable and fruitful summer. Later, I joined the two-day youth program. It was for five hundred minors from Jesuit institutions, held in Villafranca de los Barros. That was a preparation prior to World Youth Day (WYD). In Lisbon, we began WYD with a meeting of Spaniards on a beach and another separate holy mass in the church of the Incarnation, for all those who had some connection with the Jesuits. The entire group made a pilgrimage to Fátima, in addition to participating in the main WYD events with Pope Francis. Overall, the WYD experience was enriching and unforgettable. After WYD, I made a week-long pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela; it was wonderful. On August 17 I began my annual retreat under the direction of Fr. Josep Francesco SJ at Loyola. I joined the scholastic reunion after the retreat, which was at Loyola itself. In the end we had the testimony and sharing

of three companions from Nicaragua. It was painful to hear their experiences of suffering, ordeal, exodus, etc. and how the Jesuits faced difficulties and challenges under the current regime, until the closure of the university (UCA). We had another sad news that the university lost a profound professor, Fr Santiago Madrigal SJ. This academic year the university was honoured with the presence of the new bishop of Madrid Rev. José Cobo, who inaugurated it with a Holy Mass. On the other hand, the provincial celebrated a holy mass for us in the community, to mark the beginning. This same evening all the Jesuits in formation attended a talk on creating safe environment in our institutions. It was followed by a dinner at Piquer.

SRI LANKA

The good news is that my visa has been extended for another year until September 15, 2024 without any hassle. It is a multiple-entry visa. The provincials on either shore have given me permission to make a short visit to the province in December and return via Kochi in early January 2024 after making a brief family visit. Five Jesuits were ordained on September 23 at St. Sebastian's parish in Negombo. There were 150

priests concelebrating and about 2000 parishioners. On September 30 there will be one more Jesuit ordination at Mannar Cathedral. I will be traveling with Fr. Provincial to Mannar for the occasion. The SL province has a good tradition of Jesuits traveling great distances to be present for such occasions. Though the religious in general are facing a vocation crisis, the province is not doing too badly for vocations. There are four second- and five first-year novices in the novitiate. I was glad to meet the tertian masters and the tertians at the ordination. The tertianship has 15 tertians from India and two from South Korea. A good number of them were familiar faces for me. Suddenly, the good image of 'Bharat' and the G20 success seem to be getting a bad beating, whatever might have been the triggering incident. The powers that be cannot any more explain away the injustices and the rot that are surfacing especially their minority bashing policies. I hope and pray that our country's leadership wakes up and takes immediate steps to clean up its own regressive and decadent attitudes and policies.

Fr. Edward Mudavassery SJ

REMEMBER THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS

02-09-2023	Fr. Koyipuram Thomas, SJ (AND 94/73)
06-09-2023	Br. Joseph Wungmayon, SJ (KHM 29/10)
07-09-2023	Ms. Stella Maria Tigga, the younger sister of Fr. Xavier Tigga, SJ
09-09-2023	Fr. Susairaj, SJ (PAT 68/48)
14-09-2023	Fr. Joseph Valiamangalam, SJ (GUJ 73/54)
24-09-2023	Fr. Dion Lobo, SJ BOM 78/62

DEATH ANNIVERSARY

OCTOBER

02/1988	Fr. John Moore
04/2000	Fr. Ian Travers-Ball (Bro. Andrew MC)
05/2010	Fr. Angelus Tudu
08/2007	Fr. Kevin Cronin
11/1978	Fr. Austin Kelly
11/2017	Fr. Ken McNamara
12/1995	Fr. Joseph Depypere
17/1983	Fr. Edward De Meulder
19/2017	Fr. Pradeep I. Shail
20/1991	Fr. Louis Defrijn
22/2012	Fr. Oswald Summerton
24/1997	Fr. A.T. Thomas
29/1963	Fr. James Collins

NOVEMBER

6/1984	Prakash Tigga
8/2016	Herbert Balding
11/1982	Peter Lewis
14/1984	James Thwaites
17/2020	Lawrence Saldanha
18/1968	Nicolai Bilic
20/2002	Otto Bhosle
21/1995	Yacub Tirkey
30/1980	Kevin Grogan