

Calcutta Jesuit Newsletter

কলকাতা যীশুসংঘের বার্তা



Xavier Sadan, 9/3 Middleton Row, Kolkata 700 071 West Bengal INDIA

CJNL - 660

December 2017

2017/10

From Fr Provincial's Desk

It has been a little more than two and a half months since I became Provincial. Sickness and different holidays have prevented me from visiting you. The visit of the Regional Assistant, Fr. Vernon D'Cunha has been in a way a blessing for the Province. His feed back at the end of his visit here was a welcome review of our life and work. We are involved in a variety of Ministries – education, pastoral, social, communication, youth, spiritual ministries both here and in Bangladesh.

In the words of Fr. Vernon, “a lot of good work is being done here.” The question we need to ask ourselves is whether we are well knit as a Community.

While individual Jesuits do great work about the Province, do we share our work with our own community members? The mission is given to the Community whose head is the local Superior. We need to develop bonds of communication among

the members of the Community.

We need to find occasions to share our lives and works with one another without the need of extra props like special dinners. We need to witness to the vows we have taken and be seen as men

of our vows. As Jesuits we are missioned by our Provincial/Superior. It is our belief that this mission as given to us by our Provincial/Superior is what God invites us to do. The feast of Christmas is a celebration of the second person of the Blessed Trinity becoming a frail human person to do the Will of His Father.

May we who call ourselves “Companions of Jesus” be companions

to Him and to all with whom He places us with. I wish each of you a Blessed and Holy Christmas and a New Year filled with hope and enthusiasm to serve the Lord with joy.

Fr. Raphael Joseph Hyde, S.J.



Fr Provincial's Program

December 2017

04 - 06 : Visitation, Vidyajyoti Delhi

07 - 08 : Province Consult

09 : GB Meeting St. Xavier's University

11 - 13 : Visitation : Jhantipahari, Mirga, Bankura

15 : Felicitation of the newly ordained Priests

18 - 19 : Visitation : Chamrusai

26 - 03 Jan : Province Retreat

Fr General's Appointment

- **Fr. John Wilfred Lobo (56)** appointed Provincial of Darjeeling Province. He will assume office on 29th December 2017.
- **Fr. John Kerketta** appointed as Consultor of the Province w.e.f. 09.11.2017.
- Fr. General has invited **Frs. John Kerketta, Mahananda Singh** and **Br. Chottu Hembrom**, for the final vows.



Visit of Fr Vernon to Calcutta Province

Fr. Vernon D'Cunha, Regional Assitant, visited Calcutta Province from 16th to 24th of November 2017. He visited a number of Jesuit houses, institutions and mission stations. He spent most of his time meeting individual Jesuits and he also had meetings with small groups of Jesuits at various places in the Province: Dhyan Ashram, Raghampur, St. Lawrence, St. Xavier's Calcutta, St. Xavier's Burdwan, Pandua and also Mothbari and Dhaka in Bangladesh. Fr. Provincial accompanied him all through his visit.

Fr. Vernon also met the Superiors, Conveners of Commissions and Consultors as groups. He attended the ordination of **Fr. James Vivekanandan** and the jubilee celebration of the 10 jubilarians of the Province at SXC. It was a hectic and heavy schedule for him.

We sincerely thank Fr. Vernon for his inspiring presence among us and for his simple, friendly and unassuming ways of going about and yet perceptive of details and challenging us to follow our way of proceeding in the Society. We assure him of our prayers and good wishes.



Fr. Vernon D'Cunha, Regional Assistant, interacting with Novices and Juniors at Dhyan Ashram on November 16, 2017.

Ordination of Dn. Vivekanandan



Deacon James Vivekanandan was ordained by Archbishop Thomas D'Souza on 18 November at St. Xavier's College Chapel. The solemn Eucharistic celebration spiritually enriched his parents, sister, brother and many of his relatives (about 50 of them) who had come from Tamilnadu. There were 50 Calcutta Jesuit companions who came to bless and pray for **Dn. Vivek. Frs. Timir Singha, Anil Gomes, Dipak Gomes, Peter Arockiasamy and Anburaj** organised the whole ordination ceremony.

Fr. Vernon D'Cunha, the General's Assistant was present for the ordination. Prabhu Jishur Girja Parish choir was melodious as the songs were in Bengali, English and a few of Fr. Vivek's relatives sang Tamil hymns too. After the ordination, there was a short felicitation for Fr. Vivek. He thanked all those who accompanied him till his ordination. On 19 November Fr. Vivek celebrated his first Thanksgiving Mass in Tamil, in the M. C. Mother House, with all his relatives and friends. **Frs. Peter Arociasamy, Peter Durairaj and Anburaj** concelebrated with him. Fr. Vivek moved the congregation into devotion as he preached the homily, saying how his mother kept on praying for him. Fr. Vivek left for his hometown on 20 November to celebrate Eucharist with his family and relatives at different places.

Fr. Anburaj, SJ

Jubilarians' Evening

Calcutta Province celebrated the jubilee of 10 Jesuits on 23rd November 2017 in St. Xavier's College, Kolkata. The Thanksgiving Eucharist began with the introduction of the jubilarians: **Frs. Joseph De Souza and Patrick Walsh** (50 Years of Religious Life), **Francis Koikara, P. C. Mathew and Thottam Kuruvilla** (60 Years of Religious Life), **K. C. Jacob, Thomas Pullenkav and Gaston Roberge** (50 Years of Ordination), **Albert Huart** (60 Years of Ordination), and **Br. Thomas Carlo** (50 Years of Final Vows).

Fr. Raphael Hyde, the Provincial, presided over the concelebrated Eucharist with 45 priests and felicitated each Jubilarian with shawls and bouquets of flowers. Fr. Joseph De Souza preached God's ways of calling and leading each individual in His mission. Frs. Walsh, P. C. Mathew, Thottam and Br. Carlo expressed their gratitude to God for all the blessings received in their long life of mission in 'sonar bangla' (Golden Bengal). Fr. Vernon D'Cunha, General Assistant 'Ad Providentiam' and

Regional Assistant of South Asia, appreciated the Jubilarians for their generosity to respond to the call of Christ for the service of humanity.

Fr. M.S. Arockiasamy, the master of ceremonies, proposed the vote of thanks. He praised the Jesuit Juniors and the Novices for their melodious and meaningful singing during the Eucharist and thanked the friends and relatives of the Jubilarians for being part of the jubilee celebration. He also applauded **Fr. Dominic Savio (Rector)**, **Br. Chintamani Das**, **Fr. Timir Singha (for the liturgy)**, **Fr. Probal Gomes (Minister)** and their teams for their hard work to make this day a memorable one. The celebration concluded with a sumptuous fellowship meal in the School terrace.

Fr. Roshan Tirkey, SJ



Calcutta Jesuits : News and Views

Revisiting the Reformation - A symposium

Church leaders at an ecumenical symposium in Kolkata stressed the need for Christian unification as they spent time to understand some of the aspects of the Protestant Reformation, which challenged the 16th century Catholic Church to amend its ways.

“What unites us in Christ is greater than what divides us,” said Fr. Felix Raj, Principal, St. Xavier’s College, Kolkata. The program marked the first anniversary of the Joint Declaration for the Joint Commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, which Pope Francis and Bishop Munib Yunan, President of the Lutheran World Federation, signed on Oct. 13, 2016 in Lund, in Sweden. Fr. John Romus, former Dean of the Morning Star College, Major Seminary in Barrackpore, highlighted how the Reformation helped the Catholic Church re-examine itself. It also gave space for “cultural pluralism” allowing many denominational churches to exist alongside the Catholic Church. Lutheran theology also taught the need for Christians to stand up for human rights, Fr. Romus said.

Reverend Sunil Michael Caleb, Principal, Bishop’s College, Kolkata, taking the Protestant perspective, said the Reformation was “a necessary tragedy.” It was necessary to protest against rampant corruption in the Church but the resulting split was a tragedy, he said. “While the Reformation was a historical event in Europe, its’ unfortunate result has been the exporting of these divisions and denominations to countries like India,” Reverend Caleb said. Archbishop Thomas D’Souza of Calcutta urged participants to learn from

what happened 500 years ago. “Our task is to move forward believing in God, while commemorating Martin Luther’s 95 Theses of protest,” he said. (Source: UCAN)

News from St. Xavier’s University



Life is in full swing with academic programmes on the one side and construction works on the other. All the Jesuits are busy with their own mission entrusted to them. A lot of events took place during the last few weeks. The Italian Consul General, Mr. Damiano Francovich, paid a visit to the University and invited SXUK to participate in the programme being organized by the Consulate in Kolkata, on behalf of a few Universities from Italy, to explore the possibilities of student exchange and collaboration at different levels. Community members of St. Xavier’s College were our guests on November 17, to celebrate the birthday of our Campus Minister, **Fr. Arulappan**. It was a memorable get-together for all of us. On November 18, Fr. Vernon D’Cunha, Regional Assistant for South Asia, visited the University, accompanied by our Provincial, **Fr. Raphael J. Hyde**, and met personally the Vice Chancellor, **Fr. Felix Raj**, and the Vice Rector and Pro VC, **Fr. Sebastia L Raj**. He joined us for lunch, after going around the campus to have an idea about the various facilities. Besides, we had a couple of visitors from other Congregations Sr. Eugene D’Souza, the



Superior General of the Sisters of the Holy Cross and a group of Sacred Heart Sisters from Vellore, Tamilnadu. The University is getting ready to introduce some more new courses in the next academic year and the necessary preparations are on. The new courses are: MBA, UG and PG level Economics and UG level Mass Com. In the meantime, the students are burning their mid-night oil for their first Semester examinations which commence on 8th December. Finally, the next Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on 9th December and we are getting ready to welcome the Board Members.

Fr. Jeyakumar S. SJ

News from St. Xavier's College and School, Kolkata

College: In the Eastern Zone St. Xavier's College, Kolkata is the only College selected by the "Swacch Bharat Mission" of "Institutional Swachhta Ranking". Dr. Supriyo Patra, Department of Business Administration, received the Prestigious IRDP Award for remarkable achievements in Teaching, Research and Publications **Fr. Dominic Savio**, Principal, is given MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD AWARD by the West Bengal Board of Madrasah Education & Minority Affairs and Madrasah Education Department, Govt. of West Bengal.

School: Class 12 students of St. Xavier's School along with **Fr. M. S. Arockiasamy** and their Class teacher, visited the Cyber Police Station at Lalbazar and learnt about Cyber Crime, Misuse of Social Network, operation of OC Control room, Traffic Control room etc. A follow up programme was held in the school for the students. They also participated in the UN Day Celebration organised by WEBFUNA at ICCR. Syndicate Bank organised an essay writing competition titled "My Vision: Corruption Free India" in pursuance of the Vigilance Awareness Week. SXCS students participated in VIBES 2017 organised by The Statesman and the debate team from Class 9 won the competition. RBI conducted a Financial Inclusion and Literacy programme along with a quiz at SXCS for the Economics students of Classes 11 and 12. The Science Club organized an inter-school science exhibition. Five schools including the host school participated. The students exhibited new inventions such as solar based house maintenance and robots etc.

Community: Baruipur Diocese felicitated Bishop Linus Gomes on his 40th Anniversary of Episcopal ordination with a thanksgiving Eucharist in Baruipur Cathedral. Fr. Dominic along with a few community members attended the felicitation programme. Fr. Vernon, General Assistant, has completed the visit of St. Xavier's community. In his feed back to the Rector, he appreciated the work done by the school, college and the Province Infirmary. He has recommended that the history of the house and the institutions be maintained for future reference.

Health Bulletin: Fr. Nirmalraj of DumkaRaiganj is being treated for Dengue. He will be brought back to the Infirmary after his treatment in the nursing home. Fr. Tom Soosai of Dumka Rajganj has been admitted to the hospital for his lung treatment. He is responding to the treatment very well.

Fr. M.S. Arockiasamy, SJ

News from St. Lawrence High School

The 6th Inter-Jesuit School Football Tournament took place at St. Lawrence High School on 28th and 29th of October, 2017. St. Xavier's, Burdwan, St. Xavier's, Durgapur, St. Xavier's School, St. Xavier's, Kolkata, St. Paul's School, Raghobpur and St. Lawrence participated. **Fr. Dominic Savio** was the Chief Guest and **Fr. Jerome Francis** was the Guest of Honour on the first day. Mr. Thean Law, a renowned sportsperson was the Chief Guest on the next day. During a colourful inaugural ceremony, a western dance show, a lively song performance was done by the school western band. The games were full of spine chilling moments. All the teachers along with the students witnessed brilliant performances by the young heroes. An enthralling exhibition match was held between St. Xavier's School, Raiganj and Premiere Football Academy where the latter emerged as the winners. The tournament was won by, St. Lawrence and the runners up was St. Xavier's, Burdwan. The tournament ended with the prize distribution ceremony and the felicitation of the dignitaries.

Ms. Somashree Hazra, Teacher



Each year we celebrate St. Lawrence Day in an innovative way. An inter-house drama competition is organised. This year's theme, was "Lawrencian – Not a back bencher". There were some outstanding presentations and Aloysius House from the Primary Section and Britto House from the secondary section emerged winners. The teachers took more than 350 children to the Birla Planetarium. They visited a gallery featuring photographs, diagrams and models of heavenly bodies in outer space. It was a fulfilling experience for all of us.

Ms. Saswati Biswas, Teacher

News from Raghobpur

There are many wings of the parish of which SVP is one of them. There are only a few members who are very poor themselves, rickshaw pullers, fish sellers and daily labourers. They regularly have meetings with **Fr. Salvatore Murmu**, new parish priest. They had their program for the poorest of the poor to help them with materials. They go from door to door to collect funds for the poor. On the 27th of October, the feast of Vincent De Paul, 120 poor people attended a solemn mass followed by high tea and received rice, dal, sugar, bag etc. They were happy and thanked everyone present.

Fr. Patrick Walsh was very happy to celebrate the Holy mass on his 70th Birthday on 30th October in the Community chapel. As he was trying to replace a stool by himself, he slipped and fell and fractured his right leg. Still he completed the mass bearing the pain. He was rushed to nearby nursing



home for immediate treatment. The same night he was taken to St Xavier's infirmary. After an operation his leg was plastered and he is recovering in SXC infirmary. He will have to stay there for six weeks. 15 of our Catholic women got installed as sodality mothers on October 6th. They promised that they will conduct prayer services in the families and visit the sick regularly.

Fr Arul Joseph, Fr Jimmy Keepuram and Fr. Salvatore Murmu attended Santal colloquium at Dumka SDC from 24 to 26th, October 2017. It was decided that all Catholic families must have an altar in the house. 35 of our faithful attended the Ruby Jubilee celebration of **Bp Nirmal Linus Gomes** (97). Our New priest **Fr. Sahaya Jude** accompanied the people.

Fr Salvatore Murmu, SJ

News from SXC, Raghampur Campus

This month the students are giving their end semester exams. Prof. Subrata Sinha has joined as an Assistant Professor in Bengali Department and will be teaching the students from the next semester. Prof. Shrimanti Ghosal of Political Science Department and Prof. Tinni Goswami of History Department are going to Vienna, Austria for an International Conference to present their papers.

Udayani Updates

Udayani received a Kolkata NGO Leadership Award from World Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Day on 8 November. **Fr. Irudaya Jothi** received the award on behalf of Udayani. With this recognition the Activists and the Women feel much encouraged and energized. There was a state-level coordinators' meeting for Right to Food Campaign held in Udayani on 9 November. They have planned to have various activities at the block and District level to get the Maternity Entitlements implemented in the State. The Executive Committee Meeting and The Governing Body Meeting was held on 14 November. **Frs. Raphael Hyde, Jerome Francis, John Kerketta, Probal Gomes and Joseph De Souza** were present in the meetings. Mr. Harsh Mander, a Human Right activist and Former Commissioner of Supreme Court for Food related Issues, was with us on 16th November. He spoke to the staff about Right to Food Campaign and new strategies for monitoring, and in the afternoon, addressed a large group of activists from Bengal on 'Karwan e Mohabaat' in Bharat Sabha

Hall. Udayani has been requested to be part of this venture in the State. Udayani had a meeting with Navadanya, an NGO run by Dr. Vandana Shiva in view of collaboration. **Fr. Anburaj** visited one of their centres in Bajkul, Purba Midnapore on 22 November. **Fr. Joe Xavier** was in Udayani to discuss the Assessment study of the activities of Udayani. He is very positive about Udayani works and its stand.

News from Dhyan Ashram Novitiate

On 12 we went to Kalahridhaya to enjoy the professional dance programs performed by the students of the institute on their annual day. We celebrated the feast of St Stanislas Kostka, the Patron Saint of Novices, on 13 November with a community Eucharist presided over by **Fr Sajeev Painunkal**, the Novice Master, followed by a day-out at the zoo.

On Nov 16 **Fr Vernon D' Cunha**, the General Assistant of South Asia, visited Dhyan Ashram. We had an opportunity to interact with him on his visit. We participated the Priestly Ordination of **Dn James Vivekanadan, SJ**, and Jubilee celebration of our ten senior Jesuits on 18th and 23rd respectively at St Xavier's College Chapel, Calcutta.

News from Dhyan Ashram Juniorate

On Oct 31, Dhyan Ashram community celebrated the feast of St Alphonsus Rodriguez, the patron saint of Brothers. We had a special prayer service for **Br Chottu Hembron**, the minister of the house.

On Nov 2, on the occasion of All Souls Day, we had a solemn Eucharistic celebration at Dhyan Ashram cemetery. **Fr Aloysius Carvalho**, during his homily, spoke of the unique contributions made by the Jesuits those who are laid to rest in this holy place and invited us to imbibe their exemplary services and dedications.

Nov 16 was a day of blessings for the Dhyan Ashram community to have **Fr Vernon D'Cunha**, General Assistant 'ad providentiam' and Regional Assistant of South Asia. We, the Novices and Juniors, were privileged to have an hour-long interactive session during which Fr Vernon encouraged us to be rooted in prayer life, to be genuinely contemplative in action and passionately keep our goal clear, refined and focused.

In the midst of our busy schedules we spared some time on Nov 22 evaluating our life in the Juniorate. We were enriched to listen to each other about how each one has been progressing in academic, spiritual, community and apostolic dimensions.

Nov 23, brought broad smiles on our faces as we left for St Xavier College, Calcutta, to share the joys of ten Jubilarians on the occasion of their Jubilee celebration. Leading choir during such solemn Eucharistic celebration was a humbling experience that boosted our confidence.

Fr Julian S Das was in Patna, Nov. 24-26, attending the Assistancy level meeting of Ignatian Spirituality commission conveners. After a cataract operation, **Fr Pierre Jacob** is back to his regular spiritual accompaniment.

- Sch. Johnson Soren, SJ

News from Chamrusai

Many activities took place in Premanada Boarding and School in November. They started with monthly unit test for the students, 'Children's Day' on November 14 and a picnic with all the Ashramites. All enjoyed and expressed their happiness by singing, dancing and having fun. November 21, 2017 was a very significant day for the class IV students, who were taken to Digha for educational exposure programs. 221 students were accompanied by 14 teachers and Staff. Students saw the sea shore and for many of them this was the first experience. Later they visited the 'Science City' and Planetarium where a short film on 'Journey to moon and back' surprised the students very much. Fr. De Cocq's band went for the 'Christ



the King' feast day procession to Kharagpur on November 26, 2017. The children are also getting ready for their annual exams, commencing from December 02, 2017.

Fr. Sebastian Xalxo, S.J.

News from Prabhu Jisur Girja Parish

On November 5, 2017, 16 children received First Holy Communion during the Eucharist celebrated by **Fr. Dominic Gomes**, the Vicar General, at St. Teresa's Church, Moulali, **Frs. Mahananda Singh, S.J. and Cyriac Sebastian, S.J.**, PP and Assistant PP, concelebrated. Teachers prepared the children well. The English choir and the altar servers made the occasion both devotional and solemn.



Archbishop Thomas D' Souza made a canonical visit of Prabhu Jisur Girja parish on 17th and 19th November. He went to the homes of the sick and the elderly members of the parish who have been receiving Holy Communion at home regularly. He also met the Presidents and the Secretaries of the Action groups. On 19th November, thirty one children received the sacrament of confirmation from the Archbishop, during a Solemn High Mass celebrated at 5:30 pm. **Frs. Moloy D' Costa,**

Dean of Kolkata deanery, **P.J. Joseph**, superior of Prabhu Jisur Girja, **Mahananda Singh**, Parish Priest and **Fr. Cyriac Sebastian**, Asst. Parish Priest, joined the concelebration.

- Andrio Arup Gomes

Jisu Ashram, Pandua

A series of important events took place at Jisu Ashram in the month of November. On 2nd November 'All Souls Day', the people assembled at the cemetery to commemorate the deceased and prayed for them in the Holy Eucharist. About six hundred faithful attended. **Fr. John** presided over the Holy mass and **Fr. Joseph Alexander** blessed the graves.

The annual sports day of St. Xavier's Primary school was on 11th November. Children performed a march past in colourful house jerseys which was much appreciated by the audience. Children performed a beautiful drill performance, enjoyed a variety of fun games and the whole day was full of life on the ground and the winners received prizes. **Fr. Joseph Alexander** was the chief guest of the day. On Children's day, 14th November, the children had a picnic.



The KGP community and boarding children welcomed **Fr. Vernon D' Cunha**, Regional Assistant, and **Fr. Raphael Hyde**, Provincial, with a tribal dance on 17 November. It was a wonderful experience for him with tribal children. His visit was very brief and he impressed us very much.

Fr. John kerketta, S.J.

Calcutta Jesuits at UN Climate Summit in Germany

Over 25 Jesuits and co-workers belonging to the EcoJesuit network of the Society of Jesus participated in the United Nation's Conference of Parties (UN COP23), a climate change conference, between 6-17 November in Bonn, Germany. From India, **Fr. Xavier Jeyaraj, S.J.**, Jesuit social and ecology secretariat, Rome, and **Fr. Xavier Savarimuthu, S.J.**, South Asia, St. Xavier's College, Kolkata. Nearly 200 countries met for two weeks to discuss on how to implement the 2015 Paris climate agreement. The objective was to limit global temperature increase below 2°C and help countries to deal with the impact of climate change. This year's special focus was on the plight of small island developing states (SIDS) and Fiji. If greenhouse emission reduction targets are not met, it is

estimated that by 2050, up to 1.7 million people in the Pacific Islands could be displaced due to climate change.



EcoJesuit group, the Global Ignatian Advocacy Network (GIAN) for Ecology, headed by **Fr. Pedro Walpole S.J.** of Asia Pacific Conference, organised a public event on November 13, in the Aloisiuskolleg campus, Bonn. It had almost 700 students participating to know the highlights of the conference titled “Laudato Si” – Environment is Relationship”. The discussions and questions centred on how Laudato Si’ be used as an educational tool to transform attitudes towards resource use and the care for the environment. **Fr. Xavier Jeyaraj**, welcomed the audience, **Fr. Martin Löwenstein S.J.**, the rector and principal appreciated the effort of the EcoJesuit team to hold this conference with an objective of making the future generations aware of the environmental implications of sustainability, climate change and natural resources.

Fr. Xavier Savarimuthu, presented a paper on the importance of water crisis and climate change entitled “It’s a thirsty world; Do we have answers?” Other prominent speakers included William Kostka of the Micronesia, François Delvaux, Food Sustainability Advocacy Officer at “Coopération Internationale pour le Développement et la Solidarité (CIDSE) who focused on agroecology and Felix Löwenstein, a large-scale organic farmer, Nancy Tuchman from Loyola University Chicago Institute of Environmental Sustainability. In the afternoon, EcoJesuit held a “Laudato Si Fair” at which numerous Ecojesuit members showcased their activities, ranging from the Flights for Forests and Carbon Challenge initiative, to the Justice in Mining Network advocacy group. **Fr. Xavier Savarimuthu**, showed the short documentaries produced by the students of multimedia on Climate change and Water disasters. It had attracted many students to the screening and many valuable interactions.

Xavier Savarimuthu, S.J.

JRS mission in Bangladesh

Frs. Jeyaraj Veluswamy and **Francis Dores** have finally reached Cox’s Bazar in Bangladesh where more than six lakhs Refugees are living in camps. JRS will work with Caritas, Bangladesh but concentrate mainly looking after the Education and protection of Children.

News from Vidyajyoti, Delhi

Vidyajyoti College was bubbling with activities. On the 11th November the Parish Ministry group under the able leadership of its co-ordinator, **Fr. Valan Antony**, conducted a one day Workshop for the youth of some of the parishes on “Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment”. **Schs. Arun Lucas** and **Vivien Andrew**, members of the organizing committee felt the Youth hugely benefited from this workshop. Fr. Valan also later in the month helped in organizing the Young Women Theologians Meet in Delhi.

Fr. Poulouse Mangai was busy as usual giving his heart and soul to VJTR and for pastoral works. On the 19th, Bal-Mela was conducted in our college, where around 250 children participated and showcased their talents. **Schs. David Paulraj** and **Anmol**, who were part of the organizing committee, felt this event encouraged the children to display their talents and become more confident in performing in public. **Sch. Arun** attended a 3 Day seminar organized by Harsh Mander on training the victims of lynching and fake police encounters. All the students of Vidyajyoti participated in the Farmer’s protest near Jantar Mantar, where they came in huge numbers from many states. It was sad to see that their protest had little effect either in the Centre or in the State.

Sch. Vivien Andrew, SJ

News from Clive’s House, Trichy

The month of November was a time to relax, renew and to get started again. We finished our odd semester exams in the first week of November. Our holiday schedule was planned in such way that each day rolled by filling us with new experiences. We had our tridum in the Sacred Heart College Shembagamur under the guidance of **Fr. Philip Kumar** of Madurai province. Change of place and change in the monotony of life helped us rediscover the values and experiences left behind. The half day outing on the last day gave us wonderful memories of Shembaganur. We resumed our classes on the November 13. Besides the joys and fun, three of our men suddenly gripped by dengue caused great consternation among us.

Sch. Manu

Health Bulletin

Fr. Nirmalraj of Dumka Raiganj is being treated for Dengue. He will be brought back to the Infirmary after his treatment in the nursing home. **Fr. Tom Soosai** of Dumka Raiganj has been admitted to the hospital for his lung treatment. He is responding to the treatment very well.

Dates to Remember:

- Dec. 15th: **Felicitation of the New Priests:** St. Xavier’s, Calcutta at 6 pm, mass & felicitation
- Dec. 26th Jan. 3rd: **Province Retreat**
- Jan. 19th: **Final Vows Celebration:** SXC, Kolkata, at 6 pm, mass & felicitation

- Feb. 24 -25: **Meeting of Jesuits in Science and Technology Forum** at St Xavier's College, Ahmedabad. Contact Fr. Ignacimuthu (imuthus@hotmail.com)

AWARDS

St. Lawrence High School and St. Lawrence Old Boys Association together are nominated for the prestigious Peace and Sport Award under "April 16 initiative of the Year" category. (International Day of Sports for Development and Peace (IDSDP) is celebrated on April 6th).

Udayani Social Action Forum, was awarded the "Kolkata NGO leadership Awards 2017" at Taj Bengal, Calcutta, on November 8th. The group, led by its founder Dr. R.L. Bhatia on World CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) Day said that the award recognizes leaders who have made a change as a strategic tool for sustainable growth. The leaders who are impactful and have faith in a MAD (Making A Difference) approach to their work is given this award. They found Udayani fit for this award. **Fr. I. Jothi** received the award.



COURSES / Seminars

A. Sadhana Courses 2018:

1. Personal Growth Group (Jan 4 – 31) Age Group: 30 – 40
2. Tanmaya Sadhana (Feb 7 – March 23) Age Group: 35 – 45
3. Samagratha Sadhana (April 21 – May 29) Age Group: 45 – 55
4. Accompanying the Young in Affective Maturity (June 6 – 22)...Age Group: 35 – 50
5. Integral Formative Guidance (2018 Sept 5 – April 30, 2019) (Bachelor level degree will be essential for admission. Preferred age limit is 35–50)
6. Tanmaya Sadhana (Oct 24 – Dec 8) .Age Group: 35 – 50
7. Vipassana (Oct 28 – Nov 8)

B. Satyodayam , Secunderabad -Courses in 2018:

1. Spiritual direction course: 11 April to 20th May, (40 days) , Age: 30 -60yrs, Rs.22,000
2. Counselling Skills: May 23rd to June 6th, (15 days), Age 30-60 yrs, Rs.11,000
3. Self counselling Skills: June 8th to 13th, (6 days), Rs. 5,000
4. Advanced Counselling Skills: June 8th to 13th, (6 days), Rs. 5,000
5. Diploma in Counselling Psychology: July 2nd to September 29th, (3 full months), Age 30- 60yrs, Rs. 45,000

Rest In Peace:

- **Fr John Mialil**, (KER, 90/68) expired on 09.11.2017 at Nirmala hospital, Calicut.
- **Fr Theruvil Mathai**, (MDU, 94/72) passed away on

- 25.11.2017 at Beschi Illam, Dindigul
- **Br Natarajan Joseph**, (MDU, 81/52) passed away on 25.11.2017
- Father of **Fr. Paul Carlose**, expired on 19.11.2017, in Kerala. He was 84 years old
- **Mr. John** (80), elder brother of Fr. Sebastian Nallail, expired on 23.11.2017 in Kerala.
- **Mr. John David** (81), passed away on 01.10.2017 and the burial mass was on 3.10.17 at SXC, Kolkata. Fr. Provincial was the main celebrant and **Fr. Patrick Eaton** shared about Mr. David, more than 30 years of faithful service in the Provincial's Office.

Pope Francis calls for 'healing and reconciliation' in Myanmar

Pope Francis has urged the people of Myanmar to embrace "healing and reconciliation" on the third day of his visit to the Southeast Asian nation, which faces ethnic conflicts and international condemnation over its expulsion of Rohingya Muslims.

The Roman Catholic leader made the appeal during a sermon at an open-air Mass held at a former racing ground in Yangon. He spoke after circling the venue in the "Popemobile" as a large crowd of attendees, many wearing the traditional dress of some of Myanmar's 100-plus ethnic groups, gathered to film the procession on their phones and wave yellow and white Vatican flags.



"The Church in this country is helping great numbers of men, women and children, regardless of religion or ethnic background," Pope Francis said. "I can see that the Church here is alive, that Christ is alive and here with you and with your brothers and sisters of other Christian communities."

The visit has been followed closely in Myanmar and abroad as the Pope has in the past spoken out on behalf of the Rohingya, a stateless minority in the country's western Rakhine state who have been subject to a security crackdown that has forced an estimated 624,000 people to flee to Bangladesh since August.

However, in remarks made at a meeting on Tuesday with diplomats and Aung San Suu Kyi, Myanmar's de facto leader, the pontiff refrained from using the term "Rohingya" in an effort to avoid offending his hosts, who do not count the group among the country's officially recognised minority groups.