



## E-SAGARMATHA SAMACHAR

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**Nepal Jesuits**

**January 2020**

### REGION SUPERIOR APPOINTS

Fr. Victor Beck Administrator  
New Academic Block,  
St. Xavier's College and  
Minister, Campion House  
Fr. Boniface Tigga Acting Superior,  
Faber House  
effective from 27 December 2019

### REGION SUPERIOR'S PROGRAMME

January 3-10 Chattisgarh  
January 12-19 Kerala  
January 20-23 Kolkata/Gayaganga



## ST. XAVIER'S SCHOOL, JAWALAKHEL

We had several meetings, starting from last month, for the annual school "Mela" and we are happy that the mela went well today on 21 December. The crowd was huge as expected and the weather god was favourable to us with good sunshine. Many parents and well-wishers were very generous with door prizes and gifts for the games stalls.

Sanjay Ekka as the new JYMSA coordinator went to Bhopal for their annual meeting and seems more interested in the youth ministry. He has some plans for the youth for Christmas. After a month long counseling course in Trivandrum Ignatius is looking for new clients to practise his skills. We were also happy to welcome back Anil after his renewal course in Sadhana, Lonavla. These days he is very busy with carols and preparations for Christmas in Baniyatar. George is busy as usual with office work and meeting with many parents of slow learners and some trouble makers. Tomson is testing his patience in training our new cook Dal Bahadur who has joined us after the previous one ran away! Mathew is busy working with a travel agent for visas to take our plus two students for a 10 days' tour of some south Asian countries during the winter break. 46 students have signed up and three staff will accompany them. He will also join the class 9 students for their field trip to Chitwan and Pokhara just before Christ-

mas. Etienne is gone to Calcutta for the province days and for his regular classes in the juniorate and will return in the third week of January. Among house guests, Br. Irenius is our regular visitor who comes to write his exams; we are expecting him again soon!

At the school side, our high school students acted out "Phantom of the Opera" as the school play of the year. In the second show many schools were also invited. As usual the Xavier Day was celebrated with much fanfare including the science exhibition. A Nepali film "Jeevan kadako phool", based on the life of the handicapped poet and writer Janak Ghimire was screened in our hall for our senior and junior students separately. One of our class 9 students Sweekrity Sharma also acted in the first part of the movie. We are planning to put up a roof on the terrace of the new building (Niesen Block) and the space will be used for indoor games and various other activities. On 19th we had 3 different variety of Christmas programs, starting with plus 2 in the morning and then for senior school and junior school in the afternoon. The plus 2 second term exams commence on 24th and after that they will have winter vacation for three weeks. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

A.V. Mathew



# ST. XAVIER'S SCHOOL, GODAVARI

There was a collage making competition for classes 11 and 12. The themes were taken from the Universal Apostolic Preference.



The wonderful occasion of the Blessing of the new building by our Chief Guest, Fr. Casper Miller SJ on the Feast of St Francis Xavier was like icing on the Cake. The presence of numerous esteemed guests on that very occasion made the day really a memorable one. There was also the final of "Xavier Cup Tournament" of football and basketball for both boys and girls respectively. On the following day we had invited all local government officials for the dinner.

On the 5th of December, a long awaited MM Football Tournament Opening Ceremony took place. The tournament was in full swing and it went on for three weeks. Sixteen schools had registered and taken part in it.

We had "Annual Science Exhibition and Blood Donation Camp" on the same day. Number of parents flocked in for the exhibition and many volunteers turned up for the blood donation too.

On 8th of December our students accompanied by

two teachers – Mr. Gyan and Mr. Subash left for St. Mary's School, Mumbai for the exchange program. On the same day 30 of our students from classes' IX



and X went to attend a program "Phantom of the Opera" held at SXJ. Boys from Classes XI and XII went to LA for a tournament as well. Class VI had one day Educational Tour to Chhauni Museum. Students enjoyed in having some glimpses of Military equipment over there. There was a day Scout Camp for the







girls of class VI. They stayed overnight in the school and enjoyed their stay together. We had a beautiful and colorful family day of class' III and IV.

Fr. Samuel is back from Sitagara and now once again we are a full-fledged community. We had number of



visitors during the course of the month: Boys from SXD along with Sch. Ravindar Bara, Br. Hermon,

Deacon Augustus and Sch. Martin Moris. Both Deacon Augustus and Sch. Martin made their retreat under the guidance of Fr. Bill. We had a half day seminar for teachers on "Jesuit School - A Living Tradition" by Fr. Samuel and Fr. Lawrence. It was a great moment for all the teachers to retrospect our way of life in Jesuit institution.

The long awaited final of MM Tournament took place on 21st of December. To mark this occasion Mr. Deepak Harsh Bajracharya (Secretary of NOC) was present as a Chief Guest. The final was a hard fought match between Maya Universe and Shahid Dharma Bhakta schools. In this hard fought match Maya Universe school was the Champion. Our students were busy writing the fifth cycle test before breaking for the winter vacation. On the 24th of December we had Christmas celebration for students and staff. The Scout boys and girls from our school went to Kakani for three days of camp accompanied by the Scout teachers as well as other volunteer teachers.

Sch. Pankaj





# ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, MAITIGHAR



December picked up from where November left off in terms of activities and celebrations. We had the Xavier Day/College Day celebrations on 3rd December. The entire college gathered on the lawn and the adjacent basketball court to witness a 2-hour spectacle of cultural performances from all the departments. Mr. Shekhar Golcha, an alumnus of the SXJ 1983 batch was the chief guest. He inspired the gathering by sharing his personal experiences and by illustrating to our students how they could participate in nation building.

Cap missed out on our celebration for another one. He was with the SXG family for the inauguration and blessing of the new building. His back survived rather well the infamous road to Godavari!

The 6th SXC Mini Marathon was a huge success with more than 1000 participants including two Jesuits. Mr. Shailendra Khanal, the Inspector General of Armed Police was the chief guest for the closing ceremony. Impressed by the enthusiasm of the crowd, he

has promised to run the marathon next year.

Udaan club organized the Bachelor's and Master's Sports Meet at SXJ. Due to unfavorable weather, only the indoor activities could be completed. They have set a few new dates later in the month to complete the remaining events. Various other clubs also conducted many of their annual activities during the month.

IMCS under the guidance of Bobby, Cap, Sr. Sophie and Mohan put up a wonderful Christmas program this year. They had five performances for the different faculties of the college. Anup ensured that they all had a sweeter experience by having a piece of Christmas cake after the program.

Along with the celebrations and activities, the college also was in an examination mode for some time. All the departments have held one exam or other before we break for the winter vacation.

We are all looking forward to the two weeks' winter break starting from 4 January.

Campion house correspondent





# MORAN MEMORIAL, MAHESHPUR



## PARISH

After the 9-day Novena, Parish feast was celebrated with the Holy Eucharist followed by varieties of cultural program and fellowship meal for all. On the same day, we honored 32 Catholic couples who had completed 25 years or more of their happy married life and witnessed the Christian faith. Every couple was given a picture of Sacred Heart of Jesus and a candle. We blessed the newly built grotto on the same day. Carol singing has begun - sharing the message of joy and peace to every family in the parish.



## SCHOOL:

Winter vacation began after the Annual Science and Art exhibition. A good number of students from the neighboring schools witnessed the exhibition. We also had Christmas celebration with the staff and the students. Grand farewell was given by the students and the staff to Fr. Victor Beck who will be joining his mission at St. Xavier's College, Kathmandu after Christmas. Newly built basketball is a big attraction to the students and the staff. Classes 6, 7 and 10 went for an outing to various places and enjoyed very much.

Boniface





# ST. XAVIER'S SCHOOL, SADAKBARI

After the 2nd term exam, there was a 4 day break for the students whereas teachers continued to report for the work and completed their correction work. After exams, entire school was busy getting ready for the most awaited Xavier Day/School Annual Day and Parents day. We invited all the parents for the day. On Xavier day Fr. Arul Selvam, our community superior was the chief guest. The program was very well managed by the students and staff. Parents seemed to be very happy with the performance of their children. At the end of the program everybody was given a muffin and a cup of tea.

On 14 December, we had report card distribution; result was good and improvement is seen in the academic performance of the students. Siddhanta Shrestha, a volunteer for 5 months was given farewell by staff on 18 and by school and students on 19th. He was a great asset to the school for organizing various activities like

essay writing, painting, quiz, dasahin camp, and he was instrumental on Xavier day success. His techie knowledge helped us to come

up with a bimonthly students' newsletter called "Magis Corner". He went back to Kathmandu on 19 along with Br. Irenius.

On 19th staff had a gift exchange with secret Christmas friends. School had a small carol program on 20th. It was the last day of the class of this year. Winter vacation is from December 22 to January 5.

Br. Irenius had his exam on 2nd of December, so he missed Xavier Day. He has paper again on 21 and 26 so he has gone to Kathmandu. Fr. Peter had gone to Kathmandu for the meeting on 17 and

was back on 19.

This year Christmas mass is in the respective mission centers in Sadakbari and Simalbari. Weather in the terai has drastically changed, it looks like cold wave foggy days.

Vijay Toppo





# ST. XAVIER'S SOCIAL SERVICE CENTRE



boys and girls of St. Xavier's Social Service Center and was awarded as the 'best student of the year'. Moreover, supporters of St. Xavier's Social Service Center were awarded and appreciated for their generosity. The boys and girls of St. Xavier's Social Service Center have started their carol singing. The amount collected will be used for the treatment of Miss Sabina Mandel and Miss Mina Aryal from Aruna Bhawan who are undergoing club-foot treatment. To our surprise a local rooster fell from above to mark the birthday of child Jesus. We enquired whether rooster belonged to neighbors but no one seemed to own it making it sure that it fell from heaven. It was a wonderful occasion



St. Xavier's Social Service Center celebrated annual day on 14th of December, 2019 in memory of late Fr. Thomas E. Gafney, SJ. Mr. Krishna Prasad Bhusal, the executive director of National Child Right Council was the chief guest of the day. Mr. Bhagirath Pandey, Chief District Officer graced the occasion by his presence. Thirty students were honored for their good performances in the education. Mr. Ishwor Sinjali from boys' home was awarded as the 'best boy of the year' and Miss Kamala Waiba from Aruna Bhawan as the 'best girl of the year'. Miss Ashmita Bhandari has secured highest mark i.e. 99.09% in education among



for the children to participate in the carol singing organized by Assumption Church. Children from Aruna Bhawan danced on the birthday of child Jesus. The students from St. Xavier's College, Jaipur visited St. Xavier's Social Service Center, entertained the girls by singing and dancing, and joining for supper together. Currently Ms. Satu from Finland has been volunteering at Aruna Bhawan and tutoring them.

Dilip Toppo





# SHISHU BIKIAS KENDRA, POKHARA



The advent of December brought lots of joyous and memorable events in the pages of SBK. On the 3rd of December SBK students along with their parents, accompanied by Fr. Amit and few SBK teaching staff, went to participate in the international differently able day organized by the local government. There were thousands of participants from various organizations. The procession took place from Zero point to City hall walking the distance of three and half Kilometers. SBK showed a great discipline of walking in unity. The winter cold has crept into the city but seems to be a failure in front of regular and passionate students to bar them from coming to SBK. They are excited to be at SBK. The everyday drill in the morning energies their dropping spirits. The annual picnic was organized on 14th of December by the parents which took place at our ancestral land Hemja where our Frs. Cap and Norbert had spent their “Hansi-Khushi” days and years. It was a super hit picnic since everything was managed by parents. Everybody had a gala time of relishing the sumptuous meal, enjoyed dancing in the track of “Lok Dohori” and rapturous beauty of the landscape. Five SBK students went to Green Pasture Hospital in Pokhara and received special treatment by the organization. The SBK activity culminated by celebrating the long waited Christmas for the year 2019.

They had good meals, sweets and bade adieu to the year 2019 with their never ending dance. The students all wished one another Merry Christmas and Happy New Year saying double 20s. They all look happy and content and in the winter break they look ahead to go to “Mama” house. SBK remains closed after 20th of December till 4th of January 2020.

On 6th of December Fr. Paul went to Jhapa, Maheshpur for the Church feast. Some religious nuns joined him for the visit to East Nepal and they were glad to see the many mission stations. Fr. Paul is out to Kathmandu for vicariate meeting. Fr. Jomon went to Kathmandu to fetch some PhD study materials. He is progressing in leaps and bounds in his Thesis writing. In the absence of Frs. Paul and Jomon, NJSI Frs. from Kamal Niwas gave company to Fr. Amit at SBK. They spent a day in prayer and reflection and had a fellowship meal.

The youths of St. Anne’s Church planned with Fr. Amit to go for Carol singing house to house. It was a wonderful experience of going to each Parishioner’s house bringing the message of peace, joy and happiness of Jesus Christ. The youths enjoyed singing Carol songs. They danced, prayed and blessed the families. Wish you all Merry Christmas and Happy New year 2020.

Amit Lakra





## HRDRC, SANEPA

December was quite a busy month for the curia Jesuits. Fr. Amrit, Region Superior had gone to Deonia and Maheshpur. He also visited Sadakbari and Simalbari to survey the land for the church there. Fr. Bobby spent more time as Vice-Principal in St. Xavier's College. He directed a musical play on Nativity for Catholic youths of the college. It was so wonderful that it was performed five times for the various departments of the college. The Jesuits involved in teaching there gave Christmas messages to students at various performances. In spite of all these busyness, Bobby was able to go through accounts in the curia. Fr. Dilip took around his flocks from St. Xavier's Social Service centre and Aruna Bhavan for carol singing to Catholic families and Religious houses, and also to all the well wishers (non-Christians) who had invited them for carolling. St. Xavier's Social Service Centre celebrated annual day in memory of Fr. Thomas E. Gafney on 14 December. Fr. Tek Bahadur Paudel continues to go for law practice and is also busy in completing his MA Thesis. Besides their first commitment to assigned jobs in their respective places, Frs. Dilip and Juel continue to go to College an hour a day for teaching. HRDRC hosted a dinner in honour of Mr. John Peet and his team, benefactors of Nepal Jesuit Society on 8th December.

HRDRC Sources

## DESIDERI HOUSE, BOUDHA

December is always a busy time in Boudha as we wrap up the autumn semester at the KU Centre for Buddhist Studies, conduct final exams, and shepherd anxious graduate students as they submit their theses. Last Thursday we said goodbye to the fall participants in the Boston College Nepal Program, and other visiting students, with our annual tea party, to which we invite the families who serve as home-stay hosts. It is always one of the most enjoyable events of the year, and our way of kicking off the holiday season.

Meanwhile we have already welcomed the first of four Australian Jesuit-run immersion programs for this season. Fr. Alan T. Y. Wong SJ led the first group from the Cardoner Project, from 6-21 December. After a few days of orientation in Boudha, with input talks at Desideri House, and a short volunteer stint with the missionaries of Charity, the Cardoner group headed to Tipling for a week-long school camp and interaction. Sardar Chandra Rai, our very able guide and good friend, led the trek there. He very kindly agreed to take the Christmas CARE package that Raju had assembled for Fathers Ayar & Mike, and Deacon Augustus.

Cardoner will send a second group to Ne-

pal in January. Like the first they will spend time in Tipling. Arriving with the Cardoner immersion group will be three members of the Cardoner Volunteer Corps who will spend about five months in upper Dhading. Two groups from St Ignatius College Riverview will land in Nepal a few days after Christmas and be with us for about three weeks. Though they arrive and depart on the same flight, and both stay in Boudha while in Kathmandu, the groups follow separate programs during their time with us. That makes for some very creative scheduling during their first few days. Both groups head to schools in western Sindhuli District for a few days' school camp before then going on treks in the Annapurna Region.

Work on a new edition of Fr John Locke SJ's monumental work, Buddhist Monasteries of Nepal, continues. Meanwhile, there is more good news on the publication front. I am now making arrangements to release the second edition of Buddhist Daily Ritual, my book on Newar devotional practice. Work on my next book, Hilarion of Abtei: The History of the Mission to Tibet, Nepal and Bettiah continues, as time allows.

Greg Sharkey



# GOOD SHEPHERD, TIPLING



Our Taru Mitra Eco club, Dongden Devi School was awarded by NJSI with generous supply of scientific equipment. Our students created vertical garden and presented songs, essays and art work posters based on the theme "Save Our Earth". Our Dongden Devi school created a history as the first school in Ruby Valley Rural Municipality to organize an educational tour. The staff accompanied senior class to three districts of Nepal.



The Tipling Jesuit community hosted eight Australian junior college students along with Jesuit animator Fr. Alan S. J. for a week. They entertained our primary kids and cleared the road to the Jesuit residence.

Tipling Catholic Youth group have formed a touring Christmas Caroling group to raise money for musical instruments and speaker and their group has been very successful not only in raising funds but raising the spirit of Christmas.

We bade fond farewell to deacon Augustus who left us to make his ordination retreat and for his ordination at home in Chhattisgarh on January 6, 2020. We also bade a fond farewell to the NJSI dozer. May new owners use it for evermore road construction in our neighborhood.

Tipling Jesuit Sources





# DIASPORA

## ASHA KIRAN, MANGALORE

“Opportunities are like sunrises. If you wait too long you miss them”, says William Arthur Ward. On 25th of November all the pre-novices’ directors and vocation promoters visited our community. We had a short programme followed by sumptuous meal. On 27th we celebrated Karam (a Tribal feast) which was organised by scholastics of northern provinces. We were also blessed to have Fr. Arul Selvam on this auspicious day. His presence indeed doubled our joy.

On 8th December, we celebrated the feast of St. John Berchmans, the patron of altar servers and students. The programme of the day included the Jesuits from our neighbouring community. On the same day St. Aloysius Jesuit community had organised friendly basketball tournament. The match was between three teams namely Scholastics, Pre-novices and college community. We had indeed good time where we came to know each other.

On 13th we had intercultural festival where we celebrated north-east festival under the leadership of Kohima scholastics. They performed various rituals during the programme and showed us some videos related to the feast. They also took initiative to prepare northeast dishes. This helped us to know more about north-east people and their culture. On 18th all the Ashakiranities went for carol singing to our neighbourhoods. It was first time for many of us to visit them. We enjoyed a lot singing and dancing with them. Now we are busy with decorating our house and preparing ourselves to receive the new born king.

Sch. Niroj

## VINALAYA, MUMBAI

December was a special month significant in various ways. Beside our studies we had a number of programs and courses.

We stepped into advent season and the new liturgical year with enthusiasm. On the 3rd December we celebrated the feast of St. Francis Xavier and organized a basketball match in his honor. On 4th we had the declamation of different speeches which we prepared in a record two weeks’ time. A few days later, in the second week, we were out for a three day ‘Media Course’ at Xavier Institute for Communication (XIC) in St. Xavier College (SXC), Mumbai. It proved to be a unique course and we learnt a lot about photography, journalism, media, movie making etc. We were grateful to XIC for making all these things possible. Before leaving SXC we were invited for dinner to the community and had a gala time with the community fathers.

After returning from SXC, classes began

as usual and we were busy again with studies and assignments. One weekend, we were blessed by the presence of one of the junior’s family.

We also conducted some pre-Christmas programmes. On 19th evening, we had an enjoyable Christmas party for the co-workers and their families. The next day we had a day recollection, preparing for Christmas. We also went carol singing to a leprosy home and a home for differently abled children. These days are busy with Christmas decorations as well as carrying forward our assignments. We all are excited about the approaching Christmas.

Both of us are well and wish you all a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year. May the Baby Jesus bless us all.

Krish and Vinay





We, especially the first year theologians, entered into this Month with heartfelt gratitude and joy, because all of us cleared the Italian exam at Gregorian University. It was also said by Fr. Rector that after Six years, this was the first time that all the scholastics cleared the Italian exam. We also had our first community outing on Saturday (7 December). We went to Viterbo where we had community Eucharist at the seminary (Piazza Duomo). Then we had the guided tours of the Papal Palace, the Cathedral and the Loggia. We had the enriching experiences both by visiting and hearing the guide. We also had some group sharing in living groups regarding our weakness and strength part of our Jesuit life both in the past and the present.

As a community, we went to Rocca di Papa for our Triduum On 13th December and returned to our community on 15th December. Fr. Vincenzo S. J. guided us through this spiritual journey. At the end of the Triduum we also renewed our first vows. We also had the Pre-Christmas celebration with the supporting staff on 19th December. On 20th of December was the last lesson day before the Christmas holiday. The Christmas holiday also will be the time for the preparation of the exams which will start on 22nd of January and also the preparation for the Christmas too.

Sch. Devadhas

### Announcement

Eight Day Ignatian Retreat in  
Godavari Ashram

January 10 to 18, 2020

Contact at: godavariashram@gmail.com



06 January	Fr. Bobby Thadathil
06 January	Sch. Vinay Lakra
09 January	Fr. S. Arulanandam
10 January	Sch. Lawrence Kerketta
12 January	Fr. Sanctius Beck
19 January	Sch. Ashish Ekka
20 January	Fr. George P.M.

### Prayer request

Pray for Mrs. Celinmary, mother of Sch. V. Devadhas for quick recovery from heart surgery.



- \* Fr. Edwin Menezes, SJ (PAT), 68/47 passed away on 18.12.2019 at Jeevan Sangham, Bodhgaya.
- \* Fr. Louis Menezes, SJ (BOM), 85/66 passed away on 09.12.2019 at Mumbai.
- \* Fr. Robert J. Bueter, SJ (UMI), 77/59 died on 02.12.2019 at Condell Medical Center in Illinois.
- \* Fr Joseph Zerafa SJ (DUM), 85/67, breathed his last on 30 November 2019 in Malta.

### THOSE WHO SERVED IN NEPAL

03/01/2016	Laurier C. Harvey
28/01/2000	Robert J. Mayer