



E-SAGARMATHA SAMACHAR

Vol. 35 No. 03

Nepal Jesuits

March 2020

FATHER GENERAL'S RECENT APPOINTMENTS

Portugal (POR): Fr. Miguel Nuno Maria de Siqueira de Almeida

Region of the European Low Countries (ELC):
Fr. Marc Desmet

Middle East (PRO): Fr. Michael Zammit Mangion

Brazil (BRA): Fr. Mieczyslaw Smyda

REGION SUPERIOR APPOINTS

Fr. Daniel Bara (DAR) Teacher, St. Xavier's
School Deonia

Committee Members for Region Days

Fr. James, Fr. Roy S., Fr. Tomson, Fr. David,
Sch. Ashish, Fr. Juel (Chairman).

Leadership Training in Delhi

March 16 - 20

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| 1. David Ekka, | 2. Nicholas Christuraj |
| 3. Norbert D'Souza | 4. Peter Chettri |
| 5. Sanjay Ekka | |



Fr. General received by students of St. Xavier's Jawalakhel

St. Xavier's Jawalakhel

Father General's visit was the highlight of the month. On 27th he was given a warm reception at the school. Children were lined up in the driveway and "panchakanyas" welcomed him with garlands. He was taken in procession to the school hall. The senior students and all the staff members were present and he addressed them. He emphasized the importance of the 4 Cs - conscience, competence, compassionate, and commitment. The senior girls performed a Nepali cultural dance. Later he addressed the valley Jesuits and answered some questions and had tea with them. Pokhara and Tipling Jesuits were also present. In his interaction with the alumni, one of them shared expressing their gratitude for Jesuit education and admiration for the American Fathers of early days. They presented Fr. General with a memo. Late evening of

the day was set aside only for Jesuits. The Mass in the community chapel was celebrated by Fr. General; and Frs. Roy Sebastian and Juel Kispotta pronounced their final vows. Our school canteen had prepared a delicious dinner for all the Jesuits and visitors. Next morning, they left for Jhapa and returned the following evening to spend one more night with us before taking off for visits in India. The minister, Fr. Tomson was the busiest person those days looking after all the arrangements (especially Fr. General's menu) for the comfort of the VIPs. Fr. Sanjay was ready and willing for pickups and drop offs, day or night!

On the school side, there was a feeling of "the end of the year" as it was the end of February. We had two separate farewell programs, for classes 10 and 12, and the awards ceremony. Now they are busy studying for their final exams. The plus two students performed their annual school play that was well appreciated by all. On 15th Feb. we had the school staff picnic in a private resort near the Godavari botanical gardens. The last of the parents' day performance, by classes one and two, was on 22nd February. On March 1st we begin revision, followed by final exams, corrections, promotion meeting, report cards, and then comes class one new admission process.

A.V. Mathew

ST. XAVIER'S GODAVARI



The month was packed with numerous programs and events. The school had the magnificent celebration of Family Day for Plus Two students and for classes 1 and 2. They put up very entertaining and soothing program. Little tots of class 1 and 2 also brought out a glimpse of Universal Apostolic Preferences through their performances. Kudos to all students, teachers and supporting staff for their tireless work.

One-day Educational Tour was organized for various classes to visit historical places in the valley like Bhaktapur, Darbar Square, Pashupati and Baudha respectively. We also had a one-day hiking for all the students to five different places.



Students hiking to neighbouring hills

Annual School Award Ceremony was an important event of the year. On Feb. 10th Team of the Year declaration and award distribution were announced. The students could see their mirror images of their performances. "TIGER" was the best team of the year. The school captains were chosen. The outstanding awards



Recipients of Annual School Award

were given to deserving and hardworking students. The school also gave farewell to class 10.



Joint School Preparation for SEE and Joint school principals meeting were held.

There was a "One Day Fr. Starr Girls' Football Tournament" held in SXG. Number of students from eight different schools took part in this event. In this great event SXG had a tough fight against SXJ and were triumphant and were declared the champions.

One of the much awaited and the mega event was School Mela(funfair) which became the occasion to bring thousands of people together in the school. The students had a platform to execute their potentials and talents. The Mela committee members were parents and the school staff and their contributions were significant. Fr. Samuel Simick, Mr. Subarna K.C., Mr. Laxman Gurung and Schs. Ashish and Pankaj worked tirelessly to make the event successful. The event was filled with colorful items, door prizes, games and sumptuous food stalls. This time we added free eye checkup for the people.



Straw gate made for school funfair

Around 30 staff and students from Korea were here for the student exchange program. They displayed fantastic cultural program for our students and our students relished it to the full. There was a half a day seminar for the teachers of Plus Two. Fr. Lawrence animated the group and gave some inputs that led them into group discussion.

The school alumnae had organized one Day XAG Sports Meet 2020 at Godavari. Around 110 graduates took part in this event. It was a great occasion for them to take a time out from their busy schedule and come together to meet their friends and teachers.

There was senior scout girls cooking competition which brought out team spirit and an art of cooking and catering. There was also a “Monologue” competition for Plus Two students. They delivered wonderful speeches and acted very well according to their characters.

On Feb. 23rd Godavari Ashram was blessed by arrival

of Fr. General and JCSA members for the meeting. Fr. Amrit Rai welcomed the JCSA team; then a welcome dinner was served.

On Feb. 24 SXG welcomed Fr. General Arturo Sosa, Jesuits curia team Fr. MK George, Fr. Douglas Marcouiller, Fr. Franck Janin, Fr. Vernon D’Cunha and Msgr. Anthony Corcoran and JCSA provincials and superiors and presented Nepal Jesuit History through short dance drama. Fr. General unveiled the plaque of St. Xavier’s School, Godavari which is going to complete 70 years next year.

Fr. Samuel Simick thanked Fr. General and his team for their valuable presence in the school. In the library field Fr. General gave a short message and blessed the school assembly. 25th February was the day of “Mardi Gras”. SXG community hosted dinner for Fr. General, Curia and JCSA team members at Loyola Hall.

Sch. Pankaj Kerketta



Students of St. Xavier’s School Godavari welcome Fr. General

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE MAITIGHAR



Fr. General addressing the college students at St. Xavier's College, Maitighar, Kathmandu

February saw the culmination of many major activities as we approached the end of the academic year. We began the month with the 7th Cycle Rally with the theme 'ride against cancer' organized by the SET Council. The 25th SET exhibition was the other major event that saw the entire campus filled with more than 100 stalls of projects and exhibitions and thousands of visitors.

UDAAN Club of the bachelors and masters concluded their activities for the academic year with a cultural celebration in which the winners of the various competitions were awarded. The annual music program and award ceremony Survahini- A Musical Bliss was held on 25. Mr. Prem Dhoj Pradhan, a veteran singer and musician was conferred upon the seventh Fr. Watrin Memorial Cultural award for his contribution to Nepali Music.

The event of the year however, was the visit of Fr. General on Thursday, 27. It was a historical moment for the college as the present generation witnessed what no previous generation had ever witnessed. (When Fr.

Kolvenbach visited in 1989, the college did not exist in this compound.) The entire college family gathered on the lawn to welcome Fr. General and to listen to his message. Before he addressed the college family, he was treated with a short cultural spectacle. After a short interaction with the staff, Fr. General proceeded to the new compound to bless and inaugurate the new building. Before he left for Jawalakhel, Fr. General and his team mentioned how impressed they were by the high standard of the program and the discipline and behavior of the students and staff a rarity these days anywhere else.

Fourth years and fourth semester students have completed their courses and are now preparing for their board examinations. Likewise, class 12 and A 2 students have also finished their courses and are appearing for their pre-board examinations these days. Students from other years will soon follow suit while at the administrative level, we begin planning for the next academic year.

Campion Jesuit Resource



Students entertain Fr. General with cultural show



Prayer for blessing of new college building.



Fr. General unveils the plaque

MAHESHPUR, JHAPA



Jhapa Jesuits receive Fr. General at Bhadrapur airport

Parish:

Ash Wednesday liturgical service was rendered to all the Mass centers and rain added the extra showers of blessings.

We lost two parishioners- Mosai Murmu of Kalimora and Sumitra Rajbanshi of Satighata. Fr. Norbert celebrated the funeral Masses at both places.

The presence of Fr. General and his delegates was a moment of grace, joy and gratitude as they celebrated the Mass with around 700 faithful as choir sang melodiously under the guidance of Sch. Wilson Kandulna. Fr. Amrit was the main celebrant and Fr. Peter preached the homily. At the end of the Mass, Fr. General gave an encouraging, inspiring, touching and transforming message to the faithful. Our religious collaborators extended their helping hands in liturgy, cooking and decoration. All joined the agape after the Mass.



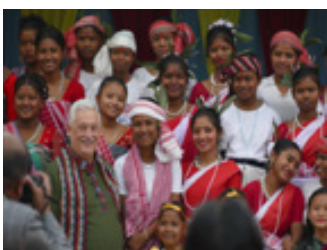
Fr. Moran Day celebration

School:

Students and staff welcomed Fr. General with Khada and flowers along with a few traditional cultural items.

Last family day for classes Nursery, LKG and UKG concluded with lots of cultural dances, rhymes. Parents too had fun games besides the spiritual conversation.

We celebrated Moran Day honoring Fr. Moran for his contribution to the people of Nepal. Besides, cultural items students had inter-house football matches. Blue house was the champion. Teachers too played the football match with the students but they lost the game.



Stuent dancers of MMS with Fr. General



Eucharist celebration at St. Xavier's church



Fr. General interacts with parish children and youths



Fr. Boniface Tigga

GONZAGA HOUSE



Shree airlines by which Fr. General reached Jhapa mission

February month saw lots of variation in weather – started with being cloudy, rainy and finally summer. This was the last month of regular classes. The last cycle test was held from February 24 to March 2. The logo work at top gate is completed and colored and lights too are installed. Fr. Vijay had gone to Kathmandu for school Principals' seminar during Shivaratri holiday. The classes are in full swing for last few remaining days. The final term begins from

on 16th of February.

Parish work goes on well in spite of little confusion among the faithful. The faithful is getting mixed up with school and parish and the way church functions. Few attempts to orient them is not enough, we need to give them regular orientation and guidance. Their understanding of the Church is like any political entity. Few faithful are politically motivated and want the church to function according



Welcome board at Lekhnath chowk, Chandragadi



Three Principals and a Parish Priest with Fr. General

March 17. Meanwhile admission process for nursery also will begin. This year class 5 will be giving their Gaon Palika level board exam from March 25 to April 3. This kind of exam is held for the first time. On February 28, school staff were taken to St. Xavier's Deonia to witness the felicitation program for Fr. Arturo Sosa, S.J., Superior General of Society of Jesus. Loyola School staff too joined us.

Loyola school too is in full swing. Final term exam is around the corner. On February 14 school celebrated Parents' day. Fr. Boniface Tigga was the chief guest. Program went on very well, a true witness of students' growth. Fr. Jomon visited us with Dr. Branislav Pupala from Trnava University, Slovakia along with Br. Clarence and Deepak

to their terms. Church land purchase is still in the process; hope everything goes well. On February 15 there was a Thanksgiving Mass for Sr. Deepa C.J. at her house in Simalbari. Sr. Jessy, Regional Superior was there for the function. Fr. Lalit Tudu also was there to celebrate the mass and to motivate and encourage people. The same day Sr. Anisha, C.M. was bade farewell. Ash Wednesday mass was held in both the places - Sadakbari and Simalbari. On February 29, first Sunday of the lent mass was held in Maheshpur. Fr. General concelebrated the mass for the entire parishioners. It was a historic and memorable event for all the Jesuits, collaborators and parishioners.

Fr. Vijay Toppo



New logo of school at Sadakbari



Fr. Jomon with his PhD guide with Jesuits at Sadakbari



Thanks giving mass for Sr. Deepa C.J.

ST. XAVIER'S SOCIAL SERVICE CENTER



Inmates for SXSSC & Aruna Bhavan welcome Fr General

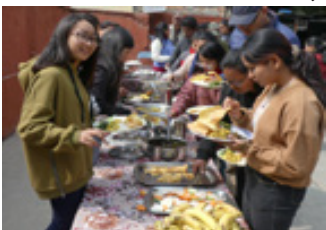


Fr. Dilip Toppo converses with Fr. General

The month of February was packed with number of activities which brought joy to youngsters as well as olds. As a family of St. Xavier's Social Service Centre, we all went for picnic at Dakshinkali. Frs. Amrit, Juel and Paul KC had graced the spot by their presence which doubled the joy of the children.

cals and religious of the valley.

It was a great occasion and happy moment for St. Xavier's Social Service Centre to receive Rev. Fr. Arturo Sosa SJ, the Superior General of the Society of Jesus on 27th of February, 2020. Fr. Dilip K. Toppo SJ, Director of SXSSC welcomed Fr. General by put-



Seminar on child right protection



A day out to Chandragiri: Plus two students



SXSSC was glad to welcome Mr. Tulasi Maharjan along with his team who interacted with children, shared their experiences, provided with stationeries and with monetary assistance. Staff also had a day out at Kot Danda for celebrating picnic which was a time of great joy for the staff who enjoyed the day by singing, dancing and playing cards. Coming together as one family for celebration has strengthened the bond among the staff.

SXSSC organized a three-day seminar on child rights and their protection. Teachers and bachelor students from private and government educational institutes participated in the seminar. The participants were cleared with many doubts, informed well about their responsibilities and brought behavioral changes with regard to their treatment towards children and vulnerable adults.

On the occasion of Shivaratri, festival of Hindus, Aruna Bhawan children killed fattened pig and sold to lo-

ting Khada while children put khada and topi. Frs. Douglas W. Marcouiller, Assistant ad Providentiam and Pierre Belanger, General Curia Journalist had accompanied Fr. General. Ms. Vidya Bharati led all the members through the program and gave short introduction on workings of SXSSC. Children from Jawalakhel centre and Aruna Bhawan performed their dances which brightened everyone's faces. Fr. General interacted with the children after the formal program. All the members of Nepal Jesuit Social Institute were present at St. Xavier's Social Service Centre to welcome Fr. General. NJSI released its report on earthquake related interventions. The Plus Two students of our three homes had one-day outing to Chandragiri along with the Director, Fr. Dilip K. Toppo. It was a moment of great joy for the students as they travelled by rope way. The outing has strengthened the bond among three homes.

Fr. Dilip K. Toppo



Fr. General interacting with inmates of Social Service center and Aruna Bhavan girls' home



SHISHU BIKAS KENDRA, POKHARA



Durga Koirala, a SBK student receiving award from Nepal in International Special Olympic Bossi

The February month marked as the busiest month in the center to prepare students for the annual sports day. Shishu Bikas Kendra (Child Development Centre) students were very regular for the classes. Some who did not come in the severe winter came for the annual sports day. The annual sports day was held on 8th of Feb on SBK ground. It was a traumatic experience for the SBK family since the weather was not favorable to them in the morning. There was a heavy lightening, thundering and a slight rain. SBK students dared to stand on the ground unafraid come what may. After two and half hours, finally the SBK students shouted, “Gayo, Bhagyo, and Ayo, Gham ayo” (rain has gone away, sun is here) and the expression of joy and happiness were beaming on their faces. Mrs. Manju Devi Gurung, the chief guest and the most loved assistant Mayor of the city graced the occasion. St. Mary’s school LTS students along with their Principal and teachers blessed the event with their presence. All the religious groups of Pokhara, well-wishers, neighborhood from Bagaletol, and SBK students’ parents witnessed the annual sports day. The students performed their best in drill, songs, dances, games and other activities. The spectators were speechless; in fact they were in tears by watching such exuberant children performing their talents. A heartfelt congratulation to all the SBK teachers and Sisters and supporting staff for turning the impossible into possible. The assistant Mayor spoke well of SBK’s enterprises. She granted some financial reward to Durga Koirala, a SBK student who represented Nepal in International Special Olympic Bossi games held in Abu Dhabi and won a Silver medal. Ms. Durga Koirala was honored on 18th Feb 2020 in Kathmandu as the best player of

Bossi games of the Nation. Fr. Amit screened the photos of dances and games of the children on a movie format taken on the sports day. They enjoyed watching themselves singing songs, playing games and dancing in their best mood to bring the heaven down on earth. They appreciated one another and came running to one another to confirm that they are the best hero in the event. Their heroic performances remained the table talk among the children for the next few days. S.C.C. sisters lent their helping hand to beautify the SBK garden.

The youths of our church had a pilgrimage to Bandipur. They had an overnight home stay in the catholic families. They prayed with them together. They had good interaction and built up a special bond of love with them. They enjoyed the Bandipur town Fest. The youths also visited the famous cave “Sidha Guffa” one of the biggest caves of Nepal. They shared their experiences with the parishioners after they returned to Pokhara. They were happy to have such exposures and expressed their gratitude to the youth animators and the parents. Fr. Jomon stays busy with his Ph.D. thesis writing, giving seminars or attending one in Kathmandu. His thesis guide stayed at SBK and visited different places in the city. He is out in the field for his research work. Fr. Paul blessed the newly built house of Mrs. Bimala Gurung’s sister. Fr. Xavier, SJ of Delhi province was the special guest of the month. It was a great privilege to meet the Superior General Fr. Arturo Marcelino Sosa Abascal, SJ of the Society of Jesus. Congratulations to Frs. Juel and Roy on their final Yes and commitment to the Lord.

Fr. Amit Lakra



Sports day for SBK students



A day out to Bandipur for Parish youths

NEPAL JESUIT SOCIAL INSTITUTE



Fr. S. Arulandam garlanding Fr. General with a shawl

(Inset) Fr. General releasing NJSI annual report

This month, NJSI team got busy with handing over ceremonies of some of the completed projects and visit of distinguished guests. On 22nd Feb 2020, inauguration and handing over program of 2 floors concrete building with four classrooms and WASH facility was conducted at Shree Robang Basic School which is located at Benighat Rorang Rural Municipality, ward no. 9, dhadhing district. For the inauguration program the presence of Fr. Daniel Villanueva SJ, Vice-president, Fundación Entreculturas, Spain made the program more alluring. He inaugurated the building officially in the presence of the students, their parents, teachers, some representatives from Local Level Government.

Similarly, on 24th Feb 2020, Fr. Daniel inaugurated resident of Fathers' named as "Kamal Niwas" at Kavre Regional Center. Kavre Regional Center will be a main hub for providing Livelihood training programs for the people of rural population.

In addition to it Fr. Daniel visited other project sites of

NJSI such as "Activity Center" built by NJSI at Shree Bhagawati Secondary School, Kavre district. Here, the children with special needs performed a dance. The students of Shree Bhagawati Secondary School and Shree Ram Secondary School shared the perks of Eco-club establishment by NJSI. They even shared the activities they have conducted in the school so far after its establishment. St. Anne's at Godawari was another destiny of Fr. Daniel where the computer training program is going on for students.

Last but not the least, the most awaited visit of Rev. Fr. Arturo Sosa Abascal S.J. on 27th Feb. Rev. Fr. Arturo Sosa, Superior General of the Society of Jesus visited St. Xavier's Social Service Center where NJSI team also collaborated and welcomed Fr. General. On this auspicious Occasion NJSI released the Magazine, "Reaching the Unreached" for the first time from Fr. General. The magazine contains all the conducted activities from 2015 to 2020 till date.

Ms. Shristi Thapa



Fr. Daniel inaugurates a School



Fr. Arul blessing Fathers' resident



Shree Robang Basic School

ST. IGNATIUS CHURCH, BANIYATAR



Couples for Christ meet

The regular catechism classes in the church have resumed after the winter vacation in the schools. As final term approaching in most of the schools the church has organized with the help of the Vincent De Paul group of the church to help out evening study hour and tuition classes for all the neighboring students of the church. The church has appointed 12th grade and graduate students of the parish youths to help out in the study hour and tuition classes in the evening for one and half hour daily in the church. The study hour and tuition help are rendered to all the neighboring students of the church irrespective of being Catholics or Christians. We hope this will benefit children of Laborers and uneducated parents.

As a regular basis once in every year Couple for Christ - CFC - Assumption Church group conducts 3 days seminar and prayer for the Baniyatar parishioners. This year too in the month of February, the same program was conducted by the same group which was well organized and much appreciated by the parishioners. The only difficulty we faced was that there were hardly both the couples present due to either husband or wife working abroad.

The youths of St. Ignatius Parish, Baniyatar thanked all the outgoing youth office bearers and welcomed the new ones who took charge of the youth activities in the month of February in the church. One of our youths, Sushma Gurung, who has managed to qualify and get her student visa to study in South Korea getting her visa and travel date extended due to serious and rapid spread of Coronavirus in South Korea. The beginning of Lenten season was marked by having evening mass for all on Ash Wednesday with fasting and prayer whole day. The first Friday of the season was observed with a meaningful way of the cross for all in the church followed by the holy Eucharist and a short adoration.

Fr. Anil Beck



Group photo of couples for Christ



Eucharist in Prernalaya hostel



Special tuition for neighborhood students by parish youths

DESIDERI HOUSE, BOUDHA

The end of January was such a busy time in Boudha that I did not send news for the last issue. After Christmas we welcomed immersion programs from the Australian Jesuits' Cardoner Program and St Ignatius Riverview. Three volunteers from the Cardoner Volunteer Corps made their way to Tippling to help in the schools. Overlapping with them was a very pleasant visit from the family of Manoj Gyabak Lama, with whom I studied Tamang in Dolakha District many years ago. Manoj, his wife, and two wonderful children stayed with us for a week. Manoj showed his kids the sights of Kathmandu. But what they really seemed to enjoy were the creative breakfasts prepared by Uncle Raju.

On the last Friday of January, I gave a long-promised talk to the Cultural Studies Group Nepal on the topic "Buddhism in the Valley of Nepal". The talk drew about 200 listeners and was well-received. A local publisher who attended the talk has offered to publish an expanded version of

the presentation. There is definitely a need for an introductory explanation of Newar Buddhism, for non-experts, so we will move ahead with that plan. Before I headed to the USA on 7 February our college had many meetings of the executive committee, in order to discuss new developments at the college, and at KU. Several meetings were devoted solely to our response to the Coronavirus threat. There is an increasing likelihood that fear of the virus will lead to a serious disruption of our summer program, which is a very vital source of income for the college. We have discussed the possibility of offering all classes via computer broadcasting.

I returned to Boston for eye surgeries and for some medical tests. I had one cataract fixed last week. The other cataract surgery is scheduled for March 31. While here I will also have some neurology tests, related to eye care, done. Keep me in your prayers, please.

Fr. Greg Sharkey

HRDRC

The Month of February was a busy month with lot of activities. In the beginning of the month Frs. Amrit and Juel joined the SXSSC boys and girls for their annual picnic to Dakshinkali. Fr. Amrit went to Little flower school, Chitwan on 7 February to attend a seminar on Consecrated life, conducted by CST Provincial on the following day. On the same evening Fr. Juel started his retreat at St. Xavier's Jawalakhel community, guided Fr. Etienne and came out of retreat on 15th. Meantime, Fr. Bobby was sick and needed to see a doctor and good bed rest. Fr. Arul stayed with us on 16th as he had come for the consult. Both Regional Superior and the Socius were totally absorbed in planning and executing Jesuit Conference of South Asia meet at Godavari Ashram. Socius took the responsibility of dropping the provincials to Tribhuvan International Airport till 3rd of March. Fr. Bobby left for Kerala for much awaited home visit. Fr. Tek had gone home to be with his grieving family when they lost their mother. He came back to community after 12 days. Fr. Juel continues to suffer from cold and cough that he got during his retreat.

Fr. Juel Kispotta

DIASPORA

MANILA

Fr. Augustine successfully defended his Ph.D. dissertation in early February and now completing his revisions and other procedures. He will graduate on 30th May. The dissertation was on how Jesuit education influenced the leadership development of non-Christian Jesuit alumni leaders in Nepal. In between, he will travel to Yangon to give a module on Organisation Development and Leadership in Myanmar Leadership Institute.

I have a hectic semester running with a heavy load of course work which includes intense practicum of counselling. At the moment I am busy hunting for clients to complete my 30 hours of counselling. Besides our academic engagements, both of us continue to avail ourselves for confessions and Masses in the school and the university.

Fr. Tej Kalyan

ST. XAVIER'S, AHMEDABAD

Month of February kept us on our toes because of numerous activities such as CIA-1 examinations, community overnight outing to Rajasthan, Eco fest to mention a few. We ended the month of January with the CIA-1 examination which was held from 27th-30th January. Soon after examinations we had

community overnight picnic to neighbouring states Rajasthan. It was combined with educational tour; we were privileged to visit historical places such as Haldighati, Udaipur, city palace of Udaipur, Chittorgarh Fort. It was worth seeing such wonderful places and collecting information about India's heritage.

Premal Jyoti Parivar is now full with the arrival of our new superior. On 15th Feb we welcomed our new superior Fr. James Shavirmuthu S.J. On the same night we started our monthly recollection given by Fr. Johnson Mundupuzhakal S.J. It was time to pause from busy activities and spend time with the Lord, our master and be grateful for his love and blessings on our journey.

On 17th -18th Feb, we appeared for further examina-

tions for soft skills and foundation subjects. On 23rd of February we had an environmental exposure program for the religious group of undergraduates studying in St. Xavier's College, Ahmedabad to Xavier centre for Eco harmony, Khatamba (one of the stations of Gujarat Province near Vadodara).



Nepal Scholastic Bipin Bara in front of Udaipur palace

On 26th of Feb, we began Lenten season with Ash Wednesday to remind ourselves that, "you are dust and unto dust you shall return". In order to make these forty days of journey meaningful we decided to cut down meals and save the amount and give to needy.

We the students of St. Xavier's College, Ahmedabad Economics Department was privileged to organize three days of national seminar (Cognizance2020) from 27th -29th Feb. Students and Professors from different colleges took active participation. It was worth learning experience when all the youngster come together and think of something new to transform the society and the Economic Situation of our country.

Sch.Bipin Bara



Students of St. Xavier's College, Ahmadabad on tour

ASHA KIRAN, MANGALORE

Month of February kept us busy with various activities in community as well as in college. On 7th February we were privileged to have Rosevira ma'am; head of the department of Political science in St. Aloysius College. She gave a talk on "Citizenship Amendments" where we came to know many things about present political situation. We all benefited a lot from this. On February 10, the Scholastics of Nepal and Dargeeling celebrated the Community Mass along with all the community members. On this beautiful occasion we showed them videos of our Region and Province. It was soon followed by delicious meal prepared by Dargeeling and Nepal Scholastics. On 11th we had a talk on "Apostleship of Prayer Ministry" by Fr. Jagdish from Dargeeling Province.

In order to be free from our busy schedules, we had a common recreation on February 13. We conducted

different fun games and dances. All of us enjoyed and kept the remembrance alive. On 16th the community went for Picnic to a nearby beach. We had whole day various games - housie, football, and volleyball in the knee-deep water. At evening we came back with various experiences. On 17 there was a talk on "Drinking from the wellspring" by Fr. Jossie D'mello from Karnataka Province. He mostly spoke about life history of Fr. Pedro Arupe and his mission in Japan. This talk helped us to know more about Jesuits and inspired us to be authentic servant of God. We were also privileged to celebrate Sothern Zone Feast led by Karnataka and Kerela Scholastics. On that occasion we had varieties of dishes prepared by them. From 24 - 27 February, we were busy with our Second Internal Tests.

Schs. Niroj and
Ruben

VINALAYA, MUMBAI

February was significant in various ways. There were number of programs and activities which kept us engrossed throughout the month.

In the second week, all juniors traveled to Nashik. We spent there three days at the shrine of the Infant Jesus, praying and helping out during the annual feast. It proved to be a rich, spiritual experience after all. After returning from Nashik we began our classes as usual. The next two weeks were crucial as we were preparing ourselves for a drama. On February 21, a youth group of thirty members from a parish in Borivali (Mumbai) visited Vinayalaya; we interacted with them about Jesuits' life. It was a fruitful meet. We also interacted with a Swiss Jesuit regent who is working with JWL (Jesuit worldwide learning). We were happy to hear of the way the Jesuits help refugees in higher education.

The very next day, in the morning, Fr. Rasquina, a senior Bombay Jesuit passed away in the Vinayalaya infirmary. The funeral service was held in the evening. May God grant eternal peace to Fr. Rasquina. On 23rd evening we performed our long awaited drama, "And There Were None" by Agatha Christie, in the presence of an audience of four hundred. We were applauded for our effort and hard work. As the month is at its end we are looking forward to the next programs. We are excited to visit Elephanta caves on February 27.

Schs. Krish and Vinay

COLLEGIO INTERNAZIONALE DEL GESU, ROME

The Month of January was a busy month. It was the month of exams. The house was in pin drop silence. All of us were busy either in the rooms or in the libraries for preparing for the exams. All the ex-

As for now the whole country is shocked by the spread of Corona Virus. In the North part of Italy already seven are dead. So they have closed all the schools and colleges and all the other activities. But in Rome the



Nepal Scholastic Devadhas on his living group outing to Padua

ams were conducted orally. So we, the first years, had a new experience. The exams lasted for almost a month. After the exams, the house organized some sort of outing to give us some mental and physical relief from the studies. We went out as living groups. Each group decided the place for themselves. My group went to Padua. We stayed there for three days and two nights. While staying in Padua we visited other places - Venice, Ferrara and Firenze. In Venice we were lucky to visit a Jesuit Parish and to have mass. The mass was celebrated by Fr. Changjoon Lee S.J. who was our group leader. He celebrated the mass as his first mass in that parish. We had a great time and enjoyed the most. We have cleared the first semester successfully.

people are not affected by this virus so we have the normal life. But the effect is felt even in Rome. Here I would specially request all of you to keep us and all others who are under the threat of this Virus. At the same time, we too assure you of our prayers. We had different activities too like a session under the theme, "Sex education, sexual orientation, attraction, in love" by Father Stanislaw Morgalla SJ, Pro. from PUG, Psychology Institute, Italian Bible reading course by Pro. Silvia and so on. The third years are also preparing for their diaconate ordination. We started our second semester on 17th February 2020.

Sch. Devadhas

Greatness in the Church comes from service

Pope Francis said in one of his homilies - Who is the most important in the Church? The Pope, the bishops, the monsignors, the cardinals, the pastors of the most beautiful parishes, the presidents of lay associations? No! The greatest in the Church are those who make themselves servants of all, those who serve everyone, not those who have titles. And to help us understand this, He took a child and placed him in their midst; and embracing him with tenderness - because Jesus spoke with tenderness, He had so much of it - He said to them: "Whoever receives a child, receives Me". That is, whoever welcomes the most humble, the one who serves the most. This is the path. There is only one path against the spirit of the world: humility. Serving others, choosing the last place, not climbing the ladder.

He continued, saying there is no need to make compromises, to "bargain with the spirit of the world", because worldliness "is the enemy of God".

On the contrary, Pope Francis said, we need to listen to these "very wise" words of encouragement that Jesus speaks in the Gospel: "If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all".

vaticannews.va/en/pope-francis/mass-casa-santa-marta/2020-02

Announcement

The following will attend ToT for safeguarding of minors and vulnerable adults North and Central Zone April 2 - 6, 2020 at Delhi:

1. Samuel Simick
2. George P.M.
3. Boniface Tigga
4. Vijay Toppo

Dates to Remember
REGION DAYS 2020
May 16 and 17



March 02	Fr. David Ekka
March 13	Sch. Pankaj K. Kerketta
March 28	Fr. Gregory C. Sharkey
March 31	Fr. Ayar Kujur

PRAYERS FOR THE DEPARTED SOULS



***Fr Felix Tirkey SJ (DUM)**, 52/28, passed away on March 02, 2020 in Bathbanga, Sahibganj, Jharkhand.

***Fr. Edwin Rasquinha SJ (BOM)**, 91/60 passed away on February 20, 2020 at Andheri, Mumbai.

***Br. Joseph C. Kochukunnumpuram, SJ (PAT)**, 81/58 expired on February 07, 2020 at Kurji, Patna.

THOSE WHO SERVED IN NEPAL

07/03/1980	Mathew V. Mannaparambil
10/03/2009	Ludwig Stiller
11/03/2000	Bernard Bruneau
12/03/1974	Edward Niesen
14/03/1971	Francis B. Murphy
18/03/2009	John K. Locke
25/03/1980	Paul Dent
29/03/1987	Tom Downing