



E-SAGARMATHA SAMACHAR

Vol. 35 No. 07

Nepal Jesuits

July 2020

Fr. General has appointed ...

Fr. Christie Maria Joseph (MDU) the Secretary of Higher Education of the Society of Jesus.

Fr. Jerome Cutinha the new Provincial of Jamshedpur.

Fr. Peter McIsaac the new Regional Superior of Guyana and Jamaica.

Region Commission Members

1. Commission for Service of Faith (JEPASA, JIGSA, JSD, PWPN): Tej Kalyan Kujur (Chair & JEPASA), Boniface Tigga (JIGSA), Bill Robins (JSD), Peter Chettri (PWPN), Ayar Kujur, Norbert D'Souza, Anup Ranjan Minj

2. Commission for Social Apostolate and Ecology (JESA, JEMAI, JYMSA): James A Poovathumkal (Chair & Ecology), Roy Sebastian (JESA), Vijay P Toppo (JEMAI), Sanjay Ekka (JYMSA), Tek B Paudel, S. Arulanandam, B.Rajashekharan

3. Commission for Primary & Secondary Education: George Padinjarakudyil (Chair), Samuel Simick, Boniface Tigga, Nicholas Christuraj, Vijay P Toppo, Clarence Joseph

4. Commission for Higher Education: Augustine Amakkatt (Chair & Alumni), Jiju V Kevillil (IMCS), Juel Kispotta (JESCOM), Jomon Jose, Robert Arockiasamy, Daniel Bara

5. Commission for Formation: J. Arul Selvam (Chair, Vocation Dir. & RCF), Peter Chettri, Samuel Simick, Augustus Ekka, Thomas Nedumparamban, B. Rajashekharan

6. Finance, Development & Mobile Clinic: Mathew Assarikudy (Chair, RDD & Mobile Clinic), David Ekka, Hermon Anthony, Bobby Joseph, Victor Beck, Amit Lakra.

7. Jesuit Brothers: Clarence Joseph (Chair), Hermon Anthony, Irenius Guria, Boniface Tigga (Mentor)

1. Fr. Augustine Amakkatt has successfully defended his Ph.D. thesis on *Leadership Studies in Organizational Development* from University of Manila, Philippines.

2. Fr. Jomon Jose Kanniattukunnel has successfully defended thesis proposal for his Ph.D. research on *Philosophy of Education* from Trnava University, Slovakia.

Heart y
Welocome
to our new
novices



Manresa Jesuit Novitiate, Kalimpong

1. N.S. Alex Hembrom (20). He is from St. Xavier's Church, Sadakbari, Jhapa, Nepal.

2. N.S. Anurag Toppo (21). He is from Chiknipani, Jashpur diocese, Chattisgarh, India.

3. N.S. Jay Ghale (20). He is from Good Shepherd Church, Tipling, Dhadhing, Nepal.

ST. XAVIER'S SCHOOL, GODAVARI

The month was very sensational due to land dispute initiated by local authorities. Due to vested interest and political vicissitudes the Land and property of St. Xavier's Godavari are perennial problem. The first week of June seemed to be climax of the dispute. Three school staff with their families are residing in Keshar Mahal. The local government has tried to capture Keshar Mahal



Govt. construction



Fr. Samuel dialogues with local govt. officials

and the land through rowdy and unruly ways. They wanted to make Keshar Mahal a ward office and quarantine place without any legal documents and procedures. They did not consult the school management. Evil nexus are very strong operating in background.



Keshar Mahal, teachers quarter

Jesuits have confronted them for their misbehavior and misusing the power of present government. The community is sorting out various ways and means to solve the problem.

Many meetings were conducted with local parent and the people of goodwill on the same issues. They showed concerns and came up with various sugges-



Local parents meet

tions.

To keep students connected with the school teachers were busy with online classes.

On June 14 there was a webinar for teaching staff on Synchronous and Asynchronous (Learning in the Context of COVID-19) by Mr. Padam Raj Pantta. He stressed teaching learning more on Google classroom management. Fr. Lawrence Maniyar, S.J. also is giving series of webinar to our teaching staff on IPP in the time of COVID-19.



Sch. Ashish with community bikes The whole month shrouded with land and government and bureaucrats. The writ petitions have been filed in the Patan High Court. This is the final fight. We are waiting for court's verdict. Your prayers and support are needed.



SXG Correspondent

ST. XAVIER'S SCHOOL, DEONIA



Fr. Daniel guides through a workshop for teachers

In view of online classes, three-day orientation programmes for teachers were organized in three different groups. The resource persons were Fr Boniface Tigga, the Principal and Fr Daniel Bara. The former spoke about the care and concern of students at this time of pandemic. He emphasized that teachers are the next front line warriors who have great responsibilities to bring rays of hope in the lives of students and take them forward in this time of crisis. The latter spoke about the teaching strategies and modules, which need to be incorporated during online teaching in order to make the subject interesting, creative and effective. Besides other activities in the community and in the school, Fathers continued to give pastoral assistance to our faithful even in this time of lockdown, motivating the faithful to pray in their family and occasionally distributing Holy Communion



Thanksgiving eucharist in SCD community

to them whenever it is needed or asked for. In the community, on June 22, 2020 a thanksgiving Mass was offered by Fr. Boniface for our three Brothers, namely Fr Dennis, Schs. Ravindar and Ivin for their generous services to Jhapa mission. It was followed by an agape. During the dinner on behalf of the community, Fr Arul expressed his heartfelt gratitude to Fr Dennis and Sch Ivin for their selfless and invaluable contributions in the school and in the community; he however reserved to express his gratitude to Sch Ravindar for a later date as he continues his Online Theological classes from here itself. On June 24, 2020, Fr Dennis and Sch Ivin safely and successfully crossed the border and reached their destination. Both of them stayed in Matigarah and the former continues to stay there while the latter went to Kerala after two days.

Wilson Kandulna



Three outgoing members with remaining members



Fr. Arul bids adieu to outgoing community members

MORAN MEMORIAL SCHOOL MAHESHPUR



Fr. Norbert, Parish priest interacts with recipients of food supplies

In the month of June Catholic houses were blessed and Holy Communion was distributed in Maheshpur, Haldibari, Jalthal and Gerabari. Dry food kits too were distributed for 132 families in tea garden area and 118 families in Naya Basti area.

In the School we had the School Management Committee meeting in which we decided to help the students to keep in touch with their studies. So we had several times staff meetings to come up with the practical solution to this problem during the lockdown. The teachers made visits to all the villages of our students to get the feel of the parents and to find out the media accessibility of our students and the families. We decided to post the study materials on Facebook and the teachers would carry some printed materials to the villages allotted to different teachers. Collecting fee for the new academic year is out of question but they are encouraged to pay the dues of the last year. Everyone is keeping good health in the community.

Clarence Joseph



Distribution of food materials around St. Xavier's parish.

GONZAGA HOUSE

As lock down continues, things are getting difficult and tougher for the people. In St. Xavier's School, Sadakbari, we continue to reach out to our students, door to door delivering



Eucharist in a classroom with social distancing

study materials and collecting the home works and assignments. Majority of students are doing well whatever they grasp with their own reading, thus our idea to keep the students engaged is working but it all depends how faithfully students are doing or following the instructions. We have distributed the notebooks too so that home works can be done. Fr. Vijay being a new chairperson of St. Xavier's school, Deonia had to bike up to Deonia to attend a meeting, where he was introduced to the School Management Committee (SMC) on June 8. After a week on June 16 he had to go to Maheshpur for the Moran Memorial School SMC meeting. On June 21, Gonzaga's Feast as well as House Feast was celebrated. Deonia community joined our cel-

ebration through WhatsApp video and wished us. June 29 was Br. Irenius' birthday and the Feast of Peter and Paul; there was double thanksgiving celebration. On this occasion school prepared a long



Birthday celebration of Br. Irenius

term instruction for the students and distributed the materials.

It's being too long and people are getting restless to attend mass. Thus we are following the physical distance and have started to offer mass for few people only. Different families are called to attend the mass every weekend. Our number of mass attendees are less than 25 and the mass is said in class a room. Weather situation here is fine; third week of June was bit too much - the Kankai river embankment near Tappu started eroding. So people were in fear, thank God water receded soon but the fear continues. Local government tried to strengthen the embankment with bamboos and extra mud heap.

Vijay Toppo



Temporary bamboo bridge used to reach school



Flooded scene next to St. Xavier's School

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, MAITIGHAR

The month of Asaar brought some life back to the college with the staff reporting for duties in turn. Most of them find it a welcome relief from the lockdown days and the confinement of their homes. Strict Standard Operating Procedures are in place to ensure the safety of all. While they are in the college, the teaching staff help one another with online teaching skills and attend training sessions.

Admission for A Level program has opened. All admissions procedures are conducted online considering the Covid – 19 scenario. We are grateful to Upendra and his company Graffi Offshore Nepal for facilitating the technical part of the online application process. It was a learning experience for us as well as for many parents and students who found the process difficult since it was the first time for all. We wait for some more time to start Class 11 admission as the SEE results are not out. Bachelors and Masters admission processes is going to be another story altogether this year since no decisions have been made regarding class 12 and university examinations.

Cap has had two weeks of back spasms very similar to the ones he had a year ago. He was put under the same medication by Dr. Buland. He is recovering well and discovering the secrets of preventing spasms.

SXC correspondent

Fabric of St Peter: The Pope appoints Extraordinary Commissioner

Pope Francis appoints Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Mario Giordana as extraordinary commissioner whose role will be to bring clarity to the administration of the Fabric and update its Statutes.

(<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2020-06/fabric-of-st-peter-the-pope-appoints-extraordinary-commissioner.html>)

HRDRC SANEPA

The Jesuits here have been restrained to their office and their living rooms due to prolonged pandemic and lockdown. Occasionally, they spend time in cleaning up the wild grass in premises. They also started going out for games and physical exercises in the first unlock phase. The office staff have started coming to office regularly. Fr. Mathew visited mobile clinic centers with Sr. Jaya outskirts of Kathmandu consecutively of four days last week. Frs. Juel and Dilip continue taking online classes for college students of St. Xavier's college. Fr. Tek Bahadur has been staying temporarily with Godavari Jesuit community and helping them with legal matters. Fr. Bobby too is staying away from HRDRC at Jawalakhel Jesuit community and doing his online counselling courses.

Juel Kispotta



Fr. Mathew visits a mobile clinic centre

SHISHU BIKAS KENDRA, POKHARA

The first phase of Covid-19 unlock gave some relief to the people of the tourist city; of

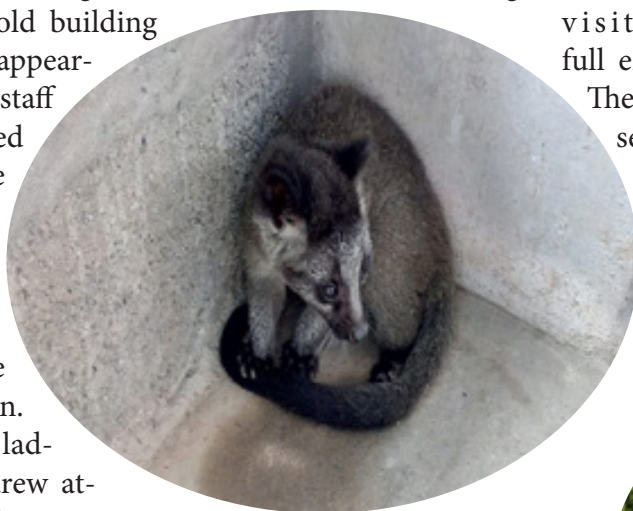


movements of the people and private vehicles starting with odd-even numbers were seen in the main roads after three months. The shops started to open and the smiles on the faces of the people are very much prevalent. The Pokhrelis have kept up the good social distancing and have prevented the spread of covid-19.

SBK few supporting staffs came occasionally and helped beautify the flower garden and SCC Sisters joined in clearing up years intertwined creepers on the railings of our ancient church building.

Now the old building has a new appearance. Our staff have cleared up the grass and planted the carpet grass in the front lawn.

Our fruit laden trees drew attention of every passerby's eyes. This year SBK students could not enjoy



eating the tasty and succulent peach and lychee. They were given out to all our Catholic families and to our good neighbors. The corns are plucked and preserved for the later use.

Fr. Paul enjoyed his few months of Sabbatical at Pokhara staying in different places and giving retreats. After many attempts in the lockdown finally he went to Patna, India for his Sabbatical on 26th of June 2020. He had a good and pleasant journey. Our Dais (brothers) reached him till Birgunj by Tata Winger. There have been frequent visits of police to check our church. Our church remains closed. The faithful are encouraged to pray



at home during the Covid -19 pandemic.

Fr. Amit gave an eight-day retreat to Cluny Sisters and kept up the spiritual duties offering masses, visiting the sick and suffering with full enthusiasm with all the precaution measures.

The faithful are curious and eagerly waiting to see the new and active young parish priest – Ayar Kujur, SJ at St. Ann's Church. SBK had a strange visitor on 29 June. It was Niro Biralo. Fr. Amit handed it over to the Forest department. They were glad to take it.

Amit Lakra



KAMAL NIWAS [N J S I]

The pandemic of COVID-19 and lockdown situation has affected the continuation of some works of NJSI.

down yet looking at the need has ventured into giving food materials to the families of the Special Children who hail mostly from the daily la-



NJSI distributes food materials to villagers



On 13th March Shree Adarsha Basic School was inaugurated and handed over. With the financial support from Caritas Germany, NJSI implemented the project by constructing two classrooms for the students. Along with the building NJSI granted furniture and ECD materials. In the program, the School Management Committee, some representatives from local Government bodies, representatives from Caritas Germany, students and their parents were present.

In this pandemic, NJSI with very limited possibility of outreach due to lock

downers category. The package includes provisions like, rice, grams, dry chick-peas, lentils, salt, sugar, oil, beaten-rice etc. which would last for a month in a family of 4. NJSI with SCN Sisters has reached out to 100 families in and around Kathmandu area. NJSI is planning to reach out to 1000 families along the areas of Earthquake relief activities specifically funded by Xavier Network.

Ms. Shristi Thapa



Fr. Roy Sebastian with students



Shree Adarsha Basic School

GOOD SHEPHERED, TIPLING

Tipling has seen an influx of 'refugees' from Kathmandu hoping to escape the pandemic. A side effect of this is a drain on our mobile clinic's supply of medicines. Another frequent request is the use of our colour printer. And a frequently heard question, 'Can you charge my phone?' Or 'Father, don't you have Wi-Fi here?!' Pastorally we have been busy attending Tamang death rituals. They include three natural deaths and three suicides but none from the Covid pandemic. All had either been baptised or had expressed the desire for baptism at one time or another. The monsoon has not extinguished any of the cremation ceremonies, miraculously. But just to make sure the government is constructing concrete crematoria in all our villages up here. Hopefully this is not a sign of things to come.

The school lockdown has not quenched our students' thirst for reading. In fact, it may have encouraged it. Our village children have been making great use of Meme Cap's library for children here in Tipling.

Finally, at the first of this month we thought we had sealed a purchase of land for a prayer house in Lapdung. That deal fell through. As of today however 28 June, we have found new hope. A plot of land has become available. The Catholic community likes it. It is on the border line (the LAC - line of actual control) if we may be pardoned that expression, between Majat and Lapdung.

We have had friendly visits from the Pramukh Beena Lama and the Ser-tung police who were going about other business.

As you read this our stranded scholastic Pankaj is hoping to get down to Kathmandu with the help of one of these officials who is also going down i.e., our Ruby Valley Adyaksh, Pemba Ghale.



Border line between Majat and Lapdung (the LAC)

Jesuit Sources, Tipling

DIASPORA

ATENEO, MANILA

Here, Augustine and I are keeping well and we are also regular for basketball. Fr Jason received his final Vows Yesterday (29th June) and we had it live streaming. Because of the COVID 19 only a few Jesuits were present from the other houses. It was like a community celebration. Our greetings to all Nepal Jesuits.

Tej Kalyan

ST. PETER'S GAYAGANGA

Life in Gayaganga seems to be gradually getting back on track with increased activities on the premises, particularly at the parish. This, however, does not leave us with absolute certainty that the things will get better here in the coming days due to the constant change in the guidelines of the government and the rumours of COVID-19 cases in the vicinity of Gayaganga.

Fr. Augustus had been spiritually nourishing the parishioners through his Sunday reflections that were shared on WhatsApp until the lockdown restrictions were loosened. As the church is now open for the faithful, he has started attending to the spiritual needs of the faithful in a better way by administering the sacraments in the church. He, along with the parish catechist, took a one-week marriage class for eight couples, who received the sacrament in smaller groups.

After Sch. David left for his second year of regency at St. Joseph's School, Northpoint, Darjeeling, Sch. Deepak Jans is accompanying Fr. Simon at the hostel. He as well lends the ministry a hand in the household chores.

Augustus Ekka

SACRED HEART PARISH, SINGAMARI

During this universal health crisis, we are keeping our spirits high and hoping for the best. Fr. Kennedy has joined the college community as the new member; he will take care of the youth apostolate and vocation promotion for the Darjeeling Province.

Singamari Parish remains closed during these days. Parish has provided food materials to the parishioners and villagers. These days Parish Priest offers virtual Eucharist in social media. Last week we had a funeral service in our parish. Manu gave the anointing of the sick to two elderly persons at the city hospital.

Next week onwards, we are planning Masses for small congregations of Singamari Parish. We have to ensure that social distancing is maintained during the church services.

Manu Mthew

PREMAL JYOTI, AHMEDABAD

Covid-19 has disturbed all the students psychologically all over the world because of uncertainty regarding universi-

able to go back to their Provinces and Regions are sent to different mission stations to explore and help out in their respected communities.



ty examinations and regular classes. But Gujarat University has decided to promote First and Second year students according to merit base progress. This will be done according to students' performance in internal examinations and previous semester exams (50%-50%) respectively. Keeping this in mind all the scholastics are back to their respected places and also the situation in Ahmadabad is worse due to pandemic. Premal Jyoti looks quiet and composed due to less movement in the community. But we were blessed with rain which lessened heat and brought life to plants. Premal Jyoti campus looks green and is attracting birds and squirrels. Those who were not

Nepal and Darjeeling scholastics rendering helping hands I am in North Gujarat, a place Called Unteshwari. Here we can see the icon of enculturation. We have a beautiful Shrine of Unteshwari Mata

(our Lady of Camels). This Shrine attracts daily a good number of devotees from different parts of Gujarat. With me three more scholastics are here, two from Kohima and one from Darjeeling. Our presence has brought joy in the community and also in the village. Good number of children come and help us. We are also helping in the community for manual work.

Bipin Bara



Shrine of Our Lady of Camels

ASHA KIRAN, MANGALORE

At the beginning of this month we had a volleyball match with the Juniors who recently came back from their home visits. Two of them joined our community. We also celebrated two of our brothers' birthday. On 5th of June on the occasion of World Environment Day our ecological community organized a small programme. We had creative community prayer specially praying for the mother earth. Soon after the prayer we planted sapling; then a short programme followed based on global warming.



Community Day celebration

On 8th onwards we began delivering homilies each week three persons. On the occasion of Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, our 3rd year brothers conducted creative prayer. On the same day, soon after the supper we had common recreation which was led by Niroj and his 3rd year

companions. The main thrust of this event was Asha Kiran 2020 Award Distribution Ceremony. The best singing award of 2020 was given to Ruben Hembrom. The most awaiting day of this month was feast of St. Aloysius Gonzaga. On this beautiful day we

had quiz and various indoor games according to five living groups. The quiz was taken from Bi-



ble, Society of Jesus and Covid - 19. The first prize was given to living group no. 1 which was led by Tommy Isaac and Ruben. The next day on 22nd of June we celebrated 33rd birthday of our sub-minister Fr. Kevin. The chapel, noticeboard and the entrance of his room was beautified with various things.

On 23rd we had community meeting based on community activities, apostolic life and Covid-19. The main questions were: What are we doing during these days? What need to be done? And How to face if someone gets Covid-19. On 24th our second year brothers with some of third



Good meal after hard work in the farm

year brothers went to Anjali Farm where they planted sapling and cleaned around the campus. Niroj and few others are busy with Philosophy online class as well as online course provided by JDV.

Niroj Minj & Ruben Hembrom

GESU, ROME

The month of June was very intensive. We had a lot of farewell programs for the third-year theologians. We had them as Gruppo Misti, and in different Assistancy level too. It was also a

number of the participants were limited, the event was live telecasted in YouTube. The main celebrant was the Jesuit Cardinal, His Eminence Michael F. Czerny SJ, and the General, Fr. Arturo Sosa SJ, was



His Eminence Michael F. Czerny SJ

month of preparation of different things. In general, all the theologians were very busy studying for the exams and working on the final papers. The exams were conducted in two ways; oral and written. For some professors we had gone to the University for the exams and for some others we had it online through Zoom and Google Meet. The house had only one main event in this month on 27th of June, that was the Diaconate Ordination of the third-year theologians. Along with Deacons two from Biblicum had the Priestly Ordination as well. Since the



Diaconate and Priestly ordinations

present for the event as one of the co-celebrants. In collaboration with the house minister and the coordinators, the program was well planned and executed by the Scholastics and Staff. Due to the pandemic situation, many of us have planned to stay back in the community and do some language courses during this summer. Some of the European Scholastics have returned to their provinces for the various purposes. So far three new comers have arrived.

V. Devadhas



Ordination ceremony in Gesu



VINALAYA, MUMBAI

Last two months were full of uncertainties. We finished juniorate in the month of April and were supposed to travel for home visit and then back to Nepal but due to the lockdown it wasn't possible. We stayed back in the community. Later when things got better some of the scholastics were able to go back to their provinces.

COVID-19 has badly affected our lives. We were cut off from outside world; there were no ministries and no any involvement with outside people. So as to keep us occupied during this time, some classes were conducted by the dean. This situation also provided a lot of personal time for oneself. On the first week of the last month few scholastics joined us in the community as to do their online philosophy and theology classes. We also filled our admission form for the college and have started some basic preparations for the classes.

Foreseeing the days ahead in the college Krish had to get his passport ready. So on 24 June early morning with one of the Darjeeling scholastics he traveled to Darjeeling.

On 27 June we welcomed the new batch of juniors. Do pray for their spiritual and intellectual life. At present I am involved in the community activities and waiting for the call from the Jesuit community in Ahmadabad.

Schs. Krish Murmu, Vinay Lakra

FMSK, PATNA

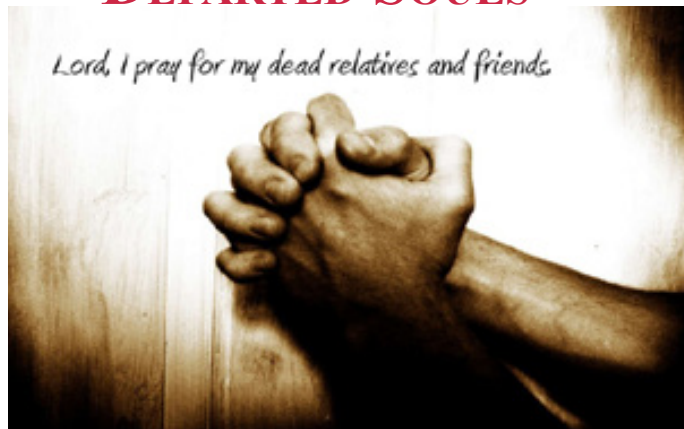
Paul K.C has started the rest of his Sabbatical in Patna Fatima Matha Susamachar Kendra after three months of Sabbatical in Pokhara under lockdown. He reached Patna on Saturday June 27, 2020 in the evening. This part of his Sabbatical starts with 14 days of quarantine in FMSK itself. Good time for being "Alone with the Aloneness of Alone".

Paul K.C.



July 01	Fr. Etienne Degrez
July 05	Sch. Krish Murmu
July 06	Fr. Paul K.C.
July 14	Fr. Arul Selvam
July 15	Fr. Juel Kispotta
July 20	Sch. V. Devadhas

PRAYERS FOR THE DEPARTED SOULS



- * **Fr. Marcus Murmu** (DUM 63/38) died on June 20, 2020, in Ursula Hospital, Dumka, Jharkhand.
- * **Fr. S.M. Xavier Irudayaraj** (MDU 79/61) died on June 16, 2020) at Beschi Illam, Dindigul.
- * **Fr. SA Alphonse** (AND, 69/51) died on June 10, 2020 at Loyola Academy, Alwal.
- * **Br. Edward C. Gill** (UMI, 86/65) died on June 6, 2020, at St. Camillus in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin.

THOSE WHO SERVED IN NEPAL

28/07/2012	Alfred T. Poovattil
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WORLD REFUGEE DAY 2020: KNOWLEDGE IS NECESSARY FOR UNDERSTANDING

A group of faith-based organisations, including the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS), has issued a statement on World Refugee Day 2020, which was celebrated Saturday, 20 June. This message echoes that of Pope Francis, who invites all people of good will everywhere to reflect, pray and commit themselves to helping refugees and forcibly displaced persons, so numerous in today's world.

(<https://www.jesuits.global/2020/06/20/world-refugee-day-2020-knowledge-is-necessary-for-understanding>)

