



E-SAGARMATHA SAMACHAR

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CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE REGION SUPERIOR



It is a very special pleasure for the Region Curia and me to extend warmest greetings and best wishes to all of you during this Christmas.

Christmas is celebrated in many different ways. We exchange gifts, attend church services, decorate our homes and Christmas trees, and enjoy a family or community dinner. The year 2020 is just a completely different kind of year, and because of that, I think there's going to be a lot more creativity in celebrating Christmas. But perhaps the tradition that most warms the heart is the sound of Christmas music.

Of all the songs ever sung at Christmas time, the most wonderful of all was the song of exaltation heard by the shepherds while tending their flocks on the night of Christ's birth. An angel of the Lord appeared to them and said: "Do not be afraid. Look I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And all at once with the angles there was a great throng

of the hosts of heaven, praising God with the words: Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace for those who favour." (Lk 2: 10-11, 13-14)

Sometimes, in the hustle and bustle of our lives and in the pandemic we forget that the true meaning of Christmas was given to us by the angelic host that holy night long ago. Christmas is the commemoration of the birth of the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ, whose message would truly be one of good tidings and great joy, peace and good will. During this glorious season let us renew our determination to follow His example.

I know all of you join with me in a prayer for peace and good will. May a feeling of love and cheer fill the hearts of everyone throughout this Christmas and in the coming year.

We hope this Christmas will be especially unique and that it will usher in a new year of peace and prosperity.

Amrit Rai, S.J.

Fr. General has appointed

Fr Roland Coelho SJ (Provincial of Goa) as the New JCSA/POSA Consultor and Chair of the West Zone provincials.

Vicariate appointment

With the proposal of Region Superior Rev. Bishop Paul Simick has appointed Fr. Paul K.C. the Assistant Parish Priest of St. Xavier's Parish, Maheshpur, Jhapa, Nepal effective from December 1, 2020.

ST. XAVIER'S SCHOOL, JAWALAKHEL



Disinfecting class rooms for exams



Students attending Class 12 Board exam

On November 6, 2020 there was an informal meeting with the teachers of class 6 -10. The atmosphere of the meeting was cordial because the teachers were given a platform to share about their families' conditions, joys and sorrows at the time of pandemic. Many teachers opened up and shared and listened to each other. The listening to each other gave a sense of one family where everyone is taken care.

This year National Education Board (NEB) couldn't conduct class 12 exam timely due to the COVID 19. However, NEB scheduled the examination for class 12 which began on 24 of November. Considering the seriousness of the pandemic, NEB gave permission to conduct the exams in their respective schools and students also are permitted to write their exams in any close by schools if they are unable to come to their own respective schools. Hence, 8 students of St. Xavier's school are writing their exams in other schools according to their convenience. This year

298 students have appeared for the National Education Board Examination from St. Xavier's school Jawalakhel; From Science stream 100 boys and 69 girls and from Management stream 62 boys and 67 girls. The school administration has made a conducive atmosphere to write exams by taking the possible safety measures and precautions with regard to corona safety protocol.

On 19 of November Br. Hermon joined St. Xavier's school community. As he arrived here, he was home quarantined for some time. He served at Sadhana Institute in Lonavala, Maharashtra as an administrator for 6 years. Now he is back to his Region. He will take a new responsibility as administrator of St. Xavier's Jesuit community on 1 of December 2020. On 26 of Nov. Fr. Anil's birthday was celebrated only with the community members. We thanked God for the gift of Fr. Anil for the Society and wished him well.

Sanjay Ekka



Fr. Anil celebrates his birthday with community



Guards with PPE on the gate as they usher the students

St. Xavier's School, Godavari



“Death is not extinguishing the light; it is putting out the lamp because dawn has come,” said Rabindranath Tagore. On Nov. 2nd All Souls Day we remembered and respected our predecessors in Godavari Ashram. The Eucharistic celebration and prayers were led by Fr. Robin Rai (the parish priest of Godavari) and blessed the Ashram cemetery. There were some visitors, religious Sisters and Jesuits who attended the event. Next day Salesian Sisters and Fr. Augusty with his crew from Thecho visited the school and Ashram cemetery. In Ashram compound near Fr. Bertrand Saubolle, S.J. graveyard an abandoned house has been converted into “MONT-SERRAT”, a room for meditation.



Mrs. Jyoti Khanal with Fr. Bill

Mrs. Jyoti Khanal organized Bhai Tika celebration for Fr. Bill outdoor next to Xavier Hall. She also hosted meal for the community. Great! Fr. Bill has kept up the tradition for long time.

Mr. Sher Jung Gurung passed away on November 10. He was a stalwart and served the school for many decades. The school is always grateful to Gurung Sir, his commitment and his dedicated service. His life has become an iconic symbol for many students in the past and present.

During Tihar holidays Sch. Deepak was out in Ti-pling and Fr. Samuel and Sch. Ashish were in Jhapa. Frs. Lawrence, Bill and David stayed at home.



Family Day online celebration

On November 22 the school organized online Family Evening for class 9 and 10 parents. It came out to be very good. Students performed very well and mesmerized the audience. It was the first time in SXG history.

On November 23 Sch. Deepak celebrated his birthday in the community. Fr. Bill blessed the new motorcycle with a short prayer ritual. The School conducted class 12 Board Exams from November 24 to December 1 with a special care and concern, keeping pandemic rules and guidelines.



Blessing of a new bike

SXG correspondent



SXG students fully engrossed in writing exams

Gurung Sir the Stalwart of Godavari

"A Person who perseveres in his/her life with clear conscience will always be successful"

One of the best examples of someone who has always striven to live by this statement is Mr. Sher Jung Gurung, the former Vice Principal of St. Xavier's School, Godavari. He was born on 30th June, 1940 in Dehradun, India. As a strapping young lad who first visited Nepal at the young age, a year before he was recruited in the British Gorkhas; Gurung sir was at once smitten by the country. During his military service between 1959 to 1970 he was active in the Brunei Revolution and the Indonesian Confrontation. And as Chief Clerk he retired after serving for 11 years. He was sports natural. He was a team member of Brunei State Hockey Team and was equally good in Football, Volleyball, Swimming and Cross Country Marathon. He got married in 1969 with Mrs. Henrietta Gurung. As luck and fate would have it, he returned to Nepal in 1970. While on leave from the army and scouting for possible job opportunities at the British Embassy while Mrs. Gurung was interviewing for a job at SXG; they both were recruited by Fr. Miller, S.J. who was the principal then. Gurung sir started out as a staff in 1970 and after an impressive 46 solid years, he was still going strong. He took retirement from the school in the year of 2016. After the retirement he was sharing his wisdom and blessings with the students as well as to the teachers and staff. Gurung sir has helped thousands of students graduate over the years and has been a witness to all the changes that have taken place in Godavari. He was the living history of St. Xavier's School, Godavari.



He was very happy that the school opened door to girls as well as the local community in order to provide more opportunities for equal and quality education. Gurung sir used to say

"I have been able to make my contribution to the country and for me achievement is synonymous to self satisfaction. Today, I have received a lot of accolades and honour. I have always lived my life with a clear conscience and I believe today I don't have any enemies. For me these have been my true achievements. I am a person who believes that a person should always have hope. I always believed that the early years of the students are the most important for them because it is the foundation of one's life, only if a person is disciplined, obedient, diligent and respectful to others; that person will be a successful person later in life."

He was felicitated by Late King Birendra in the 35th 40th, 50th Jubilee in 1986, 1990, 2001 and by First President on Nepal Mr. Ram Baran Yadav in the 60th in 2011.

We are grateful to Gurung sir for his service and dedication towards School and the country. All the teachers, staff, students, parents, guardians and alumni remember his cheerful smile, his hearty accompaniment forever.

We are heart broken by the demise of our beloved Gurung Sir. SXG will always miss him. Heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family members. May the soul of the departed rest in peace.

Fr. Samuel Simick, S.J.
Principal
and SXG Family

ST. XAVIER'S SCHOOL, DEONIA



Fr. Arul precides Adoration

The Holy Mother Church has dedicated the month of November to pray for the repose of souls of those who have gone ahead from this world. With this faith, the faithful of Deonia had evening Mass on November 02, 2020 which was presided over by Fr Juel Kispotta, S.J. and con-celebrated by Fr Boniface Tigga, S.J.. After the Mass, there was the blessing of graveyard at Methibari. Thereafter, Fr Juel stayed back for a week, visiting different Jesuit Communities of Jhapa briefing them about the recording of different Financial Transactions as per the requirements of the current accounting system



Agape meal with parishioners

of the country.

On November 12, 2020 on the occasion of Tihar, there was a friendly football match between the office staff and the supporting staff of the school. Some of the teachers, Scholastics and Rev. Fr. Principal joined the office staff for the match. This helped us strengthen our bond as members of the Xavierian family. The supporting staff won the match; immediately after the match there was a high-tea for

all present. We missed Fr. Arul on that day; he had gone to Sadakbari to give Recollection to the Carmel Sisters there. Then the school remained closed for a short break of five days on account of Tihar.

On November 13, 2020 there was a one-day Recollection at Arrupe Niwas, Deonia for the Jesuits of Maheshpur and Deonia, the F.C. Sisters, our collaborators at Maheshpur and Deonia, and the Adorer Sisters of Itabhatta. The overarching theme of the Recollection was Religious Vocation. Our resource person of the day was Sr. Malika, F.C., who gave the recollection points as well as shared with us her ex-



periences of God in her life. The recollection ended with the Holy Mass followed by Tihar Agape. Our joy was doubled that evening with the visit of Fr. Samuel Simick and Sch. Ashish Ekka from Godavari. They stayed with us for three days before going back to Godavari.

"Shepherds should have the smell of their sheep", says the Holy Father, Pope Francis. Encouraged by these words, on November 15, 2020 Arrupe Niwas



Fr. Boni, the Principal vies for the ball



Football Match between office staff and support staff



Office and support staff in unity

Jesuit Community went for a one-day pastoral visit to Gherabari and Mittal. It was a grace-filled day to meet and interact with our Catholic faithful there. Their life stories and faith in God, inspired and moved all of us to do something more for the mission.

On November 17, 2020 the whole of Arrupe Niwas Jesuit community went to St Xavier's Parish, Maheshpur for a day of Youth Programme. Frs. Arul and Boniface spoke on the themes of Sacraments & Importance of Youth in the Church and the challenges in the Digital World respectively. Scholastics present on the occasion added life to the event with their action songs. The day ended with the Holy Mass.

This year the solemnity of Christ the King was celebrated sub-station wise. Besides faithful of Deonia, those of Bhutabari as well as Dhulabari joined in the Holy Mass. There was a Eucharistic Procession and Adoration within the school campus. After the Eucharistic procession and Adoration, all the faithful were served with beaten and puffed rice mixed with curry and an egg each.

We were very happy to welcome Fr. Daniel Bara after two months on November 21, 2020. He had gone to Matigara for his treatment after a bike accident. His health has improved much; he is recuperating

fast. However, it will still take some more time for his complete recovery. We thank and appreciate Fr. Boniface who made all necessary arrangements in bringing back Fr Daniel safely to the community.

Fr Arul went to Kathmandu on November 26, 2020 for the Consult; along with him he took Sch. Ruben Hemrom, who has come from Bangalore for his medical check-up.

From November 23 to 27, 2020 the First Cycle re-tests were conducted for the students of Classes II to X who were absent during the Online Cycle Test. The First Cycle Test for Class I too was conducted simultaneously. The National Examination Board of Nepal conducted the Class 12 Board Examinations, which, under the prevailing Covid-19 pandemic, were scheduled between 8.00 AM and 9.30 AM., with each Higher Secondary School of the area serving as the Examination Centre. St Xavier's School, Deonia felt honoured and privileged to conduct the Class XII Board Examinations from November 24 to December 1, 2020 for the first time in its history. It successfully conducted the examinations strictly adhering to guidelines provided under the Covid-19 pandemic. During these examinations, students arranged their own means of transportation to and from the school.

Sch. Wilson Kandulna



Faithful during adoration during Christ the King feast



Agape meal after the Eucharist on the Feast day

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, MAITIGHAR

Augustine took over as the Principal of the College on November 16 and Jiju moved on to shoulder his responsibility in the new building. Augustine's transition from being a student to a Principal again was not that easy. He had his hands full as soon as he took over. As home center, he had to ensure that everything was set for the Class 12 examinations. The examinations have begun well and hope to conclude them well as well. It will also give us some idea of how prepared we are to conduct face-to-face classes if and when we are allowed to do so.

The next thing he had to jump right into was the UGC accreditation process. As per the latest feedback on our SSR form, there were two areas that needed immediate attention. After a couple of meetings with the HoDs and the IQAC team, we have been able to sort out the issues. We hope to submit the updated final form within a few weeks.

We have started the practical classes for the A Level students. It was the first time they came to the college and they seemed to be very excited about it. However, they had to follow strict protocols set in the context of the pandemic. Other Departments will also start their practical classes within the next few days.

Our outreach coordinator, Mr. Mohan Banjara is at present visiting various places in the Far-West looking for the possibilities of reaching out to the most affected by the pandemic especially those who are hungry and cold.

We will have our college day/Xavier day celebration live streamed online through our official Facebook and YouTube channels on 3rd December. The details can be found on our website www.sxc.edu.np.

Jomon went to Jhapa to collect data for his research from the alumni of our schools there. Cap continues to keep good health and is experimenting various 'medicines' to see what gives him better sleep. So far it seems a local medicine is by far the most effective! Victor spends most of the time in the old campus to ensure that all logistics are maintained properly there. James continues to be busy with his classes and research activities.

We received the sad news that Cap's younger brother Chris suffered a massive heart attack on Thanksgiving Day and is in the ICU. We await further news about his health. We request your prayers for Chris and his family.

Campion House Jesuit Source

A WOUNDED WORLD CRIES OUT FOR HEALING

By **John Dardis SJ**, General Counsellor for Discernment and Apostolic Planning

Restorative Justice: how can it help promote reconciliation? The Covid pandemic: how are the great world religions responding? These were the main themes addressed by Father General's Council in a special week of discussions from 16th to 19th December.

We were aided by Guido Bertagna and Julian Carlos Ríos Martín who are both experts in restorative justice and by James Hanvey, Secretary for the Service of the Faith.

Key insights emerged: In normal judicial processes, the three main questions are:

- Was the law broken?
- Who did it?
- What does the person deserve?

In restorative justice, the questions are radically different:

- Who is hurt?
- What are their needs?
- Who should answer those needs?

Disagreement often happens around the meaning of the facts for different parties involved, not about the facts themselves, for example a robbery or a murder.

Courtesy: <https://www.jesuits.global/2020/11/19/a-wounded-world-cries-out-for-healing/>

Guido left us with a question for reflection: which areas of my/our life and history are hardest to enter into for myself... for the Society... and for the world?

James Hanvey led a discussion around a variety documents prepared by Father General's advisors for inter-religious dialogue. The focus was the ways in which the different religious traditions are responding to the Covid pandemic. The great religions of the world are a social and political force as well as sources of spiritual resilience and meaning. The religions too of the indigenous peoples also provide frameworks of understanding and resources for responding to the many different levels of a pandemic's impact. None of the religions adopt a passive, fatalistic approach but they all see in such crises a way of deepening the sense of our common humanity, our place in the nature, and the responsibilities we have to each other and the planet. The soul and the imagination also need to be nourished and healed so that the true depth of human transcendence can become a source of life and compassion.

We don't often have a chance to discuss the big themes together. This was a special week: A week of grace, a week of prayer, a week of deep reflection.

MORAN MEMORIAL, MAHESHPUR

After Dashain vacation, the school resumed its offline shift system classes. For 5 to 10 classes are conducted in the school and for 4 and below, the classes are conducted in different village study centers. It is encouraging to see the regularity of the students. These days some parents are coming to pay at least partly the dues of the previous year, while a large majority is yet to clear their dues. Thanks to the teachers for taking extra trouble to reach out to the students.

Fr. Paul K.C joined the community on the 30th October. He is helping out in various spiritual activities in the parish, specially offering masses at different mass centers. This month our community is blessed to have many Jesuits dropping in for a day or two during their Dashain vacation, some for relaxation and some for medical check-up. Frs. George P.M, Sanjay Ekka, Ignatius Hemrom and Anil Beck from Jawalakhel spent a day with us. From Godavari Fr.



Samuel Simick and Sch. Ashish Ekka also dropped in for a dinner with us. Fr. Raja stayed overnight, before leaving for Kathmandu. Fr. Juel Kispotta spent a day with us. Fr. Norbert was down with viral fever, so he took three days medical rest at Sisters' Place. Fr. Peter Chettri after recuperating stayed with us for a week. Our community joined the Deonia community for a day of recollection.

A one day youth Program was conducted on the 17th November for our parish youth. 29 youths took part in it. Fr. Nicholas coordinated the program, while all the Jhapa Jesuits actively involved in making this day a memorable and a fruitful day for our youth. Fr. Norbert along with an expert fisherman caught about 24 kgs of fish from our pond and shared them with different communities. Thanks to Br. Clarence through his contact, St. Vincent De Paul Society gave us 300 woollen blankets which we distributed in different mass centers. Lilumuni Hemrom (M/O. Paulose Hemrom) who was staying in Indian village across Mittal, passed away on 25th November, we conducted the funeral service and buried her in the Indian side.

Fr. Nicholas, S.J



Youths of the Parish



ST. XAVIER'S SCHOOL, SADAKBARI



Fr. Peter came back to the community on 20th of November, well recuperated. On 19th there was a Youth Seminar in Deonia. So, Fr. Tek and Bro. Ire-nius had gone for it. Fr. Peter celebrated the feast of Christ the King on 21st in Sadakbari. There was only one Mass at 8.30 a.m. We began with Blessed Sacra-ment procession from Sisters' Convent gate to the school. Mass was in the school assembly foyer. We had extended the shed by putting up a tent. It was a wonderful day; youth took lead to conduct the choir. On 29th we had a one-day youth seminar, an advent

Christmas.

St. Xavier's School has started its regular classes af-ter a long gap due to Corona pandemic on Novem-ber 30. Each class is divided into two according to places, so that students from the same area can come together. We are following the normal day cycle of winter time table. There is a kind of enthusiasm and keen interest in class activities. However, after a long gap, there is no class touch between the staff and stu-dents. 'Door to door' service of home work giving and collecting came to a halt during Dashain Tihar



Fr. Peter giving Seminar talk



Christ the King procession



Youth Seminar

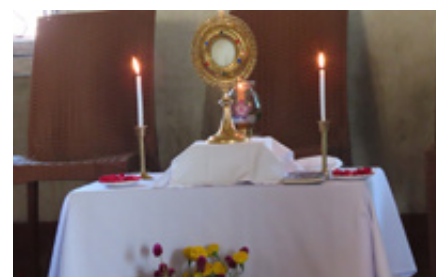


preparation and Sacrament of Reconciliation. 57 youths from Sadakbari and Simalburi attended and enjoyed the day. Catechists along with a few parish-ioners came to help in cooking. It was a community affair of Fathers and Sisters. Next is Eucharist in the SCC groups. Every age group in the parish will get a half day seminar on Saturdays in preparation for

and Chhatt festival. Now, we hope classes will run without any disturbance though in the area Corona Positive cases are in rise.

Frs. Juel, Arul, Boniface and Sch. Ashish along with Sajan and Alex Sir visited us at different days.

Vijay Toppo



SHISHU BIKAS KENDRA – POKHARA



Fr. Ayar celebrates ecuahrist in a family

The month long festive mood of Dashain and Tihar concluded with Tarai Chaat Parab in Pokhara. The hustle and bustle of the city life has finally shushed. Fr. Ayar took initiative to prepare the garden to plant potatoes. Few weeks of water scarcity

es. During the “Kukur Tihar” our Lucky had the best treatment ever. He had a good bath, garlanded and given the “chokho” meat.

We enjoyed first time our “Katus- Fruit”- macadamia from our garden. We had a lot of guests in SBK



Coworkers planting potatoes



Firewood given to MC Sisters



Family visit by Fr. Ayar

delayed the potato plantation. This year we hope to have more potatoes since a seasoned person has planted with new technique.

In the compound we had some piled up old wood which we gave away to MC Sisters. They were happy to load and take them in a truck. Time to time we visit Catholic families with our new parish priest, Fr. Ayar, praying for and giving communion services to them. We have begun giving family Mass since public services are not allowed in the worship plac-

during the month of November. Fr. Jomon, Tipling visitors, guests from Kathmandu and finally our community Superior, Fr. Juel graced us with their visits. We had a community outing to Bagnash Tal. Cold has increased along with Corona cases. Few MBBS students from Manipal hospital visited our church and donated face masks. Convent Masses are given regularly. “Wishing you all Happy Advent”.

Amit Lakra



Medical students from Manipal Medical college



Fr. Juel with his dispersion community

ST. XAVIER'S SOCIAL SERVICE CENTER

After Fr. Dillip left for Tertianship Fr. Mathew Asarikudy kindly accepted to be the proxy director till Fr. Rajashekaran arrived. The SXSSC family thanks Fr. Mathew for his accompaniment during this short period. On 6th November the new director of SXSSC Fr. Rajasekaran was welcomed by the Aruna Bhavan children. He is getting acquainted with the staff and assimilating into SXSSC family. Fr. Raja conducted the meeting with the staff, listened to them and expressed his vision for the center. Since the lockdown has been continuing only few students are staying in the center. The 22 girls in Aruna Bhavan and 10 boys in SXSSC are having online classes. The other students will return from home once the lockdown restrictions are lifted. On 1st of November Aruna Bhawan housed a six-year-old girl named Ichya Pakhrin who hails from Balaju. Her father is a rickshaw puller and mother is blithely unconcerned and boozing regularly. As a result, Ichya was neglected by her mother and grew malnourished. Besides, the family was facing an economic drought. After seeing her condition, one of organizations called Bhuwaneshwori Satyal foundation that referred her to SXSSC. The little girl was welcomed cheerfully to Aruna Bhawan. Now Ichya feels at home and freely mingles with her inmates. Her physical and mental health has drastically improved.

On 2nd November a staff from St. Xavier's School,

Jawalakhel, named Sita Didi visited the boy's home and distributed snacks and T-Shirts for boys. On the occasion of Tihar festival once again Sita didi provided lunch with delicious dishes. The students are grateful to her for she remembered the boys on festival occasion and showed her love for the students. There was a program conducted by Fr. Ignatius on Value education, to motivate the staff and students at Aruna Bhawan to improve their life skills. It was very interesting and all the students participated enthusiastically and prepared individual plan for the future. Deepawali, the festival of light, was celebrated by the students by decorating the house with lights and colorful Rangoli at the entrance. The students within the house premise sang Deusu and bailo. On the day of Bhai Tikka which binds the brother and sister relationship with sincere love and care for each other. Both boys and girls though they were away from their maternal homes, they didn't feel missing homes because the Aruna Bhawan girls accepted boys as their brothers and put tikka (forehead decorated with mixture of colour and rice) to them. Finally, they all shared the agape meal. Classes 11 and 12 are having their final exams offline. Sooraj Sunar is attending offline exams for class 12. The management team holding multiple meetings with the architect regarding some modification at the construction.

B. Rajasekaran



NEPAL JESUIT SOCIAL INSTITUTE

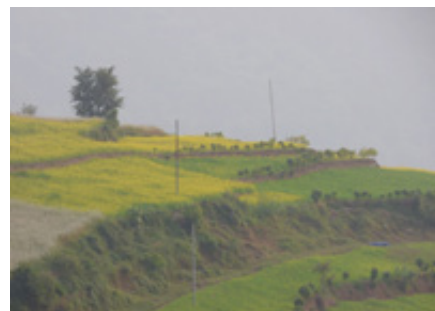
On 16 November, Frs. Roy, Fr. Thomas, Fr. Arul, Lawrence Hasda, Ram Chaudhary and driver Kailas went for an outing to Lakhuri Bhangyang. The weather in the morning was very pleasant, but as the day passed by the weather started to drop. The place is exquisite to see the mountain ranges but due to the foggy weather we could not see the mountain. We clicked some photos, savored home cooked lunch and

in water channeling projects. On 26 November, NJSI went to the project site to check the pipe connection and ground work completion. Irrigation project is in its full swing. Water has reached at the top of the village. Very soon the whole project will be complete and ready to be handed over to the beneficiaries.

The next visit was to Sanopokhara. Since this was our first time in the area, we needed to ask for direction to



Fr. Roy interacts with villagers



Beautiful mustard field

returned. Nepal Jesuit Social Institute [NJSI] is supporting New Aseptic Basic School by constructing toilet for girls and boys. The school is located at Sunkoshi Rural Municipality, Sindhupalchowk District. On 25 November, NJSI team went to visit the site. Soon the construction will begin.

NJSI team also went to Chapadi, Ramechep district. We had gone to the site to check water inflow and situation of the tank. The tank contains 2 lakh liters of water. Water will be distributed for irrigation to the land proper by pipes. While we waited for the water, Fr. Roy gave sermon to the villagers about the use of water; and further development of the project. It was part of our advocacy programme. In Chapadi, NJSI is involved with various interventions after the earthquake. In the early stage, it built women centers. Later, looking at the status of the village, it initiated drinking water projects. Now they have drinking water. This village is just above the river of Sunkoshi and Roshi kola junction and yet the village was unable to cultivate any crop because of low rain. So, NJSI now is engaged

our destination. Meanwhile, Mr. Ram Waihb, Principal of Shree Gramuonnati Secondary School, Ward 5 waited for us patiently. We reached the school around 12 p.m. They welcomed us with a big party. It was a short program but was performed from their hearts.

After the lunch we reached Siddhahswor M.V., Ward 3, Sonopokhara, Mahabharat Gayu palika. There are two strong building and two unused old buildings. They need few more rooms for classes and office use. Mr. Nani Babu, Principal, explained about their school situation and showed the site for building construction. Though it is only hundred kilometers away from Kathmandu, travel time is very long.

Whatever is the road situation, the natural beauty of Mahabharat range is superb. After climbing certain altitude, we could feel the coolness of the air, greenery of the trees. Here and there we could see the cultivation of yellow flowering mustard, and all along the way water steams and brooks. If anyone is interested to join, you are most welcome!

S. Arulanadam



Kamal Niwas community



Reservoir for villagers constructed by NJSI

ST. IGNATIUS CHURCH, BANIYATAR

The church was opened for the faithful on occasions of "All Saints Day" and "All Souls Day" feast celebrations. The families of the deceased whose bones and ashes are kept in the columbarium offered their prayers for them.



Prayer at columbarium



Slum dwellers receive rations



The "Holy Childhood - Drawing Competition" at Deanery level were won by two of our parishioners. Rita Rani Ghale secured 2nd position for 9 to 14 years of age group whereas Anil Ghale came 3rd for 5 to 8 years of age group. Now, both will be competing at Vicariate level in their respective categories in December. Sunita K.C. secured a controversial 3rd position on the Vicariate level "Singing Competition" organized by the Assumption Church. She was the only female singer among the winners. In November our youths went along the "Bishnumati" river to the families living in the slums to survey their

man berated them badly but revealed what had happened to them after such surveys and visits. Later, that day, they were invited to the church to receive their rations. The old man apologized to the youths. The church youths were instructed not to reveal their identities. They were

to tell that they were local youths intended to help them if they are really in need.

The church is partially opened to the faithful for the obligatory Saturday Masses at the earliest hours. It is for both to avoid big crowd and complaints from the vigilant neighbours. There are regular Masses for small groups and families on their requests during weekdays. On Saturdays good number of faithful attend Eucharistic celebration.

The COVID-19 had affected two families who have become negative now. The church has been continuous-



Youths do survey of a slum along a river



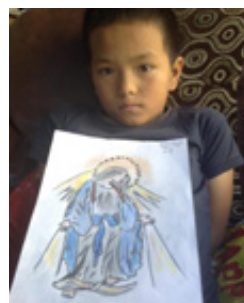
Disinfecting the church for mass

living conditions, particularly to find whether they have been already helped or do they need food supplies. It was found that most families had not received any kind of help from the day lockdown began until now. Many agencies: government and non-government came to survey only. Interestingly, a few churches also showed up and took notes of the families with photos and went back with

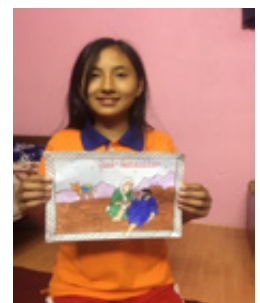
ly helping the needy with regard to the ration, school books, stationeries, school fees and medical expenses. Last Friday, one of the new houses was blessed. The family had invited a good number of people on the occasion of house blessing. Everyone on the occasion was treated with a grand dinner. Looking at the big gathering Corona Virus might have been amused at human fearlessness,



Slum dwellers receive rations



Children show their artworks



promises to revisit and provide helps. Unfortunately, it turned out to be photo opportunities. Seeing our youths a

carelessness and their foolishness!

Anil Beck

GOOD SHEPHERD, TIPLING

This was the month of our visitation, (annual, not biblical, since even the pandemic has failed to breach our mountain fastness.) Amrit and Juel made it to Tipling over the upper road. The only breakdown this time was of the vehicle in front of them and the delay was minor. They toured our parish outstations on foot including the new property we've purchased for the prayer house in Lapdung outstation. Word has it that they enjoyed their visit if true, this would be largely due to Fr. Anup's culinary magic in our very basic kitchen. At the core of their visit was meeting with parish leaders regarding the church-to-be and the local cooperation that will be expected. "The church is yours after all."

All school classes have resumed full time, in person, instruction. This is with the OK of the local government and a concession to remote mountain villages such as ours without general internet access.

It followed that with prudent precautions, restrictions on worship could also be allowed. And so we celebrated the feast of Christ the King with a procession of the Blessed Sacrament, outside, along a section of Xavier Marg that had not previously been used in previous years. To summon our village 'pilgrims', the Silent Bell of Tipling finally broke its silence!

Our village youths, including our 'expat' youths who had returned to Tipling for the holidays, organized a seminar-cum-picnic on Bhai Thika day. It was highly appreciated and all said they would like to make it a tradition in the vein of alumni/alumnae reunions elsewhere.

Fr. Anup, pastor in charge, supervised the elections of officers for the senior and junior youth groups. Both groups have combined to prepare for the upcoming Christmas celebrations. They meet daily these days and our hall rings with the sounds of song, dance, drama and a touch now and then of 'raucous' pronounced 'rock us!'

Our community is helping a family in Puru, one of our outstations, with food and blankets, etc. it seems some holiday celebration got a little out of hand. Basically, their children burnt the house down. No one was hurt. Unless you count the spanking.

Finally, to all those postponing a visit to Tipling: the road is open and hydro poles now line Xavier Marg. The road may not be up to everyone's standard and the poles do not yet sport wires but Tipling will soon (really!) have made the transition from the 12th century. Come to Tipling. Anup's baking, at least, is up to standard!

Jesuit Sources, Tipling.



Villagers installing electrical pole

HRDRC, Sanepa

In the month of November Fr. Amrit continued his annual visitation to SXSSC, Aruna Bhavan, Gafney Bhavan and Kamal Niwas. In Tihar vacation both the Regional Superior and the Socius drove to Tipling for the visitation. Sch. Deepak Jans too

Fr. Mathew had his share of online meetings and trainings. He attended the COJET from November 3 to 5, Province Development Directors' meeting from November 21 to 22 and lastly New Treasurers' training from Jesuit Curia, Rome from November



Fr. Juel



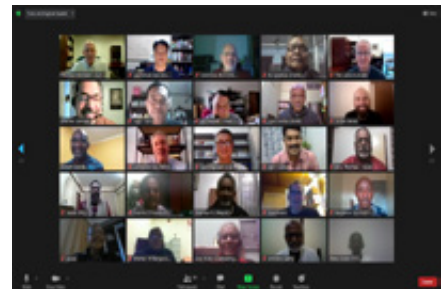
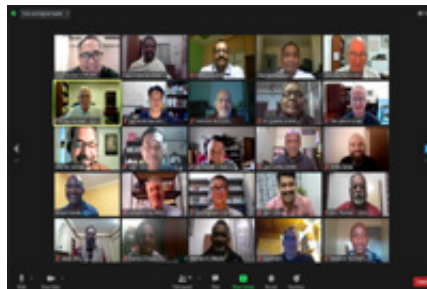
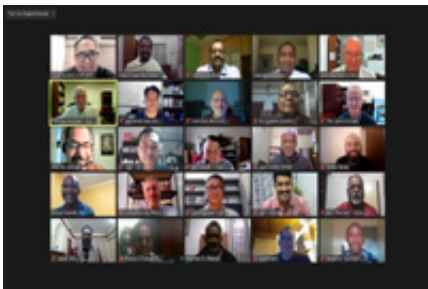
Fr. Amrit



Fr. Amrit with Kailash, a NJSI staff

joined them. They took 14 hours to reach the Jesuit house on the bumpy road. They also navigated on foot the snaky trails to various villages to meet Catholics. Then after a weekend mass, they sat for a meeting with the Church Construction Committee comprised of village elders, women, and youths. While

23 to 27. We celebrated Fr. Mathew's birthday in low key manner in a span of a week since he was busy with his online meetings. Fr Juel went to visit Jhapa Jesuits and to help them in putting Opening Balance in the account software and also to check correct voucher entries. His next destination was Pokha-



Online COJET, PDD meeting and new Treasurers training that Fr. Mathew attended

returning back, we had a chance to enjoy snowfall. Fr. Rajasekaran crossed Southern border on 5 November and reached Kathmandu on 6 November. He was warmly welcomed to HRDRC community by other community members. He took charge as the Director of St. Xavier's Social Service Centers. In the absence of Frs. Amrit and Juel, Fr. Mathew and Fr. Raja celebrated the Bhai Tika with the boys of Social Service Centre and the girls of Aruna Bhavan.

ra to meet his community members in dispersion and check the account keeping. Fr. Amrit got sudden news that he had to appear for pre Viva for his PhD thesis defense. So, he left for Mewar University, Rajasthan on 29 November. Sch. Ruben Hemrom is staying with us and going through medical tests to find out the causes for his 'unbearable' stomach aches.

Juel Kispotta



Both the Region Superior and the Socius enjoying the natural beauty

DIASPORA

Premal Jyoti, Ahmadabad

Last two months kept us all on our toes due to Lon-going online classes, Continuous Internal Assessment (CIA) 2 exams, assignments and university examinations. Due to pandemic this year, there was less movement during Navaratri because of unbeatable Corona virus but people celebrated this great festival in a unique way; it was “virtual celebration”. Amid our busy and hectic schedules, we were able to spend a day in recollection and it was given by Fr. Durai Fernand S.J, Provincial of Gujarat province. He exhorted us with his experiences of God’s intervention in his life and gave insight to all the Premal Jyoti Scholastics about joyful and purposeful living. It was worth spent day with the Lord building our strong connection with the master our Lord.

On 25th of October we had a day outing to Gandhinagar where one of the institutions of Gujarat Province exists 13 K.M. away from Ahmedabad. We were delighted to spend that outing relaxing, playing cricket in tranquil environment and well planned city. It energized all of us for our upcoming activities and university exams. Soon after Dusshera break, online classes were resumed and university exams were conducted. Online exams were conducted into two parts, first assignments and then viva based on assignments submitted by students.

On 2nd November we remembered all our near and dear ones. During mass we prayed for all our departed brothers and sisters who have gone ahead of us.

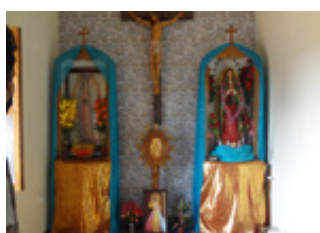
Diwali vacation began from 9th of November and lasted till 22nd of November. During Diwali holiday Premal Jyoti scholastics had a 48 hours long drive to different mission stations in North Gujarat. We visited different Jesuit communities and also other religious communities cum shrines. We were fortunate to share with them the festival of light and hope. It was also a graceful time for us to know about different ministries that are carried out by Gujarat Jesuits to uplift the people’s lives there. It was also a time for youngsters and new generation to reflect about our nation which seem to be heading towards darkness and dictatorship. We can be light which can dispel the darkness from the world.

Due to lots of movement during festive seasons, number of Covid-19 patients is increasing rapidly and every day hundreds of citizens are diagnosed Corona positive. Keeping this in mind, Gujarat Government declared total curfew from Friday 20th November to 23rd Monday morning. Further, till December 7th there will be night curfew from 9:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Sch. Bipin Bara



Sch. Bipin with his fellow Jesuits



Glipses of visits to Gandhinagar

ATNEO, MANILA



Packing of relief materials



Old church build by Spaniards

The month of November was a very disastrous month for us. We were hit by two super typhoons in two weeks which left us with many disasters in the country as well in our own campus. Our neighborhood was flooded by the heavy rainfall by this typhoon. Since our residence is on the hill top we were not affected by the flood but we could



Fr. Tej Kalyan, typhoon flood on background

see the flood from our house top. This flood was the most dangerous in many years at our neighborhood. We too lost more than 20 trees and many more damages in our campus. With the help of Manila Police and volunteers, Fr Francisco Manoling S.J. is continuing the relief operation to the near and far affected victims of recent typhoons. Every day more than 5,000 packets are repacked and delivered to the victims. In my free times, I too contribute my service in relief repacking. Fr. Francisco Manoling S.J. started the relief operation since the COVID-19 locked down and by now he has served more than 4 lakhs families.

After a long break due to pandemic, my online classes have resumed with full swing. The classes I have been attending now is my fresh enrollment. I have been waiting from the CEFAM administration for the continuation of my incomplete courses. Due to

the super typhoon and with the solidarity with the victims our classes have been suspended for 2 weeks. In this break I visited 2 beautiful Cathedrals and few old churches in the country side. All these churches are built by the Spaniards which makes them so unique and amazing. One of which I visited is half sunk by Volcano lava and I had the opportunity to be co-celebrant of a wedding Mass. Christmas has already begun here, actually Christmas begins here in the month of September itself. Therefore, Christmas decoration could be seen all over malls, street, churches, restaurants etc. Our community is getting ready with an online Christmas Home Concert with Jesuit Communication which will be live on December 6, 2020. This concert is organized to raise fund for the ongoing relief operation for the most affected typhoon victims. You can see us on Fb/ JesuitRes-



Fr. Tej Kalyan inside the old church

idence-Ateneo de Manila live at 8:00 p.m. Philippines Time.

Tej Kalayan

St. Xavier's College, Rajganj



Nepal and Darjeeling collegians & philosophers

This month of November was a time of grace, prayerfulness and great joy. We began this month with a prayer for beloved ones who had gone ahead of us on November 2nd. That very evening the Provincial of Darjeeling province came to visit Scholastics. The visitation was fruitful, and challenging for us at the same time. On the eve of that day was birthday celebration of Brother Brony. We participated in the Eucharistic celebration held on the occasion of birthday celebration by the Provincial. It was a spiritually enlivening experience for us. We prayed for Brony's generosity and dedication to the Society of Jesus. On November 15th the children from Matigarha parish came to visit Rajganj community. It was good to hear some noise of theirs in this quiet place. It was also a chance for the scholastics to conduct some games and action songs for them. On November 22nd we celebrated the Feast of Christ the king in the parish. On that occasion the parishioners had organized a special meal for all us as a family. It was a great moment for us and a memory to cherish. Krish has returned to Rajganj from Nepal. He had gone there to make his passport.

Schs. Niroj, Martin, krish and Lawrence



03 December	Fr. James Poovathumkal
13 December	Fr. Casper J Miller
19 December	Fr. Augustus Ekka
23 December	Fr. Victor Beck
30 December	Fr. Anup Ranjan Minj
31 December	Fr. Roy S. Nellipuzhayil

PRAYERS FOR THE DEPARTED SOULS



- * Fr. Mark W. Andrews, SJ, (UMI, 68/39) died on November 5, 2020 in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin.
- * Fr. Gonzalez Valles Carlos SJ, (GUJ/ESP, 95/79) passed away on 09 November, 2020 in Madrid, Spain.
- * Br. Daniel J. McCullough, SJ, (UMI 83/64) died on November 11, 2020 in Clarkston, Michigan.
- * Fr. A. Antony Pappuraj S.J. (MDU, 74/57) passed away on 13 November 2020 at Apollo Hospital, Madurai.
- * Fr Rudolph Fernandez SJ, (BOM, 86/69) passed away on 16 November 2020 at Nashik.
- * Fr Lourdu Susai Irudayaraj (DUM, 74/53) passed away on 16 November 2020 at Ursula Hospital, Dumka, Jharkhand.
- * Fr. Cipriano Mendía Echániz SJ, (GUJ/ESP, 89/71) passed away on 17 November, 2020 in Loyola, Spain.
- * Br. Lawrence Richard Saldanha SJ, (HAZ, 83/58) Passed on 17 November 2020 in St. Stanislaus College Sitagarha.
- * Fr. S. Paul Lourdusamy, SJ, (PAT, 65/43) passed away on 22 November 2020 in Kolkata.
- * Fr. Norman J. Dickson, SJ, (UMI, 83/66) died on November 24, 2020 in Clarkston, Michigan.

THOSE WHO SERVED IN NEPAL

Francis McGough	03/12/1996
Anthony Francis Sharma	08/12/2015
Thomas E. Gafney	14/12/1997
Dressman, James J.	18/12/2014
John Harris, C.S.C.	20/12/2003
John Dahlheimer	24/12/1992