



E-SAGARMATHA SAMACHAR

Vol. 36 No. 1

Nepal Jesuits

January 2021

FR. GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

- * Fr. Miguel Garaizábal, SJ, as the next Regional Superior of the Jesuits in Thailand.
- * Fr. Leonard Chiti, SJ, as Provincial of the new Province, the Province of Southern Africa (SAP).
- * Fr. Roberto Del Riccio, SJ, as the next Provincial of the Euro-Mediterranean Province.

- * Fr Shajumon Chakkalakkal (DAR): Socius to the POSA.
- * Fr Roland Coelho SJ (Provincial of Goa): Consultant to JCSA/POSA

ANNOUNCEMENT REGION DAYS

February 18-19, 2021

ARRUPE NIWAS, DEONIA



Fr. Arul speaks on St. Xavier on his feast day to coworkers and other staff

First and foremost, Arrupe Niwas wishes you a grace filled and prosperous New Year 2021. During the holy season of Advent, the community spent time together preparing adequately for Christmas. On December 20, there was a full day Recollection on a theme 'MARANATHA' in which the

Jhapa Jesuits and their religious collaborators participated. The Catholic households around us and the youths among them also showed spiritual eagerness and prepared themselves for Christmas. With guidance of Scholastics and help received from Mr. Sajan Gurung, our teacher, Deonia youths went for

Christmas carol for three days, sharing the message of Christmas to all the faithful in Deonia. The occasion of carol brought all the youths and Crusvir members together. They also came together to make

cordial ties with some parents of the school whom the community visited along with Fr. Amrit. From December 14 to 21, Fr Vijay Toppo made his retreat here as a part of the preparation for his Final Vows,



Students, staff, parents seen on Campaign on plastic free day rally

a lovely crib this time, thanks to Mr. Sajan Gurung. On December 12 and 19, there were Holy Adoration and Sacrament of Recollection for the faithful of Bhuttabari and Deonia. Sch. Gorakh joined Frs. Arul Selvam and Boniface Tigga in the prayer service at Bhuttabari.

Due to Covid-19, the Christmas Masses were celebrated in respective mission stations. Fr Daniel Bara offered the Christmas Vigil Mass in Deonia and Frs. Arul Selvam and Boniface Tigga offered Holy Masses in Bhuttabari on Christmas eve. The Christmas day Mass in Deonia was offered by Fr. Jomon along with Fr. Daniel while Frs. Arul and Boniface went to Telgani, Dhulabari, Satigatta and Tokla for Holy Mass for the faithful. Fr. Jomon stayed with us for a week while working on his data collection for his doctoral thesis.

The community commemorated the feast of St Francis Xavier at the school with a short function with the Sisters, the support staff and the office staff. Fr Arul beautifully presented St. Francis' life in gist and drew lessons from St. Francis' life for our own daily living. After the programme a delicious agape was served for everyone.

On 6 December, Fr Amrit Rai returned from India after finishing his first round of viva as part of his Ph.D thesis; he stayed with us for a few days. His stay made the community happy and brought more

under the guidance of Fr Arul Selvam. Fr. Boniface also directed an eight-day retreat to NJSI Fathers who stayed in Maheshpur community.

On December 2, 2020 the First Terminal Examinations for classes I to X started online. At the same time, the students of class XI also began writing their Board Examinations in the school. Both the school level online examinations and Higher Secondary level examinations were over on December 10, 2020. The regular online classes continued till December 17, 2020 and on December 18, 2020 the results of First Terminal Examinations of classes I to X were given to parents at the school. After the result, the school declared winter holidays till January 2, 2021.

Under the guidance of Fr. Boniface Tigga, a three-day campaign against the use of plastic was conducted in our neighborhood from December 26 to 28. The campaign had its slogan 'Aja Bata Plastic Bahiskar Garaon' (Stop using polybag from today). The chairman of Birtamode 8 was invited for the inaugural function and the distribution of clothe bags along with a few sanitizing items for each family. Kudos to Fr Boniface, the local leaders, the Leadership Training Service (LTS) student volunteers and the teachers who made the campaign a great success.

Sch. Wilson Kandulna



Christmas vigil mass for neighbourhood parishioners



Crusvir children learning their faith in Christ



FABER HOUSE, MAHESHPUR

This month, a lot of spiritual activities took place at the parish level. On 3rd December the parish celebrated its patron saint - St. Francis Xavier's feast in the evening, a good number of parishioners participated. In the mass Fr. Paul K.C was welcomed as an Assistant Parish Priest, followed by snacks provided to the parishioners and a festive dinner for the religious. In Gherabari, after two days of instruction classes and confessions 11 adults and 8 infants were baptized. In Maheshpur 15 and Jalthal 2 infants were also baptized in this month. On 24th the vigil mass was held in Jhalthal, Haldibari and Maheshpur in the evening. In Maheshpur after the vigil mass the youth sang the Christmas carols for the parishioners and after which they had exchange of gifts with their Christmas friends. On 25th we had Christmas mass in Mittal, Gherabari and Maheshpur. In Maheshpur, on 25th after the mass fun games were conducted for the Crusvir children; nearly 45 children participated and enjoyed the day. Thanks to Sch. Wilson,



carols singing, in the nearby places.

From 6th December onwards we started having classes for LKG to class X in a shift system, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. There is a good response from the students. The students had their term exams from 13 to 18. On the 19 Fr. Arul Selvam gave the Christmas message to the students. The teachers sang Christmas carols and the students were given some snacks. It was a short and sweet program, the kids were very fascinated to see the Santa and wanted to dance with him, but for Corona, yet they danced, of course, keeping the social



Christmas mass in a village

distance.

Faber community is blessed with number of Jesuit guests during this Christmas. Frs. Arulanandam, Roy and Thomas stayed with us from 15th - 25th December. Frs. Roy and Thomas made their annual retreat while Fr. Arulandam accompanied Fr. Norbert and Fr. Paul in celebration of mass and administering the sacrament of reconciliation in different mass centers. Fr. Sanjay stayed overnight before going for his home visit. On the 20th December, the community joined a day of recollection and Christmas gathering for the religious organized at Deonia community.

Nicholas Christuraj



Parish Priest, Fr. Norbert baptising a child

for giving singing practice to our parish youths for the Christmas Carols and mass. Thanks to Schs. Martin & Lawrence along with few youths prepared the crib and accompanied our youths for Christmas



School reopens: children during assembly



GONZAGA HOUSE, SADAKBARI

This year School Day/Xavier Day was marked with simplicity. We had just reopened the



Christmas vigil mass celebrated in Sadakbari



gram was kept previous Saturday. On 14, Fr. Vijay cycled to Deonia for his Final Vows Retreat and

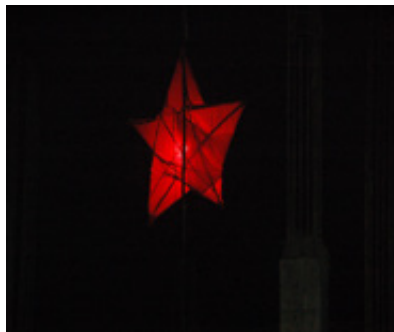


Christmas vigil mass celebrated in Simalbari



school, and it was the junior section. So, during assembly Fr. Peter spoke about St. Francis Xavier and students and staff were given sweets. Classes are going on in 2 groups: seniors and juniors 2 days each and nursery on Sundays. All of us getting back into teaching and learning rhythm. School will remain closed only for 5 days - December 30 to January 3.

Fr. Tek had gone to Kathmandu to submit his M.A. thesis final copy. Meanwhile, Fr. Vijay too went to Kathmandu to renew his driving license. Both of



came back on 22. On 20 Jhapa Jesuits and collaborators had a day long pastoral planning along with Advent Preparation and Christmas dinner.

Christmas vigil Masses were held in the evening in both places: Fr. Vijay offered mass in Simalbari whereas Frs. Peter and Tek in Sadakbari. On Christmas Day, Fr. Peter went to Simalbari and Fr. Tek to Sadakbari to celebrate Eucharist. There was a good number of faithful for the night mass, which was followed by a fellowship meal.



Fr. Vijay gives recollection talks to Parishioners



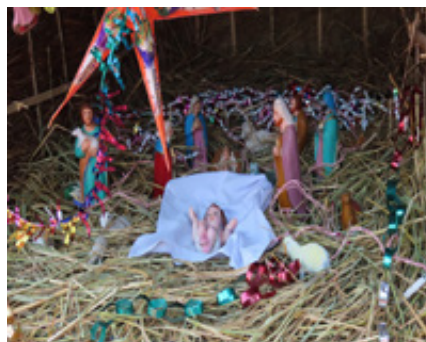
Parishioners attending Recollection & Sacrament of Reconciliation before meal



them came back together on 12 and were part of the Parents' Advent preparation. Frs. Arul and Boniface too enlightened the parents of Sadakbari and Simalbari. For Crusvir group half a day pro-

The Final Vows of Fr. Vijay is scheduled on the evening of 2 January at Arrupe Niwas, Deonia.

Vijay Toppo



Frs. Vijay Toppo and Tekbahadur Paudel celebrate Christmas day mass

St. Xavier's School, Godavari



In the first week of December, "XAVIER WEEK" was wonderful to see ornamental trees and plants around. Ashram plants were beautiful to



see and to admire. Thanks to the staff members who planted and took care of them.

We celebrated Xavier Day by coming together with school coordinators and local religious col-

of sacred Scripture", Pope Francis says in his Apostolic letter on the significance of the Christmas crib. Sch. Ashish and Sch. Deepak attempted to make the crib a living gospel at the gate of the School. Great work!

On 24th Christmas get-together was organized for teaching and non-teaching staff. Coming to the school after nine months, there was lot of excitement among teaching staff. Thanks to Sch. Ashish and his team for wonderful Christmas arrangements and sumptuous meal.

Keeping in mind the Covid-19 protocol, the community joined for Christmas Eve mass at Ishalaya parish, Godavari. Fr. Lawrence Maniyar and Sch. Deepak Jans joined Narayanghat Catholic community for Christmas Celebration.

To celebrate Christmas, Fr. Bill Robins went to Gyalthum village that is located to the north of Melamchi valley.

On 25 December, we invited school management committee members for Christmas dinner. After Christmas Sch. Ashish and Deepak went to Pokhara to make their annual retreat. Before and after Christmas, second term assessment of the stu-

laborators for dinner. Xavier Day was not a holiday.

Present class 12 wrote their board exams of class 11. Online family evenings of classes 3, 4 and 5, 6 were held. They seemed to be spectacular for parents and invited spectators.

"The nativity scene is like a living Gospel rising up from the pages

dents was done by the school.

SXG correspondent



CAMPION HOUSE, MAITIGHAR

The college had looked lifeless without the presence of students since the pandemic. However, that changed from the end of November when various examinations and practical brought many of the



BSW students of the college distribute food to protesting farmers

students back to the college sometime or the other. After the class 12 board examinations, we were a center for Tribhuvan University (TU) board examinations in which more than 400 students from various colleges participated. Up next is the class 11 examinations beginning on 30 and a few TU examinations. Practical classes for the science faculties have been going on for sometime as a precedence to perhaps running onsite classes in the near future. Xavier Day/College Day celebration was organized online on December 3. The program was live-streamed through Facebook and YouTube platforms and had a huge viewership. Likewise, the Alumni Day 2020 was conducted online on the last Saturday of the month.

College has reached out in solidarity with the sugarcane farmers who are in Kathmandu demanding their dues of past seven years from sugar mills. Most of them were not prepared for the severe cold in Kathmandu and were getting sick. Our first intervention was to provide them with jackets. We then started providing them with khaja in the afternoon. BSW students under the guidance of Sajal Paudel have been proactive in expressing our solidarity with the sugarcane farmers. We continue to reflect on what more can be done in support of them as their cause is not anyone's concern at present because of the political crisis that the country is embroiled in. Another solidarity program in the pipeline by the

outreach department is 'feed the hungry' in Kailali district. We hope to get it rolling by the end of the first week of the new year.

Some members of the IMCS came together for a recollection on 23rd. They spent a day reflecting over prayer, meaning of the first Christmas and emotional maturity. The recollection ended with a Mass. It was missed by those living in Godavari areas due to the infamous road.

Augustine and James tested positive for COVID-19 along with Leela Dai, our cook, on 4th and were in isolation for two weeks. Having found the few tasteless and smell-less days the worst, they are now fully recovered and are back to normal routine. Fortunately, the others in the community were spared by this wave of corona and hope it remains so in the future.

Our community has reached its full strength since the arrival of Fr. Robert who after waiting for more than six months in Gujarat was able to join the community on 23. He has right away jumped into the research activities of the college. He is getting used to the cold of Kathmandu and many other things local. He has had a mini tour of the communities and a few other places within the ring road.

Jomon was in Jhapa to follow up on his PhD thesis data collection. As this goes to press, Fr. Amrit is on his annual visitation to the community. We are happy to inform that Cap's brother Chris is almost fully recovered from the massive heart attack he had on Thanksgiving Day.

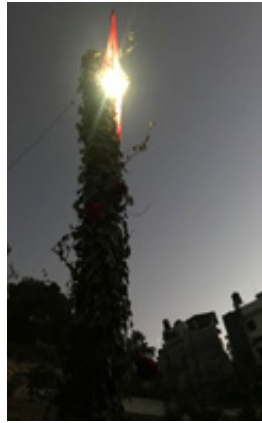
Campion House Source



IMCS members come together for a recollection

ST. IGNATIUS PARISH, BANIYATAR

St. Ignatius Parish, Baniyatar had Christmas vigil Mass at 6:30 p.m. and in the morning at 6:30 a.m. where more than a hundred parishioners each took part in the liturgy. After both the Holy Masses parishioners were given refreshments and sweet packets. The parishioners in every family were divided for midnight and morning Mass to avoid a big crowd to keep up safety measures. Each one had to go through temperature check and wearing a mask was mandatory throughout the liturgy. For the first time, all the preparations - outside decorations, crib making, decoration of the Holy Altar and choir were done by the parishioners alone



the SSVP – Malaysia's gifts to each family. The Baniyatar Church is attached to the SSVP – Malaysia for the purpose of Vincent De Paul mission activities. When entire world is under siege by the darkness of fear, hunger, joblessness, worry and death; when we couldn't even celebrate the Easter, St. Ignatius Church, Baniyatar tried its best to bring back hopes and happiness to people through the Christmas celebration. The Church tried not only

to lift up the spirits of the Catholics but also the neighbors who were struggling this season. With our outreach programs: ration kits, extended scholarship for students and medical aids to ev-



Youths & parents decorating, making crib



Children gather on Holy Family Feast celebration



since Sisters had isolated themselves to avoid COVID-19 infections. Aama-Buwa Samuha (parents' group) outshined the youths in crib making and decoration. The decoration inside the Church and the decoration in the Church premises, and the crib were unique in itself, perhaps the best in its kinds this year. The choir by the youths, though not seriously and extensively practiced unlike other years, created a melodious and beautiful festive atmosphere for Holy Masses.

On 25th December after the Holy Mass 70 families were given Ration kits (Rahat) along with

every needy person, we tried to let all know that this dark hour would pass and we would make it together. A few youths were on their toes to make it happen by helping the parish priest. That's why this Christmas for St. Ignatius Parish holds a very special place where neighbors too enjoyed our festivity. The nine and more months of fear, struggle, hunger, joblessness and other difficulties were taken care of in the neighborhood.

Marking the festive season of the Christmas, we celebrated the Holy Family Feast with the children in the afternoon where we danced and sang



'Preeti bhoj' after christmas mass

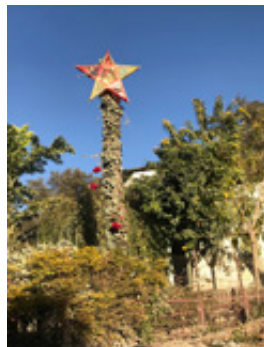


Christmas mass in a small group



A woman receives 'rahat' kit

together. At the end, packets of snacks were given to each child. On the same day, the family of a church worker was felicitated and was given gifts along with a grand lunch. This gesture gave them a sense of belonging to one family as we celebrated the Holy Family Feast.



has been helping students with their re-admission fees, books and stationaries and the monthly tuition fees. The parishioners and the neighbors have also been greatly benefitted by the medical assistance provided by the church. The church has helped nearly 60 students and

Once the pandemic lockdown began the Parish utilized the various resources to help the parishioners and the neighbors with rations regularly. In the beginning NJS, CFC, Dhobighat and St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel were the great help in providing the rations for the needy in the Church and its neighborhood. Later, funds from two projects were utilized to provide the assistance to these three basic categories of people by the Church. In total, the church has reached out to nearly 500 families with Ration kits during this pandemic. Other than the ration, the church

15 sick people by funding their expenses either partially or completely. A few medical assistances were major ones. One of the major ones was a boy named Asim Thapa, 14 years of age who was hit by a bus while he was cycling. One of his legs got smashed completely; he was unconscious for days. His family lost all its savings and sold properties for his treatment. The church is helping the family regularly with rations. Once in a while it helped the family financially also for the treatment.

Anil Beck



Fr. Anil, parish priest celebrates vigil mass



Coworker of Parish is felicitated



Asim Thapa gets help from the St. Ignatius Parish



SHISHU BIKAS KENDRA, POKHARA



Fr. Ayar, the parish priest celebrate Christmas vigil mass with small number of parishioners

The month of December was filled with blessings of God. The month began with the celebration of St. Frances Xavier's feast on the 3rd of December. We had simple yet good celebration. The seasons of Advent and Christmas brought lots of joys, laughter and happiness to the people. Frs. Ayar and Amit along with few parishioners visited all the Catholic families and SBK staff bringing to them good tidings and distributing to them ration kits. They were ex-

cessions and to whichever families asked for the family Mass, it was given. Under his creative and able leadership, Fr. Ayar gathered people to clean the church and made a big crib at the church gate inside so that visiting people may come and adore the New Born King in the bassinet keeping the social distance.

We visited all the religious houses and wished them Merry Christmas. There was Christmas wishing and



Ration kits and Christmas gift distribution



Sr. Ranjita and Sr. Jemma receive christmas gift

tremely happy to see Fathers as Santa Claus bringing them Christmas gifts. All our Catholics are keeping well. We prayed and wished them Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2021. It was all feasible due to the magnanimous heart and love of Srs. Gemma and Martha. We express our heartfelt gratitude for their generosity. Visiting our Catholic families has created a great bond of love. They feel close, loved and able to approach us for any help and guidance. Few parishioners personally came to SBK to wish and welcome the New Parish Priest.

All the spiritual duties have been faithfully carried out to all the convents, recollection talks, and con-

sharing of cakes. All the convents were given Christmas Mass. There was vigil Mass in the house chapel. Few turned up for it. We have got nearly 10 Tipling families residing in Pokhara – some are Catholic and some are of different denominations. Thanks to Fr. Ayar to take the initiative to search them out. It had been a great and fruitful house visiting and reaching out to people. At a leisure time we were able to plant and maintain our small vegetable garden. The cold has drastically increased.

“Stay warm and Stay safe”. “Wish you all Happy and Prosperous New Year 2021”.

Amit Lakra



Eucharist in a family



PP with Catholics from Tipling



PP is welcomed in a family



PP mourns death of a parishioner

GOOD SHEPHERD, TIPLING

Fathers Amrit and Juel spent Christmas with us in Tipling and outlying Mass stations. Fr. Anup spent his Christmas writing his final MBA exams in Kathmandu. He is now back with us as full time Pas-



Christmas day fun in Tipling

tor and preparing to begin learning Tamang.

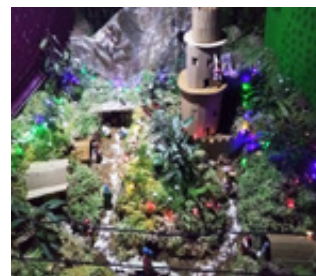
The village homes now have personal taps supplying each with running water. But nature has had a word to say about this new man-made infrastructure. 'When water freezes, it expands.' Many sections of the water mains have burst as ice formed in them.

Yes, you civil engineers, Tipling freezes in winter. Live and learn.

Corona has yet to discover Tipling and so classes are being held in the traditional, that is the normal, way. As was Christmas, with carol singing, dancing, sharing of gifts and a Christmas feast for the whole village. The village youth spent weeks preparing and deserve most of the credit.

Have a Happier 2021.

Jesuit Sources Tipling



Crib made by youths



Santa is found even in the church

HRDRC, SANEPA

The month of December was full of travelling. Fr. Amrit had gone to Mewar University, Rajasthan



Fr. Mathew in Palpa with mobile clinic team



to defend his pre-viva of his PhD. While returning he went around visiting Jhapa mission. Then on 20 December, Fr. Amrit and Fr. Juel headed to Good Shepherd parish, Tipling to assist Fr. Mike with Christmas ministry. Both came back to the community on 27 December. Fr. Mathew travelled to Surkhet and Palpa to see Mobile clinic works. He reports, "After much delay because of the lockdown I finally set out for visits to the mobile clinics. On the way to Surkhet I stopped over at Kohalpur and had lunch with Fr. Jomon and visited the school and parish. I was happy to meet Fr. James Britto who is in charge of the small parish there. Chinchu is a town on the way to Surkhet and Fr. Pramod manages a small church there.

Sr. Rosita SCN runs 8 day-care centers in the poor areas in the city and villages and I visited two of them. Sister is also helped by Mr. Chris Fussner. The next

day I visited a mobile clinic. I also met two alumni of our schools who are working in banks there.

A long bus ride of 11 hours brought me to Bhairahwa and spent the night at the Father's residence. The next day Sr. Mary from Gorbanda brought me to the hills of Palpa. The next two days I accompanied the mobile team to various places through rough and tough roads.

I was highly impressed by the dedicated health services of our mobile teams in both the places."

Frs. Anup and Tek Bahadur were with us for few days. Fr. Anup wrote his M.B.A final exams and Fr. Tek submitted final copy of his M.A. thesis after some corrections. Frs. Rajasekaran and Mathew celebrated Christmas vigil mass in the community with Ms. Sujan, Fr. Amrit's cousin and her daughter Sharon. Fr. Amrit has resumed his annual visitation; he is in Campion House from 29 December.

Juel Kispotta



Fr. Mathew in a daycare centre



Surkhet mobile clinic team

ST. XAVIER'S SOCIAL SERVICE CENTRE

The month of December had been a month of celebration for SXSSC due to the many events centers had gathered at Aruna Bhawan to celebrate Christmas with singing, dancing and sharing fel-



The residents of Aruna bhawan, Gaffney bhawan & SXSSC come together for Christmas celebration

and festivities. On 3rd of December, we celebrated the feast of St. Francis Xavier, patron saint of SXSSC exuberantly, and recalled his life to imbibe his missionary zeal. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Hem Chandra Rai and his wife for celebrating their wedding anniversary with the children of Aruna Bhawan by donating some groceries gener-



Santa dancing with a girl of Aruna bhawan

ously to us and to the members of Gaffney Bhawan. We really appreciate their generosity and kindness. On 10th of December we thanked God for the gift of life of Ms. Vidya Bharati who celebrated her birthday. We acknowledged her presence amidst children and her contribution towards growth of the children. On 14th of December, we commemorated 22nd death anniversary of our founder, Fr. Thomas E. Gafney, S.J. by mass being offered by the Director of SXSSC, Fr. Raja. Thereafter, we had a short cultural program and special meal at three centers separately. Despite many celebrations children of Aruna Bhawan gave their first terminal examination virtually from home, under the supervision of the staff. The birth day of Jesus was marked by slaying a fatted goat which added to joy of the children. All the staff and students from three



Children seen studying for their exams

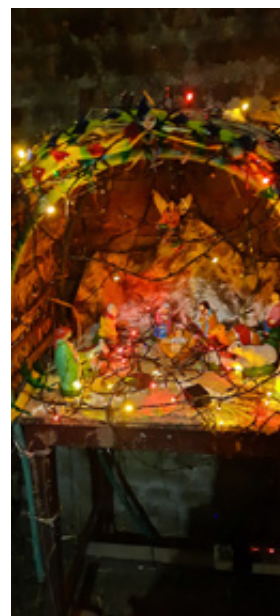
lowship meal. Fr. Mathew mysteriously entered as Santa Clause and surprised children. He proves that age is just a number time and again by dancing with children and defeating many Tennis players. We were distressed to know that four members from Gaffney Bhawan were infected with COVID-19 of whom three have been recovered and healed. We



Lots of singing and eating

pray and wish for quick recovery of Mr. Shambhu Shrestha, one of the staff of Gaffney Bhawan, who is in critical condition in the hospital.

Moreover, we wish for quick recovery of Mr. Pawan Gurung from boys' home who is admitted in the hospital due to infection in his leg. His leg was completely damaged in an accident before he was



A crib in Aruna Bhawan

admitted to SXSSC. Many children of SXSSC have either gone home or to their own or relatives' houses and got stuck due to lockdown restrictions. They are now being called back so that they can resume their classes. We are grateful to all the donors and well-wishers of SXSSC and happy to inform you all that our building construction is in progress. Lastly, we the staff and the students of SXSSC wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New year, 2021.

Ms. Vidya Bharati

KAMAL NIWAS, BAKHUNDOL

Merry Christmas and Joyful New year 2021 to all our staff, benefactors, Nepal Jesuits and all the well-wishers.



Innaguaration of ANIMA

Adolfo Nicholas Institute for Media Activities, blessing and inauguration was held on 3rd December. Fr. Cap. Miller was the chief guest and he blessed and inaugurated the center. Nearly 50 Jesuits and others joined this program. This is a mile stone in the history of Nepal Christian Media Mission. This is a part of Rural Education Improvement Program



Future of Catholic Church in Jhapa Mission

which eventually will become Fe-y-Algeria Nepal as the post-earthquake intervention of NJSI. The program requires creating smart education hubs, quality education materials. NJSI gave Adolfo Nicolás' name to the department, remembering him with gratitude for his contribution for the center. The fund from former Jesuit General and Xavier Net-

work has made this institution possible.

Fr. George, Fr. Sanjay and Bro. Hermon from Jawalakhel community came for one-day visit to Xavier



Parishioners of Jhapa



house, Panchkal on 11 evening. Next day, morning Mass was presided over by Fr. Sanjay. They went forth for site selection for next community outing. Fr. Arul accompanied them throughout the visit. This is the first Jesuit community that is visiting the new mission. Fr. Roy, Fr. Thomas and two engineers remained for lunch.



Kamal Niwas community went to Mahespur, Jhapa district for annual retreat under Fr. Boniface and helping in Christmas pastoral activities. They carried Christmas material for Mahespur church. During the stay, we participated in some mission activities like Masses in villages, baptisms, Marriages and Christmas celebration. Fr. Norbert is very busy



Fr. Roy cuts his birthday cake



Home shelter constructed by NJSI



Jawalakhel Jesuits at Panchkhal

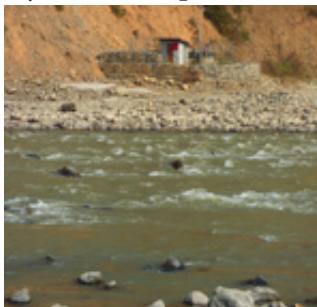


Water Project handing over ceremony

with preparation for baptism, first communion and marriage of the faithful. Thanks to Maheshpur community for accepting us and taking care of us during Christmas visit. Our future mission of Nepal has enormous challenges, great opportunities looking at our young generation. We left Maheshpur on 26 morning and are back to Kamal Niwas. On 27, NJSI had a short cake cutting ceremony on the occasion of Fr. Roy's birthday

Jay Golma Devi School

NJSI is constructing 4 classrooms at Jay Golma Devi Basic School which is located at Barabise Municipality ward no.8. Caritas Germany is the donor for this construction. Due to the lockdown and COVID 19, the construction could not start on time and delayed the completion. Now, the work is going on and



Well dug beside a river, tanks & reservoir handing over

has reached up to the window level. On 15 December, Mr. Richard Rai, representative from Caritas Germany, Fr. Roy and Ms. Shristi visited the project site for the monitoring and evaluation.

Shelter Construction

The NJSI has been providing its helping hand through an amount of NRs. 300,000 to the earthquake victims to construct their houses. Altogether, NJSI has covered 73 beneficiaries of Helambhu Rural Municipality, ward no. 4. Out of 73, 71 beneficiaries have completed their house constructions. Two of the beneficiaries have not completed their

houses due to their own personal reasons. We are waiting for official construction completion letter from Helambhu Rural Municipality.

Chhapadi, Rameychap, District.

Irrigation Project after a long and challenging work reached its final stage of handing over it to village community. On 28 Handing over ceremony was held in Chhapaedi. Mr. Prem B. Tamang, Gaupalika Adhaiksha was the chief guest. All NJSI staff participated in the programme. Mr. Ramhari organized it very well. Mr. Kabiraj Khadka, ward member gave vote of thanks.

In the year 2018 a request letter of "lift Irrigation" came to NJSI from the villagers of Chhappadi, Rakathum village. Then NJSI conducted a need assessment according to the request to satisfy their

need. After the evaluation of need assessment, NJSI approved the project of "lift Irrigation". During the construction, a well having 10.363 m depth was dug near a riverside. Along with that, 18,000 liters' tank was constructed and protected with wire fence. In the height of 400 m, 200,000 liters' tank was constructed and protected with wire fence. We express our gratitude towards chairman of Rural Municipality and ward office and the villagers for their co-ordination and help.

S. Arulandam

DIASPORA

GESÙ, ROME

The months were very intensive with lots of programs and studies. We had different resource persons who talked on various topics. The topics were regarding the liturgy and the new changes which were made in Italian missal and regarding our spiritual paternity in our mission. After each presentation from the resource persons, we also had the group sharing. We also gave farewell to the house minister Fr. Edward Fassett S.J. and invited the new minister. We also had a fellowship meal with our supporting staff. We went to Rocca di Papa for the three-days community retreat where the scholastics renewed our vows. Once we returned from there, we were busy in decorating the house for the Christmas. This year even the crib that we



made was something simple and related to COVID - 19. During the Christmas, there was a lockdown throughout Italy, but we were allowed to have the Eucharistic celebration by following the social distance. It was totally a new experience for us in Rome. On 25th of December we the scholastics, from three continents, had prepared the supper. We also had a cultural event where the scholastics showed their talents through their performance. We were also busy with our seminar presentation. I worked with one of the scholastics in making a short film based on the life of St. Alphonsus Rodrigues. We showed the trailer of this short film to the whole community.

Sch. Devadhas



Sch. Deva in front along with other scholastics performing dance

MANRESA RETREAT HOUSE, DETROIT

Fr. Leo writes from Detroit, "I wish you all a blessed and Christ-filled New Year from Manresa Jesuit Retreat House in greater Detroit. We have been locked down again since the end of November, cancelling several Conference Retreats in December and the first part of the New Year. My Mid-Week Retreat from January 12-14 has been cancelled. I still am able to meet numerous people who come for spiritual guidance, either via Zoom or here. We do allow people to come on our 39 acres to walk the beautiful, and at this time snow covered, grounds. Many stop for a visit in front of our entrance at the crèche. After months of searching for an executive director to take over from Fr. Fran Daley, S.J. The Search Committee, Board and Jesuit Provincial found and appointed our new, and first, non-Jesuit since the Laymen's Retreat League, who established Manresa in the late

1920s, asked the Jesuits to run it. She is a Marist Sister who has given a number of Conference Retreats here over the last years. Her name is Sr. Linda. We are looking forward to her leadership. On these cold days of winter (it has been between -2 and -6 Celsius these past days) my thoughts of all you Nepal Jesuits lets me feel an inner warmth."

Leo Cachat



Fr. Leo and crèche in the premise of Manresa

TERTIANSHIP, SITAGARH



Music students of Fr. Dilip Toppo

We, the tertians, have entered the final and the integration phase of tertianship after much activities and festivities in the campus. The program is scheduled to end on 22nd of January, 2021. Despite the fear of COVID-19, we had Christmas gathering where all the fourteen congregations around the campus had gathered to praise and worship baby Jesus through singing, dancing and feasting. As had been planned earlier, this time too we were not able to go for Christmas ministry due to COVID-19. Therefore, within the campus some of

us went around praying and sharing our Christmas joy. For most of the tertians, ministry within the campus in different Congregations has ended, but I continue to teach different musical instruments to the Sisters of Congregation of the Mother of Carmel which has strengthened my own talent as well. It's so satisfying to see the learners already playing musical instruments while singing the hymn of praise to God.

Dilip Toppo



Fr. Dilip seen beating a 'mandar' during carol



Chain dance welcoming of baby Jesus by local parishioners

DHYAN ASHRAM, KOLKATA

Dhyan Ashram novitiate was silent for the most part of December as the second-year novices were out for experiments and the first-year novices had shifted to the Retreat House for the Long Retreat while the novitiate building was under repair and painting. On our return on December 21, we found our beloved 'Lalbad' shining bright. We had a recollection to prepare to receive the Christ King amidst Covid 19 while we also looked back at our experiences of the past month in gratitude.

The days prior to Christmas were spent on cleaning and arranging the rooms in the novitiate which were in disarray after the repairs. On the 22nd we shared our joy and happiness of Christmas with our co-workers with Christmas gifts and carols. Overcoming the fear of Covid, we went for carols to the houses of our co-workers and also to the religious houses around to share our joy and gladness of Christmas with them.

On December 23, we witnessed the spellbinding performance of our Junior brothers' enactment of 'A Christmas Carol', which brought a deep meaning to our celebration of Christmas.

Novice Alok Hembrom (CCU)

ST. PETER'S, GAYAGANGA

The seasons of Advent and Christmas rejuvenated and replenished the spiritual life of the parishioners. The parish priest organized various pastoral activities for the parishioners during these seasons. Fr. Augustus, as an assistant parish priest, was busy carrying out those activities. He celebrated Masses in the villages for the elderly who could not come to the church because of the corona restrictions. He heard confessions and gave the Communion to the infirm at their homes. He also heard confessions organized in the villages and the parish church in preparation for Christmas. He helped the parish priest in a small program for the widows and widowers. He, along with the parish catechist, took a weeklong marriage class for twenty couples. He had an opportunity to celebrate the first Christmas Mass at one of the substations on the feast day. He prepared seventy-eight children for the Sacrament of Confirmation administered by Rt. Rev. Bishop Vincent Aind on December 27.

Augustus Ekka



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



* Br. Basil Tirkey, S.J., (RAN, 73/46), passed away on December 7, 2020 at Ranchi.

THOSE WHO SERVED IN NEPAL

13/01/2016	Laurier C. harvey
28/01/2000	Robert J. Mayer

