



E-SAGARMATHA SAMACHAR

Vol. 37 No. 8

Nepal Jesuits

August 2022

Region Superior appoints

Dn. Devadhas Vargeese, Diaconate Ministry, St. Ignatius' Parish, Baniyatar effective from 01 August 2022.

Region Superior's Programmes

August 2022

- 12-14 Visitation, Gonzaga House, Sadakbari
- 17 Meeting of Superiors & DoW, Kathmandu
- 20-22 Visitation, Faber House, Maheshpur
- 23-25 Visitation, Arrupe Niwas, Deonia

2022/08
FOR SMALL
BUSINESSES

Pope's Intention



We pray for small & medium size business; in the midst of economic and social crisis, may they find ways to continue operating, and serving their communities.

DARJEELING-NEPAL PROVINCE-REGION UNIFICATION (DNPRU) DISCERNMENT PROCESS

In consultation between the Provincial of the Darjeeling Province, Regional Superior of Nepal Region and President of South Asia (POSA), as well as with the approval of Fr. General, we have constituted a Team of the following members Fr. Joseph Marianus Kujur, S. J. (RAN), Fr. Paul Dsouza, S. J. (GUJ), Fr. John Ravi, S. J. (DEL) and Fr. Prakash Louis, S. J. (PAT), Coordinator of the Team, to accompany us in carrying out the SWOT Analysis. The Team organized a meeting with the Major Superiors and Consultors of both the units on July 29, 2022 at Prabhu Jisu Residence, Matigara.

The Team presented a Draft Design 'SWOT Analysis for Discernment Towards the Process of Unification of Darjeeling Province and Nepal Region'. The members present commented, critiqued, added, cautioned on some aspects and the design was approved with some minor changes. Once the Team finalizes the design, they will carry out the task of gathering information from all the members of the Province and Region.

VOCATION PROMOTION DESK



New pre-novices for Nepal at Matigara

Nepal Region is blessed with five pre-novices this year namely Shashikant Beck from Jashpur diocese, John Tudu, and Elias Tudu from Dumka diocese, Mahesh Arban Das from Shillong Archdiocese, and Arvind Soreng from St. Xavier's Parish, Maheshpur. I express my gratitude to Fr. Tej Kalyan and other community members for accommodating four of them and making them feel at home by taking them around in Jhapa before they reached Premanjali, the pre-novitiate house. Thanks to Fr. Mike and his community members for arranging a get-together lunch in Deonia. Sch. Bipin was of great help to me who readily accepted my proposal of picking the candidates up from Ranchi while I went around Damak parish to meet the candidates. Thanks to Sch. Bipin for his availability. His going to Ranchi was a blessing for him for he found his ancestral home and got re-connected with them. We also have two candidates from Sundargarh diocese, Odisha, namely Adiyaraj Toppo and Josh Kerketta. They have completed class ten and are kept in candidate house at St. Xavier's High School, Lupungutu, Chaibasa, West Singhbhum. We are grateful to Jamshedpur Provincial Fr. Jerry Cutinha SJ, Fr. Neelam Kerketta, Vocation Director, and St. Xavier's community for agreeing to keep the candidates though it was late. Coming back to Nepal, we have one willing candidate from St. Xavier's Parish, Maheshpur. I visited all the class ten students from St. Ignatius Parish, Baniyatar but none of them responded or showed a willingness to join as Jesuit candidates. However, a seed has been sown by visiting the families for future possibilities and surely God will bless us sooner or later with willing candidates.

Dilip Toppo

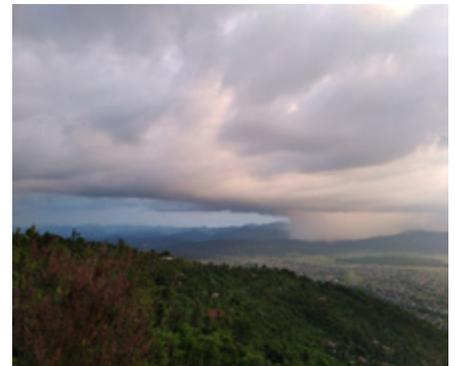
KARNALI PROVINCE MISSION



View of Surkhet from Khorja height



Norbert at Shri Janajyoti Model School



Cloud over Surkhet from Khorja height

The heavy rains in the hills which caused landslides and roadblocks prevented us from venturing out into the districts this month. However, Norbert managed to assist the SCN Sisters in one of their mobile clinic trips to Rakam, Surkhet. Similarly, Jomon assisted Sr. Rosita, SCN and group in their annual distribution of educational materials to needy children in Baddichaur. Jomon and Norbert along with Mr. Karan Singh of ODA Foundation visited Sri Jana Jyoti Secondary School, in Baddichaur and interacted with the staff there. The school is heralded as a “model government school” and indeed it was a model school in many aspects, especially in the classroom discipline of the students and in the development and maintenance of educational facilities like the library, the computer lab and the opportunities for hands-on-experience for the students in a variety of vocational subjects.

We had a few visitors this month. Norbert’s cousin whose name is also Norbert (Mathias) stayed with us for a couple of days. Fr. Jomon James of Nepal vicariate visited us along with Fr. Michael, CST, Fr.

Georgekutty, CM, and Fr. Jijo, CM. Fr. James Britto of Nepal vicariate also visited us along with Fr. Anand Edwards, OFM from India. Norbert paid a visit to Kathmandu to take care of a few personal business and then went to Lahan to attend a wedding. Norbert also attended the blessing ceremony of St. Xavier’s School, Kaisergunj, India which is only 80 kms away from Nepalgunj. The school is established by Patna Jesuits. Jomon also went to Kathmandu to settle the accounts of the last financial year and to undertake a routine medical check-up of his diabetics.

We continued our pastoral care for the small number of faithful in Surkhet. Besides offering regular masses, Norbert also began Bible classes for the group on Friday evenings. Similarly, Norbert has also resumed the catechism classes for the group on Saturdays after Mass in the morning. As for August, we look forward to conducting a few health camps in Kalikot and establishing the Rural Education Improvement in Nepal (REIN) program of Nepal Jesuit Social Institute (NJSI) in several schools in Kalikot.

Jomon Jose



L-R: Fr. Georgekutty CM, Fr. Norbert, Fr. Jomon James, Fr. Michael CST, Fr. Jijo CM



L-R: Fr. Anand OFM, Fr. Georgekutty CM, Fr. James Britto, Fr. Jomon Jose, Fr. Norbert

MADESH PROVINCE MISSION



A family of deceased father



Ward Chairman



Newly purchased land

By the grace of God, we finally bought the land on 13 July, on the Teachers Day in Dhanghadimai-13, Siraha district in Madesh Pradesh. Fr. Amrit spent a week in Zeromile, prepared all the documents for the land transfer and successfully completed the land purchase for the new mission. Fr. Amrit, Arul and the Chairman of Ward no.13 went to visit the Adarboot Primary School student's family whose father was struck by the lightening and died. We also made arrangement for two children of the deceased father to stay in St. Xavier's Social Service center, Kathmandu for their studies. Thanks to Fr. Thomas for admitting them in Aruna Bhawan and Social Service Center in Jawalakhel. Arul went to visit Fr. Tek's sister's family in Hariwon. The entire family was longing for the Holy Eucharist. Arul celebrated Mass and blessed their

house.

Bro. Clarence went to Rome to attend the Brothers meeting and returned to Nepal with profound and rich experience of meeting with Rev. Fr. General, audience with the Holy Father, Pope Francis and made a pilgrimage to Loyola, Manresa, Javier, and Montserrat. Arul spent a week in Campion house, went for a general Medical Checkup and applied for the renewal of his Passport. While Arul remained in Kathmandu to celebrate the Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola, our founder with Campion House community and the Kathmandu valley Jesuits, Bro. Clarence celebrated the Feast Day with the Patna Jesuits at the Indian border about 45 KM from Zeromile, Siraha.

Arul Selvam

MEETING THE POPE - BR. CLARENCE

I feel so lucky and grateful to all the Jesuits who made it possible for me to visit the Holy City of Rome. It was a lifetime experience for me to be in the aulla with the Holy Father and listen to him for an hour. Then he had lunch with us and we had a chance to have a picture with him. Though I arrived late for the meeting, Fr. Vernon and my companions made sure that I get the full benefit of being there and helped me to visit the Jesuit places in Rome. Then we visited Venice, Loyola, Pamplona, Javier, Manresa and Montserrat. Every place was equally important and has touched my heart because 500 years before, our founder Inigo de Loyola had stepped on those places. I reached back to Nepal with lots of zeal to get back to my missionary work.

Bro. Clarence Joseph



Br. Clarence Joseph receives a gift from the Pope



Br. Clarence Joseph with other Brothers, Fr. General and Pope



Teachers letting thier hair lose on Teachers Day celebration

In order to achieve an all-round development and education of students, the collaborative responsibility of the parents/guardians, teachers, and the administrative unit of the school cannot be overlooked. In a school, therefore, occasions and events are so scheduled as to provide the parents and guardians with opportunities to interact with the teachers as well as with the school administration personally. Keeping this in mind, during the month of July, the school organized a series of Class-wise Family Days (for classes 3, 4, and 5) and a Parents' Night for Classes 9 & 10.

Further, to equip the School Captains of the Plus Two section with the skills of leadership, a two-days Orientation Camp was organized for them at Godavari Ashram. A number of resource persons shared with them various aspects of Leadership in general as well as Ignatian Leadership in particular. For the Junior section, (Classes 1 – 5), a Poem

Recitation Contest was organized. Our students participated in the Joint School Spelling Contest held at Nepal Don Bosco School, Joint School Table Tennis Tournament organized at Rose Bud School, and Joint School Quiz Competition which was hosted and organized by SXJ. The sports department of the school too was very active during the month; it organized Inter School Badminton & Fr Donnelly memorial Inter School Basketball tournaments. While our students fared rather well in the Badminton Tournament winning quite a few medals and prizes, it was a very different story in the basketball tournament. Our school team could not match the skills, stamina, and prowess of the boys of the invited schools. They were outplayed by them in every department of the game!

On the occasion of Guru Purnima, the school celebrated a very meaningful Teacher's Day. The high point of the celebration was the felicitation, with



Students perform a cultural show in honour of thier teachers on Teachers Day celebration

Conti....

Conti...



Joint Schools basketball tournament

citations, of teachers, who have completed their Ph. D. studies. To celebrate the Feast of St Ignatius meaningfully, the entire school was involved in the Novena to St Ignatius. For nine days all Classes in their respective classrooms said the Novena prayers at the start of the day. The culmination of it was the grand celebration of the Feast on July 31. The entire school, in three separate units, gathered in the school's Auditorium. A very well-choreographed prayer dance by Class 5B added to the solemnity of the celebration. During the celebration, the presentation of the life of St Ignatius by Fr Daniel proved to be a first-timer, which received huge appreciation from the staff and students alike. A grand lunch surprised the staff!

In the Jesuit Community, we had a team of reconnoi-



Parents' night, Classes 9 & 10



A Student getting excited at the sight of a baby bird



Fr. Daniel hands over the basketball to players



Fr. Samuel Simick honours players with medals and certificates

ters! Four Sisters of the Sacred Heart from Patna visited us; the sole purpose of their visit to Kathmandu was to explore the possibilities of starting a collaborative mission in Nepal. They interacted separately with Fr Amrit, our Regional Superior, and with Bishop Paul Simick. Having satisfied themselves they left for Patna after three days.

After a gap of two years, on the occasion of the Feast of St Ignatius of Loyola, Jawalakhel Jesuit Community hosted the dinner for the entire Religious and clergy of the Valley. In spite of a considerable amount of communication hurdles, it was a large gathering. A well-prepared Prayer Service preceded the festal dinner.

Danny sj



Children celebrate Teachers' day with a dance

St. Xavier's School, Godavari



Entrance view of the school

St. Xavier's School, Godavari celebrated its 71st Foundation Day on July 1 with an inauguration ceremony for which the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, the education officer from the municipality, Region Superior Fr. Amrit, Treasurer, Fr. Mathew, the ward chairman, and ward members were the special invitees. The children performed various cultural dances depicting the culture and traditions of various ethnic and religious groups of Nepal. The children also enacted a drama, wherein they reenacted the arrival of Fr. Marshall Moran and his companions to Godavari to establish the school. Fr. Lawrence Maniyar pre-

sented a very brief and concise account of the contributions that the Jesuits made in the social and educational field in Nepal. The School is celebrating this year 70 years of Jesuit presence in Godavari with various activities that would last for a year. Fr. Vijay was in the team of trainers for the class 12 captains training organized in Godavari Ashram on 8 July. The class 9 and 10 students had their physical family day on 9 July after a gap of two years. The children were found so excited about exhibiting their God-given talents to their parents. Godavari hosted 31 students and 5 of their teachers from Holland from 13 July to 19 July as part of the International Student's Exchange Programme. The visiting students shared their experiences with our students and vice-versa. This year the school is lucky to be selected for the NCC (National Cadet Corps). After the rigorous selection process from the applicants, 18 boys and 18 girls are selected for the training. The army personnel in charge of the training come to the school after 3:30 P.M. on every school day for the training. Thanks to Fr. Samuel for taking this initiative for our children. The children celebrated Guru Purnima (teacher's day) on 15 July (instead of 13 July) with a lot of fanfare and thanked the teachers for their selfless and dedicated service. Fr. George guided the CJ sisters in Mary Ward, Lubhu, for triduum from July 8 to 10. Fr. Vijay guided the community with a recollection talk on 29 July. Fr. George went to Matigara, Siliguri, India to attend a joint consult organized with Darjeeling provincial and consultants on 28 July and returned to Godavari on 30 July in the afternoon. The Godavari community invited the Religious from the Godavari region for a prayer service and fellowship meal on 30 July to celebrate the feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola.



A Guest speaks on Foundation Day

George P.M.

CAMPION HOUSE, MAITIGHAR



Participating members of Divine Project



St. Ignatius Day Celebration

In the first week of July, Robert was back in the community after a long time. But this time he came to say goodbye as he has been assigned a new mission in Gujarat itself. We wish him all the best for his new ministry. Clarence came through later in the month on his way to Rome and back. We were really glad to listen to his Ignatian experiences in Rome and Spain. Arul has also been part of the community from time to time for ministerial and personal purposes. College has been busy with various activities as usual. BA family week has been celebrated. It culminated with dinner for alumni which drew a very good crowd. On July 15th we celebrated the 'foundation day' of the college and a competition called 'green class room' was conducted in honor of the day. All the batches participated enthusiastically and the results were really creative. Jiju, Ashish and Deepak attended annual online visitation of IMCS Nepal by its international office bearers. They were really happy with the progress students of Nepal are making

even though IMCS is really young here. There was another visitation that happened this month - Ms Sophie from Finland on behalf of Divine project. She visited the campus and interacted with staff and students to know how impactful the program has been in Nepal. With respect to Ignatius' feast, another competition was held among the students to select new prayer hymns. Students wrote and composed hymns on their own and many of the entries were really awe inspiring. Ignatius Day program was held with great pomp and show. To accommodate all the batches, the program was conducted in 4 shifts. In the absence of Augustine, who was in Matigara for consult, it fell on Jiju to deliver the Ignatian message. By evening Jiju was on a roll, as he had been delivering the message on all 4 shifts. BA students came up with a top-notch one act play with the annual theme - 'pledging green for our common home' which was the highlight of the celebrations.

Campion House sources



Foundation Day Celebration



Green Class room

ARRUPE NIWAS, DEONIA



Ignatian Year closing ceremony mass with Religious & Clergy of Eastern Nepal



Blessing of Grotto with Religious & Clergy of Eastern Nepal

Arrupe House, Deonia, is in 'dehat', village territory. The month opened with our farming neighbours preparing their fields for rice seedling transplantation. The day included a ritual bowl of yogurt and beaten rice. Our teaching staff too fit this specialty into their tea break in solidarity with their farming brothers and sisters!

The days that followed were filled with cycle tests, competitions in speech, art, preparations for Guru Purnima, and the grand finale of Ignatian Year's big '500th'.

Time was found in the midst of all this activity for a Staff Day of Recollection. Fathers Boni and Raja were the main resource persons with PowerPoint presentations on the 'Power Within' and 'Spiritual Journeying'. Yes, the day did include nourishment for the body too.

To celebrate 'Guru Purnima', class 10 students did the teaching and the teachers did the sitting (and evaluating). Personalised mugs, featuring their own 'mug shots' were presented to the teachers after a program of skits, songs, and dance.

Fr. Sanjay organized the renovation of the bio-chem and physics labs for the new academic year in the Plus Two. Admissions both in management and science are up this year and classes are ongoing as you read this.

The 500th jubilee of Ignatius' conversion, ending the Ignatian Year, was celebrated at the community, school, parish, and even deanery level. We were invited to celebrate at our Mother parish in Maheshpur. In turn, we Deonia Jesuits invited the Religious and Diocesan clergy of eastern Nepal to join in a celebration that included the blessing of Arrupe House's new Grotto, the Eucharist, and a 'Prem Bhoj'.

Visitors passing through our 'little home on the border' included the Regional Superior and his consultants, on their way to a joint celebration in the Darjeeling curial premises. Other visitors included a family of elephants who literally 'crashed' the party by knocking down our brick boundary wall and helping themselves to a feast of jackfruit. They represented 'all creation rejoicing' with us, let us say.

Arrup Niwas Source



Teachers engrossed in evaluation



Closing ceremony of Ignatian Year in the school

FABER HOUSE, MAHESHPUR

School

Students finished their second cycle test and now getting ready for their first term exams which commence in the second week of August. The second dose of the vaccination was given to our students who fell in the age group of 5-11 years old. To enhance the communication skills of our students, we conducted English and Nepali elocution competitions. The winners were given prizes. To mark the closing of the 'Ignatian Year', we conducted an Ignatian quiz and a drawing competition in the inter-house wise. There was active participation on the part of both the students and teachers. It was a wonderful opportunity for students and teachers to learn more about St. Ignatius and the Jesuits. The SEE results of the school are as follows, The school is very grateful to Sch. Bipin for all the services he rendered in the last two months. We wish him best wishes for his studies as he left for his philosophical studies in Satya Nilayam, Chennai. We celebrated the Ignatius feast with our students and teachers on 29 July. There was a prayer service which was followed by a cultural programme. After that, we had a sumptuous festive dinner with our teaching and non-teaching staff.



Drawing competition on St. Ignatius



Celebrating Ignatius Day in School



Fr. Tej with newly married couple



Ignatius Day celebration

Parish

The month of June - July has brought many blessings to our church with guests and pastoral care. Fr. Roy was here with his guests for 2 days and made his visits to our faithful in Jalthal and Sadakbari. Fr. Dilip stayed with us and visited in and around our parish for the vocation promotion. On 18th June we had a catechists meeting of all the Mass centres at St Xavier's Church, Maheshpur. It was the time of sharing and updating each Mass centre of our Parish. On 25 June we had an arranged marriage in our parish. It is very consoling for all of us that after a long time we recently had two arranged marriages in our Parish. On 9 July Fr. Sanctius said Mass for our parishioners. As we end the 'Ignatian Year' 2021-22, we had a very meaningful celebration in our parish. Fr. Boniface was the main celebrant of the Holy Eucharist along with Frs. Amrit Rai (Regional Superior) Juel, George, Arul, Sanjay, Raja, Sanctius, Mike, Nicholas, Stevenson, and Tej. After the Mass, we had a short cultural program followed by an Agape meal with the parishioners. On 6 August we will be having the same program at Dhulabari Mass Center.

Faber House Sources

GONZAGA HOUSE, SADAKBARI



Fr. Tek talking about Ignatius Feast



Fr. Victor arranging for festal meal

On 30 June flood water receded and we had a regular class. Our students above 5 years and below 12 years of age received a booster dose on 3 July. After the booster dose children went home. From July 10th to 17th, we had a Ropa holiday. We had a staff meeting on the 4th. During the meeting, we discussed various disciplinary factors. After Ropa Holidays Karan Ganesh Sir wrote his B. Ed Exam and Gyan Nath Oli Sir wrote the 2nd year BSC exam. Now we have divided the group among students for extra curriculum activities. Jhapa Gaon Palika has Started Student Union Group. They had a meeting on 19 July. Abhishek, Suprim, Sabina and Monika from Class 9 went to attend the meeting in Shree Dilli Raj Ma. Vi. Each School of Jhapa Gaon Palika has a student union group. They discuss various issues pertaining to students as well as Children and women in society in general. On the 22nd, afternoon, we had a staff meeting. On July 22nd Second

Cycle test began.

On 5 July Sr. Pushpa Carmelite Missionary (Junior) Celebrated her birthday. The same day was the funeral of Krish Murmu's grandmother in Hawaldar basti. Fr. Tek celebrated the funeral mass. On July 16 Carmelite Missionary Sisters of Simalbari celebrated their feast day. We had feast day dinner in Simalbari. Charity of St. Anne's Sisters celebrated their feast day on 26 July. We had breakfast after the mass and dinner in Sister's convent. Br. Irenaeus is busy with auditing work. On 24 July, Fr. Tek took Sona and Amit's father to Jesu Ashram. He is admitted there and undergoing Tuberculosis treatment.

We had a novena of St. Ignatius of Loyola in the community. Feast day was celebrated in the church. We went to Deonia for mass and same feast day celebration.

Peter Chettri



Ignatius Feast celebration in Simalbari



Fathers & Sisters cherish the festive meal



Booster dose administered for children



SHISHU BIKAS KENDRA – POKHARA



His Excellency received at the airport



Pokhara CRN with the Nuncio



Feast Day cake with Nuncio



Festive meal at Anna Bhavan - SJC



SBK Outdoor bleachers



SBK staff outing

The Assad Month had been a very favorable month to Pokhrolees. It rained during night hours mostly and the day was bright. Our students came to the center routinely above the 40s in number every day. Fr. Amrit made a short visit to Pokhara instantaneously and met Shishu Bikas Kendra (SBK) new students and the staff, encouraging them to be good students and staff. SBK staff had a day out to Bhurjung Khola, the famous Gandaki Trout Fish Farm to have a relaxation from their busy schedule of teaching at the center. They all enjoyed the natural beauty of the place of fresh spring water. The staff expressed their gratefulness for the beautiful opportunity for the outing. There was a celebration of Mehndi. SBK outdoor ground has a new look with sitting bleachers. Fr. Ayar has actively started to teach SBK students and has picked up the sign language to communicate with them. Sr. Suchita Topno SCC went back to Kolkata due to her ill health. We had a group of American students come to spend

a few hours with SBK Students entertaining them with their puppet shows and dances.

The Ignatian month kept us busy with spiritual reinvigoration. The church activities were carried out faithfully. The parish council members elected a new president and secretary. Fr. Ayar the Parish priest thanked the members for their constant help to the church. There was an online Catholic Religious of Nepal (CRN) meeting of Western Denary headed by Fr. Michael CST and animated by Sr. Deepa CJ. The Western Denary elected Sr. Elsy SCC as the president. Nepal Jesuit Society owned Anna Bhawan at Bagaletole Pokhara earlier. Now the building and land property have been transferred officially to Sister of St. Joseph of Cluny Society. The Japanese Sr. Kawoka founded Jyoti Kendra Pokhara now run by Cluny Sisters celebrated the Silver Jubilee of their Center. Fr. Ayar was the main celebrant of the ceremony. Pokhara Catholic Church and religious houses were blessed to have His Excellence Leopoldo

Girelli and His Lordship Paul Simick's pastoral visit to the Western Denary. His Excellence and His Lordship celebrated Holy Eucharist at St. Anne's Catholic Church and blessed all the parishioners with the Papal Blessings. There was a felicitation program for the esteemed guests and an agape meal followed by a CRN meeting at SBK. Heartfelt big thanks to Fr. Ayar Kujur, SJ for planning out the whole weekend program of Nuncio and Bishop's Visit to Pokhara and escorting them around in the lake city.

The Pokhara Jesuits hosted a good number of guests this month. Fr. Amrit Rai, SJ paid a short visit to Pokhara. Fr. Bobby gave a flying visit and shared with us his foreign mission experience. Mr. Peter a Goan volunteer, a few SCC Sisters, and Tipling guests came to us. They enjoyed their stay. All the Religious of Pokhara were invited to share the feast day of St. Ignatius of Loyola.

“Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.”
Roman 12:12 *Amit Lakra*

ST. IGNATIUS PARISH, BANIYATAR

The 1 July fell on the First Friday of the month and so we had the First Friday Devotion to the Eucharistic Adoration of the Bl. Sacrament in the evening. On the following day after the Mass, the Parish priest announced the formal appointment of the Catechist, Ms. Kumari Gurung, now a devout Catholic coming from a Protestant background before. On the 5th, Fr. Paul K.C. was invited to the Alleluia House of Bro. Zeno Rakesh and Community to offer a thanksgiving Mass followed by a sumptuous dinner during which Fr. Paul K.C. was reminded of the feast of St. Maria Goretti and the 70th birthday of an ignominious man on the 6th of July. Heartfelt thanks to the Community of the PSJM Brothers and may they experience the Lord's care and protection in their day to day struggles.

The inner hall and the front view of the church walls were painted with the generous donation of Ms. Pushpa Rai, a Protestant who occasionally visit our Church. When she saw the miserable condition of our church, she volunteered to pay the expenses. The total expenses came up to Rs. 49,387/- of which Ms. Puspa Rai contributed Rs. 30,100/- and five of our parishioners shared the remaining amount.

From the 21st on we started the Novena to St. Ignatius of Loyola as a preparation for the Parish Feast of our

Patron. In honour of the Feast day 13 new members were added to the list of our Parishioners on Friday 29 July. Among these 3 were adults and the rest were children. On the same day in the afternoon one of our Parishioners, Meen Maya Tamang from Goldunga village, expired in Teaching Hospital at the age of 80 while under treatment. The cremation of her body in Swayambhoo took place on the following day morning after the funeral Mass at 3.00 a.m. in the parish Church. On Saturday, 30 July we had planned for a grant-gala celebration of the Parish Feast in which Fr. David Ekka, S.J. took the central stage as the Main Celebrant along with all the Priestly Community of Kamal Niwas. Good Number of Assumption Church Parishioners and a greater number of Religious Sisters and Brothers added a spiritual atmosphere to the whole ceremony. The mothers and the youth of the parish presented a beautiful cultural program in which a skit was presented by the youth highlighting "The Canon Ball Moment" for the congregation present at the function. Finally, all parted the spot with a joyful and stomach-filled note of satisfaction and contentment.

Paul K.C.

HRDRC, SANEPA

Fr. Amrit Rai, Region Superior made a few trips to Dhangadimai, Siraha concerning land purchase. Nepal Jesuit Society was able to purchase a plot of land in Siraha district on 13 July. On 29 July he and his consultors crossed the southern border to go to Darjeeling Jesuit Provincialate at Matigara, West Bengal. They participated in the Ignatian Year closing ceremony with whole of Darjeeling Jesuits. In the afternoon they had a meeting with the unification steering Team. The Team shared the procedure, objectives, and methodology they are going to adopt for this process and asked for feedback. The following day, the consultors and the Region Superior joined the Jhapa Jesuits and Parishioners in the closing ceremony of Ignatian Year at St. Xavier's Parish, Maheshpur. They were back to communities on 30 July. Meanwhile Fr. Thomas guarded our house and also continued accompanying the boys and girls at Social Service center and Aruna Bhavan. He has left for Gorkha to give Tridum recollection to CJ Sisters there. He will be back by 5 August and soon leave for Matigara for a workshop for young priests starting on 8 August. The Region Treasurer had gone to ISI, Delhi for PDD fundraising workshop. He was back on 28 July.

Juel Kispotta

GOOD SHEPHERD, TIPLING



Community Prayer Hall construction in progress at Namsa



In the month of July MEP French volunteers Emma, Vivian, and Roxane bade farewell to Tipling after helping in the school with English classes. Augustine, another MEP volunteer came from Gorkha for a month and rendered his hands in the boundary wall constructions. We had some visitors from the Australian Jesuit Volunteer Service; Cardoner Project Immersion Program coordinators Mr. Robbie Graham and Ms. Isabella Paul paid a visit to Tipling and visited the parish.

Terence made progress with the wall construction but a portion of the wall collapsed due to heavy rain; the workers were able to rebuild it. Seven workers from Nepalganj worked with the church building wall but they could not proceed due to a lack of sand and gravel. Due to heavy rains, the trucks cannot reach Tipling; the contractors have to rely on tractors from Pansang Pass. Grace Ghale is appointed as the acting catechist for Good Shepherd Parish Tipling. Anup blessed houses at Namsa and Manu took up house blessings at Lapdung. On the 9th Parish council and youth participated at the



Chapel construction in progress at Lapdung

Synodal Discussions. As the financial year was ending Manu made a short visit to Kathmandu (HRDRC) in the second week of July to submit bills and do some shopping. The school was closed on 9th Asar for monsoon and reopened on 14th Saun. During the school holidays, Manu conducted English classes to improve the reading skills of class 8 students from Namsa and Aaran.

On St. Ignatius feast day Parishioners attended Holy Eucharist presided over by Anup and listened actively to the conversion story of Inigo. Cruz Vir children danced gracefully and Youth put up a small skit on the canon ball moment of St. Ignatius; they practiced for a week under the direction of Anup. At the end, some of the parents performed Bendho Maya Dance. All those who took part in the Ignatius' feast day celebration received tea and donoughts. Soon after that, Anup and parish council members left for Kathmandu; they will be participating in the August 2nd Synodal Discussion meeting at Lubhu. We look forward to more rains in Ruby Valley in the coming weeks.



Fr. Anup with PIME volunteers

Manu Mathew



Fr. Manu with his English coaching class students



Ignatius Feast Day celebration at Good Shepherd

KAMAL NIWAS

A lay volunteer from Spain, Mr. Ignaci, was with us for a couple of weeks. He is an expert in photography and video editing and gave a course to the Nepal Jesuit Social Institute (NJSI) staff. David also attended and refreshed his artistic talents. On two different community weekend dinner days, we invited the SDB fathers and brothers from Thecho and Lubhu for a social gathering. David and Roy stayed in Panchkal on different days. Roy had an NJSI presentation for Caritas Italy in Italian. It was uploaded on YouTube. There was much rejoicing when we got the news that our NJSI staff Shristi got a baby girl. One of our Bolero campers was sold out, and one of our drivers also left us some time ago. As the financial year has just ended, Augustus is busy closing the books and looking after some maintenance work in Downing Niwas. Mathew went to Delhi Indian Social Institute (ISI) for a training program on fundraising organized by the Development Office of the JCSA. Most of the Province Development Directors (PDDs) from different Provinces attended. It was a very useful training as the focus was on local fundraising.

On the 30th, Saturday, all of us went to Baniyatar parish and concelebrated the feast day celebration of the parish's patron St. Ignatius. All the NJSI staff were given lunch on the occasion of our feast day on the 31st. In the evening we joined the Jawalakhel community for the Region celebration and dinner. Six parishioners of Tipling reached Kamal Niwas in the evening for a stay. They are here for the synodal meet in Lubhhu accompanied by their guru Fr. Anup Minj.

A.V.Mathew

DESIDERI HOUSE

The Boston College Nepal Program and its host, the Centre for Buddhist Studies, are going live again in a few weeks after a nearly three-year gap caused by the pandemic. This month we will welcome 9 visiting undergraduates who will be with us for a semester. For the first time in several years, we will also have a PhD candidate from BC's Comparative Theology program. A student of Prof Catherine Cornille, who is a great friend of the SJ and of Desideri House, will study Sanskrit with us. His research will be on aspects of Christian Theology that interface with Hindu dharma.

The most time and energy-consuming activity of the past few months has been the difficult renegotiation of our institute's affiliation with Kathmandu University. Fortunately, we are now seeing light at the end of the tunnel. We continued to host Manose Newa, the bansuri artist, who performed with Ani Choying Drolma in concerts at St Mary's and Kirateshwor Ashram in Pashupati. This past month he was joined by his wife, Maya, and daughter, Karuna. We also welcomed Pankaj Rayamajhi, former secretary of the GAA, and his family, visit-

ing from Washington, DC. Peter Sutoris, who was an intern here at Desideri House nearly ten years ago, has just arrived. Peter recently completed his PhD at Cambridge University, based on his South Asia research.

Next week the annual Jesuits in Buddhist Studies and Dialogue workshop will take place online, organized by Fr Ari Dy SJ, from the Philippines Province. Our intention was to hold this year's meeting in Seoul, Korea. Quarantine rules continue to make it difficult for many to attend an in-person conference; so we'll go back to Zoom this year. Father General's Ecumenism and Interreligious Relations counsellors, who are now part of the Secretariat for the Service of Faith, will meet in person at the general curia in Rome at the beginning of next month. The Ecumenism section – representing Orthodoxy, Evangelicals, & Pentecostals – will discuss synodality. The rest of us have been asked to consider the question of Religion and Nationalism.

Gregory Sharkey

ST. XAVIER'S SOCIAL SERVICE CENTER

The St. Xavier's Social Service Center held several events during the month of July that kept the residents of the three houses engaged and motivated. All of the students engaged in their typical activities, including singing, dancing, quiz competitions, and studying. The SXSSC would like to extend its sincere gratitude to Pal Polgar, one of our volunteers, for spending time with the kids and giving them a wooden bench that makes it simpler for them to eat. On July 20th, he returned to his homeland. The SXSSC family also expressed their gratitude to Ms. Vidya Bharati, who served as the ideal volunteer staff member for them after obtaining her Bachelor's degree and has since reintegrated into her home. The sister of Prayash Jha, a former student of St. Xavier's School Jawalakhel, named Prastuti Jha, was one of the tiny angels we were glad to celebrate. For the occasion of her fifth birthday, the entire family visited the Aruna Bhawan. They provided meals for everyone in attendance, and we had a program. Our dinner was shared. Thank you very much to Prayash's family, we sincerely appreciate it.



Aruna Bhawan girls with visitor Pal Polgar



A Jha family celebrates birthday of youngest daughter at A.B.



Ms. Margaret celebrates her birthday



Fr. Dilip & Ms. Vidhya with children



Jha family with tiny angel at Aruna Bhawan



Jha family & Aruna Bhawan girls

The Aruna Bhawan family commemorated Ms. Margaret's birthday on July 26. We wished each other a prosperous and long life and celebrated with a hearty dinner. This month, the SEE results were released. Seven of our students—five from boy's homes and two from girl's homes—took the test. We are overjoyed that everyone passed, with Pradip Bastakoti receiving the highest GPA of 3.35 (A) out of the seven pupils, while three other students received "B+." Family SXSSC honored their accomplishments. Due to a change in behavior, Prem Kumal from the boy's family has been staying at Gafney Bhawan for the past two weeks. He also assists a client there. All of the clients are doing fine and loving the weather, including the wet season. On the occasion of St. Ignatius's feast day, we held a quiz competition about his life and had a lavish dinner in the evening. We are unable to work outside due to the rain. As a result, we are making use of our time by playing indoor games, doing indoor chores, etc.

Ms. Margaret Bara

DIASPORA

VINALAYA, MUMBAI

Our journey to Mumbai was quite intriguing. In New Jalpaiguri railway station we had a late train around 4 a.m. in the morning. We reached Mumbai on the 24th June and cordially received by Fr. Leroy George from the platform. In the Juniorate, we are twenty juniors from eleven provinces. We had our inaugural mass on the 27th. Initially, we had workshops in group building and establishing mutual bonds with our new companions. Our classes commenced on 5th June and we were introduced to the juniors' teaching staff. In a day we have secular classes as well as time for personal skills development. We have recently be-

gun our weekend ministries.

On 24 July, we were invited to Mahim for a football tournament against the college students. Unfortunately, we did not win but we enjoyed ourselves and we played well. Alongside the novena to St. Ignatius, the juniors have begun to deliver homilies. Jay and I are keeping well and we have developed quite a good companionship with all the juniors. We both feel very fortunate that we have got the fine dine and minister who always cares for us. Please continue to keep us in your prayers and we assure you of our prayers.

Schs. Alex & Jay



Sch. Jay Ghale at Vinalaya Juniorate



Sch. Alex Hembrom at Vinalaya Juniorate

DHYAN ASHRAM, KOLKATA

After the vows ceremony in the Kalimpong Novitiate, the Region Superior disclosed Sch Anurag's next destination of formation to the Calcutta Jesuit Juniorate. Anurag boarded the train from New Jalpaiguri station on 24th of June, night and arrived early in the morning on 25th of June, 2022, at Shealdah station. Sch. Sagar, the regent, came to receive him along with four companions from Darjeeling province. Fr. Vincent Patrick, the dean of juniorate, welcomed the juniors amidst the rain. On the 27th June we had our inaugural mass presided over by Fr. Sunny George, the rector of Dhyan Ashram, for the juniors. Sch. Sagar, the assistant in charge of the juniors, gave the orientation program to make them to be familiar of the juniorate life and its aspirations. On the 28th of June, 2022, was the day of familiarization through faith sharing sessions; it truly was a knitting together experience by listening to the life of our companions. The first week was all about the introduction to the

juniorate life which consists of "Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm" and some tests to know our academic standings. The following Saturday on the 2nd of July, we had an outing to "Alipore zoo" and "Victoria Memorial". It was a good experience of visiting these places for the first time in my life. From 4th of July we started our drill of juniorate training where we are given the basic grammar, writing, reading, speaking, current affairs and psycho-spiritual courses. On the 16th of July, 2022, three of our companions from Calcutta province pronounced their first vows in the Society of Jesus. The succeeding day we had our first Sunday ministry to the substation of Raghobpur Parish. We met our spiritual father, Fr. Pierre Jacob on 18th of July for the first time and it is to my great advantage to have the support of him. The life in Juniorate continues to form the juniors intellectually. Dhyan ashram is a beautiful place covered with trees, plants and ponds.

Sch. Anurag Toppo

PREMAL JYOTI, AHMEDABAD

The month of July was a busy month. In the first and second week, the first year collegians wrote their End Semester Exam. Meanwhile, others were busy with their regular classes. On weekends we continued the ministries at various places in Ahmedabad. The collegians started practising hockey in preparation for an upcoming competition between the colleges. We also had a couple of activities planned for the Ignatius feast. On novena days, different priests were invited to celebrate morning mass, and in the evening, we continued with the novena prayer to St. Ignatius. On July 30, we planned a short programme for the community. The following day, we attended the feast mass at St. Xavier's Church on the college campus. In honour of St. Ignatius, we held a basketball tournament to celebrate the feast day.

Sch. Vinay Lakra



August 13	Fr. Mathew Amakkatt
August 15	Fr. Amrit Rai
August 15	Fr. Boniface Tigga
August 16	Fr. Ignatius Hemrom
August 21	Fr. Manu Piravomkunnel
August 25	Fr. B. Rajasekaran
August 30	Sch. Niroj Minj



Two Workshops for the Jesuits at Matigara, Darjeeling, India

1. *Integrating Younger Self* for young Priests from 8 August (8:30 a.m.) to 12 August (4:30 p.m.).

2. *Communication for Management of Conflicts* for those holding important offices in the Region from 16 August (morning) to 19 August (evening).



* Fr. Manuel Diaz Garriz (GUJ, 90/73), passed away on 27/07/2022 in Madrid.

* First Year Novice Brother Kerketta Anuranjan (MAP, 19/34 Days) passed away on 24/07/2022 at Holy Cross Hospital, Ambikapur.

* Fr. Joseph Alexander (CCU, 73/47) passed away on 18/07/2022 at Kolkatta.

* Fr Kulandairaj, (AND, 74/53) passed away on 3/07/2022 at Ssecunderbad.

* Fr Susai Thomas SJ (DUM, 66/47), passed away on 30/06/2022 at Jeevan Rekha hospital, Raiganj, West Bengal.

THOSE WHO SERVED IN NEPAL

James J. Donnelly	17/08/2009
Edwin R. Saxton	22/08/1990

LIFT UP YOUR HEART

Conversation with a Rabbi

ACT 2
Scene 5 and finished



Rabbi: We're back, Shova, and I brought my poem. **Shova:** Great, I'll bring Akash. (She returns with Akash). **Rabbi:** Hi. Akash. This time the poem is about believers and atheists. In our secular society we have lots of both, don't we. Here goes!

A Believer and God Talk about Belief The believer speaks first.

I thank you, God, that I am not like atheists who say they don't believe.

Don't be deceived, my child - those atheists do believe.

They believe that I, WHO AM, does not exist. Incredible belief!

*They have no proof for their belief. Do you? No scientific proof, of course,
But you have innumerable indications, pointers, clues... like your existence.*

Then where's the difference, O God, in your eyes, between them and me?

A big difference, child. No difference In my eyes. No difference in my love.

The big difference is in my ears. I never hear them speak to me,

I long to hear them speak a word to me, directly - any word at all.

But I know I can't expect that from them. They are my autistic children.

I love them as they are...I ask you to do the same.

But please "handle with care" Their belief is very fragile

Pokche: I get the point. **Shova:** It's an invitation to see atheists as brothers and sisters.

Akash: And to treat them that way. **Rabbi:** Right! I think we are talking about the purpose of life now. **Shova:** How? **Rabbi:** Well, some people think the purpose of life is to love with an inclusive gift-love. **Pokche:** Don't you, Rabbi?

Rabbi: Listen to my story. Once, on a walk, a car passed me. It was going very slow and wobbly too. On its back fender there was a cardboard sign. It showed a big letter "L". The driver is a LEARNER! I should be aware of that - be sympathetic - be tolerant - forgive the driver's errors - wish the best for the driver - recognise that I too am a learner, learning to love. That's the purpose of life: learning to love. **Akash:** Maybe we should all go around with a "L" on our back - a world of Learners learning how to love each other! **Rabbi:** One day, Shova, you asked me what we could do about evil. Your husband just now gave the answer. Thanks. Akash!. **Pokche:** And now, a surprise announcement.

I have joined the Jesuit Refugee Service in Iraq - and Rabbi is going too, as a chaplain. You've been such good friends. Know that we love you - farewell!

Rabbi: Don't be sad. Lift up your hearts - for I am with you always. Shalom.

