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No.04

Newsletter of Darjeeling Jesuits

April 2024

## PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAM

### April 2024

- 4- Consult
- 5-8 Nepal – Joint Consult
- 11- Hyden Hall Meetings
- 14- Sittong
- 17-22 Chhattisgarh

### May 2024

- 5- Loyola School Jubilee
- 14-16 Province days
- 26- Sakyong: Mass for the people
- 28- Addressing the Scholastics at Singla

## APPOINTMENT BY FR GENERAL

Fr Pedro Rodrigues – Provincial of Goa

## APPOINTMENT BY THE POSA

Fr Zacheus Dungdung – Spiritual Director at Papal Seminary, Pune

## APPOINTMENTS BY THE PROVINCIAL

Fr Oshish Tirkey – Principal, St Joseph's school, Mungpoo

Fr Jayantilal Patel – Socius to Novice Master

Fr Divyanandam Irudayaraj – Asst Prof and Hostel Warden, NBSXC

Fr Denis Soosai – Vice principal and Asst Prof, NBSXC

Fr Daniel Bara – Teacher, Co-Pastor, Loyola Niwas, Uttar Salbari

Fr Shiju Mathew – Treasurer and Minister, Jesu Ashram

Fr Broney Chettri – Province Infirmarian and Minister

Fr Santy Mathew – Director and Headmaster, Gandhi Ashram

Fr Lawrence Thanislaus – Principal, St Xavier's Alipurduar

Fr Bijoy Kindo – Headmaster, St Vincent's Hatighisa

Dn. Pankaj Kerketta – Diaconate Ministry at Sacred Heart Church, Singamari

**Note: Letters will be sent to the individuals concerned regarding the date of taking up the office**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Province Assembly (DAR & NEP) – 14 to 16 May
- Scholastics Retreat at Matigara – 17 to 25 May
- Scholastics Get Together at Singla – 26 to 28 May
- DSS Retreat at Matigara – 2 to 10 June
- Faith Sharing among Superiors at Namchi – 14 to 16

## POPE'S INTENTION FOR APRIL 2024

**FOR THE ROLE OF WOMEN:** Let us pray that the dignity and worth of women be recognized in every culture, and for an end to the discrimination they face in various parts of the world.

## JESU ASHRAM, MATIGARA

A seminar for the nursing staff of Jesu Ashram was conducted on 2 March at Inigo Bhavan. The main theme of this seminar was "How to take care of the patients." On the same theme, another seminar was conducted on 5 March for the nursing students to provide them with better knowledge for their daily service. Moreover, on 3 March, our staff, along with **Sr Julieta Kindo, F.C.**, went to Woodcot, Kurseong for a medical camp. Everyone who attended the camp was very pleased by the free service provided by Jesu Ashram. We thank **Dr Anand** for his availability and for providing voluntary service.

In preparation for Lent, **Fr Julius Kujur, S.J.** arranged an annual retreat for all the staff and students of Jesu Ashram. All of them participated in their annual retreat in Chopra. The first group had their retreat from March 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>, and the second group from March 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>. On one hand, grand preparations for Easter are underway under the leadership of **Sr Gita F.C.** in Jesu Ashram. We are also delighted to welcome **Mrs Karan**, a volunteer from Vienna, Austria. She arrived at Jesu Ashram on 19 March and will stay with us for a few months. A lot of work is ongoing in Jesu Ashram. Recently, our new dining room and old rooms besides our new building were renovated. However, the truss work is still ongoing. Overall, every staff member and student is giving their best service, and as a result, all the patients in every ward are well taken care of.

*Sch. Markyush Narzary*

## ST XAVIER'S SCHOOL, ALIPURDUAR

Academic Year 2023-24's last examination was held on 9 March. The Results for Nursery to Class IX were distributed on 16<sup>th</sup>. The Distribution of uniforms, books and stationery was done from March 20-21. The ICSE and ISC Examinations were completed on the 21<sup>st</sup>. The Managing Committee meeting was held on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. **Fr Xavier Alangaram** guided our Regents' Recollection here. **Fr Shajumon C. K.**, our Provincial was here before and after his visit to Bhutan. **Fr Kinley Tshering** picked him up from here and brought him back.

Kelabari and Alipurduar Jesuit Communities had a recollection on 19<sup>th</sup> March, St Joseph's Feast Day. **Fr Vincent George** conducted Staff Orientation for St Francis School, Hasimara on 22<sup>nd</sup>. He also conducted another for the Holy Cross School, Binnaguri on 23<sup>rd</sup>. He celebrated the Palm Sunday Eucharist at

Damanpur and joined the Chrism Mass in Jalpaiguri. The efficacious functioning at St Xavier's is all due to the meticulous *modus operandi* of **Fr Santy Mathew**, our Superior-cum-Principal and **Fr Siby Joseph**, our Administrator. At present, a month-long Spoken English Course for students from vernacular media is in progress. **Sch. John Romiyo's** active presence is adding flavour!

*Fr Vincent George*

## ST PETER'S, GAYAGANGA

On 8 March, **Fr Cherian Maliekal** gave a talk to the parishioners of St Paul's Church Kurseong on the occasion of Novena of Grace to St Francis Xavier. On 20 March **Fr Simon Kerketta**, **Fr Roshan Minj** and **Fr Nabor Dungdung** were present in a Jesuit Vocation Camp at Hatighisa parish. **Fr Roshan** addressed the TEZE youth gathering in Adhikari parish and talked about the Jesuits of Darjeeling. On 23 March, **Fr Roshan** left for Ranchi for home visit cum vocation promotion. **Br Robert** faithfully attends to his pet-friends in Animal Farm. He also brings daily updates on the tea garden to the community. Regent **John Osga** drills hostelers daily with loud reading practice in the campus. **Fr Binod Kerketta** has joined the community who will replace **Fr Roshan** as headmaster of St Peter's Primary as he goes for tertianship. Fr Binod Kerketta made a quick home visit at the end of March due to the illness of his brother.

As a part of Lenten devotion, charismatic retreats were conducted in Gungaram, Girjaline, Girmittline and Nicheline by the Vincentian Fathers from Divine Centre, Chopra. The sacrament of reconciliation was made available for the faithful in the villages and the parish church. On 18 March, **Fr Peter Pappu** and **Fr Timothy Tirkey** were present for the installation of Bishop Vincent Aind as the Archbishop of Ranchi. In spite of inclement weather, a good number of faithful participated in Palm Sunday celebrations. After the Mass, **Fr Timothy Tirkey**, Asst PP, was given a simple farewell as he leaves for Bhimbhar Parish on 4 April. On 25 March, a rally was organized for the Babas (fathers) of the parish in which about four hundred fathers participated. The inputs were given by **Mrs Anita Baxla**, **Mrs Sangeeta Kongari**, **Sr Ankita FC**, **Mr. Rohan Minj**, **Fr Cherian Maliekal** and **Fr Peter Pappu**, representing the expectation of mothers/wives, youth and the religious leaders engaged in education, and pastoral **Fr Gabriel Tirkey** spoke of what the heavenly Father

expects of them by quoting and explaining to them several biblical references. He urged the fathers to read and study the Bible with a heart and mind of a father, especially the Proverbs and the Epistles of the New Testament.

High School has a privately appointed Asst Headmaster **Sri Uttam Kumar Choudhary**, w.e.f. 2 March 2024. In his capacity as Inspector of ICSE examination centers, **Fr Cherian Maliekal** visited 11 schools during exams, while **Fr Nabor Dungdung** was assigned as scrutinizer of Madhyamik Pariksha exam papers. The school remained closed from 24 March till 31 March for Holi, election training, Holy week and Easter.

*Fr Gabriel Turkey*

### ST VINCENT'S, HATIGHISA

On March 8<sup>th</sup>, external examiners conducted physical and work education exams for our students of Class X. This month, teachers were exceptionally occupied with both the Madhyamik and higher secondary evaluations. Every Friday, Catholic primary and high school students participated in the Way of the Cross, which was conducted remarkably well by both students and staff. Confessions for Catholic students at our school were scheduled promptly. **Fr Bipin**, **Fr Gevenius**, **Fr Yacub**, **Fr David**, and **Fr Mathias** facilitated confession sessions, with assistance from **Fr Alex Beck**, **Fr Fredrick Baraik**, and **Fr Philomen Tirkey**.

From March 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>, **Sr Divya CJ** and **Sr Kiran CJ**, along with **Fr Vivian SJ (CAL)** addressed our Catholic boys and girls to promote vocations. The Vocation Camp for our province was held at Hatighisa from March 20<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>, with seven young men participating, including representatives from Hatighisa, Kurseong, Darjeeling, Nagrakata, and three from Kalimpong. **Sch. Bipin Tirkey**, **Sch. Kuldeep Topno**, and **Sch. Sawan Rai** assisted collaboratively in running the camp.

**Fr Fredrick**, **Fr Philomen**, and **Fr Alex** visited different substations to hear Lenten confessions. **Fr Pascal Xalxo** and **Fr Sanjiv Lakra** celebrated the Eucharist on Palm Sunday. **Fr Philomen**, **Sr Anastasia**, **Sr Aruna**, our catechist **Mr Ruban**, and **Mr Pathish** conducted Sadi classes on March 11<sup>th</sup>. They emphasized the value of maintaining family harmony, morality, and the overall well-being of future generations. They also highlighted how God

shapes our faith and offers us His love through family members. The parish celebrated Women's Day with great enthusiasm, with **Fr Ashis** serving as the chief host and approximately 500 women participating in the event.

*Sch Lawrence Mudiyappan*

### ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL, DARJEELING

St Joseph's School, North Point commenced the new academic year 2024 with a solemn Eucharistic celebration and felicitation program. The administration, staff, co-workers, and alumni gathered to praise and thank the Almighty God for guarding and guiding the destiny of the institution over its 135-year history in the Jesus Mary Joseph auditorium. Mass was celebrated by two former Rectors, **Fr Shajumon C. K.** (at present, the Provincial), **Fr Santy Matthew** (at present, the Principal of St Xavier's School, Alipurduar), and our current Rector, **Fr Stanley Varghese**. The prefect, **Fr John Banerjee**, and the Minister, **Fr Justin Bage**, also concelebrated the Eucharistic celebration.

The opening matches of the Cricket, Basketball, and Volleyball seasons were played between teachers and students on 2 March. The much-awaited investiture and award ceremony at JMJ auditorium on 15 March marked a significant moment for the Beadles, Prefects, Head Boys, and class Monitors. **Mr Rapden Sangay Bhutia**, an Ex-North Pointer, graced the occasion as the chief guest. He shared some of his old memories of the school, which were appreciated by the students. Navy personnel Commander **Gurber Singh** and Commander **Thomas Anup** presented video films on the Navy and the life of alumnus Late **Admiral Ronne Pereira**, who served as the 9<sup>th</sup> Chief of Naval staff.

On 18 March, the staff were treated to dinner at Hotel Little Tibet in anticipation of St Joseph's feast on the 19<sup>th</sup> and celebrations for the borders included an outing and a variety entertainment program in the evening, cherished by all. A one-day retreat was conducted for the Christian boys in preparation for the Easter celebration by the Jesus youth from Shillong.

The First Bishop Anthony Francis Sharma SJ Memorial 8 and below Basketball tournament was organized by our School, with six schools participating. St Augustine School and St Joseph's School reached the final, with St Augustine School

Kalimpong emerging as the winners and St Joseph's School Darjeeling as the runners-up. Fr Rector returned from Vietnam after the combined reunion program of Loreto and North Pointer on March 24<sup>th</sup>.

*Fr John Banerjee*

### ST PAUL'S CHURCH, KURSEONG

From 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> March, a Charismatic retreat was held in Lalmati Church with the support of the MC Sisters. **Mr Kenneth Pradhan** served as the resource person for the retreat. On 16<sup>th</sup>, a proper Parish Pastoral Council was formed in the church through elections and nominations. On the 17<sup>th</sup>, **Bishop Stephen Lepcha, DD** celebrated Mass for the faithful of Lalmati and held a brief meeting with them. Additionally, on the same day, Nari Samaj organized a 'World Women's Day' event at St Joseph's School, where **Asha Mukhia Lama**, a



prominent writer and social worker, was the main speaker. On the 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Crusvir Coordinator organized a one-day recollection for Crusvir children. Finally, on the 25<sup>th</sup>, **Fr Devadhass** and the youth organized a combined youth recollection for the youth of our parish and those from St John Berchmen's Church, St Mary's Hill, Kurseong.

*Fr Peter Jong Lepcha*

### LOYOLA NIWAS, UTTAR SALBARI

**Fr Justin Bage** was given the farewell in the parish on 4 February and in the community on 8 February. He left the Uttar Salbari community to join the North Point community on 10 February. Additionally, **Fr Fredrick Baraik** visited the community on the same day. **Miss Sakhaina Mukhia**, a renowned young budding singer, visited the school on 9 February. She performed Hindi and Nepali songs, inspiring our children to develop their talents alongside their studies. St Joseph's School, Darjeeling, generously gifted us a bus, which will benefit many children with transportation. The new playground for the primary section is now ready for use. Furthermore, the school observed International

Mother Language Day on 21 February, with children singing songs in their respective mother languages.

The parish organized a one-day seminar on 25 February with the theme "The Role of the Laity in the Church." **Fr Ignatius Topno**, the director of Artico Pastoral Centre, Jalpaiguri, and his team served as the resource persons, with about a hundred attendees. Parish children embarked on a pilgrimage to Jalpaiguri Cathedral on 3 March, where they participated in the Way of the Cross and attended Mass celebrated by **Fr Isi Prasad Kujur**. Subsequently, they visited St Xavier's College, Rajganj, and we extend our gratitude to the Rajganj Jesuit community for providing high tea for the children. For many, it was their first visit to the Cathedral. On 17 March, the elders of the Parish also made a pilgrimage to the Cathedral and St Xavier's College, Rajganj. We are grateful to Fr Deven and the Hostel for providing us with meals. We are also grateful to Loyola School, Uttar Salbari, and Mt Carmel School, Dhupguri for giving us buses for these two occasions. During Lent, the Parish Priest visited every village to hear confessions. Palm Sunday was celebrated with great devotion, with many parishioners attending the procession and Mass. A two-day retreat was preached by a group of laymen at Totapara village Chapel from March 25<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>, which saw significant attendance.

The entire community attended the Christ Mass on 25 March. Additionally, **Sch. Kuldeep Toppo** joined the community for a few days during his holidays. We were delighted to host **Fr Lawrence Thanislaus**, **Fr Benny Paul**, and **Fr Leo Alphonse** on March 26<sup>th</sup>.

*Fr Basil Toppo*

### LOYOLA COLLEGE, NAMCHI

International Women's Day was celebrated on 8<sup>th</sup> March with a special assembly in which the student teachers gave speeches highlighting the importance of the day. A PowerPoint Presentation on the contributions of women in science, politics, technology, etc. ignited the minds of staff and students for equality and inclusion of women. The female teachers took initiative to organize the programme for the welfare of the Loyola Family. An awareness programme on blood donation was organized by the Red Ribbon Club of Sikkim in association with our college on the occasion of International Women's Day at Sikkim Alpine University in which 37 individuals donated their

precious blood. The International Women's Day was also observed by organizing a legal awareness programme by the District Legal Services Authority in our college for the staff and students. **Ms Samita Sharma**, the Honourable District Judge, highlighted the rights of women in the law.

**Fr Francis George** inaugurated a five-day 'Faculty Development Programme on Outcome based Education and National Board of Accreditation' at Sikkim Institute of Science and Technology at Chisopani on 18<sup>th</sup> March. In his inaugural address, he stressed the need for an outcome based teaching-learning and assessment process to improve the quality issues in Higher Education. **Dr Dharmadhikari NS** conducted a one-day workshop on NAAC related quality enhancement techniques on 11<sup>th</sup> March for the faculty members of our college. He focused on the 7 criteria of the Self Study Report.

Our IQAC and Research Cell of our college organized a two-day International Conference on Teacher Professional Development on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> March. The resource persons and paper presenters focused on various aspects of Teacher Development Programme. **Mr Suraj Rai**, the District Educational Officer, inaugurated the Conference saying teachers need to develop knowledge and skills to meet the challenges of 21<sup>st</sup> century. **Fr Dr Augustine Thomas SJ (NEP)** in his keynote address illustrated the 'Educational Leadership Development'. **Dr Kosga Yagapparaj**, Research Supervisor and Consultant cum Trainer from Kualalampur, Malaysia, presented on "Outcome based Education and Constructive Alignment" and **Fr Dr Lalit Tirkey SJ** delivered a talk on "Re-imagining the Teacher Professional Development for making effective educators for 21<sup>st</sup> century". **Fr Francis George** attended a two-day consultative workshop on 'Financing of Higher Education Institutions: Perspectives from North East Region' organized by National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration in collaboration with Sikkim University on 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> March.

*Fr Francis George*

### ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE, DARJEELING

St Joseph's College, Darjeeling, hosted a three-day District-level Inter-college sports and games competition organized under the auspices of the Education Department, West Bengal. The event

commenced on March 5 and concluded on March 7. Sixteen college teams from Darjeeling and Kalimpong districts participated in this event. The inaugural ceremony began with the lighting of the lamp by Chief Guest **Mr Deepen Thakuri** (Chairman of Darjeeling Municipality), **Fr Dr Donatus Kujur**, **Bhushan Adhikari** (District Observer), **Dr Radha Sharma**, and **Dr Rajini Dewan**. The students from St Joseph's College enthralled the audience with a spirited Marooni dance performance.



The football matches were played in categories A and B. The football team of Kalipada Ghosh Terai College emerged as the winner, with Munsii Premchand College securing the runner-up position. In the Kho-Kho match, Naxalbari College demonstrated remarkable skill, securing victory, with Kalipada Ghosh Terai College achieving the runner-up position after a fiercely contested competition. **Sameen Burman** from Kalipada Ghosh Terai College and **Ramen Roy** from Munsii Premchand College were acknowledged for their outstanding performances in football, being awarded the titles of best player and best goalkeeper, respectively. The activities on the third day commenced with a lively march-past by St Michael School students, followed by cultural dances performed by our students. The schedule featured a variety of track and field competitions, such as thrilling races spanning 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, and 1500m, as well as high jump, long jump, javelin throw, and discus throw events. Trophies and certificates were presented to the champions and runners-up across different events by the chief guest, principal, and professors.

The concluding event featured distinguished guests, such as **Mr Anjul Chauhan**, Chairman of GTA Sabha, **Dr Bhusan Adhikary**, the District Observer, **Dr Donatus Kujur**, Principal of St Joseph's College,

along with Dean **Dr Radha Sharma**, Vice Principal **Dr Fr Binay Xavier**, athletics officials, and professors. A workshop titled "Traditional Relationships: Bridging Borders with Tibet" was organized jointly by the Department of English and Mass Communication and Journalism on March 23. The resource person, **Tenzin Tsundue** from Dharamsala, highlighted the geopolitical as well as historical-cultural connections of the entire Himalayan region. Arrupe House community thanks **Fr Frank Subba** who served Xavier Hostel, the community, the AICUF, the CLC, the Sacred Heart Parish and the Darjeeling Diocese in different capacities for the past three years or so. **Fr Frank** has arrived in Innsbruck, Austria to begin his research in Biblical Theology.

*Fr Donatus Kujur*

### NORTH BENGAL ST XAVIER'S COLLEGE, RAJGANJ

Two important events were organized this month: first on 5<sup>th</sup> March, college student council organized an annual outdoor musical fest called *Xhilerate '24* wherein many former students also participated. On 23<sup>rd</sup> March, the college organized its first Alumni Reunion (X-ualtation) at Matri Bhavan, Matigara which attracted about a hundred and fifty former students starting from its 1<sup>st</sup> graduating batch of 2010. One significant moment of the event, which was convened collaboratively by a team of college senior faculties and XAANOB-our college Alumni Association, was the felicitation of its three principals: founder principal **Fr Cherian Padiyara**, second principal, **Fr Joseph Victor** and the current principal, **Fr Lalit P. Tirkey**. Besides this Darjeeling Jesuit provincial, **Fr Shajumon C. K.** and other



Jesuits present at the function were also felicitated. Besides the above, the NSS and Women's Cell of the college conducted 'medical camp' (for health and eye check-up) in collaboration with Maharaja Agarsen Hospital, Fulbari and Lions' Eye Hospital, Siliguri for more than 150 villagers followed by free cataract surgery for some. Many students

participated in university level inter-college tournaments in Kho Kho, Kabaddi and Cricket.

In recent years, many teachers have been participating in seminars/conferences. **Dr Bipranch Kr. Tiwary** was felicitated with Young Scientist Award the international Conference on "Innovation in Biotechnology Research for sustainable Bioresource & Bioeconomy: Challenges and Practices" held at Sanjivani Arts, Commerce & Science College Kopargaon, Maharashtra on 15-15 March. **Fr Lalit** also spoke on 'Re-imagining Teacher Professional Development for making Effective Educators in 21<sup>st</sup> Century' at the international conference organized by Loyola College of Education, Namchi on 22<sup>nd</sup> March. Every year, during Easter Holy Week, college Jesuits help out at different parishes. This year, **Fr John Kennedy** left for Thimphu for Easter celebration, **Fr Lalit** will be helping out at Malbazar parish while **Fr Deven Yonzon** and **Fr Bijay Kindo** will be helping at the local, Mongradangi parish.

*Fr Lalit Tirkey*

### MANRESA NOVITIATE, KALIMPONG

On 22<sup>nd</sup> February, the first-year brothers concluded their village experiment and returned to Manresa, each with unique experiences. They immersed themselves in Nepali culture, experiencing the warmth of the people, witnessing their faith, and understanding their challenges. We were amazed by their learnings and insights. The following week, on Monday, we commenced the demolition of one of our old vacant buildings. The community divided into three groups: cutting firewood, harvesting coffee seeds, and demolishing the building. This week of labor and exertion proved to be a valuable experience for all of us. In the subsequent week, we participated in a Psycho-Sexual and Spiritual Integration course alongside the Cluny novices, facilitated by **Fr Xavier Alangaram**. This course deepened our understanding of ourselves, human reality, and spirituality.

On February 29<sup>th</sup> we joyously celebrated the birthday of **Br Gabriel Gurung** with great enthusiasm. Many fathers from the diocese and religious communities in and around Kalimpong and Darjeeling joined us to extend their warm wishes to our ever-youthful brother. In the second week of March, the first-years commenced their classes on Instituted Ministries (Minor Orders) and were

conferred to these ministries on March 20th by **Fr Shajumon**, the Provincial of Darjeeling province. On the 21st, we attended the Chrism Mass at St Teresa's parish, solemnly celebrated by His Eminence, **the Most Reverend Bishop Stephen Lepcha**. Earlier that day, some of our fathers participated in a recollection for clergy held at the same venue.

For Palm Sunday, we traveled to 5<sup>th</sup> Mile to join the Mass with the faithful community of St Joseph's Church. On the 25th, the second-year brothers went for a pilgrimage to St Mary's Grotto, Kurseong with **Fr Shaji Joseph**. Additionally, construction work is currently underway at Manresa on the ground floor, where the old cubicles are being replaced with 12 new rooms equipped with attached washrooms.

*Novice Arockia Sebastin*

he was here for visitation. On March 8<sup>th</sup> we had a guest lecture in commemoration of International Women's Day. Additionally, on March 9<sup>th</sup>, the VJ youth ministry students organized a day-long program for young people from the JRS Delhi community, including members from Afghan and Chin backgrounds. It was a beautiful opportunity to unite these communities, which share similar life experiences, for a convivial gathering. The following day, the Pastoral Ministry group held a day of recollection for youth from various parishes within the Archdiocese of Delhi at VJ. We bid farewell to the third-year members of the community on March 18th during the community Mass and on March 19th at the college with a brief program. On March 23<sup>rd</sup>, the third-year students embarked on a study tour to Varanasi.

*Sch. John Lepcha*

### VIDYAJYOTI, DELHI

Our international seminar on Peace and Reconciliation took place from February 27 to 29. We were honored to host various guest speakers from India and abroad, including Kenya's Hekima University, Indonesia, and Malaysia. The speakers represented diverse social backgrounds, including priests, religious, laypeople, individuals from other faiths, and a member of the transgender community. It proved to be an enlightening experience for all participants. On the evening of March 1st, **Fr Brian G. Paulson, S.J.**, the president of the US Jesuit Conference, addressed the community. He provided insights into the status and mission of the Society in the US Conference and globally. Following this, on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, we celebrated a significant event: the diaconate ordination. Among the 35 deacons ordained, **Pankaj Kerketta** was one. There were 32 Jesuits, two from the IMS congregation, and one from Buxar Diocese. We were honored by the presence of **Fr Xavier Alangaram**, the PCF, during this joyful occasion, as

### PRABHU JISUR GIRJA, KOLKATA

On April 25, Prabhu Jisur Girja Community hosted the monthly Scholastic Recollection. As the preacher, **Fr Vivek, SJ** offered enticing insights on the Jesuit way of life. On March 5, every member of the Community, aside from the scholastics, departed for Dhyana Ashram to take part in the common annual retreat. On March 13 evening, they made their way back to the Community. Our midterm exam started on March 11 and ended on March 16. At the Prabhu Jisur Girja Parish, a blood donation camp was organized on March 18. The Scholastics demonstrated remarkable initiative by donating the blood. Moreover, the Parish arranged for two days of recollection for its Parishioners, during which **Fr Markush Hembrom, SJ** as the main preacher moved the congregation through his dexterous speech and thought-provoking points.

*Sch. Pilat Narzari*

### REST IN PEACE

<b>Br Anthony Crasta (BOM)</b>	<b>77/60</b>	<b>on 02 March</b>
<b>Fr Joe Maripuram (PAT)</b>	<b>69/47</b>	<b>on 13 March</b>
<b>Bro Maxim D'Mello (BOM)</b>	<b>73/49</b>	<b>on 22 March</b>
<b>Fr Augustine Paruthipallil (KER)</b>	<b>81/55</b>	<b>on 24 March</b>
<b>Fr Jerome Kulandaisamy (MDU)</b>	<b>63/42</b>	<b>on 29 March</b>