

PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

SEPTEMBER

- 1: Consult
- 3-4: Visitation - HRDRC
- 5-6: Visitation - Pokhara
- 7-8: Visitation - St Xavier's, Jawalakhel
- 9-10: Visitation - St Xavier's, Godavari
- 11-12: Visitation - St Xavier's, Maitighar
- 13: Visitation - Baniyatar
- 13-14: Visitation - Kamal Niwas
- 15: Matigara
- 20-21: Visitation - Siraha
- 22: Matigara
- 26-28: Visitation – Uttar Salbari

OCTOBER

- 2: Consult
- 7-8: Visitation – Jesu Ashram/Shanti Sadan
- 10-12: Visitation – PJR, Matigara
- 14-31: Major Superiors' Meeting, Rome

NEW PROVINCIAL FOR MADHYA PRADESH PROVINCE



Father General Arturo Sosa has appointed **Fr Alfred Toppo** as the new Provincial of the Madhya Pradesh Province of the Society of Jesus.

APPOINTMENTS

BY GENERAL

- Fr. Peter Pappu:** Socius, Consultor, Admonitor
- Fr. Boniface Tigga:** Consultor
- Fr. Jiju Kevillil:** Consultor
- Fr. Peter Jong Lepcha:** Consultor
- Fr. Siby Joseph:** Treasurer & Revisor of Accounts of Communities

BY PROVINCIAL

- Fr. Lawrence Maniyar:** Vice Superior, Loyola College of Education, Namchi.
- Fr Peter Bhujel:** Counsellor, Woodcot.
- Fr Amrit Rai:** Acting Socius, Manresa.
- Fr Juel Kispotta:** Director, Social Service Center, Jawalakhel.
- Fr Jayantilal Patel & Fr Thomas N.P.:** Formator's Program, Sadhana Institute.
- Fr Shiju Mathew:** Coordinator, Commission for Social Apostolate.
- Fr Roy Sebastian:** Assigned to Common House.

INFORMATION

PROVINCE RETREATS:

- 28 September to 6 October at Matigara
- 4-12 December at Matigara

PRIESTLY ORDINATION:

Deacons Sujit Minj, John Lepcha and Roshan Gyan Toppo will be ordained priests on 09 November 2025 at St. Peter's Gayaganga.

BIRTH OF DARJEELING-NEPAL PROVINCE

PETER PAPPU SJ

A South Asian Model for Reimagining and Restructuring!! The Jesuits of Darjeeling Province and Nepal Region, after years of personal and common discernment, decided to serve the Lord with greater collaboration and apostolic effectiveness, under one Major Superior. Before the final decision, several common programs were organized at various places in both units for mutual sharing and spiritual bonding. And we can proudly say that we have grown in the spirit of GC 32, D 11, "Union of Minds and Hearts in the Society".

This Union of Minds and Hearts was officially approved by the Decree of Fr General, dated 12th April 2025, erecting this new province "Darjeeling-Nepal Jesuit Province" to be effective from July 31st 2025. And so, on this day, the Jesuits of Darjeeling-Nepal Province gathered in large numbers at Loyola Pastoral Centre, Matigara, to celebrate their union of minds and hearts on the feast of St Ignatius of Loyola. We are grateful for the presence of Frs Vernon D'Cunha (General Asst.), Stanislaus Jerome D'Souza (POSA), Soosai Mani (Chair of North Zone), Vimal Kishore (Patna) and Melvil Pereira (Kohima) on this historic day.

Prior to the first Holy Eucharistic celebration of the unified province, a short documentary, recalling the men and missions of the Darjeeling Province and Nepal Region, prepared by Frs Shajumon and Juel Kispotta, was shown which set the tone for the Eucharist. At the Holy Eucharist, Fr Vernon read out the Decree of Fr General erecting Darjeeling-Nepal Jesuit Province and appointing Fr Shajumon Chakkalakkal as its first provincial. The new provincial in his homily recalled the contributions of the great missionaries of yesteryears, of both the units, and paid homage to them for their visionary life testimonies. At the end of the Eucharist, the assembled Jesuits of the unified province and the visiting Jesuits prayed and blessed the new Provincial and his consultors. Thanks to our novices from Manresa for making the liturgy meaningful and devotional by their melodious singing.



After the Holy Eucharist, during the short felicitation, the special guests delivered their messages of hope and assurance of prayerful support for the way ahead. To mark this historic event, a souvenir book, highlighting the existing apostolic units of the new province, was released jointly by Frs Vernon D'Cunha and Stanislaus Jerome D'Souza. Thanks to Frs K.L. George, Juel Kispotta and C. Pragasan for their hard and meticulous work in gathering and pictorial presentation of all our men and missions.

A special word of appreciation and thanks are due to our theologians for the spiritual preparation – their inspiring novena prayers, prepared with much love, truly enhanced the union of minds and hearts. We appreciate the generosity of Hatighisa, Kurseong and North Point School Communities for adding taste and variety for the evening meal! Thanks to Frs Tommy Kollakombil, Siby Joseph, Basil Toppo, Br Clarence Joseph, Pre Novices and all the coworkers for making all arrangements, such as, the fellowship meal, accommodation, transport, etc. It was truly a memorable, historical event.

SXS Alipurduar proudly hosted Model United Nations (MUN) on 13th and 14th Aug. A total of 235 students from reputed schools such as St. Mary's (Coach Bihar), St. Anthony (Jaigaon), St. James (Binnaguri), DPS (Ethelbari) and St. Xavier's School, Alipurduar enthusiastically participated in the thought-provoking debates and discussions. Ten persons, well-versed in global affairs from Siliguri, guided the sessions. The theme of the convention was "Diplomacy in Action." We were honored to have Mr. George Lepcha, BDO, as the Chief Guest on this prestigious event.

In the much-awaited Inter-House Football Tournament, Kostka House emerged winner in the Junior Category and De Nobili House lifted the trophy in the Senior Category. In the Chess and Table Tennis Championship tournaments, organized at SHMD School, Jaigaon, SXS students displayed remarkable talent and brought laurels by winning five championships and one runner-up trophy. The 79th Republic Day was celebrated with grandeur and Patriotic fervour. The Climax of the program was the Parents-Students Dance and the Mothers-Daughters Dance, which added charm and joy to the celebration.

**COMMUNITY:**

On 4 August, SXS Jesuits joined the Diocesan Clergy at Kartik Parish on the occasion of the Feast of St John Marie Vianney. Fr. Tej Kalyan assists Fr Kinley Tshering in the pastoral ministry. On 23rd August, Fr Sebastian Minj gave a talk to the women of Damanpur Parish, on the occasion of Monica Diwas. On 25 August, the SXS Community blessed the foundation of the new feeder school building at New Alipurduar. The community extended its hospitality to two sisters of the Daughters of St Paul who came for Book Display in the school; and to two Holy Cross Sisters from Binnaguri who stayed in the community for their B.Ed exams in Alipurduar.

FABER HOUSE, MAHESHPUR**DILIP KUMAR TOPPO SJ****MORAN MEMORIAL SCHOOL**

Fr Shajumon, the newly appointed Provincial of the Darjeeling-Nepal Province, was warmly welcomed by the Jesuit community at Faber House, on August 13th. In a special assembly, the staff and student representatives greeted him with traditional khadas and bouquets. During the assembly, Fr. Shajumon addressed the students, emphasizing the importance of self-discipline and cultivating a spirit of eagerness to learn to be successful in life. He also addressed the staff and interacted with several students personally.



On August 21st, Sch. Jeyaraj Solomon celebrated his birthday with the teachers. One-day free eye camp was organized at our premises on 23rd Aug. by the Mechi Eye Hospital team. Both students and teachers benefited from this medical initiative.

In a compassionate display of solidarity, our Class Six students raised funds to support a fellow student whose father recently passed away due to kidney failure, helping the family during this crucial time. We are pleased to welcome Miss Dipika Rajbanshi to Moran Memorial School as a Science teacher.

Fr Provincial made special trips to mission stations, including Gherabari Church and Kalimora Church, where he was greeted with traditional shawls and Dhaka Topi. His presence was a blessing to both community members and the faithful, leaving everyone feeling encouraged, heard, and cared for, with renewed hope for the growth of the mission.

The youth of the parish are enthusiastically preparing for upcoming events. They are practicing prayer dances, cultural dances, singing, and tableau performances, along with presentations on the Sacrament of Marriage. In a significant achievement for the local community, seven unemployed women from the tea garden successfully completed their tailoring training. The newly inaugurated tailoring centre at the church premises will serve as a training and production space before the women eventually move into the market to run their own ventures. We express our heartfelt gratitude to all supporters and well-wishers who have contributed to making this project a reality.

The CLC and Krusveer Children of the parish have begun music practice at the church, adding vibrancy and joy to parish life. This period of community engagement, skill-building, and spiritual enrichment reflects the parish's commitment to faith, culture, and social development.



This month began with the visit of Dr. Mahabir Pun to the school. He is a renowned Nepali researcher, educator, social entrepreneur, and inspiration to most youth in Nepal. He inspired our students with his life story. He is on a promotional tour of his book, through the sale of which he plans to build a factory for making tools for the small-scale farmers in Nepal.

We had two sessions of the Teacher's Professional Development Program by resource persons from Kathmandu University on the 3rd and 17th. They were conducted in two groups: one for the Junior school teachers and the other for the senior school teachers. The topics dealt with were lesson planning, teachers' and students' well-being, and STEAM educational Practices. Our teachers have been finding these TPDP sessions refreshing and beneficial for improving their teaching practices.



Class 11 students were officially welcomed to the SXD family by their seniors on the 8th. Everyone in the school has been busy this month with the preparations for the closing ceremony of the Silver Jubilee of the school, scheduled for August 29th. Practices are going on all over the school and at all times.

We were blessed with the visitation of Fr. Shajumon to our community and school. He was given a warm welcome at the school assembly on the 15th. Later, he met with the staff as a group and some of them individually. All the Jhapa Jesuits gathered at Arrupe Niwas for the birthday celebration of Fr Tomson on the 13th. Our cook is down with typhoid and hence, we are trying out our creativity in cooking these days. The results have been quite encouraging!

ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL, NORTH POINT

SAMUEL SIMICK SJ

St Joseph's School, North Point:

August at St Joseph's School, North Point (SJSNP) was a vibrant tapestry of achievement, celebration, and community spirit. The month began with football competitions. On 1st August, the junior team (4'10") clinched first place at the Goethals Memorial School tournament. Simultaneously, senior students competed in fixtures at St. Paul's School held from 1st to 3rd August, finishing as runners-up, with one standout player earning the title of Highest Goal Scorer.

On August 2, the school hosted the prestigious Br Eric Memorial International Quiz, drawing fifty-three (53) participating schools. St Joseph's emerged victorious, securing the gold medal for the second consecutive year. Cultural events followed in quick succession. The Senior Division Inter-Class Singing Competition on August 6th saw Class 12 Arts students take top honors. The Vernacular Elocution on 7th August united students and teachers across linguistic traditions—Nepali at Loreto Convent, Bengali at SJSNP, and Hindi at St. Paul's School—celebrating India's rich cultural diversity.

The school celebrated Fr. Rector's birthday on August 8. Under the guidance of Sir Andre and Sir Malcolm, students put up a short and meaningful program to wish Fr Rector on his birthday. The school continued its tradition of fostering debate and dialogue with the Senior Division Inter-Class Debate completion on the same day. On August 9, the boarders participated in a much needed mental health orientation facilitated by the counselor Ms. Soumi Chatterjee.

In the lead-up to Independence Day, the Primary Division hosted a Freedom Costume Pageant on August 12, featuring portrayals of iconic freedom fighters and participation from neighboring schools.

On August 15, the school celebrated India's Independence Day with a flag hoisting ceremony, March past, and band display. Mr Ashok Sadwani the president of Global North Point Alumni Association (GNPAA) hoisted the Indian National Flag and Mr Hemanka Joshi give the 79th Indian Independence Day message. Some Parents joined the celebration, and Bishop Stephen led the Holy Eucharist in the school chapel, commemorating the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In collaboration with the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute (HMI), Darjeeling, the school organized a disaster management and safety workshop for senior students on 22nd August. The following day marked a historic first ever Alumni Swimming Competition, organized by GNPAA, with the alumni and present students competing for the first position. Simultaneously, faculty members participated in a workshop on social awareness and dramatization in schools, to enhance classroom engagement.

The school also launched a new partnership with the State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD) in Jorethang, Sikkim, offering students hands-on learning experiences. Three batches of students have participated so far.

On 20th August the school community mourned the passing of Mr Debi Lal Agarwal, a long-time supporter and Chartered Accountant of SJSNP. Fr Rector, Fr Minister, Br Vincent P.D., and the administrative staff paid their respects at his residence on August 21.

Looking ahead, the school anticipates several key events: the N.M. Masters Elocution Contest at MHS on 27th August, Primary Division's Choral Elocution and Confidence Building Program on August 28, Lower Division's Vernacular One-Act Play on August 29 and the Bill German Inter-School Quiz on August 30, in collaboration with the Nutshell Group.

COMMUNITY:

Community life remained vibrant. Mr Ashok Sadwani, President of GNPAA, spent about two weeks at the school strengthening alumni ties; he was accommodated in the community. On August 8, the community celebrated Fr Rector's birthday, joined by Bishop Stephen, Namchi Jesuit community members, and Fr Shiju from Jesu Asharam. Fr Justine continued overseeing construction progress and liaised with the RTO on traffic matters.

On 30th July, our school celebrated the Handwriting Competition cum Feast Day, marking a joyful occasion for students and teachers alike.

The month of August was both vibrant and eventful. Alongside regular classes, teachers and students devoted themselves wholeheartedly to preparing for Independence Day. Our contingent trained diligently for the 15th August March-Past Competition at the Mungpoo Public Ground, organized by the Mungpoo Games and Sports Association. We are proud to share that our school band and our former School Captain, Rudraksh Dahal, were selected to join the Master Band and serve as Parade Commander, respectively. Out of ten participating schools, our contingent emerged champions, bringing home a new band set as the prize. In sports, our football team displayed remarkable skill and determination in the Fr August Bossaers Memorial Football Cup, hosted by St Peter's Higher Secondary School, Gayaganga. Our team was given the privilege of entering directly into the Semi-Final, where they defeated St Mary's School, Pradhan Nagar, with a 2–1 score. In the thrilling final match against St Peter's HS School, our players fought valiantly in a closely contested game, finishing as Runners-Up with a score of 1–2. A proud moment came when Biswas Sharma of Class VII was named 'Man of the Match' for his outstanding performance.

INFANT JESUS SCHOOL, SITONG III**IRENIUS GURIA SJ**

We had a grand Independence Day celebration on 15th August along with the Parents Day. We had invited all the parents of our students, but other parents also joined us for the celebration. So it was a great encouragement for the school. The program was skilfully managed by the Staff. Our teaching staff prepared the children creatively for the program. Br. irenius Guria thanked all the teachers, parents and students for their presence and participation. Fr. Oshish blessed us with his graceful presence.



Admission to various courses at St Joseph's College for the academic session 2025-26 concluded on July 31st. The college has observed a significant decline in the number of students enrolling, particularly in traditional courses. Pure science courses have been most affected, showing a drastic drop in admissions this year. This downward trend is a cause for concern as only 50% of the total approved seats across all courses have been filled. The decreasing interest in traditional and pure science courses highlights the urgent need for the college to reassess and diversify its academic offerings. With changing market demands and career trends, students are increasingly favouring courses aligned with emerging industries and technological advancements.

The Induction Program for the newly admitted students of the academic session 2025-2026 was organized in two stages with the objective of familiarizing students with the academic environment and campus ethos. In the first stage, departmental-level programs were conducted in their respective departments. Here, the Heads of Departments and faculty members introduced the students to departmental facilities, academic curriculum, and the code of conduct. The second stage of the induction was held in Champion Hall as a combined session for all new entrants. The Principal, Vice-Principals, Dean of Students, and coordinators of various committees addressed the gathering. They highlighted the importance of classroom attendance, self-discipline, and active participation in both academic and co-curricular activities. The speakers also emphasized the holistic development of students by instilling values such as responsibility, respect, and commitment, not only within the campus but also in the wider community.

On August 14, the Placement and Career Guidance Cell of St. Joseph's College, in collaboration with the Darjeeling Toastmasters Club, organized a workshop on "Leadership" exclusively for the Students' Council. The session focused on building strong communication skills, emphasizing the importance of effective verbal and non-verbal techniques, including body language and proper stage presence.



Participants learned valuable strategies such as the dos and don'ts of public speaking, ways to develop a confident and impactful leadership style, and methods to keep listeners engaged through meaningful interaction.

St. Joseph's College was honoured with the award for the Best College on August 14, 2025, in the observance of the 12th Kanyashree Day, held at St. Joseph's Girls' School, Kurseong. The recognition was granted by the Government of West Bengal, Office of the Sub-Divisional Officer, Sadar, Darjeeling, as per Memo No. 59/DPMU/DJ/2025-2026 dated 08.08.2025. This award highlights the college's active participation and commitment towards promoting the objectives of the Kanyashree Prakalpa, a flagship initiative that empowers girl students through education and awareness.



The National Cadet Corps (NCC) cadets of St. Joseph's College achieved a remarkable distinction by participating in the 79th Independence Day Celebration organized by the Gorkhaland Territorial Administration, Department of Information and Cultural Affairs, on 15th August at Gorkha Stadium, Lebong. Among four colleges that participated in the ceremonial March Past, the contingent from St. Joseph's College displayed discipline, synchronization, and excellence in drill movements, ultimately winning the First Position.



On August 20, the Department of Nepali organized a program to observe Bhanu Smriti and Nepali Manyata Bhasa Diwas, commemorating the contributions of Adikavi Bhanu Bhakta Acharya and celebrating the recognition of the Nepali language. The key highlight of the celebration was the Inter-Departmental Nepali Speech Competition. Students from 14 Departments enthusiastically participated, showcasing their eloquence, critical insight, and respect for linguistic heritage.



The Students' Council of St. Joseph's College officially took oath in a solemn ceremony on August 21, held at the MR Hall. The event was graced by the Principal, who administered the oath to the newly elected members. The ceremony marked the formal induction of the council, entrusting them with responsibilities of leadership, discipline, and service to the institution. The Principal and Vice-Principal highlighted the importance of integrity, teamwork, and commitment in carrying out their duties and contributing positively to the college and community.

On 10th August, the Parish community marked the Jubilee of Priests with reverence and gratitude. The college community joined in the Eucharistic celebration. After the mass parishioners felicitated the priests and expressed heartfelt appreciation for their dedicated service and commitment. Adding to the spirit of communion, the parish actively participated in the Inter-Jesuit Parishes Football Tournament held in Sakyong on 16th August. Our parish team emerged as the runners-up after an exciting final against St. Joseph's Church, 5th Mile. The tournament was well organized and widely appreciated by all. Such activities along with other common programs could be continued to foster unity and collaboration among the parishes.



The Parish community joyfully celebrated the Jubilee of the Youth with a special Holy Mass on 17th August. The celebration continued in the afternoon with a vibrant cultural program and indoor games. It brought together the youth in an atmosphere of fellowship and joy. Fr. Patrick Pradhan SJ, the Parish Priest, emphasised that the youth are deeply valued and their presence is a cherished gift to the life of the Church.

ST. PETER'S, GAYAGANGA

BIPIN BARA SJ

The months of July and August at Gayaganga were filled with events that brought the community together in celebration and devotion. One of the key highlights was the Novena to St. Ignatius of Loyola, held across the Parish and local community. This period was marked by deep reflection and prayer, allowing the faithful to grow spiritually.

The Feast Day celebrations were from July 27th to 31st, celebrated at different units, viz. the Parish, Primary School, and High School, making it a momentous occasion for all.



On July 30th, Rt. Rev. Bishop Paul Simick, Bishop of Bagdogra, celebrated Mass at the High School and witnessed a captivating cultural program.

On July 31st, we celebrated the feast at noon with the clergy and religious of our neighbourhood, freeing ourselves for the historic event in the evening. On 9th August, the Jesuit Pre-novices engaged in a friendly football match against the Canisius hostellers. After the match, the Pre novices explored the Gayaganga mission, strengthening their connection with the community.

On August 10th, our Parish hosted the National Youth Sunday which brought together youth from across the Bagdogra Diocese. The event culminated in a Holy Eucharist presided over by Rt. Rev. Bishop Paul Simick, providing a wonderful platform for the youth to showcase their talents and unite in faith. On August 15th, we celebrated both India's 79th Independence Day and the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, blending national pride with religious reverence in a truly special observance.

The Jesuit community took a well-deserved break on Aug. 16th, spending a day in Rajganj for faith-sharing and reflection.



St. Peter's High School organized the Bossaers Football Tournament, on Aug. 22-23, for all the Catholic institutions. St Joseph's School, Mungpoo joined the event for the first time and walked away with the runners-up trophy, leaving the winner's cup to St Peter's. The Parish too organized a one-day tournament for the youth of the parish on 24th August.

Fr. George P.M. represented the community at the historic event in Matigara, on 31st July, marking the birth of Darjeeling-Nepal Province.

A documentary on the ill effects of drugs was shown to the students of Classes 7 to 12 on 1 August, raising their awareness to make healthy decisions for a happy life. On 2 August, a Mental Health Wellness Camp was organized for the students of Classes 9 and 10.



In the joint-school Mental Math Contest organized by Nepal Don Bosco School, Thecho, on 5 August, our students showcased exceptional skills and secured the first position, bringing pride to the school.



A Nepali Elocution Contest was organized on 8 August for the students of Classes 1 to 9; the participants delivered powerful speeches with clarity and confidence, impressing both the judges and the audience.

Students of Class 10 went on a one-day educational tour to Kirtipur (a historic place), including visits to the B.P. Koirala Center for Science and Technology and the Science Museum, on 12 August. The tour aimed to provide hands-on educational exposure and enhance historical, scientific, and technological knowledge.

Students of Classes 4 to 6 took part in the Nepali Gaun Khane Katha (Riddle-Telling) Contest held in the school auditorium on 15 August. The goal of this contest was to preserve and promote the traditional Nepali art of riddle-telling. Similarly, students of Classes 4 and 5 participated in a joint-school one-act play at St. Mary's School, Jawalakhel (the host school) on 18 August. This event aimed to promote creative expression and performance in the Nepali language.

To encourage artistic expression and creativity, an Inter-Team Art Competition for students of Classes 7 to 10 was organized in the school on 19 August.

Students from Class 12 took part in an inter-school Quiz Contest at St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel, on 20 August. Our team represented the school with confidence and performed well in a competitive environment.



Family Evenings were organized for the students of classes 8 and 7 on Aug. 22 and 24, respectively. The students showcased their creative talents and gave impressive performances with enthusiasm and confidence.

As a final step toward the restoration of the earthquake-damaged Xavier Hall, the quotation bid opening was officially held in the Principal's office on 25 August. After receiving the consultant's evaluation, the contractor will be finalized.

As part of the 75 Years Celebration, the SXG Family demonstrated its commitment to social responsibility by handing over educational materials to Siddheshwor School in Godavari on 25 August. This initiative is aimed to support community education and foster stronger ties with local institutions. By donating essential learning resources, the SXG community reinforced its core values of compassion, generosity, and community support, marking the occasion with meaningful action that extended beyond the school's walls.

Our teachers attended a workshop on Educational Leadership given by Dr Tilak K.C. from Netherlands. 11th August marked a historic milestone for Gandhi Ashram School, Kalimpong. With deep joy and gratitude, our Provincial, Fr Shajumon, blessed and officially inaugurated our long-awaited Wegener Auditorium. The day was filled with music and celebration as our school orchestra performed for a delighted audience of students, parents, and alumni. Fr Provincial addressed the staff after the lunch and celebrated Eucharist for the Kalimpong Jesuit community in the evening.



We celebrated the 79th Independence Day. Fr Jayantilal Patel the Socius at Manresa Jesuit Novitiate was the chief guest on the occasion. After the celebration the staff, students and the Alumni went to the grave of Fr Edward McGuire on his 20th death anniversary and paid homage to him. Fr Jayantilal Patel conducted a prayer service at the grave. At the gracious invitation of the Sikkim High Court, the Gandhi Ashram School Orchestra had the honour of performing on 15th August at the Sikkim Judicial Academy auditorium. Our presentation of patriotic songs, filled with spirit and emotion, was warmly received and appreciated by all, especially by the Hon'ble Chief Justice of the Sikkim High Court. On 26 August we welcomed three volunteers from Germany who will be with us for 10 months.

The past four months have been a time of grace and thanksgiving for our parish community, filled with meaningful celebrations, novenas, and gatherings of faith. The month of May began on a note of joy as we celebrated the Closing Ceremony of the Silver Jubilee of our Church. The solemn Holy Mass was presided over by Bishop Stephen Lepcha, who joined us in offering thanks for 25 years of God's blessings and guidance. It was a moment of gratitude for the faith journey of our parish, bringing together parishioners in unity and prayer.

In June, devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus was strengthened through the Novena prayers that prepared us for the Feast Day. The Feast Day Mass was celebrated with reverence, and house blessings were carried out during the month, reminding families of God's protection and presence in their homes.

The month of July was dedicated to St. Ignatius of Loyola. The faithful actively participated in the Novena and the Feast Day Mass, drawing inspiration from the life of the saint. July also witnessed a significant event – the Provincial's Visit. He celebrated the Holy Mass, interacted warmly with the parishioners, and was felicitated as the first Provincial of Darjeeling-Nepal Province, an occasion of pride and thanksgiving for the parish community.



August was a spiritually enriching month, beginning with the Feast of St. John Mary Vianney and the Jubilee of Priests. Our Parish Priest highlighted the saint's exemplary life of dedication and sacrifice, and special prayers were offered for vocations to the priesthood. Towards the end of the month, we celebrated the Novena to St. Monica, which concluded with the Feast Day on 27th August. The day included a recollection for the faithful, a solemn Mass, a short felicitation and cultural program, followed by a fellowship lunch that brought the parish family together in joy.

Through these months, our parish experienced a deepening of faith, unity, and a renewed sense of mission as a community of Christ's disciples.



MANRESA JESUIT NOVITIATE, KALIMPONG

NOVICE ANIMESH EKKA

The month of July was filled with great joy and jubilation. In preparation for the feast of St. Ignatius, we journeyed with our founder and reflected on his life through the nine-day novena prayer from 21st to 29th July. These days of prayer helped us renew our hearts and grow deeper in love and devotion to St Ignatius. The climax of the preparation was on 29th July, a day of recollection led by Fr. Xavier on the theme "All I do for the glory of God." It was indeed a meaningful time to reflect on our motivation and intention behind every act.

Since the province was scheduled to gather in Matigara on 31st July, we celebrated the feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola in our community on the 30th. It was truly a colourful day. The celebration began with the community gathering around the altar for the solemn Mass, celebrated by Fr. Patel, the Socius. To add to the joy, we played football, but the highlight of the day was the cultural program. To our delight, Fr. Santy and Br. Gilbert joined us for lunch.

On the same day, due to the possibility of landslides, we travelled to Matigara to celebrate the feast and the province unification event. It was indeed a red-letter day for the province, as Darjeeling and Nepal merged to become one: On this historical day, we (Novices) had the privilege of making the Eucharistic celebration meaningful with our melodious singing. We remain indebted to Br. Gabriel, Sr. Rebecca, Br. Gilbert, and Fr. Kalyan for their outstanding support.

August 15th was a day of triple celebration: the Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady, the 79th Indian Independence Day, and the death anniversary of our beloved Fr McGuire. The solemn Mass was celebrated by the Novice Master, after which the national flag was hoisted by Sr. Priya MSMI. Thought-provoking speeches were delivered by Novice Aman (PAT) and Novice Cruz (CEN). We also prayed for the repose of the soul of Fr McGuire. The lively cultural program of Kalimpong at the Mela Ground was truly a feast to the eyes.

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, MAITIGHAR

THOMAS AUGUSTINE SJ

The months of July and August at St. Xavier's College, Maitighar, were marked by meaningful events that carried forward the Ignatian spirit and reminded the community that learning is as much about the heart as it is about the mind.

From July 25 to 31, the College observed Ignatius Week, beginning with the Novena prayer and concluding with the Feast of St. Ignatius. This year's theme, "Sowing the Seeds of Hope," came alive in every corner of the campus. The most cherished day of the week was "A Day with People", when students and faculty stepped outside the campus to walk alongside their communities.

They visited rural schools, old age homes, orphanages, and homes for persons with disabilities, spending time with people they do not often encounter in daily life. These encounters offered students a glimpse into different realities and deepened their sense of empathy and service. Small acts of kindness and gestures of compassion became living lessons of hope, reflecting the Ignatian spirit of unity and inclusivity.

August brought fresh energy with SQC-UDAAN, the College's vibrant student club that supports the holistic growth of the students. Each committee brought forward initiatives that blended creativity, learning, and service.



St Ignatius Day with Community School Students



Eye Camp in Collaboration with Alumni



SXC Students in the Philippines



Talent Hunt 2025, Winners

The Social Outreach Committee, in partnership with Himal Hospital, organized a successful Blood Donation Program on August 20. Students and faculty responded generously, embodying the College's call to be "men and women for others." The Ecosphere Committee took students beyond classrooms to the Centre for Energy and Environment Nepal (CEEN) on August 22. The visit opened conversations on sustainability, climate action, and the role of youth in shaping an environmentally conscious future.

Looking forward, UbuCon Asia 2025 will be hosted by St. Xavier's College. This international gathering of Ubuntu and Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) enthusiasts will bring together engineers, researchers, creators, and entrepreneurs from across Asia. For the College, it is not just another event but a humble step into a larger community of collaboration and innovation.

ST. XAVIER'S SHOOL, SIRAHA

ARUL SELVAM SJ

The end of July marked a historic milestone for the newly formed Darjeeling-Nepal (DAN) Province, as the unification of the Nepal Region and the Darjeeling Province, two Jesuit units, was officially celebrated on July 31, 2025, the Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola. To witness this significant occasion, Fr. Arul Selvam traveled to Matigara while Fr. Anil remained in Madhesh Pradesh to commemorate the feast day with the school community. Upon Fr. Arul's return, the Jesuit community in Siraha warmly invited the Sisters of the Sacred Heart (SSH), collaborators in the Madhesh mission, along with members of nearby religious communities. For the first time, the CST Fathers and the Carmelite Sisters (CMC) from the newly established school in Bardibas, Madhesh Pradesh (approximately 50 kilometers from Zeromile), joined the celebration.



Despite the intense humidity typical of the July-August season, the students of St. Xavier's School, Siraha remained enthusiastic and committed, balancing their preparations for the feast day with revision for their upcoming first-term examinations. The celebration marked a proud and joyful occasion for the entire school community. Our youngest learners, from Nursery to Upper Kindergarten (UKG), captivated the audience with a vibrant program of songs, dances, and a skit portraying the life of St. Ignatius of Loyola, his spiritual transformation, and the founding of the Society of Jesus. The narrative skit, gracefully performed by UKG students and skillfully directed and narrated by Sister Sosan, SSH, was particularly moving. It provided a meaningful introduction to St. Ignatius, the Jesuit tradition, and the broader mission of the Society of Jesus. This was especially valuable for students and the local community, many of whom are encountering the Jesuit legacy for the first time, as there is no Catholic presence in the region.

At the conclusion of the program, students and teachers were warmly thanked for their enthusiasm and dedication in making the day so special. The celebration concluded with a festive fellowship meal shared among school staff and invited guests.

On August 3, St. Xavier's School, Siraha began its first-term examinations, followed by a week-long break for students. During this period, teachers focused on evaluating exam papers and preparing report cards. Once their duties were completed, the staff enjoyed a few well-earned days of rest.

The school hosted its First Term Report Card Day on Saturday, August 16, and regular classes resumed the following Monday, marking the beginning of the Second Term.

ST. PAUL'S PARISH, KURSEONG

PETER JONG LEPCHA SJ

On 3rd August, the feast of St Ignatius of Loyola was celebrated by the parishioners with the Holy Mass followed by the felicitations to the priests. Provincial had his visitation to Kurseong communities from 8th to 10th. He concluded his visitation with the pastoral visit to the parish where he offered holy mass for the faithful and had a meeting with them thereafter.



On 24th under the leadership of Fr. Roshan Minj, SJ the youth of the parish organized a football match for babas (men) of the parish. Mr Franklin Mukhia a renowned musician and singer was invited as the Chief Guest and Mr Crispin Chettri the Head Coach of Indian National Women's Team was invited for the same as the Guest of Honour. Crispin was felicitated on this occasion.

The months of July and August were very special for us as they were filled with gatherings, celebrations, and community programs that brought joy, learning, and togetherness. On 26 July, three scholastics—Robin (DEL), Jeyaraj (DAN), and Ranjit (RAN)—visited Kamal Niwas. Other scholastics also joined, and together we shared a joyful evening filled with dance and happiness. On 27 July, Mr. Xavier and his wife from the Xavier Network visited NJSI. They conducted staff training, taught guitar, and shared songs for fieldwork. Their visit was inspiring and brought much joy to everyone.

On 31 July, we celebrated the Feast of St. Ignatius with our staff at NJSI. Everyone took part in the responsibilities, making the event meaningful. In the evening, valley Jesuits, priests, and nuns joined the celebration. With the efforts of fathers and brothers, the program went smoothly and became truly memorable. On 2 August, after a long time, we had a community meeting where the discussion focused on following the rules and regulations of the Jesuit Society. Some members felt the rules were not equally followed and needed better attention. On 6 August, Brother Niroj began his third semester classes after successfully completing the second semester. On 24 August, Father Mathew travelled to Jhapa for one week to take part in a jubilee celebration. Altogether, the months of July and August were filled with joy, learning, and community spirit. These events strengthened our bonds and gave us new energy for our mission.

On August 01, Parent-Teacher Meeting for Class 4 was organized. The parents were reminded about the general rules of the school, including the internal and external evaluation system. A session on Effective Parenting was facilitated by the school counsellor Mr. Ram Hari Shrestha. After the formal programme in the school hall, the parents proceeded to different allocated classrooms for individual interactions with the subject teachers.

On August 8, the St. Xavier's Jawalakhel Alumni conducted a Career Counselling session for Class 10 students, where students were encouraged to explore academic and career related goals.



On August 12, Jesuit Fathers from different institutions, parents' representatives, school captains, staff members alumni representatives together planted 75 saplings in the school premises to mark the ongoing 75th Year Celebration of St. Xavier's in Nepal. It was also an action for caring for the Common Home.



From August 10 to 12, St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel organized a 3-day training for 17 teachers from different schools on Student Quality Circle Facilitators' Skills Training in collaboration with Quest Nepal.

Inter-House One-Act Play Competition took place in the school hall on August 14, wherein the participants from Grade 4 and Grade 5 exhibited their bodily-kinesthetic intelligence, particularly acting skills. The one-act play staged by Blue House entitled 'Greed Invites Destruction' won the competition. The hard work, team work, creativity, commitment amongst the participants and House moderators and members were very much evident in the plays staged.

On August 15, Class 3 Parent Teacher Meeting (PTM) was organized, wherein an alumnus Mr. Pradip Bajracharya engaged the parents with his session on smart parenting. The goal of the PTM is to strengthen the bond between school and the parents. On the same day, students from Classes 6 to 10 participated in a Mock Parliament Election, experiencing firsthand the responsibilities and processes of democratic election.



On August 17, school organized the Academic Excellence Felicitation Programme, wherein the GPA achievers were honored for their excellent academic results in the Secondary Education Examination (SEE) 2024-2025.

On August 18, the participants from Blue House had an opportunity to participate in the Joint School Nepali One-Act Play at St. Mary's School, Jawalakhel. The play staged was very well received by the audience.



Class 12 students organized Joint School Quiz Contest for the students of Classes 11 and 12 from Joint School on August 20, where participants engaged in a lively display of knowledge across diverse fields.

On August 22, the Parent-Teacher Meetings was held for the parents of Class 2, wherein the parents had an opportunity to re-orient themselves on general rules of the school and reflect on the smart parenting as shared by our alumnus Mr. Pradip Bajracharya.

Friends of Zoo club adopted Barking Deer and Himalayan Monal from the central Zoo and handed over the cash enough to meet the expenses of those animals for a year. Amount was contributed by the students, a noble action, caring for our common Home and a great sense of social responsibility for the creation.

COMMUNITY:

As a Community Building exercise, the community went for faith sharing to Chandragiri, one of the hill stations, on 8th Aug. It turned out to be a sponsored outing by one of our generous parents. Fr. Ajay is operated on for Gallbladder Stone at Sumeru city hospital on Aug 28. We began community recreation for 30 minutes after dinner by playing cards called 'O Hell'. This activity keeps the community relaxed and united as 'Friends in the Lord.'

HRDRC, SANEPA

JUEL KISPOTTA SJ

The Region Curia office bearers laid down their responsibilities on the 30th of July. After going for the Darjeeling-Nepal unification celebration at the end of July in Matigara, Fr. Amrit proceeded to Sikkim for his much-awaited home visit. During this time of vacation, he lost his youngest sister-in-law. Frs. Juel remained a few more days in Matigara to help out with the Catalogue 2026, and returned to the community on 6 August.

Fr. Roy reached Sanepa a day earlier. In the absence of two community members, Fr. Peter from Tipling came down for the account and personal works. Fr. Ayar also came to complete the closing of the Pokhara accounts. Both stayed about a week. Fr. Roy Sebastian joined Fr. Paul K.C. in visiting Changli and Pokhara. After his return, he flew to Delhi on 23 August. Fr. Thomas handed over his charge as the Director of SXSSC, Jawalakhel, to the incoming new Director, Fr. Juel Kispotta, on 25 August. He moved out of the community for a Spirituality course in Lonavala, Pune, on August 28. For some time, the HRDRC, Sanepa house will have only one Jesuit member with its extended communities of Pokhara and Tipling.

ST. XAVIER'S SOCIAL SERVICE CENTER (SXSSC)

MS. PRATIKSHYA DHAKAL

On July 31, 2025, students from St. Xavier's Social Service Center (SXSSC), Aruna Bhawan, and Gafney Bhawan joyfully celebrated the feast of St. Ignatius. August was a vibrant month filled with festivities and activities, including outdoor and indoor games.



On August 3, SXSSC received its first terminal examination report cards, showing commendable academic performance. The next day, student Chandra Rana was reunited with his family. A heartfelt Rakshya Bandhan celebration was held on August 9, when sisters from Aruna Bhawan visited SXSSC. The month also included birthday celebrations for student Salina Tamang and staff member Silbanti Murmu. Volunteers began assisting with tutoring in various subjects at Aruna Bhawan as part of their fieldwork. On August 16, Fr. Boniface Tigga SJ, principal of St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel, visited Aruna Bhawan. He led a brief session on personal development and memory enhancement and gave an inspiring talk on problem-solving. Krishna Janmashtami was also celebrated that day, emphasizing love and joy. The center welcomed Pal Polger, a friendly volunteer from Hungary staying at Gafney Bhawan, who provided stationery. On August 17, a meeting with Mahalaxmi School discussed student education, and the school's released results confirmed that SXSSC students had performed well overall.

The school reopened after the rainy holidays, though Pokhara continued to experience heavy rainfall during this time. The downpour caused minor landslides in some areas and even damaged a portion of the crops. Several children were unable to attend school regularly because of the rains. Yet when classes resumed, the students returned with great excitement. They were delighted to see their friends again, eager to share new stories from the holidays. Many expressed how much they had missed the daily puzzle activities, which remain one of their favourite forms of learning.

The spirit of Teej was also visible throughout the city with women in red Saris adding colour and joy to the streets. Parents of SBK students organized a Teej celebration to support and uplift mothers emotionally and spiritually. For many of them, raising a special child often carries social challenges, as society sometimes looks down upon them. The celebration became a beautiful opportunity for mothers to share both their joys and struggles, creating a space of mutual encouragement and strength. Meanwhile, the school staff continued their regular home visits to gain a deeper understanding of each student's family background. These visits have proven valuable, helping teachers gain deeper insight into the lives and behavior of the children.





At the parish, pastoral ministry continued smoothly under the guidance of the assistant parish priest, who managed responsibilities with dedication despite a busy schedule. The feast of St. John Mary Vianney, patron of priests, was celebrated with devotion; religious communities conveyed their heartfelt wishes to all the priests present. In the absence of the Jesuit fathers in Pokhara, the Pilar Fathers took care of the spiritual needs of the parish. The parishioners rejoiced at the installation of a statue of St. Anna, its patron saint, on the church wall. Sr. Martha took the initiative to gather parishioners and religious, especially mothers for a simple yet joyful meal.

Fr. Ayar traveled to Kathmandu to attend to a few essential things. Upon his return, he was engaged in giving a triduum talks to the Missionaries of Charity Sisters. In this month, several guests visited Pokhara, especially Fr. Paul K.C. and Fr. Roy from Kathmandu and a few volunteers from St. Xavier's School, Sadakbari.

GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH, TIPLING

PETER CHETTRI SJ

The Parish joyfully began preparations for the Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola with a novena. We are grateful to note that many parishioners participated in the prayers and spiritual gatherings with great devotion. A special Cultural Program and festive meal had been arranged for all parishioners on the Feast Day. However, during the middle of the mass, we received the sad news of the passing of Mingmar Tamang, an elderly woman from Namsa. As a mark of respect and in solidarity with the grieving family, Parish Priest made the difficult but appropriate decision to cancel the planned program. After the mass parishioners had a festive meal and hurried to meet the grieving family.

A funeral mass was conducted the same day at 11 a.m. with many parishioners in attendance to offer prayers and support. That evening, we were saddened once again by the news of the death of another elderly woman Dhammaya Tamang in Lapdung. The following day, the funeral mass was celebrated at her residence, followed by the cremation on the hill. Despite heavy rainfall and challenging conditions with many leaches along the path, many faithful accompanied the procession to offer their respect.

At the request of Fr. James Britto, Fr. Norbert, along with Terrance Ghale travelled to Ghatlang to celebrate mass and visit the faithful. On the way he also visited the Catholic communities in Goljung and Sompang, where he met and encouraged the families in their faith.



The Parish Priest hosted a special Momo Party for the youth of the parish. It was a time of joy and fellowship, much appreciated by all. In the same week, a fun gathering and a meal were organized for the Crusaders of Virgin (Crus Vir) Children, who spent quality time together in faith and friendship.

We also held our monthly Youth meeting, where we discussed several plans and upcoming events. At present, the youth are actively preparing a cultural program to represent our parish in the upcoming National Youth Program in Chitwan. After the Ropa holiday schools are reopened on August 11. Regular classes and morning tuition are running in full swing.

PRABHU JISU RESIDENCE, MATIGARA

BASIL TOPPO SJ

The community hosted lunch for the local clergy and religious on the feast of St Ignatius Loyola. About a hundred, including Bishop Paul Simick, joined the community for a short prayer and lunch in the Maitri Hall.



The second half of the August, the community members were busy making all the arrangements for the inaugural function of the newly decreed Darjeeling-Nepal Province. On the 31 July, about 145 Jesuits attended the historical event. We were happy to have had Frs Vernon D’Cunah, Stanley D’Souza (POSA), Soosai Mani (DEL), Melvil Pereira (KOH) and Vimal Kishore (PAT) for the occasion.

The senior Fathers from Inigo Bhavan (Frs. Giles, Cherian Padiyara, Freddy Baraik and Boniface Joseph) had a short outing to the Jesuit Community, North Bengal St Xavier’s College, Rajganj. It was a maiden visit for Fr Giles after the construction of the college building. Frs Cherian Padiyara and Freddy Baraik were happy to see the institution grow for which they have toiled much. Fr. Cheiran Padiyara was the first Principal of the College, and Fr Freddy Baraik was the first Superior and the Vice Principal of the College. Fr Boniface Joseph left for home visit on the 25th of August.

PREMANJALI JESUIT PRE-NOVITIATE

VINAY LAKRA SJ

The months of July and August were filled with enthusiasm, learning, and community life. July began with friendly matches in football, volleyball, and basketball which helped the boys’ bond and build teamwork. On 3rd July, the boys had their first orientation with Prof. Pavanbir, a staff of North Bengal St. Xavier’s College, Rajganj, who guided them in starting this journey with a clear mind and heart. Their weekly ministries began on 5th July. Special evening classes were held on the 7th and 8th of July by Prof. Pavanbir. She will be engaging the Pre-Novices with their conversational skills twice a month.

On 6th July, three boys received the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Peter’s Church, Gayaganga. We also enjoyed a movie outing on 10th July and a fun Recreation Night on 12th July, where the boys performed a short, humorous drama. On 13th July, we visited the Curia to wish Fr. Shajumon on his birthday. Later in the month, we had sessions on good habits by Fr Leo and welcomed Fr Anuranjan into our community on 24th July. The month of July ended with a recollection and the celebration of the Feast of St Ignatius.



August continued with regular academic classes. On the 9th and 15th, we visited Gayaganga and Rajganj communities, spending time visiting and learning about the missions and playing football with the hostellers. On the 15th of August, we celebrated the Feast of the Assumption and Independence Day with flag hoisting. We sincerely thank Gayaganga and Rajganj Jesuit communities for their welcome and hospitality.



On 10th of August, 18 of our youth participated in the Diocesan Youth Sunday, organized at St Peter's Church, Gayaganga. The feast of the Assumption of our Lady and Independence Day were celebrated on 15th Aug. Immediately after Mass, Mr Calude Minj, President of the Catholic Sabha, hoisted the national flag and gave a short speech. Sara Kandulna recited a poem on Independence day.

Mid-month, several boys fell ill due to the weather change. One was hospitalized but thankfully recovered soon. Prof. Pavanbir conducted the evening classes on the 18th and 19th of August. One of the Pre-Novices decided to return home during the third week. Currently, all the boys are focused on their studies and daily responsibilities. They are progressing steadily in their journey of formation.

PRABHU JISU GIRJA, MATIGARA

JOHN TIGGA SJ

To celebrate the feast of St Ignatius, the Parish had a Novena of St Ignatius from 22nd to 30th July. Thanks to Frs Kalyan Tirkey, Edward Arockiya Raj, Philemon Tirkey, Alex Beck, Basil Toppo and Anuranjan Ekka who gave talks on different themes on the life of St Ignatius. The Parish celebrated the feast on 27th. There was only one mass, in which the parishioners welcomed the Jesuits. The main Celebrant was Fr Basil Toppo. During Mass missionaries like Frs A. Bossaers, C. Durt, J. Brennan, A. Milledge, Mike Hawkins, W. Bourke, J. McCabe, Brs. Bob, Anil Tirkey, Stan Dukpa and others who toiled tirelessly in the fields of pastoral, educational and social, were remembered and prayed for. Thanks to Premanjali Brothers for their devotional singing. After Mass, there was a felicitation of Jesuits followed by breakfast to all the parishioners. Thanks to all the Jesuits for participating in the parish celebration.



LOYOLA COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, NAMCHI

FRANCIS GEORGE SJ

The inauguration and induction programme for the 1st and 3rd semester students took place on 1st, 2nd and 4th August 2025. Mr. P.K. Sharma, Joint Director District Education Office, Namchi, an alumnus of our college was the Chief Guest who exhorted our students to 'update and upgrade teaching skills. As part of the induction programmed, Fr. Lawrence Maniyar, SJ conducted a session on Jesuit Education, Dr. Sandhya Rai on Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm and waste management and Ms. Julie Chhetri on Jesuit Jargons for the staff and students. Fr Daniel Bara gave a talk on Synodal Church to the clergy of South west Deanery of Sikkim on 4th August as part of the celebration of the feast of St. John Mary Vianey. Fr. Francis George was invited by the Director of National Council for Assessment and Accreditation Council to participate in a workshop on Maturity Based Graded Level, Preliminary consultation with Principals of Affiliated and Autonomous Colleges on 11th and 12th August 2025 at NAAC, Bangalore and participated in it.

Independence Day 2025 was celebrated with March Past Competition, Patriotic song and dance and a speech by students. The Chief Guest Fr. Lawrence Maniyar, SJ gave a scholarly Independence Day message to the staff and students. Pragati Tamang and Ashish Chettri participated in the preliminary quiz competition of Red Ribbon Club of Sikkim online, on 18th August 2025, to spread awareness among youth about AIDS and ill effects of substance abuse.

We had a series of blessings: on 6th July, 'Patrizia Hostel for girls' by Fr Devan, 'extension of Xavier Hostel for boys' by Fr John Kennedy and on 13th July, 'the Centralized Mess' by Fr Lalit Tirkey. After the blessings of the centralized mess for the hostels, new students, parents and staff were given lunch in the expanded canteen.

Admissions are better than last year. New sessions for Arts and Commerce have begun; practical exams for Lab-based departments are still going on. On 16th August, 26 AICUFers visited the home for the aged run by the MC Sisters at Assam More, Jalpaiguri.

**XAVIER NIWAS:**

On 30th June, Dennis Soosai gave a day-long orientation program, "Discovering Self and Classroom Management", to the Teachers of St. Xavier's School, Rupnagar (Ropar), Punjab; and on 5 - 6 July, a Recollection for the Junior Sisters of DSA, Jalpaiguri Province; on 16 - 17 August, a seminar for youth of Mogradangi Parish on "Responsibilities of Youth in Building the church". On 15th August, Premanjali pre-novices played football, volleyball and basketball matches with the hostellers. On 16th of August, Gayaganga community came for the faith sharing.

Divyanandam was one of the resource persons at St Xavier's Institute of Education, Mumbai, on 17th July, on the topic "Mathematics pedagogy".

ST. IGNATIUS CHURCH:

On August 24, a charismatic recollection was led by Fr. Sijo John and Sr Mary Neelam for the parishioners from 9 A.M. to 3 P.M. The parishioners enjoyed this spiritual renewal day and went home physically relaxed and spiritually enriched. This month, the Hayden Hall outreach group came twice for their meetings. Fr Tek Paudel from HLDRC, Siliguri, had a day long program for the people.

LOYOLA HIGH SCHOOL:

The school was busy with academic and extracurricular activities. The school started this month with two goals: 1. to be ready for the upcoming second term exam, and 2. to be ready for the August 15 celebration. Both the teachers and students worked diligently and celebrated Independence Day with joy and patriotic pride. As the month comes to an end, the teachers are busy correcting papers for Result Day, and the students are busy rehearsing for Teachers' Day.

Having got into the rhythm of the Juniorate, we are always engaged in various activities. In the week preceding the feast of St Ignatius, we prepared ourselves within and without through novenas, choir practices, and the like. On 30th we had a friendly football match with the junior college students of Holy Family School where we were defeated but had good time with the school students over a cup of tea. On 31st July morning, Fr Dean presided at the Holy Mass for the community and the infirmary fathers and brothers. The choir was excellent. In the evening, we had a grand celebration with the invited guests, where the clergy, religious and lay collaborators witnessed the joy in the community. We began August with the movie 'Silence'. The movie was screened for the juniors, pre novices and religious sisters from our neighbouring communities. It was faith-shattering yet thought-provoking and inspiring. On 15th August, we celebrated the feast of 'The Assumption of our Lady' where Fr. Sean, minister of the juniors, gave a sweet and short homily: three qualities we can learn from Mary (a) Bold 'Yes' (b) Faithful discipleship and (c) Unshaken perseverance till her assumption and Independence Day added more colour to the day.



The Vedrunas sisters hosted the ceremony beautifully with the songs and speeches. We saluted our National Flag and sang Our National Anthem with pride. The juniors had their mid-term exams from 18th -21st August followed by a 5-day course on “Psycho-Spiritual Integration” by Fr Dudley S.J of Bombay Province.

VIDYAJYOTI, DELHI

ARIF BECK SJ

The month of July was marked by abundant graces and blessings. A significant moment in our history unfolded as Darjeeling and Nepal came together to form a single province, a milestone that brought much hope and unity to our members away from the region. August, too, was filled with God's grace and an abundance of blessings. We celebrated Independence Day on the campus with joy and reverence. On August 10th, we commemorated International Indigenous Day with a grand celebration. The event was attended by many people from various tribes and regions, making it a vibrant and enriching gathering.

Sch. Reuell was invited by the Bareilly Diocesan Youth commission to conduct a two day training program for its Animators and youth leaders numbering 126 participants. He was felicitated by Rt. Rv. Bp Ignatius D`Souza, the Chairman of the CCBI commission for youth. A report of the same was circulated by Catholic connect which is accessible here:

<https://catholicconnect.in/news/leadership-training-programme-empowers-youth-in-bareilly>

On the birthday of Fr. Joe Victor, the scholastics visited to offer their wishes, making it a truly grace-filled occasion. Throughout the month, several programmes were held in the college, enriching our community life. On August 22nd, in response to the Pope’s call, we observed a day of prayer and fasting for global peace, a solemn and meaningful gesture of solidarity and hope.

COLOMBIERE CENTER, MICHIGAN, USA

LEO CACHAT SJ

Dear Peter and all in the United Darjeeling Nepal Province,

I have been praying this novena with all of you each day. I am now at Colombiere Center and I am not the only Darjeeling Nepal Province Jesuit here. I am the only one living, but Jim Chambers, Bruno Karpinski, Cornelius Curtin, and John Blanchard are buried here. I am in great appreciation of the creativity and Jesuit spirit of our men at Vidya Jyoti, who gave birth to this novena.

My mission that our Provincial gave me when missioning me here is to pray for the Church and Society. For me, that includes, in a very special way, the Church in Darjeeling and Nepal and the Society of Jesus in Darjeeling and Nepal. My priestly studies were in Kurseong, and my formation was there. There was a time when Nepal was slowly becoming independent of Patna, and we youngsters talked about becoming one with Darjeeling. In God’s own time, it has happened. For those of you I know personally in Darjeeling and Nepal I pray, but also those who have joined us since 2002 I pray.

Once again, Peter, thank you for sending me the novena daily so that I can pray with and for all of you.

LIVING JESUIT LEGACY (FORMER JESUITS)

Mr Johnny Joseph: Jesuit from 1982-1988

From 1982 to 1984, I, Johnny Joseph, as a young boy of 15, I had the privilege of being a candidate at JTI, Darjeeling, where I pursued my Class XI–XII studies. This was followed by my time as a Novice in the Society of Jesus from 1984 to 1986 at Dhyan Ashram. I then moved into the enriching phases of Juniorate and Regency from 1987 to 1988. These formative years were deeply transformative, where I absorbed the richness of Ignatian Spirituality and developed a love for music, learnt the English language, different sports and games, and various other life skills. I was deeply influenced by the remarkable mentors such as Fr. Cherian Nampeli, Fr. Joe Brennan, Fr. Alred Gomes, and Fr. Timir Singha. Their lives and dedication left an enduring impact on me.

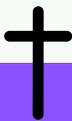


Since 1988, I have strived to live out the values I embraced during those years. During my years of teaching in schools, I have strived to impart both the values and knowledge I have acquired from Society to the students I have had the privilege to work with.

Further, I have been actively involved (along with my wife Irene Johnny) in church activities, especially by conducting the choir during Sunday Mass, and by engaging in social work—both through parish initiatives and in our personal capacity. My wife worked as a secretary in a tea broking company based in Siliguri for 36 years. In the past, she had the privilege of serving as the Secretary to Fr. Brennan at Shanti Sadan. We have been blessed with two daughters. Our elder daughter, Elizabeth, is married and has a son. Since 2019, her family has been settled in Toronto, Canada. Our younger daughter, Anjalina, is based in Bangalore, where she works as a Financial Analyst. I have been associated with the Salesians since 2011 and currently working as the Office Secretary at Salesian College, Siliguri.

I remain ever grateful to the Darjeeling Province of the Society of Jesus for shaping my heart, mind, and spirit during this pivotal chapter of my life.

Johnny Joseph
Debidanga, Champasari
Siliguri
Mob: 9002302122



REST IN PEACE

- **Fr. Bernard Murmu (DUM 76/56)** died on 30.07.2025, at Kalidanga, Jharkand.
- **Fr Simon Xess (MAP 92/71)** died on 25.08.2025, at Ambikapur.
- **Mr Cyril George (59)**, Brother of Fr Vincent George, died on 05.08.2025
- **Mrs Christina Rai (55)**, Sister-in-Law of Fr Amrit Rai, died on 20.08.2025

OURS IN PUBLICATION:

1. Dinoli, S., & Dhivviyanandam, I. Pebbling Number On Corona Graph Using Complete Graphs. About the Institution, 22.
2. Lourdasamy, A., R. Laxmi Pria, and I. Dhivviyanandam. "2-Target t-pebbling number of path-derived graphs." <https://doi.org/10.1051/ro/2025111>

NEWSLETTER MASTHEAD



DAN Province sincerely expresses its gratitude to **Fr. David Ekka** for his remarkable creativity and artistic excellence in designing the newsletter masthead. He shares the inspiration behind his design below.



- The concept is limited to a few lines and colors and fewer images. The techniques guide the viewer's eye, create a focal point, and use elements like contrast, color, scale, and framing to make a specific part of the image stand out.
- Focusing on plucking tea leaves, the bruised hands and sweat of a person highlight the vulnerability of the family and community in general. The plucking hands portray the socio-economic culture condition of the deprived group in hills and plains.
- Another side sketch of carrying a basket describes the agrarian community, which is the majority in plains and hills.
- The mountain ranges symbolize the large province boundaries and are common for both the units.

PRAYER FOR THE NEW DARJEELING-NEPAL JESUIT PROVINCE

JOSH NIROLA

FORMER JESUIT (1984-93)

O Glorious St. Ignatius,
Founder of the Society of Jesus and guide of souls,
we come before you with joyful hearts
as we celebrate the birth of this
new Province of Darjeeling/Nepal

You, who taught us to seek God in all things,
bless our brothers in this fledgling mission.
May they be filled with your fire of zeal,
your love for discernment,
and your passion for Christ's Kingdom.

Pour out your intercession upon them,
that they may:

- Proclaim the Gospel with boldness,
- Serve the poor with compassion,
- Strengthen the teachers and students with wisdom,
- And build bridges of unity in diversity.

Bless their leaders with prudence and vision,
their young Jesuits with courage and perseverance,
and all their collaborators with generous hearts.
May this Province be a beacon of hope,
a home of deep prayer,
and a force for justice and reconciliation.

Above all, may all their works
—in Nepal, Darjeeling, and Bhutan—
be 'Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam'
'(For the Greater Glory of God).

St. Ignatius, pray for us!
Mary, Mother of the Society,
intercede for this new Province!
May the Holy Spirit guide them
as they set the world ablaze!



ST. IGNATIUS WAS LED BY GOD

JOHN KENNEDY SJ

Once a knight and soldier, proud and bold,
Dreaming worldly dreams to hold,
Yet the Lord, knowing Inigo's inflammable vanity,
Called his heart into His bright Light for sanity.

God led Inigo—through the battle, the cannon's cry,
Through the wound and pain raised him high.
Not by sword, but by His hand,
Ignatius learned to take his stand.
In the stillness of recovery, pain turned light,
Scriptures and stories of saints burned his soul bright.
Worldly treasures turned to dust
In the Lord alone, he placed his trust.

God led Inigo—from chains of pride,
To the path of pilgrimage where saints abide.
Prayers and meditations
Constant contemplations
Through the dark, through doubt, through night,
Christ alone became his only sight.

He saw in musical keys the unseeable Trinity
Christ - humanity and divinity in unity
He saw Christ in the Eucharist anew
God in Creation - everything seemed new
All for God, God for him, his heart aflame,
Ignatius lives, to serve, to praise His name.

God led Inigo—and leads us still,
Through each trial, through His will.
We contemplate attaining His lasting love
In our commitments, we prove
Gifts in God, God in gifts,
God labors and rushes to me through gifts.
Turn, O soul, be not deaf, but hear His call
To His will, we surrender all.
Praise Him!



Happy Birthday

September

03 Amid Kujur
 04 Jomon Kanniyattukunnel
 04 Patrick Pradhan
 07 Roshan Kiro
 11 Francis George
 12 George Kizhakkandiyil

17 Paul Chemparathy
 17 John Tigga
 17 Arun Pradhan
 18 Bosco Arulanandu
 19 Sanjiv Lakra
 20 Linus Kujur
 23 Jiju Varghese Kevillil
 25 Jay Ghale

† In Memoriam: September



Fr Jules Moreau SJ
 09/09/1961



Fr Michael Wery SJ
 10/09/1957



Fr Charles Law SJ
 09/09/2001



Bro Anil Tirkey SJ
 19/09/2003



Fr Francis Pew SJ
 10/09/1975



Fr Joseph Rajanayagam SJ
 20/09/1984



Fr Cornelius Curtin SJ
 21/09/2011

THE POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER 2025



FOR OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH ALL OF CREATION

Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.