



## Darjeeling-Nepal Jesuits



NO. 05

PRABHU JISU RESIDENCE, POST BOX 3, MATIGARA – 734 010, DT DARJEELING.

MAY 2026

### PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

#### MAY

- 11-13: Province Days
- 14: Consult
- 15: MC Meeting, Hayden Hall
- 18-20: Youth Retreat at LPC
- 30-31: Superiors' Training Program

#### JUNE

- 01-02: Superiors' Training Program
- 03: Meeting of Former Jesuits
- 04-07: Nepal
- 18-19: Meeting of NZ Provincials and Consultors
- 21: First Vows at Manresa, Kalimpong

### APPOINTMENT BY FR GENERAL

**Fr Boniface Tigga:** Rector of St Joseph's School, Darjeeling.

### APPOINTMENT BY FR PROVINCIAL

**Fr Anuranjan Ekka:** Principal of St Joseph's School, Darjeeling w.e.f. 5 May 2026.

**Fr Leo Alphonse Raj:** Principal of St Xavier's School, Jawalakhel w.e.f. 5 May 2026.

**Fr Stanley Karakkada:** Licentiate in Canon Law at St Peter's, Bangalore w.e.f. 1 June 2026.

**Fr Basil Toppo:** Director, Premanjali Jesuit Pre-Novitiate.

### INVITATION

You are cordially invited for the Final Profession of **Fr Anil Kumar Beck SJ** on 24th May 2026 at Francis Xavier Church, Maheshpur. The Holy Eucharist will be at 10.30 A.M.

### COMMON PROGRAMS FOR THE YEAR 2026

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| 11-13 May 2026:        | Province Assembly   |
| 18-20 May 2026:        | Retreat for Youth   |
| 23-28 May 2026:        | A Course on Filmmaking and Art for Scholastics by Mr Subroto Ghosh and Ms Supriyo Ghosh |
| 31 May to 2 June 2026: | Training for Local Superiors and Secretaries of Society/Trusts                          |
| 3-4 June 2026:         | Meeting of Former Jesuits   |
| 12-13 December 2026:   | Superiors' Meeting/Extended Consult   |

### PROVINCE RETREAT

### THEME: CONSTITUTIONS AND THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 10-18 June:     | At Godavari, Nepal (Director: Fr Donald Miranda) |
| 16-24 October:  | At Woodcot, Kurseong (Director: Fr R. C. Chacko) |
| 04-12 December: | At Matigara (Director: Fr R. C. Chacko)          |

### INFORMATION:

Scholastics Bipin Bara and Kuldeep Topno have discontinued their life in the Society from April 26th and 27th respectively. We pray and wish them well in their new way of life.

One of the Australian Volunteers was given a farewell by our parish youths, since she was going back, after helping in Dongden Devi school for two months. On the second day of March, we had a joint picnic of Crusvir and youths, above the health post ground. About 80 people gathered to celebrate the month with a picnic meal. The national election zeal made many of our Tiplinglites, settled in Kathmandu, come back to the village on bikes and jeeps to vote and renew their native identity. The election was a great show of festivity. Schools were closed for a week, for the election. Fr. Peter took some of our youths and went to the Pentisia mass center to celebrate mass and meet the faithful. They stayed overnight visiting the people. Late Sun Maya's family offered the memorial mass on March 12th morning in our Church and kept her "Ashuls" on the Cross hill. They donated some kitchen items to the church and fed all the parishioners. In all the memorial masses the church gets over crowded because all villagers gather, to show their respect for the Departed Soul. That evening we had a heavy rain.

Fr. Leonardo, a Pilar Father from Pokhara Mission, spent a week with us, making his retreat. From March 25-27, we were blessed to conduct a three days Spiritual Renewal Program. Five members of the CFC group from Kathmandu, led by their Coordinator Head Mr. Gyan Prakash and Mrs. Sujata Rai, joined us and stayed in the community. The entire financial arrangement for three days was generously managed by them. We expressed our heartfelt gratitude for their support and dedication to strengthening our spiritual life. During this time, a CFC (Couple for Christ) group was formed in our parish, marking an important step in strengthening family and community faith life.

On Palm Sunday, we organized a solemn procession starting from Late Fr. Cap Millar Chowk. The procession passed through the village and became a powerful witness of faith for the local people. Church Youth took active part in singing, arranging, decoration and enacting the Way of the Cross during the Holy Week.



**MSW studetns' visit**



**Welcoming Fr. Provincial**



**Mass at Pantesia**



**Farewell to Australian volunteer Amelia**



**Good Friday**

We were honored by the official visit of Fr. Provincial and Fr. Juel during Holy Thursday. They also visited Machet and Lapdung, two mass centers. Fr. Provincial presided over the Holy Saturday Mass, while Fr. Juel celebrated the Easter Sunday Mass. Despite the rain in the morning, the faithful gathered with devotion. After the Mass Fr. Provincial, Fr. Juel and Fr. Norbert left immediately for Kathmandu. Following the Easter celebration, we joyfully shared an Easter Prem Bhoj, which became a moment of unity and festivity for all parishioners.



We were also delighted to welcome MSW students from St. Xavier's College, Maitighar for their social outreach program in Tipling. In a generous gesture, the students purchased a new guitar from their own pocket money and donated it to the church. They also participated in Saturday Holy Mass. Parish Priest expressed gratitude on behalf of the parish community.



Sr. Arushi Ghale (Bombino) from Kohalpur visited us for vocation promotion. During her visit, Priscila, a class X student joined her. Additionally, two CJ sisters from Kathmandu came for vocation awareness and visited families in the village. Salina and Shristi, also class X students, joined them in exploring religious life.



On Sunday, the 12<sup>th</sup>, we held our Monthly Youth Meeting. The following day, a youth picnic was organized within the church compound as a farewell gathering for the class X students, creating a joyful and memorable occasion. We were also blessed by the presence of Fr. Aiyar from Pokhara, who came to assist in the mission work. During this time, Fr. Peter travelled to Kalimpong to cast his vote.

We extend our sincere thanks to Fr. Stephen, SDB, for conducting a one-day recollection for the parishioners in preparation for Holy Week and Easter. The Holy Week services and Easter celebrations were carried out in a prayerful and devout manner. We are grateful to the SXJ community fathers and the Kamal Niwas community for their presence and support during the Holy Week services and the Easter Vigil Mass. Special thanks go to Fr. Boniface Tigga, S.J. the main celebrant of the Easter Vigil Mass, for his inspiring homily.

Fr. Arul is currently engaged in visiting families for Easter house blessings.

### ST. IGNATIUS CHURCH, BANIYATAR

ARUL SELVAM SJ

On 28th February, Fr. Arul was installed as the Parish Priest of St. Ignatius Church, Baniyatar, by Rev. Fr. Silas Bogati, the Apostolic Administrator of the Vicariate of Nepal. The parishioners expressed their heartfelt gratitude to Fr. Paul K.C. for his dedicated service over the past four years, marked by his constant availability to the faithful and his caring presence as a good shepherd. It was also a joy to welcome Sch. Niroj Minj to Baniyatar for his Annual Retreat, which was guided by Fr. Arul.

### FABER HOUSE, MAHESHPUR

DILIP TOPPO SJ

Parish Life in Action: Faith, Formation, and Community Outreach: Parents of St. Xavier's Parish, under the leadership of Mr. Vinay Toppo and Mr. Bablu Murmu, organized a pilgrimage to Patapur, Ilam. Around 90 faithful participated in this spiritual journey. Beginning from the foothill, all the faithful prayerfully recited the Rosary as they made their way up to the church, where Holy Mass was celebrated by Fr. Dilip.

After lunch, the pilgrims prayed the Way of the Cross on the hill. It was a deeply enriching experience for everyone and marked the first pilgrimage ever organized by the parish where great number participated.

A one-day recollection for the youth was successfully organized, with more than 55 young people participating. The sessions were rooted in the daily realities of life, addressing issues such as addiction, immorality, eloping, cohabitation, and the Catholic understanding of the Sacrament of Marriage. The recollection aimed to deepen their awareness of the sacredness of marriage, encourage responsible choices, and help reduce the growing trend of running away. At the same time, it fostered a spirit of compassion toward those already in irregular situations, inviting them towards healing and rectification. The day included moments of Adoration and the Sacrament of Confession, offering spiritual renewal. Time was set aside for meaningful discussion, leading to concrete action plans for the youth.

Sixteen children were invited for the preparation for First Communion; however, only ten were able to attend. The first session was conducted by Sr. Rita, followed by Fr. John and Fr. Sanctius. Sr. Emrecia later guided the children in their immediate preparation to receive the sacrament. The remaining sessions were led by Fr. Dilip, focusing on the Eucharist, the real presence of Jesus, and preparation for the Sacrament of Confession. The First Communion celebration was prayerful and grace-filled, with ten children and a few adults receiving the sacrament for the first time. Parents and guardians were present, adding to the joy and solemnity of the occasion. One of the apostolic boys also joined the preparation and received his First Communion.

The Teachers' Seminar was also successfully conducted with Fr. Vijay and Mr. Subarna KC from St. Xavier's School Godavari, as the resource persons. The sessions centered on self-discovery, Jesuit educational values, and the importance of collaboration among teachers. Practical inputs on effective classroom management were shared, highlighting the need for joyful, creative, and student-centered teaching approaches.



First Communion



Pilgrimage



Youth



Staff seminar

In preparation for an environmental awareness program, the parish youth gathered and actively engaged in practice sessions. Fr. Jiju, along with Miss Titi Ghale and Mr. Sajan, accompanied and guided them. Miss Aasha contributed by bringing bags stitched by local women, which will be distributed to the community. Through this initiative, awareness will be raised about the harmful effects of plastic use, while promoting eco-friendly alternatives such as reusable shopping bags.

The closing days of March and much of April were marked by a blend of academic commitments, pastoral celebrations, and forward-looking planning within the community. The period began with the continuation of school examinations, alongside a significant community meeting focused on reviewing ministries and setting priorities for the next five years. The Holy Week liturgies were solemnly observed, culminating in the joyful celebration of Easter Sunday at both Sadakbari and Simalbari.

The school hosted a three-day workshop from 6<sup>th</sup> April, on Early Childhood Education, led by Dr Prof. Branislav Pupala of Trnava University, Slovakia. The sessions focused on holistic child development and classroom management, bringing together teachers from Sadakbari and Loyola School, Simalbari.

Academic activities resumed briefly with report card distribution, reflecting a commendable improvement, including a 100% pass rate in the Class 8 board examinations. The latter part of April saw the Staff Enrichment Program (20–23 April), which included reflection on the school's journey, strategic planning, Ignatian Pedagogy, lesson planning, technology integration, and the theme "Informed Minds, Discerning Hearts," along with an introduction to the Continuous Assessment System.

**Parents Meeting****Staff Enrichment Program****Support Staff Picnic****Eco Jesuits in Sadakbari**

Community life was enriched by the arrival of Scholastic Lawrence Kerketta on 19th April. On the same day, sixteen Jesuits from the South Asian Assistency, led by Fr. Basil, visited Sadakbari. Other visitors included Frs. Sanctius, Juel, and Divyanandam. On 24th April, support staff and their families were treated to an outing in anticipation of International Labour Day. The period concluded with a well-attended parent meeting on 25th April, chaired by Fr Jiju Kevillil, reflecting strong school-family collaboration.

**SITTONG MISSION****PETER JONG LEPCHA SJ**

This year, Easter was celebrated with extensive preparation, including spirited singing, meaningful readings, and an enhanced sound system. Shankar Pradhan, a faithful, noted, "This year, the entire Easter Triduum was very meaningful." Prior to the Triduum, the Fatima Youth group from St. Paul's, Kurseong, visited to conduct a recollection for the faithful. From the 10th to the 12th, a prayer training session was organized at Woodcot. Twelve participants from Sittong, Ambootia, and Mahanadi attended, with Sr. Emilda Sherpa, SJC, as the resource person. In an effort to modernize teaching methodologies and enhance student safety, the following updates have been implemented: Two classrooms have been equipped with smart-class technology. CCTV cameras have been installed throughout the premises for security purposes. Special remedial classes for weaker students remain an ongoing priority of the school.

## ARRUPE NIWAS AND ST. XAVIER'S, DEONIA

### ARRUPE NIWAS CORRESPONDENT

New government guidelines on admissions and the start of the new academic year brought some confusion to our already set plans. We had to rework our calendar, timetable, and other plans for the academic year 2083. However, some programs went ahead as scheduled. We had a staff seminar with resource persons from Kathmandu University on integrated curriculum, assessment, lesson plans, and related topics for two days. Captains selected for the new academic year were given a one-day orientation to empower them for their responsibilities as captains. Ayush Adhikari, an SXG alumnus and GAA representative, was a resource person. Class 12 farewell and award ceremony was held on the 8<sup>th</sup> April. From the 27<sup>th</sup> onward, staff will be at the school preparing for the next academic year, which begins in the first week of May.



Orientation Program for Captains



IMCS Jhapa – awareness Program in Tea Garden



IMCS Jhapa – awareness Program in Tea Garden



Staff Training Program

Sanjay attended the principals' meeting in Matigara at the beginning of the month. Jiju went to Kerala to vote and spend a few days with his mother. Bosco and Broney, too, exercised their franchise during the Bengal elections. We were happy to host 17 Eco-Jesuits for lunch after their meeting in Matigara. Ranjit went for a home visit for a few days before he moved to his new community on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Our new regent, Bipin Tirkey, joined the community on the 25<sup>th</sup>. The Jhapa unit of the IMCS Nepal began its 'Jhola Re' campaign to promote reusable cloth bags instead of polybags in the tea garden villages.

## ST XAVIER'S, SIRAHA

### ANIL BECK SJ

March and April marked a period of transition, activity, and quiet anticipation, as one academic year drew to a close and preparations for the next gradually took shape.

On 1 March, the school held an exhibition of art and craft work along with projects completed by the students throughout the year, including their best handwriting, for family members to see and enjoy their children's learning progress.

The admission process for Nursery began on 15 March with the distribution of forms, marking the start of a new intake of young learners. Annual examinations for all classes started on 23 March and ended on 27 March, after which students went on their end-of-term holidays. Admissions continued into April, with forms for LKG to Class 1 issued from 7 April, with limited seats available. During this time, the school remained closed for Holy Week and reopened after Easter. On 8 April, examination results were shared with students and parents.

The same day also marked the farewell of Sr Priya (SSH), who after a year of dedicated service left to pursue further studies. The school expresses its sincere gratitude for her valuable contribution and wishes her success in the future. She has been succeeded by Sr Reema (SSH), who has been warmly welcomed into her new role.

Nursery admissions were completed on 9 and 10 April, while further admissions for LKG to Class 1, along with re-registration of existing pupils, were scheduled for 16 April. This was followed by a parents' orientation programme on 23 April. The reopening of the school for the new academic year was originally planned for 27 April, but was later revised in accordance with new government guidelines in Nepal and postponed to a date after 28 April. However, due to ongoing uncertainty, the school office, which was initially due to reopen on 28 April, will now reopen earlier on 24 April. The new academic session is expected to begin on 4 May, as previously notified by the Government, although there has also been a directive suggesting an earlier start date of 24 April.

Beyond academics, members of the Sisters' and Fathers' communities visited Little Flower School, Bardibas, on 27 March for its Annual Day and Parents' Day celebrations, which helped further strengthen ties with the wider educational community.



LKG Exhibition



Temporary Extension



Easter Celebration

Infrastructure development on campus has continued steadily. Temporary classroom extensions were completed by mid-April, while toilet facilities are expected to be ready by mid-May. Efforts are also underway to secure a landline connection through Nepal Telecom, which is currently in progress. Academic planning for the coming year includes the careful selection of textbooks for Class 1, as the school expands into the primary section. Parents have been advised to purchase books directly from authorised shops, as distribution through the school is not permitted.

As part of its transition from pre-primary to primary level, the school has introduced a structured fee system in consultation with the Provincial, with the aim of ensuring long-term financial sustainability.

Overall, this period reflects a school moving forward with clear purpose, closing one academic chapter while preparing with care and confidence for the next.

## ST XAVIER'S SCHOOL, GODAVARI

GEORGE P.M SJ

A Promotion Committee Meeting was conducted for Classes 1–7 and 9 on April 1. Class teachers, coordinators, the Vice Principal, and the Principal collaboratively reviewed and evaluated the individual performance of each student to determine promotion decisions. A special farewell program for Class 12 students was organized on April 2, where outstanding students were honored with awards. The event also marked the formal handover of flags and leadership responsibilities to the newly appointed student captains.

Report cards for Classes 1–7 and 9 were distributed to parents and students on April 4. The overall academic performance showed noticeable improvement compared to the previous year, reflecting consistent efforts by both students and teachers. On Easter day, April 5, SXG hosted the Easter dinner for all the valley Jesuits. Fr. Shajumon, our provincial, also graced the occasion. On April 6–7, the admission process for Class 1 was conducted based on interaction with parents and students. The sessions focused on understanding the child’s readiness and building rapport with families.

A leadership seminar for student captains was organized, bringing together participants from SMS, SXG, SXJ, and NDBS on April 6 & 7. The seminar focused on developing leadership skills, responsibility, and collaboration among student leaders.

An enriching student exchange program was organized with guests from Holland on April 13. The visiting students interacted with our students and experienced cultural exchange through a homestay program hosted by both teachers and students’ families.

The IBM School Program was officially launched at the school on the same day. This initiative introduces students from Grades 5 to 12 to emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, blockchain, and cybersecurity, aiming to foster innovation and practical skills from an early stage.



IBM – MOU Signing



Teachers Training



Staff Seminar



International Students exchange program

A comprehensive Teachers’ Seminar was conducted with a resource person from Christ University, Bangalore on April 15–16. The sessions covered teacher preparedness and competency, student behaviour in the era of AI, classroom management and socio-emotional learning (SEL), mentoring, guidance, and counselling, building a thriving school ecosystem, and teacher well-being and self-care. The seminar significantly contributed to professional development and reflective teaching practices.

As per the latest directive from the Ministry of Education, the Class 1 admission process will commence on April 28. The school is scheduled to reopen on Baishakh 21 (May 4), 2083. Sch. Joseph and Fr. Patrick went to their hometowns on April 19 to cast their votes and returned to Godavari on 25 April. Fr. Vijay and Sir Subarna K.C went to Mahespur on April 22 to conduct seminar for the staff and returned on 24<sup>th</sup> evening.

## ST. JOSEPH’S SCHOOL, DARJEELING

JUSTIN BAGE SJ

The North Point School witnessed a vibrant and eventful month filled with celebrations, competitions, educational programmes, and significant community gatherings.

The boarding staff and students bid farewell on March 29 to Scholastic Valerian after nearly completing a year of regency at North Point.

The community also expressed heartfelt gratitude to Sr. Binita, who faithfully served North Point for more than 23 years as a nurse. Scholastic Valerian departed from North Point on the afternoon of March 30.

On March 31, a meeting of the Students' Representative Body was held in the Archives Room. During the meeting, Fr. Rector outlined the roles and responsibilities of the student representatives in assisting the school administration. This was followed by a meeting with the teacher coordinators of the different divisions, where Fr. Rector conducted an evaluation of the progress achieved over the past months.

April 2 was observed as a half-working day as the school commenced the Holy Week and Easter holidays. Around seventy students remained in the boarding while the others returned to their homes. The students who stayed back were taken to City Centre on April 4 and were also accompanied on visits to nearby local places during the holidays. The students returned to school on April 6, and regular classes resumed on April 7. Fr. Rector travelled to Kerala on April 3 to visit his critically ill mother and returned to North Point on April 6.

A singing competition for the Lower Division boys was held on April 9 in the JMJ Auditorium during the pre-lunch period, showcasing the musical talents of the students. At 10 O'clock a workshop for the science teachers of class 6 to 12 was conducted at NP. Ratna Sagar Publications sponsored lunch for all the participants. There were 14 other schools besides the host that joined this programme. On April 10, Fr. PCF and eight Regent Scholastics arrived at North Point for a three-day programme.

April 11 was marked by sporting excellence. The Fr. Van Vallengham Memorial Volleyball Tournament for students of Class VIII and below was held on campus. The final match was played between North Point and St. Augustine's School, Kalimpong, with St. Augustine's emerging as champions while the host team secured the runners-up position. On April 14, North Point registered a notable victory in the Mount Hermon School vs North Point School Edinburgh Cricket League match held at St. Paul's School.



Inter-school collaboration: Singhania School, Mumbai



Music Concert: Upper Division boys

On 14th evening, Fr. Provincial arrived at North Point to address the regents. The regents who had arrived on April 10 departed after breakfast on 14 April. Also on April 14, Frs. Roberto, Jerald, Francis, and Shiju Mathew, along with Sr. Diana of Holy Cross, visited North Point. As part of the New Year celebrations, Nepalese, Bengali, and Thai students enjoyed local outings while Christian students travelled to Siliguri.

From April 16 to 19, North Point welcomed six guests of Fr. Sanjiv Lakra. On April 17 and 18, the ICSE and ISC Basketball teams participated in competitions at SAS and reached the finals, though they narrowly missed the championship titles. A singing contest for the Upper Division students was also organized on April 16. North Point further strengthened inter-school collaboration by hosting seventeen students and three teachers from Singhania School, Mumbai (Thane), for an exchange programme from April 16 to April 26.

The birthday of Br. Vincent P.D. was celebrated on April 22 in the presence of several Jesuits who had gathered in Darjeeling to cast their votes. Br. Vincent P.D.'s nephew and niece were guests at North Point from April 24 to April 27.

One of the highlights of the month was the mesmerizing music Concert held on April 25 for the North Point School and parents, staged by the Upper Division boys in the presence of a large gathering of parents and well-wishers.

On the eve of April 25, Fr. Sajiv (Kolkata) and twenty-seven Scholastics (attending POP at Woodcot) joined the community for an agape gathering and breakfast the following morning.

Regarding infrastructural developments on campus, a new tin roof has been installed over Fraser Hall in preparation for the monsoon season. In addition, a new generator has been installed to replace the old one, ensuring improved power support for the campus.



Meeting the Education Minister



Training for Captains



Staff Seminar

## ST XAVIER'S SCHOOL, JAWALAKHEL

BONIFACE TIGGA SJ

On April 4, the school conducted an orientation programme for the parents of Class 1 students, introducing them to the history of Jesuit Education, school's vision, policies and academic expectations.

A two-day residential training programme was organized for Class 10 Captains of SXJ, SXG, SMS and NDBS on April 09 and 10 at Godavari Ashram. The training focused on leadership skills, responsibility, teamwork and decision-making. Through interactive sessions and activities, students were oriented on various aspects of leadership and prepared to take on their roles as responsible leaders within the school community.

On April 17 and 18, the school held a two-day staff seminar aimed at enhancing teachers' professional competence and well-being. The sessions covered areas such as classroom management, student behaviour in the era of AI, mentoring, collaboration with parents, and self-care. The seminar also included team-building activities, fostering a spirit of unity and shared purpose among the staff.

On April 19, the Alumni Welcome Meet 2026, organized by SXJ Alumni, brought together Class 10 SEE graduates for an evening of celebration and connection. The event was marked by lively music, dance, games, and shared meals. Students actively participated, showcasing their talents and strengthening their bonds with teachers and peers, making the occasion both joyful and memorable.

Fr. Vijay Toppo and Fr Boniface along with the Vice Principals of Godavari and Jawalakhel made a courtesy visit to the Honorable Minister of Education, Sasmit Pokharel. We shared with him our history, our contribution, commitment, and future collaboration for strengthening Nepal's Education System.

**Community News:** Frs. Robert from SJES Rome, Jerald D'Souza from New Delhi and Roy Sebastian stayed with us while they visited different Social Centers in Nepal. Fr. Deven and Bro. PD Vincent came here to attend the Staff Seminar on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> April. Fr. Peter Chettri halted here before he went for home visit. Fr. Amit went home to see his sick sister. Frs. Deven, Ajay and PD Vincent went to India to cast their vote. Fr. Deven has already joined the community.

April was a meaningful and busy month. It began with the Holy Week, which helped everyone to pray more and grow spiritually. There were happy moments, visits, and some travel during the month. Towards the end, as many Pre-Novices went home, the house became quiet and less lively. Still, there was a lot of work, and everyone continued to do their duties.

During the Holy Week, the Pre-Novices went for confession and took part in the Way of the Cross in the parish. On 4th April, we attended the Easter Vigil Mass. The next day, the Pre-Novices were invited for lunch at Jesu Ashram.

In the following days, seven Pre-Novices went for home visit. On 7th April, Frs. Leo and Pankaj, along with regent Vinay, went to Jesu Ashram for Br. Herman's birthday dinner. During these days, the Pre-Novices also spent time in conversation and sharing their experiences, which helped them improve their English. On 10th April, Fr. Leo left for vocation promotion and regents Ashish and Vinay went to Darjeeling for their yearly gathering. At this time, four Pre-Novices stayed back and spent time with Fr. Pankaj. On 14th April, regents Ashish and Vinay returned, and Fr. Pankaj left for vocation promotion to Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh.

On 16th April, regent Vinay went for a home visit. On 18th April, Pre-Novice Hemanth celebrated his birthday. The next day, the scholastics going for POP visited Premanjali campus. On 23rd April, regent Ashish went home to cast his vote, and Pre-Novice Abhijit returned from home.

On 24th April, four more Pre-Novices left for home visits. Fr. Pankaj returned after vocation promotion, and regent Ashish went to drop Hemanth at NJP. On 26th April, regent Vinay returned from home. That same night, regents Ashish and Vinay had a welcoming and farewell dinner at the Curia.

The months of March and April were a time of personal growth and reconciliation for us novices—a period to repent and move forward with a renewed sense of self. These months were also filled with happiness and joy, which we shared among ourselves through birthday celebrations and the Easter Octave.



**Welcoming Rev. Bishop Edward Barreto**



**Novices at work- Demolishing the old!**



**Farewell to Fr Amrit Rai**

From March 25 to 28, psycho-spiritual and sexual integration classes were conducted by Fr. Xavier Alangaram, for us Jesuit novices, as well as for the Cluny novices. These sessions were truly enriching and beneficial, helping us to understand ourselves better and to grow in our personal development. On March 26, all the novices and Fathers attended the Chrism Mass at St. Teresa Parish. The Holy Mass gave us a meaningful opportunity to witness and participate in the communion (koinonia) of the diocese and to deepen our appreciation for the priesthood.

Holy Thursday this year was a memorable occasion, as we celebrated the Holy Mass at Manresa itself and took part in the washing of feet, embracing one another in imitation of our Master.

On Good Friday, the novices were divided into two groups to participate in the Way of the Cross at St. Teresa and St. Joseph Parishes. This was a new experience for us, as we joined in the Nepali cultural expressions of devotion, feeling united with the suffering Christ and serving with heartfelt dedication. On April 1, we celebrated the birthday of Novice Avay. On the same evening, we bade farewell to Fr. Amrit SJ, our acting Socius, expressing our gratitude for his valuable time and the knowledge he shared with us. He was truly instrumental in helping us understand our Society and our vocation within it. Though he was on sabbatical, he generously made himself available to accompany us. On April 2, we celebrated the birthday of Novice Naresh (DUM). On the morning of April 4, Fr. Amrit left Manresa to attend the Roots and Wings program. The Easter Vigil Mass was a moment of great consolation and immense joy, as we welcomed the Risen Christ with proper preparation, disposition, and devotion. The Holy Mass was followed by a brief Easter celebration in the refectory, where Br. Gabriel had prepared a delightful meal for us. We also celebrated the birthday of Novice Wilson on this day.

On April 6, Easter Monday, Fr. Santy Mathew invited us for lunch as a gesture of appreciation for the novices who had been sent to Gandhi Ashram for their work experience, where they carried out their responsibilities admirably.

On April 19, some novices, along with the Novice Master, participated in felicitating our new Coadjutor Bishop, Edward Barretto, at St. Teresa's Parish, Kalimpong.

Our novices, together with professional labourers, spent two weeks demolishing three old buildings near the Manresa Cave, which had become dilapidated, in preparation for constructing a new conference room and a small chapel.

The holy season of Easter has been a time of profound grace, renewal, and spiritual enrichment for the entire Jesu Ashram family. Through prayerful preparation and active participation in the sacred liturgies of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, the Easter Vigil, and Easter Sunday, we were blessed to experience in a deeper way the boundless love of Christ and the radiant joy of His Resurrection. During these sacred days, our nurses, inmates, staff, and Community members joined the parish for the liturgical celebrations. This shared participation strengthened our sense of belonging to the wider Church and enriched our spiritual journey. Among these moments, Good Friday was especially moving and deeply devotional. At 11:00 AM, the nursing students led the Way of the Cross in front of the TB Ward, where many inmates participated with profound faith and reverence. It became a powerful expression of human suffering united with Christ's own passion, inspiring a spirit of compassion, solidarity, and prayer among all present.

The Easter Vigil was solemnly and beautifully celebrated, symbolizing the passage from darkness into light and from despair into hope. On Easter morning, the Holy Eucharist was celebrated by Fr. Alex Beck, whose inspiring homily conveyed the powerful message of resurrection, renewal, and living faith. The celebration continued with a joyful fellowship meal shared with the inmates. The arrangements, thoughtfully organized by Sr. Jaya, Sr. Sanjita, the nursing students, and Bro. Herman under the shade of the TB Ward tree, created a warm and welcoming atmosphere. This gathering truly reflected the Easter spirit of love, care, and compassionate service.

The month of April also brought several joyful occasions to our community. On 7th April, we celebrated the birthday of Bro. Herman Anthony with a meaningful Eucharistic celebration presided over by Fr. Shiju Mathew, Director of Jesu Ashram. The nursing staff and students added to the joy with heartfelt songs and a bouquet, making the celebration memorable and uplifting.

On 10th April, we warmly welcomed Scholastic Anup Minj into the Jesu Ashram family. The nursing students expressed their joy through a vibrant welcome song, marking the beginning of his meaningful journey with us.

A moment of great honor and privilege was the visit on 13th April of Fr. Roberto Jaramillo, Secretary for Social Ecology and Justice in Rome (SJES), and Fr. Jerald D'Souza, Conference Secretary for Ecology and Justice in New Delhi (CSEJ). Their presence among us was not merely a formal visit, but a strong sign of encouragement, solidarity, and renewed commitment to the mission of ecology and justice. Our students presented a colorful cultural program in their honor, expressing gratitude and joy.

Fr. Roberto expressed deep appreciation for the humble yet impactful service carried out at Jesu Ashram, particularly recognizing the foundational contributions of Bro. Bob and Sr. Evana, and the continued dedication of successive directors. His words of affirmation have inspired us to carry forward this mission with renewed enthusiasm and commitment.



**Birthday Celebration of Bro. Herman**



**Welcoming Sch. Anup Minj**



**Visit of Frs Roberto Jaramillo SJ and Jerald D'Souza SJ**

Throughout the month, we were also blessed by the visits of, well-wishers, and local donors. Their presence and generous support continue to encourage and sustain our mission of service. Indeed, April has been a month richly filled with Easter joy, hope, and abundant grace at Jesu Ashram. As we continue our journey, we remain deeply grateful to God for His blessings and to all who walk with us in this mission of love and service.

## KAMAL NIWAS

NIROJ MINJ SJ

This month at NJSI has been filled with learning, celebration, and meaningful togetherness. We were happy to welcome Br. Niroj and Prastha Shrestha, who joined us on 2nd April for their internship. They will be supporting program planning and designing activities, working from 9:00 AM to 2: p.m. Their journey with us began with a warm welcome during our tea break. On 4th April, our community members joined the Easter Vigil Mass at Assumption and Baniyatar Parishes. The joy continued on 5th April with a special Easter gathering at Godavari community. Jesuits from across the valley were present, along with Fr. Provincial Shajumon. The celebration was lively and memorable, especially seeing senior fathers and brothers dancing and sharing happiness. It reminded us of the beauty of unity and joy in community life.

We were also honored to host Fr. Roberto Jaramillo, SJ, Secretary of Social Justice and Ecology from Rome, along with Fr. Jerald D'Souza, SJ and Fr. Roy Sebastian, SJ. On 7th April, they visited the NJSI office, interacted with staff, and learned about our programs. Their visit included a short sightseeing at Patan Durbar Square. Their presence encouraged us to continue our mission with renewed energy and commitment.

At the same time, a computer training program for government teachers was conducted at KRC from 7th to 10th April, reflecting our ongoing dedication to education and capacity building. On 13th April, we gathered for a simple Nepali New Year pre-celebration at the office. Sharing a meal together, we expressed gratitude for the past year and all that we have achieved as a team. It was a moment of thanksgiving, unity, and hope for the year ahead.

The same day marked our staff Ms. Shristi's last day at NJSI. She completed her handover and we came together to pray for her and wish her success in her future journey. Her contribution will always remain part of our story. On 18th April, we held a community meeting to discuss the Community Apostolic Plan. Fr. Tek Raj Poudel has joined our community for a short time and he does pastoral activities in the terai and Okhaldunga district while keeping good contact with his lawyer friends.

As we reflect on this month, we are reminded that our strength lies in our unity, dedication, and hard work to bring positive change in our communities. Together we grow, together we serve.



Livelihood support for women remains a priority, nurturing self-reliance and empowerment. Beneficiaries are supported through home visits, meetings with mothers, postnatal care follow-ups, and the broom marketing project. The team also actively participated in important networking and coordination meetings at both district and regional levels. On March 29, Hayden Hall organized a Mega Health Camp in collaboration with the District Hospital and Greater Lion's Club at Lizza Hill, serving 115 beneficiaries. On April 7, the Health Department observed World Health Day, with Dr. Yasmen invited to speak to mothers about healthy lifestyles. Another blood donation camp was held at Nimla Shumbuk on April 13, where 85 people received medical check-ups and 20 generous donors contributed blood for the greater cause.



## HAYDEN HALL, DARJEELING

RAJA SJ

After the Easter vacation, Hayden Hall resumed its activities with renewed energy and enthusiasm. The staff continued to engage in community development initiatives, including a digital literacy course for adolescent girls, menstrual hygiene awareness programs with sanitary pad distribution, and the inauguration of a new study centre in Pabong village.

The Hayden Hall building was spiritually blessed and purified through the prayers of Coadjutor Bishop Rev. Edward Barreto. Binita and Fr. Raja attended a seminar on human trafficking, enriching their knowledge and awareness. The Post-School Program in Darjeeling celebrated World Earth Day and, as part of its ongoing commitment, formed an Environment Club to promote ecological responsibility.

## WOODCOT, KURSEONG

**PETER BHUJEL SJ & JOHN KENNEDY SJ**

As a part of the Substance Abuse Awareness Campaign in order to spread right information and knowledge about addiction and myriad dynamics, Fr Peter Bhujel had productive and fruitful sessions for three groups of AshaKarmis at Woodcot itself; for classes 8-10 students of Holy Cross school, Sonada; for classes 8-9 students and secretarial students and staff of Holy Cross school, Kurseong; for class 12 students of St Robert's school, Darjeeling; for parents of class 9 students of St Alphonsus school, Kurseong; for the staff of St Alphonsus primary school, Kurseong; for the staff of St Alphonsus primary school, Kurseong; for classes 9-12 students of St Michael's school, Darjeeling; for classes 8-10 students of Notre Dame school, Sumbuck; for classes 8-11 students of St Mary's school, Kainjalay; for classes 8-10 students, and parents of Notre Dame school, Rimbick; and for the parishioners of Sacred Heart Church, Singamari and for St Mary's Church and it's two substations at Kainjalay and Rimbick.



All these addiction awareness campaigns are to hit home the idea that addiction, as an individual and family disease, doesn't practise partiality.

On February 22nd, Fr John Kennedy took over as the Director of Woodcot. On the 23rd, we started our journey to reach Fr Promod to Pokhara, Nepal. Bro Miles, the principal of Goathals School, Kurseong, also accompanied us. It was a very beautiful journey, though it was tiring.

March was a hectic month for ASHAs (Accredited Social Health Activist) as they had to complete all the programs for the financial year. It is a great collaborative work that Woodcot does for the people of Darjeeling. All the ASHA training programs were completed on March 31, 2025. The government was pleased with our work and has invited us to renew the ASHA program for the present financial year, April 2026 to March 2027, with the same conditions as the previous financial year, till further notice.

The Parishioners of Infant Jesus Church, Sittong, made a three-day retreat from April 10 to 12, at Woodcot, guided by Sr Emilda Sherpa of St Joseph of Cluney and Fr Peter Jong Lepcha.

Fr. John Kennedy and Dr. Pavanbir Kaur have given a seminar from April 17 to 19, 2026, at Loyola Pastoral Center, Matigara, on the topic "Training on Psycho-Socio-Spiritual Integration: Challenges and Rejuvenation," organized by Talitha Kum India - The International Network of Consecrated Life Against Trafficking Persons. It was organized by Sr Prema and Sr Therese of Holy Cross.

A month-long Pre-Ordination Program (POP) started on April 20. There are 27 theologians who are undergoing this program. Fr Sajeew and Fr George Beck are directing the program.

## SXSSC, JAWALAKHEL

**MS. PRATIKSYA DHAKAL**

We could see lots of flower blooming in the compound and rains with lightning and thunder in April. Finally, spring has arrived. Shree Mahalaxmi Secondary School started final term examination on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March. Tri-Padma School and Patan School started final term examination on 22 March.

Thirty-three students from SXSSC appeared for this exam. After the final term exams, vacation started and many of the boys and girls have gone home to be with their families. Social Auditor, Mr. Sunil Lama was visiting St. Xavier's Social Service Center (SXSSC) regularly for preparing a field report to accelerate the registration process of SXSSC necessitated by the law. Thanks to Dhan Bahadur Tamang and her family for providing delicious momos, ice cream and cake on 2 April. At the same day started the SEE examination. Hopefully our five students from the two centers will pass with good numbers. Best wishes.



Social audit group photo

The Catholics attended the Easter Triduum culminating on Easter Sunday on the 5<sup>th</sup>. They were days of reflection, prayer, and solemnity for many of our boys and girls. Fr. Boniface Tigga, S.J., the Principal of St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel, visited Aruna Bhawan and taught the children valuable lesson on reading, memory skills, and personal development.



Social Audit Presenter

Director Fr. Juel, Staff and students together welcomed respected guests: Fr. Roberto Jaramillo, S.J. (Secretary of SJES) Rome, Fr. Jerald D'Souza, S.J. (Secretary of SJES) Delhi, Fr. Roy Sebastian, S.J. (Ensuring Social Protection (ESP) Delhi, and Fr. Augustus, S.J. (Director of NJSI) on the 7<sup>th</sup>. The guests were honored with Nepali traditional caps and mementoes as our tokens of love. They appeared to be appreciative of honor bestowed upon them. They loved the Nepali dances, songs and poem recitation performed by students of the Center. The cultural program ended with delightful Nepali food.



With delegates from Rome and Delhi SJSE

Samikshya Thing and her team conducted a career guidance class for girls on the 13<sup>th</sup>. The Aruna Bhawan thank them for showing young minds the various carrier choices available in Nepal. Schools distributed final term report cards on the 15<sup>th</sup> and all have passed. A big kudos to the students.



Fr. Jeremino speaks

Fr. Juel left on 20<sup>th</sup> for his village for casting his vote for the state assembly election in West Bengal. He returned on 25<sup>th</sup> just in time to organize a social audit of NJS/SXSSC on the 26<sup>th</sup>. At social audit a public hearing takes place. Fr. Thomas returned to HRDRC on the 17<sup>th</sup> from Pune after eight months, soon to leave for Manresa, Kalimpong to take up his new assignment.

**LOYOLA COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, NAMCHI**

**FRANCIS GEORGE SJ**

The students of Pedagogy of Disciplinary Stream of Social Science under the guidance of Mr Nirmal Rajbanshi, visited Teesta Barrage, Siliguri for socio-economic Survey on 8<sup>th</sup> April as part of their formative assessment. Mr Hendri Yogi conducted orientation program for the teachers of Albert Memorial School, Barbot, Kalimpong on the theme "Joyful Classroom and 21<sup>st</sup> century skill" on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2026.

The students of Pedagogy of Mathematics under the supervision of Fr Dr Daniel Bara, conducted their field trip to collect data for their formative assessment report from National Institution of Technology, Ravangla on 13<sup>th</sup> April. They interacted with the technical experts of Super Computer, Information and Communication Technology, Chemistry and Physics Laboratory, Robotic Cell and Civil Engineering Sector.

Fr Francis George and Fr Danial Bara participated in the Mass and cultural program organized by the South West Deanery to welcome Most Rev Coadjutor Bishop Edward Bareto into SW Deanery on 14<sup>th</sup> April.

The 1<sup>st</sup> year students along with Fr Francis George, subject teachers, Mr Henri Yogi and Ms Mikee Subba visited Visually Impaired Primary School and Hostel on 16<sup>th</sup> April. They interacted with special teacher educators to learn about the teaching leaning process for the challenged students. The field trip was part of the practicum of the subject 'Inclusive school'.

Fr Lawerance Maniyar conducted a 2-day seminar at St Mary's School Biratnagar. The seminar was attended by about 50 teachers. He also conducted leadership and Team work programme for 30 captains of the same school during 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 20<sup>th</sup>, April.

## NBSXC, RAJGANJ

JULIUS KUJUR SJ

The Holy Week celebrations this year brought a deep sense of spiritual renewal and pastoral outreach for the Jesuit community of St. Xavier's College, Rajganj who actively participated in the liturgical services at Mongradangi Parish. Fr. Dennis Soosai presided over the Palm Sunday Mass, while Fr. Julius Kujur led the Good Friday service. The Easter Vigil was celebrated by Fr. Lalit Tirkey, and on Easter Sunday, Fr. David Ekka offered the Holy Mass at Pabnikhari. Meanwhile, Fr. Julius Kujur and Fr. James celebrated Mass in Sikarpur Jangal Line. Notably, this Holy Week at Mongradangi witnessed the highest number of Jesuit priests participating, making it especially vibrant and spiritually enriching.

The community also bid a heartfelt farewell to Fr. Deven Yonzon, who concluded his dedicated service at the college. He was formally sent off on 7th April from the college and on 13th April from the Jesuit community. Fr. Deven served diligently as a faculty member in the Commerce Department, Bursar, and Warden of Xavier Boys' Hostel. Beyond his official responsibilities, he was known for his commitment to the community, particularly through his efforts in maintaining a kitchen garden that regularly supplied fresh vegetables. Fr. Lalit Tirkey, the Principal, along with Fr. David Ekka, accompanied him to Nepal's Bhadrapur Airport on 14th April 2026. The entire community expresses deep gratitude for his generous service.

The month also saw a remarkable influx of Jesuit visitors, with 34 Jesuits visiting the community. Their presence brought encouragement and strengthened bonds of fraternity.

In academic and outreach initiatives, Fr. Dennis Soosai conducted an orientation program for teachers at Holy Cross School, Nischitpur, Dalkhola. He also served as the resource person for an online Faculty Development Program organized by St. Xavier's College, Burdwan on "AI in Modern Pedagogy" on 21st and 22nd April. Additionally, ten students from AICUF participated in a two-day workshop at St. Xavier University, Kolkata, focusing on "From Gen Alpha to Zen Alpha: CTRL+ALT+SHIFT in the Agenda of AI," enriching their understanding of emerging technological and social trends.

## CAMPION HOUSE, MAITIGHAR

CAMPION HOUSE SOURCES

April at St. Xavier's College unfolded as a gentle yet meaningful chapter. One highlight was the remarkable achievement of Ms. Jony Nepal and Ms. Shrinkhala Chand Thakuri, who secured the 1st Runner-up position at the X-Change Debate Competition hosted by St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Kolkata. Equally inspiring was the Blood Donation Program organized by the student club. On April 21st, the day of international research day, we celebrated SXC Research Day 2026 where students from all departments presented their mini thesis of LSRA cycle 8.

Adding a touch of wonder and exploration, the St. Xavier's Physics Council hosted Yuri's Night, commemorating humanity's journey into space. Through telescope observations and engaging space talks inspired students to dream beyond boundaries. Impairment does not limit achievements. The college also honored our visually impaired alumna Ms. Sabitri Poudel for her achievement as an Administrative Officer (7th Level) at the Nepal Electricity Authority.

Keeping in mind that caring for our partners in mission is integral to Cura Apostolica, the College organized an overnight retreat for all staff at Godavari Ashram. Conducted in four groups, the retreat centered on the theme "Cura Personalis," offering a space for deeper reflection and connection with their vocation as Jesuit academicians and as devoted members of their families.



A Level Commencement



Staff Exchange Program – Staff from Tiruchi



Visually Challenged - Sabitri Paudel Award



Yuri's Night Celebration

Meanwhile, Campion House continues to enjoy a serene atmosphere among two quiet and 'wise' men left behind, who unfailingly pose the big question at the dinner table each evening: "Where is this world heading?"

## ST JOSEPHS COLLEGE, DARJEELING

DONATUS KUJUR SJ

The Historia Odyssey Consortium successfully hosted a philately exhibition titled "Historia in Miniums" on 8 April 2026 at M.R. Hall. The event showcased an extraordinary collection of postage stamps curated entirely by Mr. Udaya Mani Pradhan, a renowned philatelist whose passion for history transformed tiny stamps into windows on India's rich heritage. The exhibition featured four enthralling themes: Bharat Ratna awardees, The Man of the Millennium, Himalayan Railways, and Magical Mountains. Mr. Pradhan's meticulous curation stood out for its incredible depth and rarity, earning much admiration from attendees. Seamlessly blending artistry, history, and environmental storytelling, it created an immersive experience that transported visitors through India's rich heritage and natural wonders. This event not only educated but also inspired reflection on our shared legacy.

Enhancing engagement, a Philately Quiz Competition drew teams from eight departments. Mr. Udaya Mani Pradhan served as the erudite Quiz Master, posing intriguing questions on stamp history and themes. The Department of Economics emerged victorious, demonstrating sharp interdisciplinary insight, while the Department of Geography secured the runner-up position with its strong grasp of regional motifs. This exhibition not only celebrated philately's educational potential but also reinforced community ties and intellectual curiosity.

To foster Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) ahead of the General Election to the West Bengal Legislative Assembly, an awareness program targeted St. Joseph's College students. Conducted on 10 April 2026 at 11:00 AM within the premises of Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling, the event featured the District Magistrate, Darjeeling, as chief guest. It highlighted the importance of maximum voter turnout through engaging sessions on voting rights and procedures.

The Election Commission of India's Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) in collaboration with the Electoral Literacy Club of Department of Political Science, jointly organized a Quiz and Debate Competition at the Conference Hall of St. Joseph's College, Darjeeling, on 13 April 2026. The program witnessed spirited participation from five teams (quiz) and two teams (debate), with a total of 41 students. After eight rounds of visual and oral questions, Team four - consisting of Reeya Pradhan and Ishwar Lama from the Political Science Department, secured 1st position in the quiz. For the debate, Ismrity Katwal (History) and Shena Hadalia (B.Com) tied for 1st place. The Quiz Master was Dr. Samir Sharma, HoD of the Department of Political Science, and the judge for the debate was Ms. Nooreena Khan from the same department. The event was attended by Shri Akashdeep IAS, Shri S. Ghosh (DMDC), and Smt. Pritaya Chhetri (DCPO, Darjeeling), representing the office of the DEO, Darjeeling.

Ten AICUF students from the College attended a two-day workshop on "From Gen Alpha to Zen Alpha: CTRL+ALT+ SHIFT in the Age of AI" at St. Xavier's University on 18-19 April 2026. Sessions covered "Gen Alpha Reality Check," highlighting the impact of digital life on identity and relationships; "Algorithms and the Attention Economy," explaining how platforms influence user behavior; and "AI Truth Detectives and Responsible AI," emphasizing verifying information and ethical AI use. A practical session on prompt engineering taught effective interaction with AI tools. The workshop concluded with a design thinking challenge, where students developed innovative, socially relevant solutions using AI, enhancing their critical thinking and teamwork skills.



Philately exhibition



Philately Quiz Competition



Quiz and Debate Competition on Electoral Literacy



A two-day workshop at St. Xavier's University, Kolkata



Awareness program on Electoral Literacy

St. Joseph's College remained closed from 16 to 25 April 2026—a period of ten days—due to its designation as a polling center. The campus was occupied by police personnel as part of election arrangements, with security forces deployed to ensure the safe and orderly conduct of the polling process. Their presence across the campus made it impractical to continue regular academic and administrative activities.

In addition, a significant number of teaching and non-teaching staff were assigned election duties by the government, including roles such as presiding officers, polling officers, and support staff at various polling stations. The college served as a polling venue for the West Bengal Legislative Assembly elections, with three polling booths established on campus. Polling was conducted on 23 April 2026.

## CSID, NEW DELHI

JOE VICTOR SJ

My visit to most of the provinces in India has brought me closer to the struggles and joys of the Jesuits, our partners and the people we serve. Zonal online meetings were held recently to elicit the feedback from the PDDs and obtain their suggestions on the topics for future workshops. The programs and online and offline workshops of the Conference Development Office in the coming months will focus on addressing these needs, aligning them with the RR process and suggestions of the annual review. The emphasis will be on local and CSR fundraising amidst FCRA challenges, and digital media expansion. Efforts are on to explore the possibility of forming a conference level nodal centre to help the Jesuit technical and vocational institutions.

## ANNUAL MEETING OF ECO-JESUIT DELEGATES

BASIL TOPPO SJ



The Annual Meeting of Eco-Jesuit Delegates of the Jesuit Conference of South Asia (JCSA) brought together representatives from 15 Provinces to reflect, discern, and strategize on the theme Eco-Advocacy from 17 – 19 April, 2026 at Inigo Bhavan, Matigara, Darjeeling. Hosted by our province, the gathering aimed to deepen understanding of advocacy, strengthen collaboration, and identify concrete actions for ecological justice across Jesuit ministries.

Fr Stanislaus D'Souza (POSA), Fr Roberto (International Secretary, SJES, Rome), Fr Jerry D'Souza (Conference Secretary of SJES) and Fr Shajumon C. K. (Provincial) were present for the inauguration and part of the meeting.

Dr Sunita Narain, Director, Centre for Science and Environment, New Delhi, Fr Frazer Maserhanes SJ of Bombay Province, and Prof. Souniya Dutta, Delhi, were the resource persons.

On the first two days, dinners were hosted by the Jesuit communities at Rajganj and Gayaganga. On the third day the group went to see the communities at Maheshpur, Deonia and Sadakbari in Nepal. Fr S.M. John Kennedy SJ (MDU), the Coordinator of Ecojesuits, South Asia, coordinated the meeting.



## REST IN PEACE

- *Br Habil Kujur SJ (RAN 93/72) died on 5.4.2026 at Mandar, Ranchi.*
- *Fr Melwin J Pinto SJ (KAR 62/44) died on 10.04.2026) in Fr Muller's Hospital, Mangaluru.*
- *Fr Robert Kindo SJ, (RAN 85/65) died on 15.04.2026 in CLHRS, Mandar.*
- *Fr. Jose Kadankavil, SJ (KER, 76/54), died on 16.04.2026, at Christ Hall, Malaparamba, Kozhikode.*
- *Br. Savarimuthu Michael (MDU 86/65), died on 27.04.2026, at St. Joseph's Hospital, Dindigul.*
- *Mrs Elizaba Kerketta, Sister-in-law of Fr Simon Kerketta, died on 7.4.2026 in Kusumbera.*
- *Mrs Magdali Bilung (88), grandmother of Scholastic Lawrence Kerketta, died on 29.04.2026 at Kusumdegi, Rourkela.*



# Happy Birthday

01 Francis Subba  
10 Cherian Maliekal  
10 Dilip Kumar Toppo  
11 Ajay Lakra  
12 Bipin Tirkey

14 Henrick Immanuel  
14 Sanjay Ekka  
18 Daniel Bara  
18 Xavier Binay Kandulna  
20 Justin Bage  
22 John Lepcha

24 Anuranjan Ekka  
25 Anup Minj  
28 Jose Ollukkaran  
28 Sujit Minj  
29 Gilbert Lepcha  
30 Cherian Nampeli



## In Memoriam: May



**Fr. John Prendergast SJ**  
04/05/1977



**Fr. Edgar P. Burns SJ**  
17/05/2010



**Fr. Bertrand Soubolle SJ**  
24/05/1982



**Bro. Paul Robin SJ**  
07/05/1996



**Bro. Michael P. Quinn SJ**  
18/05/1999



**Fr. Edward Hayden SJ**  
25/05/1979



**Fr. Mark Robson SJ**  
07/05/2017



**Fr. Gerald Leclair SJ**  
23/05/2010



**Fr. Aloysius Heptia SJ**  
29/05/1965

## POPE'S INTENTION FOR MAY 2026



### THAT EVERYONE MIGHT HAVE FOOD

Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.