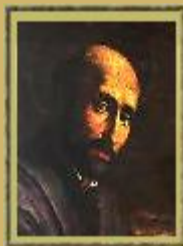


The Generals of the Society of Jesus

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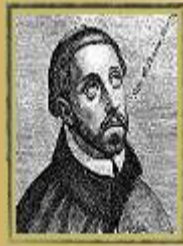


Ignacio de Loyola. On September 27, 1540, Pope Paulus III gave formal approbation of the Society of Jesus by the bull *Regimini militantis ecclesiae*. With the Pope's signature the Society of Jesus, as a fully canonical religious order, had become a reality. On March 4, 1541, during Lent, the first Jesuits gathered to work in the constitutions. They agreed to choose a Superior General for life. The first election was very solemnly conducted on April 2, 1541. During three days the six companions gave themselves up to prayer for guidance in their choice. Then their sealed votes, together with those of the absentees previously obtained, except Bobadilla's, were placed in a box and left to be, as it were, consecrated by a further three days of prayer. At length the time arrived to scrutinize them:



Ignacio

"Jesus. Excluding myself, I give my vote in Our Lord to him who receives a majority of votes to be the superior. I have given it indeterminately for good reasons, but if the Society thinks otherwise, or that it is better and more to the glory of God for me to particularize, I am ready to do so."



Xavier

"I, Francisco, say and affirm, . . . that the one to be elected general in our Society is, in my judgment, our old leader and true father, Don Ignacio, who brought us together with no little labor, . . . and that, after his death, his successor is to be Father Peter Favre..."



Favre

"Concerning the first superior general to whom we are to vow obedience, I give my vote to Ignacio, and in his absence by death, which God forbid, to Master Francis Xavier...."

"Jesus, Maria. I, Diego Lainez, induced only by zeal for the glory of the Lord and the salvation of my soul, elect Father Ignacio Loyola as my superior and the superior of the Society of Jesus."

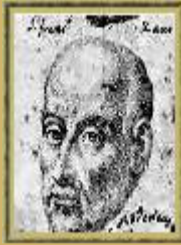


Lainez



Salmeron

"In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen. I, Alfonso Salmeron, most unworthy of this Society, after prayer to God and mature consideration, elect for superior of the whole congregation Ignacio de Loyola, who, as he begot us all in Christ and fed us with milk when little ones, will, now that we are grown up, bring us the solid food of obedience and guide us to the rich and abundant pastures of Paradise . . . , "



Rodriguez

"To the praise of God and His Virgin Mother. It seems to me, according to such light as, all unworthy, I possess, that Ignacio is the one whom we ought to choose from among us as president and ruler, and that if by some mischance or death he is not available, then Peter Favre should succeed in his place, . . . asserting, most dear Brethren, that I have not been persuaded to this by anybody, whether directly or indirectly, but act of my own free will and choice, as I am confident you also will do...."



Jay

"I judge and desire that Ignacio, whom now these many years God has given us all for a father, should be elected superior of our Society . . . , and to his rule, after God and the saints, I now submit myself body and soul most willingly."



Broet

"In the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen. I, Paschase Broet, elect as superior-general Father Ignacio de Loyola. "



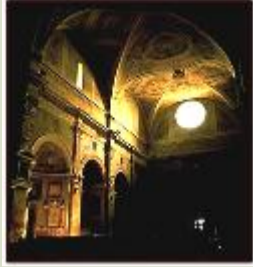
Codure

"Jesus, Maria.... Considering only the greater glory of God and good of the whole Society, I judge that he whom I have always known as a most ardent promoter of God's honor and the salvation of souls ought to be placed over others because he has always made himself the least of all... I mean Reverend Father Ignacio de Loyola."

From his vote, it is quite plain that Ignacio, who knew his men through and through, expected to be elected. In explanation of his antecedent refusal to accept the honor he has left the only writing which he ever penned concerning himself, except such incidental references as are to be found in his letters.

He "made a speech," he says, "according to the feelings of his soul, affirming that he had a greater desire and will to be governed than to govern; that he could not discover in his soul sufficient strength to rule himself, much less to rule others. Considering this, and his many evil habits past and present, as well as his many sins, faults and miseries, he declared and declares that he does not accept such an office, nor would he ever be able to accept it until he had more light on the subject than he then possessed. He begged and entreated them much in the Lord to consider the matter with greater diligence for three or four days more, commending themselves more earnestly to God Our Lord in order to find someone better suited and more useful to all for the task."

After four days the Fathers accordingly voted again, with exactly the same result. Ignacio then, "having examined both sides of the question in the light of God our Lord's greater service, replied that, to avoid extremes and for the greater peace of his conscience, he would put the matter in the hands of his confessor, Father Theodore, friar of **San Pietro in Montorio**, making to him a general confession of all his sins . . . and giving him a description of all his infirmities and bodily miseries. That done, it would be for the confessor to order him in the name of Christ Our Lord, taking into account his entire life past and present, either to accept or to refuse this burden."



Ignacio then spent three days at San Pietro alone with his confessor who at the end gave judgment for acceptance. Not even that satisfied him, however, so he begged Father Theodore to commend the question to God for a little while longer, and thereupon with a quiet soul to put his opinion in writing and send it to the brethren. Afterwards he returned home.

The confessor's sealed decision arrived three days later and was to the effect that Ignacio ought to undertake the business and government of the Society. Then at last he gave in, and issued instructions that on the first Friday after Easter, April 22, 1541, all would make the stations of the Seven Churches of Rome, pronouncing their vows according to the bull

granted by the Pope.



The vows taken on that occasion during a Mass celebrated by Ignacio at the **Basilica di San Paolo Fuori le Mura** (St. Paul's Outside the Walls) on April 22, 1541, are, except for a few inessential changes of phrasing, identical with those made by all professed fathers of the Society of Jesus from 1541 to 1998.

Ignacio, the first General of the Society, was the first Jesuit to say:



"I, Ignacio de Loyola, promise to Almighty God and to the Pope, His Vicar upon earth, before His Virgin Mother and the whole court of Heaven, and in the presence of the Society, perpetual poverty, chastity and obedience, according to the manner of life set forth in the Bull of the Society of Our Lord Jesus, and in the Constitutions declared or to be promulgated, of the same Society.

Moreover, I promise special obedience to the Supreme Pontiff with regard to the missions mentioned in the Bull, and likewise to be diligent to see that children are taught the rudiments of the faith, according to the same Bull and Constitutions."

Having read the formula, Ignacio consumed the Sacred Host and then turned towards his companions who each individually pronounced the vows, substituting for the words "to the Pope, His Vicar upon earth," these others, "and to you, Reverend Father, as God's representative." Finally, they all received Holy Communion, and, after their thanksgiving, went in turn to embrace Ignacio and give him the kiss of peace, "not without great devotion, feeling, and tears."



The pope asked Ignacio to send two Jesuits to the newly settled Portuguese colony in India in response to John III of Portugal's request. Ignacio chose Bobadilla and Simon Rodriguez, however, Bobadilla became ill and Ignacio decided to send Francisco Xavier in his place. They left for Portugal on March 15, 1540, but they missed the fleet leaving Lisbon for the East. One year later, the King of Portugal seeing the work that the two Jesuits had done in Lisbon while waiting for the next ship, decided to open a school and asked that Rodriguez remain in Portugal. Simon Rodriguez was not to go to India.

On April 7, 1541, Francisco Xavier, alone, left Europe for Goa, India, and became the first Jesuit missionary.



In 1539, Pope Paul III had given to the Jesuits the chapel of *Santa Maria della Strada*, since then the small church, located in the very center of Rome, served as the headquarters of the Jesuits apostolic activity. At the time Rome had a population of about 50,000.

In 1544, the first Jesuits moved into a new house, built by the first Italian Jesuit, Pietro Codaccio. The house was built in a site adjoining the Chapel of Santa Maria della Strada ". in the shadow of the Campidoglio on the Via Papale, at the intersection of Piazza Alteri and Via Aracoeli, one block from the papal residence at Palazzo San Marco. From the windows of his simple apartment.. Ignacio could salute his neighbor, the pope, passing below in solemn procession."

It was in this house where Ignacio changed a few things in the *Spiritual Exercises* which were first approved by the pope and printed in its Latin version, *Exercitia Spiritualia*, in 1548.

In this house he also wrote the *Common Rules* in 1549, the second *Formula of the Institute* in 1550 and then his *Autobiografia* and the *Constitutiones* of the Society of Jesus.

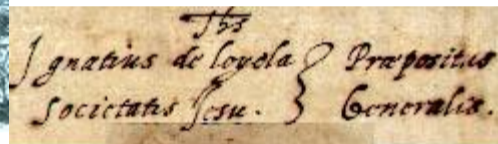
In 1550 Pope Julius III solemnly confirmed the Society of Jesus in the bull *Exposcit debitum*. Very soon the members of the order became known as Jesuits.

In early 1551, Jesuit students from several nations were attending the first lectures given at the *Collegio Romano*, a school founded by Ignacio to teach Philosophy and Theology to Jesuit seminarians.



The *Constitutions* were first promulgated in Sicily in 1552 and in Spain and Portugal in 1553 by Jeronimo Nadal, a priest from Palma de Majorca who had joined the Society in 1545.

In 1555, Ignacio finished his last book, the *Rules of Modesty*, in which he indicated the proper manners and behavior for the Jesuits.



During Ignacio's time the first Jesuit martyr was killed in India. Antonio Criminali, an Italian who was working in India under Francisco Xavier, was sent to the coast of India near Malabar where he was beheaded by the Hindus.



Ignacio de Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus died in the Summer of 1556, the 31st of July.

Within the 16 years from the papal approval of the Society to the death of Ignacio, Jesuits became engaged in all sorts of facets of the Church's life: education, missions, retreats, pastoral work, counseling, preaching. "*The stamp of Manresa would be sealed in several lands through his 'companions'.*"

His spirit, the legacies of Loyola and Manresa, would remain alive in the 1,000 or so, Jesuits who, at Ignacio's death, were working in Europe, India, Japan, Africa and Latin America.

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The Generals of the Society of Jesus [Introduction]

[Ignacio de Loyola (1541-1556)] [Diego Lainez (1558-1565)] [Francisco de Borja (1565-1572)] [Everard Mercurian (1573-1580)]

[Claudio Aquaviva (1581-1615)] [Muzio Vitteleschi (1615-1645)] [Vincenzo Carafa (1645-1649), Francesco Piccolomini (1651)]
[Luigi Gottifredi (1652-1652), Goswin Nickel (1652-1664)] [Giovanni Paolo Oliva (1664-1681), Charles de Noyelle (1682-1686)]
[Tirso Gonzalez (1687-1705), Michelangelo Tamburini (1706-1730)] [Frantisec Retz (1730-1750)] [Ignazio Visconti (1751-1755)]
[Luigi Centurioni (1755-1757)] [Lorenzo Ricci (1758-1775)] [White Russia (1773-1802)]
[Gabriel Gruber (1802-1805), Tadeusz Brzozowski (1805-1820)] [Luigi Fortis (1820-1829), Jan Roothaan (1829-1853)]
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[Wlodimir Ledochowski (1915-1942) From 1915 through 1933] [Wlodimir Ledochowski (1915-1942) From 1934 through 1942]



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Some Ignatian Hallmarks

But what are the hallmarks of Ignatian spirituality and how might they influence Pope Francis? Let me suggest just a few and point out how we may have already seen them in the first few weeks of his papacy.

First, one of the most popular shorthand phrases to sum up Ignatian spirituality is “**finding God in all things.**” For Ignatius, God is not confined within the walls of a church. Besides the Mass, the other sacraments and Scripture, God can be found in every moment of the day: in other people, in work, in family life, in nature and in music. This provides Pope Francis with a world-embracing spirituality in which God is met everywhere and in everyone. The pope’s now-famous washing of feet at a juvenile detention center in Rome during the Holy Thursday liturgy underlines this. God is found not only in a church and not only among Catholics, but also in a prison, among non-Catholics and Muslim youth, and among both men and women.

Second, the Jesuit aims to be a “**contemplative in action,**” a person in a busy world with a listening heart. That quality was evidenced within the first few minutes of this papacy. When Francis stepped onto the balcony overlooking St. Peter’s Square, he began not with the customary papal blessing but with a request for the prayers of the people. In the midst of a boisterous crowd, he asked for a moment of silent prayer and bowed his head. Offering quiet in the midst of the tumult, he was the contemplative in action.

Third, like members of nearly all religious orders, Jesuits make a vow of **poverty**. We do this twice in our lives—at first vows and at final vows. We are, said St. Ignatius, **to love poverty “as a mother.”** There are three reasons adduced for that: **first**, as an imitation of Jesus, who lived as a poor man; **second**, to free ourselves from the need for possessions; and **third**, to be with the poor, whom Christ loved.

But Ignatius noted that Jesuits should not only accept poverty, we should actively choose to be like “the poor Christ.” So far Pope Francis has eschewed many of the traditional trappings of the papacy. Before stepping onto the balcony, he set aside the elaborate mozzetta, the short cape that popes normally wear; since then his vestments have been simple. He elected to live not in the grand Apostolic Palace but in a small, two-room suite in the Casa Santa Marta, where the cardinals had stayed for the conclave. He is, so far, choosing the poorer option. This is not unique to Jesuits (and many of Ignatius’ ideas on poverty were inspired by St. Francis of Assisi, the pope’s namesake), but it is a constitutive part of our spirituality.

Fourth, hallmark is occasionally downplayed in commentaries on Jesuit spirituality: **flexibility**. But over and over in the Jesuit Constitutions, flexibility is recommended for Jesuit superiors. Remember that Father Bergoglio, before he became archbishop of Buenos Aires, was not only the novice director and director of studies, but also the Jesuit provincial, or regional superior, for the country—three different assignments as a superior. Those roles in governance would all require knowledge of Ignatius’ understanding of flexibility.

While the Constitutions set down exacting rules for Jesuit life, Ignatius recognized the need to meet situations as they arise with creativity. After a lengthy description of precisely what was required in a particular aspect of community life, he would often add a proviso, knowing that unforeseen circumstances call for flexibility. “If something else is expedient for an individual,” he writes about Jesuits studying a particular course, “the superior will consider the matter with prudence and may grant an exemption.” Flexibility is a hallmark of the document, and it seems to be with Francis also, who seems happy to speak off-the-cuff in his homilies and adapt himself to the needs of the situation—like stopping a papal motorcade to embrace a disabled child in the crowd.

Ignatius of Loyola

Reference table of important dates

- 1491 : Ignatius is born at Loyola.
- 1506 : He goes to Arevalo, Castile. Is a page of Juan Velazquez de Cuellar.
- 1521 : May 20 : He is wounded at Pamplona.
June 24 : receives the last sacraments.
August-September: he requests books of chivalry; receives the Life of Christ by Ludolph and the Lives of Saints by Jacobus de Voragine.
Conversion takes place.
October-December: he makes excerpts from these books.
- 1522 : March 21 : He arrives at Montserrat and lays down his arms and the dragger.
March 25 : he goes to Manresa and stays there till February, 1523.
August-September : illumination beside the Cardoner.
He begins to compose the **Spiritual Exercises**.
- 1523 : Mid-March, he leaves Barcelona for the Holy Land.
September 4 : He enters Jerusalem. September 23 : departs for Joppa,.
- 1524 : He reaches Venice in January, Barcelona in February.
- 1525 : He spends the year in Barcelona, studying Latin grammar and engaging in apostolic works.
- 1526 : Late March, he leaves Barcelona to study arts at **Alcala**. He studies Logic, physics, and the Sentences of Peter Lombard. His apostolic activities lead to suspicion, trial and prison.
- 1527 : He leaves Alcala for **Salamanca**, about June 21. He is imprisoned and forbidden to teach theological matters before studying Theology. Leaves for Paris in mid-September.
- 1528 : He enters Paris, February 2. Studies Latin in the College of Montaigu.
- 1529 : He enters the College of Sainte Barbe, October 1, and studies the arts. Meets Peter Faber and Francis Xavier.
- 1533 : He passes the examination for the Licentiate in Arts, March 13. Begins theology under the Dominicans, April 13. Meets Laynez and Salmeron.
- 1534 : He receives the degree of Master of Arts, in April. The seven companions pronounce vows at **Montmartre**, August 15.
- 1535 : He meets but does not win Nadal. In March he shows the Exercises to the Inquisitor. In early April he leaves Paris for Azpetia.
- 1536 : He spends the year at Venice, visiting hospitals, studying theology, and giving the Exercises. Has an unpleasant meeting with Gian Pietro Carafa, in December.
- 1537 : He is ordained a priest, **June 14**. With Faber and Laynez, leaves in July for Vicenza. Departs for Rome in late October. Mid-November: vision of **La Storta**. His entrance into Rome.
- 1538 : In and near Rome, the companions give the Exercises, conduct apostolic works, sustains persecutions.
- 1539 : Mid-March to June 24, the "Deliberations of the First Fathers" about founding a new religious order dedicated to apostolic activity. None of the ancient Rules then insisted on, those of Sts. Basil, Augustine, Benedict or Francis, offer precisely what they envisage. Hence they seek the Pope's permission to establish a new type of religious life ("forma vivendi" or "modus procedendi").
May 4, the "Conclusions about the Society". After late April, the Pope sends some of the companions to various places in Italy. Those in Rome compose the "First Sketch of the Institute of the Society of Jesus" which became the Formula of the Institute.

- July – August : Cardinal Contarini commends the projected new Institute to Pope Paul III.
- September 3 : He reads the proposed Formula of the Institute to the Pope at table, who verbally approves it and orders a bull to be prepared. September 28, Cardinal Ghinucci proposes alterations. December, Cardinal Guidiccioni opposes the foundation of a new religious order.
- 1540 : Rodrigues departs for Portugal and India on March 4, and Xavier on March 16.
September 27 : the bull '**Regimini militantis Ecclesiae**' approves the Society as an institute of clerics regular but restricts its professed members to 60.
- 1541 : March 4, as authorised by the bull, the companions in Rome meet to begin composition of the first Constitutions. They entrust the work to Ignatius and Codure, who begin on March 10. In late March or early April, signing of the "Constitutions of the Year 1541".
 April 8, Ignatius unanimously elected general. He refuses, is re-elected, and accepts on April 19. **First solemn profession** in St. Paul's-Outside-the-Walls, April 22. The first constitutions "For the Foundation of a College."
- 1542 : Ignatius sends members to begin colleges at Coimbra and Padua. Various apostolic activities.
- 1543 : December (?) Ignatius begins the first professed house, of which some rooms still exist in Rome.
- 1544 : January, he begins *the* Constitutions of the Society, starting with its poverty. His "Deliberation about Poverty". February 2 - March 13, writes the part of the Spiritual Diary about the poverty of the professed houses.
 March 14 : The bull 'Iniunctum Nobis' confirms the Society and removes the restriction to 60 members. May II, while continuing his Spiritual Diary, Ignatius deliberates over other constitutions.
- 1545 : February 27, last entry still extant in the Spiritual Diary. November 29, he admits Nadal.
 December 25, profession of Isabel Roser and her companions. At the end of the year he assigns Laynez and Salmeron to Trent, as the Pope desired.
- 1546 : lie obtains the brief 'Exponi Nobis'. permitting reception of spiritual and temporal coadjutors into the Society. In October Isabel Roser is freed from her vows. October 9, admits Francis Borgia. October 25, Province of Portugal is created.
- 1547 : He summons Polanco to be secretary of the Society. Late October recommends separate novitiates. Receives bull of November 4, founding the University of Gandia. Constitutes the first spiritual coadjutors in India, November 20. Last months, Polanco begins serious work on the Constitutions of the Society; composes "Industriae" and other documents; guided by Ignatius, he completes text 'a' of the Constitutions, 1547-1550.
- 1548 : March, sends Jesuits to found the College of Messina. The Spiritual Exercises are approved by Paul III, July 31, and published. During the year Ignatius writes the Declarations on the Examen. .
- 1549 : June 27, he thinks of founding the Roman College. He has Polanco compose the "Constitutiones collegiorum."
- 1550 : July 21, he obtains the bull "Exposcit debitum". By the end of the year the Constitutions are ready, in text 'A', for examination by the professed in Rome.
- 1551 : Early in the year, meeting of the professed to examine Text 'A' or the Constitutions.
 February 22, Ignatius inaugurates the Roman College. He plans many colleges throughout this year. December 19, he summons Nadal for the experimental promulgation of the Constitutions.

- 1552 : March 25, he receives Nadal's profession and commissions him to promulgate the Constitutions in Sicily.
- 1553 : March 26, writes "letter on Obedience" to Portugal. April, names Nadal commissary to promulgate the Constitutions in Spain and Portugal. August, begins to dictate his Autobiography.
- 1554 : January 7, names Borgia commissary of Spain, over three provincials. February 1, he desires to finish the Constitutions; but he continues to work on them, in Text '8', the rest of his life.
- 1555 : January 26, Jesuits in Rome number 150. May 23, Carafa elected pope as Paul IV.
- 1556 : January - February: Pope Paul IV authorizes the Roman College to grant any degrees.
July 31, Ignatius dies.
- 1558 : July 6, General Congregation I convenes. July 2, Pope Paul V orally confirms the Society's Institute. September 10, the Congregation approves the Spanish text and Polanco's Latin translation of Ignatius' Constitutions.
- 1583 : Pope Gregory XIII approves the Jesuit Institute, including the Constitutions, in the bull "Quanto fluctuosius" (Feb. I, 1583), and again in "Ascendente Domino" (May 25, 1584).
- 1595 : The processes are begun for Ignatius' beatification.
- 1609 : December 3, his beatification by Pope Paul V.
- 1622 : March 12, canonization of Ignatius and Francis Xavier by Pope Gregory XV.

"Until the age of twenty-six he was given over to vanities of the world; with a great and vain desire to win fame. (Autobiography I)

"His devotion, that is, his ease in finding God, had always continued to increase and now more than in his whole life. Each time and hour that he wanted to find God, he found Him. (Autobiography 99)

Part IV

Intellectual and Practical Formation to Scholastics

Origin of Part IV

✚ Part IV was written in three stages:

- Chapters 1-6 and 8-10: the training of Jesuits, belong to the first draft of the Constitutions which Ignatius presented in 1550. These parts were written from 1547-50.
- Chapter 7: Ignatius with help from Laynez, Polanco and Nadal wrote Colleges for externs, in 1553-54.
- Chapters 11-17: Universities, was written by Ignatius with help from Laynez, Polanco and Nadal in 1553-54. However, these chapters were only inserted into the Constitutions by GC 1 in 1558.

Salient Characteristics of Part IV

- ✚ Part IV is the only section of the Constitutions that is preceded by a preamble
- ✚ Option of the early companions for thorough spiritual and intellectual formation is stressed
- ✚ The very title indicates that this part deals with the intellectual formation for mission
- ✚ It follows Part III that dealt with spiritual formation

Part V

Admission or Incorporation into the SJ

Chapter 1

Admission, Who should admit and When

- ✚ Those who have been adequately tested shall be admitted to profession or as formed coadjutors (510)
- ✚ Society = professed + coadjutors + approved scholastics + scholastics + novices (i.e. all under the Superior General), BUT
Society <=> Professed (511)
- ✚ Superior General is the one who admits, however by the delegation of power other members are authorized to admit (512)
- ✚ Period of time required before admission (514)

Chapter 2

Qualities of those to be admitted

- ✚ All those admitted should be judged fit in the Lord, however those admitted to profession should be judged worthy after a long period of testing by the General through the reports obtained from the others (516)
- ✚ Person should be possess sufficient intellectual calibre (518)
- ✚ Provision for admitting some with only three solemn vows (520)

Chapter 3,4

Procedure in admission to profession, as coadjutors and scholastics

- ✚ Consists of the formula for profession and the formalities involved.
- ✚ Various possibilities:
 - Profession with four solemn vows (526 ff)
 - Profession with three solemn vows (531 ff)
 - For coadjutors: simple vows (533 ff)
 - After novitiate (537 ff)

Brothers

GC 34 asked that we cease to use the term “temporal coadjutors” and talk of the Brothers. From GC 5 (1593-94) to GC 27 (1923) there was little change in the Rules for Temporal Coadjutors, and a great stress on their not being allowed to study. However, the Bull of Paul III says, “And these coadjutors themselves,

with your permission, beloved General, may, if they are otherwise fit, be promoted to all sacred orders, including the priesthood". Ignatius did not think they should (cf. [116,117,344]).

In 1957, GC 30 Dec. 13 is the first GC to give serious attention to the formation of Brothers. It decreed that they were to have a juniorate for two years and that the Rules for Temporal Coadjutors were to be revised by Fr. General. It also prescribed a tertianship of at least three months for Brothers.

In 1958, Fr. General JB Janssens drew up a programme of studies for Brothers, revised the Rules, and said all were to learn a trade. GC 31 Dec. 7 stressed the vocation and apostolate of the Brothers as well as their spiritual formation after the noviciate. It gave them limited participation in the Provincial Congregations.

In 1970, Fr. Arrupe called a Congress of Brothers and later published a letter on the vocation of the Brothers.

In 1974-75, GC 32 called Brothers to the aula to discuss their vocation and stressed the apostolic call and vocation, urging more formation for the apostolate. Fr. Arrupe followed this by Conferences in 1976 and 1978.

In the Procurator's Congregation of 1978, Fr. Arrupe stressed that the Brothers were "essential" to the Society.

In 1983, GC 33 Dec. 1, outlined certain aspects of the Brothers' vocation that tended to be overlooked by some priests. It stressed the "atmosphere" of the Society should be such that Brothers feel equality in the unity of vocation as Jesuits without being ordained.

In 1994, there was a Symposium of Brothers with Fr. Kolvenbach, at Loyola.

In 1995, GC 34 Dec. 7 took up the many postulates on the Brothers. This Dec. 7 of GC 34 traces the evolving history of the Brothers in the Society and urges more care of their vocation, their formation for integral part in the common vocation and mission.

Part VII

Mission and the Relations with Companions

Chapter 1

Missions from the Holy Father

- ◆ Jesuit is a man sent on a mission by the Supreme Vicar of Christ our Lord or by the Superiors (603)
- ◆ No discreet arrangement for specific missions (606)
- ◆ Instruction to be given before the mission (611)
- ◆ Renewing the fourth vow by the General with the new Pontiff in the case of a new Pope taking over (617)

Chapter 2

The Missions received from the Superior of the Society

- ◆ The General sends the Jesuits to any place, under the disposition of the Pontiff (618)
- ◆ Practical guidelines (619 ff)
- ◆ Offering prayers and masses for the sake of missions (631)

Chapters 3 & 4

A Jesuit's Free Movement and Fraternal Help

- ◆ All ulterior motives for specific ministries and scheming for the same is unfitting of a Jesuit (633)
- ◆ The need for praying for the missions, Church, the benefactors and Jesuits living and dead (638)
- ◆ Jesuit, a minister of Sacraments (642), a minister of the Word (645), a giver of Spiritual Exercises (648), corporal works of mercy (650) and an author (653)

Part VIII

Union of Minds and Hearts

Chapter 1

Aids towards Union of Hearts

- ✚ In order to preserve and develop the Society and to ensure she reaches her end, it is necessary to achieve the Union of Hearts among her members (655)
- ✚ Such union is achieved through obedience (659)
- ✚ and the love of our Lord (671)
- ✚ Person who is a cause for disturbance should be estranged from the community (664)
- ✚ General's residence in Rome (668)
- ✚ Exchange of letters between subjects and General (673)

Chapter 2, 3

Occasions for holding a GC & the participants

- ✚ GCs not in regular intervals (677), but held when a General needs to be elected or when matters of importance ought to be discussed (680)
- ✚ Only professed members, favourably located may participate in the GC (682) but coadjutors may be allowed (683)
- ✚ Mode of electing delegates for the GC (682)
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Chapters 4, 5, 6 & 7

Who should convoke a GC, logistics & mode of election

- ✚ When a General has to be elected, if the predecessor has passed away, a professed ordinarily one of the assistants will summon the GC(687), on other occasions the General himself convokes the GC (689)
- ✚ Place, time and manner of assembling (690 – 693)
- ✚ Status of the Society to be read (694)
- ✚ Sanctions on those aspiring for positions (695,696)
- ✚ Nuances of election in the GC (697 ff)

Part IX

The Society's Head and the Government

Chapter 1 & 2

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- 📖 General is elected for life (719)
- 📖 Characteristics of a general
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 - exemplary in the practice of virtues (725)
 - **endowed with great understanding and judgement** (729)
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 - should be healthy and energetic (731)
 - should be edifying and of high reputation (733)
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- 📖 Characteristics of the Provincials (797)

Text in red letters need to be considered black letters just for information.

Chronological history of the Jesuits/Society of Jesus

Year	Month/Day	Historical event
1507	10/23	The death of Ignatius' father.
1521	05/08	The birth in what is now Nymingen, Netherlands, of Peter Canisius, who decided on his birthday 23 years later that he would enter the Society of Jesus.
1521	05/20	Ignatius was seriously wounded at Pamplona, Spain, while defending its fortress against the French.
1521	06/24	Ignatius received the last sacraments in the castle of Loyola because he was close to death from the wounds he suffered at Pamplona.
1521	06/28	Ignatius miraculously began to recover from his wounds on the eve of the feast of St. Peter.
1522	03/24	At Montserrat on the Vigil of the Annunciation, Ignatius spent the night in prayerful vigil. He had arrived dressed in expensive clothes in the fashion and style of soldiers, but gave those garments to a poor man and donned a simple pilgrim's robe.
1523	03/29	Ignatius' first visit to Rome on his way from Manresa to Palestine.
1523	07/14	Ignatius departed from Venice on his pilgrimage to the Holy Land.
1523	09/04	After several months of sailing and a week of waiting in the harbor at Joppa to disembark, Ignatius finally entered the city of Jerusalem as a pilgrim.
1526	11/19	St. Ignatius was examined by the Inquisition in Alcala, Spain. They were concerned with the novelty of his way of life and his teaching.
1527	04/18	Ignatius was imprisoned for the first time, in Alcala, Spain, where he was studying and conversing with people on spiritual topics.
1527	06/01	Ignatius was thrown into prison after having been accused of having advised two noblewomen to undertake a pilgrimage, on foot, to Compostella.
1528	02/07	Ignatius arrived in Paris to begin his studies anew after his frustration at Alcalá and Salamanca.

1533	03/13	At Paris, in the College of Ste. Barbe, Ignatius completed his course of philosophy.
1534	08/15	Ignatius and six companions – Pierre Faber, Francis Xavier, Diego Laynez, Sim¨aut; Rodriguez, Alonso Salmerón. Nicolás Bobadilla – took their first vows at a Mass celebrated by Faber at Montmartre in Paris.
1534	09/19	During this period St. Ignatius gave the Spiritual Exercises to St. Francis Xavier when both were students at the University of Paris.
1535	03/14	At Paris Ignatius received the Master of Arts degree with the right to be called “Master Ignatius” as he was thenceforth regularly addressed inside and outside the Society.
1535	07/22	In Paris the first Mass of Blessed Peter Faber.
1536	10/14	In Paris St. Ignatius received his diploma, at age 44, as Master of Arts and Sacred Theology.
1537	05/07	St. Francis Borgia was converted from the vanities of the world by the sight of Empress Isabella’s corpse.
1537	06/10	Ignatius and his companions received minor orders at the house of Bishop Vincenzo Negusanti in Venice, Italy.
1537	06/24	Ignatius, Francis Xavier and five of the companions were ordained priests in Venice, Italy.
1537	10/13	At Venice the Papal Nuncio published his written verdict declaring that St. Ignatius was innocent of all charges which had been leveled against him by his detractors.
1538	11/18	Pope Paul III caused the Governor of Rome to publish the verdict proclaiming the complete innocence of St. Ignatius and his companions of all heresy.
1539	09/03	At his summer residence in Tivoli, outside of Rome, Paul III gave his initial, oral approval of the Society of Jesus when St. Ignatius sent him the “Five Chapters” which described the proposed new religious order.
1540	01/25	The birth of St. Edmund Campion.
1540	06/30	St. Francis Xavier arrived at Lisbon on his way to India.
1540	09/27	At the Palazzo San Marco in Rome, Pope Paul III signed the Bull “Regimini militantis ecclesiae,” establishing the Society of Jesus as a religious order.
1541	04/07	On his 35th birthday, St. Francis Xavier embarked from the quay of the Tagus River known as the Place of Tears

		to go to India with two other Jesuits. The voyage took them 13 months.
1541	04/19	On the advice of his confessor, Fra Teodosio da Lodi, a Franciscan, Ignatius accepted the second election which had selected him to be the first superior general of the Society of Jesus.
1541	07/08	Pope Paul III assigned the church of Our Lady of the Way to the Society of Jesus. It was a small church but St. Ignatius highly esteemed its location in the heart of Rome
1541	08/29	At Rome the death of John Codure, a Savoyard, one of the first 10 companions of St. Ignatius.
1542	05/06	St. Francis Xavier reached Goa, India, after more than a year's journey.
1544	09/01	At Rome, St. Ignatius and his companions took possession of the house of St. Maria della Strada, the first professed house of the Society.
1544	12/16	St. Francis Xavier entered Cochin.
1545	11/23	Jeronimo de Nadal, whom St. Ignatius had known as a student at Paris, entered the Society. Later Nadal was instrumental in getting Ignatius to narrate his autobiography.
1545	12/13	The opening of the Council of Trent to which Jesuits James Laynez and Alphonsus Salmerón were sent as papal theologians and Claude LeJay as theologian of Cardinal Otho Truchses.
1545	12/25	Isabel Roser pronounced her vows as Jesuit together with Lucrezia di Brandine and Francisca Cruyllas in the presence of Ignatius at the church of St. Maria della Strada in Rome.
1546	02/05	At Rome, the death of Pierre Fabre, one of the first companions.
1546	05/19	Pope Paul III sent Diego Laynez and Alfonso Salmeron as his theologians to the Council of Trent.
1546	06/05	Paul III, in his Brief <i>Exponi Nobis</i> , empowered the Society to admit coadjutors, both spiritual and temporal.
1546	10/01	Isabel Roser was released by St. Ignatius from her Jesuit vows after eight months.
1546	10/26	The province of Portugal was established as the first province in the Society, with Simaão Rodrigues as the

		first provincial.
1547	03/04	Ignatius wrote a letter to Jesuits in Spain on religious perfection
1547	05/20	Pope Paul III acceded to the request that the Society of Jesus not have women as members nor have a parallel women's order.
1548	01/05	The birth at Granada of Francis Suarez, one of the greatest theologians of the church.
1548	03/18	The arrival of the first Jesuits missioned to Africa by Simon Rodrigues, provincial of Portugal, at the request of the King of Kongo supported by the King of Portugal. They landed at Pinda on March 18, 1548, and made their way two days later to Mbanza Kongo, the capital of the kingdom of Kongo. They were three priests—Jorge Vaz, Cristovao Ribeiro, Jacome Dias— and a scholastic, Diogo do Soveral.
1548	03/31	Anthony Corduba, rector of the College of Salamanca, begged Ignatius to admit him into the Society so as to escape the cardinalate which Charles V intended to procure for him.
1548	04/08	St. Peter Canisius was sent to Messina to teach rhetoric.
1548	04/16	At Naples the death of William Elphinston, a scholastic novice and scion of the royal house of Scotland, his mother being a Stuart.
1548	07/31	At the behest of St. Francis Borgia, Pope Paul III issued the Brief, "Pastoralis officii" approving the book of the Spiritual Exercises.
1548	10/08	St. Ignatius returned to Rome from Tivoli where he had spent several days diplomatically resolving a conflict between that city and Castel Madama.
1548	12/10	The General of the Dominicans wrote in defense of the Society of Jesus on seeing it attacked in Spain by Melchior Cano and others.
1549	11/10	At Rome the death of Paul III, to whom the Society owes its first constitution as a religious order.
1549	12/23	St. Francis Xavier was appointed provincial of the newly-erected Indian Province.
1550	07/21	Through his Bull, "Exposcit debitum" Pope Julius III again confirmed the Institute of the Society.

1551	01/15	St. Francis Borgia wrote to the Emperor Charles V announcing his intention to enter the Society of Jesus and asking leave to resign his dukedom in favor of his eldest son, the Marquis de Lombay.
1551	01/30	St. Ignatius wrote a letter offering to resign as superior general because of ill health.
1551	02/18	The opening in the Piazza Ara Coeli of the first school of the Society of Jesus in Rome, which soon developed into the Roman College, later to be called the Gregorian University.
1551	12/31	St. Francis Xavier left Sancian for Malacca and Goa to prepare for his journey to China.
1552	01/13	At Rome, teachers jealous of the success of the first school opened by Jesuits, invaded the premises and abused the Jesuits teaching there.
1552	10/22	Confirmation by Pope Julius III of the “Privileges” of the Society.
1552	12/02	On the island of Sancian off the coast of China, St. Francis Xavier died.
1553	02/17	Seventy-seven days after St. Francis Xavier’s death, his tomb was opened and his body found perfectly incorrupt.
1553	03/26	Ignatius sent his letter on obedience was sent to the Jesuits of Portugal.
1553	06/09	Manuel da Nobrega was named provincial of the Jesuits in Brazil. He was involved in the foundations of the cities of Salvador, Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro.
1553	07/09	St. Ignatius created the Province of Brazil and named Fr. Manuel de Nóbrega as first superior of its 30 Jesuits.
1555	11/13	St. Ignatius made St. Francis Borgia Commissioner General of all the provinces in the Iberian Peninsula and of the Indies subject to Spain and Portugal.
1556	06/07	Peter Canisius became the first provincial of the newly constituted Province of Upper Germany.
1556	07/11	Ignatius, gravely ill, handed over the daily governance of the Society to Juan de Polanco and Cristóbal de Madrid.
1556	07/30	As he lay near to death, Ignatius asked Juan de Polanco to go and obtain for him the pope’s blessings and indulgence.
1556	08/09	After the death of St. Ignatius, Diego Laynez was

		empowered to govern the Society as vicar until the election of another superior general.
1556	08/30	On the banks of the St. Lawrence River, Leonard Garreau, a young Jesuit missionary, was mortally wounded by the Iroquois.
1557	02/13	Andrew Oviedo, recently consecrated bishop and patriarch of Ethiopia, set sail from Goa for his new see.
1557	06/13	The death of King John III of Portugal, at whose request Xavier and others were sent to India.
1558	03/08	Nicholas Gaudan, disguised as a peddler, entered Scotland as papal nuncio to strengthen Mary Queen of Scots in her allegiance to the faith.
1558	06/03	Francisco de Toledo entered the Society; he was later the first Jesuit to become a Cardinal.
1558	06/19	The opening of the First General Congregation, nearly two years after the death of Ignatius. It was summoned by Father Laynez, the vicar general.
1558	07/02	The election of Diego Laynez as superior general in the First General Congregation. He had been vicar general since the death of Ignatius in 1556.
1558	08/11	In the First General Congregation, after a discussion on the simple vows, it was declared that “nothing should be changed.”
1558	09/10	The First General Congregation concluded after it had elected Diego Laínez to succeed St. Ignatius as superior general.
1558	09/29	Jesuits began to keep choir in obedience to an order from Paul IV, later rescinded by his successor.
1559	06/03	A villa at Frascati, outside Rome, was purchased for the fathers and brothers of the Roman College.
1560	07/15	The martyrdom of Ignacio Azevedo along with 39 companions near Palma, one of the Canary Isles. En route to Brazil as missionaries, they were captured by Calvinist corsairs.
1563	03/25	The first Sodality of Our Lady, Prima Primaria, was begun in the Roman College by a young Belgian Jesuit named John Leunis (Leonius).
1563	12/03	At the Council of Trent, the Institute of the Society was approved.

1564	02/22	At Paris, against much opposition a Jesuit school was opened. As Collège Louis-le-Grand, it became one of the greatest schools in the history of the Society.
1564	05/02	Pope Pius V yield to Father General Laynez' request and approved that the Society should have no Cardinal Protector, but be under the pope's immediate protection.
1564	06/05	The death in Lima of Francis Lopez, who had resigned the high office of Visitor General of the Kingdom of Peru to become a brother in the Society.
1564	12/30	Letter from Pope Pius IV to Daniel, Archbishop of Mayence, deploring the malicious and scurrilous pamphlets published against the Society throughout Germany and desiring him to use his influence against the evil.
1565	01/19	The death at Rome of Father General James Lainez, the second superior general of the Society and the pope's theologian at the Council of Trent.
1565	06/21	The Second General Congregation convened, representing 3,500 members in 18 provinces. The congregation elected Francis Borgia superior general and approved 120 decrees before its closure on Sept. 3.
1565	09/20	Under the leadership of Father General Francis Borgia, Sant' Andrea in Quirinale in Rome opened as the first novitiate separate from a colleges or professed house.
1566	01/07	Cardinal Ghislieri was elected pope as Pius V. He was a great friend of St. Francis Borgia and appointed Salmeron and Toletus as apostolic preachers at the Vatican. He imposed the office of choir on the Society.
1566	09/28	The death of Pedro Martinez, the first Jesuit to enter the continental United States. He was killed by natives on the island of Tatacuran, Florida.
1567	10/25	St. Stanislaus Kostka arrived in Rome and was admitted into the Society by St. Francis Borgia.
1567	12/24	Barely 35 years after the Society was founded, the first Jesuits to enter what is now Colombia disembarked at Cartagena on their way to Peru, sent by St. Francis Borgia at the request of King Philip II.
1568	03/09	St. Aloysius Gonzaga was born at Castiglione, Italy, in his father's castle.
1568	04/02	At Rome, the entrance of Blessed Rodolf Acquaviva,

		aged 17, into the novitiate of San Andrea, where St. Stanislaus was then a novice.
1568	04/29	St. Pius V, by his Brief “Innumerabiles fructus,” confirms the Constitutions of Paul II and Julius III regarding the government of colleges, the appointment of rectors by the General, etc.
1568	07/28	In a letter to Christopher Rodriguez, St. Teresa of Avila, speaking of the Society, wrote, “The men of the Society of Jesus are my Fathers, to whom after God my soul owes everything good that it might have.”
1569	08/01	Edmund Campion, convinced of the errors of the new religion, abandoned the University of Oxford and all his brilliant prospects.
1571	02/03	In Florida, the martyrdom of Luis Quiros and two novices, Juan Mendez and Gabriel Solis.
1571	02/25	Francis Borgia is sent by Pius V with Cardinal Alessandrino into Spain and France to try to induce the sovereigns to form a league against the Turks.
1571	03/20	Francis Borgia, seeing little or no fruit from the labors of the Jesuits in Florida, ordered them to withdraw from those missions.
1571	09/13	Ven. Peter Dias and 11 companions, killed by pirates near the Canary Islands en route to Brazil.
1572	05/13	Gregory XIII was elected pope; to him the Society owes the foundation of the Roman and German Colleges.
1572	05/17	Pope Gregory XIII exempted the Society from choir and approved simple vows after two years of novitiate and ordination before solemn profession. In these matters he reversed a decree of St. Pius V.
1572	06/15	Father General Francis Borgia established the Province of Mexico.
1572	07/13	The first band of Jesuit missionaries entered Mexico.
1572	09/28	A group of 14 Jesuits sent by Father General Francis Borgia under the leadership of Father Pedro Sánchez arrived in Mexico City, Mexico to establish the Society’s presence.
1572	09/30	The death of St. Francis Borgia, the Duke of Gandia and viceroy of Catalonia before becoming a Jesuit. He became the third superior general of the Society and oversaw the establishment of many schools and the

		expansion of missionary work
1573	04/12	At Rome, the opening of the third general congregation during which Everard Mercurian was elected superior general.
1573	06/16	The Third General Congregation elected Everard Mercurian, a Belgian, as superior general; Pope Gregory XIII had expressed a wish that the general should not be a Spaniard
1573	08/06	Pope Gregory XIII published his Bull "Postquam Deo placuit," which founded the German College.
1573	09/07	The death of Princess Juana, Regent of Spain, the emperor's daughter. She died as a Jesuit scholastic, having taken vows secretly under a special dispensation.
1574	01/09	The death at Naples of Jasper Haywood, superior of the English mission. As a boy he was one of the pages of honor to the Princess Elizabeth. After a brilliant career at Oxford, he renounced his fellowship and entered the Society in Rome in 1570. An able Hebrew scholar and theologian, he was for two years professor in the Roman College.
1576	07/16	Pope Gregory XIII, by his Constitution "Quaecumque sacrarum religionum", exempted members of the Society from attendance at public processions.
1577	12/21	At Rome, Juan de Polanco died, secretary to the Society and a dear friend of St. Ignatius.
1578	02/03	The death of Thomas Nelson, martyred at Tyburn by being hanged, drawn and quartered.
1578	03/24	At Lisbon Rodolf Acquaviva and 13 companions embarked for India. Among the companions were Matthew Ricci and Michael Ruggieri.
1578	06/25	The death in Clare, Ireland, of David Wolfe, pioneer Jesuit of the Irish mission, after five years imprisonment.
1578	10/17	Robert Bellarmine entered the Jesuit novitiate of Sant' Andrea in Rome at the age of 16.
1579	04/23	At Rome, the appointment of Alphonsus Agazzari, the first Jesuit rector of the English College which had been founded by Pope Gregory XIII.
1579	07/14	At Lisbon, the death of Simão Rodrigues, one of the first companions.

1579	07/15	The death in Lisbon of Simón Rodríguez, one of the first companions of Ignatius who assigned him to be companion of Francis Xavier to the Indies but had to yield to the request of King John III of Portugal who wanted to keep Rodríguez in that country.
1579	07/25	The arrival in Japan of Alexander Valignano, who came to visit the 59 Jesuit missionaries working there in uncertain circumstances due to the constant changes in power between those who favored and those who opposed the work of the Society.
1579	11/17	Blessed Rudolph Acquaviva and two other Jesuits set out from Goa for Surat and Fattiphur, the Court of Akbar, the Great Mogul.
1580	07/03	Queen Elizabeth I issued a statute forbidding Jesuits all entrance into England.
1581	01/10	Queen Elizabeth signed the fifth Penal Statute in England inflicting heavy fines and imprisonment on all who harbored Jesuits and Seminary priests.
1581	04/22	At the close of the fourth general congregation, Pope Gregory XIII received the new general, Claude Acquaviva, and promised to provide a foundation fund for the Roman College.
1581	07/17	St. Edmund Campion was arrested in England.
1581	07/19	The birth of Giuseppe Castiglione, a Jesuit brother and a skilled Italian painter who at age 27 set sail for China where he undertook the role of the official painter to this distant court with the positive conviction that art was above all a means of carrying out his evangelical mission.
1581	08/08	Anthony Possevino was received with extraordinary honors by Basilowicz, the Czar of Russia.
1581	12/01	At Tyburn in London, St. Edmund Campion and Alexander Briant were martyred.
1582	01/11	At Rome, Cardinal Guastavillani laid the foundation stone of the new building that would become the Roman College.
1582	02/20	Three Japanese princes sailed from Japan for Rome to pay homage to Pope Gregory XIII. Father Valignani, who arranged the embassy, accompanied them as far as Goa.
1582	05/30	At Tyburn, the martyrdom of Thomas Cottam with three other priests.

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- 1551 30-Jan St. Ignatius wrote a letter offering to resign as superior general because of ill health.
- 1551 18-Feb The opening in the Piazza Ara Coeli of the first school of the Society of Jesus in Rome, which soon developed into the Roman College, later to be called the Gregorian University.
- 1551 31-Dec St. Francis Xavier left Sancian for Malacca and Goa to prepare for his journey to China.
- 1552 13-Jan At Rome, teachers jealous of the success of the first school opened by Jesuits, invaded the premises and abused the Jesuits teaching there.
- 1552 22-Oct Confirmation by Pope Julius III of the "Privileges" of the Society.
- 1552 2-Dec On the island of Sancian off the coast of China, St. Francis Xavier died.
- 1553 17-Feb Seventy-seven days after St. Francis Xavier's death, his tomb was opened and his body found perfectly incorrupt.
- 1553 26-Mar Ignatius sent his letter on obedience was sent to the Jesuits of Portugal.
- 1553 9-Jun Manuel da Nobrega was named provincial of the Jesuits in Brazil. He was involved in the foundations of the cities of Salvador, Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro.
- 1553 9-Jul Ignatius created the Province of Brazil and named Manuel de Nóbrega as 1st superior of its 30 Jesuits.
- 1555 13-Nov St. Ignatius made St. Francis Borgia Commissioner General of all the provinces in the Iberian Peninsula and of the Indies subject to Spain and Portugal.
- 1556 7-Jun Peter Canisius became the first provincial of the newly constituted Province of Upper Germany.
- 1556 11-Jul Ignatius, gravely ill, handed over the daily governance of the Society to Juan de Polanco and Cristbal de Madrid.
- 1556 30-Jul As he lay near to death, Ignatius asked Juona de Polanco to go and obtain for him the popes blessings and indulgence.
- 1556 9-Aug After the death of St. Ignatius, Diego Laynez was empowered to govern the Society as vicar until the election of another superior general.
- 1556 30-Aug On the banks of the St. Lawrence River, Leonard Garreau, a young Jesuit missionary, was mortally wounded by the Iroquois.
- 1557 13-Feb Andrew Oviedo, recently consecrated bishop and patriarch of Ethiopia, set sail from Goa for his new see.
- 1557 13-Jun The death of King John III of Portugal, at whose request Xavier and others were sent to India.
- 1558 8-Mar Nicholas Gaudan, disguised as a peddler, entered Scotland as papal nuncio to strengthen Mary Queen of Scots in her allegiance to the faith.
- 1558 3-Jun Francisco de Toledo entered the Society; he was later the first Jesuit to become a Cardinal.
- 1558 19-Jun The opening of the First General Congregation, nearly two years after the death of Ignatius. It was summoned by Father Laynez, the vicar general.
- 1558 2-Jul The election of Diego Laynez as superior general in the First General Congregation. He had been vicar general since the death of Ignatius in 1556.
- 1558 11-Aug In the First General Congregation, after a discussion on the simple vows, it was declared that "nothing should be changed."
- 1558 10-Sep The First General Congregation concluded after it had elected Diego Láinez to succeed St. Ignatius as superior general.
- 1558 29-Sep Jesuits began to keep choir in obedience to an order from Paul IV, later rescinded by his successor.
- 1559 3-Jun A villa at Frascati, outside Rome, was purchased for the fathers and brothers of the Roman College.
- 1560 15-Jul The martyrdom of Ignacio Azevedo along with 39 companions near Palma, one of the Canary Isles. En route to Brazil as missionaries, they were captured by Calvinist corsairs.

- 1563 25-Mar The first Sodality of Our Lady, Prima Primaria, was begun in the Roman College by a young Belgian Jesuit named John Leunis (Leonius).
- 1563 3-Dec At the Council of Trent, the Institute of the Society was approved.
- 1564 22-Feb At Paris, against much opposition a Jesuit school was opened. As Collège Louis-le-Grand, it became one of the greatest schools in the history of the Society.
- 1564 2-May Pope Pius V yield to Father General Laynez' request and approved that the Society should have no Cardinal Protector, but be under the pope's immediate protection.
- 1564 5-Jun The death in Lima of Francis Lopez, who had resigned the high office of Visitor General of the Kingdom of Peru to become a brother in the Society.
- 1564 30-Dec Letter from Pope Pius IV to Daniel, Archbishop of Mayence, deploring the malicious and scurrilous pamphlets published against the Society throughout Germany and desiring him to use his influence against the evil.
- 1565 19-Jan The death at Rome of Father General James Lainez, the second superior general of the Society and the pope's theologian at the Council of Trent.
- 1565 21-Jun The Second General Congregation convened, representing 3,500 members in 18 provinces. The congregation elected Francis Borgia superior general and approved 120 decrees before its closure on Sept. 3.
- 1565 20-Sep Under the leadership of Father General Francis Borgia, Santâ Andrea in Quirinale in Rome opened as the first novitiate separate from a colleges or professed house.
- 1566 7-Jan Cardinal Ghislieri was elected pope as Pius V. He was a great friend of St. Francis Borgia and appointed Salmeron and Toletus as apostolic preachers at the Vatican. He imposed the office of choir on the Society.
- 1566 28-Sep The death of Pedro Martinez, the first Jesuit to enter the continental United States. He was killed by natives on the island of Tatacuran, Florida.
- 1567 25-Oct St. Stanislaus Kostka arrived in Rome and was admitted into the Society by St. Francis Borgia.
- 1567 24-Dec Barely 35 years after the Society was founded, the first Jesuits to enter what is now Colombia disembarked at Cartagena on their way to Peru, sent by Francis Borgia at the request of King Philip II.
- 1568 9-Mar St. Aloysius Gonzaga was born at Castiglione, Italy, in his father's castle.
- 1568 2-Apr At Rome, the entrance of Blessed Rodolf Acquaviva, aged 17, into the novitiate of San Andrea, where St. Stanislaus was then a novice.
- 1568 29-Apr St. Pius V, by his Brief "Innumerabiles fructus," confirms the Constitutions of Paul II and Julius III regarding the government of colleges, the appointment of rectors by the General, etc.
- 1568 28-Jul In a letter to Christopher Rodriguez, St. Teresa of Avila, speaking of the Society, wrote, "The men of the Society of Jesus are my Fathers, to whom after God my soul owes everything good that it might have."
- 1569 1-Aug Edmund Campion, convinced of the errors of the new religion, abandoned the University of Oxford and all his brilliant prospects.
- 1571 3-Feb In Florida, the martyrdom of Luis Quiros and two novices, Juan Mendez and Gabriel Solis.
- 1571 25-Feb Francis Borgia is sent by Pius V with Cardinal Alessandrino into Spain and France to try to induce the sovereigns to form a league against the Turks.
- 1571 20-Mar Francis Borgia, seeing little or no fruit from the labors of the Jesuits in Florida, ordered them to withdraw from those missions.
- 1571 13-Sep Ven. Peter Dias and 11 companions, killed by pirates near the Canary Islands en route to Brazil.
- 1572 13-May Gregory XIII was elected pope; to him the Society owes the foundation of the Roman and German Colleges.
- 1572 17-May Pope Gregory XIII exempted the Society from choir and approved simple vows after two years of novitiate and ordination before solemn profession. In these matters he reversed a decree of St. Pius V.

- 1572 13-Jul The first band of Jesuit missionaries entered Mexico.
- 1572 28-Sep A group of 14 Jesuits sent by Father General Francis Borgia under the leadership of Father Pedro Sánchez arrived in Mexico City, Mexico to establish the Society's presence.
- 1572 30-Sep The death of St. Francis Borgia, the Duke of Gandia and viceroy of Catalonia before becoming a Jesuit. He became the third superior general of the Society and oversaw the establishment of many schools and the expansion of missionary work
- 1573 12-Apr At Rome, the opening of the third general congregation during which Everard Mercurian was elected superior general.
- 1573 16-Jun The Third General Congregation elected Everard Mercurian, a Belgian, as superior general; Pope Gregory XIII had expressed a wish that the general should not be a Spaniard
- 1573 6-Aug Pope Gregory XIII published his Bull "Postquam Deo placuit," which founded the German College.
- 1573 7-Sep The death of Princess Juana, Regent of Spain, the emperor's daughter. She died as a Jesuit scholastic, having taken vows secretly under a special dispensation.
- 1574 9-Jan The death at Naples of Jasper Haywood, superior of the English mission. As a boy he was one of the pages of honor to the Princess Elizabeth. After a brilliant career at Oxford, he renounced his fellowship and entered the Society in Rome in 1570. An able Hebrew scholar and theologian, he was for two years professor in the Roman College.
- 1576 16-Jul Pope Gregory XIII, by his Constitution "Quaecumque sacrarum religionum", exempted members of the Society from attendance at public processions.
- 1577 21-Dec At Rome, Juan de Polanco died, secretary to the Society and a dear friend of St. Ignatius.
- 1578 3-Feb The death of Thomas Nelson, martyred at Tyburn by being hanged, drawn and quartered.
- 1578 24-Mar At Lisbon Rodolph Acquaviva and 13 companions embarked for India. Among the companions were Matthew Ricci and Michael Ruggieri.
- 1578 25-Jun The death in Clare, Ireland, of David Wolfe, pioneer Jesuit of the Irish mission, after five years imprisonment.
- 1578 17-Oct Robert Bellarmine entered the Jesuit novitiate of Sant' Andrea in Rome at the age of 16.
- 1579 23-Apr At Rome, the appointment of Alphonsus Agazzari, the first Jesuit rector of the English College which had been founded by Pope Gregory XIII.
- 1579 14-Jul At Lisbon, the death of Simo Rodrigues, one of the first companions.
- 1579 15-Jul The death in Lisbon of Simón Rodríguez, one of the first companions of Ignatius who assigned him to be companion of Francis Xavier to the Indies but had to yield to the request of King John III of Portugal who wanted to keep Rodríguez in that country.
- 1579 25-Jul The arrival in Japan of Alexander Valignano, who came to visit the 59 Jesuit missionaries working there in uncertain circumstances due to the constant changes in power between those who favored and those who opposed the work of the Society.
- 1579 17-Nov Blessed Rudolph Acquaviva and two other Jesuits set out from Goa for Surat and Fattiphur, the Court of Akbar, the Great Mogul.
- 1580 3-Jul Queen Elizabeth I issued a statute forbidding Jesuits all entrance into England.
- 1581 10-Jan Queen Elizabeth signed the fifth Penal Statute in England inflicting heavy fines and imprisonment on all who harbored Jesuits and Seminary priests.
- 1581 22-Apr At the close of the fourth general congregation, Pope Gregory XIII received the new general, Claude Acquaviva, and promised to provide a foundation fund for the Roman College.
- 1581 17-Jul St. Edmund Campion was arrested in England.
- 1581 19-Jul The birth of Giuseppe Castiglione, a Jesuit brother and a skilled Italian painter who at age 27 set sail for China where he undertook the role of the official painter to this distant court with the positive conviction that art was above all a means of carrying out his evangelical mission.
- 1581 8-Aug Anthony Possevino was received with extraordinary honors by Basilowicz, the Czar of Russia.
- 1581 1-Dec At Tyburn in London, St. Edmund Campion and Alexander Briant were martyred.
- 1582 11-Jan At Rome, Cardinal Guastavillani laid the foundation stone of the new building that would become the Roman College.

- 1582 20-Feb Three Japanese princes sailed from Japan for Rome to pay homage to Pope Gregory XIII. Father Valignani, who arranged the embassy, accompanied them as far as Goa.
- 1582 30-May At Tyrburn, the martyrdom of Thomas Cottam with three other priests.
- 1582 5-Oct The Gregorian Calendar went into effect. Christopher Clavius SJ helped create this modification that suppressed the days between October 5 and 15 in order to bring the calendar into line with astronomical facts. Countries which did not like the pope liked his calendar even less, so it was not until the 20th century that all countries adopted it as their civil calendar.
- 1582 15-Oct St. Teresa of Avila died on this day, the first of the new Gregorian calendar. She always wished to have a Jesuit as her confessor.
- 1583 25-Jul The martyrdom near Goa, India, of Rudolph Aquaviva, Pater Berno, Francio Aranha, Alphonsus Pacheco and Anthony Francisco.
- 1584 25-Nov The Church of the Gesu, built in Rome for the Society by Cardinal Alessandro Farnese, was solemnly consecrated.
- 1584 5-Dec By his bull *Omnipotentis Dei*, Pope Gregory XIII gave the title of Primaria to Our Lady's Sodality established in the Roman College in 1564, and empowered it to aggregate other similar sodalities.
- 1585 12-Jan At Rome, Cardinal Guastavillani laid the foundation stone of the new building that would become the Roman College.
- 1585 13-Feb At Naples, the death of Alfonso Salmeron, one of the first companions.
- 1585 27-Feb Father General Acquaviva wrote a severe letter forbidding members of the Society to meddle with politics after the Jesuit, Claude Mathieu, and the League (St. Union de France) sought to hinder King Henry of Navarre, a Protestant, from succeeding to the throne.
- 1585 22-Mar In Rome, the three Japanese ambassadors were received by Father General with great solemnity in the Society's Church of the Gesu.
- 1586 20-Apr The first Ratio Studiorum was issued under Father General Claude Aquaviva.
- 1587 27-Mar The death at Messina of Thomas Evans, a Jesuit who had suffered imprisonment for his defense of the Catholic faith in England. He was 28 at the time of his death.
- 1588 3-Oct The death of Pompeo Capuano, an Italian novice from an illustrious family. When he asked his father's leave to enter the Society, his father shut him up in a dark room and treated him like a madman.
- 1589 2-Mar At Rome, the death of Cardinal Alessandro Farnese, grandson of Pope Paul III, great benefactor of the Society, and founder/builder of the Gesu.
- 1590 3-Mar At Castiglione, his native place, St. Aloysius preached to the people with such fervor that crowds flocked to the confessionals.
- 1590 23-Sep The death of Nicolás Bobadilla, the last survivor of the original companions who founded the Society of Jesus.
- 1593 19-Dec At Rome St. Robert Bellarmine was appointed rector of the Roman College.
- 1594 16-Oct Students of the English College in Rome broke into a sort of rebellion against the Jesuits in charge there.
- 1594 18-Dec At Florence the apparition of St. Ignatius to St. Mary Magdalen de' Pazzi.
- 1595 30-Apr The death of Abraham George, the first of eight Jesuit martyrs in Ethiopia.
- 1597 27-Jul The death at Cracow of James Vujek, Polish jesuit appointed by King Stephen tutor to Prince Sigismund. Vujek translated the Bible into Polish.
- 1597 4-Oct John Gerard managed a marvelous escape from the Tower of London.
- 1598 1-Jan The death of Alphonsus Barréna, surnamed the Apostle of Peru; he was the first to carry the faith to the Guaranis and Chiquitos in Paraguay.
- 1600 6-Feb At Nanking, Matteo Ricci, after being expelled from this city, returned and opened a seminary.
- 1600 28-May Matteo Ricci, undismayed by the failure of his first visit to Peking, set out again from Nanking with many rich presents for the Emperor, of which he was robbed on the way.

- 1601 8-Jan The birth of Balthasar Gracian, a Spanish Jesuit who wrote on courtly matters. He is the author of “The Compleat Gentleman” and “The Art of Worldly Wisdom.”
- 1602 21-Mar The second Disputatio de Auxiliis before Pope Clement VIII took place between Gregory de Valentia SJ, and Thomas de Lemos OP.
- 1603 6-Mar Father General Acquaviva wrote a letter to all Jesuits saying that he and Robert Bellarmine had left nothing undone to prevent the latter’s promotion to the cardinalate.
- 1603 25-Apr Gregory de Valentia, A Spanish Jesuit, died at Naples. A renowned theologian, Pope Clement VIII honored him with the title “Doctor of Doctors.”
- 1604 18-Oct The foundation in Bogotá, Colombia of Colegio Sante Fe; it is the oldest university in Colombia and the third oldest in the Americas, following those in Mexico and Lima.
- 1606 20-Jan The death at Macao of Alexander Valignano, superior of all the Jesuit missions in the Far East for 33 years and architect of the missionary policies there.
- 1606 28-Mar At the Guildhall, London, the trial of Henry Garnet, falsely accused of complicity in the Gunpowder Plot.
- 1606 3-May The martyrdom at St. Pauls Churchyard, London, of Henry Garnet, superior of the Jesuits in England, falsely charged in the Gunpowder Plot.
- 1608 23-Jun The martyrdom in London, England, of Thomas Garnet.
- 1609 27-Jul Paul VI beatified Ignatius.
- 1610 11-May The death in Peking (Beijing) of Mateo Ricci, the Italian Jesuit mathematician and founder of the modern missions in China, the first to introduce the Christian faith there.
- 1610 27-Oct The first entrance of the Jesuits into Canada.
- 1611 26-Feb At Ferrara the death of Anthony Possevino, an Italian employed by Gregory XIII for embassies to Sweden, Russia, Poland and Germany. He founded colleges and seminaries in Cracow, Olmutz, Prague, Braunsberg and Vilna. He also wrote 24 books.
- 1611 22-Jun The first Jesuits arrived in Canada, sent by Father General Claudio Aquaviva, at the request of King Henry IV of France.
- 1611 2-Jul Death of St. Bernardino Realino, parish priest in Italy for many years.
- 1611 22-Sep The death of Peter Ribadeneira, aged 85, who had been admitted by St. Ignatius into the Society at the age of fourteen. He became an eloquent preacher, a great missionary, and a gifted writer.
- 1614 3-Nov The vessel which was bringing the right arm of Xavier to Rome miraculously escaped capture by Dutch pirates.
- 1614 6-Nov The death in Nagasaki, Japan, of Servant of God James de Mesquita who died before being exiled from that country where he had been a missionary.
- 1615 31-Jan The death of Father General Claudio Aquaviva, the fifth superior general of the Society, who governed for 34 years, the longest term of office of any Jesuit general.
- 1615 5-Mar At Belmont, England, Thomas Pond died. He was among the first to introduce Jesuit missionaries into England.
- 1615 27-Jun The Holy See gave permission to the Jesuits of China to celebrate Mass with heads covered, to translate the Bible into Chinese and to administer the sacraments in that same language.
- 1616 21-Feb Alphonsus Rodriguez, 90, master of novices for 40 years and author of a famous text on religious life “The Practice of Religious Perfection” died at Seville.
- 1617 25-Sep The death in Lisbon of Father Francisco Surez, one of the foremost philosophers and theologians of the Society of Jesus.
- 1617 31-Oct The death in Mallorca, of St. Alphonsus Rodríguez, a Jesuit brother famous for faithful service as porter of the college.
- 1618 12-Oct The death in Bavaria of Servant of God, James Rem, who cared for boarding students in Ingolstadt and developed the Sodality there.
- 1618 6-Dec In Naples, the Jesuits were blamed for proposing to the Viceroy that a solemn feast should be held in honor of the Immaculate Conception, and a public pledge be taken to defend that doctrine. This was regarded as a novelty not to be encouraged.

- 1619 2-Jan At Rome, St. John Berchmans and Bartholomew Penneman, his companion scholastic from Belgium, entered the Roman College.
- 1619 4-Jan The English mission is raised to the status of a province.
- 1622 12-Mar At Rome, the canonization of Ignatius and Francis Xavier by Pope Gregory XV.
- 1622 15-Sep In Quito, in the college seminary of St. Louis, the Jesuits founded the University of Gregory the Great.
- 1624 22-Feb The martyrdom at Sendai, Japan, of James Carvalho, who ministered to miners in the northern islands of Japan until the local ruler turned against the Christians and killed Carvalho by exposing him in the frigid waters of a river.
- 1626 7-May The death of John Baptist de Baeza, who is said to have baptized over 75,000 adults in Goa, Macao, Mozambique and Japan within three years.
- 1626 20-Jun The martyrdom at Nagasaki, Japan, of Blessed Francis Pacheco, John Baptist Zola, Vincent Caun, Balthasar de Torres, Michael Tozo, Gaspar Sadamatzu, John Kinsaco, Paul Xinsuki, and Peter Rinscei.
- 1628 15-Nov The martyrdom in Uruguay of St. Roch González, one of the main architects of the Jesuit missions on the River Plate in Paraguay, and St. Alphonsus Rodríguez.
- 1629 28-Nov The martyrdom in Nagasaki, Japan, of Blessed Leonardo Kimura, who was burned to death.
- 1631 15-Dec At Naples, during an earthquake and eruption of Mount Vesuvius, the Jesuits worked to help all classes of people.
- 1632 11-Apr At Lima, Peru, Ruiz de Montoya died. A Portuguese, he was called the Apostle of Paraguay because of the thousands of people he converted.
- 1632 29-Oct At Alost, Belgium, a scholastic, William Assliers, seeing one Jesuit dying and another about to leave the Society, prayed that he might sooner die than lose his vocation. He died within a few days.
- 1633 28-Aug The martyrdom in Japan of the Italian Jesuit, Jácome Antonio Granoni.
- 1634 25-Mar Arrival in Maryland of Andrew White and companions, founder of the mission.
- 1636 2-Oct Isaac Jogues first set foot on the shores of the New World after two stormy months on the ocean.
- 1637 26-Dec Cardinal Richelieu, the French Prime Minister, banished the Jesuit Nicolás Caussin, confessor of Louis XIII, who had incurred the wrath of the omnipotent minister for giving the king scruples about the cruel treatment and isolation of the queen mother, his treatment of his wife, and excessive taxation.
- 1640 22-Jan The death in Lima, Perú of Juan Almeida, a Brazilian Jesuit with the gift of prophecy who was an apostle to the native people.
- 1642 30-Nov The birth at Trent of Brother Andrea Pozzo, who was called to Rome in 1681 to paint the flat ceiling of the church of San Ignazio so that it would look as though there were a dome above. There had been a plan for a dome but there was not money to build it.
- 1643 12-May The death in Canada of Enemundo Massé, the first apostle to preach the Good News in that territory subsequently known as New France.
- 1645 1-Feb The death of Henry Morse, known as the "Priest of the Plague" because of his care for the plague-stricken. He was martyred at Tyburn, England, by being hanged, drawn and quartered.
- 1645 3-Aug The death of Ven. Brian Cansfield, missionary to England for 25 years. He was arrested while celebrating Mass, and suffered such a beating in prison that he died a few days after he was released.
- 1646 9-Nov In England, Edmund Neville died after nine months imprisonment and ill-treatment. An heir to large estates in Westmoreland, the Jesuit was educated in the English College and spent 40 years working in England.
- 1647 26-May Massachusetts passed a law banning Jesuits; they would be put to death if they returned after banishment.
- 1648 26-Apr At Madrid, the death of John de Ripalda, an eminent theologian who held the chair of theology at Salamanca.

- 1648 4-Jul The martyrdom in Canada of St. Athony Daniel, who was shot with arrows and cast into flames by the Iroquois.
- 1649 8-Jun The death of Vincenzo Caraffa, seventh superior general of the Society.
- 1649 7-Dec The martyrdom in Etarita, Canada, of St. Charles Garnier, missionary to the Petun Indians, among whom he died during an Iroquois attack.
- 1649 22-Dec At Cork the death of David Glawey, a missionary in the Inner and Lower Hebrides, Islay, Oronsay, Colonsay, Arran.
- 1650 18-Jul The death of Cristopher Scheiner, a physicist, astronomer and geometer who discovered sun spots independently of Galileo and created one of the first terrestrial telescopes.
- 1651 19-May The martyrdom at Tyburn, England, of Blessed Peter Wright, a former soldier who returned to his homeland as a Jesuit and was hanged.
- 1652 17-Mar Goswin Nickel is elected superior general in succession to Father General Gottifredi, who had died six weeks after his election.
- 1656 23-Jan Pascal published his first Provincial Letter against the Society of Jesus. Other letters followed at intervals. Though condemned at Rome and publicly burnt by the French King's order, they were influential in portraying Jesuits very unfavorably.
- 1657 16-May The martyrdom at Janów, Poland, of St. Andrzej Bobola, killed by Cossacks for his defense of faith.
- 1658 25-Oct Claude la Colombière entered the novitiate at Avignon.
- 1660 5-Nov The death of Alexander de Rhodes, one of the most effective Jesuit missionaries of all time. A native of France, he arrived in what is now Vietnam in 1625.
- 1661 2-Nov The death of Daniel Seghers, an artist famous for his paintings of insects and flowers.
- 1661 12-Dec In the College of Clermont, Paris, James Caret publicly defended the doctrine of papal infallibility, causing great excitement among the Gallicans and Jansenists.
- 1665 21-Apr At Bordeaux the death of John Joseph Surin, who entered the Society at the age of 15. He was a man of great sanctity and venerated after death as a saint. For 20 years he was cruelly tormented by evil spirits, after exorcising certain Religious in a convent at Loudon.
- 1666 25-Aug At Beijing, the death of John Adam Schall whose profound knowledge of mathematics and astronomy won him such fame that the Emperor entrusted to him the reform of the Chinese calendar.
- 1669 6-Apr At Paris, St. Claude de la Colombiere was ordained a priest.
- 1670 14-Jun The death of Francis Annat, confessor of Louis XIV for 16 years. He introduced quinine, then known as "Jesuit's bark" in France and was instrumental in saving Louis XIV's life.
- 1672 15-Jun Father General Francis Borgia established the Province of Mexico.
- 1673 17-Jun Jacques Marquette became one of the first Europeans to see the Mississippi River.
- 1675 18-May The death in Canada, at age 37, of James Marquette, Jesuit missionary who gained lasting reknown for exploring the Mississippi River.
- 1675 16-Jun St. Margaret Mary Alacoque received her great revelation about devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
- 1676 11-Nov In St James' Palace, London, St. Claude la Colombière preached on All Saints Day.
- 1678 26-Nov In London the arrest and imprisonment of St. Claude la Colombière. He was released after five weeks and banished.
- 1679 24-Jan The martyrdom in London of William Ireland, procurator for the English Jesuits. He was falsely accused of plotting to kill the king.
- 1679 20-Jun The martyrdom in London of Blesseds William Harcourt, John Gavan and Anthony Turner.
- 1679 22-Jul The martyrdom at Cardiff, Wales, of St. Philip Evans.
- 1680 27-Nov In Rome the death of Athanasius Kircher, considered a universal genius, but especially knowledgeable in science and archeology.
- 1682 5-Jul General Congregation XII elected Father Charles de Noyelle Superior General of the Society of Jesus.

- 1683 28-Jan The death of Blessed Julian Maunoir, known as the ‘Apostle of Brittany’ for preaching missions to the poor in the northwest of France.
- 1686 11-Dec At Rome the death of Charles de Noyelle, a Belgian, 12th superior general of the Society.
- 1687 6-Jul Father General Tirso Gonzalez was elected Superior General of the Society of Jesus at 66 years of age; he governed for 18 years.
- 1688 29-Jan The death of Ferdinand Verbiest, the successor to Adam Schall as mathematical professor at the imperial court in Peking and superior of the Society in China.
- 1688 11-Oct King Louis XIV forbade all correspondence and interchange between the French Jesuits and Father General Thyrsus Gonzalez.
- 1690 17-Oct The death at Paray-le-Monial, France, of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque; with St. Claude la Colombière she was greatly responsible for the early spread of devotion to the Sacred Heart.
- 1693 4-Feb The martyrdom in India of St. Joan de Brito, born into the Portuguese aristocracy and a member of the royal court, who devised a method of working with various castes in India.
- 1697 19-Oct The Milanese missionary Juan María Salvatierra arrived in California, carrying an image of the Virgin of Loreto.
- 1699 7-Oct The remains of Ignatius reached their sixth and final resting place in the altar-shrine in the church of the Gesù in Rome.
- 1700 23-Feb The death of Paul Hoste, mathematician and expert historian on construction of ships and naval warfare.
- 1705 21-Jan The death of Claude Francois Menestrier, the writer of a classic history of ballet and the creator of a ballet for Louis XIV.
- 1706 17-Jan The Fifteenth General Congregation opened; on Jan. 31 it elected Michael Angelo Tamburini superior general.
- 1711 15-Mar The death of Eusebio Francisco Kino, missionary in Lower California and Arizona, noted for his far-ranging exploration and accurate mapmaking.
- 1715 19-Mar Pope Clement XI condemned the “Chinese Rites”; this action proved disastrous to the Chinese mission.
- 1717 7-Nov The death in Poffi, Italy, of St. Anthony Balducci, the great itinerant home missionary who preached to people near Rome and averaged 22 missions a year.
- 1722 5-Sep King Philip V authorized the Society to found a college in the city of Santafé de Antioquia (Colombia); it was the first college founded in that province.
- 1723 11-Oct The deaths in Vietnam of Servants of God John Baptist Messari and Francis Mary Bucherelli, martyrs.
- 1731 14-Sep The death of Servant of God Francis Mary Galluzzi, confessor, preacher and counsellor in Rome, noted for his holiness and spiritual influence on students at the Roman College.
- 1737 5-Apr The canonization of St. John Francis Regis by Pope Clement XII.
- 1741 9-Dec At Paris, Charles Poree died. He was a famous master of rhetoric. Nineteen of his pupils were admitted into the French Academy, including Voltaire, who, in spite of his impiety, always felt an affectionate regard for his old Jesuit master.
- 1742 11-Jun Pope Benedict XIV forbade the Chinese and Malabar Rites; persecution broke out at once in China.
- 1742 11-Jul Pope Benedict XIV ended the controversy between Jesuits and other religious orders over the Chinese and Malabar Rites by forbidding the Jesuits to continue the liturgical practices they had long used in China.
- 1746 17-Dec Benedict XIV annulled the Constitution of Pope Innocent X which required a general congregation of the Society every nine years.
- 1747 17-Sep The death of Juan Prímoli, a Jesuit brother who had exceptional talents as an architect and built the cathedral of Córdoba and various churches in Buenos Aires.
- 1751 4-Jul General Congregation XVII elected 69-year-old Ignacio Visconti to be superior general. An affable man known as the “angel of peace,” he governed four years.

- 1758 9-May The 19th General Congregation opened, the last of the Old Society. It elected Lorenzo Ricci as superior general.
- 1758 21-May GC XIX elected Lorenzo Ricci, 58 year-old Florentine Jesuit, as superior general in a time of great uncertainty, with the papal throne vacant after the death of Benedict XIV.
- 1759 16-Sep At Lisbon, 133 fathers and brothers of the Society were put on board a vessel to be conveyed as exiles to Civita Vecchia.
- 1759 24-Oct One hundred thirty-three Jesuits, banished from Portugal and put ashore at Civita Vecchia, were most kindly received by Clement XIII and by the religious communities, especially the Dominicans.
- 1759 21-Nov At Livorno, the harbor officials refused to let the ship, S. Bonaventura with 120 exiled Portugese Jesuits on board, cast anchor. Carvalho sent orders to the Governor of Rio de Janeiro to make a diligent search for the supposed wealth of the Jesuits.
- 1759 28-Nov Twenty Fathers and 192 Scholastics set sail from the Tagus for exile. Two were to die on the voyage to Genoa and Civita Vecchia.
- 1760 12-Nov Empress Maria Teresa of Austria decreed that the chairs of theology in all the universities within her domain should be held by Dominicans or Augustinians to avoid the “corrupt doctrine taught by the Jesuits.”
- 1762 5-Aug The Parliament at Paris condemned the Society’s Institute as opposed to natural law, confiscated all Jesuit property and forbade the Jesuit habit and community life.
- 1763 20-Oct In a pastoral letter read in all his churches, the Archbishop of Paris expressed his bitter regret at the suppression of the society in France. He described it as a veritable calamity for his country.
- 1764 9-Mar In France the government ordered all Jesuits to abjure the Institute or face exile. Only 15 out of approximately 4,000 members took the oath.
- 1767 11-Mar At Madrid Fathers Thomas de Lorraine and Bernard Recio, leaving for the Provincial Congregation in Rome, received a sealed parcel said to come from the nuncio. They were requested to take it to someone in Rome. It contained a letter forged by de Choiseul and de Aranda, the prime ministers of France and Spain, and purporting to come from Fther General Ricci alleging Charles II to be illegitimate. Both priests were arrested on their journey and brought back prisoners to Madrid. The forged document was shown to the king, whose previous affection for the Society turned into most bitter hatred.
- 1767 3-Apr St. Joseph Pignatelli was expelled from Spain along with all other Jesuits there. He began his career of holding together the suppressed Society at age 30, and once again saw the Society permitted to accept novices when he was 57 years old, but he did not live to see its restoration in 1814.
- 1767 10-Jul All the Jesuits in Paraguay were arrested by order of Charkes III of Spain and led into exile. There were 385 priests, 109 brothers, 59 scholastics and 11 novices.
- 1767 9-Sep Under the order of Charles III, the 465 Jesuits working in Perú had to abandon their apostolic efforts.
- 1768 14-Jan The Society of Jesus was banished from the Duchy of Parma, the result of pressure exercised on the Grand Duke by Choiseul of France.
- 1768 4-Nov On the feast of St. Charles, patron of Charles III, King of Spain, the people of Madrid asked for the recall of the Jesuits who had been banished from Spain 19 months earlier. Irritated by this demand, the King drove the Archbishop of Toledo and his Vicar General into exile as instigators of the movement.
- 1769 19-May The election of Cardinal Lorenzo Ganganelli as Pope Clement XIV. He was the pope who suppressed the Society.
- 1769 8-Nov In Spain, Charles III ordered all of the Society’s goods to be sold, and sent a peremptory demand to the newly-elected Pope Clement XIV to have the Society suppressed.
- 1772 23-Mar At Rome, Cardinal Marefoschi held a visitation of the Irish College and accused the Jesuits of mismanagement. He then removed them from directing that school.

- 1773 10-Feb A copy of the proposed Brief of Suppression of the Society of Jesus, drawn up by Monino (Florida Blanca), the Spanish Ambassador, and revised by Cardinal Zelada, was sent with Pope Clement XIV's leave, given reluctantly, to Charles III of Spain, to be communicated by him to the Courts of France, Austria, Portugal and Naples.
- 1773 25-May The scholastics at Bologna, Italy, pressed immediately before the suppression by Cardinal Malvezzi to take off their religious habit and accept dispensation from their vows, refused to listen to him.
- 1773 21-Jul Pope Clement XIV issued *Dominus ac Redemptor*, an Apostolic Brief, suppressing the Society of Jesus.
- 1773 13-Aug Pope Clement XIV published the Brief "Gravissimis ex causis" which established a special congregation of five cardinals to superintend the Suppression of the Society of Jesus and the appropriation of its houses and goods.
- 1773 16-Aug The suppression of the Society of Jesus came with the publication of Clement XIV's Brief *Dominus ac Redemptor*. Father General Lorenzo Ricci was led away as a prisoner to the English College.
- 1773 17-Aug Frederik II of Prussia and Catherine of Russia forbade the publication of the Brief of Suppression in their dominions.
- 1773 6-Oct In London, Dr. James Talbot, the Apostolic Vicar, promulgated the Letter of Suppression of the Society, and sent copies to Maryland and Pennsylvania.
- 1773 29-Nov The Jesuits of White Russia requested the Empress Catherine to allow the Letter of Suppression to be published, as it had been all over Europe. "She bade them lay aside their scruples, promising to obtain the Papal sanction for their remaining in status quo."
- 1774 24-Apr Christopher de Beaumont, Archbishop of Paris, wrote to Pope Clement XIV, regretting the Brief of Suppression.
- 1775 15-Feb Cardinal Braschi was elected Pope Pius VI. A former pupil of the Society of Jesus, he desired the release of Father General Ricci and his assistants from prison in Castel San Angelo, but Charles III of Spain insisted on their detention.
- 1778 15-Apr Empress Catherine the Great requested the Holy See that the Jesuits in White Russia (the only ones in the world, all others having been suppressed) might have a novitiate. She received the answer that the local bishop should do as he thought best.
- 1780 2-Feb Catherine the Great, Empress of Russia, visited the recently established novitiate at Polotsk, for which she had given permission and which helped make possible the survival of the Society during the suppression years.
- 1782 25-Jun The Jesuits in White Russia were permitted by the Empress Catherine to elect a superior general. They chose Father Czerniewicz, who took the title of vicar general, with the powers of the general.
- 1787 12-Feb At Milan the death of Rudiger Boscovich, among the most famous scientists in Jesuit history. His theory of the composition of matter foreshadowed in part modern atomic theory.
- 1789 6-Nov Father John Carroll of Maryland, a Jesuit until the Suppression, was appointed to be the first Bishop of Baltimore.
- 1791 22-Nov Georgetown Academy opened with one student, aged 12, who was the first student taught by the Jesuits in the United States.
- 1792 14-Apr The death of Maximilian Hell at Vienna. He was an astronomer who directed the royal observatory for 36 years.
- 1798 1-Jul The colossal silver statue of Ignatius in the Gesù in Roma was carried off by French officials during the revolution and melted down. (The exact day is uncertain.)
- 1800 14-Mar At Venice, the election of Pope Pius VII (Cardinal Chiaramonti), a Benedictine, who in 1814 restored the Society throughout the world.
- 1801 7-Mar "Second Confirmation" Day: Pius VII in his brief *Catholicae Fidei* confirmed Franciszek Kareu as Superior General of the Jesuits in Russia. Thereafter Pius VII wrote to Kareu as "General of the Society of Jesus."

- 1802 28-Dec Pope Pius VII allowed Father General Gabriel Gruber to affiliate the English Jesuits to the Society of Jesus in Russia.
- 1803 19-Feb At St. Inigo's, Maryland, James Walton died. He entered the Society in 1757, was sent to Maryland in 1766 and labored for 36 years. During the Suppression, fully confident that the Society would one day be restored, he faithfully guarded the property of the Society which had been invested chiefly in his name.
- 1811 16-Feb At Dublin, the death of Thomas Betagh, the last survivor of the Irish Jesuits of the Old Society. When the Society was suppressed, he opened a Latin school in Dublin and became curate of St. Michael's Church there.
- 1815 29-May The restoration of the Society in Spain was proclaimed by royal decree.
- 1815 20-Dec Alexander I was published a Ukase banishing the Society of Jesus from St. Petersburg and Moscow on the pretext that they were troubling the Russian Church.
- 1816 3-Jan Father General Brzozowski and 25 members of the Society, guarded by soldiers, left St. Petersburg, Russia, having been banished by the civil government.
- 1816 6-May In a letter to Thomas Jefferson, John Adams called Jesuits a body of men worthy of damnation.
- 1820 13-Mar In Russia, an imperial ukase of Czar Alexander I banished all Jesuits from the Empire where the Society had survived from 1773 until the restoration in 1814.
- 1820 6-Sep King Ferdinand VII suppressed the Society of Jesus in Spain
- 1820 9-Oct The 20th General Congregation of the Society opened. The first to be held by the restored Society, it elected Luigi Fortis as superior General.
- 1824 17-May Pope Leo XIII returned the Roman College to the Society.
- 1829 6-Jan Publication of Pope Leo XII's rescript, declaring the Society to be canonically restored in England.
- 1829 27-Jan The death of Father General Luigi Fortis, the 20th superior general of the Society of Jesus, who led the reconstruction of the Society when it was restored after the Suppression.
- 1829 30-Jun The opening of the Twenty-First General Congregation, which elected John Roothaan as superior general.
- 1829 26-Aug The death of Ven. Aloysius Mary Solari, a teacher who became a powerful preacher noted for his Friday sermons on the Sacred Heart of Jesus. After only five years in Benevento, southern Italy, he fell suddenly ill, presumably from scarlet fever, and died at age 34.
- 1831 14-Feb The French novitiate at Montrouge near Paris was sacked by revolutionaries convinced that the novices there were practicing "small arms drills" in preparation for the Society's conquering France.
- 1831 24-Feb Father General John Roothaan's September 28, 1830, letter declaring Missouri an independent mission (from Maryland) finally reached the Missouri Jesuits. This status gave the Mission the privilege of having its own novitiate.
- 1833 1-Feb Father General John Roothaan wrote the *Ordinatio de Mineverali* that granted Jesuit schools permission to charge tuition in line with other reputable day schools in the country. Poor students, however, were not to be turned away.
- 1834 24-May Don Pedro IV expelled the Society from Brazil
- 1834 27-Dec Father General Johann Roothaan published an influential letter on the excellence of the Spiritual Exercises and the need for diligent study and good use of them.
- 1835 7-Jul The Society in Spain was again suppressed and its property seized.
- 1840 27-Mar Peter de Smet set out from St. Louis on his first trip to the Rocky Mountains at the invitation of a delegation from the Salishan people in what is now Montana. This exploratory trip resulted in starting a mission to the Indians a year later.
- 1840 23-Jul The Belgian missionary Fr. Jean Pierre De Smet dedicated the mission that he and five companions were en route to establish in the U.S.A.'s Rocky Mountains to "St. Ignatius, Patron of the Mountains"

- 1841 17-Aug The death of S.G. Charles Odescalchi (1786-1841), a cardinal of the Church who waited 20 years to become a Jesuit. He was one of the first to apply to enter the Society after it was restored in 1814, but family pressure and papal resistance kept him from doing so. In 1823 he was named a cardinal and consecrated archbishop of Ferrara, and later was appointed the vicar of Pope Gregory XVI for the diocese of Rome. Finally Odescalchi's ill health led the pope to permit him to enter the novitiate, which he did in 1838. After he pronounced his vows, he served as spiritual father to young Jesuits at the seminary in Modena.
- 1842 28-Apr The Republic of Colombia passed a law permitting Jesuits to return to that country some years after the universal restoration of the Society.
- 1844 18-Jun Seventeen Jesuits arrived in Bogotá, Colombia, to reestablish the Society 80 years after Jesuits were banished.
- 1845 12-Jun Pope Gregory XVI refused the demand of the French government that the French Jesuits should be secularized and their houses closed.
- 1848 10-Mar At Naples a mob threatened to massacre the Jesuits unless they left the city at once.
- 1848 10-May The Austro-Hungarian government decreed the suppression of the Society of Jesus in all its empire.
- 1851 21-Sep In Rome at the Basilica of St. Peter, Pope Pius IX beatified Peter Claver, "The apostle of the slaves."
- 1856 6-Jun The expulsion of Jesuits from Mexico, under the presidency of Ignacio Comonfort.
- 1857 13-Oct The death in Naples of Ven. Paul Anthony Capelloni, pastor of the Gesù Nuovo.
- 1859 27-Apr At Florence, under pressure from the Freemasons, the Society of Jesus was banished.
- 1860 16-Jan At Calcutta, Belgian Jesuits opened St. Francis Xavier College.
- 1860 11-Sep The Jesuits were expelled from Sicily and all their possessions confiscated.
- 1861 26-Jul The dictator and persecutor of the Church, Tomás Cipriano de Mosquera, published a decree expelling Jesuits from Nueva Granada (Colombia); 52 Jesuits abandoned their homeland for the third time, going into exile in Guatemala.
- 1864 20-Nov In St. Peter's, Rome, the beatification of Peter Canisius by Pope Pius IX.
- 1866 17-Jul Gerard Manley Hopkins decided to become catholic.
- 1867 7-Jul The beatification of the 205 Japanese Martyrs, 33 of them members of the Society of Jesus.
- 1868 10-Aug The Society was expelled from Mexico and all its property confiscated.
- 1870 4-Dec The Roman College, appropriated by the Piedmontese government, was reopened as a lyceum. The monogram of the Society over the main entrance was removed.
- 1871 12-Aug The Society was expelled from Guatemala.
- 1872 20-Jul In Roma gangs of miscreants paraded the streets crying out: Death to the Friars! Death to the Jesuits!
- 1872 22-Aug Jesuits were expelled from Germany during Bismarck's Kulturkampf.
- 1873 4-Apr In Mexico a law to expel the Society was proposed in Parliament.
- 1873 1-May In Rome the Italian Parliament passed a law declaring religious orders non-existent in Italy, and ownership of all their properties passed to the state.
- 1873 19-Jun In Rome, Victor Emmanuel and his parliament explicitly exclude the general of the Society from any pension.
- 1873 20-Oct At Rome all of the Society's houses, including the Gesù and the Curia, were appropriated by the government.
- 1874 23-May The death in St. Louis, Missouri, of Peter De Smet, intrepid Belgian missionary, who founded the Rocky Mountain Missions in the western United States and crossed the Atlantic 19 times in search of economic resources and vocations to staff the growing church.
- 1879 4-Aug Pope Leo XIII published his encyclical *Aeterni Patris* affirming the importance of the philosophy of St. Thomas Aquinas.
- 1879 7-Aug The New York Province was established.
- 1880 16-Mar The French Parliament passed a bill sponsored by Jules Ferry's for the closing of all the Society's houses and colleges in France.

- 1881 4-May The Society was expelled from the Republic of Nicaragua.
- 1881 26-Jun Eighty-three Jesuits were banished by the Republic of Nicaragua.
- 1883 16-Sep General Congregation 23 convened and choose as Vicar with right of succession the Swiss Jesuit Anton Anderley. In its Decree 46 the Congregation dedicated the Society of Jesus to promoting devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
- 1886 29-Dec Publication of the beatification decree of the English martyrs.
- 1887 5-Mar The funeral of Father General Peter Beckx, 22nd superior general of the Society, who served his brothers in that office for 34 years.
- 1889 8-Jun The death of the jesuit poet, Gerard Manley Hopkins in Dublin at the age of 45.
- 1890 8-Feb At Rome in the Palazzo Barberini, the death of Cardinal Joseph Pecci who left the Society of Jesus in 1847 but was readmitted 40 years later at the request of his brother, Pope Leo XIII.
- 1892 18-Jan The death at Fiesole of Father General Anthony Anderledy, 23rd superior general of the Society.
- 1900 17-Jun The martyrdom at Wuyi, China, of Blessed Modeste Andlauer and Blessed Rémy Aroré, slain during the Boxer Rebellion.
- 1900 20-Jul The death in China of Sts. Paul Denn and Leo Mangin, martyrs of the Boxer Rebellion; the Church celebrates their feast on Feb. 4
- 1909 17-Apr In the United States, America Magazine began publication.
- 1909 15-May The death in Quito, Ecuador, of Italian Jesuit Luis Sodiro, a key scientific figure in Latin America, who developed a botanic collection that formed the base for the National Botanical Garden in Quito.
- 1909 29-Jun St. Pius X entrusted the Pontifical Biblical Institute to the Society.
- 1909 7-Sep Father General Franz Wernz established the province of Austria.
- 1913 9-Apr Pope St. Pius X spoke his praises of the Apostleship of Prayer which counted 25 million members. The periodical The Messenger of the Sacred Heart appears in 42 editions in more than 20 languages.
- 1914 19-Aug The death of Father General Francis Xavier Wernz, thirty-fifth superior general. A noted canonist, he devoted himself to the internal life of the Society.
- 1915 11-Feb Wlodimir Ledochowski was elected 26th superior general of the Society.
- 1915 1-Mar At the 26th General Congregation, the American Assistancy of the Society was established, consisting of the provinces then existent in the United States: Maryland-New York, Missouri, New Orleans and California. Thomas Gannon was named the first American Assistant.
- 1924 5-May The Apostolic Letter of Pope Pius XI to Father General, recalling the distinguished merits of the Gregorian University and deciding to build a grand edifice.
- 1926 26-Sep The death at the leprosarium in Culión, the Philippines, of Father Felipe Millán, known as the "Father of Lepers" after a life heroically dedicated to caring for the sick.
- 1927 4-Oct The death in Mexico City of Servant of God Salvador Garcidueñas, pastor and guardian of the Shrine of Our Lady of the Angels
- 1928 9-Feb Edward Garesche founded the Catholic Medical Mission Board in New York City.
- 1930 27-May The death of José María Algué, one of the great meteorologists in the history of the world. He invented a machine to measure barometric pressure that saved many lives in the Far East.
- 1934 7-Oct The deaths of Servants of God Emile Martínez and John Baptist Arconada, martyrs of Spain.
- 1936 24-Jul The death of S.G. Braulio Martínez and Lawrence Isla, martyrs of the Spanish Civil War.
- 1936 14-Aug The deaths of Servants of God Joachim Valentí, Louis Boguñá, and Joseph Vergés, martyrs of the Spanish Civil War, killed by machine gun fire the day after their arrests.
- 1936 23-Aug The death of Servants of God Martin Santaella, Alphonsus Payán, and Emmanuel Luque, martyrs of the Spanish Civil War. They were imprisoned in a prison ship in the harbor at Almería, in southern Spain. Fathers Alphonsus Payán and Emmanuel Luque were taken off the ship along with a large number of others and shot. Fr. Santaella was beaten and suffocated in a coal bunker on another ship.

- 1936 24-Aug The death of S.G. Andrew Carrió, martyr of the Spanish Civil War who remained in Spain ministering to people after the Society was suppressed.
- 1936 8-Sep The death Servant of God Richard Tena, martyr of the Spanish Civil War, who was too old and infirm to leave Spain as many other Jesuits had done. Despite his age, he was arrested and shot.
- 1936 12-Sep Servant of God Emmanuel Gonzalez (1889-1936), Martyr of the Spanish Civil War. Accused of supporting the nationalist movement against the communists, he was taken from prison in the middle of the night and executed.
- 1936 24-Sep The death of Servant of God Ignatius de Velasco and six Companions, martyrs of the Spanish Civil War.
- 1936 4-Nov The death in Tortosa, Spain, of Servants of God Francis Audí, John Rovira and Joseph Llatje, martyrs of the Spanish Civil War
- 1937 4-Jun Chile was established as an independent vice-province.
- 1942 19-Nov The death of Servant of God Joseph Mark Figueroa, a brother who served as porter of the Jesuit college in Santa Fe, Argentina, for 54 years; his profound love of God touched the whole city.
- 1944 20-Jul An abortive plot against Hitler by General Claus von Stauffenberg and his assistants resulted in the arrest of the Jesuit, Alfred Delp.
- 1946 31-Aug The death of S.G. Joseph Picco, faithful and humble minister. Despite his frail health Fr. Joseph Picco devoted himself to a variety of ordinary jobs over a long life of priestly service. He wanted to be a missionary in Alaska, but his mission was to assist others: an elderly Jesuit who needed health care during his final months, students at the major seminary in Turin where he was confessor, and retreatants in Gozzano.
- 1946 6-Sep General Congregation XXIX convened to elect a new superior general; nine days later it chose the Belgian Jesuit, John Baptist Janssens.
- 1947 21-Jul The death of Servant of God John Baptist Reus, a German who worked in Southern Brazil and is noted for his mystical prayer.
- 1948 1-Oct The death in Portugal of Servant of God Francis Rodrigues da Cruz, famed as a confessor of the poor.
- 1948 21-Oct A novitiate was established in the Belgian Congo for African Jesuits, with four novice scholastics.
- 1952 14-May The inauguration in Bogotá, Colombia, of Casa de Ejercicios de Jesús Redentor, for workers and rural farmers.
- 1952 18-Aug The death of Alberto Hurtado, writer, retreat director, trade unionist and founder of “El Hogar de Cristo,” a movement to help the homeless in Chile.
- 1955 15-Jan The death of Daniel Lord, popular writer, U.S. director of the Sodality, founder of the Summer School of Catholic Action, and editor of *The Queen’s Work*.
- 1955 10-Apr The death of Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, paleontologist and theologian.
- 1956 28-Oct In La Vega, Republic of the Dominican Republic, the inauguration of Radio Santa María, a station founded by the Jesuits to provide popular or basic education throughout that country.
- 1956 1-Nov The Society of Jesus was allowed into Norway.
- 1957 28-Feb The Jesuit Volunteer Corps was founded in the United States.
- 1963 1-Apr The death of Gerald Ellard, liturgist and one of the founders of the National Liturgical Conference.
- 1963 24-Nov The death of John LaFarge, pioneer advocate of racial justice in the United States.
- 1965 22-May Pedro Arrupe was elected the 28th superior general of the Society of Jesus.
- 1968 21-Aug Father General Pedro Arrupe arrived in Medellín, Colombia, to take part in the conference of Latin American bishops that proved to be a pivotal moment in the Church’s recognition of the central role of the option for justice.
- 1969 8-Oct The death of Louis Twomey, an advocate of interracial justice and labor relations in the United States.

- 1972 20-Aug The death of Pío Buck, a Swiss Jesuit known as the apostle of prisoners in Brasil; he was also famous as an entomologist.
- 1975 26-Jan The death of Josef Jungmann, whose studies of liturgical history contributed to the reform of the liturgy.
- 1976 12-Oct The murder in rural Brazil of Joao Bosco Burnier who was shot and killed by soldiers for protesting the torture of two poor women.
- 1977 12-Mar Salvador Rutilio Grande, pastor and champion of campesinos, was assassinated on his way to celebrate Mass.
- 1978 27-Jun The murder of Bernard Lisson, a mechanic, and Gregor Richert, a parish priest, shot to death at St Rupert's Mission, Sinoia, Zimbabwe.
- 1979 14-Jul The assassination in Guyana of Brnard Darke, a photographer for the Catholic Standard, a diocesan newspaper.
- 1979 14-Dec The death of Riccardo Lombardi, founder of the Better World Movement.
- 1980 7-Mar Matthew Mannaparambil, a parish priest at Sasaram in Patna/Bihar, India, was assassinated.
- 1981 13-Apr The death of Godofredo Alingal, who was shot and killed in his rectory in Kibawe, Philippines, for defending the rights of poor farmers.
- 1981 2-Aug Carlos Perez Alonso, chaplain at a military hospital in Guatemala, disappeared and is presumed to have been killed during a period of repression.
- 1983 2-Sep General Congregation 33 began in Rome with 220 delegates representing 26,000 Jesuits.
- 1983 14-Nov Father General Peter-Hans Kolvenbach decreed that all independent vice-provinces in the Society should become provinces.
- 1983 28-Dec The death in a Chinese labor camp of Francis Xavier Chu, a Jesuit born in Shanghai.
- 1984 8-Dec The death of Walter Ciszek, prisoner in Russia from 1939 to 1963.
- 1985 30-Oct In Mozambique the brutal assasination of Joao de Deus and Silvio Moreira, Portuguese Jesuits who were missionaries dedicated to the good of the people.
- 1987 2-Jun The death of Anthony de Mello, author and retreat master.
- 1989 1-Jun The death of Sergio Restrepo, whose defense of the rights of the powerless and of the environment made him a threat to the interests of the economic and political powers in Tierralta, Colombia.
- 1989 16-Nov The assassination in San Salvador, El Salvador, of Ignacio Ellacuría, Ignacio Martín-Baró, Segundo Mondes, Joaquín López, Juan Ramón Moreno, and Amando López, along with their cook, Elba Julia Ramos, and her daughter Celina Maricet Ramos.
- 1991 5-Feb At Rome, the death of Pedro Arrupe, 28th superior general of the Society of Jesus.
- 1991 27-Aug In Bogotá, Colombia, the first meeting for those in charge of pastoral work in the Latin American universities of the Society of Jesus.
- 1992 31-May The canonization of Claude de la Colombiere by Pope John Paul II, 63 years after he was beatified by Pius XI.
- 1994 12-Jul "Symposium on the Vocation and Mission of the Jesuit Brother" opened in Loyola and functioned as a commission to prepare for the 34th General Congregation.
- 1996 27-Oct Christophe Munzihirwa Mwene Ngabo SJ, archbishop of Bukavu in the Democratic Republic murdered, was murdered. He had denounced the political and economic exploitation of hundreds of thousands of Rwandan refugees who sought refuge in Kivu.

Amazing Facts about JESUITS

- There are 52 Saints and 150 Blesseds in the Jesuits Order.
- The highest numbers of Martyrs for the faith are from the Jesuits.
- Jesuits have spent more man-years in jail than members of any other order have.
- In the election to name the successor of Pope Paul III five members voted for Ignatius.
- St Ignatius has written around 7000 letters by way guiding the Society and other externs.
- There are 1825 Jesuit Houses in 112 countries.
- There are 90 Jesuits Colleges in 27 countries.
- There are also 430 Jesuit High Schools in 55 countries.
- 35 Lunar craters have been named after Jesuit scientists.
- Two Jesuits along with Galileo prepared a map of the moon which was later used in voyages to the moon, e.g. by Apollo in 1969.
- By A.D. 1750, 30 of the world's 130 astronomical observatories were run by Jesuits astronomers
- The Gregorian calendar which we now use was the work of the Jesuit Christopher Clavius.
- Ferdinand Verbiest, a Belgian Jesuit determined the elusive Russo-Chinese border.
- The first car in the 16th century was constructed by Fr Ferdinand Verbiest.
- The Mughal Emperor Akbar has Jesuits in his court and they participated in the religious discussions that he had.
- The Jesuits taught The Bible to Akbar's son.
- The first printing press with moveable types of Roman script was set up in the Jesuit College at St Paul's in Goa in 1556.
- Groundnuts were first introduced in India by the Portuguese Jesuits.
- China has recently erected a monument to the Jesuit scientists of the 17th century.
- Jesuits explorers first charted five of the major rivers of the world.
- Two of the statues in Statuary Hall in Capitol in Washington are of Jesuits – Eusebio Kino and Jacques Marquette.
- The first Jesuit martyr is Ven Antony Criminali who was pierced with a lance in Vethalai, Tamil Nadu.
- Tamil Nadu Government has honoured two Jesuit Tamil Scholars By erecting statues for them in Madurai-Robert de Nobili and Beschi (Veeramamunivar).
- On the occasion of the International Tamil Conference Tamil Nadu Government has erected a statue of Beschi at the Marina Beach, Chennai.
- Beschi has reformed around five Tamil letters and has given us the first Tamil Dictionary.
- 500 postal stamps have been published on Jesuits in 40 countries.
- The Spiritual Exercises written by St. Ignatius Loyola has been published some 4500 times, an average of once a month for the past 400 years. The number of copies printed has been estimated to be some 4.5 million.

Some Jesuit Scientists

- Fr. Matteo Ricci SJ: Mathematician and Astronomer at the Chinese Court.
- Fr. Scheiver SJ: discovered the sun-spots.
- Fr. Geogoire de St. Vincent SJ : Founder of the analytical geometry along with Descartes and Fermiot.

- Fr. Gusamao SJ: invented the first air-balloons.
- Fr. Secchi SJ: did the topographical survey of the moon, special studies of nebulae and the first classification of stars.
- Fr. De Vico SJ: discovered several comets and was one of those who observed the transit of Venus.
- Fr. Cecil Saldanha SJ: Taxonomist. He has done extensive research and published volumes on Hassan and Karnataka Flora.
- Fr. Santapau SJ: Taxonomist. He had collected more than 100,000 specimens and was an internationally recognized authority on Plant-taxonomy and Systematics. He led a delegation of Indian Botanists to USSR and Edinburgh. He was bestowed with 'Padma Shri' Award.

Some renowned Jesuits

- Fr. Rudolf Aquaviva SJ and Companions were in the court of Akbar at the Emperor's request.
- Br. Anthony Moscheni SJ embellished the St. Aloysius College Chapel, Mangalore, Karnataka with his paintings.
- Br. Peter Rayappan SJ of Shembaganur served in postal services for 36 years and the Government of India recognized him nationally as managing "the best post office in India" and conferred on him the "Padma Shri".
- Fr. Guy Rajendra SJ was the Vice Chancellor of Batticolao University, Sri Lanka.
- Fr. Henrique Henriques SJ composed a Tamil Grammar in 1555.
- Fr. Thomas Stephens SJ wrote a Kannada Grammar in 1640, the first ever grammar of an Indian language to be printed in India.
- Fr. Robert de Nobili SJ (1577-1656) is the first European Sanskrit scholar and he was proficient in Tamil and Telugu.
- Fr. Camil Bulcke (1909-1982) is a scholar in Hindi and Sanskrit. His English-Hindi dictionary is a well-known standard work.

The Jesuits connected with U.N.O. in New York

- Fr. Jerome D'Souza SJ, India, was several times (1949, 1951-52, 1955, 1957) a member of the Indian Delegation to the General Assembly. He was also a member of the Constituent Assembly and contributed much to the minority rights in the Constitution of India.
- Fr. Theo Matheas SJ, India (XLRI, Jamshedpur), was sent by the Government to represent India at the UN.
- Fr. Stany D'Souza SJ, India, well known demographer, who worked on a number of demography projects for Asia and Africa.
- Fr. Emmanuel de Breuvery SJ, France, Head of the Section of Energy and Water Resources (1952). Director of the Resources and Transport Section (1960-64).
- Fr. Francois Russo SJ, France, Representative of the Holy See to the UN Conference on the Seas (1975, 1978) and member of the Holy See at the UN Conference on diplomatic relations (1961) and Human Establishments (1976).
- Fr. Josse Van der Rest SJ, Belgium-Chile), Director of the Latin American and Asia Service for Popular Housing.



Juana, SJ (1535-1573)

The only woman known to have lived and died a Jesuit

Second daughter of Emperor Charles V, Juana was married in 1552 to Joao Manuel, the heir apparent to the Portuguese throne. They were married only two years when her husband died. Shortly thereafter her brother Philip (II), who had married Mary Tudor of England, appointed her Regent of Spain in his absence. And in that same year (1554), Juana approached superiors of the Society of Jesus about

becoming a Jesuit. Careful debate and deliberation followed. As Lisa Fullam, a specialist on Juana, puts it: “Juana, widowed at nineteen, was an eminently marriageable young woman. To admit her to the Society would risk enraging her father the Emperor, himself no fan of the Jesuits. But at the same time, to refuse her request was to risk the displeasure of the Regent of Spain... a move that could have serious consequences for the work of the Society there” (“Juana, SJ,” *Studies in the Spirituality of Jesuits*. [November 1999]).

In their hushed deliberations, Jesuit superiors used the name “Matteo Sanchez” for Juana. They considered many other factors in her case. In the end, they decided to admit her in secret as a “scholastic,” a Jesuit with first vows in the process of formation. And all through her short life—she died a Jesuit at 38—they continued to care for her growth in the spirit.

The life of Juana provides an opportunity to clarify, not just her own case, but the larger question of Ignatius and the Society in regard to women. As Fullam sums up:

[M]ost women in Ignatius’s time could not embody the availability for mission that is essential to the Jesuit charism. Ignatius’s group was a religious order. The question of the admission of women to the Society was, in most cases, a non-starter in Ignatius’s time, because women were either cloistered if they were religious, or not religious if they were not cloistered. On grounds of mobility Ignatius consistently rejected the idea of women belonging to the Society. And Juana’s admission underscores the idea that sex cannot be the deciding issue here—Juana was no less a woman after her admission than before. What she was after her admission was a woman living under the religious vows of the Society of Jesus while substantially assisting the Society’s work in Spain. To an unusual extent, Juana was able to overcome the catch-22 that kept most women from being able to live as Jesuits: her political influence was an avenue to a kind of apostolic availability for the work of the Society, and at the same time it served as leverage that enabled her to force the question of her admission on the Jesuit leadership. And, as it turned out, they let her in. Beyond that, they admitted her in a strikingly ordinary way. The infanta Juana, Regent of Spain, became—a scholastic. An extraordinary person in extraordinary circumstances was seen to fit into a very ordinary niche. It is her ordinary admission, freely undertaken, that is salient about Juana’s case: when all was said and done, the Jesuits decided that Juana was a Jesuit—an unusual Jesuit, to be sure, but a Jesuit nonetheless. (ibid.)

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NEW MISSIONARY EXPERIMENTS:

The Society of Jesus was from the beginning was known for its originality and innovation. In Indian and China the Jesuits pioneered in the field of inculturation Christian faith...They tried to accommodate and reconcile Christian principles with local culture, customs and traditions. This experimentation brought lot of success and thousands embraced the Christian faith without abandoning their local culture. This experiment did not please the Vatican. The Dominicans and Franciscans thought that Jesuits were compromising the Christian faith and they were diluting the Christian doctrine. The Jesuits were accused of allowing superstitious practices in the mode of celebrating sacraments and thus compromising the integrity of Christian faith. In **1742** the then reigning Pope Benedict XIV put an end to this experiment. All previous permissions granted to this experiment were revoked. Thus the Pope wrote: "We define and declare these permissions must be considered as though they never existed and we condemn and detest their practices as superstitious. Thus in virtue of our present constitution to be in force for ever, we revoke, annul, abrogate and wished to be deprived of all force and effect, all and each of those permissions and say and announce that they must be considered forever to be annulled, null, invalid and without any force or power".

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When the civil authorities tried to take control of the Indians, the natives revolted against Spain and Portugal. The Jesuits were accused of being accomplices in this revolt and they were accused of disobedience to the Pope as well as to the monarch and civil authorities. The Church though admired the extraordinary work done by the Jesuits, under heavy pressure from the kings and civil authorities ordered the Jesuits to wind up their mission over there. Pombal the Prime Minister of Portugal poured venom against the Jesuits and prepared the way to eliminate the Jesuits from the missions.

1. PORTUGAL: POMBAL THE MAN OF THE ENLIGHTENMENT.

Sebastiao Jose de Carvalho, who later became the Prime Minister in Portugal, is a man of the Enlightenment. After having visited and Great Britain he realized that the Church was controlling the state. And he wanted to liberate the State from the clutches of the greedy administration of the Church. It was also a period of Enlightenment. It was in the air and everyone felt that they should shake off the shackles of Papacy and head towards political and religious maturity and freedom.

As Jose Nicolas de Azara put it, "To shake off the yoke which in the centuries of barbarism had been imposed by the court of Rome on the childish credulity of princes and peoples".

Paul Hazard said: "the fall of the Society was due to the spirit of the times, the age of philosophy, of enlightenment". Papacy was losing its grip on the monarchs and it was on the way to decline.

Pombal felt that the key to this liberation lay in terminating the existence of the Jesuits. He was an able and efficient administrator. Even the king was under his thumb. He was planning to bring the Church to the submission to the State. We are reminded here of what Voltaire said; Once we have destroyed the Jesuits, we shall hold a good hand against the detestable Thing (the Church)". He accused the Jesuit of having too much influence in the Church and in the courts of monarchs. He also accused of their greed for gold, money and land. He was waiting for a chance to pounce on the Jesuits.

It so happened that one day when Fr Malagrida came out of the royal palace, Pombal happened to cross his way and Malagrida who did not as yet know about the newly appointed Prime Minister, did not salute him Pombal took offence at this discourtesy and demanded an apology from Malagrida who did apologize but Pombal never forgave him and ordered Malagrida never to set foot again in the royal court.

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One particular incident seemed to put the last straw on the reason for the suppression of the Society.

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Fr Gabriel Malagrida (1689-1761) was an Italian Jesuit, an able and experienced and an indefatigable missionary and apostle of Brazil. He worked with great zeal and zest for 30 long years. He penetrated the thick forests of the great Amazon barefoot sometimes covering a distance up to 300 He tremendously contributed to the human, social and cultural and spiritual development of the Indians. Much more what he did was to keep out the Portuguese greed from exploiting the Indians. When he returned from the Missions to the capital of Portugal, he immediately plunged into spiritual activities-giving Spiritual Exercises to many strata of society. Queen Mother Mariana of Austria requested him to preach in the court. King Joseph I appointed him royal counselor for the overseas missions. Kilometer he was found guilty of

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In France though enmity against the Jesuits was ruing for a long time, one particular incident triguerd off which led to the suppression of the Society.

The bankruptcy of the Jesuits of the Mission of Martinique.

Fr Antoine Lavalte, the Superior and Procurator of the Mission entered into business transaction to finance the Jesuit missions. He was shipping produce of Jesuit plantations to Europe in order to finance Jesuit enterprises. In **1755** twelve of his ships were captured by British Corsairs and Lavalette was totally ruined financially. The Jesuits in France refused to take on the responsibility for Lavallette's huge debts.

The Jesuits were victims of the calumnies of by Jansenists. The Pope were helpless and he was surrounded by inimical advisers. The Bourbons objected to the Papal interference in state matters. The occasion was that the Duke of Parma issued a series of ordinances against the Church. Pope Clement pronounced that these decrees were null and void. Six months later France and Naples moved against Papacy. Neapolitan troops took the papal towns of Benevento and Pontecorvo while the French troops took over Avignon and Vennaissin. The conquests strengthened the hands of the Bourbon monarchs. Through the ambassadors of the monarchs the Pope was pressurized to suppress the Society. With courage and determination the Pope said a firm no to their demands and he went a step further by saying: "I would rather have both my hands cut off than suppress the Society". Pope Clement XIII was "the honestest man in the world; a most exemplary ecclesiastic; of the purest morals; devout, steady, learned, diligent..."

Pope Clement XIII defended the Jesuits with tenacity till his death. The enemies of the Society threatened that they would break away from the Roman Church if the Pope did not yield to their pressure to wipe out the Society. More than fifty times Pope Clement XIII took action in one form or another to forestall the suppression the Jesuits. He wrote to Charles III pouring his heart -felt feelings for the Society in the following words: "Of all the blows of fortune which have befallen Us...none has pained Our fatherly heart more than Your Majesty's decision to banish the Jesuits from your realm... We testify before God and man that the Society as a whole, its Institute and its spirit are completely guiltless and not merely not guilty but pious, useful holy both in its objectives and its rules and principles"...On **February 1769** the grief-stricken Pope succumbed to a heart attack. Moreover the Jesuits were accused of revolutionary doctrines and teachings, tyrannicide, lust for gold and silver, and blind obedience to the Pope and the Monarchs. The Monarchs themselves felt that the political philosophy preached by the Jesuits was not palatable to them.

MADAME POMPADOUR was the king's mistress. The Jesuits were opposed to this scandalous living of the said Madame and refused absolution to her. She could not forget or forgive the Jesuits and hence she vowed to vengeance on them.

CHOISEUL was appointed ambassador in Rome and Vienna at the recommendation of Madame Pompadour. He later became Minister of Foreign Affairs. Choiseul supported admired Jansenists and 'philosophes' which were both against the Society. Madame Pompadour used him to accomplish terminating the Jesuit presence in the kingdom.

3. SPAIN: 1767

In Spain the occasion of the ouster of the Jesuits was the Hat and Cloack riots in **1766**. The people demonstrated against an unpopular law and they were demonstrating against the Marques de Esquillache, the royal minister of finance. The Jesuit presence among the crowd to pacify them was mistaken to be that they colluding with the plot and they were accused of instigating the crowd and they were blamed for the disturbance. In 1767 the Jesuits were banished from Spain. Overnight they were ordered to get out of their houses. In the middle of the night a judge and soldiers sent by the King read out the decree of expulsion by the King Charles III: “ Moved by most serious reasons linked with my duty to keep my peoples in submission, tranquility and justice, in addition to other urgent, just and compelling reasons which I keep in my royal breast, making use of the supreme authority that the All-Powerful One has placed in my hands for the protection of my vassals and the respect to my crown, I have decided to order the expulsion from all my dominions in Spain and the Indies, the Philippines and other adjoining Islands, the members of the Society, both priests and coadjutors or lay brothers who have made the first profession and the novices who may wish to follow them, and that all the properties of the Society in my dominion be occupied”.

A SCURILLOUS PAMPHLET AGAINST THE KING: It is necessary at this juncture to give a short explanation of what the king meant by “Other urgent, just and compelling reasons which I keep in my royal breast”. One fine day a bunch of papers was found in the Rector’s room which was left behind by a miscreant. There was also a forged signature of Fr Ricci the General of the Society of Jesus. The content of the pamphlet purported to indicate that Charles III was not the son of Philip V but of the deceased Queen and Cardinal Alberoni. This was an added reason why Jesuits were to be the victims of expulsion order.

They had to leave their houses and institutions without taking anything with them except what they were wearing at that time. Twentyseven hundred Jesuits were on the streets like orphans and refugees. Within a short period of one year around twenty three hundred more Jesuits were banished from their missions. When the suppression of the Society was accomplished in Spain, Manuel de Roda, the architect of the Spanish suppression wrote to his French counterpart: “we have killed the son. Now nothing remains for us to do except to carry out a like action against the mother, our Holy Roman Church”.

4. Kingdom of Naples:

In **1767** the Kingdom of Naples, including Sicily expelled the Jesuits.

The Poe and the Papal States refused to receive the expelled Jesuits and they were finally dumped at Corsica.

OTHER FACTORS:

Some are of the opinion that the real and bitterest enemies of the Society were in Rome and In the Roman Curia of the Pope. Some of the clergy in Rome sincerely believed that the purging of the pest –the Jesuits– will surely aid the Church. In fact even Pope Clement XIII whispered to the Jesuit General Lorenzo Ricci that the greatest enemies of the Society were in Rome.

In China the Jesuits were accused of amassing exorbitant wealth, gold and silver which was later proved wrong. Debates on the Chinese and Malabar rites added fuel to the fire for the enemies of the Society.

ECCESIVE PROPAGANDA AND PRIDE OF THE JESUITS:

The Jesuits were accused of making excessive propaganda about themelevs, about their phenomenal talents, and achievements.

Giulio Cesare Cordara, an ex-Jesuit thought that God allowed the Society to be suppressed because of its excessive pride. "But despite their poverty, obedience and chastity, learning and zeal or because of them, Cordara saw the Society as infected with the hidden ulcer of pride. The Jesuit vocation was praised before all others. The deeds and virtues of other priests and religious were condemned. Nothing worthy of praise was found in the Church of God outside the Society of Jesus. Many Jesuits could not conceive how the Church would continue without the Society." Fr Thomas H. Clancy S.J.

In fact the Superior General of the Society Fr Lorenzo Ricci, a gentle lamb of a person lambasted against the 'corporate pride' of the Jesuits in the following harsh words: "The hatred of almost all social classes, especially the religious, against the Society is due to the arrogance of some of our writings, the lack of respect for others, the boastfulness with which we praise ourselves, the little we make of our humility".

LETHARGY OF THE JESUITS:

In opposition to the dynamic and dedicated commitment of the Jesuits of yester years, the Jesuits prior to the suppression entered into comfort zone and plunged into lethargy in spiritual as well as in intellectual activities.

We here quote again Cordara who castigated against the Jesuits in the following words: "Many of our apostles (he means professed fathers) wished for a quiet and an active life under the shade of the colleges; they believed that they had worked very hard when they had spent the whole morning in hearing the confessions of a few pious women....Many of them after preaching once a week to a pious congregation of noblemen or merchants, devoted the rest of their time to the care of their bodies or to reading, or else spent it in...unprofitable conversation. I myself have known 'apostles' who...shunned all labour and trouble; who thought themselves very ill used if they had to forego their morning chocolate or their after dinner nap. And yet these were men by birth and education unaccustomed to luxury. On the contrary they had, from their youth upwards, received a harsh even a hard training. Their softness was acquired in the Society of Jesus"-Fr Thomas H.Clancy S.J.

What a contrast to the lavish encomium paid to the Jesuits by no less a person than Voltaire who in his younger days studied in a Jesuit school; "What did I observe during the seven years which I spent under the Jesuit roof? The most hard-working, frugal and regular life, all their hours divided between the care they spent on us and the exercises of their strict vows. As evidence of this, I appeal to the testimony of the thousands, like myself were educated by them".

CLEMENT XIV:

After the death of Clement XIII Cardinal Lorenzo Ganganelli, a Franciscan ascended the throne of Papacy. Some opine that on the condition that he would suppress the Society he was elected the Pope. Certainly he was open to the idea of suppression of the Society if it was absolutely necessary to save the Church from schism. He hesitated, pondered, dilly dallied and played the tactics of delay for almost four years. But he was a weak man.

Finally on **August 16th 1773**, the Pope issued the brief *Dominus ac Redemptor* suppressing the Society. The first printed copies of the suppression brief was dated **July 21st**, just ten days before the feast of the Founder of the Society of Jesus, though the Brief had been signed by Pope Clement XIV in the middle of June. The crucial passages of the Brief are: "Now, therefore, having perceived that the said Society of Jesus could no longer produce the abundant fruits and advantages for which it was instituted....but on the contrary, that if it continued to exist it was almost impossible that the Church should have true and

permanent peace....after mature deliberation, with certain knowledge and in the fullness of our Apostolic power, we dissolve, suppress, extinguish and abolish the said Society. We take from it and abrogate each and all of its offices, ministries, administrations, houses, schools and habitations in all provinces, kingdoms and states whatsoever....

We suppress all its statutes, customs, decrees and constitutions, even when fortified by oath, apostolic confirmation or otherwise...we declare therefore, that it is perpetually broken up and dissolved, alike to the spiritual as to the temporal". The Pope further clarified by saying that there were other reasons for the suppression which were not in the Brief of the suppression. "The other reasons we retain concealed in our breast "Evidently these other reasons were the political pressures exercised in the name of the Catholic monarchs of France, Spain, Portugal and others. The Pope obviously surrendered to the secular interests. He added "for the greater good of the Church and to avoid the secession of all Europe".

"However, Clement retained the original document and did not part with it until **August 21st**, on which day he handed it over to Cardinal Negroni with orders to add the date of the printed copy, **July 21**. The Pope issued a second brief *Gravissimus ex Causis* on **August 13th 1773**.He appointed a commission of five cardinals to carry out the details of the suppression. Bishops were to seize all the properties of the Jesuits. Neither the Brief nor the draft bear the Pope's signature; only the draft shows the ritual Placet and the letter L, the initial of the Pope's Christian name Lorenzo" (Fr Ignacio Echaniz, S.J.).

In short the Pope suppressed the Society without condemning it.

Thus around twenty three thousand Jesuits were to cease to exist as Jesuits. The Jesuit Curia was invaded by the soldiers, the then General of the Society of Jesus was arrested and imprisoned in the Papal prison, Castel Sant'Angelo.The five Assistants, the Secretary of the Society and several Jesuits were imprisoned along with him. The General was very badly treated, offering him very little food which was very bland, cold and insipid.During winter his teeth were rattling on account of bitter cold .All communication with the outside world was forbidden and he was not even allowed to exchange a few words with the prison guard or other fellow prisoners. On **19th November** Ricci was administered the viaticum. Before receiving communion he pleaded innocence in a very moving way; he protested that he was innocent and read out the following written brief document:

"Considering myself on the point of being presented before the tribunal of infallible truth and justice, which is no other than the Divine tribunal-after long and mature consideration, after having humbly prayed my most merciful Redeemer and terrible judge, not to permit that I should allow myself to be led away by any passion, particularly in one of the last actions of my life without any bitterness of heart, or any vicious motive or end, and only because I hold myself to be obliged to do justice to truth and innocence-I make the two following declarations and protestations:

First: I declare and protest that the suppressed Society of Jesus has given no ground for suppression: I declare this, with all the certitude that a superior, well informed of his order, can morally have.

Secondly: I declare and protest that I have not given any ground, not even the slightest, for my imprisonment. I declare and protest this, with the rectitude and evidence which everyone hath of his own actions. I make this second declaration, only because it is necessary to the reputation of the Society of Jesus, of which I was superior general ".He died in prison on **24th November in the year 1775**.

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CHOISEUL was appointed ambassador in Rome and Vienna at the recommendation of Madame Pompadour. He later became Minister of Foreign Affairs. Choiseul supported admired Jansenists and 'philosophes' which were both against the Society. Madame Pompadour used him to accomplish terminating the Jesuit presence in the kingdom.

3. SPAIN: 1767

In Spain the occasion of the ouster of the Jesuits was the Hat and Cloack riots in **1766**. The people demonstrated against an unpopular law and they were demonstrating against the Marques de Esquillache, the royal minister of finance. The Jesuit presence among the crowd to pacify them was mistaken to be that they colluding with the plot and they were accused of instigating the crowd and they were blamed for the disturbance. In 1767 the Jesuits were banished from Spain. Overnight they were ordered to get out of their houses. In the middle of the night a judge and soldiers sent by the King read out the decree of expulsion by the King Charles III: “ Moved by most serious reasons linked with my duty to keep my peoples in submission, tranquility and justice, in addition to other urgent, just and compelling reasons which I keep in my royal breast, making use of the supreme authority that the All-Powerful One has placed in my hands for the protection of my vassals and the respect to my crown, I have decided to order the expulsion from all my dominions in Spain and the Indies, the Philippines and other adjoining Islands, the members of the Society, both priests and coadjutors or lay brothers who have made the first profession and the novices who may wish to follow them, and that all the properties of the Society in my dominion be occupied”.

A SCURILLOUS PAMPHLET AGAINST THE KING: It is necessary at this juncture to give a short explanation of what the king meant by “Other urgent, just and compelling reasons which I keep in my royal breast”. One fine day a bunch of papers was found in the Rector’s room which was left behind by a miscreant. There was also a forged signature of Fr Ricci the General of the Society of Jesus. The content of the pamphlet purported to indicate that Charles III was not the son of Philip V but of the deceased Queen and Cardinal Alberoni. This was an added reason why Jesuits were to be the victims of expulsion order.

They had to leave their houses and institutions without taking anything with them except what they were wearing at that time. Twentyseven hundred Jesuits were on the streets like orphans and refugees. Within a short period of one year around twenty three hundred more Jesuits were banished from their missions. When the suppression of the Society was accomplished in Spain, Manuel de Roda, the architect of the Spanish suppression wrote to his French counterpart: “we have killed the son. Now nothing remains for us to do except to carry out a like action against the mother, our Holy Roman Church”.

4. Kingdom of Naples:

In **1767** the Kingdom of Naples, including Sicily expelled the Jesuits.

The Poe and the Papal States refused to receive the expelled Jesuits and they were finally dumped at Corsica.

OTHER FACTORS:

Some are of the opinion that the real and bitterest enemies of the Society were in Rome and In the Roman Curia of the Pope. Some of the clergy in Rome sincerely believed that the purging of the pest –the Jesuits– will surely aid the Church. In fact even Pope Clement XIII whispered to the Jesuit General Lorenzo Ricci that the greatest enemies of the Society were in Rome.

In China the Jesuits were accused of amassing exorbitant wealth, gold and silver which was later proved wrong. Debates on the Chinese and Malabar rites added fuel to the fire for the enemies of the Society.

ECCESIVE PROPAGANDA AND PRIDE OF THE JESUITS:

The Jesuits were accused of making excessive propaganda about themelevs, about their phenomenal talents, and achievements.

Giulio Cesare Cordara, an ex-Jesuit thought that God allowed the Society to be suppressed because of its excessive pride. "But despite their poverty, obedience and chastity, learning and zeal or because of them, Cordara saw the Society as infected with the hidden ulcer of pride. The Jesuit vocation was praised before all others. The deeds and virtues of other priests and religious were condemned. Nothing worthy of praise was found in the Church of God outside the Society of Jesus. Many Jesuits could not conceive how the Church would continue without the Society." Fr Thomas H. Clancy S.J.

In fact the Superior General of the Society Fr Lorenzo Ricci, a gentle lamb of a person lambasted against the 'corporate pride' of the Jesuits in the following harsh words: "The hatred of almost all social classes, especially the religious, against the Society is due to the arrogance of some of our writings, the lack of respect for others, the boastfulness with which we praise ourselves, the little we make of our humility".

LETHARGY OF THE JESUITS:

In opposition to the dynamic and dedicated commitment of the Jesuits of yester years, the Jesuits prior to the suppression entered into comfort zone and plunged into lethargy in spiritual as well as in intellectual activities.

We here quote again Cordara who castigated against the Jesuits in the following words: "Many of our apostles (he means professed fathers) wished for a quiet and an active life under the shade of the colleges; they believed that they had worked very hard when they had spent the whole morning in hearing the confessions of a few pious women....Many of them after preaching once a week to a pious congregation of noblemen or merchants, devoted the rest of their time to the care of their bodies or to reading, or else spent it in...unprofitable conversation. I myself have known 'apostles' who...shunned all labour and trouble; who thought themselves very ill used if they had to forego their morning chocolate or their after dinner nap. And yet these were men by birth and education unaccustomed to luxury. On the contrary they had, from their youth upwards, received a harsh even a hard training. Their softness was acquired in the Society of Jesus"-Fr Thomas H.Clancy S.J.

What a contrast to the lavish encomium paid to the Jesuits by no less a person than Voltaire who in his younger days studied in a Jesuit school; "What did I observe during the seven years which I spent under the Jesuit roof? The most hard-working, frugal and regular life, all their hours divided between the care they spent on us and the exercises of their strict vows. As evidence of this, I appeal to the testimony of the thousands, like myself were educated by them".

CLEMENT XIV:

After the death of Clement XIII Cardinal Lorenzo Ganganelli, a Franciscan ascended the throne of Papacy. Some opine that on the condition that he would suppress the Society he was elected the Pope. Certainly he was open to the idea of suppression of the Society if it was absolutely necessary to save the Church from schism. He hesitated, pondered, dilly dallied and played the tactics of delay for almost four years. But he was a weak man.

Finally on **August 16th 1773**, the Pope issued the brief *Dominus ac Redemptor* suppressing the Society. The first printed copies of the suppression brief was dated **July 21st**, just ten days before the feast of the Founder of the Society of Jesus, though the Brief had been signed by Pope Clement XIV in the middle of June. The crucial passages of the Brief are: "Now, therefore, having perceived that the said Society of Jesus could no longer produce the abundant fruits and advantages for which it was instituted....but on the contrary, that if it continued to exist it was almost impossible that the Church should have true and

permanent peace....after mature deliberation, with certain knowledge and in the fullness of our Apostolic power, we dissolve, suppress, extinguish and abolish the said Society. We take from it and abrogate each and all of its offices, ministries, administrations, houses, schools and habitations in all provinces, kingdoms and states whatsoever....

We suppress all its statutes, customs, decrees and constitutions, even when fortified by oath, apostolic confirmation or otherwise...we declare therefore, that it is perpetually broken up and dissolved, alike to the spiritual as to the temporal". The Pope further clarified by saying that there were other reasons for the suppression which were not in the Brief of the suppression. "The other reasons we retain concealed in our breast "Evidently these other reasons were the political pressures exercised in the name of the Catholic monarchs of France, Spain, Portugal and others. The Pope obviously surrendered to the secular interests. He added "for the greater good of the Church and to avoid the secession of all Europe".

"However, Clement retained the original document and did not part with it until **August 21st**, on which day he handed it over to Cardinal Negroni with orders to add the date of the printed copy, **July 21**. The Pope issued a second brief *Gravissimus ex Causis* on **August 13th 1773**. He appointed a commission of five cardinals to carry out the details of the suppression. Bishops were to seize all the properties of the Jesuits. Neither the Brief nor the draft bear the Pope's signature; only the draft shows the ritual *Placet* and the letter L, the initial of the Pope's Christian name Lorenzo" (Fr Ignacio Echaniz, S.J.).

In short the Pope suppressed the Society without condemning it.

Thus around twenty three thousand Jesuits were to cease to exist as Jesuits. The Jesuit Curia was invaded by the soldiers, the then General of the Society of Jesus was arrested and imprisoned in the Papal prison, Castel Sant'Angelo. The five Assistants, the Secretary of the Society and several Jesuits were imprisoned along with him. The General was very badly treated, offering him very little food which was very bland, cold and insipid. During winter his teeth were rattling on account of bitter cold. All communication with the outside world was forbidden and he was not even allowed to exchange a few words with the prison guard or other fellow prisoners. On **19th November** Ricci was administered the viaticum. Before receiving communion he pleaded innocence in a very moving way; he protested that he was innocent and read out the following written brief document:






"Considering myself on the point of being presented before the tribunal of infallible truth and justice, which is no other than the Divine tribunal-after long and mature consideration, after having humbly prayed my most merciful Redeemer and terrible judge, not to permit that I should allow myself to be led away by any passion, particularly in one of the last actions of my life without any bitterness of heart, or any vicious motive or end, and only because I hold myself to be obliged to do justice to truth and innocence-I make the two following declarations and protestations:




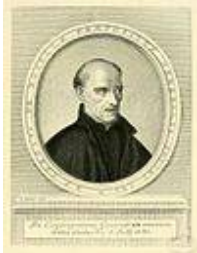
First: I declare and protest that the suppressed Society of Jesus has given no ground for suppression: I declare this, with all the certitude that a superior, well informed of his order, can morally have.

Secondly: I declare and protest that I have not given any ground, not even the slightest, for my imprisonment. I declare and protest this, with the rectitude and evidence which everyone hath of his own actions. I make this second declaration, only because it is necessary to the reputation of the Society of Jesus, of which I was superior general ". He died in prison on **24th November in the year 1775**.





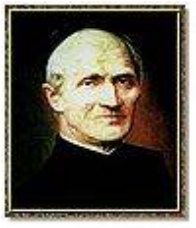
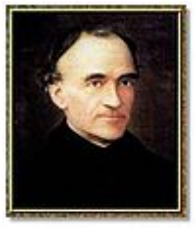
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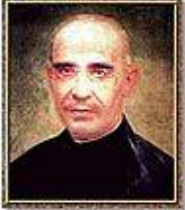






List of Superiors General

#	Superior General	Image	Took office	Left office	Birthplace ^[3]	Length of term (in days)
1	Ignatius of Loyola		April 19, 1541	July 31, 1556	Azpeitia, Spain	5,582
2	Diego Laynez		July 2, 1558	January 19, 1565	Almazán, Spain	2,393
3	Francis Borgia		July 2, 1565	October 1, 1572	Gandia, Spain	2,648
4	Everard Mercurian		April 23, 1573	August 1, 1580	La Roche-en-Ardenne, Belgium	2,657
5	Claudio Acquaviva		February 19, 1581	January 31, 1615	Atri, Italy	12,399

#	Superior General	Image	Took office	Left office	Birthplace ^[3]	Length of term (in days)
6	Mutio Vitelleschi		November 15, 1615	February 9, 1645	Rome , Italy	10,679
7	Vincenzo Carafa		January 7, 1646	June 8, 1649	Naples , Italy	1,248
8	Francesco Piccolomini		December 21, 1649	June 17, 1651	Siena , Italy	543
9	Aloysius Gottifredi		January 21, 1652	March 12, 1652	Rome, Italy	51
10	Goschwin Nickel		March 17, 1652	July 31, 1664	Jülich , Germany	4,519
11	Giovanni Paolo Oliva		July 31, 1664	November 26, 1681	Genoa , Italy	6,327
12	Charles de Noyelle		July 5, 1682	December 12, 1686	Brussels , Belgium	1,621
13	Thyrus González de Santalla		July 6, 1687	October 27, 1705	Arganza , Spain	6,688

#	Superior General	Image	Took office	Left office	Birthplace ^[3]	Length of term (in days)
14	Michelangelo Tamburini		January 31, 1706	February 28, 1730	Modena , Italy	8,521
15	Franz Retz		March 7, 1730	November 19, 1750	Prague , Bohemia	7,562
16	Ignacio Visconti		July 4, 1751	May 4, 1755	Milan , Italy	1,389
17	Aloysius Centurione		November 30, 1755	October 2, 1757	Genoa, Italy	672
18	Lorenzo Ricci		May 21, 1758	August 16, 1773	Florence , Italy	5,566
--	Stanislaus Czerniewicz ^[4]		October 17, 1782	October 21, 1785	Kaunas , Lithuania	1,100
--	Gabriel Lenkiewicz ^[4]		October 8, 1785	October 21, 1798	Polotsk , Belarus	4,761
--	Franciszek Kareu ^[5]		February 12, 1799	August 11, 1802	Orsha , Belarus	1,275

#	Superior General	Image	Took office	Left office	Birthplace ^[3]	Length of term (in days)
--	Gabriel Gruber ^[6]		October 22, 1802	April 6, 1805	Vienna, Austria	897
19	Tadeusz Brzozowski ^[7]		August 7, 1814	February 5, 1820	Königsberg, Prussia	2,008
20	Luigi Fortis		October 18, 1820	January 27, 1829	Verona, Italy	3,023
21	Jan Roothaan		July 9, 1829	May 8, 1853	Amsterdam, Netherlands	8,704
22	Peter Jan Beckx		August 2, 1853	March 4, 1887	Scherpenheuvel-Zichem, Belgium	12,267
23	Anton Anderledy		March 4, 1887	January 18, 1892	Berisal, Switzerland	1,781

#	Superior General	Image	Took office	Left office	Birthplace ^[3]	Length of term (in days)
24	Luis Martín		October 2, 1892	April 18, 1906	Melgar de Fernamental , Spain	4,945
25	Franz Xavier Wenz		September 8, 1906	August 20, 1914	Rottweil , Germany	2,903
26	Wlodimir Ledochowski		February 11, 1915	December 13, 1942	Loosdorf , Austria	10,167
27	Jean-Baptiste Janssens		September 15, 1946	October 5, 1964	Mechelen , Belgium	6,595
28	Pedro Arrupe		May 22, 1965	September 3, 1983	Bilbao , Spain	6,678
29	Peter Hans Kolvenbach		September 13, 1983	January 14, 2008	Druten , Netherlands	8,889
30	Adolfo Nicolás		January 19, 2008	—	Villamuriel de Cerrato , Spain	1,626

The Jesuits

The Society of Jesus is a world-wide organisation of religious men, numbering about 22,000 spread over the world, of whom over 3000 are working in the provinces of India. In TamilNadu alone there are about 500 Jesuits working in schools and colleges, youth services and social work centers, in parishes and mission out-reach programmes, and in almost every form of service and ministry associated with the church.

St. Ignatius of Loyola

Founder of the Society of Jesus



1491 - 1556

Year	Description
1491	Born at Loyola in Guipuzcoa
1521	Decided to Follow Jesus Christ
1537	Ordained in Venice
1537	Moved To Rome
1540	Founded the Society of Jesus
1541	Elected the General of Jesuits
1556	Died in Rome
1622	Canonized by Pope Gregory XV

St. Francis Xavier

Patron of the Missions

The Jesuit presence on the Indian Sub-Continent dates back to the arrival of St. Francis Xavier in Goa on 6th May, 1542. In the Tamil country, St. Francis Xavier and his companions worked in the Pearl Fishery Coast, Mylapore and in other parts. He preached the Gospel and planted the Catholic Church. The whole of India, including the Tamil Country was part of the Goa Province, having St. Francis Xavier as its first Provincial.



Year	Description
1506	Born at Navarre in Spain
1530	Met St Ignatius in Paris University
1533	Conversion
1537	Ordained Priest along with St. Ignatius
1541	Sailed to India
1542	Arrived at Goa
1542	Traveled to Tuticorin
1542 - 44	Preached the Word of God in India
1545 - 47	Preached in Moluccas Island
1549 - 51	Preached in Japanese in Japan

1552	Died in Sancian Island
1553	Xavier's Body was taken to Malacca
1554	Body was taken to Goa
1619	Beatified by Pope Paul V
1622	Canonized by Pope Gregory XV
2002	450th Anniversary of his Death

Jesuits Madurai Province

Year	Description
1606	The European Jesuits named their mission as "Madura Mission"
1837-1925	The French Jesuits laid the real base for the Present Madura Province.
1852	The Madura Mission was entrusted to the care of Toulouse Province in the South of France
1886	Tiruchirappalli was assumed as the first Jesuit Diocese.
1923	Tuticorin turned out to be the first Indian Diocese of the Latin rite
1938	Madurai was assumed as the first Indian Diocese of the Latin rite.
1929	Madurai Mission was raised to the status of a Vice-Province
15th Aug 1952	Rt.Rev.Jean Baptise Janseens, Superior General of the Society of Jesus announced the creation of independent Jesuit Madurai Province.

Provincials - Jesuit Madurai Province

Year	Provincials
Aug 5,1952 - Feb 3, 1953	(Act. P) Fr.Humbert Pinto
Feb 4,1953 - July 30, 1958	Fr.Douglas Gordon
July 31, 1958 - Apr 21, 1964	Fr.Lawrence Fernandes
Apr 22,1958 - Apr 30,1969	Fr.Arul Maria Varapasadam
May 1, 1969 - Apr 21,1973	Fr.Douglas Gordon
Apr 22,1973 - Apr 21, 1975	Fr.Gnanadickam Casimir
Apr 22,1975 - Apr, 1981	Fr.Rex A. Pai
Apr 5, 1981 - July 2,1987	Fr.Michael Jeyaraj
July 3, 1987 - June 17,1993	Fr.Aloysius Irudayam
June 18,1993 - Oct 8,1999	Fr.Donatus Jeyaraj
Oct 9,1999- Nov 14,2005	Fr.Francis P. Xavier
Nov 15,2005-2011	Rev.Dr Devadoss M SJ
2011-	Rev.Dr Sebasti L Raj SJ

HISTORY OF MADURAI PROVINCE

- MADURAI PROVINCE IS THE OLDEST JESUIT PROVINCE IN INDIA.
- JESUIT PRESENCE IN TAMIL NADU BEGAN SINCE THE TIME OF ST FRANCIS XAVIER.
- FRANCIS XAVIER ARRIVES IN GOA ON 6TH MAY IN 1542
- AFTER FOUR MONTHS STAY IN GOA HE TRAVELS TO TAMIL NADU- MANAPAD-TUTICORIN-MADURAI AND MADRAS-MYLAPORE PREACHING THE GOSPEL.
- AFTER XAVIER CAME ANTONY CRIMINALI(1520-1549)
- HE WAS KILLED BY THE BADAGAS NEAR VEDALAI,THE FIRST JESUIT MARTYR IN THE SOCIETY OF JESUS
- THEN COME MEN LIKE HENRY HENRIQUES(1520-1600)
- GONSALO FERNANDEZ(1541-1621)
- ALEXANDER VALIGNANO
- ROBERT DE NOBILI (1577-1656) AND OTHERS.

OLD MADURA MISSION.

- A SAINTLY SCHOLAR –ROMAN SANNYASI- ESTABLISHES HIS BASE IN MADURAI A CULTURAL CAPITAL OF PANDYA KINGS.
 - IN 1606 DE NOBILI FOUNDS THE MADURA MISSION
 - AFTER DE NOBILI 122 JESUITS WORK IN MADURA MISSION TILL 1759.
 - JOHN DE BRITTO (1647-1693)MARTYRED IN ORIYUR
 - CONSTANTINE JOSEPH BESCHI, A RENOWNED TAMIL SCHOLAR ALSO KNOWN AS VEERAMAMUNIVAR (1680-1747)
- ❖ SUPPRESSION OF THE SOCIETY OF JESUS: ON 21ST JULY 1773 BY POPE CLEMENT XIV ALL OVER THE WORLD.
- ❖ RESTORATION OF THE SOCIETY ON 7TH AUGUST 1841 BY POPE PIUS VII

NEW MADURAI MISSION:

- FR ROTHAN THE JESUIT GENERAL ENTRUSTS THE MADURAI MISSION TO THE FRENCH PROVINCIAL FR FRANCIS RENAULT
- HE SENDS FOUR JESUITS TO THE MISSION IN 1837
- FR JOSEPH BERTRAND(1801-1884)
- LOUIS GARNIER (1805-1843)
- LOUIS DU RANQUET (1801-1843)
- ALEXANDER MARTIN (1799-1840)
- ✓ IN 1852 THE MADURAI MISSION IS ENTRUSTED TO THE CARE OF TOULOUSE PROVINCE(FRANCE)
- ✓ IN 1929 THE MADURAI MISSION IS ELEVATED TO A VICE-PROVINCE DEPENDENT ON TOULOUSE PROVINCE
- ✓ IN 1952 MADURAI VICE-PROVINCE WAS RAISED TO THE STATUS OF AN INDEPENDENT PROVINCE.

Madurai Province - A brief history

Why would the Jesuits of Tamil Nadu call their Province the Madurai Province ? The reasons are historical. Incidentally quite a few Indian Jesuit provinces have names of cities like Bombay , Patna , Jamshedpur and Ranchi . Others – like Andhra, Kerala and Gujarat – have the names of States.

Madurai Province is the oldest Province in India . Jesuit presence in this land of Tamils began since the times of St Francis Xavier. He arrived in Goa on 6 May 1542 and, after four months of stay in Goa, travelled to Tamil Nadu and worked in Manapad, Tuticorin, Madurai and Madras-Mylapore, preaching the good news of Jesus and founding Catholic communities.

After Francis Xavier came Antony Criminali (1520 – 1549) who was later killed by the Badagas in a raid near Vedalai, Ramnad District, Tamil Nadu. Henri Henriques (1520 –1600), Goncalo Fernandez (1541–1621), Robert de Nobili (1577 –1656) and others were sent from Goa to the Tamil region to continue the work of evangelisation.

Old Madura Mission

When Robert de Nobili, a saintly scholar, visited the southern city of Madurai in 1606, he found it an ideal place to learn the ancient Dravidian language of the area - Tamil - and to start his work. Madurai was the capital of Pandya kings who ruled the area and it was a renowned cultural and literary centre. This is why when De Nobili founded a mission, he called it the 'Madura(i) Mission' (1606). For men and material the Madura Mission depended on Goa Province .

After Robert de Nobili, 122 Jesuits worked in the Madurai Mission till 1759. Among them are courageous, holy men like St John de Britto (1647–1693), martyred in Oriyur, Ramnad district and the renowned Tamil scholar, Constantine Joseph Beschi, who is known by the Tamil name he adopted - Veeramamunivar (1680–1747).

Jesuits' service all over the world was painfully interrupted by an unfortunate development. As Jesuits went about educating, inspiring and concientizing the people everywhere, powerful men with strong vested interests – for whom neither God nor his people really mattered - began to fear and loathe the Jesuits. Yielding to the pressure exerted by such men with political power, Pope Clement XIV suppressed the Society of Jesus on 21 July 1773. Jesuits ceased to exist openly and officially in Madura Mission and everywhere else.

New Madurai Mission

But how long can you suppress something bursting with life and energy that came from God? The Society of Jesus was re-established on 7 Aug 1814 by Pope Pius VII. Fr. J. Roothann, General of the Society of Jesus, entrusted the Madura Mission – the new Madurai Mission - to the Provincial of France, Fr. Francis Renault, who at once sent four French Jesuits to the Mission in 1837: Joseph Bertrand (1801 –1884), Louis Garnier (1805 – 1843), Louis du Ranquet (1801 –1843) and Alexander Martin 1799 – 1840). Later the Madurai Mission was entrusted to the care of Toulouse Province in France , founded in 1852.

Madurai Province

Therefore the two Madura Missions - the 'Old Madura Mission' (1606–1759–1773) run by the Portuguese Jesuits (before the suppression) and the "New Madura Mission' (1837 – 1952) by the French Jesuits of the Society (after its revival) – became eventually the Madurai Province . Since its foundation in 1606, all the European Jesuits, both of the Old and New Madurai missions, continued to call their mission Madurai Mission.

While the Old Madura Mission had Madurai as its headquarters, the headquarters of the new Mission was Tiruchirapalli (Trichy). Based in Trichy, the French Jesuits of the Toulouse Province developed and consolidated the mission with remarkable vision and zeal. Madurai Mission was raised to the status of a Vice–Province in 1929, dependent on the Toulouse Province . In the year 1952, when the Toulouse Province celebrated its centenary, the Madurai Vice-Province was raised to the status of an independent Province. All the well-known Jesuit institutions in Tamil Nadu are the fruits of the vision, tireless efforts and heroic sacrifices of the French Jesuits.

St. Joseph's School and College, Tiruchy (1844), St. Mary's School, Dindigul (1850), St. Mary's School, Madurai (1855), St. Xavier's School (1880) and College (1923), Playamkottai, St. Francis Xavier School, Tuticorin (1884), Loyola College, Chennai (1925), De Britto School, Devakottai (1943) and St. Xavier's College of Education, Palayamkottai (1950).

Becoming All for All

Francis P Xavier SJ

Jesuit evolutionary History:

The Jesuit Order, popularly known as the Jesuits, was founded in 1540. Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Jesuit Order, ultimately realized that education is the key for empowering the people in every way. The Jesuits are the first ones who offered education in a public school system when education was very costly and was available only to the Royal Families and the Feudal Lords. Today Jesuits are looked up as pathfinders and trendsetters in education. Their education is not just confined to liberal arts and science, professional education etc but also is extended to the formation of the entire person as social and global leaders with innovative and entrepreneurial thinking. The Jesuits form people as men and women for others with creativity, competence, commitment, compassion, and consciousness and above all with social responsibility.

Evolution of Jesuit Vision:

Initially Ignatius of Loyola and his six companions, who completed their university studies in Paris, wanted to serve the people in need. They called themselves Company of Jesus (The word 'company' is perhaps due to the fact that Ignatius of Loyola was an Army General). They gave themselves the mandate to serve the people, namely to care for the 'soul'. Soon they realized that the 'soul' does not exist apart from body and switched gear as 'care of the person'. Then they realized that a person needs freedom and dignity more than anything else. In a time of colonization, especially of South America, where the African slaves were bought and sold as commodities, the Jesuits worked for the total liberation of the person. They worked with people to ensure freedom *from* the oppressing powers and freedom *for* service to fellow human beings. This culminated in transformational leadership formation of the people, whom the Jesuits served, making them the role models and global leaders with social responsibility. They have been propelled with the dynamic spirit, namely serving God is serving the needy.

Concept of Jesuit Education:

The Jesuit education is comprehensive, that is, the formation of head (mind), heart, and hand. One should be able to feel, think, and act on what is essential for one's fellow human beings. Though at the outset, Jesuit education seems to be an intellectual formation, it leads to emotional intelligence and skill formation too. For this reason, the Jesuit education is world affirming, with social outlook, promoting global leadership. The social responsibility is altruistic especially boiling down to promotion of justice. Keeping this in mind, the Jesuits promote multi-disciplinary education which is value-based (Fr Kolvenbach, 7 June 1989 in USA).

Jesuit Mission:

'The Jesuits attempt to discover, shape, renew or promote human wisdom, while at the same time respecting the integrity of disciplined scholarship' (GC 34 404). Further, 'the Society of Jesus has carried a flame for nearly five hundred years through innumerable social and cultural circumstances that have challenged it intensely to keep that flame alive and burning' (GC 35 D2/1). The Jesuit mission is the pursuit of truth and justice in the service of humanity for the greater glory of God.

The primary mission of the Jesuit Education is empowering the people, especially the marginalized. The Jesuit educational institutions 'serve as major channels for social advancement' (GC 34 **405**), especially for the economically poor and the socially marginalized. Education, for a Jesuit, is an affirmative action towards empowerment of the downtrodden.

The Jesuit universities promote interdisciplinary work. This implies a spirit of cooperation and dialogue among specialists within each educational institution and with those of other institutions, nationally as well as internationally (34 GC **413**). The Jesuit educational institution is a centre of in-depth study and research.

Jesuit Universal Contribution:

Political Advisers:

Two Jesuits, Rodolfo Acquaviva and Francisco Henriques, were at Akbar's court in Fatehpur Sikri (1579). Numerous Jesuits, especially Matteo Ricci and Adam Schall von Bell served Ming and Qing dynasties in China between 1522 and 1800. They built the bridge between China and Europe and introduced Mathematics and Astronomy in China.

Jesuits and European Royal Families:

The Jesuits have been advisers/confessors to many royal families. They helped Henry III to Louis XV over two centuries; in 16th and 17th centuries they guided the German emperors and all the Dukes of Bavaria. Most of the Polish and Portuguese rulers and Spanish Kings in the 18th century had them as advisors. The advisor to James II in England was a Jesuit. And many princely families throughout Europe had them as advisors and mentors and the Jesuits influenced their policy making often in favour of the common people.

Suppression and Restoration:

As the Jesuits became more popular, influential as well as powerful, the opposition also built up. The Jesuit Order was foreseen as the vanguard of the Catholic Church and in the time of 'Reformation', the Jesuits worked for 'Counter-Reformation' and hence they became the target of Reformists and the Protestants. Their closeness to the royal families brought in conflict with other political powers. When the Portuguese and Spanish colonization began in South America, the Jesuits opposed slave trade and argued that 'slaves' were also full human beings. To prove their stand, they created Jesuit Republics and set the 'slaves' in their colonies free. They earned the irk of the Portuguese and Spanish crowns. Their attempts to in-plant Christian faith through enculturation (as in China and Tamilnadu) faced stiff opposition from within the Church. As the Jesuits became beleaguered both from within the Catholic Church as well as out of the fold, the monarchies of Portugal, Spain, and France demanded the dismantling of the Jesuit Order. Pope Clement XIV suppressed the Jesuit Order in 1773. Wherever the King/Queen proclaimed the papal decree, the Jesuits ceased to exist. However, the Protestant Prussia, the Orthodox Russia, and the Hindu India extended protecting hand to the Jesuits. Queen Catherine refused to read the papal decree in her Russian Kingdom, and Hyder Ali in Mysore took the Jesuits in under his patronage. Pope Pius VII restored the Jesuit Order in 1814, after more than four decades of soul-searching.

Jesuit Explorers:

The Jesuits announced the existence of Mangolia and drew its map. They also discovered the silk-way, an international route, leading to China. They not only

brought Astronomy and Mathematics to China but also drew the map of China (Matteo Ricci). The location of the Blue Nile was located by the Jesuits and in the Americas the exploration of the rivers Mississippi (Fr Jacques Marquette) and Amazon was achieved by them. During the colonization of South America, they founded the Jesuit Republics where the slaves enjoyed freedom with cooperative system. Sao Paulo in Brazil was founded (1534-1597) by them and Fr Ferdinand Bonnell developed Sri Lanka.

Jesuits in Science and Maths:

The Gregorian calendar that is in use at present was developed and designed by Christopher Clavius. Teilhard de Chardin, a paleontologist, discovered the missing link (known as the Peking Man) in the human evolution. Roger Boscovich (1711-1787) proposed the atomic theory, pointing out the similarity between the structure of an atom and of the planetary system. Vincenzo Riccati evolved differential equation (known as Riccati equation); Andre Tacquet is considered to be the forerunner of Calculus; and Acues de Billy brought in the number theory in practice.

Jesuits and Astronomy:

When Neil Armstrong landed on the moon, he had the map of the moon drawn by the Jesuits. In recognition of the contribution of the Jesuits, about 35 craters in the moon are named after Jesuit scientists. Four asteroids are named after Jesuit astronomers. Mateo Ricci was the Director of astronomical observatory in Beijing; Ferdinand Bonnel is considered as the father of meteorology; Christopher Clavius developed Euclidean geometry in the 16th century and he supported and proved the heliocentric universe proposed by Galileo by repeating the experiments of Galileo. Angelo Pietro Secci is considered as the father of astrophysics and he perfected meteorography, spectroscopy, and telescope in his time. Francesco Lana Terzi is known as the father of aeronautics as he made the first balloon-flight. Jose de Acosta discovered the altitude-sickness.

Jesuits and Seismology:

Considering the contribution of the Jesuit scientists, Seismology is named as Jesuit Science. They have been, on a daily basis, contributing from the USA to 'seismic prospecting' based on surface waves close to the crest of the earth. Daniel Linehan worked out theories of Shallow Refraction; since 1868 about 54 Jesuit seismological stations are functional throughout the globe.

Jesuit Contribution to Fine Arts:

The Jesuits promoted arts and architecture such as painting, sculpture, music, theatre, dance, and poetry as part of educational curriculum. The school plays evolved in the Jesuit schools became the modern theatre in 16th and 17th centuries. The sheer curtain used in the theatres is the invention of the Jesuits. They promoted plays in the school system. Their play 'The Wicked Witch of the West' is reflected in the film 'The Wizard of Oz' and the popular movies such as 'On the Waterfront', 'The Mission', 'Black Robe' etc are based on Jesuit life and mission. They designed the curriculum on architecture, known as *ratio aedificiorum*, and they were the champions of Baroque architecture. The Gesù, the Mother Church of the Jesuits in Rome, is a fine example of baroque style with captivating architecture and breathtaking painting especially on the fresco. All the Jesuit universities and colleges promote courses on arts/sciences for all the students, irrespective of their discipline.

Contribution to Linguistics:

The Jesuits brought out dictionaries and lexicons in the native languages in North America. Gerard Manley Hopkins is a well known English poet, who has been honoured in Poets' Corner at Westminster Abbey, London.

In India, they applied the Roman script for the Northeast Indian languages. Camille Bulke, a Belgian Jesuit, did engineering works in Hindi language. He wrote the first doctoral thesis on Indian languages in Hindi. He translated the New Testament of the Bible in Hindi and brought out Hindi-English-Hindi glossary. He was honoured with Padma Bhushan. Henry Heras, a Jesuit from Spain, was an archeologist and historian and his expertise in Indus Valley Civilization, especially Mohenjo-Daro and Harappa cultures was very much appreciated. Thomas Stephens, an English Jesuit, applied Roman script to Konkani language and composed *Krista Purana* (Epic on Jesus) in Marathi. Carlos Gonzales Valles, a Spaniard, became an expert in Gujarati. He coined many words in Gujarati and he was the first foreigner to receive Gujarati awards for literature.

In Tamilnadu, Robert de Nobili and Constantine Beschi, both from Italy, made Himalayan contribution to Tamil language and culture. Robert de Nobili was a scholar in Sanskrit, Telugu, and Tamil; he coined words such as *Kovil*, *Arul*, *Prasadam*, *Guru*, *Vedam*, *Poosai*, etc; and authored Catechism in Tamil. He is called the Father of Tamil prose. Constantine Beschi wrote an epic on St Joseph (Thembavani) and the first novel (Paramartha Guru Kathai). He wrote Thonool, Thiru Kavalur Kalambagam etc and Chathurakarathi (Tamil grammar). He translated Thirukural into Latin (with commentary). De Nobili and Beschi tried to understand Christian religion in the Tamil culture and milieu. Henry Henriques printed the first book in Tamil (in 1554) and the book *Thambiran Vanakam* (written by De Nobili) was printed in Portugal.

Jerome D'Souza (former Principal of Loyola College) was a member of the Indian Constituent Assembly and he represented India in the UN four times. K.V. Peter was the postmaster in Shembaganur (Kodaikanal). He was given the best Postmaster award in India (1983) and was also decorated with Padma Shri award.

Jesuit Inventions:

Quinine used for Malaria was invented by the Jesuits in 16th century (called the 'Jesuit Bark') and the tonic water originates from the Jesuits. Germ theory regarding plagues was proposed by Athanasius Kircher in 17th century. Robert Busa introduced hypertext into computer (1949). The following are a few inventions of the Jesuits: Trap door (Nicholas Owen), Megaphone (Athanasius Kircher), Gear-system in Engineering (Gaspar Schott), Vernier Scale and Gregorian calendar (Clavius), Sundial (Francis Line), refracting telescope (Sheiner – in 1613 with two convex lenses), reflecting telescope (Nicolas Zucci), cannon (Verbiest in 1681), etc. The 'diffraction' of light was first proposed by Francesco Grimaldi. Lana-Terzi developed seedless fruits. In Tamilnadu, it is said that the Jesuits introduced the grapes and the Kodaikanal lake was designed and created by a Jesuit.

Jesuit Reductions: Paradise Lost

When the Colonization by Spain and Portugal began in South America (17th and 18th centuries), slaves from the west African coast were brought into Cape Verde and from there they were sold to the plantation owners and shipped to the colonies. Though the Jesuits raised their objection to the slave-trade, the objection was overruled with the

assumption that the slaves were sub-human beings. The Jesuits then started their own plantations, called Jesuit Reductions, in Paraguay, Uruguay, Chile, Brazil, Argentina, Peru, Bolivia etc and gave the slaves not only freedom but also introduced cooperative work ethics. They were also trained in music, embroidery, and sculpture. Their products were brought to the European markets and their workmanship was on par with the Europeans. The children had schools inside the plantations. This set in motion the freedom struggle among the slaves and this also was one of the reasons for the suppression of the Jesuit Order in 1773.

Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS):

The Jesuits take their stand with the discriminated, neglected, and the marginalized. The former General of the Jesuit Order, Fr Pedro Arrupe, founded the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) in 1980. Originally, it was meant to take care of the Vietnamese boat-people. But today it has expanded to international refugees, internally displaced people, undocumented migrants etc. The JRS is operative in 51 countries, mainly in Africa, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Afghanistan etc; and their service consists of education, emergency assistance (at the time of natural disaster), health and nutrition etc. So far about 600,000 have benefited and at present about 80 Jesuits along with 1,400 volunteers are engaged in bringing hope and meaning to the refugees all over the world. Fr Premkumar, who was in JRS team in Afghanistan, was abducted by the Taliban and was recently released after more than eight months. The JRS works for regaining the human dignity and freedom of the displaced people.

Option for the Poor:

In keeping with the biblical Yahweh's preferential option for the poor, especially for the orphans, widows, and strangers/refugees (Ex 22:22, Deut 22:14, and Deut 16:10), and in resonance with Jesus' taking his stand with the economically poor and the socially marginalized (Lk 10:29-35, Jn 4:26), Ignatius opened up a school for the poor in Rome. In the General Congregation 32 (1968), the Jesuits took a universal stand for the preferential option for the poor and the marginalized. This, in concrete, became the preference for the poor and the Tribals in North India; and as the option for the poor and the Dalits (who are economically poor, socially discriminated, politically neglected, and religiously ignored) in South India. This option has become the policy of education, leading to employment and culminating in empowerment. The goal is to bring those who are at the receiving end to be the leaders of the society.

Jesuit Education:

The Jesuit education, evolved as *ratio studiorum* in 1599, is called the Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm with the following components:

Context → Experience → Reflection → Action → Evaluation →
Enriched experience →

This is an integral formation of the person for social transformation.

Jesuit Contribution to Spirituality:

Ignatius of Loyola, based on his spiritual experience and reflections, in the caves of Manresa in Spain, composed 'The Spiritual Exercises'. This has changed the lives of millions of people to dedicate themselves to the service of the society. The contribution of St Ignatius is: Imagination to prayer. On contemplation, one gets involved in the event, either historical or current, with all physical senses via imagination. This inner movement of the heart moves the mind towards decision making for an action and gives the energy to accomplish the decision. Thus in prayer,

the heart (feeling), the head (thinking), and the hand (action) are integrated and energized.

Jesuits: All for All

The Jesuits have no specific work to do nor do they have specific area in the world to be active. They are propelled to be on the move where there is *greater* need for the people. There had been worker Jesuits in East Berlin industries (before the unification of Germany); and there were taxi drivers in France just to be available for the need of those who needed counseling and guidance. There had been circus clowns in the USA – Nick Weber has had his own circus in Santa Clara. They have served as speechwriters to the Popes and the US Presidents. Nell von Breuning wrote the Papal Encyclical *Rerum Novarum* (on Christian Workers Union) for Pope Leo XIII. John McLaughlin was the speechwriter for President Nixon and now Jon Favreau is the speechwriter for President Obama. Ron Schmidt produced the Oscar winning documentary, *The Labyrinth*. Daniel Berrigan is a human rights activist in the USA. The first Asian Zen Master is AMA Samy in Kodaikanal (Tamilnadu). They have been in all walks of life in order to serve the needs of the people – Jesuits bring in social equality and dignity to the marginalized, wherever they are and whatever they do.

Jesuit Alumni/ae: Global Leaders

The Jesuit alumni/ae are numerous – Just a few of them are represented here: Philosophers and Theologians are there (such as Rene Descartes, Michael Foucault, and Henri de Lubac in France, Martin Heidegger, Hans Kueng, and Karl Rahner in Germany). Voltaire, the French enlightenment writer, historian, and philosopher, and Alfred Hitchcock, the British Film Director were educated by the Jesuits. Popes Benedict XIV, Innocent XI, Pius XI, Pius XII, Paul VI, John Paul I, and Francis have been Jesuit students.

Many of the former as well as present Presidents of many nations have been the alumni/alumnae of the Jesuits. Some of the countries are: Cuba (Fidel and Raul Castro), Tanzania (Julius Nyerere), Australia (Tony Abbott), the USA (Bill Clinton and Lyndon B Johnson), Mexico (Vicente Fox), France (Charles de Gaulle), South Korea (Park Geun-hye), Malta (Gido de Marco), the Philippines (Benigno Aquino III and Gloria M Arroya), El Salvador (Maruicio Funes), Peru (Eduardo López de Romaña and Alejandro Toledo), the Netherlands (Ruud Lubbers) etc. Many a nation had their Prime Ministers who had been formed by the Jesuits. A few of the countries are: Canada (Pierre Elliott Trudeau), Malta (Edward Fenech Adami), Belgium (Jean-Luc Dehaene), New Zealand (Sir Frederick Weld) etc.

A few more statesmen, especially in the USA, have been formed by Jesuit education: Thomas O'Neill (Speaker of US Senate), Andrew Cuomo (Governor of New York State), William Casey (Director of the CIA), Lisa Madigan and John Mitchell (US Attorney Generals), Edward Douglass White (Ninth Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court), Carter Ham (General of US Army) etc.

A few Nobel Laureates have had their education with the Jesuits: Ivo Andric (Yugoslavia), James Joyce (Ireland), and Maurice Maeterlinck (Belgium), Joseph Murraray (USA). A couple of Pulitzer Prize winning authors are also there: Timothy Egan, Loretta Tofani, and Edward Jones.

One could find the Jesuit hall mark of excellence in the Jesuit alumni/ae in all walks of life: Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (Author of the Sherlock Holmes detective Stories), Carlos Ghosn (CEO of Renault and Nissan Motors), Anne M. Mulcahy (Chairman and CEO of Xerox), Paul Otellini (President of Intel Corporation), John Leahy (Chief Operating Officer of Airbus), Mark Thompson (Director General of the BBC), Claudio Teehankee (Chief Justice of the Philippines) etc.

In India too we have myriads of Jesuit alumni: Venkataraman and Abdul Kalam (Presidents of India), Jyoti Basu (Communist Party Leader and Chief Minister of West Bengal), Viswanathan Anand (Chess Grandmaster), Rahul Dravid and Sourav Ganguly (Cricket Captains), Anand and Vijay Amirthraj (Tennis players), Zakir Hussain (Musician), N. Ram (Chief Editor of The Hindu), and many more political and social leaders. In Tamilnadu, a few of the film artistes such as S. Sivakumar, Vijay, Vishal, Vikram, Surya etc are Jesuit alumni. All have been formed as the global leaders and each one lets his/her light of excellence shine!

Basic Assumption of Jesuit Mission:

The Jesuits assume that each one is a potential leader as each one has something to offer to the society. The focus of the Jesuit mission is the empowerment of the marginalized as they believe in bottom-up leadership. And the key to this empowerment process is education, which is the power-tool to pave the way for a better world. The Jesuits have the road as their home and they would be constantly on the move seeking those who are in greater need and doing, in the spirit of *magis*, ever more and ever better.

Propelling Dynamism:

In this dynamic spirit of giving the best to the least, each Jesuit is driven by three-fold mantra, namely:

1. What have I done?
2. What am I doing? and
3. What ought I to do? –for the needy and the marginalized.

They are, just like their founder (St Ignatius of Loyola) restless people, seeking those who are in greater need. And that is why, the Jesuits have neither a fixed mission nor a specific work to do and they become all for all!

Conclusion:

The ultimate goal of the Jesuits is, finding God in everything and seeking everything in God. For them, serving God is serving the people in need. They believe with conviction that whatever is done to the least of their brethren is done to God himself and ‘all for the greater glory of God’. Their life is other-centered, forming men and women as leaders with social responsibility for others. They make their lives fruitful and joyful: Fruitful for the needy, and joyful for themselves as they have done something beautiful, meaningful, and relevant for others. Not only do they let the light of their accomplishment and joy shine in their good work for the poor and the marginalized but also encompass others as well.

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