



Ignatius



May 2021 - July 2022

Dumka-Raiganj Province Jesuit Bulletin



...towards continual and daily conversion

August 2021

Jisu Jaher, Dudhani, Dumka - 814 101

No. 522

Fr Provincial's Message



Dear companions, for us Jesuits, in the month of July, our consciousness has been dominated by two Jesuits - our holy father St Ignatius and Fr Stan Swamy. We are already well into the Ignatian Jubilee year with its special focus on St Ignatius's conversion. We have also spiritually nourished ourselves through a devotional novena to St Ignatius leading us up to the joyous celebration of his feast. But this July we have been deeply affected by the death in judicial custody of Fr Stan Swamy, truly a 'martyr of the marginalized'. Fr Stan symbolized the true Jesuit spirit of 'walking with the excluded'. He knew, like his Master whose call he heeded, that his stance for and with the marginalized *adivasis* and *moolvasis* of Jharkhand and other tribal areas, would demand of him a heavy price. And he was willing to 'lay down his life for his friends'. We have participated in various programmes paying tribute to Fr Stan and his ultimate sacrifice. Fr Stan's death is not the end but the beginning of an awakening that reaffirms the Kingdom values enshrined in the Constitution of India. Now is the time for us to be heeding his call, "I am not a silent spectator", and speak the truth to the powers that be on behalf of those who were so close to Fr Stan's heart - the poor, the marginalized and excluded of society in our times. This is the way we become truly 'a community of friends in the Lord' and our faith becomes more paschal, more compassionate, and more liberating. Let us recommit ourselves to the mission of truth and justice. Remember, as Fr Stan wrote from jail, "A caged bird can still sing!"

Appointment by Fr Provincial

Fr Augustine John Victor: Assistant Province Treasurer

Fr Provincial's Programme

August

- 14 Province Consult
- 15 Hostel Blessing at Baghmara
- 16-17 Chilimpur (Visitation)
- 20-21 Young Priests' Recollection at Jisu Jaher

September

- 02-03 Jirulia (Visitation)
- 04-05 CTC, Torai (Visitation)
- 06 Banpokharia (Visitation)
- 07-08 Satia (Visitation)
- 09-10 Bhognadih (Visitation)
- 11-12 Province Consult & Meeting of *Coetus Praevius*
- 15-16 Bathbanga (Visitation)
- 17-18 Kodma (Visitation)

Convocation of the Province Congregation

Fr Provincial has convoked the Province Congregation of Dumka-Raiganj Province starting at 6:00 pm on 26 December 2021 at Jisu Jaher, Dumka. The *Coetus Praevius* (preparatory committee) consists of Fr Provincial (Chairman), Fr Stany Pinto, Fr Ignatius Soren, Fr Melchi Tigga and Fr Christopher Ekka. The last date for list of preferences (ballots) to be submitted is 31 August 2021.

Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (PWPN)

The Church: Let us pray for the Church, that she may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.

Feast of St Ignatius of Loyola

Jisu Jaher, Dumka

Fr Provincial K.C. Stephen SJ, the main celebrant, invited us to place ourselves in the perspective of the cannonball moment, Fr Stan moment and the Covid-19 moment and reminded us that our reflection on the three images used by St Ignatius, namely, the soldier, the pilgrim and the worker in the vineyard of the Lord could challenge us to respond to this situation with availability, commitment of *magis* and interior freedom.

Baghmara

St Ignatius of Loyola was fondly remembered and the feast was celebrated with great pomp and show at Baghmara, Purnea. The motto of the Jubilee Year was elegantly focused, highlighted and was deeply imprinted on the hearts and minds of the participants.

On 15 July, we held a community meeting where we devised and discussed effective strategies to make the start of the Jubilee Year more efficacious. We commenced the Novena on 22 July with our collaborator Sisters and meaningfully participated all through the nine days with intense prayer, reflection and sharing. The themes we chose for each day were fully saturated in the Universal Apostolic Preferences (UAP), except the first day where Fr Ignacy Lazar SJ led the group into the 500 years of Ignatius' cannonball moment and conversion experience connecting it with the present Covid-19 like situations in our personal life.

The feast day Holy Eucharist was celebrated solemnly with Rev. Fr Francis Tirkey, the V.G. of the Purnea Diocese, as the main celebrant and the fathers from Bishop's House and Baghmara Jesuits as concelebrants. In the evening, we had a Jubilee Year prayer service conducted by Fr Jacob Chinnappan SJ for the priests and religious on the theme, "To See All Things New in Christ." Fr Jacob gave a moving introduction about the history of the cannonball experience of Inigo connecting it with the experiences of Covid-19 like situations in our Society today. He also highlighted the EXAMINE, one of the riches left behind by St Ignatius and suggested that we all practice the 5 steps daily examine. The Sisters felicitated the Jesuits including the Jesuit Bishop Angelus Kujur

who then, highlighted the relevance of the Jubilee Year and his experiences of visiting the historical Pamplona which had revolutionized the life St Ignatius and heralded his enlightenment. A souvenir with St Ignatius photo bearing the motto of the Jubilee Year was distributed to all. **(Fr Ignacy Lazar SJ).**

Majlispur

The feast of St Ignatius was celebrated with the Parishioners, High School teachers and the neighbouring religious communities. The celebration began with a Holy Mass at 7:00 am with an entrance dance. We were happy to have about 90 faithful for the Mass in spite of their busy field works. Fr Ajit Kujur SJ was the main celebrant and gave an inspiring homily on the life of St Ignatius and his conversion for the service of God and His people. The choir by youth was very devotional. After the Mass the faithful felicitated the Fathers in the Church itself. In the School, the teachers paid floral homage to St Ignatius who is the patron saint of the School, and then felicitated the Jesuits. In the evening Fathers and Sisters from the neighbouring communities joined us for a fellowship meal. **(Fr Blasius Soreng SJ).**

CTC, Torai

In Banpokharia, five village heads, co-workers and catechists along with their families joined the feast day celebration. On Sunday, the feast was celebrated with the Catholic community. At CTC Torai, the community participated in the Novena actively and in a prayerful mood. With the same spirit, we celebrated the feast in a small but great manner. Some Diocesan Priests, Sisters and a few faithful from nearby joined us for the Holy Eucharist. Fr Thomas Kattathara, in his homily, focused on the cannonball experience of St Ignatius. **(Sch Borson Hembrom SJ).**

Mundli

On 30 July, the feast of St Ignatius was celebrated with the 'Youth for Jesus' of Bara Durgapur Zone. Despite the heavy rain 37 youth took part in it. Fr Mathias Kisku SJ was the resource person who conducted a few interactive sessions and showed them a short film on St Ignatius' life. FC Sisters Angela and Leena joined the session and encouraged our youth. For the Holy Eucharist,

Fr Sunit Kullu SJ was the main celebrant who in his homily talked about the gift and value of life.

On the feast day, after breakfast, we planted Sal trees in front of our residence as a reminder that we are deeply connected to nature and we need to care for the mother earth. Then our Parish Priest, Fr Philip Tudu, was invited to hoist the Jubilee Year flag. Fr Mathias Kisku SJ was the main celebrant for today's Eucharist who during his homily, talked about how the cannonball moment bought in an entire change of direction in Ignatius' life. **(Sch Vinod Kujur SJ).**

Nunbatta

Many Parishioners and well wishers joined the feast day Holy Eucharist. A student presented a brief sketch about the life of St Ignatius. The Fr Prakash Hansdak' SJ, the main celebrant, centered his homily on the Gospel verse, "For what *shall it profit* a man though he *should win* the *whole world*, if he *lose* his own *soul*?" (Mk 8,36). Fr Gregory Kujur SJ talked about the contribution of St Ignatius to the Church and the Society at large in the field of education, social justice, propagation of faith and the reformation of the Church in particular. **(Fr Gregory Kujur SJ).**

Satia

Satia Jesuits conducted Novena meaningfully in preparation for the feast with themes that were apt to bring alive St Ignatius among the staff and students. Fr Shailen Minj SJ organized and conducted a quiz which helped the students and the staff to know about St Ignatius and his companions. They appreciated the richness of the Society of Jesus and the works of Jesuits. The Jesuit community along with the neighbouring Priests and Sisters, the staff and the students, and the animators of Paharia Sewa Samiti celebrated the feast with much enthusiasm and zeal. Fr O.V. Joseph of Dumka Diocese was the main celebrant who highlighted the life of St Ignatius and his conversion and the life of Jesuits. After the Holy Eucharist, a beautiful cultural programme was put up by the students and guided by the staff of Jeevan Jyoti School. **(Fr John Felix SJ).**

Nichitpur

The feast was celebrated with the religious Sisters on 31 July and on 01 August with the faithful of

the Parish. The Church was beautifully decorated by the youth and the Sisters. The choir was conducted by the youth of the Parish. It was very encouraging to see the youth taking active part in the Church activities as well as growing in their social consciousness and responsibilities. The youth presented a short cultural programme after the Eucharist. We both were felicitated by the Parishioners with beautiful songs and dances by the youth. **(Fr Arul Doss SJ).**

Loyola Sadan, Sonabari

A prayer-service was organized at 7:30 in the evening. On the occasion a video-film highlighting the significance of the conversion of St Ignatius was shown. Rt.Rev. Bishop Fulgence A. Tigga of Raiganj Diocese concluded the prayer service with benediction. Many Fathers, Sisters and friends from the neighbouring communities were present for the occasion. **(Fr Christopher Ekka SJ).**

St Xavier's, Raiganj

A memorable feast day Mass was offered in the School hostel chapel. Priests and Sisters from the local communities and some guests participated in the Eucharistic celebration. Rt.Rev. Bishop Fulgence Tigga officiated the Holy Eucharist. He gave a brief introduction on the life of St Ignatius. The values and the characteristics of the Ignatian spirituality were the central highlights throughout the homily and the Mass. On the occasion of the feast of St Ignatius in the 500th year of his enlightenment a booklet compiled by Fr Basil Manojin SJ titled, "A *Knight for Christ*" which contains a brief note on the life of St Ignatius, a few important Ignatian concepts, certain important milestones in the history of the Society of Jesus and other details was released. Congratulations and a word of appreciation to Fr Basil Manojin for doing this job in a short period of time creatively. Let us draw the strength and enthusiasm from the divine power of our father St Ignatius to carry on his mission with an unending quest. **(Mr Lazer).**

Johar HRD

Johar celebrated the feast with neighbouring community and Johar staff. We had prayer service in the noon led by Fr Vernard Anthony SJ. He spoke about the work of St Ignatius and showed some video clips on the life of St Ignatius. **(Fr Emmanuel Besra SJ).**

Hatimara

Priests, Religious and prominent lay people from the neighbouring villages came to celebrate the 'Loyola Day' at Hatimara Parish. The Church had an odoriferous atmosphere. Fr Rajesh Ba'a, the Parish Priest, was the main celebrant. Deacon Pratap Gabriel Samad gave a scintillating sermon where he dwelt on the life of St Ignatius, his vision and mission. The docket of his sermon was, "St Ignatius did everything for the greater glory of God, and so do we. We cannot be sybarites but be ever ready to jump into the unknown." The salubrious religious air of the Church lifted up our spirits that were depressed due to the pandemic. **(Fr Edwin D'Souza SJ).**

St Xavier's, Sahibganj

The celebration of the feast of St Ignatius at St Xavier's Sahibganj this year was simple but profound. Preparation for the feast began with a Novena to St Ignatius. Each day of the Novena was themed with an Ignatian principle and on each day a member of the Jesuit Community led the Novena in turn. Although the Novena began at 7:15 pm in the evening, inputs for reflection were given by the member in-charge each morning after the Mass. The Jesuits spent the day pondering on the points. Then from 7:15 pm to 7:45 pm there was adoration in the Chapel with a difference. That is to say, very creative PowerPoint Presentations were prepared by the Scholastics and the Priests. These were very useful for prayers and reflections. After the intercessory prayers, adoration culminated with Benediction. It is to be noted that the last day of the Novena was conducted by the laity and the non-Jesuit residents of the School Campus on the theme, "What Ignatius means to non-Jesuits and laity, and how they see Jesuits and their apostolates."

On the day of the feast, at 6:30 am the Holy Eucharist was celebrated in the Jesuit Chapel by Fr Vimal Kerketta SJ who was assisted at the altar by eight priests. The congregation was made up of the rest of the Jesuit community, Fathers and Sisters of the local Parish and Convents, a few members of the teaching and non-teaching staff and the local youth members of the 'Youth for Jesus.' The Priests were led to the altar through a beautiful welcome

dance performed by the youth members which was followed by a meaningful introduction to the Holy Mass by Master Rimil Hansda. Fr Vimal in his homily focused mainly on the role that was played by St Ignatius and the Society of Jesus in saving the Catholic Church from declining during Reformation. After the Mass, there was a short felicitation programme arranged for the Jesuits. **(Mr Shyamal Palmer).**

Mariampahar

The Sunday school children, youth and people from the surrounding villages joined together to celebrate the feast of St Ignatius. Fr Bernard Murmu of Pathra was the main celebrant who in his homily stressed on the need for the conversion of heart and mind like St Ignatius. Youth took care of the choir under the direction of Sch Innocent Tudu SJ and Fr Chrysostom Hembrom SJ took care of the liturgy. Two-hour long cultural programme was organized by the village children. **(Fr Chrysostom Hembrom SJ).**

Hasapatar

The feast of St Ignatius was organized by 'Youth for Jesus' of Shikaripara Zone in Hasapatar Mass Centre (Shikaripara Parish). The Holy Eucharist was celebrated by Fr Vernard Antony SJ, the coordinator of 'Youth for Jesus' of Shikaripara Zone. The theme for the Holy Eucharist was, "Pamplona cannonball experience of Inigo and his Conversion." Philip Soren, the catechist of Hasapatar Mass centre, recalled and appreciated the work done by Jesuit fathers Joseph Zerafa SJ, Aloysius Camilleri SJ and Julian Cachia SJ in Shikaripara and Asanbani areas. He then invited the youth to take the example of Jesuit Missionary fathers and remain rooted in faith. The youth were actively involved in altar arrangements, reading the Mass readings, the choir and the distribution of tea and snacks to the faithful. Mr Vincent Murmu shared with the youth about the missionary spirit of Jesuits and their zeal in serving the Lord following in the footsteps of their founding father St Ignatius. **(Fr Vernard Antony SJ).**

Ignatian Year Recollection for Youth

Ignatian Year Recollection for 'Youth for Jesus' of Shikharipara zone was arranged on 24 July in

Hasapatar Mass Centre. The Recollection began with the Holy Eucharist by Fr Vernard Antony SJ. The faithful too participated in the Eucharist. The youth led the choir and made all the arrangements. After the Eucharist, Fr Vernard led the group into prayer and reflection. After the talk on the conversion of Inigo, Fr Vernard gave the youth some time for personal reflection and group sharing on the question, "Who is Jesus for me?" Divided into six each in 10 groups, the 61 participants had an ample chance to share among themselves about who Jesus was for each one. Santali books on the life of St Ignatius were distributed among the youth for their personal reading. The youth animators of Hasapatar, Mr Philip Soren, and of Haripur, Mr Jutin Kisku, shared about their personal Christ experiences with the youth. **(Fr Vernard Antony SJ).**

National Justice Day

The Jesuits of Dumka-Raiganj Province observed 'National Justice Day' in most of its centres. At each centre, a prayer service was held during which POSA's letter was read giving a brief sketch of Fr Stan's life and imprisonment. It also referred to the injustice being done to various persons who have generously involved themselves in the welfare of the nation and its people. The social activists unjustly accused, arrested and imprisoned, were remembered. A candle-light procession in the compound was greeted with various slogans, put up in prominent places, demanding justice and the implementation of structures that mete out justice in an impartial way.

Jisu Jaher, Dumka

A prayer service was organized at Jisu Jaher in which Fathers, Sisters, lay collaborators and well wishers participated. The prayer service began with an introduction by Fr Emmanuel Besra SJ which was followed by lighting of the lamp, singing a song, and showing video clips by Fr Vernard Anthony SJ on injustices meted out to various people, intercessory prayers and floral tribute to Fr Stan. Then with lighted candles, raising the posters and placards, the gathered made a silent procession to Jisu Jaher entrance. Before concluding the silent gathering Fr Provincial K.C. Stephen SJ read out the press release of Fr Stany D'Souza SJ, the POSA,

and urged the gathering not to remain silent spectators but speak out for our rights which are our fundamental rights given by the Constitution.

Johar HRD

In order to mark the day and its importance Johar HRD team made a documentary "*Anyay ke Virod Sanghars aur Shahadat ke ek Amar Kahani*" which portrays how justice is denied to various people in and around Dumka.

Satia

The Jesuits of Satia community along with the Paharia villagers, students and staff organized 'National Justice Day' in Satia village. The Peace procession started from the Government school. When it reached the middle of the village Fr Thomas Kavalakatt SJ, the Director of Paharia Sewa Samiti, Mr Ghasi Paharia, the village Pradhan, Mrs Rani Paharin, the President of PSS spoke about Fr Stan and of the need to uphold Justice in order to protect democracy. Then the procession proceeded with lighted candles in hand, singing of social songs and raising justice slogans. We join with Rabindranath Tagore singing the chorus, "Into that heaven of freedom, my father, let my county awake."

Banpokharia

Around 60 people gathered together in the School hall, in spite of the urgent work of transplantation, to hear in silence about the injustice suffered by Fr Stan and to pay tribute to him. Then we took out a procession with lighted candles in hand in silence as a mark of respect for Fr Stan and all social activists who are unjustly imprisoned.

Majlispur

Fathers, Sisters and the faithful of the Parish joined together for the prayer meeting and paid homage to martyred Fr Stan with lighted candles.

Jibonpur

Together with collaborators and a few parishioners, we gathered in front of the primary school carrying in hand slogans calling for law and justice. Then proceeded to the grotto of Our Lady where we lighted candles and prayed for justice.

Kodma

The Jesuits, the members of the Sona Santal Samaj Samiti and some teachers and lay persons gathered

together and with lighted candles recalled Fr Stan's selfless service for the rights and the welfare of Adivasis and Dalits.

Mariampahar

The President of the parish council briefed the gathering on the life and work of Fr Stan and on how he was treated in jail. The parish council secretary spoke about justice and the rights of the adivasis. Those present offered flowers and prayed with candles in their hands.

St Xavier's Raiganj

Fathers, Sisters, Brothers, School Staff and Collaborators joined in an evening prayer service conducted in the School to show our hearty tribute to Fr Stan. During the prayer service Fr Damian Tudu SJ, the Principal, read out a brief sketch of Fr Stan highlighting his work among the tribals and the marginalized. Fr John Chandran SJ led the prayer service with devotional hymns, readings, reflections and prayers of petition. The prayer service ended with the blessing by Fr Santhappan and a floral tribute to the patron of the marginalized and the poor.

Hathimara

A good number of people, especially youth and children from nearby villages, participated in the prayer service. At the start of the candle procession, the purpose and significance of National Justice Day was explained. The gathered hailed Fr Stan as a prophet and praised and thanked God for the life and work of Fr Stan and paid him homage by offering flowers.

Nichitpur

Around 70 parishioners, Religious Sisters and teachers gathered at St Mary's Church, Nichitpur. Those present were encouraged to join in the fight for justice and so carry forward the work began by Fr Stan. A floral tribute was paid to Fr Stan by all the participants.

Nunbatta

The observance began with silence but rage within as to why the oppressive system oppresses us whenever someone stands for the voiceless and the vulnerable. The staff and the students were present to witness the Day. By lighting the candles we honoured the martyr Fr Stan who stood for

human rights and justice. Fr Prakash Hansdak SJ, the headmaster of the School, talked about Fr Stan and the unjust treatment meted out to him. Fr Gregory Kujur SJ, the Secretary of the School, explained succinctly about the PESA rule and how it functions. The caption, "Soye Zameer ko Jagao Jal, Jangle aur Jameen Hamara Hai," was used as the slogan of the day. The Headmaster thanked all the present and reminded them to carry the message of Fr Stan, "We cannot be the silent spectators; we have to speak."

St Xavier's Sahibganj

The teachers of St Xavier's School Sahibganj in the company of Sisters and Priests of the local Convents and Parish took part in the silent protest march with lighted candles and placards in their hands. The march began in the teachers' premises on the School campus with a welcome address by Fr Ignatius Lakra SJ and halted at the main gate of the School where once again Fr Ignatius addressed the gathering to explain who Fr Stan was and what happened to him. The gathered paid floral and candle tributes to the portrait of Fr Stan that was kept at the entrance of the School gate followed by a short reflection on Fr Stan, a martyr for justice, by Mr Sudhir Kumar, our teacher. The programme ended with a Vote of Thanks proposed by Fr Hilary D'Souza SJ, the Principal. **(Mr Shyamal Palmer).**

Tribute to Fr Stan

Mariampahar

The parishioners of Mariampahar had a special Mass in the morning and a prayer service in the evening on 11 July, Sunday, to pay our tribute to Fr Stan Swamy SJ. Many people in this area were not aware of Fr Stan's works, but after his death people came to know about him and his work especially through the print and electronic media. **(Fr Chrysostom Hembrom SJ).**

Dumka AICUF

The custodial death of Fr Stan Swamy SJ on 5 July sent shock waves of agony across the nation and beyond borders. The fact that the champion of the tribals of Jharkhand was falsely accused and framed in cases which had no link at all with him and was thrown in the prison without fair trial and was denied bail, despite his age and illness (at the

age of 84 with advanced Parkinson, and denied even a sipper) made people of social concern, all over the world, angry. People of good will began mourning the martyrdom of the Saint of our time.

On 17 July the Dumka AICUF Unit observed a day of prayer and condolence in remembrance of Fr Stan. The event was an attempt to keep the voice and soul of Fr Stan alive and engrave the legacy of the martyr in the hearts of many more; his immortal spirit continues to inspire his followers to challenge the oppressive system. The programme was organized at Johar HRD Centre, Dumka. Around 10:00 am the members of AICUF and the invitees gathered and soon began a silent march towards the auditorium of Johar holding banners and posters. At the auditorium the prayer service began with the lighting of the lamp, garlanding late Fr Stan's image and also offering flowers and incense to him by all the participants present. Bhajans and prayers of invocation were offered for the repose of the soul of the Martyr. Then a few student-leaders spoke in remembrance of Fr Stan's sacrifices and services to the tribal communities of Jharkhand. Some of them who had personally known Fr Stan and had lived with him shared their personal experience with the gathering. Mr Laus Hansda, the Head Master of Tinpahar Government High School, Fr Jesu Benjamin SJ, the AICUF National Advisor, Chennai, and Srimati Meena Kandhasamy, Chennai, a committed Social Activist and a renowned writer were few of the Guest speakers, who participated online. Mr Laus Hasda spoke of how the tribal society continues to remain oppressed and how Fr Stan became the messiah of the tribals of Jharkhand. Fr Jesu Benjamin spoke more of the role Fr Stan played in the major protests and programmes which demanded the protection of the rights and dignity of the Adivasis of Jharkhand and why the youth of today must remember and carry on the legacy of Fr Stan, while Meena Kandhasamy spoke of her experience of Fr Stan and how and why he involved himself with the marginalized and downtrodden and why he was considered a threat by the rulers and 'king makers of the country.' Meena explained to the participants the process of framing Fr Stan and how in his computer false evidences were implanted, and how

he was falsely connected with Bhima Goregaon incident. She very emphatically expressed that the legacy and the activities and the fight for justice started by the Martyr Fr Stan must be carried on by the tribal youth of Jharkhand. There were about 70 participants who were present at the event and about 120 students, guests and invitees participated online. All of them sang the 'Jagruti Song' together and took pledge in the spiritual presence of Fr Stan to continue his work. At the end, Fr David Raj SJ, the Dumka AICUF State Advisor and the chief organizer of the programme of St Xavier's College, Maharo, proposed vote of thanks and thanked profusely each one present online and offline and also all those who had contributed in small or grand manner towards the success of the programme, and blessed all on behalf of the Martyr. **(Mr Himadri Dutta).**

CRI, Dumka Town

CRI-Dumka town gathered in Johar to pay homage to Fr Stan on 8 July at Johar-HRD Centre, Dumka. The gathered expressed their heartfelt gratitude and offered prayers and tribute to the Jesuit Priest who stood for Tribal Rights and has been hailed as 'Martyr' by the Catholic world. **(Fr Vernard Antony SJ).**

CRI, Pakur Cluster

CRI-Pakur Cluster paid a floral tribute to the Prophet of our time and Martyr Fr Stan on 21 July at Our Lady of the Way Church, Hathimara. Addressing the gathering through the PowerPoint Presentation, Fr Vernard Antony SJ, the President of CRI-Dumka Unit, presented the path that Fr Stan took especially bringing awareness to the Tribal youth on Tribal Land Alienation, Tribal Displacement and Tribal Rights. He then invited the CRI members 'to carry forward the legacy of the martyr to create more awareness among the people to protect the Tribal Rights.' During the Holy Eucharist Fr Varkey Chena SJ in his homily preached, "We are called to be a seed to be planted in the right soil for the benefit of others in God's Kingdom." He talked about the life of martyr Fr Stan whose seed will now bear fruit to the many people especially the Dalits, the Tribals and the marginalized in the Society. Fr Vernard celebrated the Holy Eucharist after which the Cluster members

paid homage to Fr Stan, a defender of the Human Rights giving hope to thousands of Dalits and Adivasis and who embodied values of love, mercy, equality, justice, truth and peace. **(Fr Vernard Antony SJ).**

Hasapatar Mass Centre

The people of Hasapatar Mass Centre in Shikaripara Parish came together on 18 July to pay homage to Fr Stan. Fr Vernard Anthony SJ celebrated the Holy Eucharist. After the Eucharist he explained to the faithful the sacrificial life that Fr Stan led to empower the Dalits, the Adivasis with Human Rights and bringing awareness to the Tribal youth on Tribal land alienation, displacement and rights. **(Fr Vernard Antony SJ).**

Dry Ration Distribution

Paharia Sewa Samiti (PSS) has plunged into action in response to Covid-19. It had organized vaccination drive and post vaccination care. There were nearly 1200 Paharias benefited from these programmes directly through from PSS. In the month of July PSS surveyed in 40 villagers to find out how many have taken vaccination. It has found out 1663 Paharia have been vaccinated that is almost 60% of Paharias in 40 villages. To encourage the rest of the 40% of the people to go for vaccination PSS distributed dry ration to 540 households in 16 villages, which are on the top of the hills. This was the combined effect of PSS and *Aman Prayashan* NGO from Pakur. People's faces bloomed with smile and happiness while receiving the dry rations. People expressed their gratitude to PSS and said, "PSS always help us in our needs. We feel confident to go ahead in our lives." Fr Thomas Kavalakatt SJ was the man behind in these activities. Fr John Felix SJ coordinated the dry ration distribution. We thank the PSS team for their wonderful works. **(Fr John Felix SJ).**

News from Nichitpur

St Ignatius High School, Nichitpur, is continuing to have its regular online classes. The madyamic result for this year was very encouraging and satisfying and a big salute to the staff for their commitment and hard work. The upgradation of classes IX and X is underway and we hope to finish this work by the end of August if everything goes on well. We are also busy with the file work for

getting recognition for the primary section. The School had conducted the second Summative evaluation in the second week of July. The students have done fairly well in spite not having usual classes. The teachers are regular to the School taking on-line classes using the modern means of communication. They are also determined and committed to render their service to all the students by all means during this time of pandemic by way of visiting their families to discuss with the parents of any difficulty faced by the students. The students seem to have well adopted themselves to the modern means of leaning. Meanwhile we also found a little time on 24 July to do some charity work with the help of Chotparua Jesuit Society Raiganj for the people of our neighbourhood giving them dry ration in this time of pandemic. The parish youth were involved fully in the packing of the food materials. There was a lot of joy that was reflected on the faces of the people with our little help. Thanks to the youth and the teaching as well as non-teaching staff for their constant help and cooperation. **(Fr Arul Doss SJ).**

"Busy Bees"

The academic year 2021-22 began in a busy digital mode. The lively online classes kept every one of us entirely engaged with the regular School activities. All of us have to work like the busy bees round the clock. The staff and the students have adopted to the new digital environment to achieve the goals and fulfill the academic responsibilities in a progressive manner. The School recently was successful enough to complete the Online First Unit Tests for all the students. The constant and tireless efforts of the Principal, Fr Damian Tudu SJ, and the Vice Principal Fr Basil Manojin SJ made this venture a successful one with the holistic cooperation from the parents, students and the staff. The publication of the results was also successfully done through the online mode. Now the classes for the First Semester have begun and we are geared up with a full swing to get ourselves ready for the forth coming First Semester Exams. **(Mr Lazer).**

ISC and ICSE Results

It was yet another mile stone in the history of

St Xavier's Raiganj to experience the 100% excellent board results. The outstanding students achieved 98% and above. Although it was unlike a regular board exam conducted every year, the students were undoubtedly eligible enough to get pleasant results. The hard work, the ever-ready assistance of the management, staff, parents and the constant labor of the students stand pretty appreciated. The Management and the staff wish a bright future to all our loving children of ISC and ICSE. **(Mr Lazer).**

Vaccination Awareness and Post-Vaccination Care

Johar HRD organized a vaccination programme on 7 July to mark Hul Kranti Divas in St Claret School Nimpahari, Basmata, for two Panchayats, namely, Parsimla and Darbarpur Panchayats respectively. In the villages there are many misconceptions regarding vaccination. In order to break the misconceptions, Johar HRD team, under the leadership of Fr Emmanuel Besra SJ, visited a number of villages in Dumka and Shikarpara Blocks and conducted awareness programmes and motivated the people to go for vaccination. Convincing the people was tough as sometimes people scolded us and sometimes we had to wait for hours to conduct meetings. But our team morale and energy never diminished and we conducted six days of awareness programme in different villages. As a result, one day 330 men and women and youth got vaccination. Johar also distributed sanitizers, hand washer, face masks and medicines to 460 People. The BDO of Dumka thanked the initiative taken by Johar HRD.

After the vaccination, Johar team visited all the people who got vaccinated and gave them post-vaccination care. The news about people coming forward to receive vaccination spread everywhere and was carried in the local Hindi newspaper. As a result, people's misconception and fear about vaccination vanished and more people, both old and young, began receiving vaccination. **(Fr Emmanuel Besra SJ).**

Hathimara News

Carmel Day was celebrated in all its gaiety on the 16 July at Hathimara Mission. Fr Edwin D'Souza SJ was the main celebrant who during the homily

recalled the appearance of Mother Mary to St Simon Stock, a Carmelite monk on Mount Carmel where She gave him a scapula saying that whoever wears such a scapula will be ever protected from eternal damnation. For the Pakur CRI new officials were elected. Sr Salomi OSU is the new President, Fr Manoj Toppo SJ is the new secretary and Sr Amrita of St Anne is the new treasurer. This year the Matric results are excellent. All the students have passed with many in the first division. Congratulations to the High School Headmaster Fr Theophil Tigga SJ. Fr Charles Tudu SJ is feeling very healthy now and is helping out in the parish apostolate. **(Fr Edwin D'Souza SJ).**

One District One Green Champion Award

St Xavier's College, Maharo, was awarded 'One District One Green Champion' prize from the Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education (MGNCRE), Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India in the esteemed presence of Honourable Deputy Commissioner of Dumka Sri Ravi Shankar Shukla, the Chief Guest and Honourable Vice Chancellor of SKMU Dumka Prof. Dr. Sona Jhariya Minz. The event was organized online on Google Meet on the behest of MGNCRE. The programme started with an introductory welcome note by Dr V. Ramesh, the Coordinator which was followed by the keynote address by Rev. Fr. Dr. Stephen Raj SJ. The Chief Guest Sri Ravi Shankar Shukla motivated the participants towards working for a green and healthy environment and congratulated the college for this prestigious award and anticipated more such initiatives on behalf of the institution saying that St Xavier's can take the lead in the District and inspire other academic institutions around. The Guest of Eminence Prof. Dr. Sona Minz greatly appreciated the achievements and efforts of the institution in the areas of environmental conservation and effective natural resource management and congratulated the College for setting an example for everyone in the University. The members of the College SAP Committee gave a presentation of the action plans initiated in their respective areas and talked about the future courses of action. Dr Ramesh delivered

a detailed PowerPoint presentation on the various dimensions of Swachhta Action Plan and inspired the institution to achieve newer and greater goals. Faculty Members too shared their ideas and expressed their solidarity for the cause. The programme ended with a Vote of Thanks by Dr Ramesh and Mr Himadri followed by the National Anthem. St Xavier's College, Maharo, strives towards the creation of an eco-friendly environment where knowledge can be pursued in a healthier and greener atmosphere. **(Mr Himadri).**

Quiz Contest for the Teachers

This year being the Ignatian Jubilee Year, a Quiz Contest on the life and the mission of St Ignatius of Loyola was organized at St Xavier's School, Sahibganj, for its teaching staff. The members of the Staff were divided into eight teams under the names of eight popular Jesuit saints. A leader was appointed for each team to coordinate and guide its members in preparing for the Quiz. The autobiography of St Ignatius and the other reading materials were circulated among the teachers in PDF much in advance so that they have enough time for preparation. The Contest was held on the eve of the Feast of St Ignatius of Loyola. With a lot of enthusiasm teachers participated in the Contest conducted jointly by Frs John Victor SJ and J.L. Xavier SJ. Team 'Nadal' headed by Mr Mrinal Joardar secured the first position in the Contest scoring the highest points. After the Quiz, the teachers proceeded to the Jesuit Conference Hall to watch a film named "Silence" which is all about Jesuit priests suffering for their faith in 17th Century Japan, where Christianity is outlawed. **(Mr Shyamal Palmer).**

Essay Competition for Teachers

Everyone has some form of a 'Cannonball Moment' in his or her life. They can determine a life path of incredible beauty and courage of faith, hope and love. To help the teachers reflect upon their lives, St Xavier's School, Sahibganj, had organized an Essay Competition for its teachers on the topic, "The Cannonball Moment of My Life." The interested teachers, though not all, had taken part in the competition. Mr Alphonse Murmu, Mr Shyamal Palmer and Mrs Monica

Kisku secured the First, the Second and the Third Positions respectively. Both the Quiz and the Essay Competitions, in fact, were the occasions for the teachers not only to reflect upon the life of St Ignatius of Loyola but also upon one's own life. **(Mr Shyamal Palmer).**

New Session at Sitagarha Juniorate

This year we have 27 Juniors from 7 Provinces at St Stanislaus College, Sitagarha. Among them are Schs Shailendra Hansdak and Samuel Kisku of Dumka-Raiganj Province. Fr Santosh Minj, the Provincial of Hazaribag, inaugurated new session on 1 July which was followed by orientation for 3 days led by our Dean Fr Michael Thanaraj SJ of Jamshedpur Province. After the Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm by Fr P.J. James SJ for 2 days, our regular classes began **(Sch Samuel Kisku SJ).**

May These Souls Rest in Peace!

Fr Abraham Enthekuzhy SJ (JAM, 70/52) on 14.07.2021 at XIMB, Bhubaneswar, Orissa

Fr Paul Valappila SJ (GUJ, 78/60) on 31.07.2021 in Our Lady of Pilar Hospital, Vadodara, Gujarat

Fr Placie Fonseca (BOM, 84/62) on 01.08.2021 in Mumbai, Maharashtra

Josephine Ekka, (55), a Salesian Laity Sister, the younger sister of Fr Benjamin Ekka and Aunty of Fr Sudhir Ekka, 10.07.2021 in Patna, Bihar

Mrs Salomi Bhengra (73), the eldest Sister-in-law of Br Benjamin Sarupurti, on 12.07.2021

Mr Charles Mendonca (74), the uncle of Fr Stany Pinto, on 20.07.2021 at Belman, Mangalore, Karnataka

Mrs Promila, Sch Vinay Besra's cousin's wife, on 23.07.2021 at Rajapokhor, Godda, Jharkhand

Mrs Josipina Mardi, Aunty of Sch Sebastian Baskey, on 26.07.2021 in Ambadi, Uttar Dinajpur, West Bengal

Shri Thaaraga Raaman (91), First cousin of Fr Chandran, on 29.07.2021 in Chennai, Tamil Nadu

Mrs Bibiyana Soreng (60), Aunty of Fr James Lakra, 06.08.2021 in Demuni, Hathighisa, Bagdogra, West Bengal

Feast of St Ignatius of Loyola



Jisu Jaher, Dumka



“A Knight for Christ” by Fr Basil Manojin SJ



Kalidanga



St Xavier's Sahibganj



St Xavier's Raiganj



Nichitpur



Kodma

Celebration of St Ignatius' Feast



Chilimpur



Hasapathar



St Xaviers Sahibganj

National Justice Day & Tribute to Fr Stan Swamy



Jisu Jaher, Dumka



Jibonpur



Banpokharia



Hathimara

National Justice Day & Tribute to Fr Stan Swamy



Jisu Jaher, Dumka



AHCC, Kalidanga



Kodma



Raiganj



Nichamari



Majlispur

National Justice Day & Tribute to Fr Stan Swamy



Satia



CRI, Dumka

Nunbatta



CRI, Pakur

Book Release, Central Zone



St Xavier's Sahibganj



National Justice Day & Tribute to Fr Stan Swamy



AICUF, Dumka



Hasapathar



Pastoral Ministry, Chilimpur



Seminar for Youth, Chilimpur




Vaccination Awareness by Johar HRD


Covid-19 Relief Distribution at Satia



Covid-19 Relief at Nichitpur



Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education
Ministry of Education, Govt of India



District Green Champion Certificate

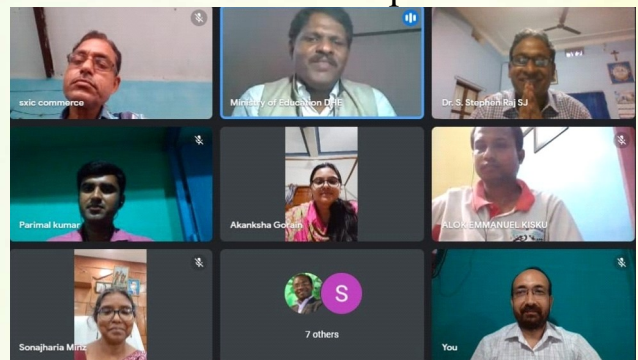
This is to certify that **St. Xavier's College, Maharo** is hereby recognized as **District Green Champion** for Dumka District for the Academic Year 2020-21. The Institution has successfully set up the Swachhita Action Plan Committee, adopted and implemented best practices in the areas of Sanitation, Hygiene, Waste Management, Water Management, Energy Management and Greenery Management.

This certificate is given in the presence of **Shri. Ravishankar Shukla, Deputy Commissioner, Dumka, Jharkhand state**

28th July 2021
SAP/DUM Cert NO: 347

Dr W G Prasanna Kumar
Chairman
Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education (MGNCRE)

District Green Champion Maharo



Quiz Contest for Teachers at St Xavier's Sahibganj

'Youth for Jesus' at Hasapathar

