



RANCHI BULLETIN

A.M.D.G

Andaman Islands

Assam Mission

Jharkhand



Fr. Herman Rasschaert, SJ, Servant of God



Fr. Constant Lievens, SJ, Servant of God

80/6 Ranchi Jesuits, P.B. - 4, Ranchi -834001, Jharkhand **June 2021**

APPOINTMENT BY FR. GENERAL

- Fr. Alexis Ekka, Rector, St. Xavier's College, Ranchi (Takes charge of the office on June 24, 2021)

APPOINTMENT BY FR. POSA

- Fr. Benedict Lakra, Spiritual Director, Satya Nilayam, Chennai

APPOINTMENTS BY FR. PROVINCIAL

Assam

SL No.	Name	From	To
01	Fr. John Berchmans	SXC Sonabheel	Superior, Balipara Jesuit Community
02	Fr. Thomas Barla	Dir, Gan Chetna	Provincial's Delegate
03	Dn. Sandeep Kujur	Balipara Jesuit Community	Asst. Dir, Gan Chetna Tezpur & Diaconate Ministry in Balipara
04	Fr. Rajesh Kullu	PP, Manas Bansbari	Tertianship
05	Fr. Laurentus Kiro		PP, Manas Bansbari (Additional)
06	Fr. Amar Beck	Kathalguri	Treasurer and Asst P.P. Manas Bansbari
07	Fr. Elvius Kerketta		Treasurer, Balipara (Additional)

Andamans

SL No.	Name	From	To
01	Fr. Justin Kandulna	LTC	Assistant P.P. Protrapur
02	Fr. James Tete	Asst. P.P. Protrapur	Jharain, Asst. PP
03	Dn Libin		Diaconate ministry in Ramnagar


Jharkhand

SL No.	Name	From	To
01	Fr. Emmanuel Barla	SXC, Ranchi	Research & writing works: Resides in ATC
02	Fr. Raymond Kerketta	Socius to the Provincial	Superior (Sadbhavna) - additional
03	Fr. Ashok Kandulna	Asst. Treasurer, Sadbhavana	Treasurer, St. Ignatius, Gumla
04	Fr. Claber Minj		Minister, Maintenance in charge & Asst. Treasurer, Sadbhavana
05	Fr. Rohit Kujur	Acting Headmaster, Prabhat Tara High School, Dhurwa	Asst. PDD & Asst. Dir. LTC and Loyola Hostel Warden: resides in LTC
06	Fr. Ajay Soreng	Secretary to the Provincial	Assistant Dean, Spiritual Director of Scholastics and In-Charge of Library, Manresa House
07	Fr. Ashok Sandil		Secretary to the Provincial, Maintenance of Ranchi website and assists Fr. Socius in Health of the Province
08	Fr. Ajit Saras	Director, Apostolic Samtoli	Director, Minor Seminary Ranchi & Vice Principal, St. John's E. M. Ranchi
09	Fr. Pradeep Turkey	Director, Jeevan Pravesh Gumla	Director, Apostolic School Samtoli
10	Fr. Augustine Kujur	Gumla	Jeevan Pravesh, & CLC Gumla
11	Fr. James V. Dungdung		P.P. Keondtanr
12	Fr Tej Kumar Tigga	Dolda	Parish Priest, Dorea
13	Fr. Zacharias Purty	Headmaster (Dolda)	Parish Priest Dolda (Additional)
14	Fr George Burh	Kochang	HM and PP - Kochang
15	Fr. Bimal Nag	Bardih	Asst. P.P., Asst. Teacher & Hostel In-charge, Kochang
16	Fr Xavier Kerketta	Sarwada	PP & Asst Teacher - Sogra
17	Fr. Christopher Dungdung	P.P. Sogra	P.P. Sarwada
18	Fr Deonis Ekka	Saparom	HM, Sarwada Middle School
19	Fr. Subodh Lakra		Treasurer & Vice Principal - Saparom
20	Fr Ignatius Kujur	Keondtanr	HM H/S – Keondtanr & Director M.S.
21	Fr. Suman Prabhat Toppo		Headmaster, Dorea High School
22	Fr Vijay Kr. Minj	Vijaygiri	Headmaster - Prabhat Tara H/S
23	Fr. Ajit Kerketta		Headmaster H. S. Vijaygiri
24	Fr. Bimal Minj		Acting Principal, Loyola Inter College Khunti
25	Fr. Tej Mati Bage	H.M. Sogra	Headmaster, Maranghada
26	Fr. Abraham Minj	H.M. Maranghada	Headmaster, Sogra
27	Fr. George Soreng	Arouse, Gumla	Director ATC Namkum
28	Fr. Anuranjan Purty	Director, Arouse, Gumla	Director, Arouse, Lohardaga
29	Fr. Sushil Turkey	Director, Arouse, Lohardaga	Director, Arouse, Gumla
30	Fr. Camil Kerketta		Director & Acting Superior, Spirituality Centre Jharna
31	Fr. Aurel Brys	Manresa House	Staff, Jharna Spirituality Centre Namkum
32	Fr. Suman Beck	ATC	Superior, ATC (Addl.)
33	Fr. Ferdinand Kullu	Superior ATC	Teaching staff, Pre-novitiate
34	Fr. James Toppo	P.P. Bardih	Prabhat Tara, helping in the school & Writing ministry.
35	Fr. Patric Xalxo	PP Noadiah	P.P. Bardih
36	Fr. Ignatius Minj	Kanke	PP, Kanke
37	Fr. Clement Kullu	PP, Kanke	PP, Jharain
38	Fr. Pingal Kujur	PP, Jharain	PP, Noadiah
39	Fr. Anselm Kujur	Noadiah	Acting Principal, Janta High school Noadiah
40	Fr. Jerome Xalxo	Noadiah	Acting Superior, Noadiah Community (Addl)
41	Fr. Alexius Ekka	XIDAS, Jabalpur	Professor In-Charge, Tribal Research Centre, SXC, Ranchi
42	Fr Emil Dungdung	ATC Namkum	Catholic Church Maranghada (Ad tempus) Spirituality Course Mangalore
43	Fr. Anupchand Kiran Minj	Guwahati	Khunti, Legal cell

44	Fr. Edwin Dang	Director, Spirituality Centre Jharna	Tertianship, Shembaganur
45	Fr. Ajit Kalyan Kujur	H.S. Saparom	Tertianship, Shembaganur
46	Fr. Anup Ekka	St. Xavier's College Simdega	Tertianship, Sitagarha
47	Fr. David Minj	Rengarih	Biblical Study in Rome
48	Fr. Samir Bhaunra		Ph D in Central University, Asst. Teacher in High School Saparom
49	Fr. Elphiz Kerketta		XISS, PGDM- RM, resides in Kanke Parish
50	Sch. Shashi S. Dhanwar		Law Study, SJC, Bangalore
51	Sch. Rasal P. Xess		B.A. (English), SJC Northpoint, Darjeeling
52	Sch. Sunil Lakra		Assistant Minister, Dairy In-charge, assists in Manresa House infirmary
53	Br. Patras Minj	RTC Ranchi	Farm and Garden In-charge of Catholic Church, Rengarih
54	Deacon Johny Kujur		Diaconate ministry in Catholic Church, Dolda, Khunti
55	Deacon Nirmal Minj		Diaconate ministry in Catholic Church, Rengarih
56	Fr. K.C. Philip		Staff, Jharna- Ashirvad community, Namkum
57	Br. James Barla		Minister, Jharna-Ashirvad Community, Namkum (Additional)

Important: -

1. All Transfers must take place on or before 14 June 2021.
2. Rectors/Superiors/Directors of works must be informed about your joining the community.
3. A proper handing over must be done. Rectors/Superiors/Directors of works must ensure it in the presence of the community members.
4. The appointment letters will be sent to you by email/hardcopy.


Fr. Ajit Kumar Xess, SJ
Provincial



LEFT THE SOCIETY

- Sch. Anand Minj (K) on 10 May 2021

500 YEARS AFTER THE "CANNONBALL"

Rev. Fr. Arturo Sosa, Superior General of the Society of Jesus officially inaugurated The Ignatian Year in Pamplona which runs from 20 May 2021 to 31 July 2022. In his inaugural address, Fr. General said the "For many months now in all the Jesuit Provinces and Regions round the world, we've been preparing to live out this year in different ways. But what links all the projects, publications, videos, and meetings is the theme of "Seeing all things new in Christ". It's an invitation to follow Ignatius in an experience of Conversion."

RANCHI PROVINCE

Inaugural Ceremony: Ignatian Year 2021-22

On May 20, 2021 Ranchi Jesuit Province officially inaugurated the 'Ignatian Year 2021-22' to mark 500th Anniversary Year of St. Ignatius' conversion on virtual platform. The 'Ignatian Year' is also known as 'cannonball experience' because he was hit by a cannon ball while defending his Basque territory against the French army at Pamplona on May 20, 1521. This bombardment really shattered him physically and emotionally and while convalescing at Loyola he had enlightenment and began his new journey in life as a pilgrim allowing God to lead him. This is observed as the renewal year in the entire global Society of Jesus.

Firstly Fr. Sylverius Chermako SJ (Coordinator IY) welcomed the members of Ranchi Province to the historical inaugural ceremony of 'Ignatian Year 2021-22'. The ceremony began with a meaningful prayer service led by the Novices which was guided very well by Fr. Edwin Dang, SJ. The prayer service included a Bhajan, a Bible Passage, reflection and a few intentions praying for the Church, Society, deceased members of Ranchi Jesuit Society and God's interventions to heal the world from this present menacing pandemic.

Fr. Ignatius Tete, SJ, the resource person gave an impressive input base theme 'Cannonball Experience/ Conversion in Application to our life Today' through PPT. The presentation was informative, comprehensive and thought-provoking and the participants were able to visualize the cannonball moments of St. Ignatius at Pamplona and Loyola very well visualizing the sound, hit and impact of the bombardment.

After the presentation a moment of silence was observed

followed by spiritual conversations for oneself listening to the spirit based on valuable inputs. Then there was a coffee break in silence helping all to dive into the inner vibrations of oneself.

Again with a common pause after the break whole group entered into spiritual conversations with a short guidelines and preparation given by Fr. Medard Xalxo, SJ. It was the best moment of the entire inaugural ceremony. Moved by the spirit many were able to share the sound, hit and results of cannonball and thereby conversions took place in our lives. Sch. Valentine Sinduria, SJ, two Novices, Sch. Alok Ekka, SJ, Fr. Kennedy Soreng, SJ, Fr. Pradeep Robert Kujur, SJ, Br. Telesphore Horo, SJ, Fr. Ignatius Lakra, SJ, shared their cannonball experiences in common. This open sharing inspired the whole group for introspection and confirmation of conversions in the lives of others as well. Though only few were able to share their conversion experiences during the session but practically all were touched by the inner movements. 'A Jesuit is a sinner' but the one who is hit by the cannonballs and has undergone a conversion and so there is renewed conviction for purposeful life with greater openness and generosity. As a matter of fact all have been hit by cannonball in life journey and there have been turning points in our lives and so we have a beautiful vocation to the Society of Jesus 'seeing new in Christ'. The spiritual conversations will continue again in community and zonal levels. Later on behalf of Ranchi Jesuits, Fr. Francis Minj thanked Fr. Ignatius Tete profusely for his splendid presentation.

In the later half Fr. Ajit Kumar Xess SJ, Provincial Superior addressed the gathering. He mentioned that the Society is availing a process of renewal. The UAP and Province Apostolic Planning would bring the focus in the apostolates for greater service. He spoke the mind of Fr. Arturo Sosa that the 'Ignatian Year, would be an occasion of self-seeking and acknowledging the conversions in our personal life for better commitment. Let us ask the Lord for inner freedom to carry out life and mission with discerning minds and hearts. Let this Ignatian Year not as external celebration but as the year of renewal and revamping the spirit of St. Ignatius. Finally, he inspired and motivated the Province men to enter into the Ignatian Year with right disposition, sense of belongingness to the universal Society and consolations in our lives as we share the grace of our founder St. Ignatius.

Finally to note that an encouraging number of Ranchi Jesuits joined this virtual meeting from near and far including Assam, Andamans, Jordan, Rome, British

Guyana, USA, Cambodia, Japan and study houses with individual and common devices. Fr. Michael Kerketta offered a concluding prayer as the session ended. Sch. Alok Ekka proposed the vote of thanks for the innovative efforts behind the entire opening ceremony. Finally thanks to Fr. Medard Xalxo the convener who successfully conducted this inaugural ceremony so efficiently.

Fr. Ignatius Lakra, SJ

Province Days 2021

Like last year the Province Days 2021 looked unlikely due to the Pandemic. However, as our Founder says “Act as if everything depends on you and trust as if everything depends on God,” his inspiration was obvious throughout the Province Days 2021 as the Committee along with its technical team with the leadership of Fr. Provincial, Fr. Ajit Kumar Xess congregated us together, virtually on 28 & 29 May 2021. More than 200 members of the province participated in it.

State of the Province (by Fr. Provincial, Ranchi Jesuit Society)

Fr. Provincial Ajit Kr Xess, SJ, succinctly presented the state of the province in the first session in the most lucid and precise manner on 28 May giving the overview of the Province to the members to get to know the vastness and variety of apostolate the province is engaged in. As per the spirit of the Society, he delved into both consolations and desolations of our ministries and our ways of proceedings as well as the opportunities lying ahead of us in the days to come.

He informed that Ranchi Jesuit Province is now one of the biggest provinces in terms of number of Jesuits in South Asia. As overseas Missionaries, our men are in Rome, Guyana, Zambia, Uganda, Cambodia, Jordan and Japan and the Scholastics for regency in Mumbai, Nepal, Delhi, Kohima, Japan and Africa.

He brought to light that while the various commissions of education, pastoral work, social work, communication, formation, spirituality centers, youth, finance and all other commissions have been working tirelessly even in the midst of mounting challenges of the pandemic, our men in remote places indifferent mission stations have withstood all adverse situations in the service of the poor.

He emphasized among the Province men a sense of “we feeling” and belongingness to the province and the larger

Society.

His presentation also foresees the training of young men as per the need of the province and that of the Universal Society in every field of the ministry. This is where it was reminded to the province that whether one is in formation or in active ministry we need to be cautious of the tendency of complacency that is likely to set in as impediment.

He also brought to light the various glaring issues of different institutions and that of the province and yet the house felt assured that all will be attended strategically and in the Spirit of the Society.

He also cautioned the province men of the areas of concerns either individually, commonly or apostolically that impede our missions and are unbecoming of the Jesuit way of life and that all of us need to attend to them to make our mission more effective and efficacious.

Finally, he filled in the province men a sense of contentment that we are serving the poor, marginalized and tribals in most of the places and in doing so many challenges lie ahead of us. He specially challenged our men to develop a greater sense of Confidence in the Lord and oneself, intellectual depth, in leadership, governance and management and openness to learn 24X7 and ever-readiness to where one is sent. These could certainly be achieved by spiritual conversations and transparency in what we do which can be reflected in professionalism and perfection in our works; taking recourse to networking and collaborating with religious men and women and people of goodwill.

Land and Registered Society

The speakers of the second session, Fr. Mahendra Peter Tigga, Fr. Xavier Soreng and Fr. Ignatius Minj educated the house as regards different kinds of lands in Jharkhand, the issues related them and other matters.

Fr. Mahendra Peter Tigga acknowledged the immeasurable contributions of the Jesuit Missionaries like Fr. Constant Lievens, Fr. Hoffmann and Fr. Stockmann on three fronts: *The Types of Land Holdings, CNT Act (Chotanagpur Tenancy Act, 1908) and Its Implications for us and The Types of Land Owned by Ranchi Jesuit Society were dealt with.*

Fr. Ignatius Minj elucidated on the existence and nature of the “Registered Societies.” He underlined the fact that the Registered Society is *our medium of existence and apostolic work* and that we need to fulfil the conditions of our MOAs.

Province Apostolic Preferences

May 29, 2021, (second day of the virtual Province Meet) the first session was devoted to “Province Apostolic Preferences” presented by Fr. Francis Minj. Fr. Francis categorized his talk in three parts, namely history, process and responses to UAP, PAP, ZAP and CAP. He highlighted that Fr. General promulgated the letter on discerning the UAP and after discernment and deliberations in 2017-2019, provinces and conferences submitted the Apostolic Preferences to Fr. General. While The JCSA outlined five Preferences, the Ranchi province has chalked out **six Apostolic Preferences**.

The Ranchi Province has proposed 6 preferences 24 objectives and 185 activities. The PAP draft will be sent to Fr. General for his approval which aftermath will be implemented in the Province.

Sharing on Education, Social Apostolate, Pastoral Apostolate and the Ignatian Year

The second session comprised sharing on the three important apostolates of the Province and the importance of the Ignatian Year.

While highlighting the importance of Education Apostolate in the Province, Fr. Erentius Minj (PCE) showed a grave concern as to how Covid-19 has disrupted our entire education system so severely. The institutions have been managing with the online classes or in other ways to connect with the students. He highlighted that in spite of emerging difficulties, individual institutions have been making some effort or the other. Problems of not having smart phones in rural areas, poor connectivity and lack of electricity have hazardously affected our age old system and we are bound to devise new methods and ways of teaching and learning. At the same time we need to attend to the emotional and psychological problems that are surfacing among children and parents. Some students have lost their parents; schools have lost some good teachers, including Jesuits. Financial crises are altogether the offshoot problems of the pandemic.

Speaking on “Social Apostolate” Fr. Xavier Soreng highlighted as to how the commission has been attending the issues like, human rights and dignity. The second phase of Covid-19 has created the feelings of fear, panic, uncertainty, depression, helplessness, vulnerability. People are instructed and educated how to deal with covid-19 and that the more needs to be done.

Fr. Samir Dungdung, as the third speaker brought to light as to how the Pastoral Apostolate responded to the Covid-19 situations aptly following the guidelines of the

province and that of the government. Normal spiritual and pastoral activities were hampered but the parish priests have found their ways to cater to the needs of the faithful.

The fourth speaker was Fr. Sylvester Chermako speaking on “the Ignatian Year” focused on the theme: celebration and commemoration of the Ignatian Year.

As for the responses to this celebration, a committee has been formed and the activities chalked out for different levels, such as province, community, zonal, stages of formation, apostolate, and personal. Those activities will be communicated to the Province men as to when these activities take into shape.

The third and the last session of the Province Days 2021 was devoted to the “Renewal of FCRA & 12A presented and explained by the Auditor Mr. B.K. Banka. He said that Finance is the life and blood of any institution/organization, hence it should be managed well.

12A is needed for charitable Societies. Till recently, registration under 12A was permanent, once the 12A registration was granted to the Society. The recent amendment requires a renewal of 12A every 5 years. He added that Every Registered Society exempted from income tax has to abide by all the laws that are necessary for the purpose of achieving its objectives. **FCRA registration** has to be renewed in every five years. There are number of documents required for its registration as the registration rules demand and so Secretaries, treasurers and DoWs need to be on their toes to fulfil the requirements.

In spite of the Province Days 2021 taking place virtually, a unique sense of bonhomie and togetherness and solidarity was felt altogether, making it a great success. The members were seen asking one another about, whereabouts, howabouts and so on.

The organizing committee, chair persons, secretaries and the technical man Fr. Francis David Kullu did an excellent job in running the Province Days smoothly.

Virtual Scholastics' Meet 2021

One of the most grace-filled moments in the life of Ranchi Scholastic is to be part of the annual Scholastics' Get-together. At the get-together, we not only celebrate our life together but also get to meet the new group of Scholastics, share our life, learn from one another and support one another. Last year was an unfortunate year

as we could not have the physical get-together. The year 2021 allowed us to be part of Scholastics' get-together, even if not physical, at least virtual. At the very outset our profound gratitude to Fr. Provincial and Fr. PCF for taking the initiative.

The Virtual Scholastics' Meet was held on 25th May 2021. It was one day Meet having two sessions with Fr. Provincial and Fr. PCF. Sch. Alok Ekka chaired the entire session while Deacons Johny Kujur and Libin Kerketta meticulously jotted down the minutes of the meeting. The opening prayer was led by Sch. John Osga, the vote of thanks was proposed by Sch. Patras Topno and the concluding prayer was led by Sch. Mathew Kawa. Fr. Provincial and the PCF expressed much love and appreciation for the Scholastics' body. They also challenged us to strive for excellence and MAGIS.

Some other Fathers also gave their precious time and joined us for the Virtual Meet. They also had a chance to share their views and suggestions for our growth. Overall, it was a unique experience. We are motivated and challenged to do well in all aspects of our life as Jesuit Scholastics of Ranchi Jesuit Province.

Sch. Alok Ekka, SJ

MANRESA HOUSE, RANCHI

The end of April brought us the heartbreaking news about the death of two energetic Jesuits. Fr. John Tirkey passed away due to Covid on 29th April in Devkamal Hospital, Ranchi and his mortal body was brought to Manresa House to be kept for the night. The following day early morning we received very disturbing news about the sudden demise of Fr Gyan Prakash Minj, who was here to prepare himself for his Teachers' Training Exam. He died of massive cardiac arrest. The funeral rite of Fr John Tirkey took place in ATC, Namkum and that of Fr Gyan Prakash Minj in Kantatoli, Ranchi.

May 2021 began with the celebration of May Day and the feast of St. Joseph the Worker, the patron saint of all the workers. In order to mark the day, Bro Minister brought 61 ducklings to raise them up and to add the number in the poultry. On this auspicious day, he organized get together for the workers as a gesture of gratitude. Workers were served dinner. Our scholastics caught fish from the pond and managed the kitchen. In the evening the community had Marian Procession from Minor

Seminary Grotto to Manresa Shrine of our Lady.

On 6th May evening, sad news about the demise of Fr Isaac Tete reached Manresa House. His mortal body was brought to Manresa House on the same evening and it was kept here for the night. The next day it was taken to ATC Namkum for burial. Our scholastics helped in the final rites of funeral.

On 10th May, Sch Sunil Lakra joined the community as assistant Minister and Dairy in charge.

On 15th May, some scholastics of Delhi, Dumka and Kohima arrived here after their POP in Sitagarha, Hazaribagh. Delhi scholastics left after lunch for their home visits, Dumka scholastics left for their Province in the evening, whereas Kohima scholastics left next day early in the morning for their respective places.

On 29th May, we had our community Holy Mass. The community thanked God for all the birthday babies of the month and all the outgoing members of the House. Special prayers were offered for them all. There was a very inspiring faith sharing by outgoing members. There was a short felicitation program after the Mass to thank and wish all the best to the outgoing members.

Fr. Dayal Lakra (Dumka), who was here in Manresa Infirmary for almost two months for post Covid recuperation, went back to the province hale and hearty on 30th May.

During this pandemic crisis, Bro . Telesphore Horo, Sr Lucy, Sr Suchita and some scholastics rendered their selfless and loving service fearlessly and tirelessly to our sick brothers in different hospitals and in the house. We thank and appreciate them for their availability and loving service. We thank God for keeping them and all of us under his care.

Fr. Amrit Lakra, SJ

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, RANCHI

The first week of May was a critical time in this second wave of corona. The number of corona patients increased rapidly and there were no beds available in the hospitals. In such helpless situation Fr. Robert Pradeep Kujur, SJ, rushed to Delhi to attend to his ailing father in Holy family Hospital, Delhi on 6th May 2021. But unfortunately after his arrival at 1.00 pm in the hospital and meeting him, his father breathed his last around 3.30 pm. On that day Fr. Robert Pradeep's cousin was admitted in the same hospital. It was very sad to know

that the cousin passed away on 11th May. Likewise we lost our dear and near ones which left an indelible mark in our life. We offered special Mass for the repose of the departed souls on 17th May.

At the Sadar Hospital, Ranchi many covid patients were brought for treatment. The administration tried to accommodate them but they could not. The doctors and nurses were overloaded with duty hours. There was shortage of medical staff. Many doctors and nurses became the corona victims. During such situation the SDM and CO approached us for help. We allotted three class rooms of Intermediate section for the Home Guards who came to assist in Sadar Hospital. They stayed for a month. The Jharkhand Medical Authority also conducted interview to recruit the male/female nurses on contractual basis. It is assured that these nurses' service will have additional advantage for their selection in future for permanent post.

Due to lockdown the works are being done from home. The online classes are in full swing. By the last week of June we will be starting online examinations for UG Semester VI and PG Semester IV. Fr. Prabhat Kennedy Soreng, SJ is back from Shembaganur on 10th May. Fr. Vinod Bilung, SJ, is improving gradually. Let us keep him in our prayers for his speedy recovery.

Fr. Nabor Lakra, SJ

KANKE, CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC CHURCH

For a long time we have no guest in our community. Even the faithful of the parish are hardly seen in the campus. Few skilled workers who are busy laying the marble slabs for the staircase of the Church are seen off and on. One day Br. Patras Minj from Tarunoday came with basket- full of 'Kakri' and 'gongra'. This means this is the demands of the time and there is supply of a lot of good will for each other by distancing ourselves physically yet united in our hearts and prayers and sometimes: Kakri, gongra .

Thanks to mobile and whatsapp that make us connected. For Pastors in parishes the recently conducted the 'Google meet' arranged by the Team on St. Ignatius Conversion was a 'cannon ball' experience. For personnel engaged in Social work, Education and Governance the 'Google Meet' and other web conferences are relatively old however, for us it was a new revelation for a new height

to be reached, explored and defeat the sting of Covid-19 with a difference. The input by Fr. Ignatius Tete, SJ was excellent.

For 15 continuous days we went to bury the Covid's victims in the grave yard at Sukurhutu. We took necessary and reasonable measures and did bury the deceased persons with due respect and pastoral care. We, Fr. Clement Kullu, SJ and I are keeping well. We have maintained proper diet and necessary precaution. Yet it was a terrific experience to bury dead persons every day. Mean time the news kept pouring about the hospitalized Parishioners, relatives and Jesuits and we were ready for any eventuality and submitted all before the Divine providence. Now we feel comfortable with news of improvement.

Before farewell from Kanke and reaching to new place of assignment at Jharain Fr. Clement Kullu, SJ does not want to leave the stone unturned and miss the chance to preach good news on demands. He conducted three day retreat for Seven St. Anne's Junior Sisters residing and pursuing their studies. They renewed their Vows. There after he is busy giving annual retreat to all Sisters in St. Anne's Convent Kanke. This will be concluded before he hands over the charge of Parish Priest to newly appointed one on 30-5-2021. We are in one family secluded from the world along with SOP for the Covid.

On 23 May I had a chance to preside over the Holy Eucharist for the 11 Brothers of St. Gabriel belonging to Delhi, Pune and Ranchi Province who took Final Vows in the well furnished hall of Provincialate at Kanke. For 45 days they had preparatory programme. In between some of them got affected by the Covid and were compelled to take help of Google Meet to finish the Course. Everyone went home hale and healthy. Rev. Br. Hermon Bijay Lakra, SG, 'Provincial Superior' took personal care for everyone.

It may interest you that the "Suhana City" and "Birsa Nagar" are new upcoming Units of Kanke Parish. The Suhana City is in between Tangratoli and Churi tola, once it used to be "garha khet" low and cultivable land, and the Birsa Nagar is behind Tarunoday in the North. There is no cultivation today there and around! Further, the Bukru is multiplying with leaps and bounds and reached up to 34 with Christian families.

Fr. Ignatius Minj, SJ

AHIRVAD NOVITIATE & JHARNA SPIRITUALITY CENTRE, NAMKUM

As we kicked off the month of May; we started the month in great devotion to our Lady as this is dedicated to Mother Mary. Every evening, therefore, we had common rosary in the novitiate lawn keeping the rule of social distancing. It was good opportunity for us to thank and glorify God, since we received the gift of healing from sickness and by this month all corona patients had recovered fully and joined the community.

On 2nd May 2021, Fr. K.C (superior) came back from the Constant Lievens hospital and Research Centre, Mandar. His home-coming enhanced our joy and happiness which we had lost in the month of April when the Superior and the Novice Master, Socius to the Novice Master, two Scholastics and one novice were tested positive and all of them had to remain in isolation. The novices too were attacked by viral fever after they returned from the village experiment.

On 5th May 2021, Fr. Jyoti P. Baxla SJ (Socius), Sch. Albert Beng SJ, Sch. Benjamin Guria SJ and NS Nelson H. Purty got their covid-19 test results as negative, but with Doctor's advice they needed some rest so they quarantined themselves for one more week. It was only after they felt strong they joined the community to continue their duties.

On 10th May 2021, Fr. Master gave us the schedule for the third week of May. The weeks following seemed the busiest in this month because we started writing articles for the MAGAZINE. Besides we had to do some important tasks, more precisely, to read Catechism of the Vows (for 2nd yrs) and the Constitutions of the Society of Jesus (1st yrs). We managed to do both at the same time. While Fr. Master and Fr. Socius were recovering from Covid-19, Fr. Camil Kerketta SJ and Fr. Edwin Dang SJ and Br. James Barla SJ took care of the novices and their needs.

On 15th May 2021, we gratefully received one goat from the Minister of Manresa House in the name of the Province Days celebration. On 16 we had a small celebration in the name of the Province Days. The neighbouring communities, namely Kishornagar, Baghaicha, and ATC also received their share and had their own celebration.

On 20th May 2021, all the community members participated in the online programme, the inaugural programme of the Ignatian year 2021-22 organized by

Ignatian year Committee Members. The programme was quite good. Listening to the talk of Fr. Ignatius Tete SJ and the sharing of the cannon-ball experiences of some Jesuits were really very inspiring and motivating for us specially a deeper understanding of challenges in living our vocation even in times of trouble and disappointment.

On 24th May 2021, both Fr Novice Master and the Soicus went to the Constant Lievens hospital and Research Centre, Mandar for the re-check up after 14 days of rest. Fr. Master was found physically fit and joined us on 25th May, while our Socius got admitted in the hospital for some medical treatment.

NS Ajay Ekka, SJ

ST. XAVIER'S COMMUNITY, DORANDA

St. Xavier's School started its new Academic Session from 12th April 2021. Due to the increasing cases of Covid19 the online classes were conducted from home. The school conducted an online 'Induction Ceremony' for new students of KG and PREP 2021-22. These toddlers were led to a virtual tour to the school. They were also introduced to their class and subject teachers. Thereby a few guidelines and expectations were spelt out to the parents.

After the second week of April onwards the online classes became very difficult due to the rising cases of Covid. Many school teachers, employees and parents were hit by the second wave very badly. During those crucial days we also lost one teacher and two employees lost their husbands. During those peak moments Fr. Sanjay Kerketta being in 'Covid Task Force', coordinated so well with medical department during the dire needs for Jesuits, staff and parents. He ran from pillar to the posts in lining up the doctors, for beds in hospital and in looking for oxygen cylinders with sleepless nights. In those days though he was physically exhausted and mentally helpless but he tried his best to save life with untiring spirit. Thanks to the DOX (Alumni) who supported us very well. Thus the normal online classes became rather difficult so school announced early summer vacations from 03rd May to 02nd June 2021. In the meantime the admission process for class XI began with online registration and exam. A good number of interested students took the admission. This year the Arts stream is added as a new wing to class XII. After a month programme on 'Roots and Wings', Fr. Ignatius

came back from Shembaganur. On May 19, 2021 he took part in virtual Central Zone-JAAI Meeting and presented the activity report of JARP (Jesuit Alumni Association of Ranchi Province). The school with the administration organized Vaccination for 18 to 45 years. The school also arranged vaccination for teaching and non-teaching staff. Again a noble work to be noted that the school fraternity with the help of committed Alumni gave seven Oxygen Concentrators to the Chief Minister on 25th May 2021 for the Covid19 affected people in the rural belt. Sch. Patras is busy rearranging and classifying the house library books in a better way. Fr. Ravi Kujur is taking care of our health and diets very well. He has managed to cultivate some vegetables in the kitchen garden also there are some rabbits, ducks, few chicks and a goat under his care.

Sch. Patras Topno, SJ

ST. MICHAEL'S COMMUNITY, KHUNTI

St Michael community is grateful to God for giving us good health during this pandemic. All of us are in the community looking at the situation around us. Fr. Isaac Xalxo is suffering from waist pain, he is taking medicine and he is at Manresa for better medication.

All the community members are involved in Covid-19 task force of Khunti Zone and doing adequately good; We thank God, and Doctors by their collective effort our brothers Fr. Ignatius Turkey, Fr. Jerom Dungdung, Fr. Abraham Minj, Fr. Damian, Fr. Soy and Fr. Xavier Kerketta are with negative report of covid-19 and have gone back to their community but still in home isolation. Khunti zone is grateful to our Sch. Vickey Soreng and Sch. Mathew Kawa who were here to serve our sick Jesuit brothers and have gone back to Manresa; Sch. Kuldeep and Aksahy have replaced them and now serving the community at various capacities.

Due to covid-19 online class is being conducted for all the three units, students are responding well; though some of them are facing network issue but we are making our effort to stay connected with the students during the odd time. Management is monitoring all the teachers so that staying at home they engage students in learning. English medium section has begun summer vacation from 17 May onwards since this unit started academic year on time.

Construction of new hostel, Inter College and English medium building is disturbed due to lockdown.

This year we are blessed with plenty of seasonal fruits; Br. Elias the incharge of our garden is very happy to see fruits in abundance.

Sch. Rohit Dungdung, SJ

ST. XAVIER'S COMMUNITY, BUNDU

The second wave of Covid-19 swept away thousands of human lives in which Bundu was not an exception. The entire community including the co-workers had their Corona Test on 21st April in Referral Hospital, Bundu. Out of seven, four were tested positive. Among the positive were Fr. Benjamin, Sch. Ritesh and the two kitchen girls. Fr. John was tested negative, however he suffered severe cough. Br. Modestus was also tested negative but his health started deteriorating. Fr. Walter was already out for his relative's marriage in Andamans after Easter and when returned, he was tested positive so he had quarantined himself in St. Mary's Community, Samtoli. The only soul who remained unaffected was Fr. Ravi as he had suffered previous year and by this time had developed antibodies.

It was not easy to take care of the community as both the kitchen girls were affected. An earnest thanks to our driver Mr. Jhulan Yadav who selflessly volunteered himself to provide two times meals a day for fifteen days. In the light of precaution Br. Modestus was shifted to ATC Namkum as his age was prone to viral transmission. The Province authorities tried their level best to admit him to any hospital but there was no bed available at that time. On 25th April, Br. Modestus suffered cardiac arrest and was declared dead when he was brought to St. Anne's Hospital, Ulahatu. This shocking news had a deep impact on the community. We experienced utter helplessness, moreover the daily death news of our near and dear ones had shattered us.

On 16th May there was a community birthday celebration of Fr. Benjamin. It was a jubilant occasion to gather together around the dining table after a long phase of isolation. We thanked and prayed for him to God. On 27th May, the community organized farewell to Sch. Ritesh Dadul who had joined the community on 19th October 2020. We are indebted to his contributions in High School and hostel. The next day Fr. Superior reached him to Manresa House.

With the passage of time, things have started improving as the affected members have recuperated now. We engage ourselves wherever needed. Fr. John had been

applying his cooking skills in preparing varieties of cuisines both nutritious and sumptuous. Fr. Benjamin was seen cleaning in and outside the house.

Overall, these two months have been the roughest and toughest route to journey upon, nevertheless we have learned a lesson for our life i.e., "survival of the fittest". We are now more health conscious and unpanicked for disaster management. The second wave of Covid-19 was undoubtedly a bane, however from my personal point of view it has enhanced the spirit of cura personalis in our diversified Jesuit communities all over the world.

Fr. Ravi Bhushan Xess, SJ

ST. STANISLAUS COMMUNITY, LOHARDAGA

The month of April was hard for the community members because they lost their near and dear ones and province men due to covid-19 and with some other sicknesses. Fr. Sushil Turkey, SJ lost his uncle on 26th April. He took part in burial ceremony of his uncle (Foofa) hailed from Chanho Parish. On 30th April, Fr. Philemon Ekka, SJ celebrated his 27th ordination anniversary with the community fathers and brothers. On this auspicious day, he himself presided over the Holy Eucharist. On 1st May, the feast of St. Joseph was celebrated by the community members. Fr. Philemon led them into the Holy Eucharistic celebration. During the mass they remembered all the workers and through the intercession of St. Joseph, prayed for their good health of mind and body. Fr. Philemon, the Headmaster of the School told all the teaching staff members to conduct online classes from 1st May. Teachers are already involved in conducting online classes for the Primary and the High School students.

As far as health is concerned, all the community members are hale and hearty in the Community. In the Month of April, Fr. Patrick Xalxo, SJ, the Parish Priest of Noadih was affected by Coronavirus. So he was brought here for the better care and treatment. Since then he has been here in the community, recuperating and taking rest. He feels physically weak but slowly he is regaining his strengths. On 1st May, Fr. Sushil Turkey, and Miss. Anima Panna the co-worker were vaccinated with the 1st dose in the Messo Office, Lohardaga. Both of them are waiting for the second dose. On 8th May, Fr. Ignatius Xalxo, SJ, the treasurer of the house took his 2nd dose. From the community, Fr. Ignatius Xalxo, SJ, Fr. Philemon and Br. Nicholas Toppno, SJ are the first ones who completed

taking vaccines. Fr. Ranjit Lakra, SJ, the superior of the house had already taken his 1st vaccine and is waiting for the 2nd dose. Fr. Dharamsheel Kujur, SJ, Sch. John and Sch. Nitish Ekka, SJ have not yet taken their vaccines.

On 9th May, Fr. Ranjit Lakra and Fr. Philemon Ekka gave the sacrament of sick to Sr. Suchita Shalini Xalxo, OSU the Provincial of Ranchi Province in Ursula Hospital, Lohardaga. On 12th May, Fr. Ignatius Xalxo and Fr. Philemon Ekka had gone to Sadbhavan, Ranchi for special work. On 13th May, Miss. Patricia Tigga, the clerk of St. Stanislaus School lost her Nephew Mr. Animanand Tigga. Fr. Philemon Ekka and Fr. Ranjit Lakra were present at the Parish graveyard for the last rites and prayed for the repose of the soul of Mr. Animanand and consoled the bereaved family members. Fr. Ignatius Lakra, SJ, the Superior of the Doranda Jesuit Community, Fr. Fuldeo Soreng, SJ and Sir Raju came to take part in the burial ceremony of Mr. Animanand. After the burial they took lunch in the community and then they returned to their community.

On 15th May, the Primary teachers from our school went home for summer vacation. After having spent nearly a month in self quarantine, Fr. Patrick Xalxo, joined the community for the dinner from 16th May. Fr. Superior Ranjit Lakra guided the annual retreat to St. Anne's Sisters Kaimo Patratoli, Lohardaga from 18th May to 23rd May. On 19th May, Fr. Sushil Turkey and Sch. Nitish Ekka, SJ made to a trip to Gumla Arouse for some necessary works. On 23rd May, Miss. Patricia Tigga, the clerk of the school invited community members in her house for the Holy Eucharistic celebration to pray for the repose of the soul of Mr. Animanand Tigga. On this occasion, Fr. Ranjit Lakra presided over Holy Mass. On 25th of May, Sch. John Fabianus Ekka, SJ participated in the virtual meeting for the Scholastics. The virtual meeting was wonderful. Big thanks to the organizing committee.

Sch. John Fabianus Ekka, SJ

SANJEEVAN NIWAS, VIJAYWADA

We entered into this devotional month with a Holy Mass interceding for change in our lives through the intercession of Mother Mary and St. Joseph as this whole month is dedicated to Mother Mary. The summer has taken it's another step from hotter to hottest. Together with these we even commenced our online classes after we had offline classes for few months. Meanwhile Fr. Bosco our spiritual guide was in and out for his social work in different places.

The second wave of Covid – 19 seemed to be growing rapidly in Vijayawada. Fr. Superior and two spiritual guides received vaccine to protect themselves from Covid-19. Till then all of us kept well but to our surprise one of the Priests from Fathers residence happened to be reported Positive. At present he is out of it but again after few days three of our Scholastics got Positive. We were in difficult situation so Fr. Superior asked all of us to isolate ourselves in the room. We left doing our daily duties, the Holy Eucharist and other things as well except Sunday. We take our food in our room itself with our separate plates and glasses. Keeping in mind all these, the whole house was sanitized and we also followed all the Covid protocol.

We went through covid test, kit was provided free of cost by the Govt. of AP to our College. Our report was negative. Still, we will continue our room quarantine this whole month. Online classes are going on smoothly. We hope to see some changes in the days ahead to come.

Sch. Wilson Soreng, SJ

JESUIT BHAVAN & GANA CHETANA SAMAJ, TEZPUR, ASSAM

The Havoc of COVID-19: Towards the end of April some Fathers and Sisters working in Tezpur Diocese were tested COVID-19 positive but in the early May the Havoc of COVID-19 was seen and experienced very much among the religious and the laity. Three young Assistant Parish Priests died within a week and many Fathers and Sisters were tested positive and got admitted in different hospitals and many were home quarantined. There were no beds available in good hospitals as well as even in government COVID hospitals. The Easter house blessings were stopped immediately seeing the situation. Among Jesuits, Fr. Xavier Lakra was the first one to be tested COVID positive followed by his community member Fr. John B. Dungdung. Now both have recovered. The quick action and precautions helped the Jesuits of Assam Mission to recover speedily and control the spread of COVID-19 in communities.

Handing Over of Offices: There were only a few transfers in Assam Mission this year. Fr. Benedict Lakra, the superior and treasurer of Balipara has been transferred to Satya Nilayam, Chennai to be the Spiritual Director of the Philosophers. He handed over his offices to two different Fathers, namely the Superior-ship to Fr. John B. Dungdung who has been appointed as the new Superior of Balipara Jesuit Community and treasurer-

ship to Fr. Elvius Kerketta on 19th May 2021 at 9.00 a.m. in the presence of Fr. Thomas Barla, the Delegate of Fr. Provincial, Fr. Cyril Guria, Assam Mission Treasurer, Fr. Suresh Aind, Principal of St. John's School and Fr. Theodore Ba'a, the treasure of St. Xavier's College, Sonabheel. The handing over ceremony was simple and spiritual. There was no external celebration or party due to COVID-19 protocol.

Holidays of Scholastics: The Scholastics James Ekka and Benojit Narzari have come for home visit. Having stayed at home for about a week or two, they have come to Jesuit Bhavan, Tezpur to spend rest of their holidays. Sch. James has been using his learnings and skills in making documentaries of different Mission Centers. He has started video shooting and photography of St. Xavier's College, Sonabheel and from there he would move to Balipara for the same. Sch. Benojit Narzari, has expressed his desire to teach local languages (Assamease and Boro) to the Fathers staying in Jesuit Bhavan. Both have been spending their holidays fruitfully and keeping themselves safe.

Spiritual Life and Activities: In the month of May, the Small Christian Community members of Tezpur Diocese have stated online common Rosary, Prayer and Special Prayer to stop Corona virus. Fr. Cyril is one of the regular participants of the common Rosary and prayer. From the 1st of May the Jesuit Bhavan community has started common Rosary Prayer with all the co-workers (kitchen girls and drivers). It has been nice to see that some of the days the kitchen girls have been leading the prayers.

Social Activities: The staff members of Gana Chetana Samaj were asked to work from home from 12th of May because of the order of the Assam Government and also lockdown and curfews were imposed in Assam to control COVID-19. For a week, the staffs worked from home but soon they were fed up being at home so they started coming to office everyday for 3 hours in the morning. They have been contacting different Tea Estates and Villages to assess the situation of the people. They are also continuously in contact with the field animators and instructors of the supplementary education to generate awareness among the Adivasis and other marginalized people so that they may take vaccine wherever available and follow the protective measures.

Fr. Thomas Barla has been attending many virtual meetings of NGOs and other social minded groups to assess the situation of Adivasis and Marginalized group of people living in Tea Gardens and rural villages of Assam. A core team has been formed and Fr. Thomas has been entrusted to lead the core team. In spite of

lockdown, the core team has been planning to help out the people through the net-work of NGOs, Associations, groups and individuals.

Thomas Barla, SJ

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE SONABHEEL, COMMUNITY

After twelve days of intensive care at Narayanan Guwahati hospital, Fr. Xavier Lakra, SJ was tested negative, discharged at 8 p.m. on 4th May and Fr Erenius Toppo, SJ took him to Jesuit House Guwahati. Frs. Anand Pereira, SJ, House Superior and Fr. Melvin Pereira SJ, Regional Superior along with community members welcomed Xavier warmly and wished him happy new life. Fr. Erenius Toppo celebrated his birthday on the same evening in Jesuit House Guwahati and the community hosted a great dinner. Next day Fr. Thomas Barla, SJ, the Delegate of the Provincial fetched Frs. Xavier and Erenius from Jesuit House Guwahati to St. Xavier's College community. Fr. Xavier stayed at home quarantine for another ten days before he joined the community. Fr. John B. Dungdung was also tested Covid-19 negative after fifteen days of intensive home Covid care. As all members of St. Xavier's College community were tested Covid negative, a thanks giving Holy Eucharist was celebrated on May 16th Sunday.

St. Xavier's College, community went to Balipara to thank and bid farewell to Fr. Benedict Lakra, SJ who gave his service in St. Xavier's College community and St. John's Parish and school for six years to Assam Mission. All wished him well to serve the Lord at Satya Nilayam, Chennai as a Spiritual Father.

Fr. Thomas Barla, SJ conducted a GB meetings of Xavier Trust on 26 May, where a few major issues of the various units were discussed and finalized. Fr Ajay Prakash Minj, SJ, a former Asst. Province Treasurer helped to finalize the related financial issues of units of the trust. It was agreed to begin the process of recruitment of the qualified teaching and the non-teaching staff for Degree College.

Government of Assam has made St. Xavier's Junior College, Solabasti Sonabheel a "Covid Care Centre" with the facility of 200 beds for Sonitpur District, Assam from 20th May 2021.

The Assam Government prepended summer vacation for schools and Higher Secondary section from 15 May till 14 June. Fr. Ranjit Kujur, SJ, Principal, St. Xavier's

Junior College monitored the online classes of the current class 12th students as the college building is occupied with Covid Care Centre. Besides this he released three new audio-video songs namely "Atma ke jita Dunia ke jita," "He Pawan Atma," "Anant Shanti" in the You Tube on the day of Pentecost on 23 May in the evening. Fr. John Berchmans is busy in "Tambul Bari" planting 3,500 betel nuts saplings in our college vacant area. Fr. Theodore Ba'a, SJ is busy monitoring the progress of College boundary construction. Fr. Ajay P Minj, SJ spent time in beautifying the college hostel campus and trying to put flower garden in the compound. During the second surge of Covid-19 pandemic Sch. James Ekka, SJ stayed at St. Xavier's College and spent his value time in recording the history of Assam Mission in the audio visual mode. He went to the different Assam Mission centres near Tezpur.

Fr. Xavier Lakra, SJ

DIGLIPUR, ANDAMANS

Scholastic Sagar Xalxo was supposed to make his trip to Andaman in the month of April 2020 prior to his philosophical study but it was not possible at all due to COVID -19. His air ticket was cancelled and purchased fresh one to go to Andaman. He was lucky enough because as he reached his home after a few days of stay at Prothrapur, there was not such order for home quarantine even coming from Port Blair, only after few days it was started. Shashi Samir Dhanwar and Oswoald Ekka landed at Port Blair air port on 19th April 2021 and stayed for a few days at Jesuit Community, Prothrapur. By that time there was order from Andaman and Nicobar Islands administration on 22nd April that now onwards everyone will necessarily be home quarantined for 7 days those who are travelling from Port Blair to Diglipur. Thus Shashi Samir caught up in this order, but one more chance was given to the people, residing at Diglipur Island or want to go to their homes with residential proof or ID were allowed to come to Diglipur but necessarily they have to go for home quarantine for 7 days.

Keeping in mind the gravity and spread of COVID - 19 Suneel Anchipaka, District Magistrate, South Andaman District orders that the movement of passenger convoys in the Andaman Trunk Road for transit to North and Middle Andaman district hereby stands suspended with effect from 28th April 2021 till further order except for emergency cases and essential services. This order restricted our scholastics in Andaman for their free movements and even if they want to go, there are much

formalities and restrictions. We wish them safe and happy stay over here with near and dear ones.

Fr. Roshan is discharged from the hospital on 18th May. He will be on home isolation for 6 days before he is free to move around. He is at the Jubilee Sadan, Lambaline, Port Blair. After sanitizing the presbytery Frs. James and Ashok are sent to Prothrapur as prior to that they were at Jubilee Sadan, in the campus of Catholic Bishop's house, Lambaline, under the care, guidance and supervision of Diocesan Administrator Most Rev. Fr. V. Selvaraj. We extend our sincere thanks for his generous and committed service to the Jesuits. He made all the arrangements for their accommodation at Jubilee Sadan and also doctors and nurses whenever they needed and updated the health bulletin of Jesuits.

Fr. Alexius Dungdung celebrated his birthday on 19th May 2021 in the simplest way. Community members wished him during lunch. Sisters and people thanked God for the gift of life and prayed for him though he was out of sight.

Sch. Shashi Samir hails from Beachdera, under the jurisdiction of Radhanagar parish came to Diglipur on 19th May to be with the Jesuit friends. Staying at Diglipur would help him for his further plan to be executed for his admission and other necessary requirements to be completed before he goes for Law study at SJC, Bangalore. We wish him happy and fruitful stay over here.

Fr. Lalit is brought home (Jubilee Sadan), Lambaline on 23rd May 2021, since his saturation level is not stable. The hospital has sent along an oxygen concentrator. He would need oxygen support time and again for a few more days. Let's continue to pray for his speedy recovery.

Fr. David Bara, SJ

DIASPORA

ARRUPE NIWAS, DEONIA NEPAL

Though the uncertainties caused by COVID 19 Pandemic and lockdown affected our normal life, the Arrupe Niwas community finds some ways to bring laughter and joy in each member of the community through conducting online classes, participating in community prayer, Adoration, cooking, reading books, physical exercises, gardening, taking care of the dogs, evening recreation, etc. We find great chefs, like Fr Arul, Fr. Daniel and our minister Sch. David who creatively

serve the community with different new food menus. As part of the UAP taking care of our common home, the community planted many trees in the school campus. Sch. Wilson is busy coordinating the school office planning for the final online examination. Sch. Gorakh is busy conducting online classes and continues to serve our community by arranging the Chapel and the Altar for daily Holy Mass and Adoration.

The community joyfully celebrated Fr Daniel Bara's birthday. His personal faith sharing with regard to his vocation and mission really inspired us immensely. The scholastics made a one day monthly recollection guided by Fr. Mike Parent.

The community under the leadership of Fr. Boniface carried our relief work among the poor people by distributing dry ration for 365 families in our Municipality. We also distributed food materials for 30 families in Godamara slum.

On May 20, 2021, the day of the Inaugural Day of Ignatian Year Celebration, we had a community mass and unveiling of La Storta Portrait of St Ignatius as a symbolic gesture to begin the Jubilee year celebration.

The school continues online classes for students and teachers are working hard to motivate students to concentrate on their studies. We sincerely appreciate our teachers for their collective efforts and commitment.

Sch, Wilson Kandulna, SJ

AMMAN, JORDAN

According to Eastern rite this year, our Easter was one month behind the Latin rite. To restrict the spread of Covid-19 virus, we had a daily curfew from 7pm to 6 am in the morning. Besides this 24 hours' Lockdown was imposed on every Friday. After months of lockdown, it was relaxed on Good Friday, April 30. It was a big relief. Many were able to join the way of the cross and Friday rituals following the Covid-19 guidelines. Easter vigil was online but many were able to join the Easter Mass on May 2. Four youth from Europe stayed with us in the community and took the full responsibility of the choir, and all the Easter readings were sung in Gregorian chants. They prepared one of the dishes of their country. We had a unique sharing of Easter with them.

I had the opportunity to visit Egypt from May 9 -17. I was able to meet most of the Jesuits working there. It was enriching to celebrate Eid al-Fitr with Muslim brothers and sisters in Cairo.

We had the Inaugural Ignatian year on May 22 at 11.30 am in Arabic language. Solemn Holy mass was presided over by the Latin Auxiliary Bishop Most Rev. William Shoumli. Greek Melkite Bishop Joseph Jabara also participated. A good number of priests, religious and well-wishers of Jesuits were present. A diocesan telecast service abouna.org aired the whole ceremony live for the faithful of Jordan marking the DAY a memorable one.

Fr. Bimal Kr. Kerketta, SJ

CAMBODIA

The month of May was a very busy month for both Fr. Manoj Ekaa, S.J. and Fr. Rajat Hassa Purti, S.J. Fr. Manoj has already started his mission 2021 of planting 100 trees this year. Along with his health centre staff members, he planted very valuable trees in the Church campus. He was also very busy preparing all the rice fields for sowing. He plans to finish by the first week of June and relax. He distributed emergency rice packages for 60 poor families of his parish on 10th May 2021. Fr. Manoj is very happy to enjoy big mangoes from his mango garden this year. Thanks to covid-19 that this year, children did not pluck before Fr. Manoj could pluck. Fr. Manoj is helping the youth and the children one dollar worth phone card per week to study online. This project helps the poor children and youth to do online study.

Fr. Rajat has already finished sowing paddy. He feels very happy to see one month old green paddy fields. So far so good. There is very good rain for paddy fields. Fr. Rajat believes in teaching the people by examples. This year he planted varieties of vegetables in the vegetable garden. He had also a lots of mangoes this year. Everybody passing by the mango and vegetable garden praises the fruits of his hard work. In the midst of pandemic covid-19 like a good shepherd he visits and spends a good amount of his time with the parishioners. He is preparing 9 adults for the second step and finally for the baptism. He is also teaching basic English to the young boys and girls. He keeps open the Church facilities for the students to come and do their personal studies and home works. With the initiative of Fr. Rajat and the teachers of the kindergarten the teachers started distributing study materials for the kids to study at home every Monday for a week. Everybody feels happy of it saying something is better than nothing Fr. Rajat arranged a zoom meeting for the youth of the diocese to share the hopes and the hardships with one another during the pandemic time on 15th May, 2021. He finally got and installed the statue of St. Andrew the patron saint of his parish in the parish campus on 23rd May 2021. The Ignatian Year

was opened on 20th May, 2021 on a good note. All the participants look at it as special blessing to journey with St. Ignatius, the founder of the Society of Jesus during the Ignatian Year. Fr. Manoj and Fr. Rajat had several meetings to implement the projects of Home Farming, Hydro-ponic, Chicken raising, Mushroom Growing and e-learning for the poor families and poor children and the youth.

Rajat Hassa Purti. SJ

FRANCE, PARIS

Bonjour à tous

We began the month of May with two very important festivals that is 1st of May La fete des ouvriers/ Travailleurs (Feast of Worker). It is a national feast/traditional feast in France. We celebrate this feast with all the workers. This day is observed as national holiday. Offices remain closed and all the workers gathered in one place and people offer them flowers and bouquet. On the same day we had Diaconate ordination in the St. Ignatius church Paris. Seven Jesuit deacons were ordained by His Excellency Rev. Mgr. Laurent'h Bishop of coutance and Avranches. Among the Seven deacons two deacons are from India. After the ordination there was only the community celebration because of Covid and the curfew. Sch. Sudhir Lakra had the opportunity to do the service as Acolyte with other first years during Diaconate ordination.

We had our regular French language class in the ICP (institute of catholic Paris). This is the last month for the 2nd semester. So, we were busy in preparation for our Semester Exams. The semester exams were conducted for all the students from 10th May to 15th May. We are going to end our 2nd semester on 28th May. In the month of June all the first year students of Theology and Philosophy will have Summer Camp for one month where we will try to learn the culture, language and different things from the French scholastics and visiting Professors. We had one theology class at Centres Sevre University by Professor Philip Edean.

On 8th of March, we had special community meeting for sharing our personal experiences and the experiences of apostolate. This gave us the opportunity to know each other better and get the information about the others' apostolate in which they are engage. This also helped us to know the works and activities through which we help and guide the people for the greater glory of God.

Sch. Peter had gone to Penboc'h Spiritual Centre at

Bretagne for the community weekend outing and sharing. On 14th– 16th May. The goal of this community weekend is to have a taste of time together outside after long months confinement (Lockdown) and taking the time to share personal reviews by giving priority to those who will leave the community to return their province for regency, or even for another mission.

In week-end on 18th Fr. Bruno Cadore a Dominican priest came to our community for sharing his experience of mission and also his vocation in the congregation. He was very open to share the information of his congregation and the collaboration with the Jesuits. It was very remarkable to listen from him about their life style, and process and policy of the congregation.

On 19th May we had the Indian students Mass at the University of Centres Sevre. The mass was conducted by the Indian students and Fr. Vibin of Kerala Province celebrated the mass and two new deacons of India assisted him. It was a very good time and enriching experience for us. The mass was in French but the songs were in different regional language of India and most of the people enjoyed and liked it very much.

On 20th both of us, Peter and Sudhir participated in the Zoom Virtual opening of our Ignatian year of our province. It was an overwhelming experience to be part of it and listen to Fr. Ignatius Tete and our brothers regarding Canon ball experiences. Same day afterward we joined the French Province for the opening celebration of the Ignatian year 2021-22. We had mass in St. Ignatius church, Paris. Many Jesuit Fathers and brothers had assembled for this celebration. This day is celebrated as thanks giving and sharing love with one another by the solemn Holy Eucharistic celebration. In the evening every community has arranged special evening prayer Service to commemorate and mark this day.

On 22nd of May Community of Sch. Sudhir 14 Rue d'Assas had gone to ETIOLLES the Monastery of Benedictine and Nancy for the community weekend and sharing. It was like reviving our call in the society and service in the community. We reflected over the certain point and aspect of St. Ignatius and shared our own experiences with one another. It gave us the feeling of oneness, belongingness and universality of the society of Jesus.

The situation of Covid-19 pandemic is getting better in some city of France. But it is very difficult and critical situation in most of the cities. The 19th May was the great relaxation and liberation day from the pandemic

Covid-19. The government of France has declared the partial end of confinement (Lock Down). The schools, Restaurants, Museums, shops, Cinema, hotels and parks are open for the public. This is the testing and trial period of Pandemic. In this phase of confinement some relaxation is given that we can move under the territory of state and country. This trial period is till 9th June after that if the situation and condition permit that will be end of confinement (Lockdown). In this time some relief and freedom is given by the government but we have to always abide by the rules and regulations of the government. The government and all the people concern are trying to control and overcome this situation of Covid-19. The medical facilities are available for all the people and Covid -19 vaccination is given to the affected people and those who are old and 18 plus.

Sch. Sudhir Lakra, SJ

ITALY, ROME

INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE OF GESÙ

In May, Ranchi Jesuits in Rome were saddened and shocked to receive on a regular basis the sad news of the untimely demise of many Jesuits, priests, nuns and family members. Nirmal, Kuldeep and Sandeep quickly arranged a suitable place in their community to bring together Ranchi Jesuits to remember the departed brothers and sisters by Holy Mass on 2 May as well as on 9 May. Jesuit friends expressed their solidarity with those victims of the prevailing second wave of Covid-19 and appreciated the hard-work and dedication of the front-line doctors and health personnel.

Keith Abranches (G.U.), the new Rector of Collegio Gesù (w.e.f. July 2021), was accorded a warm and cordial welcome on 7 May by the community members. On the same day, the Living Groups went for one-day outing to different sites of Rome to spend the day meaningfully in various ways according to the creativity of each group. R.P. General came to the community on 14 May for the official annual visit. He addressed the whole community in the evening and delivered an inspiring talk on the role and responsibility of the Society of Jesus during the Covid-19. He challenged everyone present to be aware of the current realities, and carry out the responsibilities as Jesuits toward the suffering humanity. In order to make the session more interactive, R.P. General invited the Scholastics and the Staff members to share their experiences arising out of fear and uncertainty within the community and in the city of Rome at large. After

quite a long session of sharing and interaction, R.P. General presided over the Eucharistic celebration and offered prayers for the community.

On 17 May, P. Mariano Ballester (ESP), a long-serving Spiritual Director and Guide of the Scholastics, passed away in the Infirmary of San Pietro Canisio. On 19 May, the Requiem Holy Mass was celebrated in Gesù Church attended by a good number of Jesuits and the close relatives of P. Mariano.

The Month of May was also the last month of regular classes in Pontifical Gregorian University. The Scholastics were completely engrossed in their in completing various assignments and in preparing themselves for the upcoming exams. 28 May was marked as the last day of our lessons in the university. The same day Gesù community held a farewell program for the fourteen outgoing members of the community including Fr. Rector Luis Orlando. During the Holy Mass, all outgoing members were remembered in a very special way with words of praise and gratitude for their generous contributions to the community life.

On the eve of the Ignatian Year, Gesù Community held a vigil prayer on 19 May with the friends and well-wishers of Jesuits. The Community also joined the online Prayer Service "Pilgrims with Ignatius" on 23 May, during which people from across the globe shared their experiences and bore testimonies of the richness of Ignatian spirituality. R.P. General too had joined the Prayer Service, which was concluded by the virtual blessing from the Holy Father Pope Francis. All are warmly invited and challenged to enter into the Ignatian Year as pilgrims, to renew the spiritual fervour on the footsteps of St. Ignatius and to seek and find God in all things.

COLLEGIO SAN ROBERTO BELLARMINO

R.P. General visited Collegio San Roberto Bellarmino, the community of Deepak and Kulwant on 12 May. He presided over the Holy Mass and thereafter interacted with the whole community. At the end of the interaction, he expressed his deep concern for South Asia and Madagascar, which he said, were badly affected by Covid-19. He therefore, urged the community members to pray for these two Assistancies in a particular way. On 19 May, Mario Lopez Barrio, Rector of the community celebrated the Holy Mass for outgoing members of the community. In a special way, P. Tomas Carrol, was given a fitting farewell for his long and dedicated service to Collegio San Roberto Bellarmino as a Spiritual Father for more than 10 years. P. Orlando Torres, the outgoing

Rector of Collegio Internazionale del Gesù will replace him from the month of July. On 24 May, Fr. João Renato Ait, a Brazilian Jesuit and the new Rector of the College arrived in the community. However, keeping in mind the safety of the community, he was immediately put in quarantine for an adequate number of days. He will take up his responsibilities as the Rector of Collegio Bellarmino from 1 July 2021. Besides, as the Academic Year is coming to an end, Deepak and Kulwant are busy completing their assignments and are preparing themselves for upcoming exams. Both are leaving no stone unturned to do their best in their studies.

GENERAL CURIA

For Anselm, the month of May was highly enriching and enlightening arising out of a series of Meetings and Group discussions. In the third Phase of Examen/Gratitude, the different groups spent a significant time in April and May, discussing on Apostolic Plan for the General Curia 2022-2026 and submitted their reports to the Core Committee. The aim of this meeting was to see where God was present in the life-mission of each member during these past years? The Curia Community members reflected and shared in different groups on the following questions: How did we experience the period of the last plan (2016-2020), especially with regard to the Covid-19 situation? What have been the more significant consolations and desolations in our work for R.P. General and for the General Curia? What has been life-giving? What has been life-draining? Where have we encountered encouraging factors or resistances in oneself and in others? How has each one's role been evolving in such difficult time? All the nine groups submitted their reports to the Core Committee for synthesis.

On 7 May, there was a common meeting for the entire General Curia Community where the Core Committee presented the outcome of the group's report. Some more inputs were given to enter into the next phase of the group discussions so as to re-connect with vision, to integrate with the UAP2, to initiate reflections on the upcoming events such as the Ignatian Year, and Magis and the Call to New Horizons. The aim of such meeting is to help the Curia members to get in touch with life-mission, the Preferences and re-ignite energy for the mission of the Society of Jesus. The groups discussed and shared on the following points: Which aspects of the UAP connect with my deepest self and my sense of deepest mission in the Society? What do I think are the current gaps in the Society and the Curia with regard to the mission, especially the UAP? What are the potential areas for development? Where have Curia structures

helped or shown themselves not so helpful? Anselm strongly feels that such discussions have helped him to grow in the unity of collaboration and communication among the Community members and Jesuits, at large. He is becoming conscience of the challenging Missions the Society of Jesus in this new situations. Secondly, he is also becoming aware of self where to get the energy for one's commitment and service to the Society of Jesus.

PONTIFICAL GREGORIAN UNIVERSITY

Life in general seems to be gradually coming back to normalcy in Rome. People have started venturing out into the stony pavements, open spaces and tourist sites of the Eternal City. The vaccination drive seems to have assisted people to come out, slowly but surely, of the uncertainties and fear of the invisible enemy. A pleasant sign of hope for a better future to see the empty roads of Rome steadily being filled with people. Despite the emergence of encouraging improvements in the current situation, Gregorian University maintained the odd-even Roll Number Rotation System for the physical presence of the students in the class rooms. On 24 May, Gregorian University organized a Thanksgiving Holy Mass in St. Ignatius Church to thank the Lord for all the blessings received during the current Academic Year. The Holy Mass was presided over by His Eminence Cardinal José Tolentino de Mendonça, Archivist and Librarian of the Holy Roman Church. Apart from the Authorities of the University, a restricted number of students and teaching staff members was allowed to be present in the Church to abide by the Covid-19 Protocols. As part of the preparations for Ignatian Year, the Community celebrated a Holy Mass on 19 May, the eve of the Ignatian Year and prayed in a special manner for the renewal of Ignatian zeal. All the victims of Covid-19 – Jesuits, friends and well-wishers – were specially remembered during the Holy Mass. A full day Conference was organized by the Institute of Spirituality on 20 May to coincide with the inauguration of the Ignatian Year. The theme that guided the various interventions was the same as the motto of Ignatian Year, that is, “Seeing All Things New in Christ”. While R.P. General gave a Video message from Pamplona and invited all to follow the path of St. Ignatius, R.P. Delegate encouraged Gregorian University to practice more closely community discernment and spiritual conversion. Apart from various Professors from the University, who presented reflections on diverse subtopics of the principal theme, His Eminence Cardinal Luis Ladaria, Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith, spoke on the Inner Struggle and Conversion of St. Ignatius of Loyola. His Eminence Cardinal Marcello Semeraro, Prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints shared his reflections on the theme “Holiness:

Discerning the Presence of God and Finding Him in All Things”. Indeed, the Symposium was a perfect launching of the Ignatian Year from Gregorian University.

Linus has just finished his courses online. For the Faculty of Missiology he is discovering the possibilities of proclaiming Christ through liturgy that is how the celebrating community can become an “Evangelizing Community” by means of sanctifying signs and symbols taken from the culture of a people. For example, the use of language, music, art and architecture, etc. in the Eucharist makes the way of life of the people holy and allows them proclaim the great deeds of Christ through their educated talents. He is also asked to explore religions that how they can make all “brothers and sisters” in truth. For example, Bhagavadgītā, the sacred book of the Sanātana Dharma (Hindus), teaches how to choose good and avoid evil in the search for inner liberation. The fight between two families, Pāndavas and Kauravas, is in fact the metaphorical inner fight of a soul between good and evil tendencies that exists in each one of us. The victory leads to true peace and joy. Some have compared the holy book with the process of discernment. When time is available, he is determining the virtuous life of the Servant of God, Father Constant Lievens, and his contribution to the people based on historical documents like letters, homilies, discourses, important events, etc. This has to be in the context of Belgium and India of his time. Father Linus expects prayers from the readers of Ranchi Bulletin for the success of this project.

Fr. Prem Xalxo, SJ

VATICAN, ROME

On 29th April Fr. Sanjay lost his second eldest sister Sushila Ekka. The day proper community mass was presided by Cardinal Michael Czerny. It brought him great solace and consolation to march with great faith and confidence in the mission.

Seeing the devastating situation of India due to covid 19, the Vatican Radio authorities expressed solidarity with its people. Thus, on 4th May a holy mass was arranged in the Vatican Radio, the Indian section in-charge Fr. Sanjay presided over the holy Eucharist and we all prayed for the well being of the country and our deceased members.

The Marian month on 1st May was very well initiated by Pope Francis, who not only appealed us to pray to our Heavenly Mother but as a great leader himself led the faithful in recitation of Rosary in the Basilica of St. Peter. During this month of Mother Mary 30 different Marian Shrines all over the world were chosen to lead a rosary prayer which got transmitted online.

Life post covid-19 seems to be getting normal in Rome

and Vatican and so Holy Father restarted his Wednesday general audience in the presence of the faithful and tourists on 12th May in the Vatican's courtyard of St. Damasus. The joy to be with the people was clearly seen in the face of Papa Francis who openly met with the people participating in his audience.

As a good shepherd caring for his sheep, Pope Francis visited the Vatican Radio on 24th May. It was the first occasion when he visited Pope's radio and encouraged us all to be better communicators of God's message.

Fr. Sanjay Ekka, SJ

GUYANA

During this Covid-19 Pandemic, the Marian devotion plays a vital role. From the first day of the month, the parishioners started reciting Rosary Prayer in their sections. The mother Mary's month will be concluded by the crowning of Our Lady at the end of the month.

In the beginning of the month His Lordship Bishop Francis Alleyne, OSB, the Bishop of Georgetown, Guyana, spent his holidays in St. Teresa Karasabai and in St. Ignatius Mission Lethem. Our Ursuline Sisters – Sr. Sosan Kujur, Sr. Crecencia Toppo, Sr. Nishi Kujur and Sr. Helena Soreng were privileged to host him for a couple of days. The Parishioners were blessed as they were getting the Holy Eucharist by their shepherd.

Fr. Elias Surin, SJ preached three days retreat in St. Joseph's Mission Kurukabaru to the mothers as they were preparing to celebrate mother's day. On May 9, the mother's day was celebrated in the entire country. All the mothers were given gifts by their children to express their love and gratitude.

In the able leadership of Fr. Peter McIsaac, SJ, the Regional Superior, Guyana – Jamaica Jesuit Region was engaged in the Apostolic Discernment Process in different phases and sessions for last few months as we were in the process of joining Antilles Province. On May 11, Fr. Martin Lenk, SJ the Provincial of Antilles Province shared with us the governance of the province.

This year, the month of May was special for the Amerindians as they had the Toshao (the head of the village) elections in their respective villages. On May 18, Mr. Peter Francisco, the young man was elected Toshao of Kurukabaru village, in North Pakaraimas for three years.

The Ignatian year 500 Anniversary of the conversion of Ignatius May 20, 2021 until July 31, 2022 themed "to

see all things new in Christ," was inaugurated by Fr. Anugrah Amar Bage, SJ, Fr. Ramesh Vanan, SJ and Fr. Edwin Anthony, SJ on May 23 in St. Ignatius Mission Lethem. Next day, they paid a short visit to our Ursuline Sisters in Karasabai and shared their joy.

Fr. Elias Surin, SJ

MARQUETTE, USA.

The four-member dissertation committee has approved my thesis on "Media competency and media literacy education for Tribals" on May 5, 2021, after a brief presentation of my paper. This paves the way for my public defense on July 6. As per the university's guidelines, I have already initiated the process of announcement of public defense of the dissertation that consists of getting the signature of the dissertation committee members through an electronic file called "DocuSign." With the completion of this, the university will make my defense date public. Thanks to online meetings, the streamlining and revision work on my paper continue in full swing despite my guide and other committee members, are not in the country.

Social life is becoming much normal in Milwaukee though still with caution. The Jesuits of Milwaukee met with more than 50 elderly members of St. Camillus community on May 6 to celebrate mass, followed by social hour and a sumptuous dinner. The joy and the gestures of gratitude were impressively visible in the eyes and smiles of unmasked faces of all the sick and elderly men of Ours in the community.

The community again gathered on May 20 to celebrate the 500th anniversary of St. Ignatius' cannonball injury at Pamplona. The Midwest province has invited Jesuits to be grateful for the call, deepen the faith and share one's own cannonball stories, art and music, in the communities to make the companionship and commitment more meaningful.

The coming together did not stop here as the university organized a High Mass in the campus for the commencement of Graduation day on May 22, the eve of Pentecost. More than eight hundred students and parents participated in the mass together "in person". Fr. Jim, the vice president of mission and ministry, officiated the mass, and ten other Jesuits, including Fr. Greg, the Rector, concelebrated with him. It was indeed an experience of serene entry of the Holy Spirit in the closed rooms of our hearts. Fr. Anderson, the homilist, inspired the faithful, saying, "when everything is closed,

no one can enter into hearts, but Jesus can". He also said, "pains and scars of locked down moments did not obliterate our identity but gave us a distinct identity who can face devastating tempest with unwavering faith".

The monthly faith sharing focused on drawing the fruits from consolations and desolations of the pandemic moments and intellectual quest during the spring semester. I summarized my experiences of consolation by these words "faith, not fear," "alone but not lonely," "need intelligence but also perseverance".

Fr. Justin Tirkey, SJ

OBITUARY

BR. MODESTUS TIRKEY, SJ (1948-2021)

Br. Modestus Tirkey was born on 14 August 1948 of Mr. Lukas Tirkey and Juliana Toppo in the village Putrunji under Katkahi Parish. He was the 7th child among 3 brothers and 4 sisters. Though Br. Modestus was born in Putrunji village but his Primary to Matriculation studies were done in Ratasili and Ambikapur, in the then Madhya Pradesh State. The reason being that the father of young Modestus, Mr. Lukas Tirkey, was studying in the Boarding School of St. John's, Ranchi, which was then surrounded by wild bushes all around, so the jackals used to haunt the school at night. Interestingly student Lukas and others used to chase them to the Ranchi Lake from where they used to pester the school. There were few houses between the Ranchi Lake and St. John's School in those days. St. John's students used to play hockey around the bushy ground of the present Sadar Hospital as well, Mr. Lukas used to narrate about his school days to young Modestus.

Mr. Lukas studied up to class IX at St. John's School, when the Missionary Fathers took him to Ratasili Parish as a catechist in 1955. Ever since he remained a catechist for his whole life and kept on moving from Ratasili, Manpur, Jhingo and Larangi Parishes. While young Modestus completed his schooling from Primary to Matriculation from the boarding schools of Ratasili and Ambikapur in 1956 to 67. On June 1967 he joined



the Minor Seminary, Ranchi and on October 1967 he was sent to St. Stanislaus' Sitagarha for six months of Postulancy. Thereafter, he joined the Novitiate on 21 April 1968 and took his first vows on 22 April 1970. One year of Juniorate being over, he enrolled himself for TTC courses at Sitagarha itself and wrote the final exams in 1973. Passing with good marks he was sent to the Primary School, Lohardaga, as a teacher and taught successfully for 3 years. On June 1976 he was brought to St. John's Middle School as Headmaster and gave his services in teaching as well as helping in various ways to the school till 1993, in all 18 years. And again on June 1993 he was transferred to Prabhat Tara Middle School, Dhurwa and served till 2012 for long 20 years. During this period he was elected President of Jharkhand All Religious Brothers' Association (JARBA) which he directed usefully for the good religious life of all the Brothers in 2005-08. Back again to Lohardaga Middle School as a hostel superintendent for one year 2012 to 13 that saw him an active educationist. Then there came a change of service as a minister in Ashirvad-Jharna Novitiate from 2013 to '16. From 2016 onward he again shouldered the responsibility of a Headmaster of the Primary School, Bundu, till he could carry on no more till 2021. He fell ill with covid-19, brought to Agricultural Training Centre, Namkum for a few days. As it got aggravated he was taken to St. Anne's Hospital and Research Centre, Ulhatu, for treatment. Before the doctor could do anything, on the stretcher he breathed his last on 25 April 2021. On the next day, 26 April 2021, at 2.00 pm with all the religious ceremonies, he was laid to rest in the ATC, Namkum Cemetery, following all the guidelines of Covid-19.

Br. Modestus was a catechist's son. His father had been associated closely to the missionary Fathers life-long. So his religious and character formation went along inseparably. Naturally his father would have liked to see his son a religious. It was fitting that Br. Modestus joined the Society of Jesus.

Br. Modestus' motto in life was the 'Magnificat' of our Lady who in humble surrender always gave praises to God. Joining our Lady he also spent time in praising God which gave him the greatest joy. He used to say that though being unworthy, God chose him to be a religious. The other greater delight he experienced was his young students' untainted innocent love. Even after scolding or reprimand, the children would quickly forget all that and be close to him as if nothing had happened. He was fond of them and the children found him loving as they

used to run behind him to wish him good morning or good afternoon Brother!

During his school days the teachers, though being senior to him, would respect him and follow his instructions in fulfilling all that would be asked of them. You felt small before such returns. He felt grateful to the Society of Jesus for what opportunities it provided him. He recalled that the Society thought of him worthy of pursuing studies: he was offered to follow the Teachers' Training Course, made him finish his Intermediate to MA studies and placed the responsibilities of being Headmaster of major schools, though he was an ordinary Brother.

No work is small in the Society. If the worker is of small heart, even a big work would seem small to him and the vice versa. He always gladly fulfilled all the works entrusted to him like gardening or in the kitchen, considering that everything came from the Lord. As a Headmaster he did not himself bury in academic curriculum, but concentrated on sports and games as well. During his time the famous 'Football Moona Cup' existed which he engineered so thoroughly well that gained its name every year. The children learnt much from these activities.

As a religious he followed the path of simplicity, humility, friendliness and loving approach to people. His simplicity and outward appearance misguided people of what treasure of qualities were hidden in his person. Devotion and dedication to the given work were his character. His seventy-two years of life speaks a volume to us. Every morning the province men will miss him when they will check WhatsApp messages. Even during his ailing days, he continued faithfully wishing happy birthday to his province men. His immense love and interest for the Society of Jesus is noteworthy. He was fond of updating himself about his province men and therefore he not only knew the province men but also their designation and other details. He never missed morning Mass and evening prayer. Community life, community celebrations, community outings were his top preferences. He was punctual and regular to school in spite of his health issues. His public life was vibrant as he knew people by their names and place. He was connected to many of his old students on Facebook and WhatsApp. He was gifted with a sharp memory to recall and reproduce any person with his or her Biodata whom he had met before. He enjoyed any food and never complained about them. He had a great sense of gentleness in his approach and dressing sense. He was humble and obedient in asking

permission to superior for going out or if he needed anything. This religious gesture of belongingness to the Society is an epitome to us. During his last days he was deeply affected by the pandemic news of Corona. On 22 April he himself acknowledged - "lagta hai isbaar hum bhi nahi bachenge". I think this was an indication and acceptance from his part that he stood nowhere in front of the strike of nature.

Such a good religious completing his life journey he departed to his heavenly reward, without giving much trouble to his fellow Jesuits. May his soul rest in peace!

Fr. Ravi Bhushan Xess, SJ

FR. ANIL K. TIRKEY, SJ (1953-2021)

Fr. Anil Kishore Tirkey, SJ, was born on 4 October 1953 in the village Chatti in Soso Parish, Gumla and joined the Society of Jesus on 20 November 1973. He was ordained priest on 20 May 1986 and took his final vows on 8 September 2000. Fr. Anil had been admitted to Constant Lievens Hospital and Research Centre, Mandar a week before together with other Fathers of St. Ignatius' Community for Covid-19 treatment. They all got recovered and went back to their community. Fr. Anil was kept back for observation of Covid-19 related effects. On 26 March in the late noon quite many documents of AROUSE, Gumla were signed by him brought by Fr. George Soreng. The attending Doctor came hurriedly and communicated that the Father had to be taken to the ICU because his Oxygen level was going down. All precautions were taken care of, yet in the morning of 27 March 2021 Fr. Anil breathed his last.



Openness, kindness, willingness, readiness, generosity, cheerful bearing, pleasant countenance, dedication and commitment are some of the qualities which characterized the person of Fr. Anil Kishore Tirkey. The first sight of him would portray his happy disposition with his smiling face welcoming you and make you feel good. There would be no worry for the rest of your time with him. He would go round to provide you with the

things you would need or have gone to him for. And in the end he would see you off pleasantly so that your journey back is safe and good.

Fr. Anil was a musician. He loved music, especially playing guitar and singing. His favourite song was, "Bless the Lord, O my Soul." He played other musical instruments also with ease and in perfect blend of notes harmoniously. However, the drum set was his favourite which he would hammer around in a good speed as the music would require. But above all he never boasted of his talents. He made his appearance invariably in any musical event with two drum sticks in hand. The audience liked his performance.

In his Jesuit life, most of the years he was a treasurer in various communities: at St. Xavier's, School, Doranda, British Guyana and St. Ignatius' High School, Gumla. During his stint at St. Xavier's School, Doranda, the unwelcome teachers' strike took place due to some flaws by his predecessor's pen. Fr. Anil put them all in their right place and the problem got settled before long. He knew that the treasurer's table was the pivot upon which an institution revolved. Therefore, accuracy and transparency mattered a lot which he justified strongly.

Fr. Anil Kishore Tirkey, SJ, was sent to Guyana arriving on 23rd December 2006 with Fr. Anugrah Amar Bage, SJ. When he was leaving for Guyana his elder brother was on his death bed. Yet the missionary spirit propelled him to go ahead surrendering his ailing brother into the hands of the Lord. He returned to Ranchi on 29th December 2019 and was assigned at St. Ignatius' High School, Gumla.

In Guyana, he was assigned as the house treasurer in Brickdam Presbytery, Georgetown and also was helping out in the cluster of parishes in Georgetown for four years. In 2009 all the Jesuits came to Arrupe House, Queenstown, Georgetown from Brickdam Presbytery leaving the house for the Diocesan Priests where he as minister and helped out in the parishes for three years. In 2012, he was assigned to be the Parish Priest in St. John the Baptist Church Plaisance, in the East Coast Demerara for seven years. He would prepare the homilies on time. After twelve years of service in Guyana he went to Manresa Spain for his Ignatian Immersion Programme in 2018 for a Sabbatical. After his sabbatical, he was in Arrupe House, Queenstown for a year helping out in celebrating the Holy Eucharist in Georgetown.

He was parish priest of Muri Parish for some years which the people remember happily as visiting them regularly, particularly the sick and the old.

One never got tired of his company. He believed in companionship and had many close friends. And what a company in which if he didn't crack a joke or two! The first thing the companions would ask of him was a joke before beginning anything, though sometimes, the same joke would be replayed again. Humour reigned in any of his gathering. He held the view that in such an atmosphere the work would progress better. Never was he seen in tension or worried, though there were aplenty in his lap. He took them all in a stride and not let anyone know he underwent so many of them.

He had a magnanimous heart. He would accept everyone. He would listen to everyone. He was a good shepherd. He knew all his parishioners.

He was a creative person and would come up with his creative ideas in his preaching and teaching. He had a reading habit and would read many books and share them with others.

The Marian Devotion was another of his spiritual gift and had a special devotion to Mother Mary. He would spend time with his Rosary in Prayer. He would encourage people to recite the Rosary Prayer as well.

Youthful spirit dominated his appearance, dealings and actions and had special love for the young people, and loved to work with them.

He was Systematic or organized. Whatever appointments he received in the Society of Jesus, he put his whole heart and mind in it trying his best to be systematic and well organized with the files, document and records up to date.

Fr. Anil's companions remember him as a gentle, loving and kind person whom the cruel covid-19 took away. It is with great sorrow that his companions learned of his sad demise. A dedicated life has come to an end. He was a unique and special figure in missionary endeavours, and a guide and example, especially in the mission field. Among many of his colleagues he was a shining example showing keen interest in the work and had the ability to quickly grasp the reality.

Frs. Elias Surin, SJ & Amar Anugrah Bage, SJ

FR. JOHN TIRKEY, SJ**(1962 - 2021)**

The last days of Fr. John Tirkey were a succession of visits to a number of hospitals with a hope of recovery from covid-19, but he could not be saved. On 18 April 2021 he left Noadih Parish for St. Stanislaus' High School, Lohardaga. While staying there he made a visit to Constant Lievens Hospital, Mandar, for consultation with the doctor there. His condition did not improve in Lohardaga, so he was shifted to Singpur Nursing Home, Muri, on 22 April. It looked things would turn out to be better there. Facilities ran short for treatment there for such a deadly sickness. On 27 April he had to be shifted again from Singpur to Ulhatu St. Anne's Hospital. After two days of treatment at Ulhatu, his condition worsened. So he was finally shifted to Dev Kamal Hospital, Bajra, Itki Road, on 29 April afternoon. He had been just taken in to the hospital Fr. John breathed his last during the preliminary check up at 5.23 pm on 29 April 2021.



Fr. John Tirkey, SJ, was born in the village Akasi Pakritoli in Katkahi Parish on 16 March 1962. His parents Mr. Louis Tirkey and Libina Barwa were blessed with 7 children, 6 sons including John and a daughter.

Fr. John had his Primary and Middle School classes at Boys' Middle School, Katkahi till 1978. Thereafter, he proceeded to St. Ignatius' High School, Gumla, in 1979 for his Matriculation education and completed it in 1983. Intermediate studies were completed from St. Xavier's College, Ranchi, in 1983-85. On 11 July 1985 he entered the Novitiate at St. Stanislaus' College, Sitagarha and took his first vows on 11 July 1987. For his Juniorate he was sent to XTTI, Patna, from July 1987 to May 1988. Then he was sent to A. L. College, Vijayawada for his graduation studies June 1988 to May 1991. The Philosophical studies took place soon after at Satya Nilayam, Chennai June 1991 to March 1993. After completing his regency in Nagaland 1993-95, he was at first at Tarunoday, Arsande and then to Vidya Jyoti for Theology 1995-98. On 12 April 1999 he was ordained priest at Katkahi Parish. Soon after he was appointed

as an Assistant teacher cum hostel prefect at St. Mary's High School, Samtoli in 1999-03. Tertiariship followed soon after in Raia, Goa in 2003-4 and took his final vows on 12 April 2007.

After academic and religious studies were over, he was appointed as an Acting Headmaster 2005-10 at St. Peter's High School, Tongo which he took over on the approved post as a Headmaster in 2010-14. In 2014 he was transferred to St. Mary's High School as an Acting Rector cum Headmaster till 2019. His last status was at Janata High School, Noadih as Headmaster from 2019 till his death on 29 April 2021.

Fr. John Tirkey, SJ, was a loving and caretaking person and as a senior he always loved and took care of those who were junior to him either during formation or in the high schools wherever he was a Headmaster or a Prefect. He was considerate towards those under his charge of both either Scholastics or students. He played the role of a guide to all who approached him.

He loved sports and game and played all kinds of outdoor games, like hockey, football, basketball, volleyball and so on. Among these games, his favorites were hockey and football. As a Headmaster of St. Peter's High School, Tongo, he used to arrange "Inter School Hockey and Football Tournaments" for the boys often. He always wanted to see his team as a winner.

Annual Sports are parts of school activities so he never skipped them every year. He encouraged the students to take part in them and developed their sporting skills to enhance themselves with strength and confidence.

He was an extrovert who mingled with others and made friends easily. He liked Socializing with people and got his work done finally. Singing and dancing were not out of his interest. Tribal dance and Music were his favourites together with drumming the tribal drum (mandar) vigorously.

Fr. John, as a person, was simple, friendly, approachable, and honest. He was committed and dedicated to his work. He was psychologically mature and balanced, physically strong, and active. He was simple but bold to take decisions.

Fr. Gilbert Barla, SJ



LET US PRAY FOR THE DEAR DEPARTED

1. Fr. John Tirkey (RAN 59/35), on 29 April
2. Fr. Isaac Tete (RAN 66/46), on 30 April
3. Fr. Gyan Prakash Minj (RAN 46/12), on 30 April
4. Fr. Saju Bastian (HAZ 59/37), on 3 May
5. Fr. Cyril Rajesh Tigga (MAP 84/65), on 5 May
6. Fr. Ramesh Tribhuvan (PUN 49/25, on 6 May
7. Fr. Jerome Gonsalves (PUN 71/51), on 7 May
8. Fr. Anil Dayal Kujur (HAZ 60/35), on 10 May
9. Fr. Antony Raj P. (MDU 76/57), on 10 May
10. Fr. Ambrose D'Souza (KAR 66/39), 12 May
11. Fr. Francis Kurien (HAZ 68/51) on 13 May
12. Fr. Rajarathinam R. (CEN 62/41), on 14 May
13. Br. Jeganathan A. (MDU 72/53), on 17 May
14. Fr. Antony Raj C. (MDU 76/57), on 17 May
15. Fr. Anthony Cruze Arul (GUJ 57/35), on 19 May
16. Fr. Jeyaraj Maria (MDU 86/67), on 29 May
17. Fr. Lawrence Maria G. (MDU 81/56, on 29 May
18. Mr. Binod Xalxo (54), younger brother of Fr. Prem Xalxo on 30 April
19. Mr. Alois Khoya (88+), father of Fr. Manohar Khoya, on 2 May
20. Mr. John Xess (75) & Mrs Pyari Xess (70), uncle & aunty of Fr. Ravi Bh. Xess, on 2 May
21. Mr. Louis Hemrom (55), cousin of Fr. George Kerketta, on 4 May
22. Mr. Ajit Surin, cousin of Fr. Kamal Chandra Bage, on 4 May
23. Mr. Leo Xaxa, uncle of Father Manoj Ekka, on 5 May
24. Mr. Stanislaus Hemrom (60), cousin of Fr. George Kerketta
25. Mr. Theophil Bage (70), cousin of Fr. George Kerketta on 23 May
26. Sr. Apolina Topno, AC, cousin of Fr. Emmanuel Horo on 4 May
27. Mr. Ajit Surin, cousin of Fr. Kamalchandra Bage on 4 May
28. Mr. Vishal Toppo (39), brother-in-law of Fr. Kulwant Minj on 6 May
29. Mr. Patras Bilung, brother-in-law of Fr. James V. Dungdung on 7 May
30. Mrs. Evon Khoya & Mr. Eugin Minj, sister and brother-in-law of Fr. Manohar Khoya, on 7 May
31. Mr. Marcel Kujur (86), father of Fr. R. Pradeep Kujur & grandfather of Dcn Sandeep Kujur on 6 May
32. Mrs. Maria Goretti Soreng (63), cousin of Frs. Xavier & Vinod Sushil Soreng on 8 May
33. Mr. Robin Balmuchu (63), uncle of Fr. James Balmuchu, on 11 May
34. Mr. Juel Kujur (64), cousin of Fr. R. Pradeep Kujur & uncle of Dcn Sandeep Kujur on 11 May
35. Mr. Stanislaus Lakra (90), father of Fr. Telesphore Lakra on 16 May
36. Mr. Christopher Ekka (56), elder brother of Fr. Praful Ekka on 26 May
37. Mr. Linus Kullu, brother-in-law of Fr. Nicholas Tete
38. Grand mother of Sch. Ravi Sushil Kindo (83), on 28 May
39. Mrs. Rita Ba'a, niece of Fr. Francis David Kullu & elder sister of Novice Jenar Ba'a on 29 May