



November 2020

Jisu Jaher, Dudhani, Dumka - 814 101

No. 513

Fr Provincial's Message



Dear Friends, Normally, we have a vocation camp for class six boys in the month of October-November to select candidates for the apostolic school in Mundli. This year we may not have such a camp because of the prevailing Covid-19 situation. But that does not diminish our responsibility to choose good candidates for the apostolic school. A few days back I sent you a summary of Fr General's talk to the Provincials of South Asia regarding vocation promotion. It is the responsibility of each Jesuit to promote good vocations to the Society. Many boys from our schools go to other parts and join various congregations and orders while we struggle for good vocations.

I request each member of this Province to promote one good vocation this year. You are in contact with so many Catholic boys in our parishes, schools, social centres and media centres. Please talk to the boys about this way of life and even use recollections and catechism classes to motivate the boys to join religious life. Apostolic school at Mundli will be happy to get motivated boys. We can select boys either for class seven for apostolic school or for candidates' house at Jisu Jaher. Community superiors and directors of work must take special care to promote good vocations. It is also good to have community prayers for good vocations. I hope we will have large number of candidates for the apostolic school and for the candidates' House this year.

Appointment by Fr General

V. Rev. Fr General Arturo Sosa has appointed Fr Agnelo Mascarenhas (GOA) as Provincial of Pune Province.

Appointments by Fr Provincial

Rev. Fr Provincial Varghese Palli has appointed Fr Charles Tudu as the Student Counselor and Catechism in-charge at Hathimara and Fr Thomas Kattathara as Deputy Director at CTC, Torai.

Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (PWP)

Holy Father's Intention for November 2020:

Artificial Intelligence: We pray that the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind.

Sacerdotal Ordination

Priestly Ordination of Deacon Arockia Julian Jesu on 15 October 2020 was a much awaited event in the annals of Alavandhankulam Parish in the Diocese of Palayamkottai. Most Rev. Antonysamy, Bishop of Palayamkottai, the ordaining Prelate, cherished this event and made a special reference in his homily that it is his first visit to Alavandhankulam Parish and the first ordination within his own Diocese after he became Bishop of Palayamkottai in March 2020. The Bishop in his sermon commended the theme chosen by Deacon Julian "Called to be a good shepherd among the Marginalized." He encouraged him and applauded his choice to serve as a missionary in Dumka-Raiganj Province. The day was memorable for the faithful of Alavandhankulam as the entire village gathered to witness this grace filled event. A large number of the faithful gathered together for the priestly ordination Mass inside and outside the spacious Church, dedicated to St Antony of Padua, following the Covid-19 norms.

The ceremony began at 5:30pm. Deacon Julian and the Bishop were brought in procession with band and choir.

The Bishop was accompanied by twenty priests to the altar. The whole ceremony was meticulously planned and executed by Fr Varghese Antony SJ (MDU) who was the master of the ceremony. The Parish Priest, Fr Antony Vyagappan, the parish council members, the choir and the village elders all cooperated and coordinated to make the event very solemn and memorable for Julian. After the ordination Mass, a short felicitation was organized to honour the newly ordained priest and the ordaining prelate. Good number of Jesuits from nearby St Xavier's college community, Palayamkottai and St Mary's Community, Madurai, managed to attend the ordination in spite of the Covid-19 constraints. Both the Rectors of the above mentioned communities were present among them. Fr Stephen L. Pragasam SJ, PCF (MDU) and Fr Robin SJ, PCF (CEN) were also present there. Dumka-Raiganj Province was represented by Fr John Ravi SJ. The newly ordained priest gave his blessing to the entire congregation present in the Church.

The following day, 16 October 2020, Fr Julian celebrated his first Holy Mass concelebrated by twelve priests. A good number of priests from the Parish of Alavandhankulam along with Fr Julian's Companions in formation were Present. Fr Prabhu Francis SJ (CEN) who was a companion of Julian during the early days of formation gave a fitting and inspiring homily. He gratefully remembered the sacrifices Fr Julian's Parents made, especially his late Mother and Father who even at an advanced age faithfully serve the church as catechist, to offer him for the service of the Lord and His people. At the end of the Mass Fr Julian proposed the Vote of thanks in which he gratefully remembered Fr Varghese Pallipalakat, the Provincial, the former Provincials, the PCFs, his teachers and guides who supported and helped him during his formation. He also thanked all those people who worked tirelessly to make both the events memorable. Fr Julian's family and village elders went out of their way to make these events a grand success in spite of their limited resources and covid-19 constraints. Talking about his experience, the newly Ordained Fr Julian Arockia says, "As I was preparing myself for the long-awaited spiritual event "Ordination," I was tested Covid-19 positive. I was disturbed but it did not shatter me. I took it as an opportunity to prepare myself all the more.



The 30 days of isolation helped me to spend more time in prayer and reflection and it gave me immense happiness. I felt it was a heavenly blessing when I was Ordained on 15 October 2020. I experienced showers of blessings when the vestment was worn. Nothing can explain the grace that I received. It was indeed a wonderful experience for all those joined me through live streaming and prayer. What I have received is a gift to be given in abundance to those who deserve because I strongly feel that everything is God's gift. I sincerely express my heartfelt gratitude to all of you for helping me in various ways making my ordination a graceful, meaningful and memorable celebration." We wish Fr Julian Arockia Jesu a long fruitful priestly ministry at the service of the Lord and His people. *(Fr John Ravi SJ).*

"Stand with Stan"

Jisu Jaher Community, on 12th October, organized a prayer-meeting at 4:00 pm to which nearby religious communities were invited to send representatives. A good number of Scholastics, Priests and Religious women prayed fervently to God for the welfare and health of Fr Stan Lourduswamy imprisoned some days ago for being a social activist championing the rights of Dalits and other weaker sections of Indian society. After 15 minutes of prayer, Fr Jesu Benji, Director of Johar, Dumka, enlightened the gathering for about 45 minutes narrating the activities of Fr Swamy for the last 50 years or so in his commitment to the uplift of the downtrodden. *(Fr Paul Aquilina SJ).*

Chotparua Jesuit Society, Raiganj, organized a prayer service in St Xavier's school hall for which more than 50 religious, fathers, sisters, teachers and lay persons gathered together. The prayer Service began with the lighting of the candle by Fr Deonis Baghwar, Superior of St Xavier's community Raiganj. The candle symbolized Fr Stan's passion and love for the poor, exploited, downtrodden and marginalized and dedication for humanity. After reading a Gospel passage we spent a few minutes in silent prayer and then sang the hymn "The world stands in need of liberation, my Lord." Then Fr George Uthirakulam, Superior of Jeevan Dhara community, shared about Fr Stan's long association with the people. Fr George said that Fr Stan's life, works,

dedication and commitment is praise worthy. He stood with and helped thousands of people who were suffering due to issues like land cases, court cases, coal mines or displacement. Fr Basil Manojin, Vice-Principal St Xavier's school, read a passage from the writings of Fr Pedro Arrupe which inspired many Jesuits like Fr Stan and lay people to take up the social justice ministry, "The world we live in is full of injustice, and violence. Everywhere we look we are confronted by a network of domination, oppression and abuses which stifle freedom and which keep the greater part of humanity....a more just and more fraternal world. What you are in love with, what seizes your imagination will affect everything of your life; so fall in love stay in love, and it will decide everything." Fr Damian Tudu, Principal, shared his personal experience with Fr Stan as he had the privilege to work with him. Fr John Chandran led the prayer service beautifully and kept us prayerful throughout the hour. *(Fr Deonis Baghwar SJ).*

Loyola Community, Mundli, organized a prayer service to mark the National Day of Solidarity with Fr Stan Swamy in which Jesuits, FC Sisters and DSA Sisters took part. The theme of the prayer service was, "A Call for Solidarity." Fr Peri Moses talked about Fr Stan's life and his works. Having heard the arrest of Fr Stan all felt very sad that a person who had done a lot for the *Adivasis* and *dalits* as a social and human right activist is treated in that manner. His life inspires and challenges us to be committed and dedicated for the cause of the weak and the poor. We offered our intentions for Fr Stan and others who are arrested and put in the jail that they may get justice. The prayer service concluded with Benediction.

St Xavier's school Sahibganj had meaningful prayer service in which fathers, sisters, and teachers from both Hindi and English Medium schools and other well wishers participated. Fr Melchi Tigga, Rector, welcomed the present and explained to them the purpose of the prayer service. Fr J.L. Xavier shared his personal experiences of being with Fr Stan in Ranchi. By a PowerPoint presentation we were made aware of certain quotes and speeches of Fr Stan in which he shares about that how he is trapped in this case and how the police

personnel dealt with him when they came to check his computer. After the prayer service there was an informal meeting to get suggestions on how to bring awareness among the people about Fr Stan's situation and to demand for justice. *(Fr Melchi Tigga SJ).*

Majlispur Community organized a prayer service in the Parish Church in which fathers, sisters and about 70 men and women participated. The prayer service began with the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Fr Ajit Kujur explained to the present that the purpose of the prayer service is to stand in solidarity with Fr Stan Swamy who has worked the Tribals and the other Marginalized in the Central Zone of Jesuit Provinces. We included Rosary in our prayer service and after each decade of Rosary we had prayer and singing praying for Fr Stan and asking God to inspire the concerned persons to immediately release Fr Stan from the jail. The prayer service concluded with Benediction. *(Fr Blasius Soreng SJ).*

Prayer services were organized in other places like Karon and Hathimara. Besides, silent protest rallies were organized in Sahibganj, Litipara and Borio in support of Fr Stan and memorandums were submitted to concerned authorities.

Human Chain at Sahibganj

In protest against the unjust arrest of Fr Stan Lourdu Swamy SJ, a social activist, a human chain was formed at Sahibganj on Sunday 18 October 2020. The starting point of the chain was Sahibganj Railway Station. Around 300 people, both religious as well as tribal residents of Sahibganj and localities adjacent to it, gathered outside the Station with placards and banners in their hands. To communicate the message to the people about Fr Stan's unjust detention, speeches were delivered at crowded junctions of Sahibganj Station and other places like Tamtam Stand, Chaiti Durga Sthan and the East Railway Phatak. At every halt the speakers expressed their views, anger and criticized the central government for its inhuman act against 83 years social activist and Jesuit of Jamshedpur Province. Two to three hundred people that formed the chain slowly marched to the finishing point at Vinay Bhavan where they were distributed with copies of a personal letter addressed to the honourable PM of India. A Memorandum demanding Fr Stan's immediate

release, too, was submitted to the DC of Sahibganj on 20 October. Further course of action will be decided by the Tribal minorities of Sahibganj in case Fr Stan's release is delayed. It is to be noted that Fr Stan was arrested on 8 October 2020 by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in connection with Bhima Koregaon violence that took place on 2 January 2018. The protest rally (Human Chain) at Sahibganj, was organized by a Committee headed by Rev Fr Melchi Tigga, the Rector of St Xavier's Sahibganj. As decided, the Committee formed "Moun Manav Shrinkhala March" under the banner of "Adivasi Chatr Ekta" on 18 October at 3:00 pm. *(Mr Shyamal Palmer).*

Brothers' Gathering

At the initiative and encouragement of Fr Deonis Baghwar, our Superior, Raiganj St Xavier's community decided to invite our four coadjutor brothers to celebrate the Feast day of St Alphonsus Rodriguez, the Patron Saint of all the Jesuit Brothers. Thus our Brothers Bernard Kisku and Benjamin Sarupurti travelled from Jisu Jaher, Dudhani, Dumka, in time to join Brothers Andreas Hembrom, our Minister, and Anthony Lakra, Jeevan Dhara Minister for an evening of quiet prayer and reflection, adoration and recollection in front of the Blessed Sacrament. This was on Friday, the 30th of October, Feast day of Blessed Dominic Collins, Martyr for Christ. The whole community was present for the Benediction at the end of this one hour of prayer.

On the 31st October, Fr Superior of our Community, Fr Director of Jeevan Dhara, Fr George Uthirakulam and all the Fathers concelebrated with Fr Deonis presiding over the Eucharist and giving an excellent homily on the Holy Saint Alphonsus. All of us thanked and praised God for Br Tony, the Octogeneration, Brothers Andreas, Bernard and Benjamin - all three Septuagenarians. We wished them and prayed for them and for all our Brothers. Praise the Lord! *(Fr John Chandran SJ).*

Refreshed and Recharged Young Priests

On 24 October afternoon the Young Priests' Meet began on a good note with Fr Dayal Lakra, our resource person, initiating us to introspect our "Community life." Since the 36th General Congregation stresses that

Community Life itself as a mission, Fr Dayal initiated us to introspect on a very relevant theme of 'community life.' The theme of our prayer had a special reference to GCs 31 to 36. It also included the deliberations of the first companions. After the inputs session we spent an hour in personal prayer which enhanced our group sharing. All of us had enough time to share our experiences of community life. Each of us had unique experience of his own community. All of us were refreshed by our sharing. While we shared, we had an opportunity to relate back to experiences of predecessors and draw our strength. All of us had experience of joy and sorrows in our sharing; however spiritual bonding of companionship is the one that sustains us in our religious living. This was the predominant feelings of all of us.

Some of the points that came up in our sharing and discussions were: there is a communication gap between the senior and younger member of the Society which needs to be filled up. Certain important information must be shared which would help every community member young and old to be more effective in our ministries. In this regard one must practice *Cura Personalis* and *Cura Apostolica* that is care for the person and care for the Apostolate. In our sharing we followed the Spiritual conversation method, after each person's sharing there was short pause praying for the person and his religious vocation. In the second round of our sharing the three points were picked up for further discussions. They are sharing of the information, fraternal love and generation gap. The group came to conclusion saying that these points will be taken care by us when we go back to our communities.

Gathering ended with Holy Mass presided over by Fr Dayal Lakra who once again, in his homily, stressed the importance of the community life. On behalf of the young priests Fr Swapan Kujur expressed our heartfelt gratitude to Jibonpur community for the accommodation and hospitality and for the delicious meal prepared by St Anne's Sisters. **(Fr Sudhir Ekka SJ).**

National Merit Scholarship

The class VIII students (year 2019-20) of St John Berchmans High School, Mundli, were initiated and encouraged to enroll their names for the NATIONAL MEANS CUM MERIT SCHLARSHIP organized by

Jharkhand Academic Council, Ranchi. After much effort, 10 students came forward to enroll their names and sat for the examination. The examination was held on 12 January 2020 at Sahibganj. Out of 10, eight students passed in the examination. One of our students, Ram Michael Besra, has obtained 112 marks out of 180 and got first rank in Sahibganj district. These students will get scholarship of Rupees twelve thousands (Rs 12000/-) every year until they complete class XII. Congratulation dear students! **(Fr Sunit Kullu).**

First Semester Exams

The First Semester Exams at St Xavier's School Sahibganj was conducted successfully. Online Exams were conducted for Primary and Junior Sections (upto Class VIII). Previously, it was decided to have Offline exams for Classes IX to XII in the school itself taking enough precautions against Covid-19. But as the permission was not granted by the local administration, the students of these classes were allowed to write the same at home and hand over the answer papers to the teachers at various junctions of Sahibganj within a stipulated period of time. The students got their Question Paper everyday through the school app. After the Puja Vacation the school has resumed for Online Classes for the Second Semester. **(Mr Shyamal Palmer).**

A Tribute to the Police

To pay a tribute to the police who sacrificed their lives while giving security to the public, a debate on the theme "Role of Police Personnel in Nation Building" was held in the auditorium of St Xavier's School, Sahibganj, on Sunday 25 October at 11:30 am. Ten of our students of Classes IX to XII spoke 'For' and 'Against' the Motion. Among the special guests were DSP and four more police officers of Sahibganj who witnessed whole debate session and appreciated the speakers. Ms Sana Akhtar of Class IX who spoke against the Motion bore away the Best Speaker Award, Master Piyush Kanodia of Class XII, who spoke for the Motion grabbed the Second Best Speaker Award and Master Saurabh Bhattacharya of Class IX speaking against the Motion grabbed the Third Position. Prizes were given away by the DSP and his associates. At the end DSP addressed the gathering.

It is to be noted that October 21-31 was observed as Police Flag Day all over India when, through different programme, a tribute was paid to all those police personnel who sacrificed their lives. Debate was one such program and St Xavier's Sahibganj organized such programme at the instruction of the Police Department of Sahibganj. *(Mr Shyamal Palmer).*

News from Sitagarha Tertianship

Our tertians completed the pilgrimage through the spiritual Exercises on the 5th of October. After three days of sharing their enriching retreat experiences, they delved into the dynamics of the Spiritual Exercises and each one busied himself with preparing an 8-day Ignatian retreat. Unfortunately this year due to the prevailing Covid-19 situation, they are unable to go either for their retreat preaching ministry or the experiments. So at present the tertians are involving themselves in doing some physical work within the campus itself as their experiment. Meanwhile both of us, the tertian instructors, are busy giving retreats. I am giving the one month Spiritual Exercises to the Holy Cross tertians in the campus itself. *(Fr K.C. Stephen SJ).*

Video Production by Xavier Communications

Encouraging and Promoting Roman Script for Santali, on the eve of Birth anniversary of P.O. Bodding, Xavier Communications Centre (XCC), Johar, Dumka, uploaded a video song 'Santali Parsi,' with the collaboration of Habil Murmu who produced and directed the song. Videography and Video-Editing were done by Fr Vernard Antony.

Xavier Communications Centre (XCC), Johar, Dumka, helped the Santali speaking faithful in their spiritual life by making and uploading Holy Eucharist in YouTube. The Centre successfully completed 25 weeks of uploading Holy Mass without any break. One of the Holy Masses celebrated by Fr Simon Murmu uploaded in the YouTube by XCC-Johar has touched 44,015 viewership. The XCC-Religious channel has 2840 subscribers. Now with unlocking formula began, XCC-Johar YouTube channel is coming up regularly with Sunday Mass Readings and Reflections by a Priest. This will help the faithful to listen to the readings and reflections and prepare well to take part in the Sunday Liturgy. *(Fr Vernard Antony SJ).*

Health Bulletin

Fr K.M. Jacob had Urinary Tract Infection (UTI) which led to fever and he also had acute asthma and for a week he could hardly sleep. He had treatment first at Ursula Hospital, Dumka, and then in St Luke's Hospital, Dakaita. He spent some days at St Xavier's Sahibganj recuperating and now he is back at Jisu Jaher, Dumka. **Frs Varkey Chena** and **Hilarius Anand Tigga** were admitted in St Luke's Hospital, Dakaita. The swap test on Fr Varkey revealed that he was Covid-19 positive. Now he is negative and is recuperating at St Xavier's Sahibganj. Fr Hilarius had high sugar which now has been brought under control.

Rest in Peace!

Fr Jacob Carvalho SJ (GOA, 75/57) on 12.09.2020 in Belagavi, Karnataka

Fr Erik Breyer SJ (RAN, 80/61) on 18.09.202 in St Albert's College, Ranchi, Jharkhand

Br Nicolas Hernandez Blanco SJ (GUJ, 92/75) on 20.09.2020 in Villagarcia de Campos, Spain

Fr Dionysius Rasquinha SJ (PAT, 65/44) on 24.09.2020 in Patna, Bihar

Fr Joseph Thayil SJ (KER, 90/70) on 30.09.2020 in Nirmala Hospital, Kozhikode, Kerala

Fr Louis Francken SJ (RAN, 82/63) on 05.10.2020 in Constant Lievens Hospital & Research Centre, Mandar, Ranchi, Jharkhand

Fr Paul Vadakel SJ (KER, 91/71) on 08.10.2020 at Christ Hall, Kozhikode, Kerala

Fr Wilson Arockiasamy SJ (MDU, 56/36) on 17.10.2020 at Government Medical College Hospital, Nagercoil, Tamilnadu

Fr Joachim Dungdung SJ (RAN, 73/48) on 19.10.2020 in Constant Lievens Hospital, Mandar, Ranchi, Jharkhand

Fr Gregory D'Silva SJ (JAM, 56/37) on 25.10.2020 at De Nobili School, Bhuli, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand

Mrs Martha Hansdak, Sister-in-law of Fr Peter Marandi, on 03.09.2020, in Jharkhand

Sr Maria Stella, Niece of Fr Gilbert D'Souza, on 11.09.2020 in Mangalore, Karnataka

Mrs Magdeline Periera (85), Grandmother of Sch Roshan D'Souza, on 30.09.2020, in Mangalore, Karnataka

Mr Thomas Menezes (84), Brother-in-law of Fr Edwin D'Souza, on 13.10.2020, in Mangalore, Karnataka

New Grotto at Gonzaga Sadan



The new Grotto was blessed by Fr Mathias Kisku on 14 October 2020. Fr Thomas Kuzhively and the Loyola Community were present on the occasion.

Gratitude to Fr George Pattery and Prayerful Wishes to Fr Jerome Stanislaus D'Souza



JCSA Online from Oct 26 to Oct 29



Fr D.M. Solomon Addressing CRI Bengaluru



Prayer Service for Fr Stan at Loyola, Mundli





Silent Rallies
in
Sahibganj
Litipara
and
Borio
in support of
Fr Stan.
Memorandums
were
submitted
to
concerned
authorities.





**Tribute
to
Police
at
St Xavier's
School
Sahibganj**

