

October 2019

Jisu Jaher, Dudhani, Dumka - 814 101

No. 500

Message from Fr Provincial



2nd October, Gandhi Jayanti and the feast day of Guardian Angels. Gandhiji succeeded in achieving freedom for India using the weapons of Satyagraha and Ahimsa. Several other world leaders adopted these principles

for fighting injustice and oppression but India seems to have forgotten these principles. What happens in today's India is not at all based on Ahimsa and Satyagraha. The millennials who were born in the eighties and later might not have had much chance to study these principles and their effects on human lives. Some of them may not even know how Gandhiji used these principles for gaining freedom for India. But what about the older generation? What about us-Jesuits? What happened recently in Mundli is a clear indicator of what India is today and what India will be in the coming days. A minor fight between two students can be made use of to attack and destroy property of an educational institution, threaten human lives especially that of vulnerable sections of society and go scot free were something unthinkable in India in the past. How do we respond to such acts of violence? Jesus said "be simple as doves and cunning as serpents" I think we forget the second part of His words. In the present day reality of India, we have to think of cunning ways to defeat such forces using Gandhian principles. Be with us, Mary, along the way. Guide every step we take. Lead us to Jesus your loving Son and place us with Him. Pray for us, our Lady of the Holy Rosary.

Fr Provincial's Programme

Oct	04-12	Raiganj Annual retreat
	13	Dumka
	20-29	JCSA, Ranchi
	30	Dumka

Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (PWPN)

Pope's Intentions for October 2019: "Evangelization: A Missionary "Spring" in the Church. That the Breath of the Holy Spirit Engender a New Missionary Spring in the Church!"

Vocation Camp at Mundli

A Vocation Camp for Class 6 boys will be held at Gonzaga Sadan, Mundli, Tinpahar, from 13th to 17th Novermber. The date of arrival is 13th pm and departure is 17th am. Contact persons: **Fr Thomas Kuzhively SJ** (9110929635) and **Fr Mathias Kisku SJ** (9304615522).

Final Commitment of Fr Arockiam Stany

Dumka-Raiganj Province joyfully celebrated the final commitment of **Fr Arockiam Stany SJ** on Saturday, September 7th in Maharo Parish, dedicated to the Immaculate conception of Mother Mary.



Just before the Mass began, **Fr Christu Das**, the Priest-incharge extended a warm welcome to the whole congregation

comprising young boys and girls, laypeople, sisters, brothers and priests. **Fr Varghese Palli SJ**, the Provincial, presided over the concelebrated Eucharist.



Fr Stany in his homily dwelt largely on God's ways of calling and leading people to carry on His mission effectively. He thanked God and expressed his gratitude to all the formators and well wishers who have been sources of inspiration and blessings in his life. Fr John Ravi SJ saw to it that the entire Liturgy went on solemnly and devotionally. We do appreciate and send a special note of thanks to our collaborators Sisters of the Congregations of St Aloysius Gonzaga and St Ursula, Fr Ravindra Dharsima SJ and the Hostel Girls, who were actively involved in decorating the Parish hall and leading the congregation with their melodious singing during the Eucharist. After the Mass there was a short felicitation programme organized by our hostel students. The celebration concluded with a delicious fellowship meal in the College campus. The entire Jesuit Community had meticulously planned ahead for this day and effectively implemented it to make the Final Vows Day truly a memorable one. May God Continue to bless Fr Stany! (Fr Stephen Raj SJ).

CLC Pilgrimage

More than 250 active members of the Christian Life Community of neighbouring Schools of Mariam Pahar including Jiapani High School gathered in Mariam Pahar on 8th September to celebrate the Birth day of Mother Mary. The program began with the flag-hoisting by **Sr Sarita OSU**, the Head Mistress of Ursuline High School, Kundli. The welcome address by **Fr Chrysostom Hembrom SJ** was followed by an Exodus Rosary from the School yard to new grotto. Fr Chrysostom gave a talk on the spirituality of the CLC based on the Ignatian spirituality. During the homily Fr Chrysostom emphasized "How to experience God in daily life and have deeper faith in God." During the Eucharist all the CLC members renewed their vows. After the Biblical dance program and meal all returned with rich God experience.(*Fr Chrysostom Hembrom SJ*).

The Feast of St Monica

Murguni Parish celebrated the feast of St Monica with great joy and happiness. In spite of the continuous rain 60 women from far away villages participated. On the 1st day the Parish Priest along with his catechist and pastoral Sister led mothers into deep experience of the loving God who is close to them and is ever ready to forgive, heal and bless them. On the 2nd day, Sr Bimla Kisku from Basmata Parish talked to mothers about how to follow in St Monica's footsteps in their daily life, how to be united with God through prayers and how to accept life as it comes. Two youngsters from Dumka Johar team, namely, Miss Arunna Hembrom and Mr Sushanto Soren, through their inputs and presentations enlightened and challenged our mothers regarding the present situations both in India and Jharkhand. Fr Vernard Anthony SJ from Johar, Dumka, with his media equipments entertained, inspired and made our mothers share their experiences with one another (spiritual conversation). On the 3rd day, during the solemn Eucharistic celebration, the Parish Priest Fr M. Arockiasamy SJ, enumerated how St Monica through her constant prayer received inner strength to be an agent transformation in her family and people around. The theme of the readings, "You are the Salt and the Light of the World" helped to highlight the life of St Monica. The singing led by Fr Anand Minj SJ and Ms Margret Murmu added joy and happiness in our Worship. After the Eucharist, our children honoured our mothers with songs and flowers. (Fr M. Arockiasamy SJ).

Herbal Medicine Workshop and Monica Diwas

150 people participated in the Herbal Medicine Workshop organized by **Fr Philemon Minj SJ** on 22-23 August at Majlispur. The resource person **Fr Jose Alumkal**, the Parish Priest of Taldanga in Dumka Diocese, instructed the Parishioners how to recognize and use medicinal herbs to heal various illnesses. People were particularly keen to learn the process of making snake stones and treating the snake bite patients. The Workshop was highly appreciated and people expressed their wish to have similar workshops in the near future. The workshop was followed by Monica Day celebration. Fr Jose Alumkal presided over the Holy Eucharist. During the homily, he emphasized the role and responsibility of women in building ideal Christian families.

Protest Rally and Dharna

Silent Protest Rally on Sahibganj Streets: On 16 September 2019 around 2000 people from various places like Sahibganj, Mundli, Chilimpur, Hatimara, Kodma, Mariampahar, Jibonpur and Barhait gathered in front of



Sahibganj Railway Ground for a Protest Rally. This Peaceful Rally by the people was held as a sign of protest expressing their sadness, shock and anger against miscreants vandalizing St John Berchmans' Inter-College and Loyola Tribal Hostel, Mundli, Tinpahar, on 3rd September. The Protest rally began from Railway Ground around 11:15 am to the destination of DC's Office. People, wearing black badges and holding aloft slogan-laden printed banners and handwritten placards; it moved silently in two orderly lines. Despite the scorching heat of the day, they walked for about two kilometers towards the DC's Office with one single purpose: "We want justice!" Reaching the destination, while the Rally-People rested their feet under the shady trees, a few representatives comprising the affected Mundli men and four others



including Fr Hilary D'Souza SJ, the Principal of St Xavier's School, Sahibganj, presented a Memorandum to the concerned authorities in the absence of the DC of Sahibganj. The Memorandum carried the crying need for justice, swift action to be taken against the miscreants, protection and security for the people affected and compensation. In the meantime, a few leaders of the people informed the assembled people about the dastardly Mundli Kand. All those who spoke reflected the anguish, anger, helplessness, blatant injustice and inaction by the powers that be in the face of the damage and harm done.



As a mark of protest St Xavier's Schools (English and Hindi), Providence School, St Michael's School and St Joseph Academy were closed. All the Staff Members of these Schools showed their solidarity with our Mundli brothers and sisters, boys and girls - the victims of Mundli Kand. Since then two weeks have passed, and the Mundli is still languishing, longing and thirsting for justice. Let our candles of faith and hope keep on burning brightly in search of justice and peace! (*Mr Shyamal Palmer*).

Dharna in Dumka: All Churches Association of Santhal Pargana held a Dharna near DC's Office, Dumka, on 24th September protesting against the injustice that had been done to the Christian Community in the recent days especially in St Berchmans' Inter-College and Adiwasi, Mundli, Tinpahar. In spite of the rain the faithful gathered in the Dharna venue and condemned the injustice that the Churches are facing from the present Government. The gathered felt that the Churches are been harassed and attacked these days, stopping the Adivasi to progress in getting quality education in the mission Schools, for harassing only the Churches and her institutions in connection with the land possessions, for framing false cases in connection with the conversion and putting the person in the jail. The gathered faithful were convinced

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that the Church stands for progress of the people by giving them quality education, character formation through value clarification, unity among the people, helping them to become better citizens in bringing progress to the Country. Then the faithful took a Silent March towards the DC's Office. The memorandum, addressed to the Governor of Jharkhand, with the signatures of all the gathered faithful, was presented to the DC by the team of selected Church Leaders. Another memorandum was submitted to the DIG of Dumka by the same team. Memoranda were also sent to the Chief Minister of Jharkhand, to the Human Rights Commission of India and to the Minority Commission of India through Registered Post to the respective offices. I take this opportunity to thank all the faithful and the Churches Leaders who in the rain and in hunger took active participation in the Dharna and raising the voice against all the injustices, harassments and the attacks on the Churches and her Institutions. Special word of appreciation to Mr Sanjay Sebastian Marandi, Mr Samuel Soren, Mr Samuel Murmu, Mr Rakesh Rana and Mr Michael Hansdak for making all the arrangements and making the day a successful, keeping our Lord Jesus as the Centre of our Life. (Fr Vernard Antony SJ).

CTC, Torai: Torai CTC community prayed rosary for nine days for Mundli and also along with 30 Christians from the neighbourhood prayed before the Blessed Sacrament. On the Parish and Deanery level Pakur College youth organized a rally at Pakur and gave a memorandum to Pakur DC. (*Fr Peter Marandi SJ*).

Ranchi's Florence in Our Province

Fr Alban Minj SJ, our P.C.E., invited Fr Florence Kujur SJ of Ranchi Province, for a special session with D-R Province's Jesuits and their Collaborators in the Apostolate of Education. Fr Florence accepting his invitation reached St Xavier's, Sahibganj, on 22nd September, a cool Sunday morning. 30 Jesuit Companions and nearly 10 collaborators had their half a day programme with Fr Florence. It was quite fruitful, educative and informative. We began the programme at 9:00 am with the melodious Hindi bhajan, sang by Sr Elima Tirkey HC following which Sr Stella **CIC** prayed for the guidance of the Holy Spirit for the fruitfulness of this day. "Adhyayan Quality Standard Programme for our Schools was the theme of Fr F.K.!!" He shared with us how this School Improvement Programme (S.I.P.) has benefited the Jesuit Schools of Ranchi Province. With the help of a PowerPoint Programme, Fr Florence explained that the A.Q.S.P. is of great importance for us in our Central Zone, particularly

because our target People are our Tribal brothers and sisters, boys and girls including the other marginalized ones. He emphasized, "This is the time for a deep reflection for the core team of D-R Province in this Apostolate of Education." The infrastructures of our Schools have nothing



to do with this A.Q.S.P. We must have a deep look at the key performance areas like Leadership, Collaboration, Commitment, Teaching-learning-understanding our students and reaching out to them. He said School External Review Teams must be formed. He dwelt at large on the 4 Key Methods of Collecting Evidence: Learning Walk, Classroom observation, Interaction with the Stake Holder and Book Look. After hearing from him that <u>communication</u> is a <u>must</u>, we communicated with Fr Florence on various issues and difficulties like the new education policy and so on and so forth. The programme came to an end with Fr Alban proposing a vote of thanks to our resource person and the hosting Jesuits of St Xavier's School.

Then we had a fruitful and useful time with Fr Provincial by ourselves reflecting on the present painful realities and challenging circumstances. We concluded the half a day programme with the Angelus followed by our marching towards the refectory for our well-earned lunch. Thank you Fr Florence Kujur SJ for your 'shortcoming'! We long for your longer stay with us. May God Bless you in your mission as the P.C.E. of Ranchi Province and your responsibility as the Principal of St John's, Ranchi! (*Fr John Chandran SJ*).

Workshop on Emotional Maturity

St Xavier's School, Sahibganj, is grateful to **Ms Marcette Buttiegieg** for conducting efficiently and effectively a twoday workshop on Emotional Maturity for the senior girls (Classes VII to X) of the School. The workshop was held on 25th and 26th August 2019. She spent two hours for each Section of a Class, guiding the girls how to handle

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themselves and their emotions as they grow up.



You deserve a big THANK YOU Ms Marcette and we expect you to visit our School from time to time to guide our girls. (*Mr Shyamal Palmer*).

A Workshop on Skill Development and Career Counselling

St Xavier's College, Maharo, organized a one-day workshop on **Skill Development and Career Counselling** under the guidance and supervision of **Mr Abhishek Anand**, founder of **Act Now**, on 20 September 2019. Mr Abhishek addressed the students about career selection and their development of personality and life



skills and offered valuable tips regarding how to achieve one's aim and goal in life in the proper methodical manner. Students highly benefitted and were inspired by

this session. The programme was chaired by the Principal of the College **Fr Stephen Raj SJ** who also advised the students to strive on the path of self skill development in order to enhance and channelize their lives towards success. On the occasion of this workshop, Fr Stephen Raj was honoured with the Certificate of Appreciation by Act Now for his noble efforts in encouraging students in the field of skill development. The students and some Staff members attended the seminar. (*Mr Himadhri*).

Rathnam's Workshop on Children's Parliament!

Mr Joseph Rathnam, an ex-Jesuit of the erstwhile Santhal Region, conducted a much appreciated Workshop



on Children's Parliament. It was conducted at the initiative of **Frs Sonatan Kisku**, the VG I of Dumka Diocese, and **Christu Das**, the Director of Education in Dumka Diocese. The Principal of Providence School, **Sr Susan SPG** and the Superior of Jyoti Niketan, **Sr Anis SPG**, hosted this workshop to the satisfaction of one and all. 90 teachers from St Xavier's, St Michael's, St Joseph's Academy and Providence Schools participated in the workshop. The resource person, Rathnam Sir,



regaled us with his sense of humour, apt anecdotes, and

creative presentation of the Children's Parliament. His booming voice and piercing eyes did not allow us to slumber but kept us all wide awake. Drawing from his vast experience in giving such workshops both within the country and abroad, he concluded his workshop by making a passionate appeal to all the teachers especially the Principals to hold Children's Parliament in their respective Schools. Many a question rose from the floor and were answered with clarity. **Mr Vivek Thami** of St Xavier's School proposed a vote of thanks on behalf of all present. He singled out Sonatan father, Christu father and Rathnam sir without forgetting Susan, Principal sister of the hosting School. Let's hope for a Parliament that works! (*Mr Shyamal Palmer*).

An Awareness Talk Session on Crime and Social Duties

On 24th September St Xavier's College, Maharo, organized a special lecture session on Crime Awareness and Management with additional focus on one's social duties and responsibilities.



Mr Kundan Kant Vimal, the Inspector In-Charge of Jama Police Station, was the **Chief Guest** of this occasion who delivered a talk on criminology and its impacts on our social fabric in these crtical times. Mr Vimal shed light on various aspects of this issue and offered valuable suggestions regarding how to keep oneself away from such unlawful and unethical practices. The session was chaired by the Principal **Fr Stephen Raj SJ** and attended by the faculty members from various departments of the College. Students were present in large numbers and interacted with the chief guest along with their various queries on the topic. (*Mr Himadhri*). Day in the High School ground and paid due respect to the freedom fighters. The Headmaster **Fr Blasius Soreng SJ** and the School Captain welcomed **Fr James Lakra SJ**, the Chief Guest and the Principal of the newly started St Xavier's English medium School, to hoist the flag.



After the national Anthem, the four School houses paid their respect to the National flag at the rhythm of the School band.



The first batch of the newly opened St Xavier's School participated in the programme and made their made their presence felt in the campus. (*Fr James Lakra SJ*).

St Ignatius Hostel, Sahibganj

We began the 1st Semester exams in right earnest. But the heavens opened and the sun disappeared for four days or so. The incessant rains brought danger and destruction in the form of floods in lowlying areas. The D.C. issued orders to close the schools for Puja Holidays. So some of the exams are postponed. As a result our students got longer Puja Holidays. We were also blessed with the visitation of Fr Provincial along with Fr Socius on 22nd September. On 26th, **Fr John Victor SJ** the hostel Director, left for Kolkata for his treatment. Let us offer our humble prayers for his good health! (*Sch Marianus Ekka SJ*).

Fr John Victor had Gallbladder operation on 29th September and is recovering at St Xavier's Kolkata Infirmary (Room No. 70).

Kindly keep him in your Prayers!

Independence Day Celebration

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St Ignatius School, Majlispur, celebrated the Independence

Inter-College Football Tournament

St Xavier's College, Maharo, was selected this year as the venue for the Sido Kanhu Murmu University (S.K.M.U.) Inter-College Football Tournament. The event was organized on 16th-17th September at our premises. A total of 12 teams from different Colleges took part in this tournament. The inaugural session was chaired by the Honourable **Vice-Chancellor, Dr Manoranjan Prasad Sinha** who formally started the event alongside eminent persons from various Colleges. After the league matches on Day 1, the semi-finals and the final were held on the next day where S.P. College, Dumka, emerged as the winners with St Xavier's College, Maharo, ending up as runners-up. The **Proctor of S.K.M.U, Dr Rajiv Kumar,**



attended the closing ceremony as the Chief Guest and handed over the trophy and certificates. The tournament was attended and cheered up by the Management, Faculty Members and students in large numbers from the College and got a huge media coverage across the State. (*Mr Himadhri*).

From the Formation Houses Hazaribag Juniorate

In the last two months 8 of our juniors were affected by malaria and typhoid, yet the juniorate community carried on with various activities. On 7th September, we had a common birthday celebration. On 11th we celebrated "Onam." 16th onwards **Fr Agapit Tirkey SJ** of MAP Province gave classes on "Tribal Culture" in which we participated with total attention and enthusiasm. Fr Agapit's animated sessions and coherent interpretation about the original inhabitants or historical identity of Adiwasis in India helped us to deepen our knowledge of our culture, its roots and the knowledge and wisdom of our ancestors. (*Sch Albinus Hembrom SJ*).

Inigo Sadan, Bangalore

The month of September began with the novena to Mother Mary in preparation for the feast of Nativity of our Lady which we celebrated with lots of devotion and solemnity on 8th September. The students and the neighboring families joined us in the Eucharistic celebration. On 11th September we celebrated Onam, one of the greatest feasts of Kerala. A Kerala Junior led us into a meaningful celebration by briefing us on the history of the festival. As part of our integral formation, like every month, we had an on-going formation talk on the "Current Political scenario - Challenges and our Response" by prominent writer and secular activist Mr Ramegowda on the 18th. On 22nd we had a day's outing at Mysore. We visited places such as Brindawan Park, Mysore Palace, Philomena's Church, and Shuka Vana. All of us enjoyed the whole day and returned back refreshed and energized. (Sch Sushil Hansda SJ).

St Joseph's College, Trichy

St Joseph's College (Autonomous), Trichy, celebrated in a fitting way its 175 years of service on 27th and 28th September. Among the various programmes that marked the bicentennial, a marathon debate on "*The Impact of Social Media Today*" was held. There was also an international colloquium on "*The Challenges of Higher Education in the 21st Century*." At a Civic Function, felicitations were expressed by alumni and retired professors among others,



by prominent figures like Most Rev. George Anthonysamy (Archbishop of Madras-Mylapore), Mr Jasti Chelameswar (Former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court), Mr H. Raja (Tamil Actor), and Mr Prabhu Solomon (Film Director. **Sch Johnson Soren SJ** attended the International Colloquium, in which, the panelists were Mr T.P. Srinivasan (*India*), Mr Rajesh Nair (*Malaysia*), Mr Theodore Moallem (*USA*), Mr Md. Elsayed Abdelmomen (*Sudan*) and Mr Jabamalai Vinanchiarachi (Austria). The panelists agreed that the education system with the mind set of 19th century and syllabus pattern of the 20th century, to meet the demand of the 21st century is paradoxical. Hence there is an urgency to reframe our mind set and syllabus according to the demands of this century. Both teachers and students should be critical thinkers, take responsibilities as opportunities and adapt current technology to advance higher education for better nation-building. In the month of September, the Scholastics of Clive's House in Trichy celebrated the tribal *Karam Festival* exuberantly. They also conducted an awareness programme at *Devaraineri*, a gypsy colony. (Schs Johnson SJ & Paulus SJ).

Satya Nilayam, Chennai

The month of September was packed with a variety of exciting programs along with a hectic academic schedule. On 4th Sept. the *First Years* visited CSI (Church of South India) Cathedral as part of an educational tour. On 17th Sept. we visited the Muslim University 'Ambur', and were privileged to interact with Muslim Scholars. Both the tours widened and deepened our understanding of the Muslim and Christian religions. For our spiritual nourishment, on 7th Sept., the community made a pilgrimage to the *Annai Vailankani Shrine* of Our Lady, where we joined thousands of pilgrims seeking our Lady's blessings and participated in the Holy Eucharist. It was a wonderful experience to pray with the throng of the faithful.

On $13^{\text{th}}-14^{\text{th}}$ Sept., the long- awaited Mega event, the *Quest* 1.0 Inter – faculty Student Seminar SN & JDV was held at Satya Nilayam. There were paper presentations, group discussions and a big-debate. The seminar was indeed grand and well conducted. Many expressed their gratitude that it was so meaningful and helpful to discover more on androids.

Another long-awaited annual event was the *Karam* feast on 20th Sept. It began with Holy Mass celebrated in jubilation with **Fr Ranjit Tigga SJ**, the Provincial of MP Province as the main celebrant, accompanied by **Fr Edward Dungdung SJ**, the PCF of Patna and other Jesuit priests. His homily inflamed our hearts and widened our understanding of the Karam feast. Finally, on 27th Sept., the *Second Years* went to *Pondicherry* for an educational tour which proved very instructive. At present we are loaded with assignments and preparing for the II CA and semester exams. (*Sch Amit Soreng SJ*).

DNC, Pune

On 20th October, the DNC community celebrated the *Karam Festival* with great enthusiasm. Fr. Vinod of Ranchi Province was the main celebrant at the Eucharistic celebration. In his homily, he elaborated on the significance of the celebration and the worldview of tribals. On 22nd October, another Karam celebration was held for the tribals in Pune. DNC Scholastics participated and contributed to the celebration in various ways. It was a pleasure to see various tribes united in celebration. (*Sch Casimir Eelaraj SJ*).

Ignatian Programmes at CISR, Pune

The Centre for Ignatian Spirituality and Research (CISR) at De Nobili, Pune, conducts: (1) Ignatian Principles for Priestly Ministry from 5th Dec to 20 Dec 2019. The programme aims at offering young Jesuit priests an indepth understanding of specific Ignatian Principles that are relevant to their identity as Jesuit priests and which will aid them in their priestly ministry. Modules: Introduction to the priestly character of a Jesuit vocation; Priestly ministry of St Ignatius in Constitutions, Spiritual Diary & Letters; Priesthood in the documents of the GCs/Generals; Discernment in one's priestly life & ministry.

(2) Ignatian Sources from 5th Jan 2020 to 15th March 2020. The programme on Ignatian Sources will primarily focus on the fundamental texts that constitute Ignatian Spirituality. The modules will familiarize the participant with the texts, help one to analyze and interpret them in accordance with the changing times and contexts. The program ends with an 8 day retreat. Modules: Introduction to Ignatian Sources, the Autobiography, Discernment, Spiritual Exercises, Constitutions, Spiritual Diary, Letters, Writings of the Early Companions, Ignatian Prayer, History of the SJ in India, Vatican II and Mission Today.

Rest in Peace!

Mr Valerian R. Sequeira, aged 72, Brother-in-Law of Fr Claudius Tauro SJ, on 21.09.2019, at Kinnigoli, Mangalore, Karnataka.

Mr John Toppo, aged 77, Brother-in-Law of Fr Michael Minj SJ, on 22.09.2019, at Mariamtoli, Katkahi, Jharkhand.

Ms Mary, first cousin of Fr Ignacy Lazar SJ, on 02.10.2019, in Tamilnadu.