



October 2020

Jisu Jaher, Dudhani, Dumka - 814 101

No. 512

## Fr Provincial's Message



October is the month of Pujas. Our country celebrates Durga, as Shakti combating evils that threaten peace, prosperity, and Dharma, Lakshmi, as goddess of wealth and purity, Kali, as shakti and so on. Most of the celebrations are centered around women and the whole country celebrates women as goddesses.

If we look at the reality of life in our country today, we get an opposite picture. We have women being gang raped every day, brutally murdered, girls being sold and bought for flesh trade and for bonded labour and domestic violence increasing daily in India.

Women become goddesses for business and for profit. Puja is the time when business flourishes and so it is convenient for businessmen to project women as goddesses to get better profit. In short, women become a commodity for profit.

October, for us Christians, is the month of Our Lady of Rosary. We honour our Heavenly Mother as our protector and intercessor and pray through her intercession for all the needs of the world. Let us pray for the women of our country this month. In our daily Rosary let us pray for the victims of violence against women: victims of abuse, neglect, ill treatment, unjust and inhuman behaviour and commoditization of women.

## Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (PWPN)

**Holy Father's Intention for October 2020: The Laity's Mission in the Church:** We pray that by the virtue of baptism, the laity, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church.

## Priestly Ordination

Deacon Arockia Julian Jesu will be ordained a priest on 15 October 2020 by Most Rev. S. Antonysam DD, Bishop of Palayamkottai, at Alavanthankulam, Tamilnadu.

## Final Vows

V. Rev. Fr General Arturo Sosa has approved Fr Mathias Kisku for Final Vows. Congratulations Fr Mathias! He will pronounce his final vows on 13 November 2020 at Mundli, Tinpahar, during the Holy Eucharist which would begin at 10:00 am.

## Fr Provincial's Programme

### October:

9	Visitation Johar	10	Nunbatta
13	Chilimpur	14-15	Hatimara
17	Banpokharia	20	CTC, Torai
21	Jibanpur	22	Mariampahar
24	Consult	26-30	JCSA

### November:

5-6	Visitation Mundli	7-8	Jeevan Dhara, Loyola Sadan
9-10	St. Xavier's, Raiganj	11	Nichamari
12-13	Majlispur	14	Nichitpur (Baghmara)
15	Baghmara	18	Satia
19-20	Bhognadih, Kodma	21	Bathbanga

## Doctoral Thesis Defense

One of the major events that many of the St Xavier's School Staff and Students witnessed from our own homes was the Doctoral Thesis Defense of our beloved Principal Fr Damian Tudu. Due to Lockdown we got the wonderful opportunity to be part of this milestone achieved by him. It was a learning process for all of us. Something that everyone admired and appreciated was the calmness, elegance and serenity of Fr Damian while presenting his thesis and answering the queries. Now he is Fr. Dr. Damian Tudu. On his arrival to the School we had a short felicitation programme to honour him. Hearty congratulations, dear Fr Damian Tudu! (**Mr M. J. Lazar**).



## Pastoral Meeting

Jesuit pastors from different Jesuit parishes of Dumka-Raiganj Province gathered in CTC, Torai, on 8 September 2020 to share the experiences and challenges that we faced during the Pandemic since March 2020. All the Jesuit pastors were present for the meeting. Fr Provincial Varghese Palli coordinated our discussion. Fr Ignatius Manjhi, the Province Pastoral coordinator, gave us a short introduction on the theme of the meeting. Fr Chrysostom Hembrom led us into the prayer through a bhajan and Fr Ignatius Manjhi made a short prayer.

Though the pastors shared about their own experiences of pastoral works, our main focus of sharing and discussion was our experiences and struggles during the lockdown period. The churches are locked, tensions and fear were prevailing everywhere and the world seems to be calm and quiet when people locked themselves inside their homes because of fear of the plague. During the first phase of lockdown most of us kept ourselves locked inside our own premises, keeping ourselves away from the people, doing online retreats and adoration in the evening. During the second phase of the lockdown many of us engaged in distributing rations, visiting the sick, counseling people, encouraging people to attend online Masses and pray in their own families. Many of our Catholic families faithfully prayed in their own families during the lockdown. Some of the villages even conducted Easter prayer service celebrating Easter and distributing Sal flowers. Amidst the struggles and fear, as the time passed, the church doors are opened in most of our parishes and village centers.

After the sharing session, Fr Provincial asked us to reflect on how to make our holy Mass alive. Various suggestions were made to make our Mass alive and interesting and a new liturgy team consisting of Frs Philip Hembrom, Samuel Marandi, Philemon Minj, Peter Marandi and Chrysostom Hembrom as Coordinator was formed to form a Mass liturgy by the end of October. At the end of the meeting, Fr Chrysostom explained to the group about the importance of the Pope's World Wide Prayer network and requested everyone to be the part of this Pope's mission of praying with the Pope for the whole world. Fr Provincial reminded the need to teach Santali using Roman Roman scripts in all our Jesuit schools at least till class VI. The meeting concluded with a short prayer by Fr Dayal and thanksgiving by Fr Manjhi. *(Fr Chrysostom Hembrom SJ).*

## Pandemic was a Time of Grace for Young Priests

The young priests of the Province came together for

recollection cum meeting on 26-27 September at Kodma. The inputs were given by Fr Jacob Chinnappan, the coordinator of the programme. The key points to reflect upon were: (i) Being grounded in our relationship with God; (ii) Having friendships that support our spiritual and personal growth; (iii) Cultivating practical skills and using them for the good of others. Listening to the sharing it was obvious that each one of us found ample time for personal prayer and reflection and to establish and strengthen our personal relationship with our Lord and to nurture it by our spiritual readings. Some of us shared that this was also the time to go back to the springs of God experience that we had in our Novitiate. Else ways we felt a sense of indecisiveness concerning time management.

While sharing we followed the Spiritual Conversation method. Consolation and desolation were the two major feelings of the outcome of the sharing. We felt consoled that God continues to direct and guide all of us especially during this pandemic period. Our experience of desolation was about the fact that we were less creative and less productive during the pandemic.

At the end of our recollection there was a brain storming session so as to what we can contribute substantially for the benefit of our mission. Two major suggestions came up in the discussions. The first being part of the short term goal: Carrier guidance to our children. In order to inspire our children from their early age we thought of making picture cards of different types and basically which would orient them to be good citizens for tomorrow in the form of doctors, engineers, accountants, lawyers, nurses, political leaders, social workers, musicians and so on. We would also make flex chart of lists of the subjects through which they would reach the above goals. The second being part of the long term goal: Gathering information on early missionaries of our Province. For this, each one will be given a name of the pioneer to do some studies and give his personal reflection on it.

At the end of the meeting, Fr Provincial gave his message emphasizing that we need to be men of God for which we need to establish close relationship with God in and through our prayers. We are to radiate the same experience of God to the people. Unless we are strong within, it is difficult to withstand the challenges of the day and very specially in the days to come. Fr Provincial insisted that as members of the Province we need to be more creative, productive and effective in our missions. Recollection came to an end with the Eucharistic celebration presided over by Fr Arulsamy A. Britto.



On behalf of all the young priests Fr Jacob Chinnappan thanked Kodma Community for their hospitality, sumptuous meal and for availing the beautiful place to accommodate us all. Special thanks to Fr Jacob Chinnappan for coordinating the programme well. **(Fr Jacob Hembrom SJ).**

### **Serving the Poor in Dumka**

In the month of May and in the beginning of June, Johar HRD Centre, Dumka, took the initiative in sharing food with the migrants with the help of different religious communities and lay people. We shared our food also with the poor in the town. Feeding the poor in Dumka continued with Johar HRD Centre taking the initiative in organizing in collaboration with CRI-Dumka Town Communities. Different religious communities in Dumka prepared and supplied 10 food packets each day. There are 14 religious communities in Dumka. Besides these, SDC too involved generously in serving the food to the poor. Dr Sanjay Sebastian Marandi, an Ex-Xaverian of Sahibganj, on his personal interest and volunteer service, collects the foods packets and then distributes to the poor in Dumka. He is been helped by Ms Sunita Murmu in reaching the food packets to the poor in Dumka. Their generosity and commitment in distributing the food to the poor everyday is a visible sign of God's blessings to the weaker section of society. May God bless Dr Sanjay Sebastian Marandi, Ms Sunita Murmu and their families! The spirit of concern for the poor may grow more and more in our Religious Communities and reach out to the people who are in need. This generous act of reaching out to the poor in Dumka is been coordinated by Fr Sonatan Kisku, Dr Sanjay Sebastian Marandi and Fr Vernard Antony. **(Fr Vernard Antony SJ).**

### **Reaching Out to the Poorest**

St Xavier's School, Sahibganj, once again reached out to the poorest of the poor students with Smartphones to facilitate their Online Classes. This was possible because of the generosity of some well-wishers of the school. Mr Vijay Hansda, an ex-Xaverian as well as the MP of Rajmahal Constituency, sponsored 16 Smartphones, Mr Ankush Yadav, another ex-Xaverian sponsored 7 Smartphones and the loving sister of Fr Chandran too sponsored a few Smartphones to help the poor students of the school to attend regular Online Classes. May God bless them all abundantly! **(Mr Shyamal Palmer).**

### **Generous Spirit**

During the lockdown some of the parishioners showed their care and concern for the Jesuit community of Mariampahar and supplied to them food provisions like vegetables and rice. God is great and his people are generous! **(Fr Chrysostom Hembrom SJ).**

### **Prayer Heals**

During this period of pandemic many are falling victims to Covid-19. There are cases of deaths and hospitalization of serious Covid-19 patients from among the religious people too. At the same time, many such people are experiencing miracles in their lives through prayers. Sr Joan DSH, a former teacher of St Xavier's School, Sahibganj, presently posted in Mussoorie, Uttarakhand, was tested positive and was hospitalized for her treatment. She became critical soon and developed a breathing problem due to lack of enough oxygen in her body. But a miracle took place in her life and she is back to her Convent healed within 10 days. She firmly believes it to be the result of the prayers of so many people, especially the Jesuit friends, she is healed miraculously. In a message she writes: *"I was found to be Covid-19 patient and was admitted for 10 days in CMI hospital, Dehradun. I recovered through the prayers of many Jesuits who know me. I am sincerely grateful to the very dear Jesuits who remembered me in their prayers. Big Thanks!"* Sr Joan worked at St Xavier's School, Sahibganj, for 12 years under 3 Principals: Fr E. Stellini (3 years), Fr Varghese Palli (3 years) and Fr Nirmal Raj (6 years). At present she is teaching the poor children coming from the scattered hills in Mussoorie. Sr Gracy D'Souza DSH, the Vice-Principal of St Xavier's Primary Section, was under the treatment of Fr MJ Peter at Inigo Bari, Kalidanga for a month. Sr Gracy was diagnosed with cervical spondylitis in the month of July and now she is back to Sahibganj after getting healed. She is much better now and has started her normal life. She too expresses her gratitude to all those who prayed for her. **(Mr Shyamal Palmer).**

### **Blessing of New School Building**

St Xavier's Hindi Medium School, Sahibganj, which was opened on 8 April 2002 and was operating since then within the same infrastructure that of English Medium, is going to be shifted to Vinay Bhavan Campus where a new school building has been constructed. The new school building was officially opened and blessed by Fr Varghese Pally, the Provincial. The event took place on Sunday, 27 September 2020 at 10:00 am in the presence of a small gathering. This short programme went off smoothly under the supervision of Fr Ignatius Lakra, the Headmaster of St Xavier's Hindi Medium School. Tea and snacks were distributed after the programme **(Mr Shyamal Palmer).**

### **Teachers' Day Celebration**

We celebrated Teachers' Day with symbolic representation of teachers on 6 September 2020.



Fr Chrysostom Hembrom, the Parish Priest of Mariampahar, was the main celebrant who in his homily appreciated the teachers for their contribution towards the nation and also spoke about their responsibility as catholic teachers. After the Mass there was a welcome song by the parishioners and then some of the teachers shared about experiences and the challenges they face as teachers. Food packets were given to all the teachers and tea/puffed rice to all the faithful. *(Fr Chrysostom Hembrom SJ).*

### Online Classes and Exams

Amidst the critical situation of Covid-19, the School management of St Xavier's, Raiganj, has been trying its best to conduct online live classes through different media. Now we have begun our First Semester examination. For the primary section the examination is conducted through Google Form and for the High School we are conducting offline exam. There have been five answer sheet collection centers set up in different parts of Raiganj, Kaliyaganj and Kushmundi. Question paper is sent in the respective class Whatsapp groups. Students are given one hour time to complete each paper and their guardians are given another half an hour to reach the nearby answer sheet collection center and submit their answer papers. A very well chalked out plan by the Principal and the Vice-Principal with the co-operation of all the teachers, has made the effort fruitful and we are successfully conducting our First Semester Examination. Thanks be to God Almighty and all those who render their services. *(Mr M. J. Lazar).*

### Ongoing Online Classes

In spite of many practical difficulties, Online Classes at St Xavier's School, Sahibganj, are in full swing. We have shifted from Zoom to Google Meet to conduct Online Classes for some practical reasons. The percentage of attendance of students, now, in each class has increased as the First Semester Exam days are nearing. The Exams will commence on 10<sup>th</sup> October. It has been decided to have Offline exams of two hours each for the students of Classes IX to XII, whereas for other classes up to VIII, there will be Online exams of one hour each. There will, definitely, be some practical problems in conducting Online exams like network problem, using of unfair means etc but our school is ready to face all these challenges. The school has already started co-curricular activities for the students both online and offline. Recently Rangoli Competition was organized on the Campus successfully. Elocution competition, too, was conducted online successfully. The rest of the activities are to be carried out after the Puja Vacation. *(Mr Shyamal Palmer).*

### Hazaribag Juniorate

We feel extremely grateful to God to have our Dean Fr Francis Kurien back after a prolonged treatment of pneumonia. We were blessed with Fr Sandeep Lakra of MP Province who had been with us for two months to take Fr Kurien's classes. We had a special course on Social Analysis guided by Fr Tony Herbet and team. The classes were very interesting and fruitful as they helped us to reflect about the socio-political and economic realities of the world, our country and especially our own tribal society. It inspired us to work for truth and fight for justice for the poor.

5<sup>th</sup> September was a joyful day for us as we celebrated the Teachers' Day and sincerely expressed our gratitude to our staff by a small programme. In the evening, we had a friendly football match among ourselves. We had a week of wonderful debates in English and Hindi on interesting topics like 'Should Women be Ordained in the Catholic Church' and 'Is Religious Life More Desirable than Married Life.' The debates really helped us to think clearly and logically and to articulate it effectively. It also instilled in us a great desire to become powerful orators. We had our monthly recollection on the theme, 'Holistic Healing' guided by Sr Jayasheeli, CIC Novice Mistress. After the recollection, we had a get-together in a nearby Jesuit community, PTEC. It was our first outing and we, the Juniors of St Stanislaus College Sitagarha, enjoyed it. *(Sch Vinod Tudu SJ).*

### Health Bulletin

After his successful operation conducted to remove GIST in the stomach, Fr Charles Tudu is convalescing at St Xavier's, Kolkata. He will have a test to rate the progress he has made on 14 October. Fr Susai Lourdu was admitted in St Luke's hospital, Dakaita, as his sodium-potassium level was very low and he was feeling weak and restless. After getting discharged from the hospital, he rested a few days rest at Jisu Jaher, Dumka. Now he is back to Jirulia, his ministry place. Deacon Julian Jesu was supposed to have been ordained on 26 September but was tested Covid-19 positive and was admitted to a hospital in Tamil Nadu. Deacon Shailen Minj was suffering from malaria and jaundice and he had to be rushed to hospital. At first he was admitted at Simdega and then Fr D.M. Solomon brought him to Ranchi and got him admitted at St Anne's hospital. Fr K.M. Jacob is suffering from Asthma and UTI and is having treatment at Ursula Hospital, Dumka. The Province is grateful to Jesuits, Religious Sisters as well as lay people who helped our sick brethren in time of need.



## New Structure

### SECRETARIAT STRUCTURE

APOSTOLIC SECRETARIATS				
SERVICE OF FAITH	ECOLOGY AND JUSTICE	EDUCATION-PRIMARY & SECONDARY		HIGHER EDUCATION & INTELLECTUAL APOSTOLATE
JEPASA PWPN JIGSA JSD	JESA JEMAI JYMSA			JHEASA JESCOM
ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARIATS				
FORMATION				FINANCE
ACF Bros (It will be finalized after consulting them.)				COJET ADO
FORUMS				
Jesuit Artists	Jesuit Psychologists	Jesuit Alumni/ae	JFFSA Jesuit Faculty Forum South Asia	JERES Jesuits in Religious Studies
NETWORKS				
SANKALP	JESUITEC	LOKMANCH		





**Feeding the Poor by Johar, CRI & Team**



**Generous Service of Mariampahar People**



**Welcome Fr Jesu Benjamin to Johar**



**Blessing of St Xavier's  
Sahibganj Hindi Medium  
School Building**





**100th  
Birthday  
of Bp.  
Emiritus  
Linus  
Nirmal  
Gomes**

**Bp. Julius Marandi's Episcopal  
Ordination Anniversary**



**Deacon Shailen Minj  
in St Anne's Hospital, Ranchi**



**Blessing of School Building at Chilimpur**

