

# RANCHI BULLETIN



79/9 Ranchi Jesuits, Sadbhavna P.B. - 4, Ranchi - 834 001, Jharkhand September 2020

## FR. PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

**September 2020**

- Province Consult - 07 Sept. & 08 Sept.

**Please note:** Fr. Provincial will start his annual visitations once the present situation has improved. The meetings scheduled for the Rectors, Superiors, Directors of the works and the Secretaries of different Registered Societies would be scheduled in the month of October, 2020.

## APPOINTMENTS BY FR. GENERAL

1. Fr. Gyan Prakash Kujur, S.J., Socius, Jamshedpur Province
2. Fr. Dionysius Gerard Leonard Vaz, S.J., Provincial of Karnataka
3. Fr Keith Abranches, S.J., Rector of the Collegio Internazionale del Gesu, Rome. w.e.f. July 2021.

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## Health Bulletin

Dear Brothers,

Peace and love of Christ be yours!

The whole world is affected by Covid-19 pandemic in one way or the other. This has stopped our usual and normal ways of functioning our life and mission. In this uncertainty we have rescheduled all our plans of actions. We, in our own ways, are trying our best to carry out our duties and responsibilities. We hope, the present situation, will improve in near future. Let us continue to pray for one another.

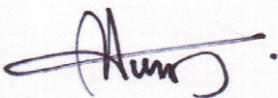
In health front, some of our men are/were also affected by covid-19. They are being taken care of. Few of them have already recovered.

1. Fr. Aurel Brys (Manresa House) - Recovered
2. Br. Telesphore Horo (M.H.) - Recovered
3. Fr. Erik Breye (SAC) - Recovered
4. Fr. Ravi Xess (SXIC) Bundu - Recovered
5. Fr. Walter Minj (SXEMS) Bundu - Recovered
6. Fr. Rakesh Kerketta (LTC) - Recovered
7. Fr. Florence Kujur (St. John's Ranchi) - Recovered
8. Fr. Mukul Lakra (LTC) - Home Isolation
9. Fr. Suman Beck (ATC) Namkum - Home isolation
10. Fr. Sebastian Ekka (St. John's Ranchi) - Medical care in Ulhatu

I request you to pray for them for their fast recovery from the sickness. I would again request you to take care of yourself and one another. Anything happens to one will affect the others. Hence, we need to be sensitive to one another. If any of our brothers detected corona positive, do not get panic, rather be more sensitive, show your care and concern in the way mentioned by the health department. Kindly wash your hands time to time, use the face mask and sanitizer in public places, observe social distancing even in the communities, avoid social gatherings and celebrations, travels/moves/visits from one place to another only in urgent and important needs, etc.

Be assured of my prayers for each one and each of you!

Yours Sincerely,



Fr. Ajit Kumar Xess, SJ

(PROVINCIAL SUPERIOR)



## Tertians from Sitagarha

Dear Friends, we, the 26 Tertians from 14 Jesuit Provinces of India, are going to embark on a 30 Day Spiritual Journey, 2nd Sept. to 2nd Oct. 2020, taking us deep into ourselves and thus encounter in the One who Created us, the One who alone deserves our Praise, Reverence and Service, and for whom alone we want to live and move and have our being.

Our journey is being accompanied by the whole Heavenly Court, through the intercession of Mother Mary and Joseph, St. Ignatius and all the saints, supported by your constant prayers and mediated by our two instructors, Fr. Ignatius Tete and Fr. K.C. Stephen.  
PRAY FOR US AND WE ASSURE YOU OF OUR PRAYERS!!!

Tertians of SSC, Sitagarha

## Perna, Bengaluru

Due to COVID-19, the tertianship at Shembaganur is suspended for this year; Karnataka Province is hosting the tertianship programme at Perna, Mount St. Joseph, Bengaluru. 23 tertians from 12 Provinces arrived at Perna on 24 August 2020. After completing the quarantine protocol of the House introduced by Fr. Prashanth D'Souza, SJ, Director, Perna, the tertians started their programme on 1 September with the Eucharist concelebrated by Fr. Stany D'Souza, new POSA, Fr. Dion Vaz, new Provincial, Karnataka Province and Fr. Antony Joseph, Rector of Mount St. Joseph, Bangalore.

Their journey is being accompanied by their two Instructors, Frs. Arul Sivan and William D'Souza, and certainly supported by your constant prayers.

Tertian Anand Amar Beck

## Manresa House Ranchi

Due to the Corona Pandemic, all Ranchi Collegians and Philosophers studying in different Colleges and Institutions are residing in Manresa House. As per the government rule and for the safety of the community numbers, social distancing is properly maintained. Every scholastic is given a single room. Holy Mass is offered in two different places. Manresa Juniors have their Holy Mass in the Juniorate wing, while the other scholastics have their Holy Mass in the Community Chapel. Meal is also served in three different places.

The 15th of August, the Independence Day was observed in Manresa House. The day began with the Holy Mass at 6.00 A.M. in the morning. There was a flag hoisting after the Mass and the National Anthem was sung. Fr Alex Toppo SJ was the chief guest.

Online classes have begun and the scholastics are busy studying. Manresa House is very thankful to the XISS community for catering WiFi connection for online classes for all the scholastics. On 19th August, 2020 there was a general meeting in Manresa Conference

Hall for all the scholastics. Fr Amrit Lakra SJ the Rector, Fr Ajay Arun Minj SJ the Dean, and Fr. Fabian Bhunyan SJ the Spiritual Father chaired the meeting. Fr Rector widely spoke about the safety of each individual in the community. He explained about the 'New Norm' of putting masks and sanitizing. Fr Dean spoke about the attendance and participation of each scholastic in the Holy Mass. Spiritual Father on the other hand spoke about the response and body language during the Holy Mass. The meeting was ended with the Angelus.

On 24th August, there was a recollection for the scholastics in Manresa House. Fr. Vinod SJ the Director of St. Aloysius Minor Seminary guided the recollection. He phrased his talk on the theme "Integration of our Study for Greater Effective Apostolate" from the constitution. He also spoke about the four scopes of individuals' vocation viz., 1. Uprightness 2. Learned 3. Exertion and 4. Self sacrifice. He further spoke about the Jesuit Identity to the outside world and their response to this kind of expectation. He summed up his talk focusing on the practical life of a Jesuit in the Province. Scholastics have greatly benefitted by his talk.

The final year examinations of 3rd year will begin on 28th September 2020. Meanwhile, the Readmission of the would-be 2nd and 3rd year Scholastics was done offline. In spite of this critical situation six Scholastics from three Provinces have joined the Juniorate Community; one from Darjeeling, two from Madhya Pradesh and three from Ranchi province. Two scholastics from Calcutta will join us soon for the academic year. Schs. Ajay Paulus Minj and Sameer Ekka joined Manresa community on 28th August to take up their respective responsibility as regents.

The festival of Karma was celebrated on 29th all over the state. It symbolized fertility, prosperity and all that is auspicious. We the Manresa Community celebrated this feast with gusto and had a Solemn Holy Mass in the evening. The main celebrant was Fr. Vinod Toppo S.J. Early morning on 31st the very next day mother of Sch. Joyti Bhushan Soreng passed away at RIMS hospital. Fr. Ajay Arun Minj, the Dean of Juniors and a few Scholastics went for the burial to Karamukha in Khanjaloya Parish on 1st September.

Schs. John F. Osga & Ravi S. Kindo

## Ashirvad/Jharna

The month of August started with some relaxation after the simple but meaningful celebration of the feast of St. Ignatius, our founder. Then, we started our usual time

– table. Fr. Master went to guide a retreat to novices of Sisters of St. Joseph of the Apparition (SJA), Ranchi, for their first profession on August 8. Meanwhile, as our Independence Day was nearing, we, the novices were busy in memorizing our Hindi patriotic speeches. The first round of the speech competition was held on August 12. Judges were Sch. Sumit Sameer Tirkey, Sch. Ananias Xess and Sch. Suman Bara. The final competition was on August 14 and the judges were Sch. Kuldeep Linda, Sch. Sandeep Bage and Sch. Sudhir Lakra who are having their Italian and French language class respectively in Jharna. In the first hit all the 21 participants tried to give their best and inspired us with their lovely encouraging words. Congratulations to NS Ankit Kujur, who was declared the winner.

On the occasion of August but only eight could qualify for the final. Having witnessed the great performance of all the eight finalists, the judges were much impressed and were equally confused as to whom to give how much point. They appreciated 15, the Independence Day of our country and the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, there was a solemn Mass in the Novitiate Chapel. The main celebrant was Fr. Socius, Jyoti Paul Baxla and Fr. K.C. Philip, the Superior of the house accompanied him. For the short flag hoisting ceremony which followed the Holy Eucharistic celebration, Fr. Superior was the chief guest, NS Cyprian Bilung was the MC and the parade commander and the first trophy holder of the patriotic Hindi speech competition, NS Ankit Kujur was the speaker of the occasion. After breakfast, there was a half day badminton tournament on a new but incomplete basketball court of Ashirvad, Jharna. The players (Jesuit priests and brothers) came all the way from Doranda and Dr. Camil Bulcke Path, Ranchi. There was rain that day but the rain could not wash away the vigorous zeal of the players and they carried on playing. All enjoyed and at the end we served them a delicious meal. On August 16, we had an hour colorful cultural-evening program on the occasion of the twin feast of the Independence Day of our country and of the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We had the series of mind blowing items which entertained every one of us. Fr. Camil Kerketta, the new minister and the administrator of the house and the chief guest of the program, gave the lovely message and that is running down through our nerves. It was indeed a beautiful occasion for us to hunt out our hidden talents and qualities. Fr. Master regretted to miss the program as he had been out to guide the retreat.

We had a week session (August 17-22) on "Integrated Psycho-Spiritual Human Development" by Fr. Edwin Dang S.J. He talked about 'Human values, needs, conflicts and

defenses,' etc. The creative activities around the theme in between the inputs made the session interesting as well as they helped us understand the theme better. We now feel enriched with certain psychological and spiritual aspects of human development. We celebrated the birthday of our two brothers namely NS Bhushan Kandulna and NS Cyprian Bilung on August 2 and 6 respectively. On August 20, we had a special recollection day, where points were given by Deacon Suboth Lakra, S.J. from Paris, France through zoom video call. We were touched by his style of speaking and sharing around the theme keeping the Sabbath Day holy and respecting it as Lord's Day. 'If we never stop working when would we have time to contemplate and worship God and nourish a love relationship with God or with anyone else?' Merci beaucoup Dn. Suboth; stay healthy !

NSS Suman S. Orey & Amar Bara

## ASSAM MISSION

### Jesuit Bhavan and Gana Chetana Samaj, Tezpur

**Recollection:** After a gap of 4 months, a recollection for the Priests and Brothers working in Tezpur Diocese was held at Bishop house, Tezpur at 2.00 P.M. on the occasion of the Feast of St. John Mary Vianney, the model and patron of all the priests. Fr. Xavier Lakra SJ gave recollection points based on the life, personality, spirituality and mission of the saint of the day. He presented a short life sketch of John Mary Vianney and emphatically told the participants that his life was fully rooted in the Eucharistic Lord and got sustenance from him to carry out his mission with zeal and commitment. Walking on the footsteps of Jesus, a good shepherd, he, too, became a good shepherd and went out in search of the lost sheep of his Parish in Ars and brought them back at the feet of the Lord. He further said that he, too, was a great spiritual director of the souls in the confessional and helped the people to come out from the clutches of the sin and vices and live a renewed life. He further said that though he was poor in studies but quite rich in spiritual matters and thus he brought a spiritual renewal in the lives of his parishioners who were once known for their spiritual and moral neglect. His life and words were very effective in ministry because of the virtues of integrity and single-mindedness with which he lived. Talk was followed by personal prayer, reflection and individual confession. Recollection was concluded with adoration of the Eucharistic Lord and all of us were invited for tea and snacks at Bishop's house. Beloved Bp

Michael Akasius Toppo DD and all priests and Brothers were wished happy feast of St. John Mary Vianney. All the participants enjoyed the refreshment items that were served in the Bishop's house before leaving for their destination. It offered us an opportunity to meet and wish one another the feast day wishes and share our life and work.

**Dinner:** On Aug.21, 2020, SXC, Sonabheel gave a dinner in honour of Fr. Ashok Sandil who after a patient waiting is able to move out for his Tertianship in Bangalore starting from August 24, 2020. The community members of the Jesuit Bhavan and Xavier Sadan were part of this dinner. Food items prepared for the occasion were enjoyed by all. Fr. Ashok expressed the sentiments of his gratitude to all the members present for the occasion and made an earnest request for our prayers for the successful completion of his Tertianship. Fr. Ashok, our best wishes to you for your Tertianship and be assured of our prayers. He left for the same on August 24, 2020. On this same day, Xavier Sadan community hosted a welcome dinner for Sch. Kanchan Minj who joined the community as a Regent. This occasion was made used to reflect upon New Education Policy which is to affect the present setup of Junior colleges. In the light of the NEP, Fr. Ranjt Kujur, Principal of Junior college, Sonabheel gave his reflection and suggested some alternatives. It was followed by evening prayer and dinner. Our best wishes to Sch. Kanchan Minj for his fruitful Regency.

**NOC for B.A majors:** Fr. Robert Pradeep Kujur, Principal of SXC, Sonabheel while having dinner on Aug. 21,2020 in the SXC community gave a good news of obtaining NOC for B.A majors for the subjects in Assamese, English, Education, Political science and Geography from Guwahati University. Congrats to you Fr. Robert Pradeep for relentlessly pursuing the matter and getting it through. Take them forward, it is our great desire and wish.

**Journey:** On Aug. 31, 2020, Fr. Thomas left for lower Assam to visit study centres in Mushalpur, Manas Bansbari and Kathalguri. These centres are right now not functioning due to the unprecedented situation created by COVID-19. Hope things will take a better turn in near future.

**Candidates:** Two candidates for Assam Mission in the persons of Bibungsa Kolari and Ripon Daimari from Udalguri Parish joined us on Aug. 21, 2020. They are here with us to learn English and computer. Since they have come from Bodo medium, they have to slog a lot in learning English and Computer. Fr. Xavier is taking care of them and shedding more sweat in teaching them than

the candidates. It is a tough time for both the teacher and students. Have patience, labour will not go in vain!

Awareness campaign and distribution of food materials: GCS under the leadership of Fr. Thomas Barla SJ went ahead with awareness campaign against COVID – 19 and distribution of food materials to the needy and poor. On August 11, 2020 Fr. Thomas along with his staff members went to Chainpur falling under Lacitgaon Parish, Dibrugarh Diocese and distributed dry food materials to Adivasis who are being harassed and oppressed by the people of Nagaland at Assam state border for the past few years on the pretext of border dispute with Assam. Adivasis have been strongly warned by them of receiving dire consequences if they dared to go for paddy plantation and other agricultural works. In this time of COVID -19 situation, they are finding very difficult to get job which could bring them some money for their survival. On the occasion of 15th August, 2020 at the request of the local administration, NGOs sponsored 450 breakfast packets to the inmates of quarantine centres and COVID – 19 hospitals. Fr. Thomas in the name of Gana Chetana Samaj joined the Christian NGOs in this charity work. The details of the distribution of dry food materials are as follows:

SN	No. of HH benefitted	No. of persons attended meeting	No. of persons attended meeting	Items delivered per person	Date of relief delivery
1.	Dhekidol	51	75	Rice, Dal, M.oil, Onion, Potato, Soyabean	07.08.20'
2.	Chainpur	52	89	-do-	11.08.20'
3.	Barnatoli	25	46	-do-	26.08.20'

Pius Xafxo SJ

## St. Xavier's College Sonabheel, Tezpur

**Quarantine Centre:** Since 1st June 2020 St. Xavier's Junior College has been occupied by government Officials and made it into Quarantine Centre for 450 patients coming back home from different States of the country as lock down was declared by the Prime Minister. Not all the beds were occupied but to our knowledge some 200 patients were put up in this centre. From 1st August this quarantine Centre is raised up to a hospital to test the patients and keep them for some times till

they are declared fit.

Meanwhile in the junior College section Fr. Ranjit Kujur has arranged for online Classes for Class XII students from 1st June 2020. All teaching staff was involved in conducting the online classes. As soon as the Assam Board Class ten results were announced Fr. Ranjit took positive steps to do the advertisements in different places for the admission. It was announced that the admission is going on online in these centers namely St. John School Balipara, St. Paul School Rangapara and also in St. Xavier's College Sonabheel. Due to personal initiative there are 126 students in Arts and Commerce streams are admitted for 2020-2022 session. Thanks to the proactive ways of admission of Fr. Ranjit. For Class XI of Arts and Commerce streams also the online classes have started from 1st August. We are still waiting for the admission for the students coming from Arunachal Pradesh.

5 Major Subjects in Arts Stream namely Assamese, English, Education, Political Science and Geography have been allowed for St. Xavier's Degree College, Sonabheel by Director College Development Centre Gauhati University. In the month of Feb. 2020 a team of Professors have come to St. Xavier's College Sonabheel from the Gauhati University to inspect and to see the feasibility of granting the opening permission for B.A. Major Courses. Thanks to the hard works of running about to different departments in Gauhati University by former Principal Fr. Florence Purty and present Principal Fr. Robert Pradeep Kujur. The Ads are displaced in different important places in and around Tezpur, Sonabheel and Balipara and admissions have started online for Arts and Commerce stream 2020-2023 Session. Due to Covid-19 the admission is slow pace but hopefully it will pick up and this year we will have more students.

The construction work of the second floor of St. Xavier's Degree College is in full swing to be able to accommodate these students of Major Subjects in B.A. Arts and Commerce streams. 6th Semester students of Arts and Commerce are still waiting for their exams dates and to appear for their final exams. Fr. Ashok Sandil left Sonabheel on 24 August to go to Bangalore for his tertianship. We wish him all the best for his learning in the "School of the heart."

Fr. Xavier Iakra, S.J.

## NORTH INDIA MISSION

### St. Xavier's Mahwa, Rajasthan

**School:** Online classes have been going on even today. Quite a number of students are attending them regularly. On August 15, after the morning Mass, we gathered for flag hoisting in the School Assembly Ground. In the presence of a handful of teachers, non-teaching and supporting staff and a few children, Fr. Jose Kuriakose unfurled the national flag. During the few minutes function we very strictly adhered to the rule of social distancing.

On the one side, the month of August was hectic and on the other, it was a blessing filled. The Principal and the Manager were busy in getting ready for the CBSE inspection for affiliation. All the staff (teachers, non-teaching and supporting) was around lending a helping hand to the principal and the manager. The community would like to put in record the dedication and commitment of the staff.

Fr. Ravi, SJ from Nevta and Fr. Jose Jacob, SJ from Behror whose cooperation in sending their staff and visiting the school personally to oversee the preparation for the inspection cannot be ignored. Thank you, Sirs!

The CBSE inspection team reached Mahwa at about 09:30 A.M. on August 18, accompanied by Fr. Dayal and by 5:15 P.M. the inspection was over. Over all they were impressed by the infrastructure, facilities availed to the students and the School premise. At the end of the inspection they suggested a few points to be carried out. In the evening, Fr. Dayal again accompanied the team to Jaipur and returned home the following day.

**Community:** On August 01, Fr. Jose Kuriakose, the new member, joined the Mahwa community accompanied by Fr. Jugal who was returning home from Delhi after his Final profession. Instead of August 01, Fr. Dayal celebrated his birthday on August 02, along with Jaipur and Nevta communities, MSFS Fathers from Hindaun and Parish priest of Dausa. This occasion was made use in congratulating Fr. Jugal on his final incorporation into the Society of Jesus, welcoming Fr. Jose, and introducing Sch. Ruben (the new regent) and Sch. Sasi.

A few poisonous intruders were dealt with death in the campus. One day a huge monitor lizard entered in our campus and another day we had a big black scorpions. Well, life is interesting!

Sch. Ruben Xalxo, SJ

### St. Xavier's Bhiwadi

**Community:** In the community all are hale and hearty. The regular exercises at our leisure keep us all fit and immune. Fr. Sangeeth exercises regularly on the terrace. Fr. Sebastian and Fr. Glenn take walks in the school campus. On 8th August, we had a short and home celebration on the birthday of our superior, Fr. Glenn. He gave a lovely message about being a Jesuit on that day. The candidates too joined for the mass and the celebration. Since our cook was on leave from 28th August, we turned it into an opportunity to learn cooking and manage by ourselves. Sch. Prakash is with us in the community, attending his Philosophy Classes. He too is ready to help out as and when needed. Fr Amalraj remained occupied with the vocation promotion work, finding appropriate conveyance for the new candidates to reach Patna from their respective places. Sch. Nitish got into the rhythm of regency, getting acquainted of his responsibilities and people in Bhiwadi. The regular community prayers and meetings keep us together as a community even amidst the Pandemic, Covid 19.

**School:** Despite the pandemic scenario, many steps were taken for the smooth functioning of the online classes. Students attended their classes virtually i.e. with the help of ZOOM App. Fr Sangeeth, the principal ensured that co-curricular activities too be held virtually, such as Inter House Debate (English, Hindi), Solo Patriotic Singing Competition, Ex-tempore, Collage Making and Calligraphy. The Independence Day also was celebrated virtually. All the teachers participated in the program. Fr. Principal virtually arranged a few meetings for the staff to take stock of the online classes in the last of August.

**Maria Sadan:** In the month of August all candidates enjoyed good health by God's grace. We began doing daily exercises, using homemade dumb bell, skipping, etc., as a good alternative when we missed their basketball game. Our candidates, Sandeep and David, were encouraged to participate in the Solo Patriotic singing competition, online. They showed themselves as emerging singers. Currently, they are occupied with the online classes and home works. Fr. Amalraj, the Director is helping them in their intellectual as well as the spiritual growth. He assigned them some helpful tasks of learning, memory and understanding. Newly, we began giving adequate importance for community recreation to build them as a group.

Sch. Nitish Ekka SJ

## FOREIGN MISSION

### Arrupe Niwas, Jhapa, Nepal

We feel grateful to God for all the people of goodwill who have been supporting us with their generous contributions towards our works of charity. We deeply acknowledge the hard work of Fr Boniface who appealed to different agencies for the relief works at this time of pandemic, who willingly and magnanimously contributed for the same.

After prayerful discernment in the community, on the matter of change of the name of Deonia Jesuit Community, the request for the same was sent to Fr Amrit Rai, who followed it up with the General Curia in Rome. We are extremely happy to receive the good news from Fr Amrit Rai about the acceptance of our prayerful request to the General Curia to officially name Deonia Jesuit community as Arrupe Niwas.

On August 15, 2020 we joyfully celebrated the birthday of our beloved principal Fr Boniface Tigga. The Jesuits from Jhapa and our women religious collaborators of the area were invited for the birthday dinner. During the Holy Eucharist, which was presided over by Fr Boniface himself, we thanked God together for the gift of life to him.

The community continues to visit our Catholics and few others around the localities at this time pandemic to give them our moral support. On August 22, 2020 Fr Arul went to Sadakbari to give a recollection to Carmel Missionary Sisters. On his way back, he met the Jesuit candidate of Sadakbari and the family. From August 24 to 29, 2020 Fr Boniface, the Principal had virtual meetings with parents of classes 2 to 10, section-wise. Quite a big number of parents took active part in the meetings and shared their opinions and suggestions with the principal. On August 27, 2020 a virtual orientation programme for the professors of three colleges of Darjeeling Province was organized and hosted by North Bengal St Xavier's College, Rajganj where Fr Daniel Bara was the resource person. As part of the orientation, he highlighted the implications of the NEP-2020 of India and the characteristics of Jesuit Higher Education in view of preparing educators for the 21st century. On the same day, Fr Peter Chettri visited us to meet his spiritual guide and stayed with us overnight. On September 5, 2020 Frs. Arul, Boniface and Sch. Wilson with the help of local people and permission from Municipality gave away dried ration to the people of Nakalbanda tea estate. We acknowledged the help rendered by the police for the

smooth distribution of the same. We also had nine day novena to Our Lady for the celebration of her Nativity. Each day rosary was conducted creatively with great devotion. This helped us to celebrate the Nativity of Our Lady in a solemn manner.

Sch. Wilson Kandulna

### Guyana

The churches here in the Diocese of Georgetown, began to re-open on 1st August after four months of lockdown due to covid-19 pandemic. On the same day, The Emancipation Day, Guyana's most important national celebration was celebrated which was all about liberation from slavery to freedom for faith, family, education and labour. On 4th August, St. John Mary Vianney, the cure of Ars, the patron Saint of all the Parish Priests was celebrated in all the parishes in the Diocese.

Fr. Ronald Fernandes, SJ, the platform Superior of the interior mission was appointed the Vicar General of the Diocese of Georgetown by His Lordship Bishop Francis Alleyne, OSB on 9th August. He replaced Rev. Fr. John Persaud who was selected to be the Bishop of Mandeville, Jamaica by Pope Francis in July. The feast of the Assumption of Blessed Mother Mary was celebrated on 15th August. On the same day, the Episcopal Ordination of Rev. John Persaud took place in St. Paul of the Cross Cathedral Mandeville, Jamaica by his Eminence Archbishop Fortunatus Nwachukwu, the Pope's representative in Caribbean.

The Chrism Mass in the Immaculate Conception Cathedral of Georgetown was celebrated on 20th August. The virtual Clergy conference of the Diocese of Georgetown was held on 24th August on the document of the Congregation for the Clergy. Thanks a lot Scholastic Joel Thompson, SJ for highlighting the important points from the document for our pastoral conversion. RP Fr. Superior General has appointed Rev. Fr. Martin Lenk, SJ as the new provincial of Antillas Province.

In St. Ignatius Mission Lethem in Rupununi, Jesuit worldwide Learning: Education at the margin is in progress and in demand. The first batch will complete their program as learning facilitator, trained teachers at the end of October 2020. The second batch in which there are 11 students who have already started their classes from September. Most of the teachings will be online and therefore they were introduced by Fr. Anugrah Amar Bage to the system for their studies and for their assignments. Six students have started their four years degree course-Bachelor of Arts in Sustainable

Development from Xavier University Bhubaneshwar.

The feast of St. Monica, the patron saint of mothers was celebrated on 27th August. Fr. Elias Surin, SJ presided over the Holy Eucharist in St. Ignatius Church Lethem and prayed for the protection from the Corona Virus and asked for God's abundance blessings upon all the mothers of the world.

Our Ursuline Sisters of Tildonk- Helena, Sosan, Crecencia and Nishi in Karasabai, South Pakaraimas were making their best effort to help out in all their 6 village communities by providing them with the face masks and hand sanitizers.

Fr. Elias Surin, SJ

## Cairo (Egypt)

August 4 was a Black Day for Lebanon. A massive explosion rocked at the port of Lebanon's capital Beirut. About 2,750 tons of ammonium nitrate kept in the port areas for years got detonated. The impact was massive and at the radius of 30 kilometers everything got flattened to the ground. The death toll has risen to about 200 with more than 6,500 injured. It has damaged 50,000 houses, nine major hospitals and 178 schools. Three lakhs people are left homeless. To make the situation worse, the financial crisis got down to the bottom level in their recent history.

The Provincial house of Near East Jesuit Province is in Beirut. It has twelve floors high building and houses many departments i.e. provincial curia, elderly Jesuits, infirmary, scholastics, publication office, etc. The impact of the blast was huge and it shattered the doors and windows. Luckily the community survived from heavy injuries.

The month of August is summer vacation for students. Due to Covid – 19 precautionary measures, it has been extended to mid- October. In summer many Jesuits involve themselves in preaching retreats, arranging various camps etc. All this was canceled and only some annual retreats were conducted for some religious only who have at their places enough rooms to follow social distancing. Unfortunately, lay people were completely left out as they come from different places. In our community, social distancing is followed in the chapel and dining room respecting the elder members.

My transfer to Jordan is still pending due to very strict Covid -19 rules there. Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, India ...do not come under their listed "Green Zone countries". I'll have to wait and see.

Fr. Bimal Kr, Kerketta

## News and Views from Rome

The month of August was the period of summer vacation for the community of International College of Gesù. Almost all the European Scholastics and some of the Staff members had left for their respective Provinces one-by-one since the beginning of July. Some of the non-European Scholastics opted for the apostolic works and volunteer services in different parts of Europe in view of having some pastoral and social experiences. However, the other Scholastics and Staff members decided to stay back in the community and spend their valuable time in reading, writing and learning. Hence, the community remained quiet and silent in the presence of a few members during the summer holidays. Nirmal Minj volunteered to give his generous service to the refugees in one of the JRS Refugee Centres called the House of Pedro Arrupe, Centre for Reception and Integration. The centre is situated in the outskirts of Rome, but easily accessible through public transport. For Nirmal, being three weeks with the refugees from different countries, it was a precious opportunity to learn from the refugees. Their untold suffering, anxiety and agony arising out of the uncertain future taught him great lessons and inspired him to integrate his theological studies with the grass-root reality. Indeed, it was an opportunity to learn the real life situation by doing and being present amidst people. The deep experiences resonates with the words of Pope Francis, "We ourselves need to see, and then to enable others to see, that migrants and refugees do not represent a problem to be solved, but are brothers and sisters to be welcomed, respected and loved". His experiences at JRS Centre helped him to grow in the same love, compassion and respect for the migrants and refugees, preached and practiced by Pope Francis. He completed his social work experience on 20 August and came back to the community on the same day.

On 21 August, Nirmal accompanied Prem Xalxo to go to Cittadella, a beautiful walled city close to Venice and Padova, to participate in the Jubilee celebration of the 25th Years of consecrated life of Sr. Cathrine Kujur, DSA. Normally, all the St. Anne's Sisters working or studying in Europe come together in August for Retreat or Recollection, and utilize the coming together to celebrate jubilees, final professions, etc. However, because of the social distancing and travel restrictions, some Sisters could not come to participate in the Jubilee Celebrations. But for Nirmal, seeing almost 30 St. Anne's Sisters from Jharkhand together in one place beaming with joy and enthusiasm, was in itself a moment of grace! He was impressed by the way the festive Holy



Mass was celebrated. At the entrance of the Basilica, the volunteers with disguisable dress applied sanitizer in each faithful entering into the Church for the Holy Mass, as if each one was being purified by the Holy Water! Just before the distribution of Communion, all the faithful took out sanitizer from his/her bag, and applied in their hands. The priests moved around the Church to distribute Communion in each pew. He was wondering whether such practices could be feasible in the Church of Chotanagpur!!!

He utilized his sojourn in Cittadella by visiting two most important historical cities – Venice and Padova. He was particularly impressed by Venice, one of the most beautiful cities in the world, which is fully built on the sea. The canals function as the waterways, on which boats and small ships are used as means of transport from one place to the other. St. Mark's Basilica is the landmark of Venice!! He was extremely happy to visit three communities of St. Anne's Sisters in and around Venice-Padova. He was accorded a cordial and warm welcome in each community. Their presence, dedicated service and sociable nature are appreciated deeply by both Priests and the faithful. On his way back to Rome, he went for a short pilgrimage to St. Anthony of Padova, who is locally known as The Saint (il Santo); and that indicates local public love, respect and veneration for St. Anthony. After returning from Cittadella, he preferred to remain in the community to dedicate his time and energy in reading, writing and completing some of the upcoming assignments.

Kulwant had decided right in the beginning of the summer holidays to stay back at home to study, to complete some of the pending assignments and to prepare himself for the final exams scheduled for 24-25 September. The month of August was a transition period for the inmates of Collegio San Roberto Bellarmino, the community of Kulwant. As many as 18 Jesuits returned to their respective Provinces after the completion of their studies. So far 7 new Jesuits have joined the community to begin their studies from the next academic year. By the end of September, 13 more Jesuits are expected to arrive in the Community. Therefore, at this moment the community still continues to observe the necessary sanitary measures to help protect everyone. Specifically, all those who come back to the community after being away from home, both in Italy and in other countries, have to observe a quarantine period immediately on their arrival at Collegio Bellarmino. They are expected not to enter into the daily community life, nor be present in common places (refectory, recreation room, chapel,

etc...). The quarantine period is established in dialogue with Fr. Minister depending on the place where one was staying, on the activities carried out during the period of absence, travel, etc. The decision has also been taken by Fr. Delegate and shared with the Superiors of the DIR in his recent communication. Besides, Fr. Rector of Collegio Bellarmino repeatedly asks the community members to pray to the Lord for His people and for all of us, that all may experience His protection and that all know how to respond to the voice of His Spirit, who undoubtedly speaks to all in diverse ways, especially during this historical moment of Covid-19.

From 18-22 Professors were present in Gregorian Community during the month of August, an extraordinary situation created by Covid-19. Usually, the House remains completely closed in August; however, this year some of the Co-workers sacrificed their holidays to cater the needs of the community members staying back at home. In the absence of the regular cooks, the Co-workers from the other Departments took care of the kitchen and refectory, and kept the community members happy and satisfied with their innovative food items. Following strictly the directives sent by R.P. Delegate to all Superiors of DIR, each and every community member returning home from outside Rome was subjected to self-isolation and mandatory serological test before joining the community. The Online Registration of the future students started from 24 August. Normally, the Registration begins in mid-September, but Covid-19 has forced to change the modalities. The registration will go on until the end of September. As many as seven future students from Jharkhand (so far known) are awaited to join Gregorian University – two MGES Sisters for philosophy – Nutan Minj and Sushana Kispotta; two Jesuits – Kuldeep Lind and Sandeep Bage – and two Ursuline Sisters – Shanti S. Samad and PrabhaTopno – for theology, and Deepak Toppo for Licentiate in Ignatian Spirituality. Definitely, they will have the reason to be happy with mutual support, collaboration and positive competitive spirit to do their best in the mission assigned to them here in Rome with great hope and trust by their Authorities. Best Wishes to all of them!!

Being at home during the month of August was a blessing in disguise for Prem. With the help of two technicians, he prepared two short video clips in two languages Italian and English to promote Joint Diploma in Integral Ecology, an inter-University project coordinated by him. The videos were promptly uploaded on the site of the University as well as on YouTube apart from the Joint Diploma sites. After three successful editions of Joint

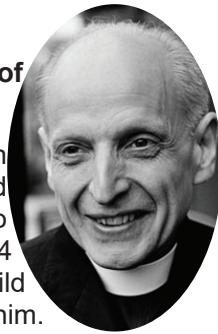
Diploma Program, the team of Joint Diploma Professors from different Universities is hopeful to have another great Academic Year. Pope Francis had announced a special year dedicated to 'Laudatosi' from 24 May 2020 to 24 May 2021. The fundamental aim of the Diploma program is propagating the vision-mission of 'Laudatosi'. And therefore, the year dedicated to 'Laudatosi' makes Joint Diploma in Integral Ecology all the more special and attractive to encourage and guide the students to take some personal as well as communitarian initiatives to care for creation. A four-page interview of his vision of Joint Diploma as the Coordinator of the program was published in *Credere*, one of the Italian journals. The Joint Diploma team hopes that such publicity materials might result in more students for the current Academic Year. All hope for the best in the changed circumstances!!

Fr. Prem Nalxo SJ

## **Pedro Arrupe Gondra, S.J.**

**(Second Founder of the Society of Jesus: 1907 – 1991)**

Pedro Arrupe Gondra was born in Bilbao (Spain) of a well-educated and practising catholic parents Marcelino and Dolores Gondra Robles on 14 November 1907. He was the fifth child in the family of four sisters before him. Lovingly they called him 'Peru' in their mother-tongue, Basque.



From the beginning Arrupe had a great taste for learning. He followed the Santiago Apostolic School in Bilbao and moved on to Madrid in the year 1923 to become a medical doctor in the Complutense University of Madrid. This is one of the best known Universities for medicine, where he topped in the very first year of his course on Anatomy.

Meanwhile at the age of eight he lost his mother and now in 1926 his father too passed away. Since then his sisters were all for him. At the loss of his father he was deeply affected and went for pilgrimage with his sisters to Lourdes in France. There as a student of medical doctor he was allowed to witness three miracles and how the miracle was verified by the doctors. This impressed him most and saw how life is led by supernatural powers. There and then he placed himself at the feet of Blessed Virgin Mary and returning to Madrid decided to enter into the Society of Jesus on 15 January 1927, even giving up his further studies even though he received 500 pesetas for being the best student.

He was lucky to join the Society of Jesus in the very house, where Ignatius of Loyola had spent his days, and

did the novitiate under the guidance of Master Martin of Garmendia. There Arrupe came to know Ignatius and his methods of prayers as well as developed his former devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. He took his First Vows on 29 January 1929.

There followed the two years of Juniorate studying ancient languages Greek and Latin as well as philosophy in the town of Ona. During this period when he did the annual spiritual exercises, he felt much inspired by St. Francis Xavier and wrote to the then Superior General expressing his desire to go to Japan. Though he did not get a clear answer, but his dream remained. Meanwhile Spain had a change of government. On 14 April 1931 the Republic Party came in power and declared that the Church of Spain does not exist any longer. All houses of the Church were taken away and even the Jesuits were expelled. Pedro Arrupe too had no choice but to continue his studies of Philosophy and Theology first in Marneffe of Belgium and then to Valkenburg of Holland among the better students as well as in view of going to Japan. He got ordained on 30 July 1936 in Marneffe.

Since Arrupe was a bright student and already oriented to medical profession, Superiors asked him to study Moral Theology specializing in medical ethics from St. Mary's College in Kansas of USA and then passed on to the formation house of Cleveland. Here he prepared himself to the Final Vows for which he did the one month retreat. In this period he had the occasion to have some pastoral experience as well. Here again with the permission of his Instructor Father McMennay requested again to the Superior General in Rome, if he could go to Japan. This time he received personally a letter from the Superior General and the answer was yes.

Pedro Arrupe was unable to contain the joy. As soon as the Third Year got over on 30 June 1938 he waited in New York for departure to Japan. Meanwhile he was busy in various pastoral ministries like saying Mass for the Spanish community, visiting jails. Finally the day arrived to depart on 30 September to Japan. He landed there on 15 October 1938 at the port of Yokohama.

Japan was totally new to Arrupe. There he had to learn Japanese, their way of life and the zen mode of prayer. He gave himself fully to them, so much so that he continued them all through his life. Japan too was not an easy place for him, it seemed, he was destined to live amidst tensions and wars. Japan had attacked Pearl Harbour on 7 December 1941, and it was evident that USA would respond. Since Arrupe had lived in the United States, he was suspected and put into jail, where he spent 33 days. The USA in retaliation dropped an atom bomb on Hiroshima on 6 August 1945. Arrupe was a

Novice Master then in Nagatsuka, close to Hiroshima. At this moment Arrupe used all his talents as a doctor in serving the patients together with his novices tuning the novitiate into a hospital. Later some of the youth, cured by him, joined the Society of Jesus. There as a Novice Master he had pronounced his Last Vows on 2 February 1943.

Henceforth Japan had become the centre of attention of the whole world, for it needed help to reconstruct the country. Arrupe took the initiative to testify the disaster and journeyed all over the world to give witness as well as to seek assistance. He was busy in this task from 1946 to 1961.

In the middle of his social work, Arrupe was made the Vice-Provincial of Japan in 1954 and in 1958 the First Provincial of Japan. Active as he already was, he brought about many changes and took new initiatives. This made him known more and more, but naturally changes are not always welcome also within the same community. A special Visitor, Fr. George Kester, was appointed from Rome to look into the matter. The matter subsided when Pedro Arrupe was elected Superior General of the Society of Jesus on 22 May 1965.

The next great move was therefore now as the Superior General of the whole Society of Jesus, which had elected him the 28th General during the 31st General Congregation. The first important thing happened in the life of the new Superior General was to participate in the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965), which had already started. There Arrupe came to know the new movements of the spirit of the Church, which helped him to take new initiatives also in the same Society of Jesus. He stressed the point that faith should be at the service of justice and reach to the last man of society. Naturally, just as in Japan, changes were resisted. Here Arrupe proved himself to be a Man of God and Man of Prayer. He called for the 32nd General Congregation to update the Society of Jesus in the spirit of the Church and contemporary needs. This was a master plan. All were oriented towards evangelization in the contemporary world. During this Congregation an important decree was passed by all the members, "Our Mission Today: The Service of Faith and Promotion of Justice". Such guidance was possible, because his devotion to Our Lady and the Sacred Heart of Jesus kept him going strong. His last writings are great witnesses of this.

Amidst the challenges were added also the very question of charism of the Society of Jesus. Already during the 32nd General Congregation the Pope Paul VI had questioned the members of the Congregation to discern about: a) Where do you come from, b) Who are you, and c) Where are you going? The discussions were long and unending. Later the obedience to the Holy See was

there, though the normal administration of the Society was not followed.

After the 32nd GC Arrupe continued his journey all over the world to follow the great initiatives taken, but his health began to deteriorate. He requested the Supreme Head of the Society, Pope Paul VI to accept his resignation. It was denied first, but had to accept when he could not any more. He presented his resignation on 15th April 1983 and the 33rd General Congregation accepted it and elected Fr. Peter-Hans Kolvenbach as the Superior General on 13 September 1984.

Pedro Arrupe still lived till 5th February 1991, which were the years of isolation and of suffering, but he was seen peaceful and still receiving visitors. He was buried first in the common cemetery Verano of Rome, but the body was transferred to the Church of Jesus close to other deceased Superior Generals in 2005. On 5th February 2019 Arrupe was officially declared the Servant of God and his process of Beatification open.

Fr. Linus Kujur S.J.

## LET US PRAY FOR THE DEAR DEPARTED

1. Fr. Gatton Roberge S.J. CCU 85/64.
2. Fr Patrick de Melo S.J. (GOA) 78/61, passed away on 14th August 2020.
3. Fr. Augustine Tigga S.J. (HAZ) 72/51, passed away on 16 August, 2020 at SSC, Sitagarha.
4. Fr. Kabamba Kalimbiro Joseph, S.J. (ACE 53/33) passed away on 03 September 2020 in Apollo Hospital, Chennai.
5. Fr. Elias Arockiasamy, S.J. (AND), 80/58 passed away on 12th August, 2020.
6. Fr. John Berchmans Nag S.J. (JAM) 72/36 died on 10 Sept. 2020 in TMH Jamshedpur.
7. Daniel Ekka, 58 uncle of Sch. James Ekka died on 09 Sept. in Assam.
8. Carmela Soreng, 71, mother of Sch. Bhushan Soreng died on 31 Aug. in RIMS, Ranchi.
9. Magdalene Surin, 78, aunt of Fr. Elias and Sch. Zacharias Surin died on 10 Sept.

## LEFT THE SOCIETY

1. Gabriel Tigga - 07. 08. 2020.

# BIRTHDAYS

## September

- 04 Kerketta Patrick  
Tete Ignatius
- 07 Ekka Severius
- 08 Kadookunnel Anthony  
Saras Ajit  
Kullu Elias
- 10 Ekka Prakash
- 12 Kerketta Elvius
- 13 Kindo Beatus
- 14 Tigga John Crus
- 15 Bara David
- 16 Tirkey Alexius  
Dhanwar Fulit
- 17 Minj Claver
- 20 Tirkey Stanislaus  
Xess Rasal P.
- 21 Toppo Christopher Raju  
Bage Tej Mati  
Dang Edwin  
Kandir Stephen
- 23 Kujur Linus  
Kujur Pingal
- 24 Tirkey Ignatius
- 25 Baxla Tej Kumar  
Tirkey Gulson



- Ekka John Fabianus  
Rosario Mosahari
- 09 Beck Walter  
Tigga Sanjay
- 11 Toppo James Ignatius  
Minj Anthres  
Beck Suman  
Minj Erentius  
Kerketta Michael
- 12 Surin Victor  
Minj Billianus  
Kerketta Pradeep
- 14 Tete Callixtus  
Soreng Jyoti Bhushan
- 15 Baxla Suman J.
- 16 Lakra Xavier
- 19 Ekka James
- 20 Minj Abraham
- 21 Barwa Solomon  
Bara Arpan
- 22 Ekka Anselm
- 24 Tirkey Francis
- 26 Soy Raphael  
Kujur Florence
- 27 Guria Florence  
Purty Florence  
Tigga Mahendra Peter  
Xalxo Patrick
- 28 Kujur Sudhir  
Soreng Kennedy Prabhat
- 30 Aind Alphonse  
Kindo Ravi Sushil



## October

- 04 Tirkey Anil Kishore  
Sandil Rajesh
- 06 Kerketta Sukesh
- 08 Aind Marcus Suresh  
Lakra Ignatius

A.M.D.G.

