

# RANCHI BULLETIN



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

## Province Days 2020

Dear Fathers & Brothers,  
Peace of Christ!

This is to inform you that the dates of the Province Days 2020 will be from 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2020.

**21 May** : Arrival in the afternoon

**22 May** : Session, the full day

**23 May** : Session till noon and then dispersal

With best wishes,  
Yours sincerely,  
Fr. Ajay Soreng, SJ

## Information

To  
All Jesuits  
Ranchi Jesuit Province

Dear brothers,  
Peace, Love & Joy of Christ be with you!

I am glad to announce that the Most Reverend Father Arturo Sosa, SJ, Superior General of the Society of Jesus, has appointed **Fr. Ajit Kumar Xess, SJ**, as the **New Provincial of Ranchi Jesuit Society**.

The handing over to the new Provincial has been scheduled for 23 May 2020, which is the last day of the Province Days-2020. Let us hope and pray that the covid-19 danger will be over by then. In case of a continued lock down due to covid-19, I will let you know as to when the handing over ceremony will take place.

I take this opportunity to thank one and all for your cooperation and understanding.

Sincerely yours,  
Fr. Joseph Marianus Kujur, SJ  
Provincial

## Parting Message from Provincial

At the end of my tenure in the office of the Provincial of Ranchi Jesuit Society, while I congratulate and wish all the best to my successor, Fr. Ajit Kumar Xess, I sincerely thank every province man for his support and collaboration all these years. It has been a pleasant and happy journey together towards tomorrow in spite of stress and strain due to various historical, socio-economic and political developments. I take this opportunity to thank my socii, consultors, curia members, commission heads, rectors, superiors, directors of works, parish priests, collaborators, catechists, support staff, cooks, drivers, gardeners, and so on – past and present – for their guidance, accompaniment, support and understanding.

I thank Most Reverend Father Superior General of the Society of Jesus for placing his trust in me despite my inadequacy and unworthiness, to take God's mission forward. It has been a joyful experience to work with the powerful legacy of the Society with all its dimensions – spiritual, intellectual, pastoral, social, temporal, human, etc. The legacy will continue calling for transparency, accountability and integrity. I am happy and proud that in my successor, the Province is in safe hands.

There have been experiences of consolations and desolations, struggles and strains. However, whatever we have tried to do together is in the direction of striving for the betterment of our life and mission in the midst of manifold challenges.

The present situation in Jharkhand is better than before. We can now take a sigh of relief. However, hostility continues at different levels. Investigations of the minority institutions concerning F.C.R.A. continue. If there is a routine screening, there is no issue. However, if only the Christian institutions are singled out, there seems to be a bias and a well-

thought-out design. Although Sister Concilia is out on bail, Fr. Alphonse Aind, SJ, continues to languish in jail. Fr. Stan Lourdsamy, SJ, is not yet out of danger of being arrested. Meanwhile, the threat of Citizenship Amendment Act 2019 (CAA), National Population Register (NPR) and National Register Citizenship (NRC) is real. From 1 April 2020, NPR was supposed to have started. Various Adivasi groups, Muslims, the poor and Church organizations oppose it as this process is perceived as pausing threat to their very existence as 'citizens' in the country. Ranchi Jesuits continue working courageously in Assam Mission, the Andamans, Egypt, Africa, Guyana, Cambodia and Rome in overseas missions, and also in the Common Houses of JCSA in Vidya Jyoti Delhi, Satya Nilayam Chennai and Sitagarha Tertianship. This is the context in which Ranchi Jesuits are working at the moment.

I am full of gratitude to God for guiding me all along. The first year was a period of learning and getting used to the work of the office. Thereafter, too, it was a learning process. I have learnt a lot during these years and I am still learning.

All along, I experienced that the office of the provincial was a sacred seat, entrusted to me by the Society of Jesus to carry out the Mission of God – of Peace, Justice and Reconciliation. There was never a moment during these years that my eyes were off this focus. I felt that God's hand was right there in all that we did together. There is a feeling of self-satisfaction that we were doing God's work and not ours and it was God who was taking care of the Province in the midst of many challenges.

Being in the office of the provincial, it was a consoling experience to be exposed to the universal society – through various zonal and JCSA meetings, colloquium of the new provincials in Rome, 36th General Congregation, reading about the happenings in the Society in various parts of the world, Re-orienting for Greater Apostolic Effectiveness (REGAE), Universal Apostolic Preferences (UAPs), Province Apostolic Planning (PAP), etc.

I felt a strong sense of bonding with the entire Society and the Province, dealing in cura personalis and cura apostolica. I felt one with the Jesuits slogging day in and day out in the remotest of the villages. I was part of their joys and sorrows. This gave me great consolation and solace.

I have a feeling of happiness and satisfaction for being able to work hand-in-hand with various dioceses during the last six years. Our relationship with the dioceses was all time high. Bishops entrusted me with the responsibilities of animating the religious and faithful on socio-political and religious issues. On many occasions I was the chairperson and/or resource person in the meetings of the Bishops and C.R.I (Catholic Religious of India). This relationship with the Bishops gave me a feeling of 'thinking with the Church'

and supporting the Church when she needed our help. I am grateful to the JHAAN Bishops' Conference in general and to the Archbishop's House in particular, including the Cardinal emeritus.

The unfulfilled dreams will surely be fulfilled in the years to come in the areas of (1) implementation of the Universal Apostolic Preferences (UAPs) & Province Apostolic Planning (PAP), (2) depth – spiritual, intellectual and human – in our life and mission, (3) financial stability, (4) just wage to collaborators, (5) strengthening and deepening ministries – (a) quality but cheap education – primary, secondary, inter-mediate and higher/professional – including a new degree college in Gumla, and University status to XISS and St. Xavier's College Ranchi, (b) socio-pastoral, (c) socio-political research, analysis and advocacy, (d) youth empowerment through spiritual & career guidance, skill training and social consciousness, (e) creation and consolidation of civil society in Ranchi, (f) strengthening and expansion of alumni, collaborations and networks, (g) pioneering periphery missions, (h) vocation promotion, especially of religious brothers, and (i) holistic formation.

I believe that every Jesuit must move on and not be stagnant. He should be part of the process and not occupy space. I am convinced that no one is indispensable. The time now has come for me to move on to whatever the Lord wants of me. Once again, my thanks and best wishes to one and all! God bless us all! God bless Ranchi Province!

*Fr Joseph Marianus Kujur, SJ*  
Provincial Superior

## Assistancy Appointments

Between 1st Oct, 2019 – 30th Apr, 2020.

### Appointments by Fr General:

**Fr Boniface Panna (MAP)** Appointed, Rector of Satya Nilayam, Chennai on 2<sup>nd</sup> Apr 2020. Took charge on 12 April, 2020.

### JDV Pune:

**Fr Herman Tirkey (MAP)** Additional charge. Appointed Secretary and Treasurer, of Jnana Deepa and Jesuit Educational Trusts, JDV Pune, w.e.f. 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2020.

**Fr Ryan Rodrigues (KAR)** Appointed to JDV for Trial Teaching, w.e.f. 1st Jun 2020; residing at DNC.

### Papal Seminary Pune:

**Fr George Cordeiro (BOM)** Additional Charge as Moderator of Philosophers Papal Seminary, w.e.f. 15th Sep, 2019.

**Fr Dinesh Braganza (GUJ)** Appointment as Spiritual Director of Philosophers Papal Seminary, w.e.f. 15th Sep, 2019.

**Fr Vincent Crasta (KAR)** Appointment as Secretary, Papal Seminary Trust w.e.f. 1st Jan 2020.

**Fr V.M. Jose (DUM)** Appointment as Treasurer, Papal Seminary, w.e.f. 1st Jan 2020.

#### **DNC Pune:**

**Fr Richard Lopes (GUJ)** Additional Charge as Secretary DNC Trust, w.e.f. 1st Jan, 2020.

**Fr Patrick Arockiaraj (PUN)** Residing at DNC community with immediate effect.

**Fr Martin G. Pragasam (AND)** Residing at DNC community from June 2020.

**Fr Anthony Andrade (DEL)** Appointment as Spiritual Guide to DNC Philosophers, from June 2020.

**Fr Anthony Mattapallil (PAT)** Appointment as Spiritual Director to DNC Theologians from 1st June, 2020.

#### **S.N Chennai:**

**Fr Satyabalan Arokiasamy (CEN)** Appointed to Satya Nilayam, Chennai for Trial Teaching w.e.f. 1st Jun 2020.

**Fr Vinod Soreng (RAN)** Appointed Librarian of Satya Nilayam, w.e.f. 1st April, 2020, in addition to Teaching.

#### **VJ Delhi:**

**Fr Sunil Padannamakkel (KER)** Appointment as Treasurer VJ, (Additional charge) w.e.f. 15th June, 2020.

**Fr Boniface D'Souza (KHM)** Appointment as Spiritual Director VJ w.e.f. June end 2020.

#### **ISI-D:**

**Fr Anthony Dias (BOM)** Appointment as JESA Secretary, w.e.f. 1st June, 2020: Office in ISI\_D, Residence Jor Bagh, Community.

#### **Sadhana Institute:**

**Br. Anthony Arokiasamy (KHM)** Appointed as Administrator and Secretary of Sadhana Institute and Trust, w.e.f. 1st June 2020.

#### **Kandy Tertianship:**

**Fr Jose Jacob Maruthukunnel (KER)** Appointed as Co-Tertian Instructor at Kandy Tertianship w.e.f. 1st May, 2020.

#### **Conference Development Office (New Delhi):**

**Fr Siji Chacko (PAT)** Additional charge as Conference Communication Coordinator for three years w.e.f. 25th April, 2020.

**Ms. Elsy Samuel GIAN** and Conference Coordinator for Ecology, w.e.f. 15th May, 2020.

#### **JRS Mission:**

**Fr Alex G., SJ (JAM)** Appointed to JRS Afghanistan Mission.

**Fr Robert C. Rodrigues (KAR)** Appointed to JRS Afghanistan Mission.

**Fr Jesu Raja Raju (MDU)** Appointed to JRS Afghanistan Mission.

#### **Studies for Conference Common Works:**

**Fr Ronald Lawrence Serrao (KAR)** Assigned to Common Works, for Islamic Studies. Residing at ISI\_D Hostel.

**Fr Midhun Francis (KER)** Appointed to Study Arabic & Urdu at Henry Martin Institute, Hyderabad; residing in the hostel on campus.

#### **Assistancy Committees:**

**Fr Lancy Lobo (GUJ) & Ms. Auxilia Peter** Resource persons to JFFSA. (7th Nov, 2019).

**Fr Joy Karayampuram (PAT)** Coordinator for "Safeguarding work", along with Frs. Stanislaus Alla (AND), Konrad Noronha (BOM), Joye James (KER), Sr. Tera Paul CSC. (7th Nov, 2019)

#### **Gratitude for services rendered to Common Houses & Works of South Asia:**

**Fr Michael Amaladoss (MDU) & Fr Rudi Heredia (BOM)** for services to the JFFSA.

**Fr Gnanapragasam Alex (JAM)** for services to JDV, Papal Seminary as Secretary & Treasurer and of estate manager and investments for JDV, PS & DNC.

**Br. Fulgence Ekka (MAP)** as Treasurer VJ Delhi.

**Fr Caesar D'Cunha (GUJ)** as Spiritual Director VJ Delhi (2017 – 20).

**Fr Sannybhai (Jebamalai Stanislaus) GUJ** as JESA Sec. (Oct 2011 – May 2020).

**Br. Hermon Anthony (NEP)** Adm & Sec. Sadhana Institute, (2014-2020)

**Fr Ilanko Xavier M. (CEN)** as Spiritual Director DNC, Pune.

**Fr Robin Seelan (CEN)** as Librarian of Satya Nilayam, Chennai.

**Fr Thomas Anthonysamy (PAT)** as Tertian Instructor at Goa; Co-Tertian Instructor Kandy.

**Fr Lumnesh Kumar (KAR)** as GIAN & Conference Coordinator for Ecology.



**Fr George Pattery, SJ**

President, Jesuit Conference of South Asia

Date: 28th April, 2020

### **STATUS OF THE SCHOLASTICS: 2020-2021**

#### **JUNIORATE:**

1. Shashi Samir Dhanwar	Trivandrum
2. Ashwin Kindo	Trivandrum
3. Thomas Purty	Trivandrum
4. Rohit Toppo	Trivandrum
5. Joseph Prashant Toppo	Trivandrum
6. Ashwin Baa'	SSC, Sitagarha, Hazaribag
7. Amit Barla	SSC, Sitagraha, Hazaribag
8. Daminan Barla,	SSC, Sitagarha, Hazaribag
9. Oswoald Ekka	SSC, Sitagarha, Hazaribag
10. Anand Minj	SSC, Sitagarha, Hazaribag
11. Benojit Narzari	SSC, Sitagarha, Hazaribag
12. Amit Tete	SSC, Sitagraha, Hazaribag
13. Gulsan Tirkey	SSC, Sitagraha, Hazaribag
14. Ashwin Tigga	SSC, Sitagraha, Hazaribag
15. Rasal P. Xess	SSC, Sitagraha, Hazaribag

**I COLLEGE STUDY**

1. Anand Dungdung	<b>Physics</b>	St. Joseph's College, Jakhama, Kohima
2. Pingal Bilung	<b>Eco</b>	St. Joseph's College, Jakhama, Kohima
3. Suman Bara	<b>Accounts</b>	St. Joseph's College, Trichy
4. Abhishek Toppo	<b>Eco</b>	St. Joseph's College, Trichy
5. Nitish Rohit Minj	<b>Comp. Sc.</b>	St. Joseph's College, Trichy
6. Ananias Xess	<b>Eng.</b>	St. Joseph's College, Trichy
7. Fabian Dhanwar	<b>Eng.</b>	St. Joseph's College, Trichy
8. Mathew Tigga	<b>Pol. Sc.</b>	SXC Ranchi
9. Blacius Soreng	<b>Eng</b>	SXC Ranchi
10. Sandeep Bara	<b>Geog</b>	SXC Ranchi
11. Johnson Kachhap	<b>Hindi</b>	SXC Ranchi
12. Wilson Soreng	<b>Pol. Sc.</b>	ALC, Vijayawada
13. Sumit Samir Tirkey	<b>Accounts</b>	ALC, Vijayawada
14. Ashwin Ekka	<b>Visual Communication</b>	ALC, Vijayawada

**II COLLEGE STUDY**

1. Alfred Baxla	<b>Geography</b>	SXC Ranchi
2. Ishak Ekka	<b>Account</b>	SXC Ranchi
3. Amit Kujur	<b>Accounts</b>	SXC Ranchi
4. Stanislaus Tirkey	<b>Law</b>	Bangalore
5. Ranjit Kullu	<b>English</b>	SXC Ranchi
6. Kuldeep Dungdung	<b>English</b>	Chennai
7. Akshay Minj	<b>Account</b>	Chennai
8. Anil Xaxa	<b>Geography</b>	SXC Ranchi

**III COLLEGE STUDY**

1. Arpan Bara	<b>Hindi</b>	SXC Ranchi
2. Rohit R. Kujur	<b>Pol. Sc.</b>	SXC Ranchi
3. Alok Soreng	<b>Chem</b>	SXC Ranchi
4. Arvind Barla	<b>Hindi</b>	SXC Ranchi
5. Ravi Sushil Kindo	<b>History</b>	SXC Ranchi
6. Mouris Hemrom	<b>Accounts</b>	SXC Ranchi
7. Hemant Kujur	<b>Accounts</b>	SXC Ranchi
8. Sukesh Kerketta	<b>Pol. Sc.</b>	SXC Ranchi
9. Sumit Soreng	<b>Accounts</b>	SXC Ranchi
10. Praveen Kullu	<b>Accounts</b>	SXC Ranchi
11. Rajen Minj	<b>Geography</b>	SXC Ranchi
12. Wilson Lakra	<b>Hindi</b>	SXC Ranchi
13. Ravindra Ekka	<b>Sociology</b>	SXC Ranchi
14. John Fisher Osga	<b>Zoology</b>	SXC Ranchi
15. Robin Minj	<b>English</b>	SXC Ranchi
16. Sameer Kerketta	<b>Maths</b>	LC Chennai
17. Praveen Minj	<b>Computer</b>	LC Chennai
18. Irenius Beck	<b>English</b>	LC Chennai
19. Erencius Minj	<b>Maths</b>	LC Chennai

**I PHILOSOPHY**

1. V. Roshan Soreng	SN	Chennai
2. Anand Minj	SN	Chennai
3. Mathew Kawa	SN	Chennai

4. Sudhir Oreya	SN	Chennai
5. Sunil Kerketta	DNC	Pune
7. Sagar Xalxo	DNC	Pune
8. Pradeep Bara	DNC	Pune
9. Anup Tirkey	DNC	Pune

**II PHILOSOPHY**

1. James Ekka	DNC	Pune
2. Zacharias Surin	DNC	Pune
3. Benjamin Guria	SN	Chennai
4. Albert Beng	SN	Chennai

**I REGENCY**

1. Francis Tirkey	Apostolic School, Gumla
2. Henry Kullu	Jeevan Deep, Namkum
3. Ashish Kujur	St. Ignatius Hostel, Gumla
4. Samir Ekka	St. Aloysius' Minor Seminary, Ranchi
5. Patras Topno	St. Xavier's, Doranda
6. John Fabian Ekka	St. Stanislaus' High School, Lohardaga
7. Sunil Lakra	Bombay
8. Gabriel Soreng	Apostolic School, Samtoli
9. Priyatam Lakra	Japan
10. J. Kenedy Soreng	St. Mary's Hostel, Samtoli (after college study)
11. Kanchan Minj	St. John's Hostel Balipara (Assam) after college study
12. Vinay Kujur	Kishore Nagar (after college study)
13. Rohit D. Dungdung	Loyola School, Khunti (after college study)
14. Fulit Dhanwar	St. John's Hostel, Ranchi (after college study)
15. Rohit Kullu	St. John's High School, Doreya (after college study)
16. Nitish Ekka	Delhi (after college study)
17. Ajay Paulus Minj	English Medium School, Samtoli
18. Ritesh Dadul	St. Xavier's School, Bundu, (after college study)

**II REGENCY**

1. Johnny Savio	Africa
2. Simon Horo	Assam, Manas bansbari
3. Ruben Xalxo	Delhi
4. Wilson Kandulna	Nepal
5. Florence Hassa Purty	Gumla

**HIGHER STUDY**

1. Saban Xalxo	<b>M.Sc. Physics</b>	Loyola College, Chennai
2. Amrit Toppo	<b>M.Sc. Chemistry</b>	Loyola College, Chennai
3. Nitin Bilung	<b>M.A. English</b>	Loyola College, Chennai
4. Jyoti Bhushan Soreng	<b>M.A. Pol. Science</b>	SXC, Ranchi
5. Paulus Dungdung	<b>M.A. Geography</b>	SXC, Ranchi
6. Anil Nag	<b>Mechanical Engineering</b>	ALC, Vijayawada
7. Noel Ekka	<b>Electrical and Electronic Engineering</b>	ALC, Vijayawada

**I YEAR THEOLOGY**

1. Celestine Minj	RTC, Tarunoday
2. Suresh Tirkey	RTC, Tarunoday
3. Juel Amit Lakra	RTC, Tarunoday
4. Sanjay Tigga	RTC, Tarunoday
5. Nelson Minj	RTC, Tarunoday
6. Ignatius Tete	RTC, Tarunoday
7. Alok Ekka	RTC, Tarunoday
8. Kuldeep Linda	Rome
9. Sandeep B. Bage	Rome
10. P. Paul Horo	France
11. Sudhir Lakra	France

**II YEAR THEOLOGY**

1. Valentine Sinduria	RTC, Tarunoday
2. Lazarus Basumatary	RTC, Tarunoday
3. Pramod Bara	RTC, Tarunoday
4. Marius Baghwar	RTC, Tarunoday
5. Anil Kullu	RTC, Tarunoday

**III YEAR THEOLOGY**

1. Libin Kerketta	VJ, Delhi
2. Sandeep Kujur	VJ, Delhi
5. Johnny Kujur	VJ, Delhi
3. Nirmal Minj	Rome
4. Subodh Lakra	Paris, France

**DEACONS: Diaconate Places**

1. Bimal Minj	Catholic Church, Rengarh
2. Claver Minj	C Church, Sogra & part time teaching, SXC Simdega, resides at St. Mary's School, Samtoli
3. Bimal Nag	Catholic Church, Bardih
4. Elphiz Kerketta	Catholic Church, Bingaon
5. Samir X Bhawnra	Diaconate Ministry, Patrachauli & Assts Bursar at SXC Ranchi
6. Ajit Kerketta	Catholic Church, Sarwada

Rev. Fr. Joseph Marianus Kujur, S.J. Provincial Superior  
Fr. Medard Xalxo, S.J. PCF

**Manresa House, Ranchi: April 2020**

With the commencement of the Lenten Season some of the community members shared their love and compassion with the fellow brethren. On the 1<sup>st</sup> March, the first Sunday of Lent, Br. Blacius Tigga our Minister along with some other brothers from Ranchi paid a visit to the old and the sick at St. Stanislaus College, Sitagarha. On 6<sup>th</sup> March, Br Blacius Tigga, Fr. Clement Ekka, Fr. Alex Tirkey, Fr. Cyprian Ekka, Sr. Lucy and some scholastics participated in the funeral ceremony of Fr. Geoff at Sitagarha, Hazaribagh.

The arrival and departure of some distinguished persons: Mr Matthias Strelow, Homeopathic Doctor, from Germany arrived here on 1<sup>st</sup> March. He stayed with us for couple of days. He wanted to have a feel of tribal people, their culture and the way of life. He visited Sarwada and was

much impressed by the place and people over there and by the works accomplished by J. B. Hoffmann in the past. He also visited some other places like Bero and the village of Mr Simon Oraon. While leaving for Bali, he expressed his gratitude to Manresa Community for the warm hospitality he received. Fr. Rinald D'souza, S.J. who is doing his doctoral studies in Belgium arrived here on 3<sup>rd</sup> March for his research work. Fr. Xavier Lakra, S.J., the PDD of Assam Mission, who was recuperating here after his operation, was declared fit and so he left for his mission land on March 5, 2020. Due to Covid-19 crisis, schools and colleges were closed. This had impact on our institutions too. As a result, Deacons from Delhi and philosophers from Pune had to come back to the Province. They reached on 19<sup>th</sup> March.

**Meetings:** On 16<sup>th</sup> March, Budget Session 2020 was held in Manresa House for Ranchi Zone. Rectors, superiors, treasurers and directors of the works were the participants of the meeting. It began at 8.00 A.M. and came to an end at 2.00 P.M. Manresa House hosted another meeting of Jesuits on 19<sup>th</sup> March. This meeting was held in view of sound understanding of NPR, NRC and CAA. Mr Gladson Dungdung, a social activist and human rights worker, was the chief speaker. Our community also had a couple of meetings to plan and discern how we could keep ourselves and others safe from Covid-19 and how we could collectively collaborate with state government at the time of Covid-19 crisis.

**Spiritual Ministry:** On 8<sup>th</sup> March, some of our fathers generously gave their time to hear confessions at Loyola Ground where Charismatic Retreat was going on. Fr Aurel Brys conducted Seminar cum retreat from 11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> March at Sitagarha for those involved in Dalit Apostolate.

**Vocation Promotion:** All of us are aware that the Society needs Jesuit Brothers for our apostolate and ministries. Brother Telesphore Horo is working hard in this line. On March 4, he went to St. Mary's Samtoli to conduct vocation camp for brothers' candidates.

**Health News:** Fr. Fabian Bhuinya came back from Seva Nilaya, Aara Gate on 2<sup>nd</sup> March after recovering and regaining his strength. The country wise lock down due to Covid-19 crisis forced Seva Nilaya to close down. Therefore, Fr. Benjamin Lakra also had to come back to Manresa House. Now he is recuperating at Manresa House Infirmary.

Amrit Lakra SJ

**St Mary's Samtoli**

**Vocation Promotion for Brotherhood :** Br. Felix Prakash Tete, S.J. had organized vocation camp in St. Mary's High School, Samtoli for those who would like to join the Society as Brothers. He had circulated letters in many places even in Odisha. He had expected that about 15 to 20 candidates would come for the camp but only two turned up. It was because of the exams which were held in Odisha in this



period. It was slightly disheartening to the organizer. However, Br. Felix filled with hope and courage, said that he would try to organize some other time later. It was a good move from Br. Felix. Br. Telesphore Horo too was here to help Br Felix in this program.

Fr. Medard Xalxo, the PCF of Ranchi Province was in Samtoli to see the scholastics and the priests. He met both the scholastics and the priests and went back after 3 days of stay.

Fr. Ephrem Ba'a, the Principal of SXC, Simdega went to Patrachauli on March 08 for AICUF meeting. He took students along with him to Patrachauli.

**Sick :** Fr. Ajit Saras was admitted in Ara Gate. After spending two weeks in Seva Nilaya, Ara Gate and some days in Manresa House, he came back to Samtoli.

**New Education Policy :** Fr. Alexander, Fr. Fredrick, Fr. Damian, Fr. Sylvanus Kerketta and Fr. Ephrem Ba'a went to Ranchi on March 14 to attend the seminar organized by C.R.I. at St. Anne's Generalate. Resource person was none other than Fr. Sunny Jacob, S.J. (Jam.), JEA secretary. The participants were more than expected, approximately 300.

**Career Guidance :** Fr. Sylvanus Kerketta had organized a career guidance program in St. Mary's High School. The hostel girls from Ursuline, SJT hostel, St. Anne's (A & B) hostel and St. Mary's hostel attended in this program. About 200 hostel boys and girls attended and profited by this seminar. The resource persons were from N.G.O. Balasore.

**Budget Meeting :** Budget meeting for Simdega zone took place at St. Mary's High School, Samtoli. Fr. Provincial and Fr. Vijay M. Tirkey had come from Ranchi. It was from 9.00 A.M. to 1.00 P.M. Those who were not ready, Fr. Provincial told them to prepare and send it to Sadbhavna.

**Tragedy :** A tragic incident took place in the family of Fr. Alois Beck in Khijurdih on March 23 morning. According to the news it all happened in the broad day light. It was about 11.00 A.M. Pingal Horo, the brother-in-law of Fr Alois, picked a fight with family members. In course of the quarrel, Mr Pingal murdered three persons – first his wife Mrs Jyoti Beck, who was the niece of Fr. Alois; second, was his (Pingal's) own son Alwin Horo who was just one and half years old; and third, was Mrs Suchita, the wife of Fr Alois' nephew. Burial took place of March 24 afternoon. Fr. Rector, Fr. Sikander, Fr. Sylvanus and Fr. Fredrick Kujur went for the burial.

**Retreat :** Seeing the lock down in the country because of corona virus some of our community members – Rector, Alexander, Sylvanus, Ephrem and Bruno started their annual retreat according to their own convenience in the house itself.

## Foregin Mission Munich, Germany

Sch. Sameer completed his first month in his new Community, Gonzaga. As per his impression, he said that the month was good. Everything was normal again but not for a long time. Covid-19 started to spread like a wildfire in Germany too. Whatever we had planned for community for the next months could not take place. We were supposed to go to Innsbruck, Austria for our community holidays, but due to Covid-19 we had to cancel the program. We had community holidays in our Community itself. On 24th March both of us shared our experiences of living in Germany with the community members. Sch. Jovilton from Goa Province also joined us. It was a good opportunity for us to reflect upon our experiences in Europe in the last three and a half years.

Here in Germany, colleges, schools and universities and shops were closed from the middle of the month. Due to Corona Virus we had to bring some changes in our community schedules and structures. A meeting was held as to how and what changes we were going to make in the community. One big change was in the celebration of the Holy Mass. We no longer have Mass in our chapel but in the dining hall, where we have more space. There is a Jesuit companion who has taken the initiative to disinfect the handles of the doors and windows everyday. We have broken contact with the bigger community, Berchmanskolleg, where the elderly Jesuits stay, in order to keep our elderly Jesuits safe. There are many other similar changes brought in the community and we were quick enough to adjust to those changes. The number of the people affected in Germany today on 8. April is 1,07,375. There are 3,500 cases in Munich alone. The government has taken preventive measures. At present we are staying mostly at home. We are also free to go out for jogging or for a walk. One can go outside alone or with family members living in the same house. Good thing is that people are cooperating very well.

We also got Fr. Christoph Soyer S.J. (also the PCF) as a new Superior for our Community. Fr. Jan Roser S.J., who was our Superior, was appointed the Vice-Provincial (with all the powers of a Provincial) of the German Province. The German Province felt very much the lack of Fr Provincial's presence since the Provincial Johannes Siebner S.J. was admitted in the hospital due to his illness. Despite all the tumult outside and within, we are continuing our normal community life in a creative way. Wish you all a blessed Easter!

Sch. Sameer & Ajay Pautus

## Life amidst Lockdown in Rome

The first case of COVID-19 in Italian soil was confirmed on 31 January 2020 when two Chinese tourists in Rome tested positive for virus; which resulted into the immediate suspension of all flights to and from China. A week later, an Italian man repatriated back to Italy from Wuhan was

confirmed positive. Since, the more cases were being identified in northern regions, they were placed under quarantine. As a precautionary measure, all the schools, colleges and universities were closed on 5 March 2020 as a preventive measure against the spread of COVID-19; and on 9 March, the entire country was put under lockdown. In the beginning people struggled to come to terms with their strange new reality; however, as the number of contagions and deaths increased, gradually people understood the seriousness of the situation. The feeling of uncertainty and claustrophobia replaced the sense of living in an orderly society protected by the spectacular technological developments of recent times, and people accepted the lockdown not as an order from the Government, but as their own responsibility. As the country struggled to cope up with a steep surge in the number of deaths, especially in the northern regions, a real unity started to emerge in the country's shared sacrifice.

After the suspension of all didactic activities in Gregorian University, the Scholastics of International College of Gesù immediately took precautionary measures to protect themselves and the others. The Room of St. Ignatius and the Church of Gesù were closed to the public. Within the community, the seating position in the Chapel, in Dining Hall and in all common places were rearranged in order to maintain a safe social distancing of one meter. For any emergency, one has to carry a Self-Authorized Letter indicating an indispensable reason to go out of the main entrance. More time was devoted to prayers and adorations to show solidarity with all the victims of the virus and with those medical personnels taking care of the victims and the dying. During these quarantined days, Gesù courtyard has become a crucial place for physical activities. In addition, they have a few recreational activities like dominoes, cards, poetry, ping-pong, chess, football-table, theology café, etc. More than one month has passed, and so far no one in the community has shown any symptom of corona-virus.

Collegio Bellarmino, the community of Kulwant celebrated Easter together probably for the first time in its history. We are all at home and are celebrating Easter in the Community – perhaps for the first time in history. In fact, since the closure of Gregorian University from 5 March, no one was allowed to go out anywhere. All are attentive and taking good safety measures to stay away from the Corona Virus. As a result, so far no one is infected by the Virus. During the lockdown, the students were kept busy by the Professors through Online lessons, reading materials and assignments. The same method will continue even after Easter holiday. With regard to exams, the Faculty of Canon Law in Gregoriana will follow the decision of the State Government and the Authorities of the Pontifical Universities. However, Kulwant and his Canon Law companions have been asked by their Dean to be ready for the final exam which could be held in the month of June as per the original plan; otherwise, they will have to be ready for September.

After the suspension of the regular classes, the Professors of Gregorian University started exploring different viable means to keep up the pace. The Forum Online and the Virtual Office were useful even during the regular class days; however, Google Meet and Zoom Online Sessions became handy to cater to the urgent needs of continuing the lessons. The complete lockdown from 9 March strengthened the community bond and enhanced the spirit of collaboration not only in the academic field, but also in carrying out the house chores. In the absence of the Co-workers, all came together to extend their helping hands in running the house while always maintaining the strict social distancing. The mid-day Adoration became the center of day-to-day activities and a deeply shared gesture of solidarity with the worldwide victims of the virus. The empty University and the vast terrace came as the great blessings to the community members for the physical exercises without stepping out of the campus. The Holy Week's liturgies, celebrated within the community in a very sober manner, were dedicated to all the faithful, who stayed at home to participate virtually in the Online liturgical celebrations in different parts of the world.

Finally, the words of Kulwant resonate the sentiments of Ranchi Jesuits in Rome, who appreciates the paternal and proficient guidance of Rev. Fr. Joseph Marianus Kujur S.J., in leading the Ranchi Jesuit Society to render a wonderful service to the needy at this moment of great difficulty, uncertainty, and panic in Jharkhand. The video of the valuable services rendered to the poor in Dorea, Tamar, shared and posted on Social Media, are indeed inspiring and touching – a magnanimous gesture of "Walking with the Poor". Best Wishes and Easter Blessing to All back home for the wonderful work being done for the poor and the needy.

Prem

## Nepal

In view of the Final Term Examination, the revision classes continued almost a week in the beginning of March. Due to Covid-19 pandemic, the class eight-board exam was anticipated and held at the time when other regular exams of the school. By 19th March, all the exams were over and the teachers continued to come for the correction of exam papers. Meanwhile, the new admission forms of class one were distributed. However, the exam results and the entrance test of class one cum interview is postponed due to nationwide lockdown. Apparently, the tenth board exams are postponed. In solidarity with the affected people of Covid-19 and in order to journey with them spiritually, we started one hour of adoration daily. Under the guidance of Fr. Daniel Bara (Darjeeling Province) who joined the community in the middle of March gave eight day guided retreat. Two FC Sisters who are collaborating in our Mission here, also joined the retreat. In the Holy week, our Catholic faithful came individually in different timing to make confession and receive Holy communion keeping in mind the social isolation and distancing. On the Easter

Sunday, many faithful came to receive Holy Communion privately. Deonia Jesuit community is collaborating with Birtamode Municipality Ward to help poor section of the society at this crisis moment.

Sch. Wilson Kandulna, SJ  
St. Xavier's School,  
Deonia, Nepal.

**GUYANA**

We exercised our right by casting vote at the general and regional election on 2<sup>nd</sup> March and reelected His Excellency Mr. David Granger as the president of Guyana. The memorial Holy Eucharist for late Fr. Joachim De Mello, S.J. (67) was arranged on 4<sup>th</sup> March in the Immaculate Conception Cathedral Brickdam, Georgetown. His Lordship Bishop Francis Alleyne, OSB was the main celebrant during the Holy Mass. Fr. Joachim De Mello, S.J. (Goa) who served Guyana for fifteen years, passed away on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020 in Arrupe House at Queenstown in the city of Georgetown.

Fr. Anugrah Amar Bage, S.J. presided over the solemn Holy Eucharist on 8<sup>th</sup> March, on the occasion of the International Women's day in Kurukabaru, thanking God for the precious gifts of all women and had the special prayers for them. It was a great blessings for Tuseneng, Yurongparu, Rukumuta, Tipuru, Tiger Pond and Pai Pong villages to have Fr. Elias Surin, S.J. and Fr. Anugrah Amar Bage, S.J. for the Easter preparation during lent. The feast of St. Joseph, the husband of Blessed Mary, the patron saint of Kurukabaru mission was celebrated in Kurukabaru on 19<sup>th</sup> March interceding him for protection from all evil and harm.

On 21<sup>st</sup> March, we had one day recollection for the interior mission in Pakaraimas and Rupununi in St. Ignatius Lethem for the preparation for Easter. Fr. Elias Surin, S.J. was generous enough to give the points for the recollection on the theme – 'You are in the loving attention of God.' On 22<sup>nd</sup> March, His Lordship Bishop

Francis Alleyne, OSB announced that all the Masses, communion services, public gatherings in the church will be cancelled till further notice because of COVID 19.

Sr. Helena, Sr. Nishi, Sr. Crecencia and Sr. Sosan, the Ursuline Sisters of Tildonk in Karasabai, South Pakaraimas visited all their six villages- Pai Pong, Tiger Pond, Yurongparu, Rukumuta, Tipuru and Karasabai during their Lenten Tour. Their visit was to strengthen the communities by giving them catechism classes, leadership programmes and health awareness.

Fr. Elias Surin, SJ

**Let us pray for the dear departed**

**1. FR. VALENTINE DE SOUZA SJ (GUJARAT)** 92 years old / 74 years in the Society of Jesus, passed away on 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2020 at 06.55 AM in Our Lady of Pilar Hospital, Vadodara, Gujarat – I N D I A.

**2. Fr. Dominic Muthedath, SJ, (PAT 85/63)** died on 20 March 2020 in Patna. The funeral is scheduled on 21.03.2020 at 4.00 P.M. at XTTI Chapel, Digha Ghat, Patna.

**3. FR. JOSE JAVIER AIZPUN SJ,** 90 years old / 72 years in the Society of Jesus, 59 years as a priest, passed away on Good Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2020 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. He belonged to Gujarat province and later transcribed to Argentina. He had been Novice Master, Provincial, Tertian Instructor, spiritual director and one of the directors at Sadhana.

**4. Fr. Geoffrey Michael Meagher SJ 77/59 (HAZ)** passed away on 05 March, 2020, at 12.20 AM., in the Tata Medical Centre Kolkata. He had an advanced cancer.

**BIRTHDAYS**

**APRIL**

- 01 Minj Ajit
- 02 Lakra Polycarp, Ekka Britius

- 03 Minj Ajay Arun
- 04 Minj Praveen
- 05 Dungdung Anthres
- 06 Kerketta Sameer
- 07 Bage A. Amar, Barla James
- 08 Doongdoong Anthony
- 09 Ekka Vital, Ekka Anthony
- 10 Kerketta Anand
- 11 Tete Felix P., Orea Sudhir
- 12 Guria Cyril, Bara Suman
- 13 Bara Pradeep, Kujur Emmanuel
- 14 Toppo Alexius, Kullu Praveen
- 15 Topno Nicholas
- 16 Tete James Pascal
- 17 Kandulna Ashok, Xalxo Pius
- 18 Turkey Justin, Toppo Binod
- 19 Tete Seberius
- 20 Ekka Ravindra
- 21 Mathias Joseph B., Kerketta Ashok
- 22 Ba'a Ashwin, Kerketta Sikander
- 23 Bara Sandeep
- 24 Bara Pramod, Kandulna Wilson
- 25 Xalxo Saban Bibnod
- 26 Kullu Santosh Vinay
- 27 Minj Francis, Toppo Amrit
- 28 Kawa Mathew
- 29 Surin Zacharias
- 30 Baxla Emmanuel

**MAY**

- 01 Soreng Xavier
- 02 Minj Ajay P., Kujur Hemant
- 03 Barla Amit, Minj Erentius
- 04 Soreng Hemant
- 05 Toppo Erenius, Dungdung Samir
- 06 Lakra Shailesh
- 07 To'ppo Ireneus
- 08 Ekka Ishak
- 09 Minj Gyan Prakash
- 10 Soreng Pradeep
- 11 Xalxo Jerome Stephen
- 12 Minj Bimal, Xess Gabriel
- 13 Dungdung Kuldeep
- 14 Minj Anand
- 15 Khoya Manohar
- 16 Soreng Alok, Soreng Blacius
- 17 Kerketta Xavier
- 18 Kerketta Benjamin
- 19 Dungdung Alexius
- 20 Ekka Praful, Kujur Ajit Kalyan
- 21 Minz Ajay Paulus
- 22 Ba'a Ephrem
- 23 Chermako Sylverius
- 24 Tigga Lalit John
- 25 Kullu Francis David,
- 26 Minj David
- 27 Horo Peter Paul