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**OSU TILDONK: 200 GLORIOUS YEARS OF SERVICE**

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Ursuline Sisters of Tildonk in India have done a great work in the area of education, health care, social service, and skill-teaching orientations, especially for girls and women in Chotanagpur and Assam. Their commendable service with full dedication, conscientiousness and commitment to the tribal girls has spread the light of education and awareness to health care. They have come a long way after opening their first Convent in Ranchi in 1903; and now, they have the first Superior General from among the tribal Sisters in the person of Rev. Mother Bimla Minj.

On 30 April 2018, they solemnly celebrated the 200 Anniversary of the Foundation of their Congregation in Scherpenheuvel (Belgium) in the presence of a large numbers of faithful, friends, well-wishers and benefactors. The Ursuline Congregation of Tildonk was founded on 30 April 1818 by CurJohn Cornelius Lambert. The theme of the Jubilee was Rekindle the Fire of Love based on the flame of fire which invited Ursuline Sisters from all over the world to rejoice and celebrate Gods love and faithfulness and to serve One and All under the protection of St. Angela Merici and CurJohn Lambert. Prior to the commencement of the Jubilee Celebrations, 24 Sisters from 4 Ursuline Provinces of India were already preparing themselves through the Renewal Program. They were joined by their Provincials for the Jubilee - Sr. Suchita Xalxo (Ranchi), Sr. Maria Swarnlata Kujur (Gumla), Sr. Ursual Xalxo (Ambikapur) and Sr. Lucienne Kakanatt (Tezpur).

The solemn Eucharistic celebration started with a beautiful entrance dance by the Indian Sisters. Rev. Sr. Bimla Minj, Superior General of the Congregation, extended a cordial welcome to all present for the occasion. The Eucharistic celebration was presided over by His Eminence Jozef Cardinal De Kesel, Archbishop of Brussels-Mechelen and was assisted by 3 more Bishops H.L. Johan Bonny, Bishop Emeritus of Antwerp; H.L. Jan De Bie, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of Brussels-Mechelen and H.L. Jerome Gapangwa Nteziryayo, Bishop Emeritus of Uvira in Congo. The melodious singing in different languages made the Eucharistic celebration all the more solemn and exuberant. At the end of the Eucharistic celebration, the message of the Holy Father Pope Francis was read out with great joy by Sr. Jane, one of the General Counsellors, in which he assured his spiritual closeness to the Ursuline Sisters and wished that such occasion would become an



opportunity for the Sisters to rediscover the freshness of the Gospel, from which new avenues arise, new paths of creativity open up, with different forms of expression, more eloquent signs and words with new meaning for today's world (Evangelii Gaudium, 11).

A most apt message for the occasion!!! Heartfelt Congratulations to Rev. Sr. Bimla Minj, Superior General and all Ursuline Sisters!!!