

RANCHI BULLETIN



76/8

Ranchi Jesuits, Sadbhavna P.B. - 4, Ranchi - 834 001, Jharkhand

AUGUST 2017

From Provincial's Desk

It was sometime in June that I received an unfamiliar phone call from a certain Fr. Mathew, a Claretian priest from Kochi, inviting me to a Memorial Mass to mark 50 years of martyrdom of Fr. James Kottayil, a Ranchi Jesuit, who was killed on 16 July 1967, when he was the Parish Priest of Nawatanr. I immediately got in touch with Fr. K. C. Philip and to my surprise Fr. Kattayil happened to be from a neighbouring parish of Fr. K. C. Philip. I decided to go for the Memorial service to be held on 15 July with only one purpose – to thank the family, friends and parish of Fr. James Kottayil, SJ, for giving such a wonderful person to the Ranchi Jesuit Society to work for the Universal Church. At the end of the Mass while I was given an opportunity to speak, I recalled the martyrdom of Fr. James. It is quite possible that he was killed in a dacoity. However, what makes him a real martyr is the fact of his leaving his parents, family, near and dear ones and all comforts of life to live a simple life in a remote parish of Nawatanr and die a martyr's death at the hands of a few goons who could not see the progress of the people and parish.

It may be good to revisit the way in which James Kattayil breathed his last as reported in the Ranchi Bulletin of July 1967: Nawatanr: In the early morning on the 14th news reached Archbishop's House and Manresa House that Fr. James Kottayil had been assaulted the previous night (that means on the 13th night) in his own parish bungalow and been brought to Mandar: blood donors were needed immediately. Fr. Jacques took some seminarians and scholastics to Mandar and the reaction of Fr. James to the transfusion was satisfactory; fresh hope dawned. Fr. De Munter had anointed him, during the night as soon as Fr was brought in and a first blood donors for immediate transfusion was the Gabriel Brother who had brought him. Sister-Doctor and nurses worked during the rest of the night clearing the lungs from the flow of blood, helping him to be Xrayed, bandaging wounds, etc. On Sunday however his condition grew worse. Fr. Provincial still saw him in the morning, and James recognized him and thanked him. At 7 pm death came to Fr. Kottayil and after the inevitable post mortem he was interred at Mandar on Monday afternoon. Fr Provincial said the funeral Mass and His Grace gave Absolution and officiated at the grave. Many parishioners of Nawatanr came and accompanied the procession to the cemetery, in spite of heavy rain.

Fr. James joined the novitiate at Sitagarha in 1936 and kept veneration for his Master the late Fr. G. Turkenburg. He was ordained a priest at Kurseong in 1948 and served in the mission fields of Biru and Jashpur as assistant and as Father in charge. For a time he was Minister of St. Mary's High School, Samtoli. What must have struck many was his sense of duty, especially when there was a question of organizing cooperatives or getting the banks on a sound footing in parish circles; also certainly his interest in the Sodalities of the Blessed Virgin. Not very long ago he went to Bombay, deputed by his Superiors, to assist at the Sodality Seminar. The Catholic Leaders of the place (Nawatanr) came together and decided they would hold a condolence meeting on Sunday July 30 and erect a memorial slab.

R. I. P. ("News about the attack on Fr. James Kottayil, SJ"), *Ranchi bulletin*, July 1967, page 2)

The Ranchi Jesuit Society gratefully and lovingly recalls the supreme sacrifice of Fr. James Kattayil, SJ, for the empowerment of the Adivasis/tribals through education, development and by catering to their pastoral and spiritual needs. The Ranchi Jesuits thank the family & friends of Fr. James Kattayil, SJ, for giving such a zealous missionary on fire, to the Ranchi Province, primarily for the Adivasi/tribal people of Chotanagpur.

Fr. Joseph Marianus Kujur, SJ

Invitation

To a Talk by Father Prem Xalxo, SJ, on **“Discernment and Integration of Fragility in Human Relationships,”** followed by interactions, at **3.30-5.30 p.m.**, at Xavier Institute of Social Service (XISS), Ranchi, on **16 September 2017**, jointly organized by Ranchi Jesuits & Forum of the Religious of Ranchi Diocese presided over by Bishop Telesphore Bilung, SVD!

The gist of the input: Pope Francis’ Apostolic Exhortation *Amoris Laetitia* (The Joy of Love) on family life and marriage, and the pastoral care in guiding people to discern and make good decisions without judging them or imposing rigid norms as if they were “stones to throw at people’s lives” (AL 305). Exhortation to meet people wherever they may be, to consider their complexities and to respect their consciences, which requires “new pastoral methods” (AL199) carried out with understanding, compassion and accompaniment. The need of openness to different situations and cultures, because what might make sense pastorally in one country may even seem out of place in another! While affirming the traditional teachings on marriage, he exhorts the Church not to burden people with unrealistic expectations (AL 122), but go forth to understand their complex and fragile life situations and help them to discern. He emphasizes on the need of educating children to make them understand sex and sexuality within the “broader framework of an education for love and mutual self-giving” (AL 280).

– Fr. Joseph Marianus Kujur, SJ

Fr. Provincial’s Programmes

Aug. 14 : Major Superiors Meetings at OCD’s House
 Aug. 16 : Core Committee Meeting of Think Tank of Ranchi Archdiocese
 Aug. 17 : Visit to Rengarih and Soso with PDD
 Aug. 18 : A.M. Meeting for the Cause of Fr. Herman Rasschaert, SJ
 : P.M. Meeting of Loyola Training Centre Committee
 Aug. 19 : A Film on “Birth of Catholicism in Chotanagpur & the Role of Jesuits: The Untold Story,” at St. Xavier’s School, Doranda
 Aug. 22 : Visitation – St. Xavier’s School, Doranda
 Aug. 25-27: Meeting in Guwahati of RJS Team with Kohima Region on collaboration
 Aug. 27 : Return from Guwahati
 Aug. 28 : Meeting of all Commissions Coordinators at Manresa House
 Aug. 29 : Province Consult

September 2017

Sept. 2 : Visitation Evening – Muri
 Sept. 3 : Muri – Mass, Meeting with Collaborators and Parishioners
 Sept. 6 : Meeting of Rectors, Superiors, Parish Priests, Commission Coordinators and Directors of works on “Strategic Planning” at Manresa House

Sept. 8-9 : Visitation – RTC Tarunoday, Boreya
 Sept. 11 : Visitation – Inigo High School, Saparom
 Sept. 12 : Visitation – Catholic Church, Kanke
 Sept. 16 : Talk by Fr. Prem Xalxo, SJ, on Discernment and Integration of Fragility in Human Relationships at 3.30 pm, at XISS
 Sept. 18-20 : Visitation – Jharna-Ashirvad, Namkum
 Sept. 21 : Visitation – Bingaon
 Sept. 23 : Visitation – St. Albert’s College, Ranchi
 Sept. 25 : Visitation - Holy Family Hospital, Mandar
 Sept. 26 : Province Consult

October 2017

Oct. 2-17 : Visitation – Guyana Jesuit Mission along with the Provincial of Karnataka
 Oct. 21-30: JCSA Meeting in Ahmadabad

November 2017

Nov. 7-11 : Off to Delhi
 Nov. 11 : Back to Ranchi
 Nov. 16-19: Visitation – Sogra-Jharain-Rengarih
 Nov. 22-23: Visitation – Bardih-Noadih-Tongo
 Nov. 24 : Visitation – Soso
 Nov. 28-29: Joint Meeting of Major Superiors with Bishops and CRI (GB Meeting of various Registered Societies in November-December)

Loyola Hostel, Ranchi

After 9 years Loyola Hostel was given back to the Society of Jesus, Ranchi Province, on 28 July 2017. At 4.00 pm on 28 July 2017 His Lordship Telesphore Bilung, SVD, invited Fr. Provincial Joseph Marianus Kujur, SJ, to tea in the Bishop’s House, Ranchi. Fr. Provincial took along with him Frs. Joachim Dungdung, the new Loyola Hostel Superintendent, George Kerketta, Ajay Prakash Minj and Ajay Soreng. His Lordship Telesphore Bilung, SVD and Rev. Fr. Mukul Kullu, the previous Superintendent welcomed us to their conference room where Fr. Mukul Kullu one by one

handed over to Fr. Provincial the register books, bill books and vouchers, electricity bills and papers, old registers, pertinent files, etc. In the end Fr. Provincial thanked His Lordship Telesphore Bilung, SVD, for trusting the Society of Jesus in handing over the Loyola Hostel and especially, Rev. Mukul Kullu for running the hostel so well. His Lordship wished all success in the running of the hostel well and to serve the tribal youth of Jharkhand. All the hostellers gathered quickly and welcomed us with a bouquet.

On 30 July 2017 the Loyola hostellers had arranged for an Annual Loyola Holy Mass which was presided over by Fr. Provincial Joseph Marianus Kujur, SJ and concelebrated

by Frs. Joachim Dungdung, Ephrem Ba'a, John Berchmans Dungdung and Ajay Soreng. The Mass was well arranged and with good hymns. In the end a short felicitation with bouquets and a gift of shawl to each Father and tea, and this was a formal welcome to the Jesuits to run the historic Loyola Hostel. We pray to the Lord that we do justice to the aspirations of the Jharkhandi youth!

On 14 August 2017 H.L. Bishop Bilung, SVD, handed over all the keys of Loyola Training Centre also to Fr. Provincial Joseph Marianus Kujur, SJ.

31 July, Ranchi Province Celebration

A combined celebration of the Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola on 31 July is a common annual feature of the Institutions of the Dr. Camil Bulcke Path, Ranchi (Former Purulia Road). Preparations were on from a fortnight. H.E. Telesphore P. Cardinal Toppo, DD, was the main celebrant flanked by H.L. Telesphore Bilung, SVD, Fr. Provincial Joseph Marianus Kujur, SJ, TOR Provincial Fr. Hilarius Barla, Rev. Theodore Toppo, Parish Priest of the Cathedral, Fr. Rector Henry Barla and Acting Rector Fr. Alex Toppo.

The choir was formed of the Scholastics, students of the Minor Seminary, student boys and girls of the High School as well as Intermediate of St. John's and St. Xavier's Intermediate College and the student Religious Sisters in both the Intermediate Colleges. Fr. Sibil Horo led the choir fitting to the occasion. At the beginning Fr. Provincial welcomed the whole congregation touching upon a little of the great past of Ranchi Province with its great men like Stockman, Hoffmann, Lievens and others. Fr. Kulwant Minj preached a much appreciated homily on the dream, determination and achievements of St. Ignatius. Many old

students and the public attended the Eucharist including Mrs. Mahua Maji to express their gratitude to the Jesuits. Fr. Sudhir Kr Minj thanked the congregation for praying for the Jesuits. After the Eucharist the VIPs were led to Sadbhavna for breakfast.

In the afternoon from 3.30 pm to 5.30 pm streams of Religious Fathers, Brothers, Sisters, Novices, Candidates and Postulants of all Congregations and from among the public thronged to Sadbhavna for tea at the Curia, but less for the tea rather more to greet the Jesuits. The same was experienced in other Jesuit Institutions on the Dr. Bulcke Path on this great day.

St. Xavier's School, Doranda

In 2016, 40 schools of Central Zone Jesuit Provinces went through a process of evaluation and Grade by "Adhyayan", a Mumbai based Educational organization. The Adhyayan team awarded St. Xavier's School with 'NATIONAL SILVER', the only school in the Central Zone Provinces to get the highest grade so far.

We are proud of our committed staff, students and their parents. Like other times, in recent days our students proved themselves in inter-school co curricular activities at the zonal level that **they are the best**. There are 32 schools affiliated to the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations, New Delhi from Ranchi, Gumla, Lohardaga, Khunti, Daltonganj, Ramgarh and Hazaribag Districts. Among these best ICSE schools competitions take place on literary and sports and games fields. So far, four literary events are conducted and the students of St. Xavier's are beyond comparison. They won all the prizes which others may envy. The following are some of the events that are already conducted: -

SL. No.	Events	Date	Host Schools	winners
01	Debate	June 29	Loreto Convent	Junior Category: - St. Xavier's 1 st position Master Tarush Modi 2 nd position Master Aakash Bhagat Senior Category: - St. Xavier's 1 st position Master Divya H. Jain 2 nd position Ms. Elizabeth Thomas
02	Declamation	June 29	St. Anthony's	Junior Category: - St. Xavier's 1 st position Master Charles A. Toppo Senior Category: - St. Xavier's 1 st position Ms. Rahat Nasim
03	Quiz	June 30	BWGS, Doranda	Junior Category: - St. Xavier's Master Ribhu Sharma & Master Ayushmaan Jha Senior Category: - St. Xavier's Master Divya Harshit Jain & Master Viksal Mundu
04	Creative writing	July 10	St. Mathias'	Junior Category: - St. Xavier's 1 st position Master Tarang M. Kacchap 2 nd position Master Adnan Senior Category: - St. Xavier's 2 nd position Master Yashasvi
05	Drawing & Painting	July 10	St. Mathias'	Senior Category: - St. Xavier's 1 st position – Sahil Sushant Tirkey
06	Debate/Declamation/ Creative Writing	July 28	Bhagalpur	1 st position Master Tarush Modi 1 st position Ms. Rahat Nasim 2 nd position Master Tarang M. Kacchap

Life in St. Xavier's goes on in well defined directions without disturbing and distracting one another. We attend everything with full concentration and perfection. While students participated in Inter school Co curricular activities, the students of classes 10 and 12 had their first selection tests and the others appeared in the unit tests.

We were proud to host International Olympic Day on June 23, 2017. The day began with a **3 km Cross Country Race** (Run for Peace) flagged off by **Mr Rahul Sharma, IAS (Principal Secretary Sports, Arts, Culture & Youth Affairs)** in which 1000 students from 8 different schools from the neighborhood participated. The children were bustling with excitement and everyone contributed in the constitution of a merry atmosphere. It took nearly half an hour to complete the race and every participant was thrilled with joy to have completed the race.

Thereafter **100 metres** race was conducted in the playground of St. Xavier's School in which **1st and 2nd Positions were bagged by Amardeep Surin and Sunny Barla (St. Xavier's School, Doranda) respectively. Both of these students again bagged the same position in the Long jump.**

Last of all a **quiz on Olympics on the life of Pierre De Coubertin** was organized for the school children of 8 schools. **Once again St. Xavier's Boys, Ribhu Sharma and Aman Ashish won the championship.**

Fr. Ajit attended the World Union of Jesuit Alumni from June 28-July 2, 2017, in North America, at John Carroll University, in Cleveland, Ohio. There gathered renowned, world-class speakers committed to *Uniting Our Jesuit Frontiers* in the arts, business, science, law, spirituality, theology, faith and leadership, service, and justice.

Father Arturo Sosa, S.J., the Superior General of the Society of Jesus joined WUJA 2017 via live teleconference on Thursday, June 29 at 2 pm. It was a moment of grace for all of them. He stressed discernment, collaboration and networking as the guiding forces in making the world a better place to live in.

Fr. Ajit also went around meeting St. Xavier's Doranda Alumni in Chicago, Washington DC and New York and invited them to participate in SXD Vision 2020.

Fr. Ajit Kumar Xess, S.J.

The World Union of Jesuit Alumni (WUJA) 2017



Ranchi Delegates: Frs. Alex Ekka, Nabor Lakra, Florence Kujur & Ajit Xess

The World Union of Jesuit Alumni (WUJA) holds an international Congress every four years to gather Jesuit friends and alumni—from as many as 50 countries representing a global network of Jesuit ministries—to build international networks and affirm Jesuit centric values for greater good.

From June 28-July 2, 2017, WUJA met for the first time ever in North America, at John Carroll University, in Cleveland, Ohio. WUJA 2017 gathered renowned, world-class speakers committed to *Uniting Our Jesuit Frontiers* in arts, business, science, law, spirituality, theology, faith and leadership, service and justice.

500 + Attendees, made up of alumni and friends of Jesuit institutions, enjoyed countless opportunities to connect, learn and celebrate, providing a unique platform for participants to take shared experiences back to their country to help shape our society for the common good.

While we gathered as Jesuit alumni and friends, we found God within and among each other.

And together we discerned how to promote peace and justice in a global and sustainable world.

Fr. Greg Boyle, the founder and executive director of Home boy Industries, pastor of Dolores Mission Church in Los Angeles, urged the audience to have inclusive approach in our life and mission. He mentioned how people are segregated, excluded and left to themselves. Church needs to accept them.

Fr Timothy P. Kesicki, SJ, the President of the Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States made us to see the world through the windows of different conferences, such as Asia, Africa, Europe, America, Latin America, etc. He gave us the overview of the world which has lots of similarities as well as differences. In the present world context he urged the Alumni to come forward to work together in making a better world to love and live in.

Katherine Marshall, a senior fellow at Georgetown University's Berkley Centre for Religion, Peace and World Affairs mentioned the need of coming together to work in the field of education, health and other social sectors.

Chris Lowney, chairman of the board of Catholic Health Initiatives inspired all to be the inspiring leaders. He posed number of questions to reflect and practice in the day to day life.

Rev. Peter Balleis, SJ, the director of Jesuit Worldwide Learning – Higher Education at the Margins (JWL), asked us to work towards a collaborative global initiative in the field of education. He also invited alumni to be a part of Jesuit efforts working at Jesuit Refugee Services.

Fr. James Martin, SJ, a Jesuit priest and author, whom, on April 12, Pope Francis appointed America Magazine's editor at large, as a consultant to the Vatican's Secretariat for Communications, spoke of the Church's efforts in bringing harmony and peace in the world. He also emphasized the Jesuit spirituality as the working force for all the Alumni.

Apart from the input sessions the alumni engaged themselves in interacting and sharing with one another on various issues and matters emerging in the present day context.

After the WUJA Congress, we also visited our Alumni staying in Chicago, WDC and New York and informed them about the school. We also urged them to be connected with the school and become a part of SXD Vision 2020. We received a very positive response from them.

We also were happy to meet our Christian brethren living in and around New Jersey, New York, Edition and other places. On one Sunday, around 20 family members assembled in the house of **Mr. John Ekka in Edition** (New Jersey) where we had a good sharing of our life, faith and works.

Fr. Ajit Kumar Xess, S.J.

St. Mary's, Samtoli

An Orientation programme for class XI was given by a Redemptorist priest, Fr Sanjay, from Pandripani on 1 July before the session started. From the next day onward Class XI students followed their regular classes as the other students. As a tradition at St. Mary's, Fr. Rector is to give an English class to St. Anne's candidates, so he started with one period to begin with.

The Canonical Visitation of Fr. Provincial took place with the community members on July 9–10. It was a moment of grace for all of us. We came to know our own personal and communitarian strengths and weaknesses. It is now time to grow more in our strengths and overcome our weaknesses.

Fr. Rector and Fr. Emmanuel Barla went to Ranchi to participate in the Extended Consult at Sadbhavna.

The hostel and Apostolic boys spent two days in uprooting the paddy seedlings for transplantation. On Saturday July 22 was the day of transplantation, when the hostel girls of SJT Convent, Ursuline hostel and St. Anne's hostel joined us. The work was completed from 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm. All were given snacks in the end.

The feast of St. Ignatius was celebrated on July 29 in the High School and English Medium School with cultural programmes. The retired teachers and the members of the Managing Committee were invited. After the cultural programme lunch was served to them in the premises of St. Xavier's College, Simdega. The caterers under the guidance of Mrs. Alphonsa, a Professor, prepared the meal. Fr. Principal, Fr. Bruno and Fr. Anup arranged and supervised the preparation. All the Professors, teachers and employees praised the Jesuits for the feast and the delicious meal.

On July 31 at 6.00 am the Eucharist was presided over by Bishop Vincent Barwa DD. An introduction by Fr. Isaac Tete, inspiring homily by the Bishop and the felicitation by the public were the highlights of the Eucharist. In the afternoon a football match between the priests and the staff, but in spite of the audience' huge support the priests lost the trophy by 3–1 goals.

In the evening the religious and priests were treated with a festive meal being Puchka as a highly liked starter, the heavy rain too could not dampen the joyful mood.

Fr. Linus Dandlung

St. Ignatius' Gumla

The whole month of July was full of different activities in St. Ignatius' Campus. Already on the 1st of July the community members sat down to plan out for the feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the Patron of the School. All joined to put their minds and hearts into it. The Provincial made the canonical visitation of the House on 6 & 7 July 2017. This was after some years and therefore, we were eagerly looking forward to it. Thanks to Fr. Provincial for his care and concern shown for each one of us and our life & works!

The Inauguration of Class XI took place on 8 July when Mr. J. Glen, MLA, Nominee, Jharkhand State Assembly, was the Chief Guest for the occasion. His address to the students and teachers was appreciated very much. He also had a short tour of our campus before joining us for Lunch. The day was also marked by celebrating the Birth Day of Sr. Shakuntala, IVBM, which was followed by that of Sch. Livin Kerketta. The two newly put up lecture Halls in the Intermediate College were blessed and inaugurated on 10 July and the first year fresh students made a triumphant entry into the halls, as the privileged first ever occupants. The two-day orientation seminar was given to the first years by Fr. Petrus, CSSR, Kemtatoli. Our School Football Team under 17 was declared District Champion on 12 July after a thumping victory over the rival team. In the evening all the community members went to the Feast Day Dinner to Notre Dame Convent and enjoyed the evening with numerous other guests. A Good Gathering!

The elder brother of Mr. Louis died in Behratoli on 13 July. Fr. Rector went to console the family and pray for the departed soul. July 15–16 were the recollection days in the community as a preparation for the feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Fr. Deepak Toppo gave the recollection with the help of his latest electronic gadgets. Fr. Headmaster and Manohar went to St. Xavier's Doranda for an urgent meeting of the school men on 16 July. The Echo Club, Gumla, organized a tree plantation day in our campus on 20 July. Mr. Chandan Kr Jha, SP, was the Chief Guest. Plants were brought from Koenara Nursery. An adventurous trip was made to Koenara to get the truck load of samplings out as the vehicle had got stuck in the loose mud. We managed to rescue it with tractors and JCB and returned at 10.00 pm in the dark rainy night.

Fr. Manohar Khoya went to Patna for a 5-day Seminar of educationists on 22 July and was back on 27 instant. As a preparation for the School Day there were confessions arranged for the Christian students, and for the Apostolic boys on the following day. Spiritual preparations were made

by the entire students and staff. Fr. Vijay was not feeling well. So he was taken to Urmi Hospital on 24 July for a checkup. He was diagnosed typhoid and was advised medication and diet. As part of the preparations, inter-house tournaments were organized and the cultural show competitions. We witnessed continuous heavy rains for four days. The local Koel River was swollen to the brim and many from the town and our community went to see the river. On 26 July our boundary wall at the Hostel B.C. block collapsed about 25ft long. Not much damage though!

The Drama for the occasion, “**Madhushala**” was staged by the Apostolic boys for three different audiences: the Parishioners, the School and the local Institutions. It was a great success. 31 July finally came and departed!

Great celebrations on different fora, and the climax, of course, was the football match between the Students Vs the Staff. The staff won it by 3–1. The whole staff and SJ Community participated in the festive dinner after the match. To add to our joy the same day our school Hockey team under 17 returned from Simdega carrying a huge State Champions Nehru Hockey Trophy and the team under 15 became the runners up. The whole campus was filled with music, dancing, singing and rejoicing. Amidst all this a great banquet was thrown in the hall for the religious where all enjoyed thoroughly particularly, the common dance in the end. Finally, “Go away Feast Day, come again another year!”

Fr. Christopher Lakra, SJ

St. Xavier’s College, Ranchi

The College reopened in July after a month-long Summer vacation. July also saw the traditional welcome and orientation programmes for the new arrivals in various streams and sub-streams of the Intermediate, Graduate, P.G. and B.Ed. Sections. The first three weeks, Fr. Nicholas Tete and Fr. Ajay Tirkey faced a lot of pressure and tension due to admissions. The whole world wants to study at St. Xavier’s, Ranchi! From this new academic year, the Inter Section is delinked from the College, and Fr. Ajay Anil Tirkey is its Principal and Deacon Rajesh Sandil has been assigned to assist him besides helping out discipline in the hostels, and Sunday Ministry in Prabhat Tara Parish or in prison, at Hotwar, as his diaconate ministry.

Fr. Nabor Lakra returned on 11 July from Cleveland, USA, after attending the WUJA, alumni/ae meetings. On 23, Fr. Nicholas travelled to Salem, Coimbatour, to join the NAAC team and assess the Thiruvalluvar Govt. Arts College. Again on 27, he boarded the plane in Ranchi for a meeting at the St. Xavier’s University, Bhubaneswar. As luck would have it, the plane would not start despite pushing the beast; it remained grounded. All passengers were sweating like horses and fuming with indignation inside the plane. Finally, the flight was aborted and Fr. Nicholas returned home. The next day, a Ranchi daily reported that the plane took

off, but after fifteen minutes, it returned to the Ranchi airport due to some technical snag. Ha Ha! Mera Bharat Mahan!

On 13 July, H.L. Bishop Charles offered Mass for the SXC Jesuit community; Fr. Provincial concelebrated. Thereafter, we had a farewell dinner in his honour. On 15, he left SXC Jesuit community, Ranchi Jesuit Province, after four years of happy stay and pastoral ministries and returned to Hazaribag. He is given lodgings in the Cathedral presbytery. Fr. Sudhir Kumar Minj, Socius and Fr. Henry Barla accompanied him and traced back to Ranchi after drying their tears.

July is a special month for us all. Therefore, it was quite natural to arouse spiritual fervour for the final day of the month. Fr. Francis Minj prepared us with his exhortation on the Ignatian worldview (*Weltanschauung*). The feast day saw quite a few well wishers, both morning and afternoon, perhaps many more than last year. But thanks to Fr. Anand Kerketta, our Minister, who had anticipated the unforeseen and took a good care of all visitors and us. In everything to love and to serve, *en todo amary servir!*

Fr. Henry Barla, SJ

Catholic Church, Tongo

In spite of the heavy showers the Inigo Feast Day was celebrated joyfully with a solemn Holy Eucharist followed by a verity of colorful cultural items presented by each school’s boys and girls. To make the Feast Day meaningful and spiritual all the Jesuits of Barway Zone were nourished by the spiritual food given by Fr. Sameer Dumdung in Noadih on 25 July. Similarly, all the catholic boys and girls of St. Peter’s High School received the sacrament of reconciliation together with nine days of Novena Prayer. In honour of St. Inigo the Parish Youth organized an Inigo Triple Khasi Football Tournament. The Koinartoli village grabbed the first prize, Singpur had to be content with the second and the third was managed by Murumkela.

In order to update and acquaint oneself in the field of education, Fr. Tej Kumar Baxla participated in the four day-workshop on **SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION AND LEADERSHIP** held at Navjyoti Niketan, Patna, from 23 July to 26 under the guidance of Fr. Norbert Menezes, SJ and Fr. George Nedumattam, SJ. In view of St. Anne’s Feast, Fr. Philemon Ekka rendered his spiritual service to all the St. Anne’s Sisters of Chainpur and Fr. Sameer Dumdung instructed the St. Anne’s Sisters of Majhatoli.

Fr. Samir Dumdung, SJ

Jesuit Bhavan and Gana Chetana Samaj, Tezpur

The Summer and Rainy vacation for a month started from 1st July. All the Jesuits of Assam Mission arrived on 2 July to Jesuit Bhavan, Tezpur for the common programmes. As it was decided they would make an annual retreat together from 3rd July in Phesama, Nagaland, so they left early in the morning and on the way they cut the cake for St. Thomas’s feast in the Kajiranga

National Park. After wishing Fr. Thomas Barla and having the feast day cake, they proceeded ahead, but before they could reach Golaghat, they were stopped by a big mob of Adivasis who had called for 24 hours strike in the whole of Assam demanding the ST status. The Caravan of Jesuits managed to cross two blockades but they could not the third one at Golaghat. However, by the leadership of Fr. Xavier, the College and Balipara community members returned to Bokaghat Parish. Whereas Pengaree, Mushalpur, Manas Bansbari and Kathalguri communities stayed at Golaghat with Fr. Thomas and had lunch in a Dhaba and proceeded for Phesama and managed to reach by the evening. The second group reached phesama on the next day. Therefore, their retreat started one day later. After the retreat all of them came back to Jesuit Bhavan to have their get together from 13 to 15 July. On the first day they reviewed and discussed about the education ministry, on the second Pastoral and on the third the social ministry. On 14 July in the evening at 6.30 p.m. during the Eucharistic Celebration, the installation of Fr. Pius Xalxo, S.J., as the new delegate to the Ranchi Jesuit Provincial was done. Fr. Xavier Lakra was given farewell and all others who had got the transfers were given best wishes during the Mass.

Fr. Anup Chand Kiran Minj was busy in his final Law Examinations till 14 July. He has finished his written examinations. The oral exams will get over by August. He hopes for a very good result.

Gana Chetana Samaj, organized a capacity development programme in Leadership for the youth on 21 July. There were 50 youths from different youth clubs of villages and Tea Gardens. The theme was 'The Present Situation of Adivasis and their Move'. Mr. Stephen Ekka, the Director of PAJHARA organization presented a picture of present day situation of the Adivasis. Fr. Anup Chand Kiran Minj and Fr. Pius Xalxo motivated them to take challenges and bring about transformation in the society. Mr. Simon Ekka and Fr. Thomas Barla guided them for business entrepreneurship. Again from 24 to 28 a training programme for the youth was organized by PAJHARA and PAD in Gana Chetana Samaj where 31 youths participated actively.

The Feast of St. Ignatius on 31 July was celebrated very solemnly at Jesuit Bhavan in the evening with the Holy Eucharist. Bishop Michael Akasius Toppo was the main celebrant and Bishop Robert Kerketta, Fr. Pius Xalxo and Fr. Xavier were concelebrants. The Choir was formed in the leadership of St Xavier's College Community. Fathers and Sisters of all Congregations in Tezpur participated in it and the Festive Meal. Fr. Thomas Barla saw to it that everything was well arranged.

Fr. Thomas Barla, SJ

Manas Bansbari

The month of July was of Spiritual Renewal and celebration of life. The school remained closed from 1 July to 1 August. Frs. Theodore and Laurentus made their Annual Retreat from 3 July

to 11 July in Phesama, Nagaland. There was a meeting of all the Jesuits of Assam Mission in Tezpur from 13 to 15 July to discuss and evaluate the different ministries involved and to plan out the strategies for effectiveness in these ministries at different mission stations. On 14 July there was a thanksgiving Holy Mass for all those who were transferred from one place to another and the new comers were welcomed to Assam Mission. Fr. Laurentus went home to see his aging parents on 17 July and was back on 23 July for the celebration of St. Anne's feast on 26 July. The feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola was celebrated with the Parishioners on 30 July and on 31 July with the staff, Fathers and Sisters of the neighbouring parishes. It was a double feast for us as Fr. Theodore Ignatius also celebrated his 59 Birthday on 31 July.

Fr. Laurentus Kiran

St. Xavier's College, Sonabheel, Assam

Fr. Ranjit Kujur joined the College community on 5 June, Fr. Xavier Lakra joined on 18 and Frs. Benedict and Swan Tigga were given farewell on 21 June. Fr. Swan Tigga was reached to Kathalguri Community on 22 June. The Junior College Class XI classes started at St. Xavier's College with 96 students on 20 June with the orientation programme and introduction of each subject teacher. On 30 June there was a meeting with the Staff and were entrusted to make their Lesson plans for 5 months in each subject. The College was closed for summer vacation from 1 July till 1 August.

Jesuits working in Assam Mission had their annual retreat from 3-11 July 2017 at Phesama, Nagaland, under the guidance of Fr. Barry, SJ, of Hazaribagh Province. He was full of enthusiasm to guide all of us. He gave us one talk every day and during the Eucharist different celebrants presided over the Eucharist, but he gave the homily. Every evening we had adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and ended it with the points for prayer for the next day. The weather was very conducive. Most of the days it rained and the hills were covered with clouds reminding us of the presence of the Lord. Due to the heavy rains there were landslides at 2-3 places. Therefore, we had difficulties to reach Phesama and while coming back we had at one place a land slide and were held up. But at the Salesian Provincial's House, Dimapur, we had a nice lunch and tea at Kawripahar with the Ursuline Sisters.

On 13-15 July we had serious deliberations: sharing and discussing how to form vibrant communities at our respective places and draw strength from the communities to continue our Mission. Two days were spent on discussions, planning, finding ways and means to give quality education, how to make better next year's Matriculation and the final results, to help all students pass so that no student fails in our Jesuit schools/ College. One day was spent in deliberating how to make our Jesuit Parishes different and better, and to render our services to our faithful more meaningfully. Fr. Pius Xalxo, SJ, the Delegate and Fr. Ashok Sandil reached Jesuit Bhavan, Tezpur, only on 7 July due to the

cancellation of Ranchi-Kamakhyia train and non availability of the railway tickets.

Fr. Rajesh Kullu left for Ranchi to see his sick mother on 17 July. Fr. Florence went to Patna to meet his Ph. D. guide on 18 July. Frs. Xavier, Ranjit and Ashok had been busy cleaning the College Campus with the help of the co-workers to make it ready for the Hostel boys.

This year St. Ignatius' Feast was celebrated at the Parish level on Sunday 30 July at Balipara. The choir was prepared by Regent Gabriel Tigga, SJ, from Old Addabari. All of us 12 Jesuits working in Tezpur Diocese, were present for the] Eucharist. After the Eucharist there were felicitations by the parishioners and Holy Cross Sisters for the Jesuits. In the evening we had the birthday celebration of Fr. Benjamin Lakra at Balipara Community.

Fr. Xavier Lakra, SJ

Prothrapur, Andaman

Fr. Anthony Andrade, SJ, an experienced spiritual guide and counsellor from Delhi Province, landed at the airport of Port Blair on 1 July 2017 as a Diocesan Spiritual Director replacing Fr. George Beck, SJ, from Dumka Province as he successfully completed 2 years of contract for Spiritual Ministry with the diocese. He had already left the islands for good on April 2017. People will always remember him for his selfless service, love, concern and availability. The man always on the move and ready for any and everything. Welcome Fr. Tony and best wishes!

The month of July was indeed a busy one when a series of celebrations of SCCs and the feast days of various Congregations took place. The SCC given the top most priority in the diocese is the best equipment to bring evangelization and renewal in the families, society and diocese. So the celebrations of the feast of their patron saints provide an opportunity to come together and share their joys and sorrows. As three SCCs have St. Thomas, the Apostle of India, as their patron, it was a little hard to find priests for the SCC day celebration and Holy Mass on the same day. However, with the consent and convenience of the faithful we managed to keep it on different dates. Fr. David went to Kamrnagar for the same on 3 July. He stressed in his sermon to emulate the missionary zeal and enthusiasm as St. Thomas the Apostle had. We need to draw inspiration from him. On 6 July both the fathers David and Edward had Mass at Bathubasti Convent in the morning. After breakfast Fr. Edward departed for Ramanagar to replace Fr. Benedict Kiro who would be going to Ranchi to be with his sick elder brother, Fr. Sylvanus Kiro, SJ. On the same evening Fr. David, went to St. Maria Goretti SCC, Daudnagar road side, for the feast of their patron saint. The faithful were present in good number guided well by the Cluny Sisters. The Father narrated the holy life story of Maria Goretti

and invited them to follow her life example, who though illiterate, yet was pure of heart.

Fr. Benedict reached Prothapur from Ramnagar on 7 July and left for Ranchi via Kolkotta to be with his brother Fr. Sylvanus who is sick. Fr David went to Port Blair air port to see him off. On 8 July evening Fr. David went to St. Thomas SCC, Bathubasti for their patron's feast. Prior to the celebration, they had an evaluation and action plan made for better functioning of SCC..

The feast of St. Thomas was celebrated on 9 July by the faithful of St. Joseph's Church, Prothrapur with solemnity. A large crowd of faithful and parishioners participated in the Holy Eucharist. Rev. Father Dharampal Turkey, the treasurer of the diocese, chaplain of the Malayali community and a well known orator was the main celebrant and chief guest. The Liturgy was well prepared by the Malayali community. After the Mass all were given sweet packets.

On 15 July the feast of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Cluny, was celebrated in Prothrapur Parish. The Motto of the Mass, "Children, try to become Saints," was placed at the altar along with the foundress' picture. The Foundress, Blessed Anne Marie Jauovhey's life history was highlighted by a youth. Fr. David Bara stressed in his sermon on her family, her vocation story and her outstanding qualities of Charity, courage, confidence, dependence on God, leadership and faith in the Blessed Sacrament. The youth and the Mahila Sangh prayed for the SJC Congregation and Sisters during the prayers of the faithful. Sr. Rosa, SJC, the Superior of the community expressed gratitude and appreciation to one and all.

On 2 July Fr. Benedict Kiro reached Port Blair and back to Ramnagar. Fr. David went to Bathubasti Convent, to Sisters of St. Anne's for talks and Holy Mass for three evenings, who were preparing themselves for 26 July. Fr. Suman Baxla, SJ, reached Port Blair on 25 July after his holidays. Frs. David and Suman went to Range Office for the celebration of SCC day. On 7 July Fr. Suman left for Diglipur and Fr. Edward came back to Prothrapur on 27 July.

The Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola was celebrated in a simple manner in the parish on 31 July. Frs. David and Edward celebrated the Eucharist with the parishioners. The Liturgy was prepared well by the youth, a good number of faithful were present to pray for the Jesuits and were felicitated thereafter. Each one was given a sweet packet. The Fathers, Sisters and Executive committee members of various associations and sanghs shared dinner together in the parish.

Though the diocese primarily prioritizes the pastoral apostolate, but along with it we feel the basic need today of socio-eco-pastoral approach for the holistic development of the people. Keeping it in mind we have put up combined efforts of Fathers and Sisters of Prothrapur to promote SHG (Self Help Group) to improve their economic condition.

Fr. David Bara, SJ.

Rome

Ravi Hemant and Edwin Ritesh completed yet another year of theological studies on 26 June. On 4 July, along with their other companions from the International college of Gesù, they left for Jerusalem for their annual study tour-cum-pilgrimage. Ravi had to wait for couple of days before joining them because of the delay in obtaining the Visa. They were accommodated in Pontifical Biblical Institute, where they were glad to meet their Ranchi man Fr Camil Kerketta, Minister of the house. Their stay was well-planned as usual to visit all the important sites related to history, culture and religious traditions of Jews and Christians. The primary objective of their study tour was to understand the Scripture from the historical, cultural, religious and archaeological perspectives. After their study tour, both Ravi and Edwin Ritesh returned to Rome on 1 August and moved to Paris and Munich respectively for the language courses.

Edwin Dang had already completed the academic requirements by mid-June, which brought him some much-deserved relief. That also gave him enough time and space required to take extra care of his health. He was suffering from an acute back-pain during the exams, which forced him to go through a thorough medical check-up. He had the ultra sound analysis of his body. However, he was relieved to have a good medical report. By the end of June, most of his companions had already left for their summer vacation; but he decided to stay back at home to work on his final thesis.

Sanjay Dilip and other Jesuits involved in the Radio Vatican Mission met R.P. Delegate on 19 June, but the scope of Jesuit collaboration still remained vague and uncertain. The new Radio Administration had neither specified any specific role nor made any contract for them. R.P. Delegate patiently listened to various proposals so as to present to the Administration. However, the Jesuits might continue to collaborate under experimental basis for the coming two years. As the Head of the Indian Section of Radio Vatican, Dilip met Lucio Adrian Ruiz, Secretary for Communication and explained the situation of Indian listeners, but nothing concrete came out. Meanwhile, the decision to stop the financial assistance to the Regional centres has already been taken without consulting him which implies that the publication of the regional monthly magazines in all the three Indian Languages will suffer.

On 16 June, R.P. General had convened a meeting of all the Jesuits and co-workers of the Curia, during which he shared his vision for the Society by outlining three priorities, namely: 1) Creative and Discerning Leadership, 2) Solidarity in Formation for Mission, and 3) Sharing the resources with other Provinces. He asked all to reflect and to propose the possible responses to achieve adequately the vision underlined by him in the present context. On the following day, Anselm

left for Lourdes with four other Jesuits for his annual Retreat. He was deeply touched by the faith of thousands of people who come to offer their prayers bringing along with them sick and suffering for solace and healing from Our Lady of Lourdes. As the financial Year 2016-2017 ended on 30 June, the Curia Financial Department geared up toward auditing, arranging all the bills, vouchers and records in proper order. On 31 July, the Holy Father Pope Francis graced the festive Lunch with his gracious presence amongst the Jesuits in the Curia. He seemed to be very happy and relaxed amidst the Jesuits. After the Lunch, he greeted everyone personally by mingling freely into the elated crowd of Jesuits. His presence doubled the joy of the feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola and encouraged the Jesuits in the Curia to work together always for the greater glory of God.

After his return from Rome, Kulwant went to Keondtanr Parish on 26 June 2017. The Parish Priest and the whole Parish Community extended a cordial welcome to him. He will remain there until 9 September for his pastoral experience. He seems to cherish his pastoral ministry which comprises of going to the villages, meeting the faithful, old and sick and animating them. For the Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola, he was in Ranchi to deliver the homily during the festive Holy mass in St. Mary's Cathedral. His homily, based on *The mission of Reconciliation and Justice: Our Collective Response*, was deeply appreciated by all.

On 22 June, H.E. Telesphore P. Cardinal Toppo invited Prem to accompany him for a Private Audience with the Holy Father Pope Francis. Prem took the opportunity to present the Project of the forthcoming Joint Diploma on Integral Ecology, which is being organized by all the seven Pontifical Universities of Rome to propagate the message of *Laudatosi*'.

The Holy Father was very happy with the Project and imparted his paternal blessing for its success. On 28 June, H. E. Telesphore P. Cardinal Toppo and H.L. Bishop Vincent Barwa cheered up a small group of Adivasi Brothers and Sisters by graciously accepting the invitation to join them for a festive dinner on the terrace of Gregorian University. His Eminence and His Lordship shared some important current news and views from Ranchi. On the same day, the joyous news of the appointment of Archbishop Luis Ladaria as the Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith had been announced. He is a member of the Gregorian Community. He heartily obliged to join the group for a photo session. All three illustrious guests exhorted the Adivasi Brothers and Sisters to dedicate their full time and energy to the mission entrusted to them in Rome.

After assisting St. Anne's Sisters in their Jubilee celebration of 25 Years of their presence in Europe, Linus came back to Rome on 11 July. Later he was admitted in the hospital for almost two weeks for some medical care and check-up. He preferred to stay

back in Rome for the summer vacation and moved to San Pietro Canisio for the month of August. Biju Sebastian and Prem left for Delhi on 19 June along with Rev. Mother Linda Mary Vaughan, DSA and two St. Anne's Provincials who had gone to Italy to participate in the Jubilee celebrations. All the Ranchi men in Rome will come back to their respective communities in September.

Fr. Prem Xalxo, SJ

St Peter Claver's High School, P.O. Box 2175, Dodoma, Tanzania

Brother Vincent Soreng, SJ, sends greetings from Fr. Joe Rodriguez, SJ and himself to all the Ranchi Province men. This is what he writes: "I am keeping fine and doing my works well. On the 14 June I went to Nairobi, Kenya for our annual meetings of Eastern African Brothers. It was for one and a half days.

After the meeting I went to visit Mwangaza house where our old and sick people are taken care of. I was surprised to see Fr Joe Rodrigues, SJ there. He was sick of Diabetes and was getting treatment. He had been in Mwangaza house for two months.

I had not known about that because I had not contacted him. I was sorry to see him there, but what could I do? Only pray that God will bless and help him!

On the 15 July two of our Deacons whom I had taken care of in the Novitiate in Arusha were ordained in Uganda-Kampala. I had been invited for the ordination. My house Superior, Fr Kiyaka was happy to accompany me.

At 6.00 am we began the journey to Uganda. Oh! What a change, going from Tanzania a dry land to Uganda, a beautiful green land. This is because of the effects of Lake Victoria, the River Nile and the two main rain seasons.

At 3.00 pm we reached the border of Uganda. There, I bought Visa to enter Uganda for 50 USD. At 7.00pm we reached Kampala. Fr. Kiyaka was Happy to join Fr. Lado who came for the Ordination Ceremony in Uganda. Therefore, the three of us in a public bus went to Uganda after getting the tickets. The journey was long. Every day we had to look for a place to sleep. One day we went to a hotel and slept till 5.00 am in the following morning.

The River Nile starts from Uganda in a place called Jinja and goes around Uganda and the South Sudan to Egypt and the Mediterranean Sea. There is a big water fall and also a Hydro-electric power being generated from there for the county. In Kampala we have a Jesuit community where we were welcomed. The ordination of our two beloved deacons in Uganda took place in the Cathedral at 9.30 am in the morning which took 3 and a half hours.

At 1.30 pm was the reception of Frs. Anthony Ochen and Michael Ochwo. I took Ugandan refreshments and meals and we had supper in our Jesuit community with a wonderful reception.

On 16 July at 6.00 am the fathers and brothers of Ocer Campion Jesuit College and we came to Gulu, Ocer Campion our New Jesuit College. Fr Kiyaka and I went to his home in a village in Moyo, a small town along the road which comes from Juba to Kampala. This route I had used about 55 years ago in the year 1972 when I was travelling from Juba to Kampala and to Uganda to meet Very Fr General Pedro Arrupe. He had come to Uganda for a meeting with all the Bishops of Uganda.

We were four of us from Sudan: Frs. Jonh Guria, Mathias Toppo, Tartitius Toppo and myself had come to meet Fr General. we reached Fr Kiyaka's home village and a small Moyotown at 2.00 pm.

At Fr Kiyaka's home I met with his mother who was so happy and welcoming. She is as old as me 81 years. Oh! What a joy! At 3.00 pm we left Fr. Kiyaka's home with Fr. Pascal who is the Minister in Ocer Capion College, Gulu. There I stayed for one week till Fr. Kiyaka came for me on 24. We then took a bus to go to Kampala in our Jesuit Community.

On 26 at 4.00 am we took a bus and started the journey back home about 10.00 am. we reached the border town to clear our journey. We stopped there at the boarder for about 2 hours for reasons I did not know.

I am grateful to my Fr Superior Fr. Kiyaka who took a good care of me throughout. He went to Sisters' House and they prepared for us some chapattis for our journey which was very tasty. We went in to a hotel, bought cups of tea with which to take the chapattis.

Ah! Journey from Kampala to Dodoma was tough but we did it.

Br. Vincent Soreng, SJ.

Israel

The community of PBI welcomes the scholastics from Rome every year in the month of July. This year fourteen of them joined the programme. There were five Scholastics from Indian Provinces. Ravi Hemant Kujur, Edwin Ritesh Ddungdung from Ranchi, James Kulvi from Kohima, Arun John P. from Delhi and Deacon Jijimon from Kerala had the privilege of coming for this experience in Jerusalem. Fr Aloysius, the former Provincial of Madurai also joined the programme. Besides the Indians there were other Scholastics from various countries of the world. There were three from Vietnam, two from Central Africa, three from Croatia and from Cuba, Canada and Thailand one each. This programme is held every year as part of the formation of the Scholastics to be done a year before their ordination to priesthood. In fact they had already had the Arrupe month in Loyola to deepen the knowledge and experience of St Ignatius. Here in Jerusalem, the focus was to deepen the knowledge and experience of Jesus. The programme started with eight day retreat. The group was divided into two: one for English and the other for Italian. Fr Stefano took up the English group whereas for the Italian, Fr

Roberto. For the personal guidance during the Retreat six of us were available: Fr José Abrego, Superior, Fr Stefano, Fr Roberto, Fr Luc, Fr Camil and Sr Cathy who works in the community of Larché (a handicapped centre) in Bethlehem. It was very enlightening to me to listen to the experiences of the four Indians during their spiritual journey. Fully present in all the holy places of Jerusalem during prayer hours was a unique and lasting experience for all. The trips to Negeb (desert area) and visiting holy places in Galilee gave them further deepening of their spiritual experiences.

The feast of St Ignatius was celebrated solemnly. The Holy Eucharist was presided over by Fr José Abrego, the superior of the community. Twenty priests were there for concelebration. There were many priests, religious and lay persons participated in the celebration. The total number of guests was one hundred and fifty. The happiest moment was the agape soon after the Holy Mass. Both the Eucharist and the dinner were arranged in the garden. Varieties of dishes were served to the guests. Everybody expressed sincere love and gratitude for this memorable event.

Fr. Camil Kerketta, SJ

Guyana

Guyana Jesuits' Regional Days were held at St. Paul's Retreat Centre, East Coast Demerara, Georgetown, on July 3-7. It was a gracious moment for each one of us. Thirty Jesuits from Barbados, Jamaica and Guyana came together to reflect and for prayerful discernment based on the GC 36 "to row into the deep" and to take concrete steps in the formation of the Jesuit Caribbean Province. Fr. Javier Vidal, SJ, Fr. Provincial of Antilles, enriched us with his sharing of his profound spiritual experiences during the GC 36 in Rome. His Lordship Bishop Francis Alleyne, OSB, presided over the Holy Eucharist on the final day of our Conference. He expressed his gratitude and thankfulness for our incredible service rendered to the Diocese of Georgetown. Fr. Mark Mukulakra celebrated his birthday on 4 July and Fr. Anugrah Amar Bage on 9 July. On the occasion of the birthday of Fr. Amar Bage, all of us the Ranchiites came together in St. Teresa's Church, Campbellville, Georgetown. Fr. Elias Surin offered the Holy Eucharist in St. Pius X Church and had a special intention for the repose of the soul of Fr. Victor Surin, SJ. Fr. Amar Bage sent his 15 young people to Trinidad and Tobago in West Indies for the youth training and exposure for three weeks. In order to catechize their children and adults, the Summer Vacation Programme was conducted by the Missionaries of Charity Sisters in which children and parents participated and benefitted a lot. Fr. Mark Mukul arranged intense Catechism Classes at Sts. Anne and Joachim Church Spring land, the Holy Name of Jesus Church Black Bush Poldar and Siparuta in Corintyne. A seminarian from the Diocese of Plymouth, England, James Barber was a great help for Fr. Mark Mukul and

Fr. Joseph Raj to conduct two weeks of Summer Vacation Programme in Berbice. Fifty children actively participated and learned some lessons for their life.

Sr. Helena Soreng and Sr. Soshan Anima Kujur, the Ursuline Sisters from Ranchi, were cordially welcomed by Fr. Anil Kishore Tirkey in ChhediJagan International Airport, Timehri, Georgetown on 20 July. After seven long years of generous and selfless service in Rupununi and South Pakaraimas Sr. Divya Gulab and Sr. Seraphina Kerketta were given farewell with great sentiment of love and gratitude at St. Teresa' Church Karasabai. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts not only for the building of the new magnificent church in Karasabai but for the building of the Christian Communities in the interior of Guyana! Sr. Nishi Susana Kujur, OSU, and Sr. Crecencia Toppo, OSU, along with the new arrivals, young and enthusiastic nuns: Sr. Soshan Anima Kujur, OSU and Sr. Helena Soreng, OSU, took over the responsibility of carrying on their mission of love and service with great fervour and zeal. On 31 July Loyola Day was celebrated with great joy and enthusiasm at Arrupe House, Georgetown. From all the neighbouring religious communities, friends, well-wishers and benefactors were present for the festive dinner.

Fr. Elias Surin, SJ

Madrid, Spain

Soon after the exam we had ten days of community holidays in a place called Calpe for all those who are in the formation houses in Madrid. It was a good time for all of us to remove all our stress. We spent this time doing things according to our own interest. In the evening all of us used to play volleyball in the beach. We came back to Madrid on 6 June. Both James and Anuj most of the time remained in Madrid in the month of June. Anuj went to Bilbao to see a Spanish Jesuit, Br. Ugaldy Jesus. He got a chance to visit the birth place of Fr. Arrupe and also the university where Br. Garate served with great humility for almost 41 years.

On 25 June James went to Loyola with a group of university students for retreat. Anuj went to Santiago where the apostle St. James is buried. It is a place where thousands of people come as pilgrims from different parts of the world every day, some walking for one month, others for one week and likewise. The purpose of this pilgrimage is different for different people. But one thing is common, everyone tries to find meaning of his own life. At the end of July James went back to Madrid to renew his residential card. On 4 July he went to Vinuesa for a camp of children. Anuj went to Tabuyo del Monte on 19 July for the same purpose. Here in Spain it is very common to have camp during summer vacation for the children, where they stay in tents away from the city for nearly 15 days. The days are divided with different activities.

On the 30th, Anuj went back to Madrid to renew his residential card. On the 31st there was a very simple celebration of Feast Day of St. Ignatius. Since it is time of vacation here, all are busy with

their summer ministries, very few Jesuits were present for the celebration. After the mass there was a small gathering for all the Jesuits. James celebrated this day with the students in his ministry place.

Sch. Anuj Minj, SJ

Munich, Germany

On 3 June Ajay and I went to Berlin. The Berlin City was worth visiting. We visited some historical places in order to understand the History of Germany. We were back to Munich on 7 June. Side by side we prepared ourselves for B2.2 Language Exam. On 23 June Ajay's Community celebrated the Gonzaga fest. It was really a nice time to talk to new people. We could see the difference between our celebration and European one. After two weeks on 27 June we wrote the exam and passed it successfully.

On 1 July I got an opportunity to visit JRS (Jesuit Refugee Service) in Munich. I had had a grill party with them. I listened to their stories and was really moved with compassion and love for them. I played football with young boys, girls and kids. It was really a good experience. On 8 July my Community (Alberto Hurtado) celebrated Hurtado fest. Many people were invited. It was an opportunity to practice my Communication skills. What a day!

Loyola feast was celebrated in a simple way here. That was a new experience. There was a Community Mass in the evening. After that we went to a restaurant and had a sumptuous meal. We really missed the Feast Day Celebration of Manresa House, specially the Football Match. We remembered you all in prayers. At present we are preparing ourselves for the final Language Exam. It seems tough, but we will try our best to pass it.

Sch. Sameer Ekka, SJ

A Day to celebrate

AUGUST

01 Minj Robin
04 Ekka John
Toppo Suman
Prabhat
05 Barla Rajenius
Hassa Purty
Anuranjan
10 Ekka Cyprian
11 Ekka Noel
12 Lakra Telesphore
13 Dungdung Linus
Xalxo Prem

14 Xalxo Yacub
Tirkey Modestus
Soreng Vicky
Roshan
15 Kerketta George
16 Hassa Purty Florence
18 Bp Soreng Charles
26 Xess Ajit Kr.
28 Dungdung
Emile
30 Kullu Jay Prakash N
31 Barla Ajay Roshan
Balmuchu James

Let us remember them in our prayers

1. Fr. Victor Surin, SJ, 83/61, died at Const. L.H. & R. C. Mandar on 27.6. 2017
2. Br. Yacub Xalxo, SJ, 81/57, Died at Manresa House on 1.8.2017
3. Mrs. Agnes Kerketta, 78, 3rd Aunt of Fr. Sylvanus Kerketta, died on 2.8.'17

Please send your articles with some photos by the third of every month