

RANCHI BULLETIN



73/8

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

AUGUST 2014

FROM PROVINCIAL'S DESK



I extend my sincere thanks to one and all in the Province for understanding my absence for a month in view of winding up my previous assignments. I am glad to announce that I was only the second Project Director from among 27 states, to have submitted the Report on time to Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), an apex body of HRD Ministry, on the “Educational status of Scheduled Tribes in Madhya Pradesh: Attainments and Challenges”.

I thank Fr. Xavier Soreng, SJ, in a special way for handling the responsibility of the Province administration in my absence and also for guiding me into the nitty-gritty of governance. As soon as I came back to the Province, I was saddened by the untimely death of John Dhanwar and Shailendra Bara. I had met John in the Orchid hospital before going to Delhi on 26th May. I never ever imagined, he would be no more when I come back to Ranchi for good. Shailendra's sad demise was shocking. I met him twice before leaving for Delhi and was looking forward to meeting with him on my return. Albert Kullu was discharged from Orchid and taken to Holy Family Hospital, Mandar, for nursing care. But he was re-admitted to Orchid due to his health condition. Kamath has to go for dialysis twice a week. We pray for all of them along with other sick members of the Province for the Lord's healing touch upon them. Fr. Sudhir Minj, the socius, has made slow but steady progress and is back in Sadbhavna to resume his work.

Xavier and I visited the Ranchi Mission in Assam from 15th to 17th July 2014. It was a stimulating and inspiring trip for me. Hats off to the Jesuits working in hostile conditions! Thanks to Xavier Lakra for his dynamic leadership. John Ekka is on a sabbatical in Tezpur and the Ranchi Mission in Assam will surely benefit from his expertise.

The last one month has been very hectic – official correspondence, consults, extended consult, meetings, celebrations, formal and informal interactions with our men, and so on. The solemn Eucharist in St. Mary's Cathedral on the Feast of St. Ignatius on 31st July was very well organized by the committee. It deserves our appreciation and congratulations. The provincial's visitation of our communities will start on 7th August from Bardih in Barway. The coming months will see more of the meetings for streamlining, restructuring and planning of our work in the future. I solicit prayers of every Jesuit of the province so that I am able to accompany ours in their commitment to the Greater Glory of God.

J. Marianus Kujur, SJ

New Appointment by Fr Provincial :

Fr. Xavier Soreng, SJ : Director, BAGAICHA, Namkum

Fr. Provincial's Programme and Canonical Visitation

August 2014 02 : Rainbow Meeting 04 : Meeting of Committee of Restoration of the Society External Celebration; Meeting of Building commission 06 : Meeting of Finance Commission 08 : Visitation – Bardih, arrival at 9.00 a.m. 09 : Noadih, arrival at 10.00 a.m. 10 : Visitation – Tongo, arrival at 5.00 p.m. 12 : Arrival at Soso, 10.00 p.m. 13 : Arrival at Ranchi, 4.00 p.m. 16 : Visitation – St. Ignatius' Gumla, arrival at 8.00 a.m. 19 : Burial of Fr. Piergiorgio Mennini SJ 22 : Meeting with Bagaicha staff 23-24 : Central Zone Provincials' Meeting 25 : Visitation – Muri, arrival at 10.00 a.m. 29 : GB-XISS 30 : Consecration of the Bishops Elect	10 : Jharain – arrival at 9.00 a.m. 11 : Visitation Sogra, arrival 6.00 p.m. 12-14 : Visitation – St Mary's School, Samtoli 15-18 : Ranchi 16 : GB-St. Xavier's Doranda 19 : All Commissions Meeting at 9.00 a.m. at Manresa House 20-21 : Ranchi 22 : Vijaygiri – arrival at 9.00 a.m. 23 : Dorea – arrival at 2.00 p.m. 24 : Bundu – arrival at 5.00 p.m. 26 : Maranghada – arrival at 3.00 p.m. 28 : Ranchi 29 : Bingaon – arrival at 8.00 a.m. & overnight stay at St. Michael's Khunti 30 : Kochang – arrival at 9.00 a.m.
September 2014 01 : GB-XIPT 02 : Karondabera – Martyrs' Day 03-05 : Ranchi 04 : GB-XISS 06 : Parish Priests' Meeting at Manresa House, 9.00 a.m. 08-09 : Visitation – Rengarih, arrival at 10.00 a.m.	Secretary's communiqué Aug.06: Finance Commission's meeting at 3.00 p.m. Aug.28-Sept. 5 : Parish Priests' retreat at Jharna Namkum Sept. 06 : Parish priests' Meeting at 9.00 a.m. at Manresa House Sept. 19 : All Commissions' Meeting at 9.00 a.m. at Manresa House

INFORMATION

- **Retreat for the Parish Priests** will be held from **28 August (eve) to 5 September 2014, at Jharna Spirituality Centre Namkum. Fr Fabian Bhuiyan SJ**, Director of Upasna Jamshedpur will direct the retreat.
- **Brothers' Retreat at Assistancy Level :**
Venue: Navjyoti Renewal Centre, St Xavier's School Campus, 4 Raj Niwas Marg Delhi
Dates: 3 September (p.m) to 11 September (p.m) 2014.
Retreat Director: Fr Tom Kunnunkal SJ
Total Expenses: Registration Fee, B & L and other expenses: Rs. **3,500/- for Non-A.C Accommodation;** and **Rs. 5,500=00 for A.C accommodation.** Kindly confirm your preference of rooms when you confirm your participation in the retreat.
Last Date for Booking: 15 August 2014.
 The Brother Coordinators are requested to inform the **Director of Navjyoti Renewal Centre** the time of arrival and other details to **Fr. George Mlakuzhyil SJ** (09968289942), Email: georgemlakuzhy@gmail.com . He would prefer to receive email than mobile calls. If you do not have e-mail facility in your area, feel free to call him on his mobile.

- **Brothers' Annual Meeting cum Seminar at Assistancy Level:**
Venue: XLRI Jamshedpur
Topic: Human Relation in Jesuit Administration
Dates: 11-15 September 2014
Resource Persons: XLRI Staff Team
Charges per Person: B & L and course fee: Rs 2,500/- plus Rs. 1,000/-.
Local Coordinator's Address: Br. A. Amalraj SJ, Minister, Loyola School Beldih Area.
- **Seminars and Retreats:** Sebastian Painadath SJ, Indian Contemplative Retreat with the Gospel of John, Bhagavad Gita and elements of Jesus Prayer. This retreat consists of an intense inner journey with the Indian methods of meditation. From Nov. 23th morning to 30th afternoon at NBCLC, Bangalore. Registration: Director, NBCLC, POB 8426, Hutchins Road 2nd Cross, Bangalore 560084. Tel. 080-25472369; Email: dirnbclc@yahoo.com ; seminar@nbclcindia.in

HEALTH BULLETIN

Fr. Sudhir Kr Minj, S.J., Socius, after two months of rest and recuperation at Manresa House and medical treatment from Vellore, is back to his office and work. Fr. Albert Kullu S.J. has been suffering from high BP and sugar and was admitted to Orchid Research Centre off and on. His sugar has been fluctuating between 400 to 500. At the moment he is re-admitted to Orchid hospital Ranchi.

Fr. Vijay Kamath and Fr. Patras Ekka were admitted to Orchid for BP and high sugar. They are resting at Manresa House but both have to be put on Dialysis twice a week.

Fr. Victor Surin and Br. Gilbert Bilung have the same ailment, namely, the prostate problem. They are taking rest at Manresa House and periodically consult Dr. Prem Kumar.

Fr. Joseph Kandulna's paralysis continues to persist. He is receiving massage and medical care at Manresa house. Frs. Leo Bara, Placidus Lakra, Paul Terrens and Br. Yacub Xalxo are taking rest in the company of each other at Manresa House.

Fr Ajay Soreng SJ

HOUSES & INSTITUTIONS

Tarunoday

The untimely death of Fr Shailendra Bara on 6 July was a shocking news and a great loss for Tarunoday. He had been associated to Tarunoday as professor of Scripture for many years. With sorrowful heart Tarunoday took part in his funeral service, on 7 July.

On 11 July, in the presence of the parish priest, Fr James Dungdung, the second years shared with the first years about their various ministries and pastoral activities. As pastoral involvement is one of the basic ingredients of theological formation, all are sent for ministries in different villages of Kanke parish. This involvement gives a better pastoral formation to the students of theology.

July ended with the solemn feast of our Founder St Ignatius. "Suppression and Restoration of the Society" was the theme for feast. As spiritual preparation we had a triduum. On the first day, Fr Sudhir Kujur gave us a talk in the evening of 27 July. He highlighted the original foundational experiences and inspirations of St Ignatius in founding the Society.

He also dwelt upon the context and causes of the Suppression and Restoration of the Society. On the second and third days, two living groups led the Mass and evening prayers on themes "Calvary to Cardoner" and "Step Towards New Venture." On 31 July, Mass was held in Kanke Parish. The parish priest presided over the Mass while Fr. Francis Minj gave an insightful homily on the spirit of Ignatius and his commitment to do better and greater for Christ. Tarunoday's melodious choir and the prayers of the faithful with the symbolic offerings made the liturgy more meaningful. In the afternoon a good number of Kanke parishioners and guests visited us to double our joy. The day ended with a fellowship dinner with religious men and women of the locality.

Mukul kerketta

St Mary's Samtoli

Frs. John Tirkey and Bruno Toppo joined St. Mary's community in June as Principal cum Acting Rector and Treasurer cum Manager of English Medium respectively. Fr. Manohar Toppo joined the community

as the Director of Apostolic School in mid-July. The community also bade farewell to Frs. Philemon and Vijay Manohar who went to Tongo and Sadbhavna Ranchi respectively.

In the beginning of July there was a three-day Orientation Program for the new students of class XI Arts, Science and Commerce. It was conducted by Fr. Ignatius Dungdung, a Redemptorist for two days. On the third day it was managed by the school staff. From 4 July onward regular classes for class XI commenced. This year St. Mary's High School and Inter College are fully packed.

Fr Philemon and Fr. Vijay Manohar visited us on 5 July. The following day our two Jesuits at Sogra invited the St. Mary's Jesuit community to a farewell dinner in honour of Fr. Philemon as he had been the President of the Managing Committee of Louis Cardon High School Sogra.

On 7 July Frs. Isaac, Albert and Anuranjan went to Ranchi for the funeral of Fr. Shailendra Bara. Later on 13, Frs. Sikander, Ajit, and Anuranjan went to Gumla to participate in a special Holy Eucharist to promote the beatification of Fr. Constant Lievens. Fr. Albert Dungdung went to Ranchi for his routine check-up on 14 July, and was back home the following day. Before going to the Holy Land Fr. Camil Kerketta visited St. Mary's community.

Prior to the Feast day of St. Ignatius a lot of activities took place here. During the Assembly different staff members shared their knowledge and insights about St. Ignatius, his spirituality and the Society with the students and the rest for eight successive days. There were confessions for the day-scholars, hostellers and the apostolics. An entertainment programme was staged for different schools and groups for eight days. It included two short plays- one in Hindi by the hostellers and the other in English by the Apostolic boys. On 30 July, the feast day of St. Ignatius was celebrated in the school. After welcoming the Jesuits a short prayer service was conducted. It was followed by songs and dances. Then the students were given some snacks and the staff members of both the schools- Hindi and English mediums- and the workers of St. Mary's were served a festive dinner. At 4 p.m., a football match was played between the non-Jesuit school staff and the Jesuits including the diocesans of Samtoli parish and Bishop's House. The parish ground was surrounded by a huge crowd of spectators. The Jesuits won the match by 3-1.

The transplantation work was completed on time under the guidance of Fr. Ajit Saras with the help of the hostellers and the Apostolic boys. AROUSE Samtoli is monitoring 5 units of poultry farm in Thethaitanger and Jaldega blocks. A fishery training programme was conducted in the beginning of the month and training in tailoring for 25 candidates is being conducted. Another programme of Tribal youth empowerment for the drop outs is yet to pick up.

Fr. Isaac Sete

St. Michael's Residence, Khunti

It would not be an exaggeration to say that the month of July was the month of St. Ignatius. There was a series of events revolving round the Founder's day. The community meeting held on 4 July to plan out for the Inigo day was the first in that series. We had novena to St. Ignatius of Loyola, together with priests and religious of neighbouring communities, students and the faithful, from 14-22 July, in the Cathedral. Fr. Augustine gave a one-day recollection to the boys of St. Xavier's, Doranda, in Rumtukel and to the CLC group of our school in the Youth Center, Bariatu on 17 and 19 July successively. To prepare spiritually for the feast, at the school level, there was a programme on the "Ignatian Spirituality and Legacy," for the high school staff and students on 26 July. Fr. Ajit Xess, SJ, the Principal of St. Xavier's, Doranda was the resource person. On 29 July, we had a half-day community recollection, along with the Khunti Zone Jesuits. Fr. K.C. Philip, SJ, the Superior, Jharna, enriched us with spiritual food on this occasion. Thanks a lot Fr. K.C! And finally, 31 July became the day of a meaningful celebration. The day kept us busy from 5.30 a.m. till late evening as we were involved in different activities of the day. To mention a few, we had Holy Eucharist at 5.30 a.m., presided over by Bishop Binay Kandulna; a short felicitation programme after the Mass, a colourful cultural programme in the school and a football match between Loyola College Hostel vs. Jivan Deep, in which the latter emerged champion by 5-0.

Among other news, on 3 July, there was the inauguration of the new academic year 2014-15 of Loyola Inter College and freshers' day for the new comers. Fr. Leo Bhengra, the chief guest, challenged the students to make friends with good books and good friends. On the following day, students of class XI had an orientation program. On 7 July, we had community Mass to celebrate the birthday of our beloved Br. Basil Turkey. On the same day, Frs. Amrit, Augustine, Ferdinand and Br. Basil went to Ranchi to bid final

farewell to Fr. Shailendra Bara. On 8 July, Fr. Ferdinand went to Jharna for formation meeting.

Loyola High School observed the environment day on 12 July. To mark the day, students were busy in writing slogans, essays, speeches, poems and paintings. To make it more practical, a group of high school boys had gone to Mahilong and Ormanjhi to have a better knowledge about tree plantation and animal breeding. The Headmaster and some teachers had accompanied them.

On 23 July, there was an inspection of the Inter College for science section. A team of three persons had come for the same. We hope that soon we will have science stream in our Inter College. The following day, a team of advocates came to our school to conduct legal programme for students. On 26 July, we shared the joy of St. Anne Sisters, celebrating the feast of St. Anne and Joachim. We enjoyed the delicious festive meal and even pre-novices talked much about the high-tea, served by the sisters. This celebratory mood was followed by our Founder's feast and ended with the feast of John Mary Vianney.

Sch. Jyoti Paul

Jharna-Ashirvad

It was a month of joy as well as pain for us. Just before the vesting for the funeral Mass of Fr. Shailendra Bara, Fr. Giorgio Mennini had a fall in the cathedral. He was rushed to the Orchid Hospital. His three brothers – Paolo, Pietro and Giuseppe from Italy were in Ranchi from 17-22 July to be with him for a few days. Their presence certainly had hastened his recovery. He was discharged from Orchid on 6 August and was taken to HFH Mandar. Unfortunately we lost him on 16 August in HFH Mandar. Thanks for your prayerful support during these days.

Fr. Deepak Toppo helped St. Anne Novices in making their Triduum. For the same purpose **Fr. Raymond Kerketta** was with St. Anne Srs. Ulhatu. On 28 July Fr. Binod Toppo was with the students of Loyola Khunti helping them to celebrate St. Inigo Day meaningfully. Fr. KC Philip helped the Khunti Zone Jesuits in preparation for the Ignatius' Day. We as extended Jesuit Community (Jharna-Ashirvad, ATC, Bagicha, Kishore Nagar) came together to listen to Fr. Francken Louis on *Community Life* to spiritually prepare ourselves for the Feast of St. Ignatius.

The novices have been regularly giving their services to our sick Fathers and Brothers of the province. For a few weeks, in twos, they were with Frs. Piergiorgio Mennini and Albert Kullu in the Orchid

Hospital. They are edified and inspired by the generous services of our young and energetic Health In-charge of the Province, Br. Telesphore Horo. Having had his necessary documents cleared, Fr. Samir Ddungdung, flew to France on 10 July and safely arrived in Paris the next day.

Frs. Deepak & Raymond.

St Stanislaus' Lohardaga

Scarcity of rainfall troubled the minds and hearts of the farmers in Lohardaga district and the Government machineries aspired for new package to face the impending draught. In the meantime the AROUSE team is trying to promote System of Rice Intensification (SRI), new Farmer Clubs (FCs) to organize farmers to tap the resources and government schemes, and Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) to obtain *Kisan Credits* (KCC) from the banks. The Stanislaus Community kept bustling as a team of Scholastics headed by Schs. Naweem and Elphiz had mobilized the youth and villagers with their presence and various activities from April to the first week of June.

As per status, Fr. Tej Kumar Baxla went to Tongo and Fr. Ranjit Lakra and Br. Nicholas Topno came to our community. No sooner had Fr. Ranjit Lakra landed in Lohardaga than he humbly attended to tuition classes with the students to equip himself to teach them confidently and well. He also found open and wide ground with fresh air for physical fitness and enough mangoes to relish to his contentment but landed in the Ursula hospital with severe pain in his feet. This break brought him solace. Toil and trouble of Br. Nico, on the other hand, is shown through the greenery in the field, increasing number of rabbits and the whining of piglets. Fr. Albinus, besides his normal classes, took trouble to transmit his mathematical knowledge to the students of tenth class but failed to take care of his troubling foot which forced him to rest at Seva Nilaya Ara Gate. Some of the guests, in his absence, could not sing a song for him on 31 July. Fr. Ignace Xalxo, relieved from the burden of the jobs of Treasurer and Minister, is ready to give time and energy to the students and reduce the occasional headache of the Principal. Fr. Sushil kept on giving conferences on SHGs, FCs, JLGs, Dot, SRI, Lac cultivation and so forth.

Before St. Stanislaus High School organized Science Exhibition on 19 July, Fr. Ignatius Lakra addressed the gathering organized by *Adivasi Shikshak Mitra Mandlee* to felicitate the Adivasi toppers in Matric and Inter. On the occasion of Science Exhibition students exhibited their creative and innovative ideas and modules which captivated the

mind of DEO of Lohardaga. She saw all the modules and interacted with the students. Staff and students, apart from their normal time table, devoted their time and energy to preparation for 31 July.

By this time Fr. Ranjit knows the names and aptitudes of the hostellers; and from time to time he tried out his repaired feet on the football ground and juggled with Tally in his office.

Sushil Tirkey

DNC Pune

The month of July witnessed many feasts and birthdays. A couple of seminars and talks on various topics were organized by JDV. Soon after the FIFA World Cup, JDV Interclass football tournament began in which the second year B.Ph. became the champion. The Novena prayer to St Ignatius was well prepared. On the eve of the feast we played a friendly football match against Don Bosco. DNC won the match. As usual the feast of our Founder was celebrated with gaiety. On this occasion e-magazine **DNC TIMES** was launched. The e-Magazine is to be published every month by the students and staff of DNC. Its purpose is simple: Firstly, to help us take a deep dive into our imaginative and creative selves, and secondly, to further our own creative & imaginative selves, and thirdly, to further thought and reflection on themes of contemporary relevance. Part of the plan is also to draw attention to the great legacy of De Nobili College and its place in Indian Jesuit formation for the last seventy-odd years.

Sch Ravindra

Satya Nilayam, Chennai

Like every year, on 3 July the whole community went for a pilgrimage to St. Thomas Mount in honour of St. Thomas the Apostle. Some of us went walking and some, who were not able to walk, went by bus. It was a good experience for us to walk more than one hour. On 4 July we had a one-day training session on the topic "Motivation" conducted by Mr. G.M James. He explained to us the different types of challenges we meet in our daily lives. He also challenged us to be motivated and to live a good Jesuit life. In the same evening we began our monthly recollection guided by Fr. V.S. George S.J. He emphasized on Intellectual Formation and made us more energetic to grow more intellectually.

It was an enriching experience for us to go to different parishes for faith sharing in our living groups. It was done for the first time in Satya Nilayam. This sharing enhanced our relationship as we translated our inner experiences into verbal forms. It has helped us

to understand one another better as well as has deepened our companionship.

Novena to St Ignatius began on 22 July as spiritual preparation. Each day one of the living groups took turn to lead the prayer and reflection. In our Novena we journeyed to the places where St. Ignatius walked during his life. This really instilled in us a feeling of gratitude and love for our founder. We celebrated the feast prayerfully and enjoyed our companionship in the evening as we gathered together for the community recreation. To make this day more joyous we had a football match between the First Years and the Second Years in which the latter won the match by 3-0.

Sch. Sujit Jappa

Loyola College Chennai

After having started all the academic courses for UG and PG Loyola College celebrated an Inaugural Mass of the Holy Spirit on 11 July on a theme "Spirit of God be our guide and our advocate". All the institutes of the campus actively participated. At the same time a prayer meeting was organized for all non-catholic staff and students. We Ranchiites offered Holy Mass for our late Fr. John Dhanwar and Fr. Shailendra Bara on Sunday 20 July that they may have eternal life.

Fr. Erenius participated in a three-day training programme on "Towards Effective Administration in Higher Education" on 25-27 July, organized by the Jesuit Higher Education Association of South Asia (JHEASA) at Dhyana Ashram, Chennai. Fr. Ajay A. Minj from St. Xavier's College, Ranchi came to attend the same. 40 young Jesuits in higher education from different Jesuit Provinces benefitted from the workshop. We Ranchiites were also delighted to welcome Fr. Florence Purti, as he came all the way from Assam to collect his migration certificate from the University of Madras.

Berchmanites organized the Loyola Feast Day Celebration in anticipation for all the institutions of the Loyola campus on 27 July. The quiz competition was conducted on the theme 200 Years of Restoration of the Society of Jesus and 175 Years of Madurai Mission followed by a fascinating cultural programme. To celebrate the Loyola Day spiritually, a novena to St. Ignatius was conducted for the campus. Loyola Jesuit community and Berchmans Illam spent a day in recollection. Loyola College celebrated the Loyola Day beginning with the Holy Eucharist. All the institutions of the campus participated in the celebrations. The Loyola college teaching staff felicitated the Jesuits. The

winners of quiz competitions were given a cash prize. Fr. Rector invited the whole congregations for the festive breakfast in the Loyola men's hostel mess. Berchmanites organized a basketball match against Loyola hostel soon after the breakfast.

The Loyola Jesuit community hosted a festive dinner for all the neighbouring religious communities. Fr Francis Jeyapathie SJ, Rector, welcomed the chief guest Archbishop of Madras Mylapore Diocese and all other guests. The Archbishop greeted the Jesuits quoting the Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI's, "the Church needs you, counts on you, and continues to turn to you with confidence..." and he added "we need you".

Fr. Erenius & Sch. Noel Ekka

Tongo

Two members from the community Frs Anup Ekka and John Tirkey were transferred from Tongo to St. Xavier's College Ranchi and St Mary's Samtoli respectively. Two new members Frs Philemon Ekka from St Mary's Samtoli and Tej Kr Tigga from Lohardaga joined Tongo community. Both of them are focusing on the intellectual progress of the students of St Peter's H. S. Tongo.

On 10 July, under the guidance of Fr Aruel Brys, 28 students and staff from Rooslare, the school where Fr Lievens studied, arrived in Tongo. They were warmly welcomed by the Ursuline hostellers in the evening. All were accommodated at Ursuline convent except Fr Brys. Students went to different families and spent the night and came back in the morning. There was an interaction session with the hostel girls. The guests also went round the classrooms. One afternoon they were led to Bendora village by Fr Linus and Mr Santosh Tirkey. They were happy to see the place and glad to enter the cave in which Fr Lievens used to hide himself. Thereafter they went to Sarkhi village to enjoy the tribal dance. All of them gladly joined the dance. One of the boys was excited to drum the Nagara. Next day early morning they left Tongo for Gumla to attend the Holy Mass in the Cathedral.

Fr Linus and Fr Philemon gave triduum to St. Anne's Sisters of Majhatoli and Chainpur respectively. Fr Linus could give only two days as he had to take part in the extended consult in Ranchi. Fr Linus went to Carmel Ashram Soso to give a workshop for two days on community life. It seems his input was quite impressive and effective so he is requested to give some more in other topics as well.

As preparation for the feast of St Ignatius, Jesuits of Tongo, Bardih and Noadih came together for recollection on 29 July in Noadih. Fr Lalit highlighted some significant events in the life of St Ignatius while Fr Isaac gave some relevant points for our reflection. We had confession. We concluded it with adoration followed by fellowship meal.

In Tongo solemn Mass was held in honour of St Ignatius on 31 July. Fr Pancratius Kerketta, Principal of Param Veer Albert Ekka Memorial College Chainpur, was the main celebrant. In his homily he brought out some outstanding virtues like courage and creativity of St Ignatius. Fr Linus highlighted the context and causes of the Suppression and Restoration of the Society which was not known to many. After the Mass, felicitation programme and football match between the students and the staff members were held. At the end almost two hundred people were served lunch. In the evening there was a festive dinner for the religious and priests of Chainpur vicariate.

Fr Linus Dungkung

Bingaon

Just like cautiously piecing together a jigsaw, the fresh arrival of Fr. Raphael Soy and Deacon Ravi Bhushan Xess on 17th and 24th June respectively moulded the community of trio in Bingaon. The two new members augmented with vigour and zeal instantaneously plunged into their assigned mission from the very next day on. To mark the relevance of Jesuit tradition, there were a series of competitions conducted in the school prior to 31st of July. To facilitate this curriculum the students were divided into four houses namely- Stockmann, Lievens, Hoffmann and Bulcke. The competitions such as collecting *putus*, bringing a beautiful piece of stone and treasure hunt were not only astounding or merely meant for entertainment, but principally geared towards capacity building and fostering team spirit in each individual. A couple of new assembly songs both in English and Hindi were introduced to begin the day. Keeping Restoration of the Society of Jesus in mind, this year we had decided to prioritize spiritual aspects rather than to confine ourselves in fastidiously looking into the material aspects. Fr. Calixtus conspicuously explicated the historicity of the Restoration in his moving homily during the morning mass on Inigo Divas. The football match after the felicitation was not less than the battle of Pamplona. The celebration ended with a sumptuous agape dinner with the school staff and guests.

The Independence Day had fetched us to renew our deep patriotic love and reverence towards our nation. The President of Catholic Sabha was the chief guest to hoist the Tricolour. The parade displayed by our students was admirable. The English Speech and Poem competitions after the march past were elevating. The parishioners and guardians who were present for the programme were highly taken up by the qualitative performance of our students. One can easily infer the squall of change which is steadily transforming the atmosphere of the school and parish. The first Terminal Examination begins on 19th and ends on 26th August.

Mahila Sangh has decided to celebrate Monica Divas with a recollection on 26th and a solemn mass on 27th August. Fr. Calixtus will be making his annual retreat in Jharna from 28th August till 05th September. Fr. Raphael had a narrow escape as he had collided against a car while heading for Torpa a fortnight ago. Praise the lord, he had no major injury. Now there is no fear of missing the landmark of Bingaon because there is a signboard beside the highway which will guide you to reach us. All of you are most welcome to drop in to our place.

Deacon Ravi

ASSAM & ANDAMAN NEWS

Loyola Kathalguri

School: Month of July was the official holidays in Assam. Fr. Pradeep Kullu had organised special tuition classes for IX and X students from 7-17 July in Loyola School. Tuition was especially for Maths, Science, Social Science and Geography. Sr. Carmel supervised it.

Land settlements: Frs. Pradeep and Domnic Topno started the important work of land settlement on 26 July onwards. The concerned land owners, *Sarkari Gaon burhas*, and Mondol and other officials are co-operating with us positively.

Pastoral Activities: We had a joint meeting on 4 July to discuss the forthcoming Parish Day and the Restoration of the Society of Jesus celebrations. We resolved to celebrate these two feasts together on 27 July. Fr. Jerome Dungdung welcomed Fr. Mathew Kottaram, the V.G., Bongaigaon Diocese and Fr. Vincent Baskey, the Asst. parish priest and Sisters of Gossaigaon, and all the participants. Fr. Mathew Kottaram was the main celebrant on the occasion. He gave an inspiring homily in both Hindi and Santali. Thereafter Fr. Pradeep gave us enlightening facts and figures of the Suppression and the Restoration of the Society of Jesus and about its present status. Around 300 parishioners and 5 neighbouring priests, religious sisters and the faithful were present to share our joys. Liturgical preparations, decorations, singing done by the sisters and youth was appreciated. Big thanks to our Sisters. Finally, tea and snacks were served to all the participants. Fellowship dinner was served to the guests, selected parishioners and invited *Sarkari Goanburhas*, and *Majhibabas*.

The Jesuit communities of Mushalpur, Manas Bansbari and Kathalguri and all our collaborators under Bongaigaon Diocese gathered together in

Kathalguri community on 30 July to celebrate the Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola and the Restoration of the Society of Jesus. We had a long hour of prayer, reflections and adoration on the said purpose from 6.30 p.m. to 8.15 p.m. Fr. Jerome Dungdung welcomed first all the guests in the chapel and briefed the process of adoration. Fr. Laurentius Kiro gave a talk on *The Suppression and Restoration of the Society of Jesus*; Fr. Theodor Baa spoke on *Spirituality of St. Ignatius* and Fr. Vital Ekka on some practical points in order to be pastorally more effective. The gathering ended at 10.30 p.m. with a fellowship dinner.

The feast of St. Ignatius began with a solemn Mass at 7.00 a.m. Fr. Ignatius Theodore Baa, who celebrated his Feast Day and the Birth Day together, was the main celebrant. Frs. Domnic and Vital were the concelebrants on the occasion. It concluded by a festive lunch at 11.30 a.m. However we missed Fr. Ajay Anil Tirkey and some other close collaborators.

Jerome Dungdung

Prothrapur (Andaman)

The feast of St Thomas was celebrated on 13 July instead of 3 July. A large number of parishioners participated in the Holy Mass. Fr David was the main celebrant who encouraged the faithful to be firm in their faith. The liturgy was well conducted by Bathubasti SSC unit.

On 3 July Fr David went to Bathubasti SCC unit for the Holy Mass. St Thomas is the patron of this unit. On the same day the parish priest of Stella Maris Cathedral Port Blair - Fr Gabriel Benziger, availed himself for the Eucharistic celebration at Pathargudda. This group comprises fully of Tamil speaking people. Again on 5 July evening Fr. David went to St. Maria Goretti SCC Daudnagar Road Side as the unit

celebrated the feast day of its patron saint. Faithful in good number were present there. Fr David narrated the story of Maria Goretti and presented her as a model of sanctity and purity of heart. Next, Fr. David on 12 July set out for Kamrajnagar for the celebration of SCC day which is named after St. Thomas. The day was marked with Evaluation of SCC, celebration of Holy Eucharist and fellowship meal. On 28 evening Fr. David went to St. Alphonsa SCC for celebration of SCC day at Bathubasti. The liturgy was well prepared and all participated actively. Thereafter on 29 July Fr. David rushed to Range Office for the celebration of SCC day as St. Anne SCC celebrated its day. They

arranged Eucharistic celebration. A good number of faithful witnessed the day.

Parishioners celebrated the feast day of Blessed Anne Mary Jouvehey the Founderess of Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny in the parish premises. Bishop of Port Blair was the main celebrant. The liturgy was well prepared. Finally the month of July ended with the Feast of St. Ignatius on 31. Most Rev. Bishop Alex Dias kindly presided over the Holy Mass. Rev. Fr Tarcitius Kujur, the Diocesan Financial Administrator, and Fr. David concelebrated with him. At the end a short felicitation programme was held.

Fr David.

DIASPORA

Rome

Normally, the months of July and August provide the students and staff of Gregorian University to rest, relax and move around for Seminars and Conferences. From the mid-September, begins the admission process for the new as well as the old students. Most of the students leave for holidays immediately after completing their exams. Among the Ranchi men in Rome, Kulwant was the first one leave on 25 June, who left for Belgium to visit some of the important places and to enrich himself with the same spirit and zeal with which our great Belgian missionaries dedicate their whole life and energy for the evangelization of Chotanagpur; on the same day Justin left for Loyola with a group of Jesuits for the annual Retreat. For Suman and Sylverius, the month of July was the time to immerse themselves into the Ignatian spiritual experiences by visiting different important places as part of their spirituality course. The pilgrimage to some of the important Ignatian places provide them with an excellent opportunity to deepen whatever they had learnt during the two years' Licentiate in Spirituality. They followed the footsteps of St. Ignatius of Loyola starting from Manresa and Montserrat. From there, they moved to Loyola, Pamplona and Javier. After the conclusion their pilgrimage to Ignatian places and those of the great Belgian missionaries, they left together for Ranchi on 29 July to be on time to celebrate the feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Fr. Michael Kerketta and Fr Prem received them warmly on their arrival on 30 July in Ranchi airport. After a short home visit, Suman went to Goa on 10 August for his Tertianship, whereas Sylverius will take up the responsibility as the Assistant Director of the Pre-Novitiate from August onwards.

During the month of July, Justin had to attend a series of meetings as part of the preparations to cover

the forthcoming Papal Visit of Pope Francis to South Korea from 14 to 18 August. He will go to South Korea as one of the members of the Vatican Radio team. He hopes to dedicate full time and energy in reporting various events and thus, enrich himself with new experiences. Linus reached Ranchi on 4 July and began taking classes in St. Albert's College from 10 July. I had to attend the 25th National Conference of Moral Theologians in Agrigento from 3 to 5 July and so, I could reach Ranchi only on 11 July. During the Conference, I was extremely happy to meet some of the well-known moral theologians, whose books I use extensively for my courses on communication and ecological ethics. The excellent opportunity to meet and interact with them always becomes the fount of encouragement to study, research and keep writing on various themes related to morality. I attended another Conference on Gender Justice in Bangalore from 17 to 20 July. Among the 80 participants, there were experts in diverse spectra of the society – theologians, social activists, feminists and some students from DVK Bangalore. From Jharkhand, four of us attended and succeeded in leaving an impact on the Conference by presenting Papers and participating actively in the discussions – H.L. Bishop Felix Toppo, S.J., Rev. John Crasta from St. Albert's College, Sr. Lalita Roshni Lakra, DSA from BEACON, Hulhundu and myself. As one of the members of the Organizing Committee, I had the good opportunity to mingle and interact especially with the social activists and feminists.

Before our departure from Rome, we were fortunate to receive some of our Ranchi men as pilgrims to the Eternal City. On 9 June, Britius Ekka and Nabor Lakra landed in Rome on their way to Ranchi from Manresa. After their one month's *Immersion Into Ignatian Spirituality*, both of them aptly planned to visit

Rome as the pilgrims to some important places connected to the life of St. Ignatius. Apart from visiting the important Ignatian places, they made it a point to visit all the major Basilicas of Rome and Assisi, the City of Peace. During their stay, they enjoyed the hospitality of the Gregorian Jesuit community. Although all of us were busy either in giving or taking exams, we took turns to take them round. Their immersion into Ignatian Spirituality was deepened by their pilgrimage to the Eternal City and also by the personal experiences of Franciscan Spirituality in Assisi.

During the last week of June, H.L. Bishop Binay Kandulna was also here with us. He was glad to join our group to go for a pilgrimage to Loreto, a well-known destination for the Marian pilgrims. According to a very ancient tradition, the Nazareth Home of Our Lady is preserved in the Shrine of Loreto. Two Seminarians from Ranchi Archdiocese – Pradeep Ekka and Tobias Minj and one from Simdega Diocese – Rajesh joined us to Loreto. On the way to Loreto, we visited St. Anne’s Convent in Atri, where three St. Anne’s Sisters take care of the maternal school along with in their active involvement in the pastoral activities of the Parish. In Loreto, an Indian Capuchin Priest from Tamil Nadu led us to a guided tour of the Basilica and explained to us the cultural, historical and religious importance of Loreto as the Marian pilgrimage place.

Fr Prem

Guyana

July and August were months of renewal for us. Fr. Amar Bage went to Salvador went to Salvador. He dedicated his time and energy in learning Portuguese language within two months in Salvador. It was a moment of joy and pride for him to celebrate first time, the Sunday Holy Eucharist in Portuguese. He enjoyed the awesome beaches, spectacular scenery, and extremely friendly and hospitable people. Elias Surin and Fr. Poulouse Vellakada went to Barbados for their retreat and holidays. Fr. Anil Kishore Tirkey, the parish priest of St. John the Baptist Plaisance, continued visiting families and arranged family prayers with his parishioners.

Fr. Elias Surin

Cambodia

Ranchi Jesuits in Cambodia Mission namely Frs. Manoj, Rajat and Sch. Rakesh are in good health of body and mind despite their busy life. Fr. Manoj is very happy to complete the construction of a new ramp in St. Elizabeth Health care center for the

wheelchair. This is to help the persons with disabilities and old age to go up to newly built physiotherapy center in the first floor. With the help of the Spanish volunteers he successfully arranged the Summer Programme for 200 children and youth in his Parish Nikum from July 20-26. The children and youth profited a lot from the programme. Fr. Manoj together with Rajat arranged a very meaningful 3 days’ meeting, sharing and reflection for all the Jesuits and religious and lay collaborators in order to prepare and recapitulate the spirit of our founder father St. Ignatius of Loyola from 29-31 July. Fr. Dennis Kim SJ, Korean Province and the Professor of the sociology in Gregorian University gave us three inspiring talks on the occasion. The meeting was culminated with the solemn Mass presided over by Bishop Kike Figaredo SJ of Battambang diocese. The celebrations ended with a festive meal.

Sch. Rakesh is maintaining his good health. He is adjusting himself to the new place and new assignment. He said, “I have to do many things in the new place.” “I am the hostel in-charge; accountant, youth animator, English and music teacher, and so on and so forth”. He added, “But I am happy in the new place”. He is trying his best to motivate children and youth to study well to make their future bright.

Fr. Rajat was very happy to witness the closing ceremony of the academic year 2013-14 in De Nobili students’ center. This is his fifth year to witness it. He was amazed to see slow but steady progress of the students. He also conducted entrance exam as well as ‘come and see programme’ for the new students for De Nobili center for 30 high school students from 20-27 July. On 31 July Fr. Rajat was very happy to welcome all the Jesuits and the collaborators who came to see the work of the new school project. All of them were happy and amazed to see the fast changing scenario of the new Xavier Jesuit School campus.

Fr Rajat

Paris, France

I arrived in Paris safely by Air India on 11 July. A scholastic of the French Province came to receive me at the airport. After having three days of rest and some official works in the university, I started my French course with other companions: 2 from Karnataka Province, 1 from Sri Lanka and 1 from East-Africa Province. Right now I am in a Jesuit community in Montpellier, a city near the Mediterranean Sea, learning French. This course will continue till 22 August. Initially I am aware of the difficulty of learning

French but I face this challenge boldly. I am determined to learn it well. In the class I am the oldest (40) while others are between 16-20. I am reminded of St Ignatius which gives me lot of inspiration and strength. Here

the Feast of Ignatius was celebrated with great simplicity. There was the Eucharist and a sumptuous lunch.

Fr Samir

FATHER ELVIUS KUJUR S.J
(25 Feb. 1927 – 30 March 2014)

Fr. Elvius was born on February 25th, 1927 at Parsa village the then in Noadih Parish now Parsa Parish itself and died on 30th March, 2014 at 5:00 P.M. in Seva Nilaya Health Centre, Ara Gate, Ranchi. Father Elvius was 87 years of age. He was 64 years a Jesuit and 54 years a Priest. His primary education was from R. C. Middle School, Noadih and for the high school he went St. Ignatius' High School, Gumla. For Intermediate he went to St. Xavier's College, Ranchi in 1947. He entered the novitiate at St. Stanislaus' College, Sitagarha, Hazaribag on 7th July, 1949. After completing his novitiate again he came back to St. Xavier's College, Ranchi for his Degree Course in 1951. He went for philosophy in Jyana Deepa Vidyapeeth, Pune in 1953. For his Regency he went to Catholic Church, Musgutri in Chattisgarh in the year 1956. For his theological studies again went back to JDV, Pune in 1958. He got ordained in Ranchi on 24th March 1961. For Tertianship he went to SSC, Sitagarha and took his final vows on 2nd Feb. 1965 in Gumla. He was prefect and an Assistant Headmaster in St. Ignatius' High School, Gumla from 1963. For his special studies of Himalayan Scouts he went to Kurseong in the year 1968 for two years. After that he spent several years in St. Mary's Samtoli, first as an Assistant Headmaster and Prefect then as a Director of the Apostolic School till 1987. In the year 1987 he went to Jalpaiguri as Rector in the Minor Seminary. He was for long years in Prabhat Tara School, Dhurwa, as a superior and Parish Priest from 1992 to 2008. He went to Noadih as a Parish Priest in the year 2008. In his last days he came to Catholic Church, Patrachauli more for a rest rather than an active ministry.

As far as I know him, being with him in Prabhat Tara School, as a parish priest Fr. Elvius was well accepted by the parishioners. He knew each family and whenever he met his parishioners he called them by their name which indicated that he was interested in them. He availed himself at anytime for his people whether it may be for a sick call or reaching the communion for the sick, the old and aged, or visiting the families. He made no distinction between haves and have nots. He regularly visited the poor people, especially those who live in the *jhparpatti* (slums). He had a helping hand and many poor families were helped by him spiritually as well as financially. He welcomed them and helped everyone who came to his

door. He had seen the missionary work of his elders then mostly the Belgian Fathers in the mission field who had impressed him so much. Imbibing their spirit and zeal he had a heart for the people. No wonder then that he willingly accepted the office of the Parish Priest of Noadih Parish even at the age of 82 and carried on till the end for five more years. Scouting and the Parish work rewarded him that he became strong and sturdy physically. Being healthy all along, he gave a long years of service in the Society under different capacities surpassing all his companions in terms of the number of years.

Being a scout master throughout his life he was disciplined in his daily life. He loved his daily time table. His day started with early rising and offering the mass. After the mass he used to read his breviary daily in the corridor back and forth very faithfully which inspired the young priests in the community. As he was the scout master at St. Ignatius' and St. Mary's, it not only kept his body fit and healthy, but also inspired his students to be fit and disciplined. In fact scouting was his addiction. In his prime days as a scout master he would don his khaki shirt and shorts, scarp in the neck and whistle in the mouth and would conduct the scouts march past or the drill signaling with his right hand to the right or the left, to the forward movement or the backward. With Mr. Hena, another scout master, forming a good team of the scout masters they would pitch a camp in the school compound or in the open country side and teach the scouts how to tie all various knots with ropes, explain different signals and tell how to decipher different messages. In the evening camp fire their favourite song was "Lambe lambe tard ke perd, lagge hain katarr re..." He used to relate to his student Jesuits nostalgically the great things of those days which he fulfilled. One unfulfilled wish however pinched him in later years was that he wanted to go for a higher training in scouting which was not granted. Nonetheless, he, as the only trained Jesuit in scouting in the Province, executed dexterously in this field in all the schools wherever he worked and took it to its greater heights in the era of 70s to 80s. The students who passed through him benefitted greatly.

He used to say, "There are two kinds of people in this world - good and bad. The bad people will try to pull your leg, trouble you, criticize you and your work, and try to spoil your name and so on." He would further

add, “You should never panic because of these people. Do not be disturbed or discouraged because there are good people also who will always try to help you, encourage you, appreciate you and your work. These people will always support you when you are in need and always stand by your side whenever you are in need or difficulties.” He often said, “When you are in a tense situation or in need of a certain decision to be taken, use, ‘Nir chhir vivek’ i.e., as the Rajhans separates the milk from water and takes it. Similarly, you should use your wisdom to separate evil from good.”

Fr. Elvius really lived a life of simplicity and poverty. One incident to prove his sense of poverty would be enough. I saw him wearing a pair of sandals for last five years which were torn and tattered. One day when he was in the chapel we took them and threw them away and told him that the dog had taken them away. When he came out of the chapel and found his sandals missing, he looked for them everywhere and ultimately found them and wore them for another three years. He had hardly two pairs of trousers and shirts for himself. Whatever extra he had he used to give them

to others. He never complained about food which was served at table. He willingly took it. Whatever gifts he would receive he used to give them to the needy.

His spiritual life was inspiring. His sermons were well prepared for Sundays. He was always ready to give recollections and ready to exchange the pulpit with other church denominations. The parishioners who came to him for spiritual direction went back satisfied. He was very faithful in saying the rosary which showed his devotion to Mother Mary. He was very regular in saying mass in different *tolas* (hamlets) and colonies during advent, May Procession and lent. He always tended his parishioners well with his full capacity.

However healthy, a time comes for everyone to give in! The sickness comes through the back door very often. Fr. Elvius did not know that he had developed cancerous lungs as there was no pain in them. In the course of treatment at Seva Nelaya Health Centre, Ara Gate, Ranchi, he surrendered to the Lord. May his soul rest in peace!

Fr Anand Kerketta

Let us Remember in our Prayers :

Fr Piergiorgio Mennini SJ (76) expired on 16 August 2014.

Mr Vincent Dungdung (78), eldest brother of Fr Linus Dungdung, died on 12 August 2014.

Mr Remis Tirkey (85), Grandfather of Sch Sujit Toppo, died on 12 August 2014.

Mr. Prakash Toppo and Mrs Saroj Toppo, maternal uncle and aunt of Sch. Bimal Minj.

BABIES OF THE MONTH: AUGUST & SEPTEMBER

August

04 Ekka John
Toppo Suman Prabhat
05 Ekka Juel
Barla Rajenius
Hassapurty Anuranjan
10 Surin William
Ekka Cyprian
11 Ekka Noel
12 Lakra Telesphore
13 Dungdung Linus
Xalxo Prem
14 Xalxo Yacub
Tirkey Modestus
15 Kerketta George
18 Soreng Charles
26 Xess Ajit Kr.
28 Dungdung Emile
29 Joncheere Florent
30 Kullu Jayprakash N.

September

02 Delporte Anthony
04 Kerketta Patrick
Xess Isayas
07 Ekka Severius
08 Kadookunnel Anthony
Saras Ajit
Kullu Elias
12 Kerketta Elvius
13 Kindo Beatus
14 Tigga John Crus
15 Bara David
16 Ekka Patras
Tirkey Alexius
21 Toppo Christopher Raju
Bage Tej Mati
Dang Edwin
23 Kujur Linus
Kujur Pingal
24 Tirkey Ignatius
Kullu Pradeep
25 Baxla Tej Kumar