

RANCHI BULLETIN



75/12 Ranchi Jesuits, Sadbhavna P.B. - 4, Ranchi - 834 001, Jharkhand DECEMBER 2016

Wishing you all
A MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR 2017!

For a child has been born for us
A son given to us;
Authority rests upon his shoulders
And he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Is.9:6)



Fr Provincial and the Ranchi Jesuit Society
Wish you all the Readers of Ranchi Bulletin,
Friends, Benefactors & Collaborators
Joy and Peace of Christmas
And
A Prosperous New Year 2017!

Announcement of Priestly ordination:

Deacon Kulwant Minj SJ at Karondabera on Saturday 7 January 2017
Deacon Rosario Mosahari SJ at Udalguri on Sunday 15 January 2017
Deacon Mukul R. Kerketta SJ at Banari on Wednesday 18 January 2017
Deacon Justin Kandulna SJ at Gangutoli on Saturday 21 January 2017
Deacon Bipin Tirkey SJ at Kuruskela on Sunday 29 January 2017

Houses, Institutions & Formation Houses

St Mary's Samtoli

Frs Emmanuel, Bruno and Linus attended the *gami* mass of late Fr Ranjit P. Toppo at his paternal home in Gumla on 1 November. Fr Benedict Lakra, cousin of Fr Ranjit, presided over the mass along with 35 priests who concelebrated. Many relatives, friends and well-wishers were present to pay him their loving homage. On All Souls' Day, Hostel and Apostolic boys had the holy mass together in the hostel-chapel. Fr Linus presided over the Eucharist while Frs Alois and Sikander blessed the graves nearby the chapel and graves in the garden respectively.

Sch Sujit Toppo with two other teachers accompanied the school hockey team of under-17 which represented the Jharkhand State in the Junior Nehru Hockey Tournament that took place in Delhi. The team lost by 5-0 in the quarter

final played against the Bhopal team. It came back to Samtoli on 17 November.

The hostellers and apostolic boys, and SJT hostel girls gladly rendered their generous help in harvesting paddy. Frs Bruno, Emmanuel, Albert and the Scholastics Nirmal and Samir worked hard to direct and enthuse them to finish the work. Now the threshing is also over. This year we have better crops.

Fr Amar, co-ordinator of Youth Commission, Fr Sikander and Fr Ireneus went to Ranchi with the school boys and girls for the MAGIS Programme. It was learning and enriching experience for the students.

St Joseph's Club organized the *Akhara Competition* in our school campus to promote tribal dance and music. Three teams from the Institutions and ten villages took part in it. Fr Emmanuel Barla was the chief guest.

On this occasion Mr Benjamin Lakra highlighted the significance of *Akhara* in tribal cultural life. It is a common place of a community which fosters unity and community spirit. In *Akhara* three things takes place simultaneously – singing, drumming and dancing.

Fr. Emmanuel spoke about meaning and history of *Akhara*. The teams were given one hour time to perform their tribal dances. The judges went round to assess. At the end the prizes were given to the winners. In the Institutional category Ursuline hostel, St. Anne's Hostel (A) and St. Mary's School received the first, second and third prizes. On the village level – Gadrabahar, Samtoli and Khijri got the first, second and third prizes, the rest were satisfied with the consolation prizes. It started at 2.00 and ended at 4.30 p.m. All appreciated this initiative of St Joseph's Club.

Bishop Vincent Barwa had invited all the priests and religious of Simdega diocese for the concluding ceremony of the Year of Mercy. Many priests and religious participated at the Pastoral Centre Purnapani. His Lordship presided over the holy Eucharist. Thereafter Fr Sudhir Kujur SJ delivered an inspirational talk on the Year of Mercy. However, the final conclusion of the Year of Mercy took place with the celebration of the Feast of Christ the King. The procession began from the church campus at 6.30 a.m. and proceeded via Samtoli village and came to the open ground in Pushpur near Basic school where the faithful had adoration and homily. After the adoration, procession proceeded to the parish via Chhota Town. Thereafter Bp Vincent Barwa celebrated the mass. Singing was conducted by the students of St John's School Pharsabera. Many faithful participated in the procession and prayer.

Fr Rector went to Ursuline Formation House for a two-day intensive seminar (28 -29 Nov) for the candidates for the tertianship. It was about the dynamics of Ignatian Spiritual Exercises and the meaning of their final commitment. He also touched upon the methods of prayers especially Meditation and Contemplation. When he came back to Samtoli, he received the sad news of the death of his nephew's wife in Loadih.

Fr Linus Dungdung

Jharna-Ashirvad, Namkum

Jharna spirituality centre welcomed several groups – religious men and women - for their annual retreat. Fr K.C. guided the annual retreat of Ursuline Sisters and a few Sisters from other congregations involved in Health ministry. He also guided the ordination retreat of Jesuit deacons from Hazaribag, Jamshedpur, Madhya Pradesh and Ranchi provinces. Prior to their retreat, deacons also spent some time with Fr Sylvanus in familiarizing themselves with rubrics of the holy Eucharist and other Sacraments that

they will be ministering after their priestly ordination. Fr Sylvanus also directed a retreat to some other groups. Fr Deepak guided two retreats here: one for the Tertians and the other for the Jubilarians of St Anne's Congregation one after the other. He willingly accommodated all those who came to JHARNA for personal retreat or retreats in smaller groups if rooms were available. Br James, with his multiple responsibilities, takes care of the needs of the community and of the retreatants cheerfully. This time due to the inflow of several groups, he decided to postpone his annual retreat at Mango, Jamshedpur which he himself had arranged for our Jesuit Brothers.

Ashirvad Novitiate went into unusual silence for the whole of November. First year novices had their Long Retreat from 1 Nov to 2 Dec, under the guidance of their Novice Master, Fr Raymond. The second year novices went for their Hospital Experiment to the M.C. Sisters, Radha Rani and the Brothers in Ranchi and Patna. Fr Ferdinand made use of this time in personal readings and preparing for classes as well as visiting the second years in the nearby centres. Those around Ranchi returned to Ashirvad Novitiate on 1 Dec evening due to the *bandh* the following day. So far things went well. Praise the Lord! Through this News Bulletin, the novitiate family expresses its sincere thanks and appreciation for your prayerful support throughout the Experiments. The novices were happy to cycle to Ranchi on 4 Dec to be with the province gathered in SXC Chapel to pray for the repose of our late Fr Peter-Hans Kolvenbach. They led the choir during the holy mass. They were also present for the talk by Fr Ed Fassett SJ on "Collaboration" and brief presentation of the Province Commissions.

Fr Raymond Kerketta

Satya Nilayam, Chennai

We had the first semester exams (25 Oct-2 Nov) followed by a week of break. We had a workshop on Ignatian Spirituality (8-9 Nov) for which Fr Francis Pudicherry (GUJ) was the resource person. His inputs were insightful and thought-provoking, focusing mainly on our familiarity with the Constitutions of the Society of Jesus and the Spiritual Exercises. It helped us to recapture the spirit and charism of the founding fathers. Thereafter Fr Francis guided our triduum too. He gave us quite a few exercises like writing short reflections or meditations based on texts from the Constitutions and Spiritual Exercises; which we had to submit at the end of each day. These exercises helped us to remain focused during our prayers.

'Community-Days' (14-15 Nov) was well coordinated by Satya Nilayam Cultural Committee. We had a lot of fun and enjoyment through both indoor and outdoor games during the day and cultural programmes in the evenings. It was an occasion to strengthen our bond of friendship with one

another. A drama based on socially relevant theme, 'Thirst, Tears and Triumph' was staged on the feast of St Francis Xavier. This drama has been conceived, written and acted by the Scholastics themselves. Fr Vinod directed it well. Sch Sudhir Lakra acted in the play while all the other Ranchi Scholastics were part of a dance troupe that was an integral part of the play.

Sch. Amit J. Lakra

Clive's House, Trichy

We had annual triduum and Spiritual Animation Programme (SAP). Our triduum was guided by Sister Ruby at Servite Sisters' Retreat House. Fr Irudaya Raj SJ, the ADF, conducted the Spiritual Animation Programme from 18 to 20 November. We were divided in groups for sharing and reflection on the general theme *The Renewal of Province Structures in the Service of Universal Mission*. The animator touched upon the various points, such as universality, restructuring, unity in diversity, challenges etc.

Priests and Scholastics from different ministry places joined us. Overall, the SAP brought a lot of awareness both in heart and head level. We had a special prayer service on 30 November for the former General late Fr Peter Hans Kolvenbach SJ.

Sch. Patras Topno

Patna Juniorate

Juniors, hale and hearty, are enjoying juniorate life. From 1 November onward, we were given opportunities to deliver homilies in Hindi in our community. We remembered and prayed on 2 November for the departed souls together with the parishioners of Danapur. We are grateful to Fr Joseph Puthenkulam SJ, who familiarized us with the History of the Society of Jesus [21-25 Nov] while Fr Sushil Bilung SJ introduced us Research Methodology. On the feast day of St John's Berchmans, we joined the 'Atma Darshan' community for the Silver Jubilee celebration.

Sch. Alak Soreng

ASSAM & ANDAMAN

Jesuit Bhavan, Tezpur

Demonetization has affected the mobility and works of curia members to some extent. But they used their time and energy meaningfully in writing new projects, preparing reports of the current projects and some spiritual ministries. Fr Thomas Barla guided the retreat of first year novices and postulants of Ursuline Congregation in Gutlong, Tezpur from 2 to 9 November. Fr Xavier Lakra received three Irish benefactors Mr Grattan Boylan from EDUCO and two young boys from Guwahati Air Port on 8th evening and took them to Kathalguri (Mornai) on the same night due to lack of time. The next day Fr Pradeep Kullu took them to Tipkai a new Mission Station about 45 kilometer away from Kathalguri. They were happy to see a virgin place for mission, but worried to fund because land clearance is still pending.

Fr Pradeep Kujur and Fr Ajay Minj from Ranchi arrived on 7 November to check all the necessary documents and accounts of all the units: St Xavier's College, St John's School, Nirmala School, Balipara Parish, St Xavier's School Tarabari, Gana Chetana Samaj, Jesuit Bhavan and Curia. They left for Upper Assam on 10 November by the state transport. On the occasion of Fr Thomas Barla's birthday [16 Nov.], all the Jesuit communities in the Middle Assam gathered for the thanksgiving mass and fellowship dinner. Mrs Anne Knoerzer and Hildegard Hermanns from Aachen, Germany arrived on 18 November, who were kind enough to distribute 26 bicycles for the Catechists of Balipara Parish. In the evening there was a good gathering of all the Jesuits of

Middle Assam with them in Jesuit Bhavan. The Fathers of Jesuit Bhavan had a community meeting to evaluate their works and community life on 22 November; and on the following day with the co-workers to evaluate their works and contributions. The consult meeting [26-27 Nov.] of the Assam Mission was held at Manas Bansbari. Fr Xavier Lakra the Mission Superior and all his consulters Fr Benjamin Lakra, Fr Anup Chand Kiran Minj, Fr Pradeep kullu, F. Laurence Kiro and Fr Thomas Barla were present. They had also meeting with the Bishop Thomas of Bongaigaon Diocese [on 27th afternoon] with regard to different mission centers of the Jesuits. The Bishop expressed his happiness about Jesuits' contribution in his diocese. Fr Xavier Lakra guided the retreat of the second year novices of Ursuline Congregation from 28th November in Gutlong, Tezpur.

Gana Chetana Samaj, Tezpur

The month of November was quite appropriate for review and assessment of the ongoing projects with the staff. All the staff of Gana Chetana Samaj spent two days together in evaluating the impact of the project activities on the beneficiaries. The new strategies have been made to implement the projects more effectively in the Adivasi villages. It is planned to animate the youth clubs through different activities and initiatives in the coming months. The staffs are assigned for different youth clubs. The village meetings of study centers have been already completed in Balipara Block.

The NABARD also organized a state level review meeting on 16 November in Guwahati to review the progress

of SHG and JLG projects. Mr Anand P. Hans and Miss Mary Paul Ekka participated in the meeting in place of Director. NABARD has given some guidelines for all the NGOs to expedite the works but the demonetization has obstructed all the works related to saving and credit linkages of SHGs and JLGs. The construction of piggery sheds under the Livelihood Development project is in progress. The paddy from the demonstration farm was good. Due to demonetization there was a big loss in the poultry demonstration farm. The chickens were sold in very low rate. The members of youth clubs from Pengaree came to Tezpur to have residential computer training.

Fr Thomas Barla

Prothrapur (Andaman)

“Children are the blessing of God” was the theme of the Children’s Day on 13 November. The children of the parish took active part in the proclamation of the Word of God, Bible procession, singing, prayers of the faithful, offertory procession etc during the solemn Eucharist. After the holy mass, children had the opportunity to go to Chidiyatapu for picnic where they had entertaining group games and sumptuous lunch. Father Edward gave away prizes to

everyone for their performance and participation in various competitions like drawing, Bible quiz, sports, and essay-writing on different topics held couple of days ago.

The Jubilee Year of Mercy was concluded on 20 November in a grand way. At 7.00 a.m. we had adoration followed by Eucharistic procession up to Birdline junction and back to the Church. The procession in honour of Christ the King was well arranged. A good number of parishioners joined the procession with singing, reciting rosary and acclaiming Christ the King with slogans. It concluded with the solemn Eucharist. During Eucharist, four persons were invited to share their personal experiences of God’s mercy. Their sharing was touching and inspiring for others. Novena to St Francis Xavier at Pathargudda unit began on 25 November which ended with the celebration of the feast on 4 December.

A free eye screening camp was conducted by Dr Agarwal’s Hospital at Catholic Church Prothrapur on 27 November. Needy parishioners benefitted from the camp. The parish priest and the faithful express their gratitude to Dr Agarwal’s Eye Hospital for their noble gesture and service.

Fr David

DIASPORA

Rome

The presence of GC36 delegates from the world over in different Roman Houses for almost two months was very inspiring, enriching and enlivening amidst sharing and listening to the diversity of experiences and reflections from the worldwide missions of the Society of Jesus. Although the delegates kept themselves busy during the day in the proceedings of GC36, their presence during the meals and especially during the weekends brought a sense of newness, more life and vigor in the communities. Indeed, that was one of the many remarkable fruits of GC36! And hence, once the Delegates started leaving for their respective Provinces one by one after the conclusion of GC36 on Saturday 12 November, one could easily feel the gradual return to normalcy of life from an extraordinary elevated “international atmosphere” of the two months. Although our three Ranchi electors were accommodated in three different Houses – Fr Provincial in the Curia, Fr Francis Minj in Collegio Bellarmino and Fr Ajit Xess in Gregorian University – their initiatives of occasionally bringing together all Ranchi men in Rome helped create a close bond of being part of the one and the same mission. As the MAP provincial Kalyanus Minj and MAP delegate Ranjit Tigga were close neighbours of Ajit Xess in Gregorian Community, many more formal and informal interactions were made possible to

listen to “the joys and the hopes, the griefs and the anxieties” (cfr. *Gaudium et Spes*, 1) in the mission and activities of RAN and MAP provinces.

Apart from the formal and informal interactions in Rome, RAN and MAP delegates utilized their weekends to deepen their knowledge of Italian history and culture, which are inseparably intertwined with religion. One of their aspirations was to discover why the present Pope had taken the name of St Francis of Assisi and what inspired him to promulgate *Laudato Si’*. Inspired by such motivations, MAP provincial Kalyanus Minj, RAN delegates Ajit Xess and Francis Minj and MAP delegate Ranjit Tigga set out as pilgrims to Assisi on 30 October. Fr provincial was very kind to make sacrifices so that RAN and MAP delegates could go out together as one group. Just at the moment of departure for Assisi, there were strong tremors. However, their spirit remained high to proceed toward Assisi. Unfortunately, Basilica of Santa Maria degli Angeli, the lower Basilica was closed after the tremors for the security reasons. They moved on to the Basilica of St Francis of Assisi situated on the hilltop. They had planned to visit the Church of St Clare but that too was closed because of the earthquake. In a way, that helped them to gain more time for the Basilica of St Francis of Assisi. They spent enough time in front of the tomb of St Francis to pray for their intentions. After strolling through the streets of Assisi, they

went to the Church of St Damian, where St Clare lived and died. There they met Ravi Hemant, who had come to Assisi along with two Scholastics from Jamshedpur. After the lunch, Ravi Hemant and his friends went back to the hilltop to spend some more time before leaving for Rome; while the delegates preferred to visit St Anne's Sisters in Atri, where they not only shared *dukham-sukham*, but also a sumptuous meal prepared by the Sisters. On 6 November, the entire RAN and MAP delegation including RNC provincial went to Padova and Venice. In Padova, they were received warmly by Rev Mata Clementina DSA, Superior of Perarolo Community, and Rev Bimal Lakra, diocesan priest from Chattisgarh. Keeping up with the spirit of St Anne's Sisters, Mata Clementina had brought plenty of eatable things for the pilgrims, whereas Rev Bimal provided them with hot meal after their pilgrimage to the Basilica of St Anthony of Padova. After the meals, they proceeded to Venice. Their pilgrimage to the Patriarchal Cathedral Basilica of St Mark will be another milestone in their memory lane, which is also known as *Chiesa d'oro* (Church of Gold) for its opulent design and gold ground mosaics. Apart from enjoying the boat ride through the high tide waters of Venice, they enjoyed more the moments of being together and sharing their joys, sorrows, hopes and aspirations as members of two neighbouring provinces.

After the conclusion of GC36 on Saturday 12 November, Fr Provincial, Fr Ajit and Fr Francis spent three days in planning out the GC36 follow up in the province. On 17 November, they left for Paris to meet two Ranchi Scholastics Jyoti and David, who, besides learning French, have started the First Cycle of Theology. During the Congregation Jean-Yves Grenet, the French provincial had convened a meeting of all the Provincials whose Jesuits are studying in Paris. The agenda of the meeting was to get a feel of how the Scholastics feel in Paris and what could be done to help them grow in their spiritual and intellectual pursuit. It should be noted that the French Province not only takes care of their board, lodge and academic expenses but also caters to their spiritual and emotional growth by extending the support of highly qualified Superiors and Spiritual Directors. After meeting Jyoti and David, they moved to Brussels on a pilgrimage to the village of Father Constant Lievens, and to meet Raymond Jacques and William Delporte in Haverlle. Fr Aurel Brys had already made arrangements for their visit to Belgium. On 24 November, they left for Milan to be with Don George Valentine Kerketta, a diocesan priest from Simdega diocese who is the parish priest of Locarno (Switzerland).

They came back to Rome on 26 November. The Ranchi men in Rome had already planned to celebrate a thanksgiving holy mass and dinner in their honour in Collegio Bellarmino. Biju Sebastian and Edwin Dang had prepared a delicious

meal as a gesture of gratitude and appreciation for what they had been and what they did during their two months sojourn in Rome. An overwhelming spirit of gratitude prevailed during both the celebrations for the gracious and inspiring presence of Fr Provincial, Fr Ajit and Fr Francis, which encouraged and enthused Ranchi men to dedicate their full time and energy in the mission assigned to them here in Rome. On the following day, Ravi Hemant and Sanjay Dilip accompanied them to the airport, and bid them farewell on behalf of all. Before leaving Rome, Ajit squeezed some time out to express his "wow" (*warm, overwhelming and wonderful*) experiences in writing to share with the fellow Ranchi Jesuits, "My experience in Rome has been so wonderful that I will always remember in my life with lots of gratitude to God, all of my companions and friends from whom I drew many inspirations before, during and after the Congregation. It gives me a great sense of being called to be the companions of Jesus. I grew in the knowledge of the Society of Jesus at the universal as well at the province level. It has increased the sense of belonging to this least but great Society. I really love the Society of Jesus". So it be!

Fr Prem

Jerusalem

Last two months the house was blessed with the presence of number of guests and students who arrived in Jerusalem. In the first week of October there were eight guests. Among them two religious sisters made their 8-day Ignatian journey under the guidance of Fr Doan Nguyen SJ. Four pilgrims from Belgium too came to stay with us for a week. They were accompanied by Fr Philip Debruyne SJ of the Flemish speaking Province of Belgium. The group consisted of a school staff which plans to bring the students here to have some inter-faith experiences.

The house welcomed and accommodated 11 students from Rome in the first week of October. These students are to follow the courses of the first Semester in Hebrew University. The semester lasts for three months, from October till the end of January. Among them there are three from the United States, and from Spain, Mexico, Croatia, Scotland, Canada, Colombia and Slovakia one student each. Sr Anna Matikova from Slovakia is the only woman student who has joined this semester. Fr Victor from California and Fr Johnathan from Colombia are the two Jesuit students in the group, while the rest are diocesan priests. The month of October was filled with Jewish feasts like the New Year Day, the Feast of the Tent and so on. As a result the Hebrew University started only by the last week of October. The students therefore had to finish their visits to different places of interest in Jerusalem and Galilee right in the first week of October. Besides the visits, they had to do some days of Hebrew and Greek language lessons. Classes are going in

full swing now in the University. Here Sunday is a working day, so the Universities and schools, banks and offices work normally. The students have their lessons on Sundays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Fr Abrego, the house Superior went to Rome for two weeks. He had to finish some business and also prepare his visa to Israel. Fr Stefano, the director of house kept himself busy in guiding the students during the tours and giving various days of language lessons. He too left for Rome for some business. With the start of Advent season, the city shops and churches have worn a new look. The presence of a good number of pilgrims coming from all over the world and constantly praying at the holy sites, seem to intensify the meaning and purpose of Advent. Fr Doan is as usual busy giving retreats and recollections to various monasteries in Jerusalem in preparation for the Birthday of our Lord.

Fr Camil Kerketta

Guyana

“The rivers will clap their hands; the mountains will exult together before the presence of the Lord” (Ps 97:8-9). The Centenary Celebration of St Aloysius Church Tipuru, in South Pakaraimas, mesmerized with the presence of the Lord, on the beautiful mountains as they praised and thanked God for all the marvelous deeds He has done in their faith journey. Bishop Francis Alleyne presided over the solemn Holy Eucharist with 500 faithful gathered from Yurongparu, Rukumuta, Tiger Pond, Paipong, Jawari and Karasabai. Hearty Congratulations to Ursuline Sisters- Divya Gulab, Seraphina Kerketta, Crecencia Toppo and Nishi Susana Kujur for their effort to make the day memorable.

Fr Dermot Preston SJ, the British Provincial, visited Guyana [17-24 Nov] after GC36 to share with us his first hand experiences of joy and gratitude. Fr Anil Tirkey and Fr Elias Surin made their annual retreat in The Abbey, Mount St Benedict Tunapuna, West Indies. Fr John Pereira OSB, the Abbot of the monastery and the whole community warmly welcomed us. It was a wonderful spiritual experience of God’s love and his abounding mercy. A youth convention [19-20 Nov] took place in Shulinab, Rupununi with its central theme ‘Preserving Indigenous Culture, Rooted in Protecting Mother Earth and Nature’. More than 170 youth belonging to Macushi and Wapishana indigenous groups attended in it. We, Fr Anil, Fr Amar, Fr Mukul and Fr Elias, wish you all *a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*

Fr Elias Surin

Madrid, Spain

The month of November kept us busy with our regular classes, assignments and tests. On 9 November, we, all theologians, along with our respective communities went to Los Monilos, (a retreat house) in the outskirt of Madrid

to spend a day of reflection on the theme ‘Pain and suffering’. A Jesuit Brother from the community of Anuj led us into prayers and reflections. This theme was very apt to create an atmosphere in which we could understand and accept the meaning of pain and suffering in our lives. During the middle of the month Fr Pablo Alonso SJ and Fr José Ignacio Garcia SJ, two Spanish delegates of the GC36, shared their experiences of GC36 with us. Their genuine sharing with liberal comments and observations of GC36 touched every one of us. Later on 26 November a thanksgiving mass for the success of the GC36 was offered at Maldonado, a well establish Jesuit parish in Madrid. The Spanish provincial Fr P. Francisco José Ruiz Pérez presided over the mass. Fr Adolfo Nicholas SJ, our former superior general, joined him for the celebration. Fr Provincial began with a hilarious note saying, “Good morning brothers; today we have Fr Nicholas with us. I hope you all remember him”. At the end of the mass there was a round of applause for Fr Nicholas, for which he smiled and waved his hands. We, Anuj & James, wish you all *a Merry Christmas & a Prosperous New Year 2017.*

Sch James

Cairo (Egypt)

In the first week of November, the students of our middle school had a day of education trip. With the clear permission of the parents, students from Kindergarten I to class VI were taken out class by class to different places of interest and knowledge. They were accompanied by the teachers directly connected with the particular class. There is children’s museum, educational & Entertainment Park, Pharonic history village, etc with latest facilities. On 04 November, I had the opportunity to represent the Jesuits in Egypt at the annual meeting of Catholic schools of Egypt. Principals and heads of the schools were present. Patriarch Anba Ibrahim was the chief guest.

For the feast of St Stanislaus Kostka [13 Nov], Jesuits in Cairo were invited to the novitiate community to pray for the novices, followed by agape meal. That day was also the birthday of one of our senior French Jesuits Fr Jacques Masson who completed 91 years. He has been the in-charge of Jesuit library for more than 50 years. He takes classes for the novices and offers daily evening holy mass for the faithful.

The death of former Fr General Peter Hans Kolvenbach on 25 November was quick. He was to celebrate his 88th birthday on 30 November. Fr Cedric Prakash (GUJ) involved in JRS work in Lebanon was to take his interview on his birthday as planned earlier but God had His own plan... One of his co-novices from Holland Fr Charles Libois went to attend the burial ceremony in Lebanon with the delegate of Egypt Fr Romani.

Fr Bimal Kerketta

Fr Provincial's Programme

December 2016

- 03 Holy Mass at St. Xavier's School, Doranda
- 04 Session with Fr. Edward Fassett, SJ, at Manresa House for the whole Province presented by the coordinators of different Commissions
- 05 Sharing Session with Fr. Edward Fassett, SJ, by the Central Zone Provincials and Coordinators of different commissions
- 08 Blessing of the Minor Basilica at Ulahatu
Visitation of Assam till 13 December
- 14 Major Superiors Meeting at 10.00 am
Interaction on "The Ministry of Interreligious Dialogue in India" National Secretary for IRD by Fr. Vincent Sekhar, SJ at 6.15 pm
- Consult – evening**
- 15 GB Meeting of St. Xavier's College, Ranchi

- 16 Province Jubilee of the Jubilarians
- 17-21 Visitation – Vidya Jyoti
- 22 GB Meeting XIPT – at 8.00 am
- 23-26 Christmas
- 28 Hazaribag

January 2017

- 03 Tainser Parish
- 05 CZ Consultation
- 06 AROUSE – GB & General Meeting
RJS – GB Meeting (evening)
- 07 Karondabera – Ordination - Dn Kulwant Minj, SJ
- 09 Sharing Session with Fr. Amar Bage on Guyana
- 9-11 Surat – Gujarat
- 15 Assam – Ordination – Dn Rosario Mosahary, SJ
- 18 Banari – Ordination – Dn Mukul R. Kerketta, SJ
- 22 Gangutoli – Ordination – Deacon Justin Kandulna
- 29 Kruskela – Ordination – Deacon Bipin Tirkey, SJ

Fr Peter Hans Kolvenbach SJ (1928 –2016)



Rome (Sunday, 27 November 2016): Former Superior General of the Society of Jesus Father Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, SJ, has died. He died in Beirut, Lebanon, on Saturday, November 26, 2016. He was the 29th Superior General of the Society of Jesus, serving from 1983 to 2008. Born on 30 November 1928, Father Kolvenbach entered the Society on 7 September 1948. He was ordained on 29 June 1961. He pronounced his final vows in the Society on 15 August 1969. On 13 September 1983, on the first ballot, he was elected the 29th Superior General of the Society of Jesus.

As a young man, he lived most of his teen years during the German occupation of the Netherlands. He would later note that experiencing war was not an uncommon experience in the formation of a Superior General. It was the experience of Ignatius at Pamplona, and the experience of his predecessor, Pedro Arrupe, who witnessed the dropping of the atomic bomb. Father Kolvenbach also lived in the midst of war in Beirut as a professor of linguistics and working with refugees in Lebanon.

In an interview with the Jesuit run America Media in 2007, Father Kolvenbach noted that while living in the midst

of war emphasizes the fragility of human life, the sound of a bird singing after a night of terror announces that "death will never have the last word in the Creator's will."

Father Kolvenbach spent many years in academic life, primarily teaching linguistics in Lebanon. He was named the Vice Provincial of the Near East, made up of the regions of Egypt, Lebanon, and Syria. In 1981, he was appointed as Rector at the Oriental Institute in Rome, a position he held until his election as Superior General.

Upon his election, Kolvenbach carried out his responsibilities with energy and compassion. He visited as many Jesuit provinces and individual Jesuits as he could. His was a calming presence in the midst of the many questions the Jesuits faced both within and outside the Church. In 1995, he presided over the 34th General Congregation of the Jesuits, which addressed issues including the mission of the Society in the modern world and the impact of the revision of Canon Law.

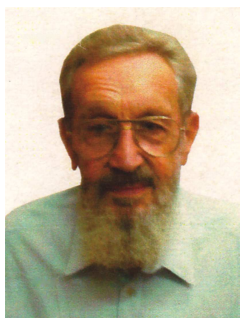
In February 2006, Kolvenbach informed the members of the Society of Jesus of his intention to step down in 2008. His resignation was accepted at the 35th General Congregation of the Society of Jesus. Shortly after General Congregation 35, Father Kolvenbach returned to Beirut, where he worked as a librarian until his death. (*Courtesy: www.sjweb.info*)

Let us Remember in Our Prayers

Fr Leo Bara SJ (94/74) died on 10 December 2016.

Mrs Odil Minj, relative of Fr Linus Dungdung, expired on 30 Nov. 2016.

Fr Paul Frans Terrens SJ (1924 – 2016)



Fr Paul Frans Terrens was born on 11 January 1924 in a devout Catholic family in Antwerp, Belgium. He did his primary schooling from St Edmon School in 1931-1935. He was sent for High School to St Xavier's School Antwerp in 1936-1942, and it was there that he developed a great desire to become missionary to India. To fulfill this purpose, he entered the

Society of Jesus on 7 September 1942 to do his novitiate in Drogenen in 1942-1944. He was sent for his Juniorate to La Pairlle Waepon in 1944-1945, where he began studying Sanskrit besides other international languages. Studying Sanskrit was a good preparation for missionary life in India, particularly to the Ranchi Mission. In 1945-1948, he did philosophy at Godine Engel Hoven. After his philosophy, he bade farewell to his family and country never to return – as was commonly understood those days. He came to Ranchi and joined the language school to study Indian languages. Then, he did his regency at St Mary's High School, Samtoli in 1949-1951. He continued his regency at St Aloysius High School Ranchi in 1952. In 1953-1956, he did his theology in Kurseong. On 21 November, 1955, he had his priestly ordination. In 1959 he did his tertianship at Sitagarha and was finally incorporated into the Society of Jesus on 2 February 1983. Before that, he visited his family in 1966, eighteen years after his arrival in Ranchi.

Paul started his priestly ministry as an assistant parish priest in Rengarih in 1957-1959. During this time he started the Apostolic School for Brothers and served as its Director. The school that he founded developed later into Rengarih High School. Brs. Yacub Xalxo and Polycarp Lakra are among his first students. Later on, he was assigned to establish Apostolic School in Kunkuri of which he was the Director from 1960 to 1967. In 1967 he was transferred to Samtoli, again to establish Apostolic School where he served as Director from 1969 to 1981. He devoted his life to training and preparing young men for priesthood. Besides, he taught English and religion at St Mary's High School, Samtoli during 1981-1985. From 1985 to 1997, he served as Superior of ATC and Ashirvad, Namkum, Ranchi. For some time, he was Socius to the Novice Master. In 1997-2012, he served as chaplain at the Holy Family Hospital, Mandar. He was very keen on providing care to the sick and meeting their spiritual needs.

Over the years, it was seen that he was a cheerful man. He was a man of prayer and faith, mortification and discipline. His life was centered in Eucharist. This provided him zeal for mission. He made his cycle tour to many parishes like Banabira, Jampani, Muria, Salangapos, Tainser, Tamra, Rengarih, Kanjaloya, Birmitrapur, and Kesramal and to Kunkuri and Ambikapur. He instilled the sense of the mission and the need for apostolic experience in his students

by taking them to different parishes for picnic. He also instructed his students about how mission stations came into being. To arouse the interest for mission, he assigned a group of students to study about a particular mission station and to present to the students. The students quietly developed a taste for mission work. From Samtoli he used to take every fresh batch of students to Baghlata cave for spelunking. Terrens was a born spelunker, a hobby that he enjoyed during two of his four home visits to Belgium too. How did his spelunking work in his mission? As he established Apostolic Schools, he formed many young men for priesthood. He formed them spiritually, socially and intellectually. In games and sports, he demanded the spirit of games and sports from the students. For spiritual formation, he instructed every evening for 15 minutes about the next day saint. He centered his training and formation based on prayer, Bible and Eucharist and works of mercy. He encouraged his students to live the Gospel value and the life of mortification. He encouraged them through his life example. To teach his students to be efficient, he prepared his classes efficiently and presented it effectively. He formed them intellectually by developing their reading habits in Hindi and English. He himself was a voracious reader. He bought many library books and gave books to students as librarian. Besides games and sports, he organized academic competitions. The students those who were good at games, sports and academic, he rewarded them. He used to say that intellectual skill cannot be stolen whereas other property could be stolen. He encouraged his students to grow intellectually. That is how he touched the caves of the hearts of his students.

He had deep love and interest for his students and teachers. His capacity for memorizing was great; he knew his students by name. He was well acquainted with their family, village, social and economic background. He used to visit every student at home. He was interested in their whereabouts and works. He made it a point to be present at the ordination of his students. He kept this interest till his death.

He had special love and care for poor, sick and widows. He showed his love and kindness to the poor and sick. He used to visit sick people in hospitals regularly. He was caring the sick, weak and disables. He assisted orphan children in their studies. He assisted those people financially too; but he himself was a mortified man. He received a pair of suits at his home visit but that was missing during his next visit. Quite likely, Terrens gave them to someone else.

He was very pleasant person to live with. He was approachable, kind, loveable, merciful, simple, humble, forgiving and generous. His life was God and people centred. Terrens had mastered Sadri, the *lingua franca* of Chotanagpur. Terrens, you have done a great work, may you enjoy eternal life!

Fr Emmanuel Barla SJ