

RANCHI BULLETIN



73/2

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

FEBRUARY 2014

APPOINTMENTS

Father General has Appointed

Father José Francisco MagañaAviña

Father Brian McCoy

Father Bernhard Bürgler

Father Ivan Bresciani

Father Arturo Marcelino Sosa Abascal (VEN), Delegate for the International Houses in Rome.

Provincial of the Province of Mexico (MEX).

Provincial of the Province of Australia (ASL).

Provincial of the Austrian Province (ASR).

Provincial of the Slovenia Province (SVN).

The annual meeting of the CIP (Commissio Interprovinciale Permanens) took place in the General Curia 3-6 February. It is a board of Provincials or Presidents from each Conference which meets with Fr. General "to assist him and his Delegate with the ongoing governance of the inter-Provincial houses and works in Rome (DIR)" (GC 34 D 22 n 5). Issues being discussed included: collaboration among Roman academic institutions, young Jesuits studying in Rome, and evaluation of the CIP and of the DIR since GC 35. Attending the meeting as an observer was Fr. Arturo Sosa (VEN), recently named to become DIR Delegate next Fall.

FR. PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

February 2014

02	Bundu: F. V. of John Beck and George Burh
	Ursuline Convent: Vermeire Memorial Service
04	Saparom: Final Vows of Anthres Minj
06	Scrutiny of Ballots
11	CONSULT (4:00 p.m)
14	Meeting: Sadbhavna (De-addiction)
18	CONSULT (4:00 p.m)
21	CONSULT
22	Dolda: Final Vows - Zacharias Purty
25	Raipur: CZ Meeting

March 2014

01	Back from Bilaspur
05	Fr. Lisbert D'Souza arrives for Extended Consult
5-6	EXTENDED CONSULT
7-8	CANONICAL CONSULT
9-11	Preparing for the Final TERNA
15	CONSULT(4:00 p.m)
27	CONSULT (4:00 p.m)

INFORMATION

- ❖ Information by **Father Pradeep Kujur SJ, the Coordinator of Finance Commission** to all the **Treasurers/ Directors of works/ Parish Priests :**
 - In view of preparing budgets for the next financial year 2014-15, I would like that you keep your accounts up-to-date. Your **budgets** should reach the Provincial's Office by **15 Feb. 2014**.
 - Your **contribution to FACSI**, Common Expenses, Parish Fund and Province Fund should be given by the **15 Feb. 2014**.
- **Information from the Novice Director:** Our Pastors are kindly informed that the novices are available for village ministry – catechism, retreat, etc., during the Lenten season beginning from March 5, 2014. His contact No. is: +917549133149.
- New e-mail ID of **Fr. Shailendra Bara S.J:** *shailendra.bara@gmail.com*
- New Mob. No. of **Fr. Ernest Kujur** +919771568553.
- Father General has approved Fathers **Walter Beck, Fredrick Kujur, Ignatius Lakra and Suman J. Baxla** for Final Vows.

Congratulations to :

Edwin Dang SJ, newly ordained Priest, ordained on 19 Jan. 2014 at Lachragarh.

Frs. George Burh, John Beck who took their final vows at St. Xavier's Bundu on 2 Feb. 2014.

Fr Anthres Minj who pronounced his final vows on 4 Feb. 2014 at Saparom.

Fr Patrick Xalxo, who passed his B.Ed. in First Division.

INSTITUTIONS & HOUSES

Noadih Parish

Noadih had a great day on Dec. 29, 2013. We celebrated the solemnity of the Holy Family, titular feast of Noadih Church. On this occasion we felicitated the parents. As the couples renewed their marriage vows during the Holy Mass, it was really like their wedding anniversary. After the Mass there was a special prayer and blessing for them. Many senior couples came in their wedding garments. The wedding crowns on old ladies' heads brought a great joy to the audience. They exchanged wedding rings, applied sindur and offered garlands to one another. The children wished their parents with bouquets, garlands and so on. It was the first time that the Feast of the Holy Family was celebrated this way at Noadih Parish.

The New Year 2014 began with great enthusiasm for all age groups. Many people came to Church to thank God and get blessings for the New Year. On Jan. 7, Fr. James W. Dungdung was brought to Sewa Nilayam Hospital, Ara Gate. He was sick and became very weak. On Jan. 24, Frs. Beatus and Lalit went to see him. Fr. James was very cheerful but weak. He is now getting better and taking rest at Manresa House Ranchi from Jan. 25.

On Jan. 6, in the absence of Father Lalit, Fr. Xavier Kerketta blessed the marriages of seven couples. He was happy since being in the school he gets a rare occasion of such pastoral work. Our Head

Catechist Mr. Libin catechised thirty-three couples and their marriages were rectified on Jan. 11. The same day the Staff and students had organized the sports for the school students.

Our Deacon Edwin Dang was ordained a priest on Jan. 19 at Lachragarh. All of us, except Fr. Anselm, went to attend it with our parishioners. Fr. Lalit stayed for the First Mass of Edwin in his house Tutikel. In Fr. Edwin's village only two families are Catholics; the rest of the 30 families belong to the GEL, but as far as cooperation among them goes, there is absolutely no discrimination.

Back in Noadih, on Jan. 26, after the first Mass the National flag was hoisted at the parish courtyard. A layman Mr. Linus unfurled the National flag. During the second Mass the Parish Priest Lalit baptized forty-one children. It was a record indeed! On the Republic Day, Schools had their own programme. There were very good items such as skit and group dance, singing, speech and so on. In the afternoon the 'Yuwa Jagrity Club' of Noadih organized sports for children. There were many good prizes and items and so there was a big crowd present to enjoy the day. Noadih *mukhia* the *pramukh* and many honourable guests were there.

In Noadih, people celebrate *padda parab* on days according to their convenience. Fr. Lalit had to go for *padda parab* on 28th to Katari village and on

31st to Patratoli. To go to west of Dumri to Karamdon, Katari, Bandua Naugai, Patratoli and so on, one has to cross the Basa River; and each time it has to be done bare-footed. In rainy season and in winter it is difficult to cross it. But now there is a temporary new bridge and we can cross the river easily.

R.C. Boys Middle School and St. Anne's Girls Middle School Noadih had combined Sports day celebration on Jan. 30. It was well organized by Fr. Xavier. All the children enjoyed the day very much. On 30th evening, Jesuits of Noadih and Sisters of St. Anne together went to wish Don Bosco Fathers at Kereng, the neighbouring parish. Fr. Isaac the Headmaster of the Janata High School, staff and students bade farewell to the out-going class ten students on Jan.31. They had Holy Mass and a farewell programme followed by dinner.

Fr. Lalit

Rumtukel

New Year began with lot of joy and with a spirit of gratitude. A big number of faithful attended the Eucharist. Fr. Ignatius celebrated thanksgiving mass in the Parish hall. Fr Kamal, along with Sisters Gemma, Mary and Christina went to Lilikoto, the farthest unit of Rumtukel, for the mass. Thereafter they shared the New Year festive meals with the villagers.

School reopened on Jan.6 after Christmas holidays. On 11th, guardians' meeting was called and results of the Second Terminal were declared. Our special guest Jack spoke on the value and importance of education in Mission Schools. He stressed on integral development of the students in our schools. Later on Jan. 18, Krusvir children with the staff members went to picnic to Punchghagh. All were fascinated by the scenic beauty of the picnic spot where five rivers meet. The Republic Day was celebrated with patriotic joy and fervour. After the holy mass National Flag was hoisted by the Chief Guest Mr. Jack who also delivered an inspiring speech on the occasion. Students as well as the spectators enjoyed the parade, exhibition and cultural programme. In the afternoon Mr Sanjest (Coach) and Fr. Ignatius took the School Hockey teams (both boys and girls) to Konowa to take part in the *Khassi* (he-goat) and *banda* tournament. However both the teams could not reach the finals. Students of Std. X were given farewell on Jan. 27 by the school.

Fr. Johnson

St. Michael's Khunti

The first day of Jan. 2014 began with the Midnight Holy Mass preceded by adoration. On the New Year Day the religious and the priests of the Khunti Parish had a picnic in the Loyola High School campus. Fr. George Kerketta paid a short visit on Jan. 3 to see the ongoing construction work and the site for the English Medium School.

The following day, we went to Maranghada to wish Fr. Joachim on his birthday. It was nice being with the Maranghada community. On Jan. 9, Fr. Amrit celebrated his birthday. In the morning, special prayers were offered for him during the Holy Mass. In the school, the staff and students wished him with bouquet and a short felicitation programme. In the evening, the Jesuits of Khunti Zone were here to celebrate his birthday. Frs. Florence Kujur, Sebastian Ekka and George Kerketta were our special invitees for the occasion. On the same day, there was *Bhumi Pujan* for the Loyola English Medium School, Khunti.

The next day, Fr. Augustine left for Hazaribag to attend the meeting of educationists. He stayed there a couple of days and came back with a lot of ideas and a bundle of books to enhance English speaking. On Jan. 12, on the occasion of his first anniversary of the installation as bishop of Khunti, Bishop Binay had invited all religious and priests working in the diocese for sharing of life and apostolates. On the same day, Fr. Amrit went to Nawatanr for the priestly ordination of Deacon Anup Arvind Ekka. Fr. Patrick and Br. Basil went to Karangaguri on Jan.14 to participate in the ordination ceremony of Deacon Rajesh Kullu. On Jan.23, Fr. Patrick left for Jharsugda to attend the CLC animators programme and came back on Jan.26 to celebrate the Republic Day.

Our school band group, scout boys and karate kids participated in the Republic Day programme on the court ground. The band group won the appreciation for giving beats for all the groups for march past. In its new dress the group was the centre of attraction. The karate kids were satisfied with the second prize in the karate display.

The last week of the month was full of celebrations. The Republic Day was followed by congregational feast of the Ursuline Sisters. We went to wish ursuline sisters at Dorma. On Jan. 28, Bishop Binay Kandulna celebrated his Birthday. Frs. Augustine and Amrit joined the Bishop's House community to pray for him in the Holy Eucharist. In

the evening all of us were invited for the Birthday dinner. It was nice to see Fr. William Surin who made a point to be present for the occasion.

Jan.29 was a special occasion for us when six schools and two technical training centres had combined the School Annual Sports Day. Mr. Mukesh Kumar, D.C. of Khunti was the chief guest for the day. He was very happy to see the excellent march past and colourful drills. In his message, he urged the students to have a high aim in life and inculcate moral values. The next day, the teachers of all the schools went for the annual picnic. This event brought all teachers closer to one another. Everyone enjoyed and appreciated the cooperation.

Jan. 31 was a very important day for both high school and Inter College because it was the last class day for X & XII. In the morning, the Holy Mass was offered for them. In his homily, Fr. Augustine asked the boys and girls to prepare themselves to work for the Kingdom of God and make this earth a Heaven. There were varieties of items to wish the examinees 'Best of Luck' and bid them farewell. In their message, both the Headmaster and the Principal gave the *mantra* to success saying "There is no success without hard work".

Fr. Anvit Lakra

St. Mary's Samtoli

30 Collegians from Manresa House Ranchi were with us since Dec. 30, 2013. On the New Year Day all, including St. Mary's community, went to Sogra for the celebration. Fr. Isaac Tete went to Patna and was back on Jan. 5. On Jan. 4, St. Mary's Samtoli Jesuits also mourned the sudden demise of Rev. Peter Paul Soreng the V. G. of Simdega diocese. He died of a heart attack. On Jan.6, our both the English and Hindi Medium schools reopened after Christmas holidays. On 11th Fr. Mike Thanaraj the Provincial of Jamshedpur and his men from Loyola Niwas Jamshedpur, Jesu Bhavan and Upasana Retreat Centre Mango, St. Xavier's Lupungutu and TRTC Chaibasa arrived here and stayed with us. The following day they went to Banabira for the priestly ordination of Deacon Benjamin Lakra S.J. Of course, they didn't go back to Jamshedpur without a cup of coffee at St. Mary's. On Jan. 11, Frs. Philemon Ekka, Anuranjan Hassa Purty went to Gumla to attend the G. B. meeting of AROUSE and, the following day, they proceeded to Nawatanr to attend the ordination ceremony of Deacon

Anup Ekka. On Jan. 12, Fr. Ajit Saras and the Apostolic boys of classes 9, 10, 11 and 12 also went to Nawatanr to attend the Priestly ordination there. On Jan.13, Fr. Provincial Xavier Soreng and a good number of Ranchi Jesuits were here for the night. They came for the priestly ordination of Deacon Rajesh Kullu at Karangaguri on Jan. 14. The following evening the whole community of St. Mary's went to the village of Fr. Rajesh Kullu for a festive dinner. On 17th Fr. Mike and Jamshedpur Jesuits from Loyola Niwas Jamshedpur, Jesu Bhavan and Upasana Retreat Centre Mango, St. John's Tepasai along with two catechists and four nuns arrived here for the priestly ordination of Deacon Manohar Kindo S.J. on Jan. 15 at Rengarih. On Jan. 18, a combined Annual Sports Day of St. Mary's High School and Inter College and Ursuline Girls' High School and Inter College was successfully held. Our beloved retired teachers Sushil Tete, Leo Tigga and Mrs. Rahil of U.C. were the chief guests. On Jan. 19, Frs. Vijay, Ajit, Anuranjan, Albert, Ajit, Sch. James Peter Balmuchu and Br. Juel went to Lachragarh for the Priestly ordination of Deacon Edwin Dang. On Jan. 21, Bp. Vincent Barwa hosted a dinner in honour of Cardinal Telesphore P. Toppo, who was on his way to Kurdeg for the Priestly ordination of one of his men on Jan. 22, at Kurdeg. He had invited all the clergy and religious of Samtoli. During the dinner His Lordship spoke well of the Jesuits' contribution in the Ranchi Mission, Counter Reformation, Suppression and Restoration of the Society of Jesus, the first Jesuit Pope Francis, who has initiated a sort of reform and renewal in the Church today. On Jan.22, Fr. George Kerketta came here with contractor Manjit Singh to start the construction work on the incomplete building in the Apostolic School campus. On Jan.23, Fr. Albert Dungdung went to Ranchi for his regular check-up. The next day, Frs. Vijay, Philemon and Anuranjan went to Ranchi for the common jubilee celebration of Ours of the province. On the Republic Day the National Flag was hoisted by Mr. Rakesh Lakra the Ward Commissioner at 7.45 a.m., at St Mary's High School. At 8.00 a.m. in St. Mary's English Medium School by Fr. Anuranjan unfurled the national flag. On Jan. 28, once again a contingent of Jamshedpur Jesuits, especially from Tundi and Gomo-Dhanbad arrived here for the Priestly ordination of Deacon Anil Ajay Kerketta at Salgaposh parish, on Jan. 30. This time the crew was led by the Jamshedpur PCF Fr. Joseph Surin. On Jan. 29, Fr. Anuranjan went to Bagaicha Namkum to attend a two-day meeting.

On the same day Br. Juel Ekka was taken to Ara Gate, Ranchi and was admitted there.

Fr. Isaac Tete

St. Ignatius Gumla

On Jan.1 along with the bishop house we combined a short picnic to Datli beyond Palkot. Dispersed community members joined the community on 5th after Christmas holidays. On 6th Frs. Manohar, Florence and Sch. Bipin who had accompanied the high school boys to Kathmandu for the winter tour, returned refreshed.

On Jan.10-11 Fr. Headmaster attended JAE meeting at Hazaribag. Fr. Praful went to Samtoli for the scrutiny of new apostolic boys, where as Fr. Christopher Lakra hurried to Jamshedpur to see his ailing elder brother. On Jan.12 some of us went to Noatanr to attend the ordination of Deacon Anup Ekka. On 14th the entire community joined the much awaited New Year picnic of the religious group of Gumla. On 19 community members and apostolic boys set out early in the morning to Lachragarh for the ordination of Deacon Edwin Dang. Jan.20 Mr. Primus Lakra (72) the elder brother of Fr. Christopher passed away. Our heartfelt condolence to Fr. Christo.

In view of preparing for the forthcoming *Chakarvuh* (mega event of Sports) at Samtoli the school announced its annual sports day on Jan.23-25. And even the biting cold could not prevent our boys and girls from practicing for the track and field events. On Jan.25 the final day the newly appointed DEO of Gumla, Nilu Pushpa Toppo graced and enthused our students with her presence. Thanks to our boarders and the apostolic boys who tirelessly worked and prepared the Jubilee stadium for the annual sports. Hats off to all our brothers involved in the school for conducting a very successful event.

Fr. Sanjay D. Ekka

Lohardaga

With the new year, new fervor and flavor is coming from the kitchen as Fr. Albinus and co. have taken up cooking to keep the community warm with hot soup. But he warms himself up by cutting wood during day and at night by hot water bag. So the other members in the community are more relaxed and run their show in their field of work.

Teachers in the school had a month time to bask in the sun because the B. Ed students took the charge of teaching and preparation for the Republic Day

Celebration. But the Principal and vice-Principal had to assess, encourage and enhance their performance to be effective teachers. Consequently, they shed tears with gratitude.

Republic Day was celebrated with patriotic fervour by the staff and students of St. Satanislaus' High School, St. Anne's Middle and High Schools and Catholic Primary School Patratoli. The band group of boys and girls and full cooperation of B. Ed. Students made the programme more attractive.

Fr. Tej in the hostel did not want to spare the stick and spoil his children so he carried the *sudhar ki chhari* (stick for correction) donated by Br. Modestus. He also stole time to go to Jhalsugra to attain the CLC co-ordinators' Orientation Programme. Fr. Sushil complained that his days in the new year did not start well as he could not obtain full co-operation from his colleagues that left him tensed up with overloaded activities and reports to be accomplished and compiled. At the same time he went on fighting against typhoid and BP. He needed to work than slog.

Sushil Tirkey

RTC, Arsandey

The Tarun brothers kept vigil and conducted the vigil choir on Dec. 31, 2013. They, along with the parishioners, gave farewell to the old year 2013 by praising and thanking God for all the blessings showered upon them. Jan. 1, 2014 was marked by the religious get-together in RTC, Arsandey in the evening. The Montfort Brothers, the Parish community and St. Anne's Sisters joined together and made it a memorable occasion. Triduum began on Jan. 2, and ended on Jan. 4, in the evening. Fr. Ignatius Tete guided us. The theme was the Suppression and Restoration of the Society of Jesus. The community very seriously and devotionally participated in it.

The first week of January was a busy week for the community. All the staff and the students fully committed themselves for the preparation of the Annual Seminary of 2013-14. The theme was *Adivasi Jeevan Darshan* (वक्नोक् ह् थो नोऽ). The entire Tarunoday community was divided into three groups for the work. Each group worked on the sub-themes: वक्नोक् ह् थो नोऽ%कुओ; i {k} çkÑfrcd i {k} vj vylçdd i {k} A Jan.11 was a special day for the Tarunoday community. It was the day, when the students, staff and audience came together for the reflection on the

given theme. Mr. Gladson Dungdung, the social activist, was the chief guest of the occasion who through his message triggered the crowd. Fr. Henry Barla came back from Delhi on Jan.10, after nourishing the 3rd year Theologians with the spiritual food in Vidya Jyoti Delhi. The staff and the students participated in the Ordination ceremony of Fr. Anup Ekka, S.J in Nawantanr Parish. In the similar manner, the Tarunoday community joined the thanksgiving Mass of the 7 Jubilarians in Manresa House Ranchi on Jan. 24. On the Republic Day Sch. Justin Kandulna delivered a patriotic speech as the national flag was unfurled by an elderly lady. On Jan.29 all could attend the wedding ceremony of Sch. Bipin's elder brother.

Sch. Ashok

VJ Delhi

The chilly wind, the foggy mornings and the biting cold still continue, making the Delhiites wrapped with warm clothes. The year 2014 began with a meaningful triduum. Our classes resumed on Jan. 6 after a long winter vacation. Fr Michael made his visit to us. We thank our PCF for making his meaningful visit and making us feel very special for the province and Society and updating us with the developments in the province and his dreams for the scholastics. The first year B.Th. students presented their colourful and thought-provoking annual theological class project on Islam. Sch. Rozario was one of the major characters in the play. Congratulations to Rozario and his classmates for the meaningful presentation. Meanwhile, Fr Medard was away from the house for giving retreat, Fr Milianus continues to entertain us with his humour and perfect shots on the basketball court.

Sch. Rozario

DNC, Pune

On the occasion of New Year DNC arranged Province campus picnic, but the Central Zone provinces came together for central zone celebration. From Jan.1 to 4 philosophers and theologians made their annual triduum. With new zeal and vigour we began our classes on Jan. 6. After having a lot of practices and hard work Annual DNC play based on suppression and restoration of the Society of Jesus "Passion and Glory" was staged on Jan 14. All of us were privileged to be part of it in some way or the other. On 18th

evening ADF addressed the philosophers and on 20th POSA addressed the philosophers as well as the theologians. From 20 to 25 Inter-class Basketball Tournament was organized in JDV. On the occasion of Republic day one-day hockey tournament was organized in DNC ground with the purpose of bringing tribal youth together. Number of teams turned up but DNC scholastics managed to be the champions. On the 28th evening DNC thanked and said good-bye to Fr. Errol for his selfless services in JDV for several years. The same evening JDV Literary wing organized Inter-class Quiz Competition where Claver and team became the runners-up. On January 30, DNC celebrated Pongal and the Madurai Scholastics made the evening memorable with their colourful cultural programmes. At the end of Jan., JDV Philosophy section organized two days of conference: De Smet- De Marneffe Memorial International Conference.

Sch Claver

Loyola College, Chennai

As Loyola College resumed its normal academic schedule on Jan.3 after Christmas vacation, Pongal the state festival for seven days brought another festive mood in the campus. All the departments organized Pongal celebrations in their respective departments before going for holidays. Berchmans Illam organized community celebrations with multiple programmes.

There was mild outbreak of viral fever in Berchmans Illam. Our scholastics Sameer Ekka and Noel Ekka were affected by the same. Sameer was hospitalized and Noel recovered by minor medications while other brothers attended them well. Sch. Nirmal Minj completed his internship. During Pongal holidays Sch. Edwin R. Dungdung made his triduum at Mount St. Joseph's, Bangalore. We offered Holy Mass for the repose of souls of Sri Victor Minj (Father of Sch. Nirmal Minj) and Br Samuel Toppo, S.J on Jan.19, 2014.

We were glad to welcome Fr. Michael Kerketta who visited us from Jan 23 to 25. Thereafter he went to Satya Nilayam after spending two days with us. As the semester is meticulously programmed, college conducted the first continuous assessment from Jan 27 to 31. Our scholastics were seriously engaged in their tests. Fr. Erenius also finds himself busy in his scientific research laboratory.

Fr. Erenius & Sch. Nirmal

Pengaree

The month of December started with the blessing of St. Francis Xavier, the patron of the parish and school, by honouring him with solemn holy Mass where all the Fathers, St Anne's Sisters, Crusvir children and few other faithful were present. Fr. Mukul, the Parish Priest started planning for the *Bachandutt* and Christmas celebrations, whereas Fr. Telesphore was busy with guiding teachers for the annual result preparations and Fr. Peter Mahendra was running about to prepare the fields for tea plantation, which was arranged by our social centre Gana Chetna Samaj, Tezpur. We have three feeder schools besides the main St. Xavier's school wherein a total of 1,430 children studied this year (2013) and all were given their final results on 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th of Dec. 2013 respectively. After that we broke up for Christmas and the New Year holidays. Before Christmas Frs. Mukul and Peter visited to all the villages to hear confessions and preparing the faithful spiritually for Christmas whereas Fr. Telesphore was busy with School Admission and arranging books and copies for the students for next year, 2014. All the St Anne's Sisters gave their helping hands in the school and parish in preparing the choir for Christmas liturgy. They were going to the families for prayer and carol singing. Srs. Catherine and Elizabeth also guided the women who were coming for the Novena prayer before Christmas. We chose three centres namely Konapathar, Khatangpani and Pengaree for Christmas day celebration and Eucharist. The Vigil Christmas Eucharist was at Pengaree where three of us concelebrated. Thus all possible occasions were given to the faithful for Christmas celebration and participation. We ended the 2013 by midnight Mass on Dec. 31 and welcomed the New Year, 2014.

Month of Jan. 2014 began with the inauguration of the Society's Restoration Jubilee celebration on Jan.3, with the candle procession by the faithful. At 6, 00 p.m, people gathered in the parish for the jubilee procession. Fr. Telesphore gave a short introduction to the restoration of the Society of Jesus and thereafter the faithful took out a beautiful candle procession across the T.E's Ranchi line, singing hymns and reciting rosary. It took one hour and then there was an Adoration / Benediction followed by the

holy Eucharist. Fr. Mukul presided over the Mass and during the sermon he also spoke about the suppression and restoration of the Society.

On Jan.16, all our four schools resumed their classes after Christmas and the New Year holidays. The main school picked the attendance very fast but the feeder schools' children were very slow in returning. It is still rather difficult to motivate the parents for the good education in Assam -Adivasis of the Tea Garden Areas.

On Jan, 19, 17 couples' marriage was blessed. Out of these only three were new marriages and the rest were rectifications. Pengaree was blessed by our Province Accountants, Fr. John Ekka and Miss Annie Chirackal, who made their maiden visit to Pengaree for two days on Jan. 28-29. Frs. Xavier & Anup accompanied them from Tezpur. In the meantime the Church Building of Pengaree is in progress. It is taking shape as pillars are almost ready. The month of Jan. ended with cheerful cries in all our schools since the children had their annual three days' sports celebrations. In the main school, the day was inaugurated by the Army Chief Mr. Rahul Singh and, on the final day, flag was hoisted and prizes were given away by the O.C. of the Pengaree Thana.

Fr Telesphore

Manas Bansbari

The New Year began with the solemn Eucharist with the parishioners in the campus. On Jan. 2, all the 7 Jesuits working in Bongaigaon Diocese namely at Kathalguri, Manas Bansbari and Mushalpur gathered at Manas Bansbari to celebrate the Restoration of the Society of Jesus. Fr. Vital led the group into prayer and Fr. Laurentus shared about the short history of the suppression and restoration of the Society of Jesus. On Jan. 3, new admissions began and on that day there were 84 new admissions. On Jan.7, Fr. Laurentus celebrated his birthday and for this occasion Fathers from Barpeta Road had come to Manas to thank the Lord for the gift of the person of Laurentus and share in his joy. On Jan. 24, 7 candidates were interviewed and 2 are selected for Maths and Science and Boro and English subjects. On Jan. 26, Manas Bansbari celebrated the Republic Day in the school campus with great enthusiasm.

Fr. Laurentus Kiro

St. Xavier's College, Sonabheel

Advent invited us to host the celebration of life in different ways. On Dec. 3, the Feast of the Patron of the College was marked as a celebration of different cultures of North-East. The day started with a solemn Holy Eucharist which was followed by different cultural programmes. Installation of the Captains and Vice-Captains of six houses of the students by Mr. Dhanjit Kalita, the local police officer, beautiful dances, and long-awaited traditional cultural Fashion Parade stole away the eyes of the audience.

On Dec.16, the First Xavarian batch of Degree Students commenced their Semester-I Examination which dragged them till Dec. 26. Fr. Florence came back safely from Ranchi on Dec.19. He was busy preparing for his Ph. D. research work. Dec. 21 was something very special to us when we bade farewell to the Second Year students of Junior College. The day concluded with a short picnic and Adivasi cultural Dance. In the evening St. Xavier's College Community danced and rejoiced with Hostellers and Co-workers on Pre-Christmas celebration. We organized the compulsory family feast to celebrate Christmas and to enhance the feeling of 'Friends in the Lord' on Dec. 26. A day behind, it was 29th, the Birthday of Fr. John B. Dungdung, which was marked with Community Mass. It was the first of its kind in the community which was loved and acknowledged by the community members. We did not miss the agape meal of course. All of us felt very happy to be accompanied by the spirit of the one who chose us to be together and thus thanking the Lord for the year 2013 on the eve of Dec. 31 said to one another thanks and Happy New year, 2014!

Roshan Ba'a

Jesuit Bhavan, Tezpur

In December, Fr. Xavier made quick short visits to Kathalguri, Manas Bansbari and Mushalpur to see the developmental activities and to meet our Jesuit brethren. He visited Dotma Parish to pay the tuition fees and other dues of Miss Karisma Minj, the sister of Scholastic David Minj. Fr. Anup has been busy with his B. Ed final year's Exams at Guwahati. He started his exams on Dec. 17 and ended on Dec. 30, 2013. We had a nice Christmas get-together with the staff of Gana Chetna Samaj collaborators on Dec. 21. Fr. Xavier Lakra gave a nice Christmas message to the collaborators and invited them to find Jesus in our

day -today's living conditions and not to look for him in the stable of Bethlehem. For the Christmas vigil Mass Fr. George had been to Dholaibil parish to help and during the day he helped in one of the villages of Tezpur Parish. Fr. Xavier celebrated the mid-night vigil Mass in the Cathedral and during the day with the inmates of Tezpur Jail with the local C.R.I. Brothers and Sisters. On Dec. 29, he had been to Catholic Hospital Borgang to give the Christmas message to doctors, nurses, Sisters and local village people who had gathered in a big number. Meanwhile during Christmas holidays he guided the retreat of one of Jesuits of Kohima Region and also guided the triduum for our Regent Anuj Minj. On Jan. 3, the Jesuits working in Tezpur Diocese had a very meaningful inauguration of the bicentenary celebration of the restoration of the Society of Jesus by power point presentation about the suppression and restoration of the Society and Fr. General's invitation letter to celebrate meaningfully the restoration of the Society with prayer and concluding with the Eucharist and agape meal among ourselves.

Fr. Xavier Lakra had been to Lakhimpur Parish from Jan. 10-12 for the marriage instructions cum retreat and marriage blessing of 22 couples. Fr. George had taken the young boys and girls from Tezpur diocese to Margheritta, Dibrugarh diocese for 10 days Jan. 5-15, for teaching tribal songs, dances and culture. The people of Margheritta parish were very welcoming and there was a very positive response on the part of the people to renew their tribalness with songs, dances and culture.

Mr. Nathan Koblitz had made a very quick visit to Tezpur Jesuit Bhavan on Jan.14- 15-16; on Jan. 15 he spent in St. Xavier's College Sonabheel with the Jesuit Fathers seeing the progress of different works which are going on like Degree College, Priests' Residence and Boys' College Hostel. He was happy that different infra-structural works are going on for the development of the tribal people of Assam at Sonabheel. He spent some time with Fr. George Soreng also inquiring from him about social activities, progress and different challenges. On Jan.16, Fr. Xavier accompanied him to the airport.

On Jan.17, there was a meeting of all the Jesuit local superiors of Assam Mission in which we discussed how to celebrate the bi-centenary of Suppression and Restoration of the Society of Jesus in our different centres and if possible to celebrate it also at the Diocese level. On this day Fr. Xavier led

the group for the discussion of the needs, priorities and various challenges of the Province as well as the Assam Mission and what kind of leader do we expect. Then the ballot papers were given to local superiors who were asked to conduct the same procedure in their respective communities before they decide for the new leader of the province.

Fr. John Ekka and Miss Annie Chirackal were with us in Jesuit Bhavan from Jan. 20 -27 to check

the accounts of our Assam Mission. Many Fathers brought in their accounts and had them checked. For two days they went to Pengaree. Frs. Xavier and Anup accompanied them. Miss Annie visited Dibrugarh diocese after 40 years. We are very grateful to Fr. John and Miss Annie for their selfless service to us all these years.

Xavier Lakra

DIASPORA

Rome

For Kulwant, Suman, Sylverius and Justin, Jan. 3 will go down in their life history as an unforgettable day filled with profound spiritual experiences. Along with hundreds of other Jesuits, our four Ranchi men participated in the Holy Mass in Gesù Church presided over by the Holy Father Pope Francis and met him personally. The occasion was the thanksgiving celebration for the recent canonization of St. Peter Faber. The Decree to elevate him to the company of other Jesuit Saints was signed by the Holy Father on Dec. 17. Through the "equivalent canonization," as it is known, the Pope inserts the name of a person in the universal calendar of Saints without verifying a miracle performed through his intercession and without holding a formal canonization ceremony. In his homily, Holy Father presented St. Peter Faber to the Jesuits as a perfect model and guide who emptied himself completely and let Christ fill his heart and life. At the end of the Holy Mass, R.P. General thanked the Holy Father and encouraged the Jesuits present to follow the example of St. Peter Faber because the canonization of any of the fellow Jesuits always becomes an opportunity and a challenge to understand and to deepen their own vocation. Justin was so overwhelmed by the encounter of its own kind that he could hide neither his emotions nor his bubbling joy, "We all love you, Holy Father!" Probably, he expressed the sentiments of all the Jesuits present for the celebration. Indeed, a memorable occasion for Kulwant, Suman, Sylverius and Justin! Kulwant, in particular, was extremely happy to be close to the Holy Father during the Eucharistic celebration as one of the altar boys.

On Jan. 4, R.P. General invited all Jesuits, either studying or working in Rome, for the traditional festive Tea Party in the Curia. Traditionally, the occasion provides with a perfect platform to meet,

greet and get acquainted oneself with fellow Jesuits, whom otherwise one hardly meets during the year.

Linus and myself, both of us were away from Rome during those two particular events. After his Christmas ministry in Rodero (north Italy), Linus moved to Muralto, a Parish situated in southern Switzerland to replace the Parish Priest Don George Valentine Kerketta (Simdega Diocese), who had gone to India for the Priestly Ordinations of his fellow diocesan Deacons. He remained there until January 20. It was a good opportunity for him to be in touch with his practical and theoretical realities of Missiology. I had gone to Bangalore to participate in an International Conference on "Bounds of Ethics in a Globalized World" (Jan. 6-9) organized by the CMI Fathers of Christ University. Apart from presenting a paper on "Wastage of Food and Hunger: A Global Paradox"; I also moderated one of the sessions. Before moving to Bangalore, I could also pay a flying visit to Ranchi, which also gave me a chance to participate in the funeral of Late Br. Samu Da and to meet many of our Ranchi men in a very short time. I came back to Rome on Jan. 11.

On Jan. 12, a good number of adivasi brothers and sisters came together in Collegio San Pietro to celebrate the joy of being together. Justin presided over the Eucharistic celebration, which was followed by a festive lunch and traditional community dance.

As far as the academic front is concerned, amidst different extracurricular activities, Kulwant, Suman and Sylverius dedicated their time and energy to prepare themselves seriously for the upcoming exams. Although the regular classes for the First Semester came to their end on Jan. 22, the exam fever was already in the air when the classes resumed on Jan. 7 after the Christmas vacations. All three of them have worked hard and are confident of sailing through all the exams with flying colours. On Feb. 17, the

University will resume the regular classes for the Second Semester. Linus will have three courses related to dialogue, inculturation and evangelization during the Second Semester. I plan to dedicate more time in research and in writing on themes related to ecological as well as communication ethics.

Fr Prem

Guyana

On Jan. 3, a one-day workshop was organized on the theme, 'Future is in your hand,' for all the Secondary School Students and their parents in Kurukabaru by Frs. Anugrah Amar Bage and Elias Surin. Mr. Ronald Thomas, one of the speakers, highlighted the importance of education today and the future of Amerindian community. All the students were refreshed, inspired and motivated to excel in their academic performance. The team of interior mission meeting was held in St. Ignatius Lethem on Jan. 16-17, to evaluate the mission work and the future initiatives. On Jan. 19, Sr. Joesetta, MC, (47) Missionaries of Charity, expired in Woodlands Hospital, Georgetown. The funeral took place on Jan. 22 in Meadow Bank cemetery. The Guyana Regional Jesuits' Conference was held in Arrupe House, Georgetown from Jan. 21-23. Fr. Paul Martin, the Regional Superior, cordially welcomed everyone present there. The theme was, *Evangelii Gaudium*, the joy of the Gospel, apostolic exhortation on the proclamation of the Gospel in today's world, by Pope Francis. Mr. Julian Filochowski, the Jesuit Mission London, was the resource person for the theme. Fr. Miguel Martin, the provincial of North-East Amazona Region, Brazil, highlighted the present situation of the whole Brazilian Jesuit provinces. The region was blessed with three newly ordained priests- Fr. Jerri Dias, SJ, (KAR), Fr. Ramesh Vanan, SJ (KAR) and Fr. Godfrey Veerasamy, SJ, (GUY). On Jan. 28, Mrs. Kunjamma Joseph, the mother of Fr. Varghese Puthussery, SJ (DUM), expired in Kerala.

He went for her burial. In his absence Fr. James Conway, SJ went to Aishalton to help Fr. Suman Prabhat Toppo in conducting seminar on marriage. Fr. Anil Kishore Tirkey, the superior of the Plaisance Jesuit Community, has extended his pastoral ministry to the Amerindian Students in Georgetown where many students are studying in Secondary schools and Universities, sponsored by the Government. The visitation of Sr. Jacinta Baxla, OSU, the Provincial of Gumla and Sr. Bimla Minj, OSU, the counsellor of Superior General, to Ursuline Sisters in Guyana, South America, from February 12-17 was grace-filled moment for all of them.

Fr. Elias Surin

Cambodia

New Year began with joyful hope and many surprises. Many youth and children gathered in the parish till late night to welcome the New Year. We had an amazing concert by the youths and children. In fact, here New Year is celebrated on April 14 which we are waiting eagerly. Besides these, this New Year brought many guests from different parts of the world such as from Korea, England Spain... I was happy to guide some guests taking them around to our ministry places. They were quite excited and happy to see our works in Cambodia.

Fr. Manoj is busy harvesting about 7 hectares of his paddy field. He could not get much because of excessive flood this year. One day I also joined for harvesting which reminded me of my own country. I was excited to cut and stay all along the day but could not. Fr Rajat is busy with his works. On Jan.20 he also received many guests from England. They came to see the projects and the works which they are helping. They were happy and satisfied with the rapid progress and changes. They also visited some of the villages and were touched by villagers' warm welcome and hospitality.

Sch Rakesh Kerketta

HOLY FATHER'S HOMILY GIVEN ON JAN. 3, 2014

Here below is a translation of the Holy Father's homily given on Jan. 3, 2014 during Mass of the Most Holy Name of Jesus at the church del Gesu in Rome. Concelebrating with the Pope were Cardinal Angelo Amato, Prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints and Cardinal Agostino Vallini, Vicar General

of his Holiness for the diocese of Rome; the Bishops: H.E. Monsignor Luis Francisco Ladaria Ferrer, S.J., Secretary of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith; H.E. Monsignor Yves Boivineau, Bishop of Annecy, and Vicar General, H.E. Alain Fournier-Bidoz; Minister General of the Jesuits, Father Adolfo Nicolas,

S.J., with some General Counselors and seven young priests from different Conferences of the Society of Jesus and one from Italy.

HOMILY

"It is necessary to seek God to find Him, and to find him in order to seek Him again and forever."

We heard Saint Paul tell us: "Have this mind among yourselves, which was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant" (Philippians 2:5-7). We, Jesuits, want to be conferred the name of Jesus, militate under the standard of his Cross, and this means: to have the same sentiments of Christ. It means to think like Him, love like Him, see like Him, walk like Him. It means to do what He did and with his same sentiments, with the sentiments of his Heart.

The heart of Christ is the heart of a God who, out of love, "emptied" himself. Every one of us Jesuits who follow Jesus should be willing to empty himself. We are called to this abasement: to be of the "emptied." To be men that do not live centered on themselves because the center of the Society is Christ and his Church. And God is the *Deus semper maior*, the God who always surprises us. And if the God of surprises is not at the center, the Society becomes disoriented. Because of this, to be a Jesuit means to be a person of incomplete thought, of open thought: because one always thinks looking at the horizon which is the ever greater glory of God, who ceaselessly surprises us. And this is the restlessness of our void, this holy and beautiful restlessness!

However, because we are sinners, we can ask ourselves if our heart has kept the restlessness of the search or if, instead, it has atrophied; if our heart is always in tension: a heart that does not settle down, a heart that does not shut itself in on itself, but which beats the rhythm of a journey to undertake together with all the faithful people of God. It is necessary to seek God to find Him, and to find him in order to seek Him again and forever. Only this restlessness gives peace to the heart of a Jesuit, a restlessness that is also apostolic, which must not make us grow tired of proclaiming the Kerygma, of evangelizing with courage. It is the restlessness that prepares us to receive the gift of apostolic fruitfulness. Without restlessness we are sterile.

This is the restlessness that Peter Favre [Faber] had, man of great desires, another Daniel. Favre was a "modest, sensible man of profound interior life and gifted with the gift of close relations of friendship with persons of all sorts" (Benedict XVI, Address to Jesuits, April 22, 2006). However, he was also a restless, uncertain and never satisfied spirit. Under the guidance of Saint Ignatius he learned to unite his restless but also gentle -- I would say exquisite --, sensibility with the capacity to take decisions. He was a man of great desires; he took charge of his desires, he acknowledged them. In fact for Favre, it was precisely when difficult things were proposed that his true spirit was manifested which moved him to action (cf. *Memoriale*, 301). Authentic faith always implies a profound desire to change the world. Here is the question we should ask ourselves: do we also have great visions and dash? Are we also daring? Does our dream fly high? Does zeal devour us (cf. Psalm 69:10)? Or are we mediocre and content with our laboratory apostolic programs? Let us remember always: the strength of the Church does not lie in herself and in her organizational capacity, but is hidden in the profound waters of God. And these waters agitate our desires and desires enlarge the heart. It is what Saint Augustine says: pray to desire and desire to enlarge the heart. In fact it was in his desires that Favre could discern God's voice. Without desires one goes nowhere and it is because of this that we must offer our desires to the Lord. Stated in the Constitutions is that "one's neighbor his helped with desires presented to God our Lord" (Constitutions, 638). Favre had the real and profound desire to "be dilated in God": he was completely centered on God, and because of this he could go, in the spirit of obedience, often also on foot, everywhere in Europe to speak to all with gentleness, and to proclaim the Gospel. The thought comes to me of the temptation, which perhaps we might have and that so many have, of connecting the proclamation of the Gospel with inquisitorial blows of condemnation. No, the Gospel is proclaimed with gentleness, with fraternity, with love. Favre's familiarity with God led him to understand that interior experience and apostolic life always go together. In his *Memoriale* he wrote that the first movement of the heart must be that of "desiring what is essential and original, that is, that the first place be left to the perfect solicitude of finding God our Lord" (*Memoriale*, 63). Favre demonstrates the desire "to let Christ occupy the center of the heart" (*Memoriale*, 68). Only if one is centered on God is it possible to go to the fringes of the world!

And Favre traveled ceaselessly also on the geographic frontiers, so much so that it was said of him: "It seems that he was born not to stay put in any place" (MI, Epistolae I, 362). Favre was devoured by the intense desire to communicate the Lord. If we do not have his same desire, then we need to pause in prayer and, with silent fervor, ask the Lord, through the intercession of our brother Peter, that he fascinate us again: that fascination of the Lord that led Peter to all his apostolic "lunacies."

We are men in tension; we are also contradictory and inconsistent men, sinners, all. But men who want to walk under the gaze of Jesus. We are little, we are

sinners, but we want to militate under the standard of the Cross of the Society conferred with the name of Jesus. We who are egoistic want, however, to live an agitated life of great desires. We renew now our oblation to the Eternal Lord of the universe so that with the help of his glorious Mother we may want, desire and live the sentiments of Christ who emptied himself. As Saint Peter Favre wrote, "We never seek in this life a name that is not connected with that of Jesus" (Memoriale, 205). And we pray to Our Lady to be messengers with her Son.

[Original text: Italian]

Courtesy: Zenith.org

LET US REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS :

- Mr. Alexander Kujur (24)**, nephew of Fr. Anupchand Minj, died on December 25, 2013.
- Mrs. Christina**, the sister-in-law of Fr. Vital Ekka, died on January 3, at Tongo parish.
- Mrs. Mariam Biswasi Lakra, (87)**, mother of Fr. Xavier Lakra, died at Ranchi on January 7.
- Mr. Juel Toppo, (60)**, brother-in-law of Fr. Xavier Lakra, died on Jan 13, 2014.
- Mrs. Ursela Tirkey (68)** Sister-in-law of Fr Ignatius Tirkey, died on 25 Jan 2014 in Andamans.

BABIES OF THE MONTH: FEBRUARY & MARCH

FEBRUARY

- 03 Tigga Blacius
- 05 Beck John Anuranjan
- 06 Ekka Anup Arvind
- 09 Kujur Ranjit
- 10 Kujur Robert Pradeep
- 11 Minj Anuj
- 12 Kujur Ignatius
- 14 Kujur Johny
- 15 Ekka Sameer
- 16 Toppo Deepak
Lakra Amit Juel
- 21 Tirkey Suresh John
- 22 Kerketta Bimal
- 23 Tete Isaac
Ekka Alok
- 24 Horo Emmanuel
Kerketta Edward
- 25 Kujur Elvius
- 29 Dungdung James W.

MARCH

- 05 Kujur Frederick
Xess Ravi Bhushan
- 06 Lakra Ranjit Walter
- 07 Kindo Alexius
- 10 Kujur Habil
- 11 Kullu Anil
- 14 K.C. Philip
- 16 Bara Leo
Dungdung Christopher
Tirkey John
- 17 Barla Henry
- 19 Horo Sibil Joseph
Soreng Jaywant
- 21 Lakra Benedict
Beck Anand Amar
- 23 Bilung Brice
- 25 Soreng George
- 27 Tete Nicholas
- 29 Kiro Benedict
- 30 Toppo Ranjit P.