

RANCHI BULLETIN



77/1

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

JANUARY 2018

Provincial's Message

Universal Apostolic Preferences of the Society for the Next 10 Years (2019-2029)

[A Call by Most Rev. Arturo Sosa, SJ, Superior General of the Society of
Jesus to fulfill the request of GC 36]

In the last few months, there have been many circulars and communiqué from the Province Curia. The present one is a very special one to communicate Father General's message to the entire province on "**Discernment of Apostolic Preferences**" (dated 3/10/2017, protocol no. 2017/13).

The "**Apostolic preferences**" arise from the 'Calls'. They are identified through a process of discernment throughout the Society from the "Calls of the Eternal King". They are concrete proposals, for a determined period of time, a way to "organize more coherently" the governance in the service of the mission. They are just an instrument of governance.

The "**Calls of the Eternal King**" are the main issues that guide our entire life and prayer. They are the spiritual base of our entire life and work at this moment. They are an inspiration received from God for an historical period of the Society of Jesus. They are meant to help us organize the various levels of the mission of the Society today.

The Apostolic preferences are defined as a tool to organize interprovincial and global governance structures. Decree states: "*These goals will serve to animate and energize the whole of our mission at global, inter-provincial, provincial and even local levels*".

However, these universal preferences do not eliminate the local, provincial and regional apostolic discernment. Each universal apostolic preference will have a different relevance or way of realization according to the local, provincial and continental situation. At the same time, each Conference and Province should identify specific priorities, seeking to align them with the Universal Apostolic Preferences defined at the global level.

Fr. Kolvenbach's letter, cited in the GC36 document makes this point amply clear when he says:

"Provinces and Conferences of Major Superiors, as an integral part of the Universal apostolic body, in establishing their own respective priorities (cf. CG 34, 461), they are to take into considerations the apostolic preferences voiced by the universal body. Without calling into question provincial or regional priorities, these apostolic preferences should be given special attention-privileged attention" [GC34, D21, n28; Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, 2003/01, 1 January 2003, "Our Apostolic Preferences"].

In view of the above, as a follow up of GC36 recommendations, each Province across the Society of Jesus is asked to discern its universal apostolic preferences of the Society and send them to Father General no later than 31 July 2018.

The expectations of Most Rev. Father Arturo Sosa, Superior General of the Society of Jesus, on the consultation and discernment of the Universal Apostolic Preferences:

1. The General is undertaking this consultation to fulfill the request of GC 36 and to open to inspiration the whole apostolic body of the Society, men and women who are companions in mission.
2. The formulation of universal apostolic preferences is intended to carry into practice the discernment of GC 36 about the **mission of reconciliation and justice**, establishing orientations and points of reference for the apostolic commitment of the Society at all levels during the next ten years.
3. There is not a unique model for this process. Provincials should adapt the process to the situation of their provinces and avoid any unhelpful redundancies.
4. “Discernment in common” is needed, but perhaps not at every level. For example, **communities and apostolic leaders** could engage in “**spiritual conversation**” and send reports to the provincial, who would subsequently engage in a formal process of “discernment in common” with his staff and consulters. Again, there is not a unique model for this process at the provincial level.
5. To assist the General in his discernment the major superiors of the Conference should discern together after sharing with one another the fruit of the discernments done by individual provincials with their teams.
6. **Province apostolic planning** and the **discernment of universal apostolic preferences** are two processes that should be in dialogue with each other; both processes should take GC 36 as their starting point.
7. The General does not want to skew the consultation by suggesting possible preferences or starting points other than GC 36.
8. When calling for an examen of engagement with the current preferences, the General has in mind that people in each place will do an examen about their own engagement with that preference. There is no need for local communities to seek information that would allow them to evaluate the experience of the universal Society with each of the five preferences.
9. Ultimately, the General with the Consiglio Allargato will bring the discernment to a conclusion.

While Ranchi Province engages in discernment on “Universal Apostolic Preferences”, the following process of consultation is proposed:

1. Four levels of consultation:

- a. At the level of Extended Consult (**Coordinator: Fr. Socius**)
- b. At the level of Rectors & Superiors (**Coordinator: Fr. Christopher Lakra, SJ**)
- c. At the level of commissions (**Coordinator: Fr. Xavier Soreng, SJ**)
- d. At the level of the Province (**Coordinator: Fr. Socius**)

2. Time frame of consultation at various levels in 2018:

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| 11 January | — Letter of Provincial to each community & commission for deliberation |
| 31 January | — Extended Consult at Manresa House |
| 25 February | — Report to be submitted to Provincial (soft copy) |
| 20 March | — Plenary session to prioritize & discuss the apostolic preferences |
| 20 April | — First draft of Report to communities & commissions for further comments |
| 21-24 May | — Main theme during Province Days 2018 (further discussions on first draft) |
| 15 June | — Finalization of the Report |
| 31 July | — Submission of the Report to Father General |

3. Methodology for consultation:

- a. Prayerful reflection
- b. Group sharing
- c. Group discussion

Fr. Joseph Marianus Kujur, SJ
Ranchi Province

Provincial's Tour & Plans**January**

- 19 January : Fr. Raymond Kerketta, SJ, takes over as New Socius to provincial replacing Fr. Sudhir Kumar Minj, SJ, who was in the office since 7 June 2010.
- 20 January : Canonical visitation of Sogra (lunch at Sogra)
: Canonical visitation of Jharain (night stay at Jharain)
- 21 January : Priestly Ordination of Deacon John Jyoti Kujur, SJ, (Rengarh)
- 23 January : Coordination Committee (CoCo) Meeting of Ranchi Archdiocese
- 25 January : GB Meeting of Satya Bharati (6:00 pm)
- 26 January : Flag Hoisting at Carmel School, Samlong, at 8.30 am
- 27 January : Pilgrimage to Ulhatu
- 28 January : Priestly Ordination of Deacon Bipin Kandulna, SJ, Pandripani Parish
- 29 January : Orientation for new provincials of Daughters of St. Anne
- 30 January : 75 Years of Loreto in Ranchi – Jubilee celebrations
- 31 January : Extended Consult on 'Apostolic Preferences of the Society'
: Last date for submitting soft copy of write-ups for the Province Year Bok 2018

February

- 2 February : Opening Mass of Charismatic Retreat at Kandari, Mandar
- 3 February : JHAN Committee Meeting
- 5 February : GB Meeting – AROUSE, Gumla
- 6 February : SXC Convocation Day
- 7-8 February : Canonical Visitation - Sadbhavna
- 10 February : Arrival Fr. Alex Mascarenhas, SJ, (JAM) for internal auditing of Ranchi Province Sadbhavna/Curia auditing
- 11 February (Sunday) : St. Xavier's School, Doranda, auditing
- 12-13 February (Mon-Tue) : XISS + XIPT, Ranchi, auditing
- 14-15 February (Wed-Thu) : St. Xavier's College, Ranchi, auditing
- 14 February : Provincial Leaves for JCSA in Sri Lanka
- 16 February (Friday) : St. John's School Ranchi, (Hindi + English) auditing
- 17 February (Saturday) : Manresa House, auditing (if time allows)
- 18 February (Sunday) : Departure of Alex Mascarenhas for Dhanbad
- 25 February (Sunday) : Report of 'Apostolic Preferences' (submit soft copy to Provincial)
- 28 February (Wednesday) : Back from JCSA in Sri Lanka
: Last day to submit soft copy of 'Province Strategic Planning'

March

- 7 March : Arrival Fr. Vernon D'Cunha, SJ, Regional Assistant, South Asia at Birsa Munda Ranchi airport from Guwahati via Kolkata (Indigo – 6E-997)
- 8 March : Sadbhavna, Supper at St. John's Ranchi
- 9-12 March : REGAE meeting in XLRI Jamshedpur
- 9 March : Sadbhavna, RTC Boreya, Jharna-Ashirvad Namkum (night stay)
- 10 March : Kishor Nagar, Bagaicha, ATC Namkum (night stay)
- 11 March : Lohardaga, Tongo, St. Ignatius Gumla (night stay)

12 March	:	St. Mary's Samtoli, St. Michael's Khunti (night stay)
13 March	:	Kochang, Dolda (lunch), Sarwada, Supper St. John's Ranchi, Sadbhavna (night stay)
14 March	:	Vijaygiri, Dorea (lunch), Bundu, Sadbhavna (night stay), Supper – SXC Ranchi,
15 March	:	Doranda, SXC Ranchi, Bulcke Research Centre, XISS (lunch), Manresa House (address to Province & supper), Sadbhavna (night stay)
16 March	:	Fr Vernon D'Cunha leaves for Mumbai at 8:30 am
20 March	:	Plenary session to prioritize & discuss the apostolic preferences

Appointment by Fr. General

Fr. Raymond Kerketta, SJ, Socius of the Provincial, took office on 19 January 2018

Appointments by Fr. Provincial

Fr. Sylvester Chermako, SJ	Novice Master, Ashirvad Novitiate, Namkum, wef, 18 January 2018
Fr. Sudhir Kr Minj, SJ	Resident Professor at St. Albert's College, Ranchi, wef, 25 January 2018
Fr. Sikander Turkey, SJ	Parish Priest, Catholic Church, Bingaon, wef, 21 January 2018
Fr. Emil Dungdung, SJ	In-charge Dairy, Farm & Garden, ATC Namkum, wef, 21 January, 2018

Notice from the Province Treasurer

1. This is to request each community/Institution/Parish to contribute the annual contribution for FACSI, Common Fund/Common Expenses Fund and Parish Fund for the financial year 2017-18 latest by the 20 February 2018.
2. Each Community/Institution/Parish/ Directors of Work/Commissions is requested to prepare an annual budget meticulously for the year 2018-19 and submit it to the Province treasurer's office, a hard copy as well as a soft of the annual budget latest by the 20 February 2018

❖ **New mobile No. of the office of Loyola Training Centre, Ranchi:**

8987929699

St. Mary's School, Samtoli

Feast of Francis Xavier : St. Xavier's College, Simdega celebrated the feast of Xavier, the Patron of the College. Celebration began with the Holy Eucharist at 8.45 am. having Bishop Vincent Barwa, D.D. as the main celebrant. Mass was in the campus. The neighbouring institutes were invited for the Mass. After the Mass there was breakfast for the guests followed by cultural programme. Fr. Rector was the chief guest for the programme. After the programme there was a common dance where the staff and students joined together.

From December 4, the terminal exams for classes 6, 7, 8 and 11 started and for classes 10 and 12 there were regular classes. Because of exams school seemed very quiet.

On 10 December there was a CRI recollection at St. Mary's High School. Fr. Marianus Ekka, SVD, animated and highlighted the meaning and mode of preparation for Advent and Christmas. All of us profited from his powerful presentation. The programme started with a short prayer led by the FCC Sisters which led us all in a recollected mood. After the talk there was confession followed by Holy Eucharist and lunch.

There were also the exams in the school conducted by the government. Since Fr. Sikander had gone to Lachragarh to give a recollection to the Sisters of St. Anne's of Lachragarh deanery, Fr. Principal had to manage alone in conducting the exams.

On 15 December Fr. Isaac and Br. Basil Turkey went to Ranchi for the jubilee of the Jubilarians of the Province. They brought back Fr. Albert Dungdung. Fr. Sudhir Kujur too came to Samtoli to give us the Recollection talk on 16 December evening to 17 December noon for the community in preparation of Christmas.

The birthday of Fr. Bruno was celebrated with a Holy Eucharist in the evening sharing about his life and ministry.

There was a combined sports day for St. Mary's and Ursuline Schools. Mr Manjunath Bhanjuntri, D.C. of Simdega, was the chief guest and Mrs Niru Pushpa Toppo, D.E.O. and Sri Om Prakash Agarwal the guests of honour. The D.C. was welcomed warmly by the drum party followed by a welcome song by the Ursuline girls. Short cultural dances were presented by both St. Mary's boys and the Ursuline girls. Thereafter that D.C. declared the sports open and lighted the torch and the different events of sports followed.

There was a Christmas gathering at SXC, Simdega on 21 December. Fr. Rector was the chief guest. Fr. Gilbert D'Souza blessed the crib and lighted the lamp. The cultural show followed with a variety of items on the Christmas theme. Common dance by staff, students and all present concluded the gathering. The Apostolic School also had its Christmas gathering with Fr Albert Dungdung as the chief guest. The hostel boys too had their own Christmas gathering in the evening. The next day St. Mary's School as well held its Christmas gathering till noon and declared Christmas holidays.

For Christmas ministries the community members went to different places: Fr. Rector, Fr. Bruno, Fr. Sikander, Fr. Anup and Sch. Anil Kullu went to Dumki, a village chapel in Salgaposh Parish, for the midnight and morning Masses. Fr. Erentius went to Jharain. Fr. Emmanuel and Fr. Albert went to Sogra. In the morning Fr. Ireneus went to Beritoli, a village church in Sogra Parish, and Fr. John to Simdega jail. On 25 December evening we had a short gathering all of us received Christmas gifts.

Frs. Emmanuel, John, Gilbert, Sikander, Br. Basil and I went to Ranchi for the burial of Br. Santosh Kullu. Sch. Anil went for the Triduum of the scholastics. Fr. Erentius went home to meet his nephew and family who came home from Odisha after many years.

There was a meeting of old students of St. Mary's. Fr. Ajit Xess brought the National and Central Zone Presidents of the old students of Jesuit alumnae for the meeting. We had a thanksgiving adoration in the community on the last day of the year 2017.

St. Ignatius' Gumla

Our Class X and XI students went to a Rally in Town on the World AIDS Day to create awareness about it. The students from different schools gathered in the Town Hall where the DC addressed them apprising them about it. The AROUSE hosted Teams of Social Audit on 4 December from JTDS consecutively for three batches. In each batch there were about 45 participants.

The second terminal exams for the High School and Intermediate College got started. On 7 December was the Birth Day of Fr. Vijay which was celebrated in the Community with a Holy Mass in the evening followed by dinner. On 8 December, 18 Ursuline Novices took their first vows at St Patrick's Cathedral. Fr. Rector and Fr. Ravi attended the ceremony. The next day the whole group came to see our Museum and St. Ignatius' Campus.

Fr. Rector and the DoWs went to Ranchi on 11 December to attend the strategic planning of the Province for the next ten years. We went for the burial of Mariana Turkey, the elder sister of Fr. James Toppo on 12 December. The CHILDLINE Team from AROUSE went to Basua village School on 13 December for an Open House Programme. The Province Jubilee was fixed on 15 December in Ranchi. Fr. John was one of the Jubilations as he has completed 60 years in the Society. Fr. Ravi and Sylvanus went to Chhipadohor to attend the *gami* Mass of Sr. Jyoti's mother on 16 December. She is a teacher in our English Medium School. From 18 to 20 December there was the School Sports Day. The Final Day was 20 December when some events and prize distribution took place. At 3.00 pm the Christmas Get-together was held for the **Sarva Dharma Sadbhavna Manch** in the AROUSE Hall. The next day the School had the Christmas Get-together and the Winter Vacation started. The AROUSE went on a Picnic on 21 December and celebrated the Christmas get – together on 22 December with plenty of singing, dancing and exchange of gifts.

24 December was the Birth Day of Fr. Rector, offered Holy Mass and wished him at Breakfast. By the evening many had left for different parishes for the mid night Mass. Frs. Praful, Manohar and Vijay went to Noadih Parish, Fr. Pradeep and Florence to Talesera Parish, Fr. Sylvanus to Salangaposh Parish and Ravi and Sch. James to Roshanpur. The next Day was Christmas. By the evening all the Fathers and Brothers had returned home and had a good carol singing together, exchange of gifts and singing again in front of the Crib till 11.00 pm.

Fr. Christopher Lakra, SJ

Prothrapur

Pathargudda is a sub centre under Prothrapur parish, where the feast of St. Francis Xavier was celebrated joyously on 3 December 2017. The Flag of St. Francis Xavier was hoisted by Fr. David Bara. On 28 November the Novena started for the parishioners.

On the feast day proper the occasion attracted a good number of devotees and faithful. The climax of the feast was the celebration of the Eucharist presided over by Fr. Anthony Andrade, the Spiritual Director of the diocese, who preached on the life of St. Francis Xavier, his work and the zeal for the Mission. Fr. David, Fr. Michael, Fr. Devanbhu and Fr. Edward joined him in the Eucharist. Some Pillar, Cluny and Daughters of St. Anne sisters witnessed the event. After the Holy Mass all the fathers and sisters were honoured by presenting a shawl to all.

Mr. Alok Soreng and Mr. Mukesh Turkey, the cooks of Ramnagar and Prothrapur parishes respectively went back to the mainland on 5 December 2017 and Mr. Sunil Kandulna of Diglipur had already gone back to the mainland in November due to some family problem. Thus all three Jesuit parishes are now without a cook. Mr. Alok may back to Ramnagar in January 2018 and we hope he will bring along with him cooks for the other two communities. These days it is hard to get a cook, but harder still from the island.

Fr. Tony visits Jesuit communities and parishes, and so did to Prothrapur bringing fresh news from other visits. Then he was off to Delhi for his Province Days. There was a flying visit of Most Rev. Bishop Theodore Mascarenhas, Most Rev. Bishop Alex Dias, Bishop of Port Blair Diocese and Rev. Fr. V. Selvraj, the V.G. on 21 December.

The Christmas message was proclaimed to the parishioners and people of other faiths through Christmas carols and Prakash Yatra (light procession). This year also from 1 December onwards Children, Youth and Mothers availed themselves for the carol singing which continued for two weeks. The light procession held on 22 December started from Prothrapur parish and went round via Prothrapur junction, Pathargudda junction, Bathubasti junction, Pathargudda no. 4 and finally returned back to Prothrapur parish. The faithful walked with colourful lighted candles, paper globes and electrical lights. The Choir in two groups in two different vehicles sang Christmas hymns melodiously. Mr. William Ekka read and proclaimed message from time to time from the passages of the Holy Scripture.

Christmas was celebrated with enthusiasm and fervour. Fr. David went to the Holy Cross Church, Carbynscove, where Fr. Joseph Minj, SJ, had breathed his last on Good Friday in 2007, whereas Fr. Edward said the Mass in Prothrapur. To bid farewell to the year 2017 to extend our gratefulness to God for his abundance blessings and graces received an hour of adoration was conducted by the parish charismatic team prior to the Eucharistic celebration starting at around 11.15 pm. Thus the faithful decided to enter into the New year 2018 with great hope, joy, expectation and positive thinking.

Fr. David Bara, SJ

St. Xavier's College, Sonabheel

St. Xavier's Degree College Sonabheel got the permission from Guwahati University as the exams centre for our degree students. It was a great achievement and was

possible because of the continuous visits of Frs. Peter Paul and Florence Purty to the University.

In December the Second year students filled the forms for the final exams whereas First year students started their first semester exams from 13-18 December and on 19 December the second year students were given farewell by the first year students.

Fr. Xavier had been to Delhi to attend the 10 PDDS meeting at Nav Jivan, in St. Xavier's School Campus. We discussed about the three pillars, namely: Education for all especially, the marginalized, JESUITEC preparing our students and empowering them with skills to be employed, and preservation of the environment and the Lok Manch. At the Assistancy level these pillars will be given more importance and the Jesuits of South Asia we will go ahead with greater vigour and emphasis in these three ministries.

Mrs. Mary and Hardy (couple), Germany, the benefactors of Assam Mission, had been the special guests during Christmas time from 22-26 December. They visited St. Xavier's College, Sonabheel, attended the Christmas mid-night Mass at the Balipara Parish and during the day they were in Tarabari village among the Boro brethren to celebrate Christmas with Fr. Benedict Lakra and joined the Community meal of the Jesuits and Hoy Cross Sisters at Bokola Community. They had donated bicycles to the Catechists of Balipara Parish last year 2017.

Fr. Florence Purty had been to Patna to submit his final report for his P.HD on 20 December. Fr. Ranjit Kujur appeared for his final Viva on 23 December. The topic, was **"The impact of Socio-Economic condition on Academic Achievement of the tea garden Adivasi Students and non-tea-garden students of Balipara Block of Sonitpur district of Assam."** He did it well. Fr. Ashok Sandil went to Bundu to prepare for the priestly ordination of his nephew, Deacon Rajesh Sandil. Frs. Rajesh Kullu went to Missamari, Xavier Lakra to Gohpur and Florence Purty to Tezpur parishes to help during the Christmas celebrations.

Fr. Xavier Lakra, S.J.

France

The winter is at its peak. The sun is rare in Paris. There is often rain during this time. But the gloomy weather is turned into dazzling bright light with the Christmas decorations. At the end of the semester we had our Indian Jesuits Christmas gathering on 22 December. The former provincial of France, GRENET Jean Yves was with us to

celebrate it. He offered Holy Mass for us. A beautiful and creative Christmas carol was conducted by Schs. Jyoti, Nitin (KAR) and David. It was also an occasion to enjoy delicious Indian meal prepared by us.

On the Christmas Eve a beautiful prayer service was conducted in our community by the Superior of the house, Cario Charton Sylvins. His deep spiritual reflection helped us to enter into the profound Christmas joy. For the vigil mass David and Jyoti along with other scholastics of their community went to the Basilica at Montmartre, 18 km away from their community. The liturgy was conducted by the Benedictine Sisters in a monastic style. Subodh went to the University church for the Christmas night mass. It was his first Christmas in Europe. On 25 December afternoon, Subodh with a French scholastic of his community went to Montpellier, a city situated in the south of France, close to the Mediterranean Sea. This was a time for him to relax himself after a hectic learning of language. On 26 December we had the honour of welcoming Anuj and James in Paris. The first day we took them around to trace all the Ignatian footprints in Paris. The second day they went up on the Eiffel Tower to feel the wonder of human intelligence. We took them to visit the castle of Louis XIV at Versailles, a historical place and then to a small town called Lisieux where Saint Teresa of the little Child Jesus was born, joined a Benedictine congregation and lived her entire life. This visit was spiritual nourishment for us. On 30 December Subodh was back to Paris. On the same evening we had France Spain Ranchiite scholastics gathering to share our personal experiences in Europe. On 31 December both of them left Paris for Rome.

From 26 December evening to 30 December morning, there was a province gathering of the new province *Europe Occidental Francophone* in Lyon. The new province is reconstructed joining all the French speaking provinces. After 31 December till our resuming classes on January 8, Subodh was preparing for his language exam. David spent the rest of the holidays in personal study. Jyoti spent his holidays having piano classes. We wish from Paris all Jesuits of Ranchi Province a wonderful grace filled New Year 2018!

Sch. David Minj, SJ

Cairo, Egypt

The month of December was blessed with Pre-Christmas celebrations. On 1 December Mr. Arun Pinto and family had invited me to bless their "Carol Nite" at their decorated roof top building. The family was able to share to the guests

present, who were in majority non-Christians, their Christmas message and greetings through the introduction of every carol hymn. Their daughter who is in Class X did the job efficiently.

The ambassador of India and of Singapore, selected Indian Business people and other guests were present there. I was fortunate to meet in the same gathering the elder brother of Hindi Film actor Nasruddin Shah. He has a very good business in Egypt. He's also the Secretary of the Indian Group in Egypt. On 15 December I had to bless another lunch party hosted in a five star lake view by Mr. Raman and Loida sehgal with the theme, "Celebrate Christmas with Thanksgiving." It was for their Indian and Egyptian business friends. On December 21, I had a unique celebration of pre-Christmas with the family of Mr. Dominic Chang. He requested me to celebrate Latin Rite Holy Mass in their house with three Dominican priests of different nationalities. It was the first time for me to officiate in a family in Egypt. A Philipino choir group was there to add to the solemnity. From December 8-14, the Provincial of Near East & Maghreb, Fr. Dany Younes had the canonical annual visit of the College de la Sainte Famille, Faggalah- Cairo. He shared with the community about the continuous challenges in six countries of the Jesuit Province. The last two days were devoted to the Province Consult. All the delegates to Fr. Provincial from the respective countries were present. On December 30, we had a Thanksgiving Holy Mass in French for the whole school. The Principal Fr. Nader Michel was the main celebrant.

Fr. Bimal Kerketta, SJ

IRELAND

We the 11 tertians here in Cardonner House, Dublin, successfully made our one month Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius under the able guidance of Fr. Van De Poll, SJ and Fr. Paul Pace, SJ, our tertian Directors. We can boldly say that each tertian group restores the Society of Jesus. We have profound Spiritual Experiences during our great retreat. "Who will separate us from the love of Christ?" (Rom 8:35), is resounding in our minds. We extend our hearty thanks and gratitude to each one of you for your prayerful support, love and encouragement in our religious formation.

On 8 December, on the feast day of Immaculate Conception, six of us- Andrew Downing, Elias Surin, Jean Claude, PavoITrgo, Sanjeeva Fernando and Zong Jiang went for a pilgrimage to the Memorial of St. John Paul II in Phoenix Park, in the City Centre, Dublin where on 29

September 1979, during his visit to Ireland, presided over the Holy Eucharist with more than one million faithful. The huge steel cross is erected in his memorial where many faithful still come as pilgrims. We had a special prayer for the youth all over the world as he loved the young people so much. We enjoyed the snow fall in the huge park. In the evening Fr. Elias Surin, SJ, presided over the Holy Eucharist in Cardoner House Chapel and had the special intention for the religious men and women for the consecrated life.

Christmas vigil mass was offered by Fr. Michael Drennan, SJ, Rector of Manresa Jesuit Spirituality Centre, Dublin with the faithful and the community members. In his homily he emphasized on God loving assurance, "Do not be afraid, I am with you always." The melodious Christmas Hymns led by the tertians during the liturgy captivated the faithful making it more devotional and solemn. On the Christmas Day Fr. Elias Surin and Fr. Sanjeeva Fernando celebrated the Holy Eucharist in the Children Hospital and St. Monica Nursing Home, Dublin respectively.

On the Christmas vacation, we, Elias Surin, Pavol Trgo, Peter Paul and Sanjeeva Fernando went to St. Ignatius Jesuit Community, Galway, in the western coast of Ireland. We were very happy and grateful to Fr. Charles Davy, SJ, the minister and Fr. Martin Curry, SJ, Rector and all the Community members in Galway. We enjoyed a lot the Jesuit hospitality and experienced the universality of the Society. We enjoyed a lot in the beautiful nature, the Connemara National Park to see the snow, cool and fresh running streams and numerous sheep on the mountains. The beautiful landscapes and lakes were very attractive. We were lucky to have the fresh and bright weather to enjoy the cliffs of Moher in the Atlantic Ocean, one of the most tourist attractions in Galway. We offered special prayers for the church in Ireland in the Cathedral of Galway which is dedicated to Our Lady assumed into Heaven and Saint Nicholas. This magnanimous Cathedral is situated on the bank of the river Carrig. It is famous because it was dedicated on 15 August 1965 and as such is the youngest of Europe's great stone Cathedrals. His Lordship Bishop Brendan Kelly is the Bishop of three dioceses-Galways, Kilmacduagh and Kilfenora.

On 31 December, we had an hour of thanksgiving and adoration to the Blessed Sacrament with our guests in the chapel and welcomed the New Year 2018 with great joy and enthusiasm. On the apt moment we were blessed to have Sr. Avril O'Regan, RLR, Sisters of the Retreat

who enriched us with her open and frank sharing of her deep knowledge and experiences of the Spiritual Exercises. On 18 January, 2018, we are going for our two and half months long experiments to share the Good News through our selfless service to the needy.

Fr. Elias Surin, SJ

Rome

Right now, there are 14 Ranchi Jesuits in Europe who are either studying or contributing to different missions of the universal Society. Out of the 14, 10 are studying Philosophy and Theology in Madrid, Munich, Paris and Rome. Being stationed in four different European cities brings in also the cultural, linguistic and gastronomical differences amongst them. And therefore, any possibility of coming together, even for a few days, yields lots of enthusiasm, joy and mutual encouragement. Last year Jyoti Paul Baxla and David Minj from Paris had come to Rome for one-week pilgrimage with their Jesuit philosophy companions. Towards the end of the Year 2017, James P. Balmuchu and Anuj K. Minj from Madrid came to Rome on 31 December to be with their Roman companions and to visit some important places. After participating in the New Year festivities, they went back to Madrid on 5 January. Sameer Ekka and Ajay P. Minj from Munich had already arrived in Rome on 27 December to make their Annual Retreat under the guidance of Anselm Ekka. After the Retreat Sameer and Ajay had two days at their disposal to move around under the careful guidance of Ravi Hemant and Edwin Ritesh. Each of these visits aptly concluded with a Ranchi Get-Together, which provided Ranchi men in Diaspora with an excellent opportunity for mutual enrichment and encouragement by sharing their life and mission experiences with one another. Kulwant Minj, Edwin Dang and Biju Sebastian (DUM) were always in the forefront to make the visiting Scholastics feel at home by taking care of their basic needs and by preparing delicious meals for them as the sign of their brotherly care and hospitality.

Apart from extending a cordial welcome to the visiting Ranchi Scholastics from Paris, Madrid and Munich, Edwin Ritesh and Ravi Hemant dedicated their full time and energy to prepare themselves for the Diaconate Ordinations by concluding successfully their *Ad Audiandas* exams. The community of International College of Gesù had gone to *Roccia di Papa* for a Triduum from 16 to 18 December as part of the Christmas preparations. The Triduum was guided by Rolphy Pinto, one of spirituality Professors from Gregorian University.

Both Edwin Ritesh and Ravi Hemant had gone to St. Peter's Square for the Christmas Vigil Mass. As usual, they had a grand Christmas celebration in the community on 25 December. During the Christmas festivities, they enjoyed the wonderful company of their counterparts – James Balmuchu and Anuj Minj from Madrid, and Sameer Ekka and Ajay P. Minj from Munich.

Quite many members of Collegio Bellarmino community go out annually to different Parishes of Italy for the Christmas ministries. However, Edwin Dang and Kulwant Minj preferred to stay back at home for Christmas to continue with their academic assignments and to welcome the Scholastics from Madrid and Munich. They had a joyous community Christmas celebration on the eve of 20 December 2017, which was more of an international cultural extravaganza. Edwin, Kulwant and Biju came up with the idea of singing two Hindi Christmas carols, which was appreciated and applauded by all.

After keeping all his Radio programmes ready for the month of December, Sanjay Dilip left for Ranchi on 10 December for his annual holidays. Anselm Ekka kept himself busy in the Office of Economato. He too stayed back at home for Christmas. He availed himself to guide Sameer Ekka and Ajay Minj in their Annual Retreat, which kept him occupied even on the New Year day. After celebrating the feast of Epiphany on 6 January with the other Ranchi men, he left for Ranchi on 7 January for his annual holidays.

Linus Kujur is recovering fast after receiving a new kidney on 16 November. The Sisters of Gregorian Infirmary are taking good care of him. The visitors from outside the community are not allowed so far by the Sisters. However, with their permission, Prem accompanied Kulwant Minj and Rev. Sushil Toppo from Ranchi Archdiocese to visit him and to greet him in the name of the Ranchi Jesuits and other Adivasi brothers and sisters in Rome. In a serene and calm atmosphere, Linus celebrated Christmas and New Year within the limits of the Infirmary. Immediately after the afternoon classes on 20 December, Prem left for Ranchi to be with his parents during Christmas. He spent two days in Delhi with his younger brother, who had undergone a major surgery in 2016. He celebrated Christmas with his parents who are suffering from different ailments because of the advanced age. He is grateful to Rev. Mother Linda Mary Vaughan, Alex Ekka, Ajit Xess and Chonhas Lakra, who visited his parents during the Christmas festivities. A wonderful gesture of care, support and encouragement both to the parents and to someone who is far away from the Province! For the Christmas and New Year liturgical celebrations, he was cordially invited to the Hospital Chapel by Chonhas. He came back to Rome on 5 January.

Ranchi men in Rome wish all their Jesuit friends, well-wishers and benefactors a very Happy and Prosperous New Year 2018!

Marquette University, USA

The Spring Session at Marquette University ended on 16 December and a hundred-acre University premises, with more than 11 thousand students became almost a desert for one-month, 'Christmas and New Year holidays,' more popularly known as 'Winter Break,' a secular term. It is to show a sincere sensitivity to those few who don't celebrate Christmas or tend to keep themselves away from any kind of religiosity. I stayed in the community for a couple of days completing some of my papers specially making of a 'prototype mobile app' for Sunday Reflection, as a part of Mobile Communication Course. You can have a glance or access through <https://divyavachan.weebly.com>.

On 5 December 2017, the members of the Jesuit Community at Marquette University met to discuss and reflect together on Fr. General Sosa's letter of 27 September 2017 entitled "On Discernment in Common."

The members commended the practice of discernment back to which the General calls us, can unite us to God, to each other, to all our apostolates, and to the wider world, and it is a good instrument for finding our universal apostolic preferences. The members felt that the letter of Fr. General was very inspiring and a good summary of the practice, with good applications. It invites us to be rooted in our spirituality (the examen in particular) and to be innovative with a renewed joy at being part of Christ's mission, which fits with Pope Francis' emphasis on happiness as a characteristic of a true Christian.

Before I left for the winter break, I had enough days at my disposal to explore alone the city of Milwaukee in a car with a view to familiarize the places and a good driving practice. I got my driving license a couple of weeks ago, which now gives me the privilege to use the cars for pastoral needs and various other services to the community. Owning a US driving license is important not only because it makes you independent but also it is the only official document issued by the federal government recognized all over the USA.

For Christmas, I went to Atlanta, capital of a Southern state of Georgia to Dr. Carlos, a friend of mine whom I met providentially in Rome. I traveled to Charlotte, North Carolina and celebrated the Birth of Our Lord with his 92-year-old mother and some other kith and kin around. Immediately after Christmas, I moved to Austin, the capital of Texas to some other relatives of Dr. Carlos. I had the opportunity to visit a few important places in Austin, especially the LBJ Presidential Library – a museum of 36th President L.B. Johnson, the mansion-like Legislative Assembly Building, and St Antonio city the ‘Venice of Texas’ in the border of Mexico. Among many inspiring quotations of President Johnson, the one touches the millions was “The Great Society asks not how much, but how good; not only how to create wealth, but to use it; not only how fast we are going, but where we are headed to: It proposes as the first test for a nation: the quality of life.” Before I departed from the South, I spent some time in Atlanta and visited the city of Columbus, the place where Dr. John S. Pemberton, the originator of Coca-Cola beverage lived with his family. On 6 January 2018, I flew back to ‘white Milwaukee’ due to snow and arrived in the Jesuit Community at Marquette to celebrate Epiphany at home.

9 January was the day of annual clergy get-together at the city Indoor Basketball Stadium for all the religious and diocesan priests with His Grace Jerome of the Arch Diocese of Milwaukee. Apart from wishing each other for a new year the clergy savored the food and enjoyed the basketball game where Marquette dominated the game. Continuing its winning expedition in the college basketball league game, Marquette University defeated Seton Hall University, New Jersey with 84-64.

I started my classes on 16 January with a full load of three courses which will finish by mid-May. I am back to my normal routine of spending 10-12 hours of studies, research, and reflections a day. Library facilities are tremendous in the University with round the clock services, as many books as you can borrow provisions and online books and articles supplies in thousands. The temperature in Milwaukee falls as low as -32 degree Celsius and snowfall is recorded as high as 14 inches. December to March are the months with freezing cold, piercing the bones but not inside the Jesuit community residence which accommodates 32 Jesuits. The community also has a gymnasium which keeps me and the members warm, hale and hearty.

Justin Tirkey, SJ
Marquette University, USA

Care of the Sick and the Aged in the Province

Good health of a Jesuit is important for carrying out the works of the Society. Whether one has the strength required to perform the task entrusted to him depends on it [Cons. 107]. This is obvious when one of the members suffers from illness or when one is physically or mentally not well-disposed in carrying out his [priestly ministry and] apostolic duty. It is an important factor, therefore, while examining someone’s admission in the Society as also for promotion of someone to sacred orders and for four vows [MJP 21; 26; 95.5]. It relates not only to physical and mental health but also to spiritual care of its members. In attending to physical and mental wholeness of its men, the Society also keeps in mind their spiritual needs as necessary part of their caring. Praying for the sick members, visiting and comforting them and spiritually preparing those who are dying, supporting and strengthening them in their faith, becomes a ministry in itself and an experience of brotherly union.

Although Socius of the Provincial is officially the in charge of health of all the members of the Province, it is not always possible for him to take good care all by himself alone, certainly not without the help of other members of the Province and in particular, those of the respective communities. Our brotherly concern reflects itself in such sharing of responsibility towards caring of the sick and the aged which has been a big source of healing and comfort for the sick brethren. Thanks to ever ready and available Province Infirmarian, Brother Telesphore Horo S.J., who has been cheerfully attending the sick members and accompanying them whenever they have to visit the doctors and undergo for check-up in clinics or in the hospitals or in any other need.

As on 1 January 2016, The Province has 374 members with 221 priests, 131 Scholastics [including 36 novices] and 22 Brothers. Thus, there is an overall increase of two members over the previous year. According to the age-group, the Province has the following index of the members:

Age	19-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90+	Total
No.	94	55	61	72	44	26	15	7	374

According to this data above, 48 members of the Province fall within the age-group of 70-90+ but if it is lowered up to 60 and above then their number is nearly doubled with 86 members who will require sooner or later some medical care. However, age-group alone cannot be a determining factor for requirement of such medical care. There are quite a few Jesuits in the Province in the higher age group who enjoy fairly good health so far. On the other hand, there have been number of cases where the Jesuits from lower age-group had to undergo medical treatment.

Though we do not have a complete figure of those of ours who required some medical care in 2015-2016 still, from whatever record we have, gives us an inkling of how many, on an average, required hospitalization for their medical treatment. There were 18 Jesuits, 8 Priests and 10 Scholastics of the Province, who were admitted in the Health Centre at Ara Gate for treatment in the last quarter of this year. Besides these, 10 others [9 Priests and one Brother]) were also admitted in the Health Centre or in the hospitals during the year. Moreover, there were some others who had to consult physicians for one complaint or the other.

Apart from these, there are twelve Jesuits [8 Priests and 3 Brothers] in the Province infirmary or in Manresa House who require constant medical care and assistance because of their old age, physical disability or permanent nature of their ailment. Two elderly Brothers stay in Agricultural Training Centre Namkum while two others in St. John's School Community and St. Xavier's College Ranchi. It helps the community members to be little more sensitive towards our senior members of the Province.

Health care of the Province men requires annually a huge sum of money. The Province is lucky to have a good amount in its Aged and Sick Fund to bear all the expenses of its members. The total income of the *arca* presently stands at 94,33,512.00 as against its total expenditure at 47,15,836.00, leaving a surplus of 47,17,676.00. It may be interesting to note how the entire expenditure on health care was realized in the last financial year (April 2015-Feb 2016):

Medicine	11,08,175.00
Hospital	11,44,859.00
Repairs & maintenance	9,63,185.00
Board & lodge	7,79,304.00
Vehicle & T.A.	86,451.00
Salary & Remuneration	3,17,557.00
TOTAL	43,98,531.00

The Province Infirmary can accommodate currently 10 inmates at the maximum. Besides, it has its own chapel, one doctor's visiting room, one Nursing station cum a living room for the in-charge, one small kitchen and dining with TV/recreation. Thanks to the House Physician, Dr. Samir Kujur who regularly visits the inmates in the infirmary every week and others who may need some consultation. The infirmary has three lay attendants to assist the infirmarian in taking care of the inmates day and night. Due to the growing number of members in the higher age-group, need for expanding the present Infirmary of the Province seems necessary. There is a plan of adding another Floor to it. All the communities of the Province have contributes a substantial amount for its construction. Additional facilities are also thought of so that our inmates find it more homely to rest and recuperate and to spend their aging in prayer and spiritual preparation. It is no wonder that the Province Infirmary has been a real centre of spiritual force of the whole Province where the life of some of the inmates-Fathers and Brothers- have been very inspiring.

Eight of our Companions were called by Our Lord to their heavenly reward over the last one year. Fr. Vijay Kamath (16/7/1935-20/10/2014)- a skilful teacher and administrator and Br. Jozef De Bock (21/1/1925-25/10/2014) a quietly but assiduously dutiful man- died respectively in Ranchi and in Leuven, Belgium due to their age related problems. Fr. Albinus Tete (1/4/1943-20/4/2015), an innovative teacher and lover of nature died in Lohardaga due his age and heart problem while Fr. Albert Kullu (12/1/1957-15/5/2015) had long suffering due to diabetes. Rather quiet but insightful person, made a significant contributions for the Sisters of Daughters of St. Anne, Ranchi died in Holy

Family Hospital, Mandar. The sudden death of Fr. Isayas Xess (4/9/1969-17/10/2015) at Orchid Medical Centre Ranchi, after he suffered a massive heart attack while he was preparing himself for his final vows at Spirituality Centre, Jharna, came as a big pain of loss of the man who was known for his simplicity and hard work. The death of the NS Jugal Naresh Kujur (22/9/1993-6/11/2015) by drowning in the pond of Manresa House Ranchi was very shocking for us all. Br. Blacius Ekka (28/1/1933-9/12/2015) quietly passed away in his room in the Province Infirmary due to his age-long trouble of breathing. Number of buildings in the Province and elsewhere are memorials of his building-construction skill. Sudden death of Fr. Florent Jonckheere (29/8/1925-29/1/2016) by falling from the staircase in St. Albert's College Ranchi, was very shocking. He left behind a legacy of discipline and spirituality for the house of formation like St. Albert's Seminary Ranchi where he lived for over 40 years. May these good souls rest in Peace!

Caring for the sick and the aged is a great challenge. It calls for kindness, patience and humility to help and serve and to the needy brethren in their illness, recuperation and rehabilitation. There have been moments of deep painful and touching experience when they are nearing death- their last yes to the call of their Master. In that hour and at that moment, more is required of us- our human concern, spiritual strength and comfort for the dying through our nearness to them. At times these seem to be lacking among us but it is here that we are called to experience our real communion with our companions.

Fr. Sudhir Kr Minj SJ

Remember them in our prayers:

1. Fr. Melville W. Diamond, SJ, (Mel) 97/72 died 20. 1. 2018
2. Mrs. Sushila Lakra, 70, mother of Sch. Subodh Lakra, SJ, died, 23.1.2018

BABIES OF THE MONTH : JANUARY , FEBRUARY

JANUARY

- | | |
|----|-----------------------|
| 02 | Tirkey Sumit Kumar |
| 03 | Xalxo Sagar |
| 06 | Minj Patras |
| 07 | Ekka Philemon |
| | Kujur Anselm |
| | Kiro Laurentus |
| 10 | Guria Benjamin |
| 09 | Lakra Amrit |
| 11 | Kullu Clement |
| 12 | Dungdung Mathias |
| 13 | Kindo Robert |
| 15 | Toppo Alok |
| 17 | Bage Sandeep Birendra |
| 19 | Kullu Rajesh Kuldeep |
| 20 | Tete Ignatius |
| | Hassa Purty Felix |
| 21 | Nag Anil |
| 22 | Minj Nelson |
| 24 | Lakra Chonhas |
| 26 | Baxla Jyoti Paul |
| 26 | Kerketta Raymond |
| | Tigga Tej Kumar |
| 27 | Lakra Bimal Elias |
| 28 | Lakra Nabor |
| 30 | Ekka Manoj |

FEBRUARY

- | | |
|----|----------------------|
| 03 | Tigga Blacius |
| 04 | Kacchap Johnson |
| 05 | Beck John Anuranjan |
| | Kerketta Cherubin |
| 06 | Ekka Anup Arvind |
| 09 | Kujur Ranjit |
| 10 | Kujur Robert Pradeep |
| 11 | Minj Anuj |
| 12 | Kujur Ignatius |
| 13 | Dungdung Paulus |
| 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 |
| | Kullu Pradeep |
| | Kujur Amit |
| 27 | Minj Kanchan |
| | Soreng Samir |
| 29 | Dungdung James W. |