

RANCHI BULLETIN



74/5

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

MAY 2015

INFORMATION

- **All the treasurers** of different communities and institutions are kindly requested to update accounts and Bank passbooks of the Financial Year 2014-15 (April 2014-March 2015).
- **Scholastics Get-Together 2015** will be held at Rengarih Parish from May 16-20, 2015.
- **Scholastics' Retreat** will be held from **May 23 – June 01**, after Province Gathering at Jharna spirituality Centre Namkum.
- **Province Days** will be held from May 20 – 22, 2015.

HOUSES & INSTITUTIONS

Jharna- Ashirvad, Namkum

With the return of the novices on Easter Monday from their village experiments, life in Jharna-Ashirvad is once again vibrant. Those who had gone to the Assam Mission areas-Balipara (Tezpur Diocese) and Manas Bansbari (Bongaigaon Diocese) came back one day later due to the train timing. Fr. Binod Toppo, Socius, accompanied them on their return journey. This year the novices had been in fourteen different Jesuit-run parishes. We are very grateful to all our parish priests and their communities for helping and accompanying our novices all through their experiments.

The novices had two and a half days of sharing sessions in which they enriched one another through the sharing of the fruits of their experiments. Then the normal life in the Novitiate resumed. Fr. K.C. Philip, Superior of the House and English teacher of the novices, has not been able to attend his pupils as he has been busy with a group of Sisters in their Long Retreat. Fr. Raymond Kerketta was away from 16-18 April, for the four-sheet test of our candidates at Jivan Deep, Pre-Novitiate, Khunti. Some of our novices

have been with Fr. Albert Kullu who was shifted from Orchid to the HFH, Mandar on April 16. His condition remains critical.

After helping an MJEP Sister in her ten-day retreat, Fr. Sylvanus Kiro left for Andamans to meet his missionary brother Fr. Benedict Kiro. Fr. Suman Beck has come to Jharna and is getting ready to give a 15-day retreat to DSA Tertiaries. Fr. Deepak Toppo gave an 8-day retreat to some OSU Sisters and then was out to Vidya Sadan, Bhopal to preach retreat to the Pre-Novices.

Frs. Raymond & Deepak

St. Ignatius Gumla

1st of April: All Fools' Day – Wishing you all 'A very Happy Day'! Fr Peter Arrupe used to say sometimes in his talks that a Jesuit should be able to laugh at himself occasionally. If we look back in our own lives we find every now and then we have acted foolishly. Realizing it humbly, keeps a person sound in body and mind! Keeping that in mind the orientation Programme for Class XI, conducted with lots of fun between students and teachers, was successfully

concluded on this day. It was given by Fr. Ashok Kujur SDB (Chere). Students The students liked it immensely.

Holy Week: All the members of the community stayed at home this year. We actively cooperated with the Parish clergy in conducting ceremonies and preaching during different days. Festive celebrations were held in the community on Easter Sunday. Alleluia!

6th April: There was a commemorative Holy Mass of his dear niece (age 13) organized in the family of Fr. Marianus Kujur, our Provincial. The child had suddenly died on 31st January 2015 and left the family members grieving and forlorn. Four of us from the Community were there to join in the ceremony and pray for the departed soul and console the bereaved members.

Solemn Opening of the New Academic Year for the School and Int. College: Joy and excitement was writ large on their faces to come to school on this day because of going to new classes. However, class VI and VII came to new classes only on 11th April. The address of the Headmaster to the guardians and students in a joint session was the day's highlight.

Hockey Talents: Scholastic David Minj had been going round to different schools for talent hunt in Hockey. He did fish out a good number who then came to St Ignatius Gumla for final selection. As a result he managed to select 65 (40 in the Day Boarding, 25 in our Hostel) for admission in different classes in our school. Selections were made on 30th April of candidates to take part in solo singing and elocution competitions to be held in early May.

12th April was the First Communion Day in the Parish: Out of 'hundred' Apostolics ONE received the Lord for the first time that day, and what a rejoicing there was in the Apostolic School for "One over the 99"! The news may surprise you but that is true.

14th April, Jubilee Celebrations of Fr. Mark De Brouwer and Fr Christopher Lakra: The Community celebrated the 70 years in the Society of Jesus of Fr Mark while 50 years of Fr. Christopher. The Gumla Zone Jesuit communities, the School, AROUSE and Gram Utthan Kendra staff were also invited on the occasion to join in our celebrations. However, the climax came in the evening with Jubilee Dinner where all the local religious institutions and the Bishop's House were invited to join. It was just exuberant!

Death and Burial of our Priests: Rev. Fr. Benedict Kindo, PP of Bimerla died on 19th April and was brought to Gumla where the burial took place in the local cemetery on 20th April. Big crowd had gathered to bid him farewell. The same evening we got the sad news of the death of Fr. Albinus Tete S.J. at Lohardaga. Some of us went to Lohardaga for funeral the following day. His passing away

from a massive heart attack shocked many people, and his loss was felt very much by all who were there.

Welcome: The new arrivals in the Apostolic School for class VII were given a rousing welcome on 25th April. Inter House competition was organized in the evening on tribal seasonal songs and dances. Congrats Fr. Praful, the Director, Fr John and the assistant!

28th April Marriage Feast in Anil Driver's House in Karondabera village: Some seven of the community members went to celebrate and bless the newly-wed couple. On the same day Fr. Socius also came to Gumla to visit the site near Urmi, to negotiate a plot for graduate college someday.

Lawyers' assemblage at AROUSE: Three prominent layers from the Hoffmann Law Academy Ranchi (Adv. Rashmi Katyayan, Xavier Soreng and Ignace Minj) were here on 29th April as resource persons for training programme in AROUSE. Their inputs and interactions were very much appreciated by the women trainees. Well Done!

Christopher Lakra

St Xavier' Doranda

The new academic year 2015-16 started on 7th April. The students started the session with new vigor and zeal. The principal exhorted the students to be more faithful, hardworking and goal oriented in this new session.

The school warmly welcomed a group of Belgian students with the purpose of International Cultural Exchange Programme under the leadership of Fr. Aurel Brys, SJ. They visited the school on 10th April. They spent some time in the school premises and left the campus to spend the night with the local families in groups of two to know and experience the Indian families. Quite many times our students have visited Belgium under the International Cultural Exchange Programme and even our students have spent some nights with the families there. On the next day, the Belgian students had an interactive session with the +2 students for one hour. In the course of interaction they came to know about the subject they prefer to choose to make their career, social life of the country, importance of time and cleanliness. Then, they moved to village centres of the Outreach Programme of St. Xavier's School Doranda to have a village live-in experience.

On 19th April, the school received 130 Jesuit candidates of Summer Course Programme 2015 accompanied by Fr. Director and the scholastics to our school campus. They came like a fresh air of hope and dream in the school and the society at large. They were taken for a guided tour of the school. A documentary movie on the history of the school was screened for them.

It is a good news for the Outreach Programme of the St. Xavier's School, Doranda and the school itself that one of the students named Ms Hema Toppo of class VI was selected in the Jharkhand State skating team. She along with other seven teammates went to take part in 16-National Skating League Championship held in Goa. The school sponsored the flight ticket and the games kit. She bagged two gold medals and one silver medal.

The school organized 4th Inter Jesuit Schools' Basketball Tournament 2015 on 25th and 26th April 2015. Altogether seven teams participated in this tournament. Mr. Amar Bawri, the minister of Sports and Culture and Youth Affairs was the chief guest on the occasion. The level of the competition of the match was very high. St. Xavier's School, Doranda defeated St. Lawrence School, Kolkata by 73-37 points and became champion of the tournament. Fr. Ajay Soreng, SJ was the chief guest for the prize distribution ceremony. He appreciated the progressive development of the school and the high standard of games. The school went for a debate competition organized by the National Law University. There too the high level of intellectual caliber of the students was appreciated by one and all. There too they bagged the champion's trophy.

The month of May started with many good things. The Christian students spent time before Mother Mary's grotto. They were told on the significance of the month of May and the meaning and importance of prayer to Mother Mary. Further, The Hindi Department of the school organized the Inter Class Hindi Elocution 2015. It was well organized and became a very good platform for the students to come forward and express themselves. Fr. Principal in his message spoke on the importance of good communication skill in an individual's life.

There was a Zonal ICSE-ISC Declamation Contest - 2015 organized by St. Anthony School, Doranda. Two of our students participated in this contest. The student of senior category Ms Mitali Dutta got the best prize and the best speaker award in this event. The student of junior category Master Aditya Bose got the 2nd runner-up position.

For a couple of weeks there was much brouhaha on the issue of re-admission and fee hike created by the Abhibhawak Manch and hyped by the media. With the leadership of Fr. Ajit Xess, SJ, Minority ICSE Schools met Educational Secretary and Principal Secretary to CM and put forward the genuine facts and figures to counter the Abhibhawak Manch allegation. Now the situation is coming to its normalcy.

The new regent of the school Sch. Navin Xavier Tigga has joined the community on 1st May. He is getting acquainted with the work atmosphere and culture of the school and the community.

Finally, the school organized the Annual prize Distribution Day programme on 11th and 13th May. Dr. Louis Marandi, the honorable Minister of Welfare and Minority Affairs was the chief guest on 11th May; and Mr. Nitin Kulkarni, IAS, Secretary to the Governor, was the chief guest on 13th May. A group of students led by Fr. Sanjay Kerketta, SJ Vice Principal of the school left for an education tour to Kerala to be back only on 21st May. The school went for its summer vacation on 14th May, only to reopen 17th June.

Samir Bhawnra

Prothrapur (Andaman)

After a short visit to Prothrapur with a special purpose Fr. Provincial, Marianus Kujur and Fr. Xavier Soreng returned to Ranchi via Kolkata on 1st April. Fr. David was there to see them off. Thanks for their kind visit to Andaman.

For the Holy Week Programme Rev. Fr. Anugrah Lugun, the manager of Nirmala Senior Secondary School, Port Blair availed himself to assist Fr. David at Prothrapur parish. He helped Fr. David in various ways to make the celebration meaningful and run the programme smoothly through his inspiring sermons, melodious singing and hearing confessions for several hours. We really admire his generosity and patience. Thanks for everything; may God bless him to continue the mission with the same zeal and vigour.

Following the good tradition of Port Blair Diocese, Fr. David began Easter House Blessing with the full support and cooperation of catechists, youth, children and representatives practically in all the villages for the smooth running of blessing. Though it was tiresome but he had the faithful to help him out in all circumstances.

Fr. George Kerketta S.J. landed in Port Blair on 16th April to visit Andaman mission in order to plan out the programme and project for the holistic development of the people of these islands. He was able to visit all three parishes run by the Jesuits namely Prothrapur, Diglipur and Ramnagar. He also visited some of the familiar families in different places of Andmans as he had served these people in Katchal and Kamorta islands. He was quite overjoyed to see the progress in their lives and he still continues to dream a great dream for integral development of the faithful. On 18th April, Frs. George and Anil left for Diglipur and Ramnagar as Fr. David due to some unavoidable reason was unable to accompany Fr. George. We extend our sincere thanks for his concern for the faithful of Andaman.

On 24th April preparation for First Holy Communion started and 28 children are preparing themselves with great joy under the guidance of pastoral Sisters of the parish.

David.

Diaspora

Rome

On Saturday 11th April, R.P. Provincial Joseph Marianus Kujur along with Dilip Sanjay Ekka arrived in Rome Fiumicino Airport on time at 13.20 by Emirates Airlines. They had to check-in in Delhi at around mid-night and their flight was delayed by one hour; nonetheless both of them seemed fresh and cheerful. The entire Ranchi contingent – Kulwant, Edwin, Justin, Linus and Prem – was present to accord them a warm welcome at the airport. R.P. Provincial had come to participate in the colloquium of the new Provincials from 13 to 25 April. Dilip Sanjay has come to continue the Radio Vatican mission in the Hindi Section successfully accomplished by Justin Turkey. On the arrival of R.P. Provincial, Kulwant had a bright idea of dedicating the Sunday evening to a Ranchi Jesuits Get-together in the International College of Gesù, the house of the Scholastics. The Get-together aptly started with the Holy Mass in the Room of St. Ignatius, where he wrote the Constitutions of the Society of Jesus and lived until his death. Hence, celebrating Holy Mass in that room as the members of Ranchi Province had a special significance. R.P. Provincial remembered each and every member of the Province and every mission that is being carried out by Ranchi Jesuits. During the dinner, R.P. Provincial shared his vision and future projects for the Province.

Despite his busy schedule of Colloquium, R.P. Provincial availed himself to preside over the Holy Eucharistic celebration to mark the 54th Death Anniversary of Mother Anna Mary Bernadette, Foundress of St. Anne's Sisters, in the Room of St. Ignatius of Loyola, whose spirituality has been the backbone of their way of life right from the beginning. His choice of using a chasuble similar to that of St. Ignatius to preside over the Eucharistic celebration was profoundly symbolic in recollecting the Ignatian spirituality properly in the Room on St. Ignatius.

The Holy Mass was organized by 7 St. Anne's Sisters who are either working or studying in Rome. All the Jesuits from Chotanagpur were cordially invited to participate in their joy. “*Sargaon to hargaon* (From Sargaon to every village)” summed up the reflections of R.P. Provincial and the sentiments of those present for the celebration. On 18th April, South Asian Assistancy Jesuits in Rome came together in the International College of Gesù to welcome the 4 new Provincials from India, who had come to participate in the Colloquium – R.P. Joseph Marianus Kujur (RNC), R.P. P.S. Amalraj (AND), R.P. Varghese Pallipalakkatt (DUM) and R.P. Stanislaus D'Souza (KAR). “So many from Ranchi Province here in Rome!” exclaimed one of our colleagues while Ranchi men were preparing themselves for a photo session. With the presence of R.P.

Provincial, Camil Kerketta from Jerusalem and Dilip Sanjay Ekka, the new arrival at Radio Vatican, the usual number of 5 Ranchi Jesuits in Rome had gone up. Camil Kerketta had arrived in Rome on 16th April for a meeting. After the conclusion of the Colloquium for the new Provincials on Saturday 25th April, R.P. Provincial heartily dedicated his time for the Ranchi men in diaspora. It was just a happy coincidence that while R.P. Provincial was in Rome, Samir Dungdung also came from Paris for an academic visit with four other Karnataka Scholastics. He had an excellent opportunity to visit and study the historical, cultural and religious importance of the Eternal City under the guidance of Kulwant, Edwin and other South Asian Scholastics who are studying in Rome. Both Camil and Samir enriched us by sharing their experiences of being in Jerusalem and Paris respectively. On 26th April, R.P. Provincial was cordially invited to participate in the Adivasi Get-together in Collegio San Pietro. He presided over the Holy Mass. Basing his reflections on the Gospel reading of the day and underlining carefully all the good qualities of the Good Shepherd, he enthused all participants by challenging them to become good leaders. After the Holy Mass, the Adivasi brothers and sisters in Rome expressed their gratitude to Justin for his leadership and placed their trust on Linus for the future leadership. There is no doubt that R.P. Provincial inspired all those who came in contact with him during his sojourn in Rome. He has enriched and encouraged Ranchi men by his presence amidst them. On 28th April, along with Aurel Brys, he left for Barcelona. From there, they will move to Belgium, France and Germany before leaving for Ranchi on 14th May from Brussels.

Fr Prem

Paris, France

I went to different churches nearby for Holy-Week and Easter services. I concelebrated the Easter-Vigil Mass with other three Jesuits of my community in one of the parishes in which a boy was baptised whom we accommodated for two months in our community. Besides him there were 13 other men and women who were also baptised. It was the first time for me to see such a solemn adult baptism. The next day, we arranged a Mass in our community in his name and with his invitees and shared the festive meal and thus wished him a blessed new life.

The Indian Priests and Religious in Paris had a get-together on 11th April at Missions Etrangères de Paris. It was attended by around 45 members. After a long gap of six months, the gathering was an occasion for many to meet each other and share their experiences. The gathering

commenced with the Holy Eucharist presided over by Rev. Fr. Anil Pereira of Vasai Diocese. I gave a short and well-prepared homily, stressing that though our experience of Jesus is very unique and personal but a drive to do his mission. The choir was well-prepared by the Jesuit Scholastics which made the atmosphere joyous as well as prayerful.

The Holy Eucharist was followed by a session, in which Br. Beldjebel Irad's (seminarian) shared his personal experience of God. The entire group was edified by the sharing. This was followed by the election of the new president and the new secretary. Schs. Sudhakar (AND) is elected as the new president for the coming year and Vincent (KAR) as the new secretary.

The 18th April was the day of diaconate ordination. Five Jesuits from five countries were ordained deacons by Mgr. Peter Henrici S.J, auxiliary Bishop emeritus of Coire, a Swiss at the church of St. Ignatius, Paris. Among them two deacons were from our community. Around 40 Jesuit priests came to witness the day. The evening and the next day noon we had nice but a lengthy celebration with their invitees. It was also an occasion to know people.

I made a study trip to Rome, Italy for a week (20 - 26 April) as we had spring holidays for two weeks. I was accommodated at the Jesuits community, Collegio Internazionale del Gesù. I saw the rooms of St. Ignatius in Gesù, the building where the Jesuits lived before coming to Gesù, La Storta, besides visiting the Vatican City and other historical and significant places. This was also a happy occasion for me to meet some province men in Rome. Now, I cherish it as an enriching tour and exposure.

Fr. Samir

Jerusalem

The first week of April was the time of Easter joy and celebration for us in the very place of our Lord. The presence of Fr. General, Adolfo Nicolás brought an added joy to our community. Fr General spent his time of the Holy Week (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday) with the Benedictines in Galilee. He travelled back to Jerusalem in the morning hours of Easter Sunday and we were privileged to have him and his Assistants for the festive lunch. Fr. Stefano Bittasi was the guide and the driver for them. They left for Rome on Easter Monday.

I had the opportunity to participate in the Holy Week Liturgical celebration at the Basilica of Ecce Homo. All three days the Liturgical Services were very prayerful and inspiring. I felt something unique and special during the washing of the feet ceremony on Maundy Thursday. The main celebrant first washed six persons consisting of both men and women. Immediately after that few other faithful including priests and even the main celebrant were invited

to have their feet washed. Obviously this was in line with what Jesus said to his disciples: 'you must wash the feet of one another as I have done to you.' Soon after the celebration all of us, priests and the faithful together numbering about a hundred, were invited for a light supper in the community of the Ecce Homo. Once the supper was over we moved once again together in procession to the Basilica of Gethsemany. It took us about 10 to 15 minutes. There was a special prayer with adoration organized at Gethsemany from 09.00 pm to midnight. The Basilica was packed with people, mostly in silence and prayer, each one remembering the words of the Lord: 'Can you not stay awake even an hour to pray with me ...' It was quite a moving experience. After this the whole crowd moved to the Basilica of Gallicantu (meaning 'cock-crow'). Once again here the whole assembly entered into prayer with great sentiments of shame for having denied Jesus like the Apostle Peter.

The Good Friday Service took place in the inner part of the Basilica of Ecce Homo, called Lithostrotos. The place is part of the excavated sites and lies underneath a huge building. It was quite homely and impressive too. The Easter Vigil Celebration began at 11.00 pm and ended at 01.00 am. The liturgy lasted just for two hours. The following morning for the Easter celebration I went to the Holy Sepulcher (Calvary). Here I was quite confused because different rites like Latin, Greek orthodox, Ethiopian and others were celebrating the Eucharist around the Holy Tomb at the same time. Each group was singing and praying loudly in its respective language. The positive aspect of it is that all rites, all Christians and even the people of other faiths pray at the Holy Sepulcher.

From 16th to 26th April I had the opportunity to go to Rome for a meeting. It was a happy coincidence that most of us diaspora Ranchians could meet Fr. Provincial and one another. The brothers in Rome (Frs. Prem, Linus, Edwin and Sch Kulwant) prepared a delicious meal to make a day memorable. I felt very much strengthened in my companionship and belongingness to Ranchi Province.

Camil Kerketta

Cairo (Egypt)

On 4th April our two first year novices finished their thirty days Spiritual Exercises under the guidance of their novice master. According to Oriental rite our Easter celebration was on 12th April. To celebrate it meaningfully, all Christian staff members of the school were invited for a day of recollection and penitential service.

Fr. Dany Younus, the new Provincial of Near East and Maghreb came for the first canonical visit to the Novitiate community. He came via Israel (Holy Land). There was a special meeting with Rev. Fr. General and all the Jesuits working there.

30th April was the farewell day ceremony for the Third Higher Secondary students. The day began with the thanksgiving Eucharistic celebration. Instead of usual Coptic rite, Latin rite in French language was followed to make the ceremony short and meaningful. Most of the Muslim parents attended the whole mass with their outgoing children. In the evening, a grand party was organized in a Five Star hotel. Students with their parents, teachers, and Jesuits were present. Various awards were conferred on the meritorious students in a grand hall of the

hotel. Tambola (lottery prize) was arranged and tickets were sold on the spot among the present for the benefit of the co-workers of the school to honor them on 1st May as the workers' Day. A huge sum was collected. Many didn't take the lottery prizes and instead donated for the charity works of the needy. It was a unique experience for me to see and meet for the first time in Cairo our rich students and their parents.

Fr Bimal

News from sjweb.info

Three scents of a Jesuit

In his mission of accompanying and strengthening his brothers, Father General recently visited the West African Province. Speaking at a gathering of Jesuits in Cameroon, Father General took a moment to appreciate values that Africans hold dear, respect for life and love of life. Father General further sketched an image of a Jesuit as a man in constant search of understanding and meaning. Every Jesuit is engaged in a world that is in constant flux, a world that poses questions and challenges on a daily basis. A Jesuit, Father General argued, may have some answers to some of these questions and challenges, but is never satisfied. Such a Jesuit wears three scents-the scent of the sheep, the scent of the library, and the scent of the future. In all this, Father General asks Jesuits to revisit their relationship with the poor of God. One of the challenges facing the Society today is finding ways to help the Universal Church benefit from the values of various cultures. To this end, Father General called on Jesuits pay particular attention to three dimensions of our Jesuit life today: Depth (both in studies and in spirituality), Creativity (learning new techniques that help us in accompanying men and women in their search for truth), and Life in the Spirit (without which we have no depth).

Nepal Jesuits Call for Support to Earthquake Relief Work

(28-Apr-2015): Fr. Boniface Tigga, SJ, the Regional Superior of Nepal Jesuits, has made an appeal to the friends and well wishers around the world to support the Jesuit Relief work in Nepal after the devastating earthquake on 25th April 2015. The emergency work will include temporary shelters and supply of food and other necessities for the victims who have lost their houses. The probable target of the Jesuits would be to attend the people in the far remote villages where it is hard for anybody to reach. This will be finalized after discussing with Government officials

and other collaborating groups. At present the schools and other institutions have opened their ground for the shelters. Many are stranded on the open ground as the aftershocks are still occurring and the damaged houses are not safe to return to. The medical care has to be reached outside Kathmandu too. The Jesuits have set up an information desk at Kathmandu who could be contacted for directing your valuable donations and support. **You may contact the Nepal Jesuits via:**

The official information desk for Nepal Jesuit Earthquake Relief work office

Email <sjrelief4nep@gmail.com>

Phone: 00977 - 9808744007

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sjrelief4nep?fref=ts>

GUYANA: Seeking the Lost Sheep

Two Jesuit priests have visited remote areas of Guyana, where the Catholic communities have been without a pastor for eight years. The South American country is a Region of the British Province. Fr Amar Bage SJ and Fr Marlon Innes SJ undertook the arduous trip to Matthew's Ridge and Arakaka in North West Guyana. While at Matthew's Ridge, they celebrated Mass in the primary school because the church building had collapsed. The small congregation of seven women, one man and a girl of seven years of age was increased when three local children were baptised. "It is said that there was a large number of Catholics," said Fr Amar. "Most of the time, the church was full and on feast days - like Christmas and New Year - there was no space in the church. But today all are scattered and lost. There could be many reasons. But one of them is: they were left like sheep without a shepherd. They didn't have a priest for almost seven to eight years. Old trained PLAs (parish lay assistants) and church leaders had died and the young generation was left with no training." (www.jesuit.org.uk)

Fr. Albinus Tete S.J.
(1 April 1942 - 20 April 2015)

“For all that has been- THANKS! For all that will be – YES” was the basic attitude of Fr. Albinus Tete S.J. to life. On 20th April he was taken to St. Ursula Hospital, Lohardaga for a formal medical checkup. The result was exceptionally fine. He was free from all probable and presumable ailments except his chronic peptic ulcer causing perennial dietary problems. After bidding farewell to the medical staff he came back, had lunch together in the community and went for afternoon siesta as usual. Around 3 O’clock he had a massive heart attack. He was 73 years 20 days old.

Since December 2014 he used to feel bitter cold and weak. Constant consumption of cold and liquid food infected his lungs. He was hospitalized for a week but as the season changed he improved and resumed teaching, watering the plants, feeding chickens and rabbits, cutting fire wood, his cherished hobbies.

Fr. Albinus Tete was born on 1st April 1942 at Paikpara Sunatoli, a small village in Rengarih parish of Simdega District. His formal education began at the age of seven at the RC Primary School at Rengarih. He was a brilliant student. For High School he went to St. John’s Ranchi, a two days journey to be trekked on foot and by bus. The sojourn to Ranchi began in 1961 and lasted till the completion of intermediate at St. Xavier’s College in 1962. His desire to join the Society of Jesus brought him to St. Stanislaus Sitagarha, Hazaribag. After the first vows on 20th June 1964 he was sent to Mount St. Joseph, Bangalore for Juniorate followed by graduation at St. Xavier’s Ranchi from 1965-68; then two years of study in philosophy at Shembagnur till 1970. Noticing his penchant for educational ministry he was sent to St. Xavier’s Calcutta in 1970 to obtain a formal degree of B.Ed.

He came back to his alma mater for regency in 1971 to get initiated into the profession of teaching which became his life-long apostolate/ ministry. In 1973 he was sent to J.D.V Pune for theology. He was ordained at Rengarih, his home parish on 15th May 1976.

His pastoral ministry was co-ordinated with educational apostolate. He served as the Vice Principal and later as acting principle of St. John’s Ranchi. Tertianship at Sitagarha in 1980-81, was a break from the routine school life only to be continued by being appointed as an assistant

teacher at St. Peter’s School Tongo from 1981 to 1983. He was transferred to Loyola High School Khunti for a brief period where he pronounced his last vows in 1984. In the same year he was called to begin a new High School at Lohardaga. As Principal he nurtured the school and the surroundings with saplings both human and botanical with unparalleled attention and devotion. Sixteen years of indefatigable intellectual and physical labour brought a rich harvest. The school overfilled with students and the barren campus turned into the haven of flora and fauna.

Fr. Albinus was assigned another major responsibility to shoulder at Loyola H School Khunti as the Principal in 2000. He remained there for four years then handed over the burden to younger Jesuits and retired at the age of 62 in 2004. He remained at Khunti for two more years and rendered his valuable service as hostel prefect cum assistant teacher. Finally at the last phase of his life he came back to St. Stanislaus Lohardaga, his favorite habitat as a superior of the Jesuit community.

He continued teaching. He was not a science student, it seems science was a forbidden subject for a Jesuit scholastic during his time. The love and concern for tribal students inebriated a passion for Maths which he mastered par excellence. He learned Maths and taught with passion till the students got fed up and discontinued or mastered the subject and excelled in studies and life as well.

Besides academic excellence he was known for his skill in games specially Hockey. “I would have been a national level player had I not joined the Society of Jesus” he was often heard saying. Later he picked up football and basket ball with equal zest and dexterity. Interest in sports and games lasted lifelong though at the last phase of his life it was confined to the TV screen.

He was a man of few words but extravagant in action; soft spoken and generous to the extent of self emptying. He never denied a help to the needy, sharing with everyone whatever he had, both spiritual and temporal. His quest for academic excellence, spiritual growth and theological update kept him intellectually busy and alert.

His was a mystic of his own kind. “I may see Christ in the face of the students” was his intimate wish and hope

before encountering the students in the classroom. “Seeing God in all things and all things in God” was reflected in his unparalleled love for flora and fauna. Class, spade and ax (*Klass, Kudali and Kulhadi*) were his instruments for contemplation in action. He was a genuine Jesuit and gem of a person.

He never complained about anything or expected any special favour. His inability to take hot food had its adverse effect; his body became cold and a minor fall in the mercury caused unbearable discomfort. There was plan to shift him

to warmer place near Ranchi, where he could get better dietary and medical care but the very mention of transfer caused mental and physical distress. Perhaps he had a premonition of his departure and he didn’t intend to be parted from the habitat he had nurtured with sweat and blood. He suffered silently without bothering anybody and quietly slipped away from this world to share the eternal life with the risen Lord on 20th April 2015.

Fr Sushil Tirkey

BIRTH DAY BABIES: MAY & JUNE

May

- 01 Soreng Xavier
- 02 Minj Ajay Prakash
- 03 Minj Erentius
- 04 Toppo Erenius
Dungdung Samir
Lakra Shailesh
- 05 To’ppo Ireneus
- 07 Minj Gyan Prakash
- 08 Xalxo Jerome Stephen
- 09 Xess Gabriel
- 12 Khoya Manohar
- 15 Kerketta Xavier
- 16 Kerketta Benjamin
- 19 Dungdung Alexius
Ba’a Kuldeep
- 20 Ekka Praful
- 24 Ba’a Ephrem
- 29 Tigga Lalit John
- 30 Kullu Francis David

June

- 01 Kerketta Stephen
- 02 Dungdung James V.
Jojo Joachim
Kerketta Sylvanus
- 12 Tete Patrick
- 16 Minj Elias
- 17 Ekka Peter Paul
Dungdung Jerome
Xalxo Medard
- 19 Tirkey Sushil
- 20 Ekka Isidore
Minj Ignatius
- 21 Lakra John
Beck Alois
Toppo Manohar
- 22 Burh George
Barla Gilbert
- 23 Kujur Sandeep
- 29 Basumatary Lazarus
- 30 Dungdung John
Kullu Henry

**WISHING YOU ALL
A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**