

RANCHI BULLETIN



76/5

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

MAY 2017

Announcements:

Ranchi Scholastics Get Together: Sunday, 14 May to Saturday, 20 May 2017 in Sonabheel, Assam

Ranchi Province Days-2017: Monday, 22 May [evening] to Thursday, 25 May 2017 [noon]

Annual Meeting cum Seminar for All Jesuit Brothers of South Asia Assistency at Atamdarshan, Patna, will be held from **Monday, 19th (eve.) to Saturday 24th June (eve.) 2017**. Brothers of Ranchi Province are kindly requested to send their names to Br. James Barla SJ as soon as possible. **Theme:** *Gracefully Entering into Your Wisdom Age*. Board & Lodge: Rs. 3500/- per person

HOUSES, PARISHES & INSTITUTIONS

Patrachauli

Lent was the time to get involved in the village tour. Two Novices – Hemant Kujur and Ranjit Kullu came to Patrachauli to help out in the Lenten Ministry. They arrived on 1st March, Ash Wednesday, and returned to the Novitiate on 10th April. During this period, they were fully busy in giving retreats to villagers. They covered 6 villages – Dola, Kundi, Sakarpada, Purio, Boreya and Turuguru. Although in some places, the response of the people was rather poor, they were happy with their Mission. Fr. Damian Minj SJ has temporally joined the Patrachauli community since 3 April. He is helping in the parish and the Middle School as well. His melodious Kurukh singing has added some cultural flavour to the liturgy. Parishioners cooperated well in the Holy Week Liturgy and the Easter Celebration. The Easter Vigil was celebrated outside the church in order to accommodate the growing number of the faithful. The village catechists volunteered to arrange and decorate the place. They did their job well.

Our wells are almost dry. In such a situation we have no other option but to dig a deep bore well. On 12th April at 9.00 p.m. the work began and continued till 1.00 p.m. on

13th April. Imagine 1,060 ft deep but the flow of water is just 1.5". Hope, it will be sufficient for our need. Work is still to be completed. On 23rd April, Sunday, the Manresa Community - young and not so young - came to Patrachauli for their Easter Picnic. Their singing and dancing filled the whole campus. Thanks for inviting us and the SCJM Sisters for the festive meal!

Fr. Manu Hora

St Xavier's College, Ranchi

Fr. Emmanuel Kujur, our missionary for several years in Zambia, gladly shared with us some of his missionary experiences, on 6th April. He is still robust and energetic in heart and zeal, except that he finds it difficult to walk in the dark. May God continue to bless him in his mission there. Fr. Anand Kerketta did not want to miss the chance to anticipate and cut the birthday cake which otherwise he had decided to forego due to Lent!

Once again, the Brothers from St. Albert's College showed their availability to come over and help us out during the Holy Week liturgical celebrations for the English group. We had a thanksgiving dinner for them, on 26th. Unfortunately their Rector and Fr. in-charge of Liturgy could

not make it. All of us are extremely grateful to the Brothers for their generosity and punctuality. They made the liturgy very devotional and melodious with their singing, commentary, etc.

On 19th April, the Ranchi Civil Society in collaboration with St. Xavier's College and the XISS, organized in our auditorium a grand reception of the Padamshree Dr. Mukut Minz, former Prof. and Head, Department of Renal Transplantation Surgery, PGIMER Chandigarh and now HOD of Renal Transplant Surgery at Mohali-based Fortis Hospital, Haryana. To his credit Dr. Minz has performed more than 3,500 kidney transplant surgery, including that of the present Hon'ble Minister Sushma Swaraj. Dr. Minz's wife Dr. Ranjana, hailing from Bahubazar, is a former Xaverian from the golden era of Fr. Walter Proost and his galaxy of professors. - Fr. Nabor Lakra was on his toes in finalizing the programs, decorating the stage, etc.

The Department of Education organized a NAAC-sponsored two-day Workshop on "Enhancing Classroom Management Skills for Promoting Quality Education in India." Several eminent educationists from various universities of India were present and contributed substantially in their presentations. Fr. Anand and his team of organizers were more than satisfied for they had spent days planning the whole event meticulously.

Rt. Rev. Charles Soreng spent several days (Mar. 29 - 23 Apr.) in Mandar for treatment of his diabetes. He began with four insulin injections daily. Now he has to take only twice. We are very grateful to our Br. Telesphore for all his help that he gives daily in different ways. On 30th, Bishop Charles was in the Church of Doranda administering the Sacrament of Confirmation. - We joined Br. Santosh in celebrating his birthday, on 25th. Fr. Nicholas Tete had been to Kolkata, on 27th, for the GB Meeting of St. Xavier's University. That same afternoon, Br. Santosh and Fr. Henry had gone to Khunti to participate in the Golden Jubilee celebrations in the SJ of Br. Elias Minj.

Fr. Henry Barla

Jharna-Ashirvad, Namkum

The Novices had been away for their Village Experiment throughout the Lenten Season. Most of them were placed in different parishes of ours in the dioceses of Khunti, Gumla, Ranchi and Simdega. Nine Novices were sent to the Assam Mission covering all the centres, except Mushalpur. Fr. Ferdinand accompanied those who went to Balipara parish. Others managed by themselves till the specific stoppages where our Fathers received them. Train journey was indeed an exciting one as most of them made it for the first time. Before visiting other novices, Fr. Raymond made his annual retreat in Noadih parish. Sincere

thanks to the community for their hospitality and services. All the Novices returned to Ashirvad Novitiate for the Holy Week hale and hearty, except Tirkey Arvind, a second year novice who fractured his collar bones in a road accident in Tongo parish. Special thanks to Fr. Ajit Saras who arranged to bring him to Ranchi and Fr. Samir Ddungdung who took every care of him in Dr. Debuka Nursing Home, Ranchi in the absence of the novices. Soon after the Easter, the novices were mutually enriched through sharing of their fruitful experiences.

Through the Ranchi Bulletin, the Novitiate family extends special thanks and appreciation to all our Fathers and Brothers in the parishes who took care of and guided the Novices all through their village experiment.

Jharna Spirituality Centre continued to accommodate retreatants and seminar groups during Lent and Easter season. Among them the bigger groups were that of Fr. Aurel who had a week-long intensive program for the LNN animators. Then the Ursuline Sisters of Gumla Province who are engaged in education ministry made their annual retreat. However, the staff members took some time out for their programs. Fr. Deepak together with Fr. Amrit Tirkey attended a special meeting held at De Nobili College Pune. Fr. Sylvanus guided the retreat of the Brothers of Charity at Sitagarha. Though visibly fatigued after his coming back, he had to take up another group of retreatants, the Capuchin Brothers just after two days. "This was wrongly planned!" he whispered. Br. James made a flying visit to his elderly parents. Fr. K.C. Philip went home for some time after Easter to be with the family members who had gathered on the occasion of the marriage of his nephew.

Fr. Raymond Kerketta

St. Ignatius, Gumla

On 1st April, (*All Fools' Day*), Orientation Seminar for parents/guardians of the Eng. Med School children was held. In spite of 'the day' the right orientation was given to parents with teachers. The new admissions have come to 144 inclusive of all classes up to Std. II. The New Academic Session for the High School started on 10th April 2017. In the meantime new admissions for Stds. VI - VIII were going on. St Ignatius Inter-College was selected by the Board as the evaluation of the Arts Papers this year. CCTV was immediately installed in view of this on 12 April in three corners of the building and in the halls where evaluations would take place. However, actual evaluation had not started till the end of April.

Fr. Michael Kerketta from RTC gave us Recollection on 1st and 2nd of April leading us all into the mood of the Holy Week and Easter. Much thanks to Mike! For the Holy Week and Easter our brethren dispersed to different places for helping: two regents to Soso, Fr. Sylvanus to Bingaon,

Fr. Pradeep to Keondtanr, Frs. Vijay and Manohar Khoya to Bardih, and the rest of us were here in the Cathedral Parish, Fr. Ravi singing the 'Exultet'. Our community went out to Soso parish for an outing cum picnic on Easter Monday. We enjoyed the evening with the local community. Unfortunately, the same evening two St. Anne's postulants were bitten by a snake. They were rushed to the local Sadar Hospital and got cured and returned to the convent after two days. Thank God, situations did not go too far.

Sarvadharm Sadbhavna Manch put up a Pandal to welcome the Ramanavmi Shobha Yatra in Gumla to show respect to the Hindu Community, thereby promoting communal harmony that was to be reckoned with. An interview was held on 7th April for the recruitment of one Project Coordinator for AROUSE in place of Mr. Vivek Roy who is given on deputation to vikasbazar.net under ECCO Netherland. One candidate was shortlisted for the post. Mr. Ritesh the member of the Enterprise Opportunities for Education came to Eng Med School to review the use of teaching - learning materials. We told him that after an assessment made with the staff we would give him the definite answer. The CHILDLINE – 1098 undertook an intensive Campaign to spread awareness about legal banning of Child Marriage. For a week-long awareness program the team toured around different villages including, Block Offices, Women's Groups, Police Stations under Raidih, Chainpur, Dumri and Jari Blocks.

AROUSE and the whole of St. Ignatius Campus had a privilege of receiving Mukund Nayak, the Padmashri awardee, on 22nd April. He was accorded a public reception by the Gumla citizens; he visited the museum in AROUSE in the evening when the entire campus welcomed him in a traditional way and seasonal dances. He was much taken up by the reception accorded to him. Fr. Sylvanus Kerketta attended the Telenga Kharia's martyrdom day in Dhindhowli where about 5000 people of all communities had gathered for the occasion. It was a grand show, so said Sylvanus. The end of the month was marked by a trip to Fr. Vijay's village in Bhikhampur parish by a group of 9 community members including the two Loreto Sisters. It was an enjoyable trip in spite of the summer heat and without adventure.

Christopher Lakra

St Mary's, Samtoli

Three Gumla Apostolic boys conducted a week-long training on Adivasi seasonal songs and dances for the students of St. Mary's School Samtoli. It concluded with cultural evening on 4th April at 6.00 pm. Some parents and hostel girls enjoyed the cultural evening. Certainly, the students have developed a love for their culture after tasting its sweetness.

For Easter ministry, we went to different places. Five of us – Frs. Rector, Sikander, Bruno, Amar and Anup – rendered our Easter services at Dumki, a mass center of Salangapos parish. Faithful from Salangapos, Samsara and Salangabaha (Odisha) also come there for the confession and Mass. In the evening, the confession took more than three hours. Fr. Amar presided over the Vigil Mass, Fr. Bruno gave the homily and Fr. Anup sang the Exultet and also gave commentary. For the morning Mass, Fr. Sikander was the main celebrant and Fr. Rector gave the homily. Some of our Fathers went to other places: namely, Fr. Emmanuel Barla went to Jharain with Scholastic Samir; Fr. Isaac Tete and Fr. Ireneus To'ppo went to Khamantoli and Ledritoli respectively. In the evening, all of us gathered together for the Easter celebration.

The Principal and Vice Principals were busy in the admissions for classes VI & VII. This admission process lasted for a week. May aspiring students with their parents turned up in good number. The school was made centre of the evaluation for Matric Board Exams. Hence, classes were held from 6.30 a.m. to 8.30 a.m. Meanwhile, the youth of the parish had organized the charismatic prayer service for the youth. Students of St. Mary's, St Anne's and Ursuline took part in it for two days. A team of Redemptorist Fathers were the preachers.

Fr. Linus Durgdung

Tarunoday RTC

During mid-March Fr. Amrit traveled to Pune for a workshop on "Safety to Minors and Vulnerable Adults" in our ministries. During his absence, the students under his guidance for their Integration Papers did not look vulnerable but waited patiently for his return. During his absence Fr. Michael held the fort well. All the exams were over in March. April brought in a flurry of activities both for students and the staff – students were on their toes for finishing their papers and the professors sat long hours correcting the Integration Papers. On 1st April, Fr. Francis went to St. Mary's, Samtoli and Fr. Michael to St. Ignatius, Gumla to guide the community recollections. They were back before the Superior returned from Pune on 3rd April.

We had the *viva voce* exams on the integration papers from 10th to 12th April. The academic year formally concluded with the fruit gathering session by noon on 12th April. Immediately after lunch almost all students left for their summer vacation. On the same day Fr. Francis conducted a couple of sessions on Tribal life and Culture at Don Bosco, Kokar for the Salesians of Chennai Province. The staff stayed at home to help out in Kanke Parish during the Holy Week. On Thursday Fr. Pius led the Eucharist whereas on Friday Fr. John Mundu led the Good Friday

Prayers. Fr. Francis presided at the Easter Vigil liturgy at the All Saints Church, Doranda.

Soon after Easter Br. Isidore ensured that the rooms were habitable for the 9 Fourth Year Theologians who returned to Tarunoday on 22nd April after their third year at Vidyajyoti, Delhi. On the following day, 23rd April, they added solemnity to the First Communion Liturgy by joining the concelebrating priests. On the same day Fr. Francis opted for a simple lunch at Patrachauli but he found the Manresa House community picnicking on the campus. After a hurried lunch at the picnic spot, he rushed to Navin Doman Theological College of the NWGEL Church, Malar, near across the "Lazarus Bridge," as it is known to the Ranchi Jesuits. As the chief guest, he gave the commencement address to 20 graduating students, their relatives,

benefactors, well wishers and church officials – in all about five hundred people gathered at the 5th Convocation Ceremony. It was quite an experience to wear the *Adivasi* gown for the occasion, a real sign of inculturation.

To the surprise of many community members, on 1st May at supper Fr. Amrit announced that Fr Michael is the new Superior. He handed over the key to the Superior's office and a copy of the "Guidelines for Local Superiors." The ceremony was so simple that Michael decided to make his office simple. After a weeklong cleaning, he looks for an opportune moment to sit on the Superior's chair. But Br. Isidore has taken St. Thomas too seriously and refuses to believe that Michael is his new Superior unless he himself touches the appointment letter!

Fr. Francis Minj

ASSAM & ANDAMAN

Loyola School, Kathalguri

Loyola School, for the first time, organized Jeevan Pravesh Seminar for class IX and X students. Fr. Pradeep Tirkey SJ and the Team from Gumla conducted it well. Students enjoyed and were enriched by it. The team also conducted a half-day orientation cum motivational program for the teachers.

The new Basketball court gives extra joy to the students. They use it to the maximum. The result of the recently conducted Unit Test reveals that the academic performance is gradually improving. It gives immense joy and satisfaction to the management, teachers and parents. To make children aware of the burning issue of Ecological Crisis, school observed the Earth Day on 29th April. They pledged to protect the Mother Earth. Students of Class VI staged a skit with its message to protect environment. On this occasion, L.K.G. & U.K.G students had Fancy Dress competition. Parents, teachers and students enjoyed thoroughly. St. Xavier's school Tipkai added two new classrooms and toilet facility for students and teachers. All are happy with this facility.

Two of Jesuit Novices, Alfred Baxla and Sukesh Kerketta, and two Holy Cross Novices Rose Murmu and Christina Hansdak came to Kathalguri parish to prepare the parishioners for Easter celebration. They stayed in different villages. Alfred and Sukesh went back to Namkum before Easter. Rose and Christina stayed till Easter. The parishioners appreciate their services.

The catechists had training for two days at Kathalguri parish. This was conducted by the head catechist for the unit catechists. Its purpose was to instruct them how to conduct prayer services in the local village chapels.

Eight women from the parish attended the Diocesan Women's Convention [25-26 April] held at Pastoral Centre Kharija Dolaigaon. Again at the same centre, some SCC members of the parish took part in the diocesan level SCC Day Celebration on 29th April. Such programs certainly inspire and strengthen the faithful.

Fr. Pradeep Kullu.

Prothrapur (Andaman)

Classes for Marriage Rectification [3-7 April] for 19 candidates were held at the parish. The liturgy of the Holy Week Services was meaningful and devotional. Bishop Alex Dias was the main celebrant on Palm Sunday. Rev. Fr. V. Selvaraj, Fr. David and Fr. Edward concelebrated with him. Though intermittent rain slightly disturbed the Holy week services, the spirit of the faithful remained undisturbed. On Good Friday, just after the Third Station of the Way of the Cross, cyclonic storm (*Maarutha*) threatened the faithful by pouring heavy rain with strong wind. Even though they got wet, they persevered till the end. Fr. David celebrated the Easter Vigil Mass for which quite a good number of parishioners turned up. After Easter, Fr. David began Easter House Blessing for which catechists, youth, children and representatives kindly assisted and accompanied him. Fr. Edward left for Ranchi on 19th April for the home visit.

Fr. David

DIASPORA

Rome (Italy)

The month of April seemed to be quite short from the academic point of view because of the Easter vacations from 8 to 23 April. Edwin Ritesh, Ravi Hemant and Edwin Dang utilized the free days to complete their assignments and to prepare themselves for the upcoming final exams. Though the Easter break brought some relief to Edwin Dang from his heavy schedule at the Center of Consultations of the Institute of Psychology, he continued to facilitate some individuals and groups in vocational growth sessions and group dynamics. As part of the Holy Week, he was guided by his Spiritual Director to make a pilgrimage of the ancient Churches situated in and around the historical Roman sites. The pilgrimage concluded with the participation in *Via Crucis* (Way of the Cross) at the Colosseum. The mere sight of the huge Cross with burning torches, which has become the trademark of the annual solemn Way of the Cross at the Colosseum, brought him deep spiritual consolations. The Stations of the Cross were explained in various languages and the service was concluded with the blessing of the Holy Father Pope Francis.

On Easter Tuesday 18 April, the International College of Gesù followed its great tradition of ordaining the Scholastics as Deacons. 14 Jesuit Scholastics from different parts of the world were ordained Deacons by Archbishop Luis Francisco Ladaria, SJ. A good number of family members and well-wishers were present to participate in the solemn ordination ceremony, which was meticulously planned and executed by the Gesù Scholastics. On the following morning the newly ordained Deacons and their family members went to participate in the Papal Audience. All were happy and content to meet the Holy Father and to receive his paternal blessings.

Kulwant Minj and Biju Sebastian heeded the requests of the Parish Priests from the Island of Sicily to extend their helping hands during the Holy Week. Kulwant started his Easter ministry from the Palm Sunday onwards at St. John's Parish, Messina. For the Holy Week, he moved to the Parish of St. Maghrate. He had to move from one Parish to the other during the Holy Week to celebrate the Holy Masses and to sit for the Confessions for hours. He was impressed by the active participation of young and old both in the Eucharistic celebrations as well as in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Biju Sebastian assisted the Parish Priest in all Holy Week celebrations in another Parish of the Sicilian Island. Both Kulwant and Biju came back to Rome on Easter Monday. For a change, the Ranchi group had its Easter gathering on 20th April with the fresh fish brought from the Mediterranean sea by Edwin Ritesh, Ravi Hemant and Biju Sebastian. Dilip Sanjay invited the group to the Residence of St. Peter Canisio to utilize the newly

refurbished barbeque space. A great evening indeed to share the Easter joy!

For Anselm, the most captivating spiritual experience during the Holy Week was his participation in the Chrism Holy Mass in St. Peter's Basilica presided over by the Holy Father on Maundy Thursday. Around three thousand priests, Bishops and Cardinals participated in the solemn Eucharistic celebration presided over by with the Holy Father. In his homily, Holy Father exhorted the faithful to live the Gospel as the good news of joy, peace and hope; and challenged the priests to practice and preach the Gospel values to be able to guide the way to peace and harmony in the world. That seemed to be the core message of the Easter season to Anselm.

Apart from their regular activities, Ranchi men were glad to receive amidst them David Minj, Jyoti Paul Baxla and Ajay Prakash Minj during the month of April. David and Jyoti arrived in Rome from Paris on 2nd April for a pilgrimage along with other Scholastics who are studying in Paris. On 4th April, all Ranchi men came together for an informal gathering to welcome them and to listen to the mutual sharing of experiences of studying or working in two major European cities. David and Jyoti enjoyed the hospitality of Ranchi men in Rome, and were happy with mutual sharing which enriched and encouraged them to dedicate more time and energy to the mission assigned to each one away from home. On 7th April, both of them visited Dilip Sanjay and shared their experiences for Vatican Radio program. They went back to Paris on 8th April after visiting most of the significant places attached to Ignatian spirituality. The next on the visitors' list was Ajay Prakash Minj, the acting Province Treasurer, who arrived in Rome on 26th April for a Workshop on the Statutes on Poverty and Instructions on Administration of Goods scheduled for the first week of May. Anselm, Sanjay Dilip and Kulwant were present at the airport to receive him. In the Curia, he was accorded a cordial welcome by Charles Lasrado (KAR), coordinator of the Workshop for the new Treasurers. The Workshop will be a good opportunity for the new Treasurers to study and deepen Our Way of Proceeding on Temporal Administration. On his arrival, he was glad to meet many other Adivasi brothers and sisters on Sunday 30th April, who had gathered in Collegio San Pietro to share their Easter joy. Although he could meet only a relatively smaller number of Adivasis in Rome, he was impressed by their spirit of collaboration and sharing. He participated wholeheartedly in the traditional singing and dancing after the sharing of meals. After the conclusion of the Treasurers' Workshop, he plans to visit some of the Benefactors in France, Germany and Belgium before leaving for Ranchi on 20th May. All the best, Ajay Prakash!

F. Prem

Jerusalem (Israel)

During the first half of April, city of Jerusalem witnessed the arrival of countless pilgrims coming to celebrate the Passion, Death and Resurrection of the Lord. The city became exceptionally overcrowded specially at the time of the Holy Week. The reason for such a flood of pilgrims was that the Easter happened to be on the same date for the Orthodox and the Latin Catholics. Usually the Orthodox Catholics celebrate the feast one week after the Latin. There were many memorable events which took place during the Passion Week. Thousands of people joined the Palm Sunday procession from the Church of Bethfage on the Mount of Olives down to Gethsemany and finished at St Anne Basilica. Bethfage is the place where our Lord seemed to have started his solemn entry to Jerusalem riding a donkey. People organized themselves in various groups and walked down the mountain singing and reciting prayers. All of us from our PBI community joined the procession. It was an experience of being very much part of the journey which our Lord with his disciples made many years ago. During the Triduum the Liturgical Services were carried out in various Holy Places of Jerusalem. Together with some guest Jesuits I went to the Basilica of *Ecce Homo* (the palace where Pontus Pilate condemned Jesus to death) for the entire three days liturgy.

The Maundy Thursday liturgy was presided over by the Bishop at Cenaculum (Last Supper Room) at 3.00 p.m. This room is very small for such a big occasion. Hardly a hundred people can have a place in it. The liturgy of the Last Supper at the Basilica of *Ecce Homo* started at 5.00 p.m. It was a beautiful liturgy. The washing of feet was done first by the Celebrant and others were invited to do the same. Soon after the Mass the community of the Sisters of Zion invited all the participants to have a light dinner. The snack was served to about two hundred people. Once the dinner was over, all of us walked down to the Basilica of Gethsemany. In fact all the people after the Eucharist of the Last Supper in different holy places, moved to Gethsemany for a common Vesper. The prayer started at 9.00 p.m. and ended at 11.00. The mood of the Holy Thursday brought us into a deep and touching experience of being with the Lord at this very place where he prayed and urged his disciples to be awake and pray. On Good Friday the city became so crowded that no one could pass through the streets. The Christians were making the Way of Cross while the Muslims were on their way to the Mosque. I had a wonderful experience of the Good Friday Liturgy at Lithostrotos and the Easter Vigil at the Basilica of *Ecce Homo*. For the Orthodox the ceremony of the Easter Fire (Light of Christ) was held at Holy Sepulcher in the morning hours. Once again the city was packed with people. Many streets were closed for some hours. At the

end of this ceremony the flame is distributed to the people. Moreover, the light is transported to different countries and is distributed among the faithful.

Fr. Camil Kerketta

Cairo (Egypt)

This Year the Middle East and Egypt celebrated Easter together with the Christians of Latin rite. On Palm Sunday, there was bomb blast in two Coptic Orthodox Churches. It caused the death of 36 Christians, four Muslim officers and hundreds were injured. The tragic incident had shaken the people and yet it did not stop them from attending Holy Week and Easter ceremonies. There were heavy security and the vigilance on behalf of the Government around all the Churches. This year, I opted to attend all the Holy Week services at Greek Melkite Cathedral, Cairo. Here, I could render my services in hearing confessions. It was a moving experience for me.

After the Easter, for the first time, the Near East Jesuit Province had its first Superiors' Meeting in Alexandria. The first hand sharing of Superiors from Syria, Lebanon and Algeria was really moving and challenging as they keep moving against all odds and adversity in the majority Islamic nations.

The Papal Visit (28-29 April) of Holy Father Pope Francis to Egypt was historical. Earlier it was done by Pope John Paul II in 2002. His visit addressed not only to the Christians but to all the Egyptians. He came to Egypt as "POPE OF PEACE IN EGYPT OF PEACE." Many Muslims complimented, "He is considered a man of peace who resists terror and extremism with great courage. He is admired and appreciated by the Egyptians because of his courage and determination to go ahead with the planned visit to the country in spite of two recent bomb attacks on two Churches. Despite threats to his life, he did not use the armoured car but moved around the country freely." He was invited by the President Abdel Fattah al – Sisi, hence he was given a State reception. Pope Francis also met Sheikh Ahmed al – Tayyeb, the Grand Imam of Al – Azhar Institution. He is the top most authority on Sunni Islam. Then, was the meeting with the Coptic Pope Tawadros II, at St. Mark Coptic Orthodox Cathedral, Cairo where many had died in bomb blast during the morning Holy Mass. Right there, an ecumenical prayer was held with Coptic hymns. This Papal Visit was seen like the reciprocal visit to the visits of Coptic Pope to the Vatican in May 2013, Egyptian President in 2014 and the Grand Imam of Al – Azhar in 2016. At the same time, the year 2017 marks 70 years of diplomatic relations between Egypt and the Vatican. Pope Francis celebrated the Holy Mass at the Air Defense Stadium in the East of Cairo at 10 am. The event was organized by the Armed Forces. No private cars were allowed to reach the place. Registered buses were used with counted persons and with police personnel in every bus. One could enter there only after completing and

fulfilling all the required documents. It was mandatory for all – be it a laity or a religious. Some 25,000 Christians could attend the Holy Mass. In the afternoon, the Holy Father addressed a sizeable Catholic religious gathering at Coptic Catholic Seminary, Maadi. May Peace prevail in Egypt and in all the Middle Eastern Countries.

Fr. Bimal Kerketta

Guyana

Palm Sunday was celebrated in Sacred Heart Church Itabac where the neighbouring community Holy Cross Church Kanapang joined the celebration. The Easter celebration was grand in St. Teresa's Church Kopinang and other communities. Sr. Crecencia Toppo, OSU and Sr. Theodora Hawksley, the second year novice of the Congregation of Jesus from England, were in North Pakaraimas for three weeks, were model and great inspiration for the youth. Indeed, they were great help to Fr. Elias Surin in his pastoral ministry during the Holy Week and Easter Season. Sr. Divya Gulab, Sr. Seraphina Kerketta and Sr. Nishi Susana Kujur went to Normandia, Brazil for Easter get together as they are working among the indigenous people. Fr. Joseph Musseto, the Parish Priest, invited them to exchange their experiences. St. Teresa's Church in Karasabai in the South Pakaraimas, our Ursuline Sisters from Ranchi, along with Fr. Paul Martin, SJ visited all the six communities- Pi Pong, Tiger Pond, Tipuru, Rukumuta, Yurongparu and Karasabai for the Easter celebrations. The magnificent St. Teresa's newly built Church is ready for the opening and blessing. The blessing is scheduled for 6th August, the Feast of Transfiguration of Our Lord.

The dream of Mr. Adrian Gomes to have the community based education system for the indigenous people became a reality as the Government of Guyana has approved it. The fruit of Jesuits tireless effort is seen as Wapishana-English bilingual school in Maruranao, in South Rupununi. Fr. Mark Mukul Lakra, the Assistant Parish Priest of St. Francis Xavier's Church Port Mourant, Berbice, invited Fr. Elias Surin for a get together. Fr. Elias Surin offered the Holy Eucharist for all the Ranchi Jesuits. Fr. Anil Kishore, along with his community member Fr. Anthony D'Souza is looking after nine communities. They arranged the pilgrimage in BV Church in the East Coast Demerara. Fr. Amar Bage, Fr. Malcolm Rodrigues and Fr. Marlon Innis are making their best effort to rebuild the Christian communities as they were scattered without a shepherd for a long time in the North West region of Guyana. Fr. Anil Kishore and Fr. Elias Surin had an opportunity to go to Cayuka for personal sharing for a day. On 2nd May, all the ten Jesuits from Georgetown went to Splashmine, a tourist

resort for their community outing and sharing. Fr. Anil Kishore celebrated the Holy Eucharist. It was a wonderful occasion to be together as friends in the Lord amid surrounding beauty of nature.

Fr. Elias Surin

Munich (Germany)

In the beginning of April we attended a meeting in Nürnberg which was arranged for all the sponsored Jesuits studying in Germany. It was for us one of the wonderful times, because we could meet Jesuits from the other parts of the world especially from Africa, Vietnam and India. We shared our experiences, struggles and the challenges we face here. Everybody had an inspiring story. Everybody tried his best to share in German. That was amazing.

Paulus and I went to Vienna Austria on 7th April along with our classmates. It was a great opportunity to see one of the beautiful cities of Europe. We were mesmerized to see the castle and garden over there.

On 17th April Paulus went for the 'First Common Province Get-Together 2017' of the five provinces (Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Hungary and Lithuania). He enjoyed this opportunity to meet and know Jesuits from these five provinces. It was also a golden opportunity for him to polish his spoken German, because he had to speak in German all the time. He was glad to hear and meet Rev. Fr. General Arturo Sosa, who was there on the second day of the Province gathering. It was one of the enriching and memorable moments of his life.

On 22nd April, we were happy to receive Fr. Xavier Lakra from Assam mission. Though he is 70 years old he is still very energetic. His presence filled us with energy. He visited both the communities namely Gonzaga and Hurtado. We took a walk with him on Sunday. We also visited a few places in Munich. He said, "Say to yourself that you can do it." His visit and his words have motivated us to learn the language and culture of Germany well. It is not easy but it is not impossible too. So, both of us are working very hard at the moment to improve our knowledge of language and culture.

On 24th April we had a small program in Berchmans College Community. All the Jesuits from the formation houses in Munich gathered there and all the newcomers introduced themselves to all. Both of us too introduced ourselves in German. It was a large group of Jesuits. We shared our life with them by telling where we come from, how our families are, what we have studied so far, what made us to join Society of Jesus. We did it. It was a wonderful evening.

Schs. Sameer & Paulus

Gone before us : Let us Remember in our Prayers

Mr. Blasius Dungdung (76), brother of Fr. Linus Dungdung expired on April 01, 2017 at Barnabas Hospital.

BIRTH DAYS: MAY, JUNE & JULY

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
 11 Minj Anand
 12 Khoya Manohar
 14 Soreng Alok
 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
 03 Kerketta Ajit
 12 Tete Patrick
 16 Minj Elias
 17 Ekka Peter Paul
 Dungdung Jerome
 Xalxo Medard
 19 Tirkey Sushil
 20 Ekka Isidore
 Minj Ignatius
 Ekka Nitish
 21 Lakra John
 Beck Alois
 Toppo Manohar
 22 Burh George
 Barla Gilbert

- 23 Kujur Sandeep
 29 Basumatary Lazarus
 30 Dungdung John
 Kullu Henry

JULY

- 01 Ekka Sanjay Dilip
 Tirkey Anup
 04 Dungdung Joachim
 Lakra Mark Mukul
 07 Tirkey Basil
 Tirkey Ajay Anil
 08 Toppo Pratap S.
 Ekka Sebastian
 09 Bage Anugrah Amar
 Kerketta Libin
 11 Tirkey Sikander
 13 Minj Anupchand K.
 15 Kandulna Joseph
 Topno Dominic
 Tirkey Amrit
 17 Kerketta Ajit
 Hassapurty Rajat
 Kandulna Anil
 Kujur Vinay
 19 Ekka Alexius
 Kullu Alphonse
 20 D'Souza Gilbert
 21 Kerketta Sunil
 22 Sandil Ashok Roshan
 24 Kullu Rohit
 25 Xalxo Isaac
 26 Purti Zacharias
 Horo Ranjit Kr.
 Minj Vijay Kr.
 Kujur Ignatius
 Minj Nirmal
 27 Bilung Vinod
 Dadul Ritesh
 28 Francken Louis
 29 De Brouwer Marc
 30 Lakra Benjamin
 31 Ba'a Theodore Ignatius