

RANCHI BULLETIN



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

NOVEMBER 2016

Message of Fr Provincial

Rowing into the Deep for a Month



Rome, 02 Nov. 2016: One month of the GC36 is complete today. The delegates have been rowing into the deep together towards tomorrow. It has been like a spiritual journey for the participants like that of St. Ignatius himself, seeking God's will and be docile to whatever the Lord had in store for him. This journey, in fact, already started with the

convocation of GC36 by the former Father General of the Society, Adolfo Nicolas, who is now, in Spain for some relaxation, before he goes back to the Philippines, his mother Province. Preparatory works had already started with the constitution of *Coetus Praevius* by Fr Nicolas and a little later with the formation of Commissions – Coordination Commission (CoCo), De Statu, Life & Mission, Governance, Juridical and Postulates. One advantage of having the Commissions constituted well in advance was that their drafts just needed to be presented in the aula rather than the entire congregation starting the new documents afresh. This saved time, energy and money for us.

The palpable movement of the Spirit was very clear as the congregation started with the Opening Mass on 2nd October in the Gesú church. The opening session on the 3rd October, starting with the morning prayer, as if harnessed the heaven and the earth. The entire Society of Jesus from every nook and corner of the world, was represented by 215 Delegates, including the former Father General and his curia.

After yet another process of spiritual conversation, called *murmuratio*, we had the Mass of the Holy Spirit on 14th October, just before the election of the New Father General. One marvels at the farsightedness of Father Ignatius, who took note of even the minutest of the details

in the entire process of election of a Superior General. Having elected Fr Arturo Sosa as the new Superior General, the Congregation offered a Thanksgiving Mass on 15th October presided over by Father General himself. The story of Father General's vocation is very moving. He studied in Jesuit institutions. He came from a very affluent political family. His father was a Ph. D. in Law from the USA, who later on became a Minister of Economic Affairs twice in the democratic Venezuelan Government in 1960s. His mother is still alive at the age of 92 years. He has one brother and four sisters. Fr Arturo heard the voice of God and left everything to follow him to give leadership to the Society as the 31st General of the Society of Jesus.

The delegates share their life and mission with one another in a spirit of transparency and openness. There are visible experiences of consolation in the hard work that the delegates are doing. There is a collective search for the movement of the spirits. However, there are also frustrating moments leading to desolation. The beauty of being together, however, is that we work, achieve and celebrate together. Yes indeed, we celebrate our successes and failures together. We strive for the better together. The Spirit of the Lord leads us for the present and future of the Society even while the Congregation tries to read the signs of our times and grapples to make policies that would respond to the new trends of the present-day context.

Every now and then there are discussions and debates among the Jesuits whether the call to the universal mission is compromising the local. The answer, after participating in the GC36, is a clear 'No'. The central governance of the Society tries to take into consideration the local concerns from the grassroots experiences. That is precisely why Father General is surrounded by his Counsellors from different conferences, who apprise him of the situations at the local levels. Fr Adolfo used to say repeatedly, "The west has to learn from the east." That is precisely why he adopted

a style of governance which took on board the concerns and opinions of everybody and every culture and worked towards a consensus building rather than imposition from above.

The visit of Pope Francis has given a boost to the Congregation. His simplicity of life and charismatic, inspirational and prophetic personality is something that

every Jesuit needs to emulate to be authentic. Yes, we need to go back to the roots, as Pope Francis challenged us. Going back to the roots, in fact, is rowing into the deep. It is challenging because it gives a clarion call for our personal and collective conversion in an attitude of interior freedom.

J. Marianus Kujur, SJ

APPOINTMENT BY FR GENERAL:

Here is a more detailed presentation of the **four Assistants ad Providentiam** who were elected on Friday, November 4, 2016. The four are among the General Counsellors that Father General appointed to his council.

Four Assistants ad providentiam



Fr Vernon D’Cunha comes from the Province of Bombay (BOM). He was born in Mumbai, India, in 1956. He entered the Society on July 30, 1977 and made his final vows on December 8, 1994. He is the current Provincial of Bombay Province.



Fr Douglas Marcouiller comes from US Central-Southern Province (UCS). He was born in 1953 in Evanston, United States. He entered the Society on August 22, 1978. He made his final vows on September 17, 2005. He is currently the Regional Assistant for Canada and USA. Fr. Marcouiller has also been elected as Father General’s admonitor.



Fr Fratern Masawe comes from Eastern Africa Province (AOR). He was born in 1956 in the United Republic of Tanzania. He entered the Society on July 4, 1978, and made his final vows on December 8, 1996. He is currently the Regional Assistant for Africa.



Fr John Dardis comes from Ireland Province (HIB). He was born in Dublin in 1956. He entered the Society on November 23, 1974. He made his last vows on October 9, 1998. He is the current President of Conference of European Provincials. He has been appointed Delegate for Discernment and Apostolic Planning by the new General as well. Nuevo Secretario de la Compañía de Jesús



The New Secretary of the Society
In addition to the election of the four Assistants ad Providentiam and the Admonitor, Father General also announced that he was appointing **Fr Antoine Kerhuel** as **Secretary of the Society**. Father comes from the

Province of France (GAL). He was born in 1957 in Lorient, France, and entered the Society on October 5, 1981. He made his final vows on September 5, 1998. He is the current Regional Assistant of West Europe.

In his first letter to the entire Society dated November 4, 2016, Father General Arturo Sosa announced that he hopes to begin working with the new team in the early days of January 2017.

Finally, Father Sosa expressed gratitude on behalf of the Society to the men who will soon be leaving the central government of the Society for new assignments elsewhere. These are Fathers Miguel Cruzado, Ignacio Echarte, James E. Grummer, and Federico Lombardi. Their dedication, generosity and availability have been helpful to the Society.

Members of the General’s Council:

- P. Fratern Masawe (AOR) Regional Assistant for Africa and Madagascar (AFR)
- P. Claudio Paul (BRA) Regional Assistant for South Latin America (ALM)
- P. Gabriel I. Rodríguez (COL) Regional Assistant for North Latin America (ALS)
- P. Vernon D’Cunha (BOM) Regional Assistant for South Asia (ASM)
- P. Lisbert D’Souza (BOM) Regional Assistant for South Asia (ASM)
- P. Daniel Huang (PHI) Regional Assistant for Asia Pacific (ASP)
- P. Douglas Marcouiller (UCS) Regional Assistant for Canada and the United States (ACU)
- P. Tomasz Kot (PMA) Regional Assistant for Central and Eastern Europe (ECO)
- P. Joaquín Barrero (ESP) Regional Assistant for Southern Europe (EMR)
- P. Víctor Assouad (PRO) Regional Assistant for Western Europe (EOC)
- P. John Dardis (HIB) Councillor for Discernment and Apostolic Planning (DPA)
- P. José Cecilio Magadia (PHI) Councillor for Formation

New Provincials:

P Boguslaw Steczek	Regional Superior of the Russian Region
P Chukwuyenum A. Afiawari	Provincial of Africa North West Province (ANW)
P Dexter Gray	Provincial of the Sri Lanka Province
P Erik Oland	Provincial of the Province of French Canada
P François Boëdec	Provincial of French Speaking Western Europe (EOF).
P Fulgence Ratsimbazafy	Provincial of Madagascar Province (MDG)
P Gustavo Calderón	Provincial of Ecuador (ECU)
P Ireneo Valdez	Provincial of the Province of Paraguay.
P Rafael Garrido	Provincial of Venezuela (VEN)
P Renzo De Luca	Provincial of the Japanese Province Museum
P Santosh Minj	Provincial of Hazaribag Province
P Sebastian Jeerakassery	Provincial of Delhi Province
P Vincent Phâm Văn Mâm	Provincial of the Province of Vietnam
P Elemér Vizi	Provincial of the Province of Hungaria.
P Johannes Siebner	Provincial of the Province of Germany
P Leonard Moloney	Provincial of the Province of Ireland
P Vidmantas Šimkunas	Provincial of the Province of Lithuania
P François Boëdec	Provincial of French Speaking Western Europe (EOF) (This new province will be created in the first months of 2017 from French speaking south Belgium, Luxemburg and the province of France)

Rome

Toward the end of September, Jesuits of various Roman Houses were all set to receive enthusiastically all the GC36 Delegates coming from different corners of the world. Our Ranchi Delegates Ajit Xess and Francis Minj along with



R.P. Provincial have been accommodated in three different houses; nonetheless they felt at home within no time wherever they were because of their ability to acclimatize themselves to the new place, people and atmosphere. Ajit in particular was very glad to have MAP Provincial Kalyanus Minj and MAP Delegate Ranjit Tigga as his close neighbours in Gregorian Community. The Orientation program and the inaugural Holy Mass helped them to be fully engrossed in the proceedings of the Congregation right from the first day. After the first week of intense sharing

and preliminary discussions, they began *murmuratio* on 9 October and on 14 October, R.P. Arturo Sosa Abascal was elected as the new Superior General of the Society of Jesus.

Apart from the election of the new Superior General, the other most awaited and memorable moment of the month was the visit of the Holy Father to the Congregation on 24 October. R.P. Provincial writes, “The 36 General Congregation was eagerly waiting for the arrival of Pope Francis in the Aula for an audience with him at 9.00 a.m. on Monday 24 October 2016. He looked hale and hearty. After the usual Morning Prayer, he blessed the Congregation and delivered his speech with some humour at regular intervals. It was very gracious on his part to have given time to shake hands and pose for photographs with every single member of the Congregation along with the Curia members. By the time he had left the Aula after three full hours, he had won the hearts of all those who listened to and shook hands with him. He surprised the congregation by not giving any preferences for the Society nor did he underline what the Society of Jesus should or should not do. He, however, repeatedly spoke to going back to the roots of the Jesuit legacy – Formula of the Institute, Constitutions, Spiritual Exercises –inviting all to engage in a serious process of discernment leading to *Tantum Quantum*. He spoke of the Jesuit mobility and availability in a spirit of interior freedom. This is what will sustain us and facilitate our being catalysts of Hope to give Joy to the world even in the peripheries of the world. He also highlighted the richness of identity, cultural heritage and rights of Indigenous Peoples across the world, which in

today's hermeneutics are very much recognized and promoted in the Church."



Francis Minj narrates candidly his own experiences of meeting Pope Francis, "Certainly Pope's address at the GC Aula on 24 October will go down the memory lane as one of the rarest moments in the history of the Society of Jesus for three reasons: First, Pope Francis is the only Pope who personally knows the workings of GC. Many years back, he himself was in the same Aula where he came to know our Father General Arturo Sosa, perhaps the youngest member at GC 33. Second, he is the only Pope who made himself part of the listeners. While referring to the allocutions by his predecessors, Pope Francis made himself part of *us*. He used expressions like *we* and *us* while referring to the allocutions given by his predecessors to GCs. Third, he never addressed the members of GC as *you* but *us*". Certainly, it was a rare moment for our R. P. Provincial and Delegates Ajit and Francis. During the handshake, Francis found an opportunity to hand over a copy of the Hindi version of *Laudato Si'* to the Holy Father. On his part, Pope Francis signed his autograph on three copies of same book which Francis had placed on the table for his blessing. Francis is too happy to keep them as his prized possession. Deeply inspired, encouraged and invigorated by the visit of the Holy Father, the Congregation continues its deliberations with renewed zeal and vigor.

Since Sundays are the free days for the GC Delegates to rest and relax, R.P. Provincial aptly suggested to have some common meetings or outings with Ranchi men in Rome. On Sunday 9 October, a good number of tribal brothers and sisters had gathered in Belgian College for their first gathering under the umbrella of ABHAS (*Akhil Bharitiya Adivasi Samuday*). All the tribal GC Delegates from Ranchi, Hazaribag, Madhya Pradesh and Nepal participated in the gathering. R.P. Provincial presided over the Eucharistic celebration along with R.P. Provincial of Madhya Pradesh and R.P. Regional Superior of Nepal. Francis Minj delivered a soul-searching theological reflection on the readings of the day. After the Holy Mass, all participated in the festive meal; after which they took turns to address the tribal brothers and sisters in Rome and shared their experiences with them and their expectations from them. Through their words and gestures, they tried to reenergize and encourage the gathering to dedicate

everything to the mission assigned to them in Rome by their authorities. Towards the end of the day, Provincials of Ranchi and Madhya Pradesh were accompanied by Ajit Xess and Ranjit Tigga to the sea shore to refresh themselves before the start of a new week of serious reflections and deliberations.

On Sunday 16 October, the entire Ranchi group went for an outing to Tarquinia and Viterbo. Ravi Hemant had already booked the nine-seater Mini Bus so that all journey together as the members of one and the same Province in the company of R.P. Provincial. The outing together as a group provided us with an excellent opportunity to share our ideas and reflections on various issues pertaining to our life and mission. We missed the company of Edwin Dang, who stayed back at home because of some urgent academic assignments. On Sunday 23 October, Ajit and Francis along with MAP Provincial went to visit the former Summer Papal Palace of Castel Gandolfo and Nettuno, the place of martyrdom of St Maria Goretti. R.P. Provincial preferred to stay back to prepare his presentation on governance. Finally, again for the last Sunday of the month, R.P. Provincial made a sacrifice so that the RNC and MAP Delegates could go together for a pilgrimage to Assisi. On their way back home, they also visited one of the communities of St Anne's Sisters, who offered them delicious supper.

Amidst the lively presence of GC Delegates in their communities, the life of Ranchi Jesuits in Rome is going on as usual. On Monday 3 October, Gregorian University reopened for the regular classes. The Scholastics of International College of Gesù took active part by assisting in the liturgical celebrations of both the Inaugural Holy Masses of the University as well as that of GC36. Edwin Ritesh and Ravi Hemant have started learning basic Hebrew and Latin as per the requirement of theological studies. The renovation of their residence is yet to be completed. As the Italian phrase says – *Tutto a posto ma niente in ordine*– they seem to be in the House of Gesù but many things have still to be settled and arranged. Edwin Dang is fully engrossed in keeping pace with the academic requirements of Third Year. On 9 October, he had a wonderful time when the senior Indian psychology students of PUG gathered together to welcome new Indian students. The gathering served as an opportunity to share their challenges and set strategies to make their academic journey more fruitful. On 29 October he participated in a seminar on *Sexual Violence and Digital Media* wherein Prof. Arne Dekker from Germany highlighted the common occurrence of sexual violence in the world and its Implications from the clinical and therapeutic perspectives. Sanjay Dilip is trying to adjust himself amidst the talk of restructuring the Radio Vatican. It has already been decided that the Radio Vatican will no longer remain as a separate entity; but will

be merged with the Vatican Television. The other fundamental question which still hangs in the air is, "whether it will be an integral part of Jesuit mission?" Among all these uncertainties, Hindi Section led by him is trying its level best to remain faithful to its primary mission of transmitting the message of Pope Francis to its listeners. On the whole, Ranchi Jesuits in Rome seem to be encouraged and

enthused by the inspiring presence of R.P. Provincial, MAP Provincial Kalyanus Minj, Ajit Xess, Francis Minj and Ranjit Tigga. They are hopeful of gaining new insights into the life and mission of two Provinces by listening to and sharing with them during their stay here in Rome.

Fr Prem

Announcement of Priestly ordination:

Deacon Kulwant Minj SJ at Karondabera on Saturday 7 January 2017

Deacon Rosario Mosahari SJ at Udalguri on Sunday 15 January 2017

Deacon Mukul R. Kerketta SJ at Banari on Wednesday 18 January 2017

Deacon Justin Kandulna SJ at Gangutoli on Saturday 21 January 2017

Deacon Bipin Tirkey SJ at Kuruskela on Sunday 29 January 2017

Invitation: LOK MANCH

In 2013, the National Food Security Act (NFSA) came into force. But for various reasons, many dalits, tribals, minorities and other marginalized groups have not been able to use this Act as their right. Similarly, SCSP, TSP, WASH and many other government schemes have crores of rupees but the needy people are not able to enjoy the benefits of these schemes! This year the special **focus is on SCSP, TSP, WASH** along with NFSA.

In this context around 100 organizations from 12 States have come together under the banner of "Lok Manch" to capacitate the people so that they are able to know, understand the Act and the various schemes and use them well as citizens who have a right! They themselves will take leadership to capacitate their people and to take charge of their lives to live with dignity. Our efforts will be in this line.

The goal of Lok Manch is to form a National platform to ensure dignity and rights of the marginalized through policy interventions and improved access to Entitlements. Through Lok Manch we are covering around 2, 70,000 stakeholders inclusive of 60, 000 families of Jharkhand as stakeholders.

In order to create more awareness and ownership among our partners, a **National Workshop** (2nd one) has been planned from **Nov. 22nd eve to 25th noon at PG Block, JDV Campus, Ramwadi, Pune, Maharashtra**, where all the 100 Heads of the Organizations will be participating besides a few friends and well-wishers.

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Houses, Institutions & Formation Houses

St Ignatius' Gumla

The AICUFers of St Xavier's College Ranchi had their 3-day camp (6-10 October) followed by Central Zonal Camp for 26 to 30 instant. They found the place with full of novelties and we did, too, with their programmes. Community members participated in Spiritual Animation Programme (8-17 October) in three places. Frs Manohar Khoya and Praful went to Sitagarha for it whereas Frs Erentius, Sylvanus and Christopher were at Namkom to drink from the spiritual wellspring of Jharna. Fr Vijay went all the way to Dumka- Raiganj. Fr John Lakra made his own SAP-retreat at home in Gumla.

Our hockey team under-15 had gone to Delhi for the Nehru Cup Hockey Tournament. Unfortunately many

players suffered diarrhea due to which they could not continue after two matches which they won. They had to come back after a defeat. On their way back four students were so serious that they had to be hospitalized in Kanpur breaking their train journey. But there were brighter days. Our two hockey teams won the finals in the state level matches played in Simdega. The Football team (boys) under-5 feet height was champion at St John's Munna Cup Tournament, Ranchi, defeating the host team by 5-0.

Fr Sylvanus Kerketta, 7 years President of CRI in Ranchi, was elected President of Gumla CRI as well on 23 October. Congratulations to Fr. Sylvanus kerketta! Fr De Brouwer's niece and her husband were our guests for one week from 21 October. Marc made them tour all his villages

and *Gyan Kaksh* in Gumla district. Our 550 Christian students had gone to a pilgrimage to Dhori Mata Shrine in Jarandih (Bokaro). They enjoyed the trip praying at the shrine and picnicking on the way as well.

Fr Christopher Lakra

Manresa House Ranchi

Manresa collegians had celebration of *Tusgo* (Nawakhani) in different fora before the Puja vacation [6 October to 7 November]. During holidays, they had ministries in different parishes and schools in two shifts. In the middle of the vacation, they were back to Manresa House for community days and triduum. The House had its community days from 21-24 October in which members of the community – young and old – actively took part and affirmed their membership. It was, as has been in the tradition, a good occasion to grow in companionship and deepen our community spirit. Collegians creatively organized it with a lot of fun and frolic. Despite having the schedule of community days, we participated in the the *Adivasi Janakrosh Maharally* held at Morabadi on 22 October. The rally became part of our community activity.

After the community days, collegians had their triduum in Manresa House itself due to some unavoidable reasons. Fr Alex Toppo, their assistant dean, guided them well to renew and re-energize them. Thereafter, collegians contributed generously in cleaning and whitewashing of the graveyard in Tam-Tam Kantatoli before the annual remembrance of the all souls departed. Special word of thanks and appreciation to Minister Fr Fredrick Kujur, SJ and assistant minister Fr John Berchmans for their planning and execution of the work at graveyard so efficiently. It's not an easy task to get the graveyard cleaned, whitewashed and names written on the tombstones/crosses for graves numbering 167. Well done Fathers and brothers! Hope the faithful departed are happy with the love and respect shown to them.

The festive month with numerous activities ended with the celebration of the feast of St Alphonsus Rodriguez, the patron saint of our Jesuit Brothers. As usual here in Manresa House it was a grand celebration in the evening with solemn mass presided over by the Rector Fr Justin Tirkey and thereafter a fellowship diiner. It was also an occasion to felicitate our Jesuit Brothers studying, working and resting here in Manresa House. As a sign of our appreciation for all the seven brothers of the house, each was gifted a *Adivasi Gamcha* during the felicitation programme before festive dinner.

Fr Alex Tirkey, Ephrem Baa and Br Telesphore Horo had their ten days off from the house as they joined in the SAP retreat held in Raiganj directed by Fr Susairaj, SJ (MDU). Back at home, Br Polycarp was admitted to Seva

Nilaya Aragate on 5 October for the treatment of wound in his leg. He rarely gets hospitalized, but this time he was there quite sometimes. Doctor and nurses treated his wound so well that he could come back home on 25 October. Our brave-hearted elderly Jesuit-companions in the infirmary continue to face all noise and inconveniences with smiling faces and enduring patience. Fr Victor Surin is admitted to HFH Mandar on 9 September. He is convalescing slowly. Pre-novices are attending him well. Later, on 27 October, Fr Paul Terrens had a fall in his bathroom due to which he is also taken to HFH Mandar for better care and treatment. Let us keep our sick and old in our prayers. Now after the feast of All Souls Day, Spiritual Animation Programme [SAP] in Manresa House and after the arrival of our collegians, life in Manresa is back to normal rhythm.

Fr Francis David

St Mary's Samtoli

School already began preparation for the Sport-Athletic mega event *Chakrabuha- 2017* to be held at St Mary's in January. The selection of athletes took place after the Puja vacation. These athletes are regular for daily practice.

Frs Linus, Sikander, Emmanuel and Gilbert attended SAP retreat held at Raiganj, Sitagarha and Jharna Namkum respectively. In the last week of October Frs Bruno and John Crus also took part in the Spiritual Animation Programme (SAP) in Jamshedpur and Pathalgaon respectively. Four Scholastics from Manresa House spent their Puja vacation in our community while two were in Sogra parish. They stayed with us till 20 October.

On the occasion of the first death anniversary of late Fr Isayas Xess, Frs Bruno and John Crus went to Jharain for the mass on 17 October. Frs Linus and Sikander went to the house of late Vikrant Kerketta, former head clerk of the school on his first death anniversary. Fr Albert Dungdung went to offer mass for late Henry who had retired from the High School. Fr Albert was regular in reaching him Holy Communion.

Fr Linus Dungdung

Diocesan C.L.C. Rally 2016

Diocesan level C.L.C Rally was held at St Mary's High School from 22 October (afternoon) to 23 October (noon) for which 1850 participants registered their names. In spite of buses having been ordered not to run, the attendance was very encouraging. The programme began at 3.00 p.m. with a warm welcome to the chief guest Fr Tobias Kerketta, the V.G cum PP of St Anne's Cathedral Samtoli. Shri Kulkant Kerketta, the President of CLC of Simdega diocese, welcomed the chief guest and the participants. Thereafter, the C.L.C. flag hoisting by the chief guest took place. The next programme was the Speech Competition among the seven vicariates of the diocese: **Kurdeg**

(Kurdeg, Tainser, Dumberdih, Piriaponch); **Tumdegi** (Tumdegi, Nanesera, Pakertoli, Banabira, Dhingurpani), **Samtoli** (Samtoli, Muria, Katukona, Rengarih); **Biru** (Khanjaloya, Sogra, Tamra, Bindhaintoli); **Salangapos** (Salangapos, Samsera, Jampani, Bhukumunda); **Jaldega** (Gangutoli, Jaldega, Besrajhara, Bhitbuna) and **Lachragarh** (Barwadih, Lachragarh, Jitutoli, Banki). The winners were as follows: first - Anup Topno (Jaldega vicariate), second - Kiran Kumari (Tumdegi vicariate) and third - Jagrani Lakra (Samtoli vicariate). After the speech competition the V.G. delivered his inspiring message. Giving the example of Lazarus he challenged the C.L.Cers to come out of the tomb of self-centredness and complacency. He exhorted them to be aware of what is happening around now and be ready to counteract the evil forces by becoming an instrument of divine love and mercy.

The next event was the devotional rosary procession-long queue with lighted candles in hand, singing, chanting and reciting the rosary which ended with the Benediction. Then, after supper was held a colourful cultural programme. Each vicariate was assigned to present an item as follows: Samtoli vicariate - a religious dance; Biru vicariate - a social 'jhanki'; Kurdeg vicariate - an Oraon dance; Tumdegi vicariate - a 'jhanki' from the NT; Salangapos vicariate - a Kharia dance; Jaldega vicariate - a 'jhanki' from the OT; and Lachragarh vicariate - a Mundari dance. All the items were well prepared and presented well.

The next day began with a meditation led by the UC girls' H/S Samtoli at 5.45 a.m. followed by a solemn Eucharistic celebration presided over by His Lordship Bp. Vincent Barwa. The combined choir group of Apostolic School, St Mary's H/S hostel and UC girls' H/S hostel enhanced the devotion and the celebration. At the end of the Mass Bp. Vincent Barwa briefed the CLCers about the government's efforts to amend the CNT Act and its destructive consequences to the tribal life and identity. He encouraged them to read the latest booklet on this issue. After the Holy Mass the congregation dispersed for breakfast. The congregation gathered again at 9.30 for a talk by Fr Prakash Lakra CSSR, a noted preacher. He summarized the teachings and orientations of Pope Francis in a nut shell culminating in the year of God's mercy. Then a Bible Quiz followed. There were four participants from each vicariate. Two rounds of questions were from Mk. (11-16), third round on Mother Mary, fourth round on St Mother Teresa and the final round was on CLC. Kurdeg group was the winner, Lachragarh group stood second and Samtoli group secured the third position.

Towards the end, before Shri Suman Kiro would give his heartfelt vote of thanks, Fr John Tirkey, the Principal of St. Mary's High School and Inter College spoke to the CLCers enthusing them with his own personal experiences.

Finally, the CLC Flag was lowered down by the chief guest and speaker Fr Prakash Lakra with due respect. And the CLC *Maharally-2016* came to an end with a simple but appetizing dinner with a hope to meet again next year. The credit of its grand success naturally goes to the Divine Mercy but on human level the planning, dedication and collaboration of the staff members of St Mary's High School and Inter College was superb.

Fr. Isaac Tete

Tarunoday

On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, Taruns attended a programme at XISS auditorium organized by Jharkhand Sadbhavana Munch as International Day of Peace with its theme *Peace and Non-violence in Religions*. Madam Sujata Kaura highlighted the message of peace and non-violence in Hinduism; Dr Shahid Hussan spoke on peace and non-violence in Islam. Some other eminent speakers also spoke eloquently on the theme. Fr Amrit Tirkey was one of the organizers who played important role in organizing the programme.

Four first years came back to Tarunoday on 9 October after a meaningful Contextual Immersion Programme (CIP) in Lohardaga for two weeks. They were placed in four different villages with a purpose to experience and understand tribal life and culture for doing contextual theology.

Kanke parish had the celebration of *Nawakhani* on 16 October with a spirit of joy and gratitude to God for the gift of new crop. The day began with the solemn thanksgiving Eucharist in the parish. Parishioners actively took part in the liturgy. Taruns also played their important role in making the liturgy more solemn and meaningful. The faithful brought puffed rice for blessing which they shared with one another after the mass. Indeed, it was a day of thanksgiving to God!

Taruns took part in the *Adivasi Akrosh Maharally* held at Morabadi ground on 22 October. This rally was convened by Jharkhand Adivasi Sangarsh Morcha (a confederation of 39 Adivasi organizations) against the State Government's anti-tribal ordinance to amend Santhal Pargana Tenancy Act and Chotanagpur Tenancy Act. Despite several hurdles and blockades by the government and administration, nearly a 100 thousand people turned up for the protest march. In the history of Jharkhand, it was the first time when such undemocratic repressive actions were taken to foil and thwart the protest rally. As participants of the rally, we could witness how Adivasi communities are worried about their future; they are worried of losing their land an identity...

Fr Francis is in Rome taking part in the GC36 as one of the delegates of Ranchi province. Fr Amrit went to Goa on 18 October for the meeting of Association of Moral

Theologians of India. He came back on 29 October with some new insights. In his absence, Br Isidor Ekka looked after the community affectionately and effectively. Fr Milianus Beck from Vidya Jyoti was with us for two weeks. He took *Pentateuch* for the first years. Rev Fr Susai Manickam also offered his knowledge of *Canon Law* [Oct 31-Nov.11] to both the years. Taruns have resumed taking English and Maths tuition classes for some poor sarna and Christian students. Schs Fuldeo Shishir, Rakesh and Sameer generously render their services for these needy children.

Sch. Rakesh Kerketta

DNC Pune

The month of October began with our first terminal exams from 4 to 15 October. Fr Rector Edward and Fr Superior Zacchaeus had gone to Delhi for the ACF meeting. We had a talk on *Laudato Si'* the encyclical of the Holy Father Francis with its purpose to contribute something concretely to the crying needs of the Mother Earth. After the exams, on 17 October the first years went for a short excursion to Ajantha and Ellora while the second years left for Goa. Diwali vacation gave an opportunity to organize one-day hockey tournament for the Chotanagpur tribals working in Pune, Mumbai and Goa with its aim to bring them together.

Sch. Peter P. Hora

Satya Nilayam, Chennai

In the last week of September we had Karam celebration twice: one with the Adivasis working in Chennai. The Chotanagpur Cultural Association had organized it in Loyola College Chennai on 25 September. The second one was held at Satya Nilayam community on 30 September. It began with a meaningful Karam liturgy, fellowship meal at noon and then common popular tribal dance for all.

An exhibition on Western thought and philosophy *The Pathway to Wisdom* was displayed by the first years from 28 to 30 September. Fr Vinod Sushil Soreng guided and inspired the students to present it wonderfully. The provincial of Paraguay was kind enough to inaugurate this exhibition.

It was an interesting learning experience for all the students. We had informative talk on the threat of ISIS to the global world by Mr Adrin Ra, one of the members of SRS.

Sch. Amitjuel Lakra

Gyanoday Patna

Juniors of Gyanoday attended a course on Ecological Awareness at Tharumitra. The course was especially focused on the theme of *Laudato Si'* and climate change. We also had a course on Media from 19-27 October offered by Fr Premlal and his team. It helped us to present our ideas in creative and effective ways. We celebrated Karam feast with the parishioners on 2 October. And the next two days Fr Seraphim gave us class on Homiletics. On the feast of St Alphonsus Rodrigues we had a short and sweet programme in honour of the staff members, especially Br Tom.

Sch. Ritesh

Raia, Goa

The one-month Ignatian retreat ended on 9 October. Thereafter it was a time of sharing the fruits of the long retreat, spiritual experiences, consolations and desolations with one another, followed by preparation for preaching ministry. We went to different directions and different states for the ministry of preaching retreat. However, I stayed in the Jesuit community of Basilica of Bom Gesu with my other companions.

I preached to three groups of students as one of the team members. I listened to them in counselling and confession. Besides, on free days I went down to the Basilica to help the pilgrims by narrating the life-story of St Francis Xavier, blessing and listening to them in the confession. It was a wonderful opportunity for me to know how to work in a team in preaching retreat, to know the students' struggles in their life and in their families. I was touched by the life of St Francis Xavier while narrating his life and works to the pilgrims. Truly I was inspired to deepen my personal faith.

Fr. Samir

ASSAM & ANDAMAN

Jesuit Bhavan, Tezpur

Fr Xavier Lakra was in Kolkata from 30 September to 5 October to represent the Assam Mission in the thanksgiving Eucharist organized in honor of the canonization of Mother Teresa. He gave retreat to the Silver Jubilarians of the Ursuline Congregation in Jesuit Bhavan itself from 17 to 26 October. Fr Anupchand just after his semester exams attended a three-day seminar in Shillong organized for the lawyers and law students. Thereafter he came down to Guwahati for another meeting of the Association

of Lawyers. After the meeting he had gone for a short home visit to Ranchi. He was back to Tezpur on 18 October. Later he visited different Jesuit mission centres of Lower Assam [22 -23 October] and Upper Assam [29-30 October] to supervise the accounts and project works.

As the Durga Puja holidays started, Fr Roshan Bage and Fr Patrick Xalxo from Pengree took off for a mission tour to Tezpur where Fr Rajesh Kullu and Fr Thomas Barla also joined them. All of us visited to Mushalpur, Manas

Bansbari and Kathalguri where our Jesuit companions are working in the mission field. We had wonderful sharing of our experiences of joys and sorrows. Fr Thomas addressed the youth of Balipara Parish on 'Adivasi Leadership in Assam' during the Youth Camp organized from 9 to 11 October.

Fr Thomas Barla

Gana Chetana Samaj, Tezpur

Gana Chetana Samaj (GCS) makes effort diligently to promote and preserve Adivasi culture among the settled Chotanagpurian Adivasis of Assam. Celebrating feast and festivals is one of the means to bring them together. Keeping this vision in mind, celebration of Karam feast continued till the first half of October. Even after Karam celebrations, training of the seasonal dance continued in different villages in Balipara and Rangapara Blocks till the end of October. GCS organized training programme [24-29 Oct] for All Adivasi Women Association of Assam (AAWAA) and All Adivasi Student Association of Assam (AASAA). Fr Xavier and Fr Thomas took very motivating and inspiring sessions for the AASAA group. GCS also conducted a training programme for the Adivasi youth in Pengree from 29 to 30 October. The response was very encouraging as 125 youths both boys and girls almost in equal number participated.

Fr Thomas Barla

Mushalpur

For better academic ambiance and discipline, school took initiative to arrange several parents-teachers meet which has cleared many doubts and concerns of the parents regarding education of their children. The present Class X students are having regular extra classes and pre-selection test. In December they will write another test conducted by the District Education Board.

During the Puja vacation I had the opportunity to animate the youth of Kailamwila Parish for two days. On 14 October, we hosted the Volleyball match in the campus with the help of the Army. The youth in the parish also had two days of youth meet in the parish with its theme, "Catholic Youth and our Mission". October, being the month of Rosary, we had a solemn procession in the villages on 30 October in honour of Mother Mary, followed by the Eucharist. The construction of the new parish residence is complete and we are hoping to occupy soon.

Sch Rozaria Mosabari

Balipara

The festival of Durga Puja offered more than a week-long break just after the unit test. As the school re-opened, students received their corrected answer papers and later, results too. Students of KG to Class IV had Art Exhibition whereas for students of class V to X had Science Exhibition

on 26 October. Budding artists and scientists displayed their artistic creativity and scientific temperament. The Assistant Regional Bank Manager of UBI was the chief guest and judge of the competition. UBI Bank, Balipara sponsored the prizes and certificates.

Two days of Youth Seminar was conducted in the parish campus. The month also kept busy the feeder schools with sports and games. Nirmala School Baithabhanga had Annual Sports Day and School day on 21 and 22 October respectively whereas St. Xavier's School, Tarabari was getting ready for the sports day.

Fr Ranjit Kujur

Manas Bansbari

Retreat for the parishioners was organized during the Durga Puja holidays. The preachers were catechists of Karthik parish who were much appreciated by the faithful. Frs Thomas, Roshan, Patrick and Rajesh visited Manas Bansbari during the Puja holidays.

The first St Xavier's Trophy Football Tournament for under-18 was organized by the teacher's of St. Xavier's school. 15 teams participated in this tourney. Fr Anup Kiran Minj was the chief guest for the final match. Khobsingpara village and St Xavier's School played the final match in which the former won the trophy while the latter became the runner up.

Sch Bimal Minj

Kathalguri

In the Jubilee Year of Mercy, Kathalguri Loyola parish had organized retreat [8-12 October] for the parishioners. Fr Sahai Raj from Purnea diocese was the preacher. The last day was especially dedicated to the year of mercy with special talk on the theme, Eucharistic procession, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, sacrament of reconciliation etc. The concluding Eucharist was presided over by Fr Mathew Kothram, the VG of Bongaigaon diocese. It was a spiritually-nourishing experience for the faithful. We congratulate Fr Jerome for arranging it so well for the spiritual renewal of the parishioners.

Loyola School had Annual Day cum Parents Day on 28 October. Mr Sudhansu Saha, BEE0 of Gossaigaon Block, was the chief guest on this occasion. He appreciated the contribution of Loyola school in providing quality education for the people of the area. He encouraged to have a better cooperation between parents and school management. He requested the parents to pay the tuition fee on time so that school may serve them better. He challenged the staff and students to be punctual and committed in discharging their duties. He also assured that he would help the school in getting recognition. Sr Ancy CJ and Sr Ajita ND were the guests of honour who gave their precious time for us. In her address, Sr Ancy stressed to

utilize the opportunities in the best possible way to build up confidence while Sr Ajita ND highlighted the importance of character formation. She earnestly requested to the parents to send their children to the school regularly. A good number of parents present on this occasion were happy and satisfied with the progress and performance of their children.

Fr Pradeep Kullu

Prothrapur (Andaman)

As preparation for the forthcoming Children's Day on 13 November, Drawing Competition (2 October) for children was conducted by the pastoral sisters. Children were excited to take part in it.

To deepen the faith of the parishioners in the Year of Mercy, the programme of 24-hours Adoration cum reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation was held on 8-9 October. The caption "*Yesu Mein Jiyo, Yesu Ke Sath Jiyo*" with a picture of Jesus' merciful gaze was meaningful and inspiring

for the faithful. The event began on 8 October with the Eucharist followed by Adoration. Special prayers and petitions for peace were offered. Both of us – Fr Edward and I were available for the sacrament of reconciliation. The following day after the Benediction, solemn Eucharist began wherein a big number of parishioners actively and devotionally took part. Truly it was a celebration of God's Mercy for His people. Mission Sunday, with its message *Go and Proclaim the Word of God* was another occasion for the faithful to re-vitalize their faith for spreading God's Mercy. We had solemn liturgical celebration praying for the missionary activities of the universal Church. After the mass *meena bazaar* was held to collect some contribution for the missions. With the item of *lucky draw* the day concluded joyfully. 23 October was a special day for the parish youth who gathered for the mass and meeting. Nearly 190 boys and girls turned up for it who were quite happy and enthusiastic.

Fr David Bara

DIASPORA

Cairo, Egypt

This year the new academic year in Egypt began in mid – September. After getting into the rhythm of studies the month of October was occupied with meeting of parents and teachers' annual meeting, class by class beginning from Kindergarten 1st to 3rd Higher Secondary. All the teachers of the particular class with school management would be present and would give detailed feed back of the students' progress. Most of the parents are full time job holders so the meeting would begin at 5 pm and would end at 9.30 pm in the evening. Besides this, once in every two weeks there is a quick 45 minutes' meeting of teachers of every class who give an overall view of every student. In each section, we've less than forty students so it's not very taxing to go through the record of the students.

Last month, the novitiate of Near East Province received five novices. Among them one is from Lebanon, one is from the war torn city of Aleppo (Syria) and three of them are from Upper Egypt. After a gap of many years, we have four young Jesuit priests who are here to learn classical Arabic in an Institute run by the Comboni Congregation. Among them one is from Mexico, the other from Philippines and the two from Indonesia but one of them is for Thailand region.

In mid – October, I was able to meet six Ursuline sisters of Gumla Province who were in Cairo via Holy Land pilgrimage trip. It's always refreshing for me to meet our people and share about the ancient land. I came to know through them that Fr Vital Ekka, SJ also was in another group who passed off from Cairo silently.

Fr Bimal Kerketta

Cambodia

Sch Sandeep Kujur SJ successfully completed his three months of Khmer language course and assigned to Banteay Prieb [The Center of Dove] a Technical Training Center for physically and mentally challenged persons for his regency. F. Manoj SJ successfully conducted the annual youth synod for youth from four parishes. He was overwhelmed by the active participation of the youth. Frs Manoj and Rajat participated in the annual seminar for all the catechists from 17- 19 October. Fr Rajat arranged youth meeting for the youth of Tunle Sap Lake area from 20 to 22 October. The theme of the youth Synod 2016 was 'Be Merciful as Heavenly Father'. Frs Manoj, Rajat and Sch Sandeep were very happy to welcome Fr Nicholas Tete SJ the Principal of St Xavier College, Ranchi. Fr Manoj and Sch Sandeep accompanied him to some important places like Toulsleng Genocide museum, Toulsleng Killing field and Angkor Wat. He was impressed very much by their wonderful works for the disabled, Vietnamese communities, poor and the youth. Frs Manoj and Rajat attended annual diocesan pastoral meeting of the bishop, priests, religious, volunteers and the representatives from various parishes and Catholic organizations of the diocese of Battambang. Fr Rajat arranged Sacraments of Confirmation for 23 young boys and girls, first Communion for 13 boys and girls and Baptism for two adult women on 30 October 2016.

Fr Rajat Hansa Puri

Guyana

The Clergy's Conference - "Presbyters for Today" - was held at St Paul's Retreat Centre, Georgetown from 10-14

October. All 24 priests of the diocese of Georgetown, participated in it. Among the priests, there were Jesuits from Guyana Region, missionaries from Canada, missionaries from Mexico and the diocesan priests from the diocese. Fr John Packiaraj, SJ (AND), highlighted on the role of a priest as a teacher of the word, a minister of the sacraments and a leader of the community. The social issues, youth, vocation, liturgy and environment were discussed. There was ample opportunity to deepen their relationship with one another as friends. It was very encouraging to know that the various families are assigned to pray for the priests of the diocese. The concluding Holy Eucharist was offered by His Lordship Bishop Francis Alleyne, OSB in the magnificent newly constructed Sacred Heart church in Main Street Georgetown with the parishioners.

Fr Amar Bage along with his community members had arranged a week long youth seminar on Personality and Community Development in Our Lady of Lourdes Hosororo in the North West Region-I. Br Michael Abraham from Georgetown was the resource person. Thereafter, Fr Amar Bage left Guyana for India on 10 October for his three months long holidays via Rome. He spent a week in Rome with his brother Fr David Bage (Khunti diocese) who is pursuing his doctoral studies. On 4 October Fr Anil Kishore celebrated his birthday with his parishioners in St John the Baptist Church Plaisance. He is giving his full time and energy to keep up to date his Parish Lay Assistants with regular classes on the Holy Scripture and Sacraments. Fr Mark Mukul Lakra spent his holidays by visiting different regions within the country in order to have firsthand experience. He, along with Fr Joseph Raj (CCU) and Br George Kuriakose (CCU) could visit Aishalton in South Rupununi, St Ignatius Lethem and St Teresa Karasabai in South Pakaraimas for two weeks. Sr Divya Gulab, Sr Seraphina Kerketta, Sr Crecencia Kujur and Sr Nishi Susana Toppo extended their warm and hearty welcome to them in Karasabai.

Fr Elias Surin along with his Parish Lay Assistants - Br Aloysius Abraham, Br Sylvester Sebastian and Br Wenceslaus Pio - went to St Joseph's Karisparu and St Patrick's Chenapou for two weeks. They spent celebrating the Holy Eucharist, teaching catechism, visiting families and having evening prayer. It was a great encouragement for the faithful to continue and grow in their faith life. It was enriching experience for us to exchange our knowledge and understanding about faith and social life. There was a wedding of Mr Titus John and Mrs Genevive Renette Jeffrey in St Joseph's Karisparu on 30 October which was blessed by Fr Elias Surin. Under the leadership of Mr Eugene Johnson, the Toshao – head of the village, entire community celebrated the wedding feast of the couple. There are fifteen

young people getting ready for the Sacrament of Confirmation in the near future.

Fr Elias Surin

Madrid, Spain

The month of October kept us busy with our academic activities. Conference on the issue of *Refugees* was held at the university on 4-5 October in which all were invited to reflect together. Several eminent speakers presented their papers on this complex issue. Among them was the first year theologian from Spanish Province who did his regency in Lebanon, was also asked to share his experiences among refugees.

After our first exam of the session, on 12 October we had community outing. Being in the different communities we went to different places; James together with his community went to Burgos, known for its cultural heritage and I went to Toledo with my community.

We had a seminar [17-21 October] on the Dynamics of the Second Week of the Spiritual Exercises. Many experienced Jesuits explained how to go through the retreat or how to direct someone. Both of us had taken it as an optional paper.

Apart from our academic activities, we have to engage ourselves in some ministries. James accompanies one group of differently-able children and also takes catechism for the children in one of the parishes. I go to accompany second year university students wherein we have prayer and reflection on various topics of the Bible. This takes places every Wednesday for two hours.

Sch Anuj

Munich, Germany

Schs Ajay Paulus and I (Sameer), landed at Munich airport on 18 October around 5:45 am. Fr Ruediger Funiok, the Coordinator for Formation, received us warmly at the airport. He is very loving and caring to the scholastics. It took 30 minutes to reach our respective communities by car. I was dropped at Alberto Hurtado Community where I will stay for my academic years in Munich. I was welcomed warmly in my community which consists of 7 members (4 Scholastics, 2 Priests & 1 Brother). We are from different countries namely- Germany, Switzerland, Hungary and India. I am the only Asian. After having nine hours of journey we were really exhausted. I had ear pain due to which I took one full day to get back to my normal state.

After dropping me, Sch Ajay and Fr Funiok proceed to Gonzaga Community where Sch Ajay Paulus will stay for his academic years. He also received a warm welcome in the community. His community has also got 7 members (2 Priests, 1 Brother and 4 Scholastics). They are from different countries namely- Germany, Vietnam, Bohemia, Hungary and India. The community members were very

happy to see him. Both of us are the youngest scholastics in our respective communities.

My community (Albert Hutardo) had community outing to Amback Lake on 21 October. The purpose was to share our lives with one another for community building - a community of friends. I had a beautiful experience. I was the first one to share my life and experiences. The community was back to Munich by 23 October (evening).

We had Scholastikersymposion [28-31 October] at Zug, Switzerland. There were around 34 scholastics from various European Provinces namely- GER, ASR, HEL, HUN, LIT, BOH, and CRO. The theme of the get together was "Inter-Religious Dialogue". Fr Niclaus Brautscehn SJ, talked about "Zen Meditation" and its usefulness in our way of praying. We also had Fr Felix Hornes SJ, from Gregorian University, Rome to give us a talk on Islam. Since everything was in

German, we always had English translation by some scholastics. On 30 October we had pilgrimage on foot to the Shrine of Our Lady of Einsiedeln. We walked on the hills for 22 km which was a new experience for both of us. It was the longest walk for me in my life so far. On 31 October we were back to our Communities.

We began our German Language Course on 3 November. We are putting our efforts to learn it well. Our community members are playing a vital role in teaching German. They are very sensitive to our needs. They not only suggest good websites but also create an atmosphere to learn it. They are always ready to teach us new word or expression in German. We are really enriched to see the Society of Jesus with its unity in diversity. At present, we are fine and we are busy with "Deutch Kurs".

Schs Sameer & Ajay Paulus

Let us Remember in our Prayers

Mrs Xaveria Surin (79), Sister-in-law of **Fr Joseph Kandulna SJ**, died on 22 September 2016.

Mr Sylvanus Toppo, elder brother of **Fr Vincent Toppo SJ**, died on 11 November 2016.

Birth Day Babies: November & December

NOVEMBER

- 04 Jacques Raymond
- 05 Kerketta Camil
Minj Damian C.
- 06 Lakra Peter C.
- 07 Lakra Amit
- 09 Kerketta Ranjan M.
Minj Sudhir Kr.
- 10 Kujur Augustine
Soreng Ajay R.
Toppo Alok
Lakra Sunil
- 12 Soreng Vinod S.
Tirkey Alexander
- 13 Bage Roshan
- 14 Soreng Joseph Kennedy
- 15 **Kujur Marianus J.**
Soreng Fuldeo
- 16 Minj Walter Xavier
Barla Thomas
- 17 Brys Aurel
- 21 Tigga Swarn
- 23 Ekka Clement
- 24 Topno Patras
- 27 Soreng Gabriel
- 28 Kandulna Justin

DECEMBER

- 01 Surin Elias
- 07 Tirkey Vijay Manohar
- 04 Kujur Ashish
- 10 Breye Erik
- 11 Kerketta Sanjay
- 12 Dungdung Rohit D.
- 17 Baghwar Marius
- 18 Xalxo Ignatius
Bage Kamal Chandra
Toppo Bruno
- 19 Bilung Nitin
- 22 Bilung Gilbert
Kullu Ferdinand
- 24 Lakra Christopher
- 25 Barla Emmanuel
Kujur Ernest
- 26 Beck Milianus
- 29 Dungdung John B.
Basumatary Lazarus

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