

RANCHI BULLETIN



74/10 Ranchi Jesuits, Sadbhavna P.B. - 4, Ranchi - 834 001, Jharkhand OCTOBER 2015

Fr. Provincial's Programme

October 2015

- 06-08 Visitation – St Xavier’s College Ranchi
- 07 Province Consult [4.00 P.M]
- 09 Inauguration of the Education & Cultural Meet of the SJ Primary and Middle Schools at St Mary’s School Samtoli
- 11 Closing Ceremony of Jesuit Schools Meet at St Mary’s School Samtoli
- 14 Province Consult [4.00 P.M]
- 17 Visitation Mandar
- 19 Shaheed Diwas- Late Fr. A.T. Thomas SJ Haz.
- 20 Visitation – XISS
- 20-21 Visitation – St Xavier’s School Doranda

- 23 JEPASA Convention – Holy Mass at 6.00 A.M & Inaugural Session
- 23-25 JEMAI Convention
- 26-27 Visitation – Jharna Ashirvad
- 28 XISS – Exhortation

November 2015

- 01-14 JCSA Meeting – Pune
- 19 Arrival of José Magadia SJ
- 21 Rumtukel – Final Vows of Fr Kamal C. Bage SJ
- 23 All Commissions’ Coordinators Meeting at 9.00 AM
- 25 Gumla – Final Vows – Fr Manohar Khoya SJ & Fr Praful Ekka SJ
- 26- Dec 3: Annual Retreat

Information & Announcement

- Triduum for the **Regents** at Jharna from **27 December** (Evening) to **30 December** (Evening) 2015.
- Priestly Ordination of **Deacon Pradeep Tirkey SJ** will take place on 3 January 2016 in Talesera Parish.
- Priestly Ordination of **Deacon Ashok Kandulna SJ** will take place in Gangutoli Parish on 14 January 2016.

HOUSES & INSTITUTIONS

St Ignatius’ Gumla

The Month of September was the season of games and tournaments. This year the Gurubhakti Munna Football Tournament Trophy was snatched by St Ignatius Gumla from Kishore Nagar, the defending champion. The final was played on 13th Sept. Similarly, the two trophies of Boys’ and Girls’ football matches in the Inter-Jesuit Football tournament were bagged by St Ignatius Inter-college Gumla. They also claimed the first place in the English One Act Play show on the occasion. Congratulations to

the gallant teams! Thanks to St John’s High School for organizing it efficiently.

Earlier on 1st September, Fr Florence Guria lost his youngest brother at Lohajimi (Tapkara). Accompanied by Fr Thomas Barla he went for the funeral ceremony the next day. We offer him our hearty condolences, and pray for the departed soul and the grieving family members.

Flowers were offered to Fr PP. Van Nuffel as *shradhanjali* on the occasion of his second Death Anniversary on 3rd September. The School and AROUSE

had jointly organized the programme. The PP. Van Nuffel memorial trophies for the best football players: one among boys and one among girls, and one for the best hockey player were granted from this year.

On 16th September Fr Rector blessed the foundation stone of the English Medium School. With that the construction has started in full swing. The target is to get the first wing ready by April 2016 when classes start.

The *Karam* celebration, organized by AROUSE every year fell this year on 27th September; huge number of teams from villages, institutions and other localities assembled for the occasion. St Ignatius Hostel 'A' wing won the first prize. Very well done!! Congrats Florence and David!

Fr Headmaster, turning out to be too 'sweet,' now under control and normal; Fr Solomon, suffering from severe stiff neck problem with tremendous shoulder pain, taking treatment; Fr Rector undergoing physiotherapy for his spondylitis. Prayers requested.

Christopher Lakra

St Mary's Samtoli

Fr Albert Dungdung came back refreshed and energized after his annual retreat with the pastors at Jharna under the guidance of Fr Emile Coelho SJ from Jamshedpur Province. Br Elias Minj, the new community member joined the community on 3rd September. Fr Binod Toppo, Fr Deepak Toppo, Brs Felix Tete and Modestus Turkey and Sch Ashok Kandulna accompanied to St Mary's Samtoli. Fr Rector went to Rengarh and Kruskela to give recollection talk and hear confession; Fr Gilbert gave recollection talk to Holy Cross Katukona and Fr Isaac to the Daughters of the Cross Sogra in preparation to the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. On the feast of the Holy Cross, all the community members except Frs Isaac Tete and Ireneus To:ppo went to celebrate the feast in the evening.

There was a seminar at AROUSE on Para Legal. Fr Xavier Soreng was the main speaker. Fr Peter Mahendra Tigga and Fr Ignatius Minj too were the speakers but Fr Ignatius Minj went back early morning because there was an urgent call for the work at High Court. People missed his talk. There were 30 participants. Many people wanted to come for the seminar but because of the programme at Banabira, they could not come. Fr John Turkey, Fr Albert Dungdung, Sch Sujit Toppo and the Apostolic boys (CI X) joined the annual commemoration of the martyrdom day at Banabira.

There was a football match for girls organized by AROUSE at Pharsabera. Frs Bruno and Rector went to Pharsabera. The final was between Pharsabera and Jamnagar. The latter won the match in penalty shot by 4-1 goals and bagged the first *khasi* (goat) prize. Pharsabera had to be contended with a small goat.

Fr Sikander Kerketta spiritually prepared himself at Jharna for his final vows. He made his retreat under the guidance of Fr K.C. Philip. After spiritually renewed he came back hale and hearty and became busy in the school work and distributing invitation cards for his final vows.

Simdega town celebrated Karam feast. The people of different cultural groups were present for it. Smt. Vimla Pradhan was the chief guest for the day. The government officials like DC, SP, DSP, SDEO were the honourable guests. This celebration lasted for more than 3 hours. There was karam dance competition in which Ursuline Convent bagged the first prize. Second prize went to St. Anne's Hostel (B) and third prize was given to Kanya Pathsala and Sogra village. All the participant groups were given consolation prizes.

Fr Rector went to Ursuline Gumla to give seminar on Consecrated Life on 24th and 25th September. It was for one day and half. There were 100 participants finally professed Sisters.

Fr Gilbert had been to Ranchi for 15 days to discuss about the new college with different people. He came satisfied meeting with different people.

Linus Dungdung

Manresa House

A diocesan priest of Gumla diocese Fr Laurentus Turkey was welcomed on 2nd September as a new community member. He is doing his B.Ed studies in St Xavier's College Ranchi. Scholastics had their Mid-semester Exams from 7th to 10th September. Sch Kulwant Minj returned to Rome on 6th September after meaningfully spending his holidays in Manresa House. Frs Pius, Terrens, Clement attended the funeral service of Sr Namchu at Holy Family Hospital Mandar on 8th September. Later on 11th September Fr Alex Turkey, Fr Sibil Horo and Br Jayprakash joined the burial Mass of the father of Fr Deepak Toppo in Gumla.

Fr Provincial Joseph Marianus Kujur SJ came here for the annual visitation from 4th to 8th September. This annual visitation ended on 9th September with an exhortation to the community Fathers and the Juniors in separate groups. He also presided over the thanksgiving Mass. This visitation brought joy and spiritual strength to the community members.

On 19th evening, Bishop Emeritus Charles Soreng gave a recollection talk to all the community members. 24th September was a college holiday for the Juniors. On that day the Juniors arranged a Cycle Picnic. They cycled for about an hour and a half to reach the picnic spot. Some community Fathers too joined the Juniors on this occasion and that doubled the joy.

On 26th Karam festival was celebrated with great pomp and gaiety by the College Units in SXC Ranchi. On this

occasion *Karam Dance Competition* was arranged by *The Tribal Society, St. Xavier's College Ranchi*. The Juniors from Manresa too performed Karam dance on this occasion, which was appreciated by many. As the Puja Holidays (17th Oct. to 18th Nov.) began, the Juniors were sent to different places for their ministries. So kindly keep them in your prayers.

Schs Ajay P. Minz & Nelson Minz

St. Xavier's Doranda

In the month of September, school had several co-curricular activities. The Students' Council organized the Teachers' Day Celebration on 4th September to express their gratitude and respect through wonderful songs, dances and skits. On 5th and 6th September St Xavier's Doranda hosted 19th ICSE/ISC Zonal Basketball Tournament. It was organized under four categories, i.e. Junior Boys, Junior Girls, Senior Boys and Senior Girls. Our students participated in three categories namely Junior and Senior Boys and Senior Girls and bagged championship in all three. Unfortunately we do not have Junior girls; else we would have won in that category too. Many of our students were selected to represent Ranchi zone in Regional Basketball tournament which was organized in BWGS Namkum on 5th & 6th October. On 6th October Fr Ajit Kumar Xess, organized a LIVE Hindustani Classical Instrumental Music by world renowned musician (guitar and Mohan Veena player) Pandit Salil Bhatt. Though there were few but really enjoyed the show.

Along with sports and games, on 7th September, the First Terminal Exams began for class XI which ended on 18th September. The same day, on 7th September, a Motivation Session was conducted by a great motivator Mr. Vijay Batra for the students of classes IX, X and XII along with their parents.

We were proud to conduct National level Debate competition on 17th September which was organized in Bishop Westcott Girls' School Namkum. The Principals and the students from different schools were simply mesmerized after having witnessed the type of conduct performed by our school's technical team. Kudos to Fr Principal and the entire team.

On 18th September, our school's Badminton teams left for Patna to participate in the ASISC/ISC Regional Badminton Competition. In spite of tough and humid weather our students performed well. Miss Trisha Topno won the first prize in Senior Girls' Category. She will be taking part in the National Badminton competition in the month of October in Bangalore.

St Xavier's Doranda was privileged to host the Ranchi Jesuit Schools' Sports and Cultural Fiesta -2015 which was declared opened with the grand Inaugural Ceremony in St

Xavier's School auditorium on 25th September at 8.00 a.m. There were around 1,500 students from 21 schools. Fr Provincial Joseph Marianus Kujur SJ graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and delivered an inspiring message to all the students. "We must be spontaneous in speaking our mother tongue and also English language", he said. Besides this he awakened the students, saying "Dream Big in Life." The Fiesta marked with One Act Play, Football Match and Seasonal Adivasi Dance Competitions. Thanks to Fr Ajit Kumar Xess, the convener of the Fiesta for creating a platform for our students for their holistic growth. Certainly this endeavour of Ranchi Province will bear beneficial results in future.

On 28th September a group of 8 students left for ten days NASA and USA Tour accompanied by Mrs Bela Mohan who has all the experiences in taking boys abroad to Belgium and NASA since 2010. We firmly believe that this educational tour will accelerate our students' desire to be good researchers and scientists.

A group of 35 students accompanied by 3 teachers participated in 19th Inter ICSE/ISC Schools Zonal Athletic Meet- 2015 held at Birsa Munda Athletic Stadium, Hotwar. The Senior Girls bagged the group championship whereas the senior boys were just next to the best position. The selected students will participate in Regional Athletic Meet to be held in Jamshedpur.

Besides all these co-curricular activities, classes are held in full swing to complete the syllabus for the Second Terminal Examinations which will be held soon after the Puja Vacations. Fr Principal could not attend his office due to the acute pain on his calf of the left leg caused by nerve problems. However, from his own room he continued to function all the official works.

Sch Navin Jigga

TARUNODAY

Taruns actively took part in supervising the election of the local Mahila Sangh. On 6th September, after the Eucharistic celebration, all of them along with the DSA Sisters of Kanke went two by two to different units and *tolas* to explain and supervise the election. Everything was accomplished peacefully and in order to the satisfaction of all and sundry.

On 9th September Br Isdore Ekka SJ, our Minister, met with an m/c road accident near Tagore Hill. The bystanders helped him in getting first-aid from a nearby medicine shop. He had escaped with minor scratches and some bruises on his neck, hand and feet. He called Tarunoday for help and succor reached him promptly. An ex-ray showed nothing untoward.

At the request of the scholastics, the Superior of the community Fr Amrit Tirkey addressed to the whole community on 10th September on *Our Way of Proceeding*.

In the process, he also included other common concerns, such as community Mass, improvement on the quality of life in RTC, function of authority and team work, use of internet, etc.

We were busy with our first semester exams from 21st to 24th September which were followed by a Living Group dinner. For the *Karam* celebration, we went to many *Sarna* villages in and around Kanke. The month of September also offered us various courses to hone our theological knowledge. Thus, classes were in full swing. In the meantime, we had three visiting professors, namely, Fr Michael Kerketta SJ, Fr Thomas Venad SJ and Sr Rekha Kerketta SCN.

On 25th September, the first year theologians left Tarunoday for Lohardaga early morning for their Contextual Immersion Programme (CIP). The objective was to have a critical lived-experience of the *Adivasi Life and World view* in *Sarna* villages as part of their theological formation. Fr Francis Minj accompanied them and handed them over to Fr Sushil Tirkey at St Stanislaus' School community. The second year theologians had the Mission Tour of Hazaribag Province by which they got acquainted with the challenges, hardships and issues that Jesuits are confronting in different ministries today.

Sch Deonis

Patrachauli

Teachers' Day was celebrated well with many colourful events. Fr Emmanuel presided over the thanksgiving Holy Mass for the teachers. Students sincerely prayed for their teachers. Thereafter students expressed their respect and gratitude during a short felicitation programme.

The Munna Team of St Joseph's Middle School participated in Guru-Bhakti Munna Football Tournament at St Ignatius Gumla from 11-13 September. The team played very well and reached the Semi-Final. In the Semi-Final our team lost by 1-5 to St Ignatius Gumla. However the team deserved to grab the fourth prize as a set of jersey. But not this alone; one of the team players named Nishant Xalxo of class IV could stand for the best player of the tournament. With this the other players of the team were encouraged to improve their skills for the next tournament. Congrats to the team members and the coach.

Fr Ignatius Kujur had gone to Delhi on 20th September to attend the first death anniversary of his younger sister Mrs Rajkishori Kerketta, arranged by his brother-in-law on 23rd September and came back safely on 27th September, though there was a curfew in Ranchi. The girls' hockey team of St Joseph's Middle School (under 17) had participated in the Junior Nehru Hockey Tournament in Morabadi ground Ranchi on 27th September, in which the team was defeated in the second round and returned soon to the pavilion called Patrachauli!

On the very last day of September, Fr Provincial Joseph Marianus Kujur SJ arrived in Patrachauli for the annual visitation. It was his first visit as Provincial to Patrachauli. It was really a very fruitful one for all of us. He encouraged and motivated us through his well-planned sharing. Very cordial thanks to Fr Provincial for giving us his precious time.

Fr Ignatius Kujur

St Stanislaus' Lohardaga

Fr Ignas Xalxo SJ has extended his services to the first year nurses of Urusula Hospital, Lohardaga. Fr. Ranjit Lakra SJ has been shouldering the yoke of superior, Minister, Treasurer, Hostel superintendent, vice-principal and spiritual minister of different religious institutions. Fr Alexius Ddungdung SJ conducted the unit tests so as to make students and teachers work hard for better performance in the school. Sch Bimal Nag SJ plays hide and seek with the absconding students from the study rooms. Fr Sushil kept on suggesting farmers to ensure the standing crops so that they may be compensated for the crop failure. Br Nico is still recuperating in Manresa House and trying to know the root cause of his ailment.

A joint team of the students of St Stanislaus High School and St Anne's Girls High and Middle Schools, participated in the *Karam Purva Sandhya* Celebration at B.S.College on 23rd September. Fr. Alexius Ddungdung SJ, Sch. Bimal Nag SJ and Fr Ignas Xalxo SJ toiled to prepare football, cultural and One Act Play teams that went to Ranchi and came back without any major trophy but with boosted morale and enthusiasm.

Fr Francis Minj SJ from RTC, Borea came on 25th September with the first year theologians, namely, Roshan Ba'a SJ, Shailesh Lakra SJ, Rakesh Kerketta SJ, Sameer Minj SJ, Fuldeo Soreng SJ, Anupam Kerketta SJ, Rajesh Hembrom SJ, and Vimal Kerketta SJ to leave them for the different villages in Peshrar, Kisko and Kuru developmental blocks. AROUSE team had paved path for their stay in the villages.

Base level orientation and training programme for the farmers of Rampur Hututoli and Aine was held on 10th September and one day *khassi* (goat) football tournament for the members of Yuva Jhankar was organized at St Stanislaus High School. 11 new farmer clubs are formed and applied for approval and assistance from National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development. With the formation of farmer clubs and SHGs, AROUSE team has focused on Gram Sabha for empowerment and development.

Sushil Tirkey

Khrist Jyoti Bingaon

We got much awaited electricity connection for Bingaon Parish in September. Teachers' Day was celebrated in Prabhat Madhya Vidyalaya on 5th September. On this day a

short felicitation programme and a football match were organized in honour of the teachers. The Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross was celebrated in the parish in a meaningful way. Parishioners brought varieties of crosses for blessing which they would plant in their paddy fields. The Krusveer Children had a recollection for a day; 130 children participated. Fr Anselm Kandulna of the neighbouring Karra Parish with the help of a prayer group of boys and girls led the programme. The recollection concluded with a solemn Eucharist during which new members were admitted in the Krusveer community.

Sch Ajit Kerketta

Satya Nilayam Chennai

September was very significant as it arrived with a good number of cultural, spiritual, sporting and academic activities. It provided us with ample opportunities for learning. With ever fluctuating change of temperature and climate some of the members of our community fell prey to the dengue fever and were rushed immediately to St Thomas Hospital for check-up and proper treatment. However, by God's providence, all the Ranchi men are hale and hearty.

After losing in the finals of Inter departmental volleyball and basketball tournaments, our scholastics were pumped up and determined not to let another final slip away from their grasp. On 4th September our football team's determination and hard work finally paid off when it finally registered a hard fought win by a solitary goal over the faculty of commerce in a tense football final and won the trophy. Bravo! We became the champions. The long tradition of bagging the winning trophy at least one per tournament has been maintained.

In the first week of the month some of our Brothers went to Besant Nagar parish, shrine of our Lady of Good Health, for the blessing ministry. Schs Johny, Kuldeep, Alok and Pramod had the opportunity to be part of this ministry. They were impressed by the simple but true faith of the people and were overwhelmed by what they saw. It was a wonderful experience of witnessing the piety and devotion of simple people.

On 10th & 11th September, the first years had the inter-study group debates based on various philosophical topics under the supervision of Fr Vinod Sushil Soreng SJ. The philosophical debates such as these gave us a good platform for exercising all the philosophical skills we have acquired so far and to pitch for a sound philosophical hypothesis and a sound argument. In the evening on 11th September, we had our monthly recollection done in different spiritual direction groups, which was concluded with the Eucharistic celebration the following day.

The long awaited cultural festival *Karam* was celebrated on 18th September in Satya Nilayam with great

zeal and enthusiasm. The Eucharistic celebration was preceded by the Para liturgy, which included cutting of *Karam* branches, procession, installation, narration of *Karam* story and homage to the *Karam* in the evening at 6.00. The Eucharist was presided over by Fr Boniface Panna SJ (MAP). He was joined by other Fathers from Central Zone for con-celebration. The Eucharist was followed by a very well prepared cultural dance and a festive dinner prepared and hosted by Brothers from the central zone. All the programmes were meticulously planned and well executed. No doubt that the uniqueness of *Karam* festival has left everyone inspired and touched. Again on 20th September, *Karam* was celebrated and organised on a much bigger platform. It was held at Loyola College, organized by Chotanagpur Cultural Association of Chennai (A Registered Body). The people of Chotanagpur, living and working in Chennai had gathered in a big number. The cultural dance presented by the scholastics of Satya Nilayam, received a huge round of applause from one and all. The *Karam* festival reminds us of our roots, our culture and our identity as tribals. The *Karam* story is nothing else but an exodus experience of our ancestors who had the experience of being saved by a God who is both living and active.

Sch Pramod Bara

De Nobili Pune

September began with an inspiring talk on the topic 'IGNATIANA' by Fr Superior Zacchaeus Ddung SJ. On 3rd September, there was a farewell programme for the deacons. We initiated it with community Mass presided by Frs Rector, Superior and Minister. In the evening, there was a short cultural programme followed by delicious supper in theologian's basketball court. In JDV, teachers' day was anticipated on 4th September. In honour of the teachers, there was a short gathering in the Papal seminary hall. We had monthly recollection on 11th September, on the theme "The Essence of Poverty" so as to reflect on and revisit our vow of poverty.

There is a nice custom in DNC that we have Hindi Mass twice in a month together with the members of C.C.A (Chotanagpur Cultural Association). It gives an occasion to meet and interact with the tribals working in Pune. On 20th September, C.C.A celebrated the *Karam* feast in a grand manner. It was organized at St Felix High School, Club Road, Pune. There were eight priests and about 600 faithful. We shared the core message of *Karam* feast in and through tribal dance. Young and old, all participated in the programme with full enthusiasm. Fr Rector of DNC was the chief guest for the cultural programme. He gave a heart-touching message and encouraged us to bring all together as a sound tribal community.

There is another good tradition in DNC, that is, to come together as a Zonal group and Study group for Mass. It has created a nice ambience to interact with friends from other provinces. We had these two exercises on 17th and 24th Sept. respectively. On 28th evening, Fr Superior Zachaeus Dungdung SJ and Fr Rector Edward Mudavassery SJ left for Jamshedpur to attend the Assistancy Formators' meeting.

Sch Anil Kullu

Loyola College Chennai

Loyola College organized 83rd Bertram Memorial Tournament 2015, a mega sports fest. 85 colleges and 25 schools of Chennai metropolitan city exhibited their talents in varieties of games. Loyola College won the second prize in Volleyball and Basketball and also became champions in Chess, Table Tennis and Lawn Tennis.

Sch Sameer Ekka participated in an educational tour of Kerala arranged by the Department of Sociology and Sch Alok Ekka and his team represented Loyola College in "EXODUS," an inter-college Gospel Culturals organized by St Joseph's Arts and Science College, Bangalore. His team won the overall second prize. Congratulations, Alok! Loyola College organized a day for all the Religious Students of the campus to reflect on "Laudato Si'," an encyclical of the Holy Father on the environment and human ecology. Fr Pavulraj SJ (MDU), a professor in the Gregorian University delivered lectures on it and the day was ended with making resolutions to protect and care for 'our common home'.

Jesuits of the Central Zone Provinces at Berchman's Illam organized the *Karam* Celebrations at Loyola College Campus on 20th September under the banner of the Chotanagpur Cultural Association of Chennai. Sch Saban Binod Xalxo and his team coordinated all the arrangements for the celebrations. 450 Tribals from Jharkhand, Odisha, West Bengal, Asom, Andaman, Chatisgarh working in Chennai and around joined the celebration. The celebration began with a *Karam Raja* procession followed by *Karam Puja, Karam Kahani*. The Satya Nilayam Jesuits from the

Central Zone provinces presented a beautiful *Karam* dance around the *Karam Raja*. Mr Vijay Toppo, the President of the Association, presented the report of the last year. The Association awarded all the passing out tribal students in X, XII, Bachelors and Masters. Fr Erenius Toppo gave information regarding the monthly Hindi Mass arranged at the Loyola College Chapel and symbolically gave a copy of Fr Rector's approval letter to the President of the Association. The Loyola Jesuit Community has granted permission and support for Hindi Mass on second Sunday of every month. 27th September was a very good beginning of Hindi Mass at the Loyola College Chapel. Jesuit Priests and the Scholastics from Central Zone provinces celebrated the Eucharist in Hindi. Around a hundred Tribal Catholics participated in the Eucharist followed by snacks. Henceforth it will continue as it is planned and implemented.

The Loyola College Students' Union organized a mega celebration "OVATION 2015". It is always an occasion for students to enjoy the exhibition of talents and creativity. Finally, time has come to get back to the desk and prepare for the internal assessments and the semester examinations.

Fr Erenius & Sch Sameer

Sanjeevan House Vijaywada

A diocesan priest Fr Deva gave retreat to the Catholic students of Andhra Loyola College (ALC). Department of Commerce conducted "BEMUS Commerce Fest 2015" for which more than 400 students from 50 different Colleges of India participated. Sch Prakash and team conducted the prayer song and Wilson got the chance to be the MC for the inaugural function of the Fest. Christ Jayanthi College, Bangalore got the overall championship. The College also observed the Ethnic Day with its theme "Respecting the Respective Cultures" which underlined the richness of cultural diversity. The second mid-sem exams were held from 21st to 26th September. The next day we shifted from Sanjeevan Niwas to Sanjeevan House in the College Campus.

Wilson Kandulna

ASSAM & ANDAMAN

Balipara

Balipara was badly affected by heavy rains and frequent *bandhs* in September. Nevertheless the colourful celebration of teachers' day on 5th September added joy to our lives. After a month of Jubilee preparation in Bangalore, Sr Matilda rejoined the school on 12th September. St John's School participated in her Silver Jubilee celebration on 13th September. We continued this joyous sentiment by celebrating the feast of Exaltation of the Holy Cross on 14th September at Holy Cross Community at Bakula.

Sch Marius along with 3 regents of Assam Mission had recollection at the Jesuit Bhavan, Tezpur on 20th September under the guidance of Xavier Lakra. Sr Marija Brizar, General of the Holy Cross Congregation, visited her sisters at Balipara. St John's School was blessed with her visit on 24th September.

Fr Benjamin Lakra blessed the foundation stone of the village chapel at Fuluguri. The faithful there belong to the *Garo* community and are the new converts. The neighbouring villagers of the Catholic community rendered

their generous hands and managed to build the chapel within a week. To make the students of Class X more confident in writing Board examination, this month, they had 2 mock tests out of 6 tests. Lastly, the month of September with various events brought immense blessings for all of us.

Fr Ranjit Kujur

Loyola school Kathalguri

All three schools of Kathalguri are coming up well. Parents and guardians are happy and satisfied with facilities given to their children. St Joseph's school Jacobpur has got a new school hall and the school building is also painted. Painting has added the beauty to the school building. As a result, it has become an attraction for the students and the parents. St Xavier's school Tipkai has also got five decent classrooms. Now parents, staff and students are very happy. The first phase of land settlement of St Xavier's has been completed. The campus of Loyola School Kathalguri has maintained its cleanliness and beauty. Now the school's approach road is under construction. Parents are happy with the PCC Road construction.

All three schools had the teachers' day celebrations together. Students from all three centres had prepared some programmes for their teachers. The staff members were very happy with the performance of their children. Sixty five students of Loyola school had participated in the Essay Competition which was sponsored by the Petroleum Conservation Association. It was a wonderful experience for the participants.

In September, Fr Jerome had arranged Masses in different units of the village chapels. The Pastoral Sisters and Fr Dominic assisted him. On 13th September, we celebrated Girl Child Day at the parish level. We had a special Mass for the girl children. Just after Mass, there was a cultural programme. The Parish Youth group had taken the responsibility of the cultural programme. There were two resource persons to highlight the role and importance of a girl child: Sr Dominica CSN and Miss Moonmoon. Sr Dominica challenged the parents to provide equal opportunities for education to a girl child as it is given to a boy. Miss Moonmoon shared her own struggles to achieve her goal as an air hostess. She stressed to change our attitude and to take life as a challenge. The Girl-Child day celebration has brought some impact on the parents as well as on girls.

Fr Pradeep

Gana Chetana Samaj

Gana Chetana Samaj (GCS) conducted ten village meetings in the month of September in different villages. The agenda of the meeting were to make the people aware of the *Karam*

celebration, to create awareness among youth for the formation of clubs and to discuss about the opening of the study and coaching centres. More than 290 men, women and youths attended the meeting.

In the month of September there were three Adivasi folk dance training programmes conducted in Dhankhona on 14-18 September, and in Laljuli and Bandarhagi Pathar of Missamari Panchayat on 12-19 September. The purpose was to motivate the villagers to form the dance group and have practices for the coming Karam feast.

On 16th September, Fr George Soreng attended the meeting of the District Advisory Committee of Rural Self Employment Institution. In the meeting all the Departments of the District, DDM, NABARD, the Bank Managers and the Project Officer of DRDA were present to discuss about the future plan of the District Rural Self Employment Institute, Tezpur.

Gana Chetana Samaj celebrated *Karam* festival with the villagers of Chapaguri, Balipara Block on 13th September, and with the people of Banderhagi Pather, Missamari Block on 20th September. In both the places the villagers presented Karam folk dances which entertained and impressed the people deeply. A big number of people witnessed the programme. In order to encourage the people GCS gave away prizes to the best performers and consolation prizes to all other participants.

On 23rd September, Fr George and Miss Mary Paul Ekka, Project Coordinator participated in the State level meeting of NGOs organized by the Regional Office, Guwahati. The objective was to evaluate the progress of the projects sponsored by NABARD and further direct the NGOs for successful implementation.

In the process of forming the Youth Clubs, GCS on 28th September formed a youth club in Borghuli village. The youth club is a platform for the young boys and girls to share and discuss about the different issues of youths and play a pro-active role in the village administration.

Under the project Livelihood Development and Affirmation of Rights, the GCS sent five girls from Pengaree area to Bordumsa for the training in knitting and tailoring. In the same places ten farmers have been identified for the development of vermin compost.

Fr George

Prothrapur (Andaman)

Fr Edward Kerketta has taken the initiative to visit different villages for family visit. The local *panch-pracharakas* have arranged well for smooth running of his trip. There were some people always ready to guide and assist him.

The Diocesan Spiritual Director Fr. George Beck SJ gave recollection to the youth on 6th September. 70 boys and girls benefitted by spiritual talk, adoration and

individual confession. Sincere thanks to Fr George for his availability and service.

The feast of *Karam* was celebrated enthusiastically on 13th September after due preparation. The day began with celebration of solemn Eucharist. The main celebrant, Fr David, explained well the meaning of all the symbols. In his homily he highlighted the salvation history of Tribals and the importance of *Karam* feast in the life and culture of Adivasis. Just after the Eucharist, village-wise *Karam*

Dance Competition was held. Daudnagar, Barud Godam and Carbynscove won the first, second and third prizes respectively. Later, all the people enjoyed tribal dance with simple rhythm. Sr Rosita, the Provincial of the Cluny Sisters graced the occasion as chief guest. The birthday of Fr. David on 15th September brought the Jesuits together to celebrate life. Fr David attended Priests' senate meeting held on 15th and 16th September.

Fr David

DIASPORA

Jerusalem

The house got packed with thirty six students during the whole month of September. The course on Biblical Archeology attracted these students who are already enrolled in the Biblicum, Rome to pursue their study of the Bible and to deepen their knowledge of it here in Israel. All hailed from different parts of the world. There were eight students from African countries, six from Europe, eight from South America, three from India and two from Bangladesh. Among these there were four religious sisters from India, Bangladesh, Italy and Spain, one from each. Everyday lessons were well integrated by visits to various archeological sites all over Israel. From 17th to 21st September, they spent time in Galilee. Putting themselves on the footmarks of Jesus, visiting Nazareth, Capernaum, Lake Tiberias, Baniyas and all other Holy places in and around Jerusalem gave them a new sense of the Holy Bible.

The mid-September marked the beginning of the Jewish feasts and followed one after another. The whole of Jerusalem was in its joyful, festive mood. All the feasts carry very rich and deep meaning.

The first was "Rosh Hashanah" i.e. Jewish New Year which was celebrated between 13th -15th September. This is also considered as the anniversary of creation of the first man (Adam) and the first woman (Eve) in our world. It emphasizes on the special relationship between God and humans.

The second feast was Yom Kippur i.e. the Day of Atonement, the holiest day of the year. People are the closest to God. This was celebrated on 22-23 September. Soon after this the feast of Sukkot followed. This is known as the feast of Booths or the feast of Tabernacles. The feast lasts for seven days. Sukkot has a double meaning: first, it is the feast of ingathering at the year's end. It marks the end of the harvest year (Ex 34). Second, it is the commemoration of Exodus, the dependence of the people of Israel on the Will of God (Lev 23). Sukkah means a temporary dwelling place as it is used during the harvest season. This also signifies Israel's fragile dwellings during their 40 years of travel in the desert after the Exodus from Egypt. In memory

of their journey into the desert, the families today prepare small huts in front of their houses or apartments and take all their meals under these huts.

From 7th to 20th September, I had the opportunity to go to Rome to deal with some official matters at the General Curia. Fr Linus Kujur welcomed me with open heart. Both of us had a time together in north Italy where we participated in the final Profession of three sisters from Ranchi on 13th September. The weather was cloudy and it was raining too, yet the Profession day gifted us a good and clear sky. Fr Linus went back to Rome whereas Fr Justin Tirkey and myself proceeded to Switzerland to pay a short visit to Fr Valentine Kerketta. I had a great desire to see him since long time but I had no opportunity what so ever. Hence this time when I met him, it was really a dream come true. He gave us a very warm welcome in his parish in Locarno. Though the weather was wet due to constant rain, Fr Valentine took us to various places of interest. Travelling through the green valleys itself was so exciting. Visiting the busiest and crowded city of Lutzern surrounded by green hills and valleys and the lake at the centre, was just magnificent. We also went to Einsideln to see the famous Benedictine Monastery there. The prayerful silence inside the Basilica draws everyone to stop and pray. Every visit of ours to cities, hills and valleys filled with flowing rivers and fountains was just indescribable and awe-inspiring.

Fr Camil

Rome

By the first week of September, Edwin Ritesh and Ravi Hemant completed their Italian language course in Genova as well as in Rome. They had enough time to get acclimatized themselves to Italian food, culture and Roman way of life etc. Now, they seem to be confident in expressing themselves both through speaking and writing in a new language. They accorded a hearty welcome to their *Bade Bhai* Kulwant, who came back to Rome from Ranchi on 7th September. As a real *Bade Bhai*, he brought sweets and small gifts for them from Ranchi. However,

after being two days with them, Kulwant left for Locarno (Switzerland) on 9 September to spend a few days with Don George Valentine Kerketta from Simdega Diocese. All the Scholastics of First Year theology went to Torricelli di Sabina for their Annual Retreat from 12 to 21 September. Kulwant had to rush back to Rome from Locarno to join the group for his own Annual Retreat. The Retreat House, situated on a hilltop with an expansive garden, is an ideal and conducive place for Retreats and Recollections. Our three Ranchi men had only the wonderful experiences to narrate at the conclusion of the Retreat.

Edwin Dang spent two months – July and August – as part of his summer ministry in one of the northern Parishes of Italy. For more than a month, he managed alone all the major activities of the Parish in the absence of the Parish Priest. That also gave him an excellent opportunity to widen his knowledge of Italian language and culture. On 1 September, he left for Belgium to visit some of the important places attached to the glory of Fr Constant Lievens. Aurel Brys and Don Bart were very kind to extend all necessary help to complete his pilgrimage. On 9 September, he joined Kulwant to be with Don Valentine and Prem in Locarno. He was extremely happy to visit almost all the Houses of our St Anne's Sisters who are working in northern Italy. He utilized his time in making his Annual Retreat there and came back to Rome on 22 September.

Under the leadership of Kulwant, our other three Ranchi students Edwin Ritesh, Ravi Hemant and Edwin were planning for a pilgrimage to seek the intercession of Our Lady, the Seat of Wisdom before the start of the academic year. Saturday 26 September was the only day before they could involve themselves fully in the community orientation program. I was busy in a Conference on *Laudato Si'* until Friday 25 September; but gauging their enthusiasm, I gladly availed myself to accompany them to their pilgrimage to Loreto, the famous Marian Shrine, situated on the coastline of Adriatic Sea and Apennine Mountains. Local traditions and folklore recount that the house in which Our Lady was born, and where she received the Annunciation from the Angel Gabriel, was miraculously flown by four Angels from Palestine in 13th Century before the expulsion of Crusaders from the Holy Land. It is also believed that the Holy Family lived in that house during the childhood of Jesus. We spent enough time together to pray and meditate the mysteries of our faith and also the traditions nourished by various Christian communities. The journey from Rome to Loreto takes more than three and half hours by the private vehicle. A Convent of our St. Anne's Sisters situated almost halfway through Loreto is a great blessing to us. We are profusely grateful to Srs Rajni Kiran Topno, Elizaeth Minj and Anupa Kerketta, who

accorded a warm and cordial welcome to their house and treated us both with Indian breakfast and dinner. Our four Ranchi men seem to have rejuvenated their spirit after the pilgrimage and are ready to begin the academic year with full vigor and determination "Yes we can!" and I am sure that they will do!

Linus came back to Rome from Ranchi on 3 September. His presence in the celebration of the Final Profession of some of our Sisters on 13 September from Jharkhand brought immense joy to them. From 17 September onwards, he kept himself busy in attending the requests and queries regarding the interreligious studies. Gregorian University has started a new Centre for the Interreligious Studies, for which Linus started his responsibility as the Academic Coordinator.

I spent some days in the company of Kulwant, Edwin Dang and Don Valentine in Locarno before coming back to Rome on 14 September and to start my normal routine. From 23 to 25 September, I was invited to participate in a Conference on *Laudato Si'* in Rome organized jointly by Australian Catholic University and Catholic University of America. The title of the Conference was *Laudato Si'*: The Greening of the Church; and the participants were experts and intellectuals in the field of ecology and environment. It was my privilege to meet and interact with some of the well-known authors, whose books and articles I have extensively used for my doctoral thesis, such as, Sean McDonagh, Francis Moloney, Celia Deane-Drummond, Donal Dorr, Michael Northcott, Neil Ormerod and Denis Edwards. Apart from them, many renowned academicians and professors, such as, Lisa Cahill, James McLaren and Paul Murray participated actively in the Conference. H.E. Tamar Grzelidze, Georgian Ambassador to Holy See inspired all by her graceful presence and active participation. I was the only one from the global south, and hence, I was asked to present the implications of *Laudato Si'* from the Asian context. My presentation on Resonance of Indian Ethos in *Laudato Si'* was received with great enthusiasm and appreciation. Probably, the questions raised by Pope Francis found some stimulating applications in a multi socio-cultural and religious context of India. The Seminar raised some hope that the interest and enthusiasm of people on *Laudato Si'* are translated into some concrete initiatives – personal as well as communitarian!

Dilip Sanjay has fully immersed himself in the mission of Radio Vatican. The workload seems to be heavy at times as he is also the In-charge of the Hindi Section; nonetheless, he has successfully learnt to adapt himself to every situation. Justin utilized his final days in Italy to get the papers ready for his further studies. He also took the opportunity to visit and say goodbye to his friends. Dilip

Sanjay brought us together on 5 October to honour Justin for his long untiring and dedicated service to Radio Vatican. We bid him farewell on 6 October wishing him every success in his future mission!

Fr Prem

Guyana

In the beginning of the month, all Ranchi Jesuits- Fr Anil Tirkey, Fr Amar Bage and myself, came together and had sharing of our life and mission in Georgetown. September was celebrated as Amerindian Heritage month all over the country to preserve and to promote the incredible culture and tradition of the indigenous people of Guyana. On the occasion of the Heritage Day, Fr Elias Surin, the Parish Priest of the Pakaraimas, celebrated the Solemn Holy Eucharist in Patamuna language, one of the indigenous people's languages. It was a great surprising for many as they participated in the singing Mass.

Guyana is famous for its natural beauty- the virgin rain forest, varieties of birds, flora and fauna, waterfalls. Fr Elias Surin visit Kaieteur Falls- the world's tallest single drop (741ft) waterfall on 13th of September which is one of the most attractive tourist resorts.

On 14th September I, along with Mr Ronald Thomas visited the Secondary School Dormitory in Paramakotai, where most of our students study. Fr Anil Tirkey was continuing his liturgy classes for his parishioners. Fr Amar Bage is trying his best to make his parishioners more active and vibrant in the church and community activities.

Fr Elias Surin

Cairo (Egypt)

After seven years of service as a novice master, Fr Nader Mitchel was appointed Principal of the Holy Family Higher Secondary School, Cairo. He had come to visit Ranchi in 2008. In his place, we have a new novice master Fr Mourad from Syria. 8th September was a very memorable day as three Egyptian novices pronounced their first vows. The fourth one, a Lebanese will do it in Beirut. The very next day, they flew to Beirut for their further studies. It's a coincidence that for the first time in the history of the Egyptian Jesuits, three were ordained to priesthood on different dates. The Islamic feast of Eid-al-Adha (the feast of sacrifice) had a weeklong holiday. While Muslims celebrate, Jesuits take this opportunity to arrange every year a silent retreat for Christians of various denominations together. From our novitiate community, five of us arranged the same for forty-six people (youth, men/women, religious), each having a well furnished room in our Jesuit retreat house in Alexandria 300 kms away from Cairo. Two more Jesuits joined us to help the retreatants individually. According to the need, I was given eight persons to guide.

This year, students in Egypt had three months and a half summer vacations. The new academic school year began on 28th September. Friday is the weekly holiday and Sunday is an off day only for the Christians.

Fr Bimal Kerketta

Paris (France)

As the new semester began, the students of Second Cycle chose their topic to study in a group. Each group had a coordinator but accompanied by a professor. In a group, the texts to the related subject were read in different languages by the students. The students came to share what they read twice or thrice in a week. It was interesting to know how there are different interpretations by different authors and in different languages on the same subject. This study group was terminated with a weeklong session in another city: St Malo, France. Each group presented its work to all. Thus, everybody learnt something or the other from different topics and profited from the session.

For two days, 12-13 September, as a community we went to countryside to tell our life-stories to one another and thus to know each other. We also reflected together on community life based on the text of GC35. This year we are 16 in number in the community and 9 of us are students. 7 belong to France Province; 6 come from India (MDU, KER, KAR, RAN, DUM) and 3 come from Poland, Portugal, and Lebanon respectively.

Fr Samir

Salamanca

On 3rd September with a warm welcome and a sense of belongingness to the Society of Jesus, Anuj and myself were welcomed in the community of Juniorate in Salamanca. Our addition to this community made all the members delighted. This Juniorate community consists of eleven members with five priests and six Scholastics (Philosophers). Right now our purpose of being in this community is to get a proper atmosphere for learning the Spanish language. We felt at home as the Superior mentioned "you are not the guests, but the members of the community."

On 5th September we were privileged to go to Loyola to witness the first vows of the Spanish Novices. This occasion for us was like a 'Jesuit Baptism;' a perfect place indeed to contemplate on the initial ideas of the birth of the Society of Jesus and to feel the depths of our own spirituality as Jesuits in the spirit of companionship.

On 13th September Fr Bimal Kerketta (Egypt) gave us an on-line talk through Skype on body acclimatization and initial struggles of a human brain in terms of learning a new language and living totally in a different place altogether. Thanks to Fr Bimal. From 18th to 20th we went

to Avila to participate in the Scholastics Meet 2015. We began with contemplating the seed of our own vocation in the past and conviction to still exist and labour in the Society of Jesus at present. It was another occasion for us to be animated with the spirit of companionship in the Society of Jesus. The core of this meet was to focus and reflect on

'how we live' rather than 'what we do.' There were also lots of ideas exchanged in terms of helping refugees hailing from Syria. Now after the initial struggle of acclimatization both of us seem to have good appetite and love for the culture and language.

Sch James

LET US REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Mr Hilarius Kerketta (66), elder brother of Fr Anand Kerketta died on 21 Sept. 2015.

Fr Isayas Xess SJ (RAN) (46/24) passed away in Ranchi at Orchid on 17 October 2015.

Fr Van Besouw Charles SJ (MAP) (86/68) died on 16 Sept. 2015 at Leuven, Belgium.

Fr Moreta Louis SJ (GUJ) (87/69), died on 27 Sept. 2015, at Ankleswar Gujarat

Fr Hilary Pereira SJ (KAR) (91/72) died at Bengaluru 30 August 2015

BIRTH DAY BABIES: OCTOBER & NOVEMBER

OCTOBER

04	Tirkey Anil Kishore
08	Lakra Ignatius Ekka John Fabianus Mosahari Rosario
09	Beck Walter
11	Toppo James Ignatius Minj Anthres Beck Suman
12	Surin Victor Minj Bilianus Kerketta Pradeep
13	Tigga Navin X.
14	Tete Callixtus Soreng Jyoti Bhushan
15	Baxla Suman J.
16	Dungdung Albert Lakra Xavier
19	Ekka James
20	Bilung Francis Xavier Minj Abraham
21	Barwa Solomon
22	Ekka Anselm
24	Tirkey Francis
26	Soy Raphael Kujur Florence
27	Guria Florence Tigga Mahendra Peter

NOVEMBER

04	Jaecques 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
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

Prayer for General Congregation 36

In preparation for the **36th General Congregation**, Father General set up several committees in the Curia to help organize different things. One such committee is the Liturgical Committee, which was headed initially by Father Severin Leitner. Before his death, Father Leitner had composed a prayer for General Congregation 36. The prayer has been finalized by the Liturgical Committee and will be used by Jesuits and friends as we pray for the success of the General Congregation.

God our Father, almighty and merciful,
You sent Your Son Jesus, Your living Word,
to save the human race by His life, death, and resurrection,
and You send Your Holy Spirit to inspire and accompany Your pilgrim Church on earth.

With confidence, we pray for the Society that bears the name of Jesus:
Grant the 36th General Congregation openness to hear your Spirit
so that we may live for the greater glory of your name,
faithful to our history and the example of the saints who have gone before us.

Give us the spirit to serve beneath the banner of the Cross on behalf of Your Church,
a profound love for the world You have created and entrusted to Your people,
the grace to see with Your eyes the beauty and suffering of our sisters and brothers,
hearts that beat in union with Your heart, loving You and serving You in all things.

We ask all this through Jesus, the Savior who sets us free. Amen.
Mary, Mother of the Society of Jesus, intercede for us.
All you Saints of the Society, pray for us.

The Work of General Congregation 36 begins

Although the first plenary session of General Congregation 36 does not begin until 2 October 2016, the work of the Congregation begins when Electors and Members from the Jesuit Conferences hold their meetings. On 8 October 2015 the African Conference met in Nairobi, Kenya. Other Conference meetings were held from 15-17 October, the Canada-USA Conference meeting in St. Louis, Missouri; 18-20 October, European Conference meeting in Ariccia, Italy. The meeting of the Asia-Pacific Conference took place in Manila, Philippines, from 19-22 October. The Latin American Conference was held at Santiago, Chile, from 2-5 November, while the South Asia Conference meeting will be in Pune, India, from 3-9 November.