

RANCHI BULLETIN



76/9

Ranchi Jesuits, Sadbhavna P.B. - 4, Ranchi - 834 001, Jharkhand **SEPTEMBER 2017**

From Provincial's Desk

Nooria, a 7 year old Afgan girl, who met with a very serious accident in June 2016, landed at Birsa Munda airport in Ranchi, accompanied by two Jesuit Fathers, namely, Fr. Stan Fernandes, SJ, the South-Asian JRD Director and Fr. Ranjit Tigga, SJ, HOD, Tribal Studies, ISI, New Delhi. The parents of Nooria were also there. On recommendation of the JRS, Nooria was brought to Ranchi for an urgent facial reconstructive surgery at Devkamal Hospital, Ranchi.

Fr. Lourdes Baptista, SJ, ADD, from Delhi contacted Dr. Devendra Singh, President of the Jesuit Alumni Association of India (JAAI), for help. Responding promptly and very generously, Dr. Anant Sinha, Plastic Surgeon and Director of Devkamal Hospital, Ranchi, offered to take up Nooria's case *gratis*.

The Ranchi Jesuit Curia was approached by Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) through JAAI for board & lodge, so that during Nooria's treatment, her parents could stay in any of our houses in the city. St. Xavier's Doranda was ready to welcome them. However, Manresa House, having the infirmary facilities, was preferred for the above-said purpose. Dr Anant Sinha, the Director of Devkamal Hospital, Ranchi, has promised to make the entire treatment, stay and medicine of Nooria, free of cost during all these months and even beyond.

Manresa House, under the coordination of Fr. Rector, Minister, Infirmarian and Kitchen in-charge, has been very generous to the JRS initiative. The JRS, a Jesuit Mission across the world, has been welcoming the Ranchi Province with personnel but we have not been able to respond positively so far. This is a moment of grace that the Province has a chance to serve the refugees, one of the priorities of the Society, which has also been promoted very strongly by Pope Francis.

May good God make the stay of Nooria and her parents a pleasant, joyful and a memorable one! Let us pray so that Nooria gets a new lease of her life in Ranchi and goes back to her beloved country happily!

Fr. Joseph Marianus Kujur, SJ

Fr. Provincial's Programmes

September 2017

- Sept. 2 : Visitation Evening – Muri
 Sept. 3 : Muri – Mass, Meeting with Collaborators and Parishioners
 Sept. 6 : Meeting of Rectors, Superiors, Parish Priests, Commission Coordinators and Directors of works on “Strategic Planning” at Manresa House
 Sept. 8-9 : Visitation – RTC Tarunoday, Boreya
 Sept. 11 : Visitation – Inigo High School, Saporom
 Sept. 12 : Visitation – Catholic Church, Kanke
 Sept. 17 : Talk by Fr. Prem Xalxo, SJ, on Discernment and Integration of Fragility in Human Relationships at 3.30 pm, at XISS
 Sept. 18-20 : Visitation – Jharna-Ashirvad, Namkum
 Sept. 21 : Visitation – Bingaon
 Sept. 23 : Visitation – St. Albert’s College, Ranchi

- Sept. 25 : Visitation - Holy Family Hospital, Mandar
 Sept. 26 : Province Consult

October 2017

- Oct. 2-17 : Visitation – Guyana Jesuit Mission along with the Provincial of Karnataka
 Oct. 21-30: JCSA Meeting in Ahmadabad

November 2017

- Nov. 7-11 : Off to Delhi
 Nov. 11 : Back to Ranchi
 Nov. 16-19: Visitation – Sogra-Jharain-Rengarh
 Nov. 22-23: Visitation – Bardih-Noadih-Tongo
 Nov. 24 : Visitation – Soso
 Nov. 28-29: Joint Meeting of Major Superiors with Bishops and CRI (GB Meeting of various Registered Societies in November-December)

Appointments by Fr. Provincial

1. Fr. Manohar Khoya, SJ, Principal, St. Ignatius’ High School, Gumal, w.e.f. from 1 October 2017
2. Fr. Erentius Minj, SJ, Principal, St. Mary’s English Medium School, Samtoli, w.e.f. from 1 October 2017

Servant of God, Fr. Constant Lievens: One Step Forward Towards Beatification



After a long waiting of almost two years, the Decree of Validity for the Collection of Documentations of the Diocesan Phase was finally issued on 4 June 2017 by the Congregation of the Causes of Saints. Great news indeed! It has to be recalled that the collection of Documents after the conclusion of the Diocesan Phase was submitted to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints on 4 September 2015 by Rev. Don Bart Geryl. Don Bart Geryl was in Ranchi in July to share the good news with H.E. Telesphore P. Cardinal Toppo and R. P. Provincial. And now the Public Copy was made available on 10 September 2017 to proceed further in writing the *Positio*. Three Ranchi Jesuits: Kulwant Minj, Linus Kujur and Prem Xalxo, have already completed *Studium*, the course organized by the Congregation for the Causes of Saints. Along with Don Bart Geryl, it is their responsibility to write *Positio* to prove the virtues and reputation of the sanctity of the Servant of God, Fr. Constant Lievens.

The issuing of the Public Copy of the documentations also indicates the beginning of the Roman Phase and lays the increased responsibility on the faithful of Chotanagpur Church to pray more intensely through fasting and penance for miracles through the intercession of the Servant of God, Fr. Constant Lievens and for his eventual beatification.

Khrist Jyoti Church, Bingaon

Just Google it and you are there with the information about the land assets of Bingaon parish. Yes, that can possibly be available after a few months' time. Thanks to Fr. James Tete who dared going about amidst thunderstorms to Karra 'Prakhand'! He had to go up and down on every first weeks of every month for the online registration of the land.

On 5 August, Deacon Bipin paid a flying visit to his ailing mother and spent some time with her. He was back on 9th. After recuperating for about a month's good rest, Fr Raphael Soy moved to Tongo, his next mission land on 6 August. A youthful and good friend of his accompanied him to the destination.

The forces of nature slowed down our life for some time. The torrential rain and lightning struck the generator and caused damage. The electricity cable was snapped. But the 'Bada' Father got it repaired in 2 days prior to the 'Mata Diwas' celebration.

The Prabhat Middle School began its first Terminal Exams on 18 August and continued till 25 August. Meanwhile two of ours: The 'Tete' Father and 'Dikon' Father were down with malaria. Now they feel better. A day of Recollection was arranged for the mothers of the parish so as to prepare them spiritually to celebrate the Monica Day meaningfully. Mr. Kamal Bara, Coordinator of LNN, Ranchi, came to help the mothers in their spiritual preparation. The Deacon too lent his helping hand in this regard.

Our head catechist, Mr. Dominic Dhan, had met with an accident and had broken his kneecap at 'Chuir Mord' in the month of July. He is convalescing in the parish itself after his operation.

Deacon Bipin Lugun, SJ

Sonabheel, Assam

The College resumed its regular classes on 1 August 2017 after the summer vacation. This day was dedicated to the staff working in the Jesuit Institutions of Tezpur Diocese. They assembled at St. Xavier's College, Sonabheel, for a dual purpose: firstly, for a half-day motivational programme and secondly, for a festive meal in commemoration of our

Founder's Feast, St. Ignatius of Loyola. The participants were about 80. Dr. Virginius Xaxa, an eminent Professor in Tezpur Central University, mesmerized the gathering with his motivational talk on the challenges of a teacher in forming the students in the present day milieu. Fr. Ashok welcomed the guests, Frs. Ranjit and Florence moderated the programme, Fr. Xavier Lakra gave an input on the ways of motivating students in the teaching-learning process and Fr. Anupchand Minj shared his views on the legal status in the light of RTE Act 2009. The programme culminated with a festive meal shared by the whole staff.

As a part of our Annual Planning, we have categorized the students in various groups to help them improve their results. Fr. Xavier has started with the orientation session every Saturday for one period. Besides, he has been counseling the students everyday in the College and the Hostel as well. Come, what may! Discipline and cleanliness, Yes! Because every day at 4.30 am while taking a morning walk, he picks up the plastic bags thrown on the road sides in the campus. Keep it up Fr Xavier, it's good for health!

Our new comers and guests are amazed to see the electricity supply that never fails in the campus. How is it possible? The miracle is that we have the Solar panels all around, a big generator to stand the power load in all the buildings and of course, a new transformer connected to the Government power supply! Enjoy 24 hour running fan, but not the ACs!

These days often we get phone calls from our dear ones inquiring about the flood situations in Assam. Our solidarity goes to those 33 lakhs of affected people in various parts of Assam. However, our surrounding remains unaffected and luckily we enjoy a pleasant weather.

Frs. Ranjit and Ashok with the Head Clerk went to Guwahati on 13 August 2017 to meet the Secretary of the Council to settle the matters with regard to the permission of the College.

The Independence Day celebration on 15 August 2017 was simple. Fr. Ashok unfurled the National Flag and Master Cyril, a hostel boy, delivered the speech. The people who came for the Holy Mass also participated in the flag hoisting.

The customary Fresher's Day was celebrated on 19 August 2017 in the Junior College. The students came to

the college donning their cultural dresses and put up their entertainment programmes but with moderation. This time the Degree College separated itself and celebrated the same on 30 August 2017.

A big welcome to Fr Peter Paul Ekka, SJ, who landed at the Tezpur Airport after 8 hours of delay! Since it was his maiden trip to the North-East, he was getting fidgety about the whole thing. Frs. Xavier, Florence and Ashok drove him home. He took his office on 21 August 2017 in the College and began his work with a smiling face. All the best Peter! Now both, Frs. Florence and Peter have started shuttling to Guwahati for the college work. Don't give it up!

The Jesuits working in Tezpur Diocese came together in the College Community, Sonabheel, for the Governing Body meeting of XAVIERS Trust and for the formation of a new Board. Simultaneously, the Governing Body of the Degree College and the Managing Committee of the Junior College were formed for better administration. The meeting ended with a welcome cheers for Fr. Peter and a sumptuous dinner.

Fr. Xavier Lakra, SJ

Manas Bansbari

The month of August was the month of football in Manas Bansbari. On 31 July 2017 St. Xavier's football Prize Money Cum Running Trophy Championship was opened keeping in mind the Feast of St. Ignatius. Many people from the neighbouring villages came to witness the match. On 2 August 2017 the school was reopened after a month long summer holidays with a new vigour and zeal. From 5 to 7 August Fr. Pius Xalxo, SJ, the new Provincial Delegate of Assam visited us. He came to get to know the mission places and was off to Kathalguri on 8 August. On 10 August 2017 the Mother General of St. Anne's Congregation along with her Province Secretary of Jalpaiguri came to Manas Bansbari to see her Sisters in the mission and left for Jalpaiguri on 11th morning. The Independence Day and the Assumption of our Lady On 15th was celebrated with colourful programmes. To mark the day one day Muna Football match was organized. The match brought lots of children in the campus. It appeared like a Baal Mela. The result of the half yearly

exam was given on 16 August 2017. The students came to take their result along with their parents. It was encouraging that many parents came. On 20th the hostellers were taken to the river side to an outing. They enjoyed it a lot. While going they had the pleasure of a vehicle, but returned on foot.

The Final match of St. Xavier's Football Prize Money took place on 26 August. The I. C. and S. D. O. of Chalbari was the chief guest. There were more than 1000 spectators. The purpose of organizing the match was to bring together the people of the locality in spite of their differences in cast and creed. The I.C. & S.D.O. was pleased to be with us. On 27 August the feast of St. Monica, the Mothers' Day was celebrated in the parish in a great joy. They had the novena in their units with confessions. Both the Priests went round to hear confessions in spite of the bad roads.

Fr. Laurentus, the headmaster is busy with the problem of the untrained teachers visiting offices from door to door to solve the problem. On 29th Fr Laurentus went to see Fr. Swarn in Bomaigoan as he was admitted in the hospital and on 31st he went to shift him from Bomaigoan to Guwahati.

Fr. Lazarus Baumataru, SJ

Prothrapur, Andaman

The feast of St. John Mary Vianney, the patron saint of priests, was solemnly celebrated. Fr. David highlighted the saintly life of St. John Vianney in his sermon followed by an adoration of the Blessed Sacrament as it happened to be the first Friday of the month.

The Word made Flesh dwells among us and fills us with his everlasting love and peace. As usual this year too we celebrated the SCC Day in a meaningful way in the parish. It was decided to have the celebration on Sunday 6 August 2017. The theme of the day was depicted in front of the Altar, "*Vachan ko jeeyo, Yesu ko banto.*" To know and honour the word of God, the Bible was enthroned in front of the altar, garlanded and given an arati in full devotion. Fr. David exhorted the faithful to read the Word of God which never gets old, but remains ever new. The liturgy was very meaningful. After the Mass sweet buns were distributed to all present sponsored by Mr. Sebastian

Tirkey. May God bless his generosity! We raise our hearts in thanking God for his protection, guidance and inspiration to do little good to the people for the Glory of God.

12 August was a great day for Prothrapur parish to have taken out a great procession of the Padyatra from Bamboo flat jetty to Velankani shrine at Panighat in honour of our Mother of Velanakani, known as the Mother of Health. The devotees and parishioners of Prothrapur Parish assembled at Bamboo flat jetty at 2.00 pm and the padyatra started at 2.30 pm despite the inclement weather. About 250 devotees joined together, prayed and raised devotional slogans and praised Mother Mary.

Fr. David was the main celebrant. Fr. Mahipal Balmuch, Rector of the Shrine and Fr. Patrick, hostel in charge at Mannarghat concelebrated with him. The theme of the Holy Mass and novena was “*VARTMAN JEEVAN KI DASHA AND DISHA.*”

On 13 August the *Prison Ministry Sunday* was celebrated. Fr. David after the Gospel reading read out the Pastoral Letter of Bishop Peter Remigius, Patron of the Prison Ministry, India, in Hindi. To support our brothers and sisters, those who are behind the bars, besides prayers we had a second collection.

His Lordship Bishop Alex Dias, SFX, availed himself for an annual pastoral visitation to Prothrapur parish for two days on 19-20 August 2017. On his arrival with Rev. Father Dharampal Tirkey, the Mahila Sangh welcomed them in accordance with the Adivasi culture and tradition by washing their hands and garlanding them. On the first day they devoted their time to the faithful of Carbynscove Church where Rev. Fr. Joseph Minj, SJ, died on a Good Friday in the year 2007. Fr. David, Srs. Nirmala and Sudha accompanied them to Carbynscove where the people were ready to welcome them in a sizeable number. The evening started with a catechism instruction for all: the children, youth and elders for an hour followed by confessions and solemn Eucharist. After the Holy Mass a short welcome programme for His Lordship. This was the first time the Bishop stayed overnight in Prothrapur parish.

The next day 20 August His Lordship dedicated his time to the whole parish of Prothrapur and its people. As usual in the morning he began catechizing the people for an hour prior to the Holy Eucharist. In his instruction he insisted on the importance of catechism for children as

well as the grownups. After the Mass a short and beautiful welcome programme was presented followed by a meeting with the PPC (Parish Pastoral Council) members, the members of different sanghs and leaders of various villages. There was ample time for interaction and suggestions. The faithful expressed both joy and worry. After the lunch Rev. Bishop and Fr. Dharampal checked all the registers of the parish and after which they proceeded to Cluny Convent, Birdlime to pay a short visit to the Sisters.

The feast of St. Monica, the patron saint of all the mothers was celebrated in great zest. A recollection for the Mahila Sangh in the Church held under the guidance of Sr. Nirmala, SJC, on 26 August which was participated by a good number of mothers which ended with confessions and celebration of Eucharist presided over by Fr. Edward Kerketta, SJ. We received the sad news that the father of Sr. Nirmala had expired in the mainland. Sr. Nirmala had to rush to the mainland, Andhra Pradesh, by flight at 2.30 pm for the burial and to be with the bereaved family.

Prothrapur parish celebrated the feast of St. Monica with zest the next day. The Eucharist began with a solemn entrance dance, with the Mothers carrying the flag of the Mahila Sangh. The Liturgy was well prepared. Different villages and communities were given responsibilities to make the day memorable. After the Mass a colourful cultural programme was presented to show respect and honour to our mothers, and in the end everyone was given a sweet packet.

Fr. David Bara, SJ

St. Ignatius' Gumla

All of us in the community mourned the death of two Brothers: Br. Yacub Xalxo, SJ, on the 1 August and Br. Francis Xavier Bilung on 29 August. Br. Yacub was a member of our community sometime in the 70s. Some of us from the community went for their burial at Ranchi. May they rest in eternal peace! On 4 August the first terminal exams began for the School and Inter College which went on till 12 August. Today was an auspicious day for our Football Team under 14 that qualified for the Subroto Cup in Delhi. Congratulations! As every year the Feast of St. John Mary Vianney is celebrated on 4 August in the Parish, but this year it was kept on 6th, Sunday, to let the

Parishioners also join it. We joined them at the Eucharistic celebration and the climax was of course, the Dinner at the Bishop's House in the evening for all the religious.

The birthdays of Anuranjan (Aug. 5) and Pradeep (Aug. 8) were jointly celebrated on 8 August with a community Eucharist and birthday agape. On 9 August the World Indigenous/Tribal Peoples Day, so many tribal people/group gathered in the Town Hall, Gumla. The AROUSE Gumla motivated and led the whole programme. It was an opportunity to show the strength of the tribals in and around Gumla Town. Fr. Rector was one of the speakers on the occasion. Sr. Marione, IBVM, Superior of Loreto Covent Ranchi, paid a visit on 20th to her Sisters at St. Ignatius'. We had a good and fruitful interaction with her. Thanks for her kind visit! There was some repercussion on the passing of the Anti Conversion Bill 2017 by the State Legislature. The Local Christians burnt the effigy of the CM at the Tower Chowk on 11th as a protest to the unwanted Bill.

In search of the herbal plants Frs. Manohar, Anuranjan, Vijay and Florence went all the way to Hatinghoda on 13th and were able to pick up some rare plants from there. Let us hope these plants survive here so that we will have medicines at our door steps. There were 4 Holidays continuously this month. That was the reason why this time the 15th of August was celebrated in a much lower key as most students were out. However, the hostellers took the chance to organize football matches among themselves and so was the vigorous competition all around on the ground.

Fr. Marc De Brouwer received three of his family members as guests here in Gumla. They went round to the work places of Marc and saw things with their own eyes. They went back very happy. Together with Anuranjan, Vijay Topno, an AROUSE Staff and I went to Konmenjra and Jaldega visiting the field projects of AROUSE on 20th. It was a very good exposure to what the villagers are doing in their own places. A new teacher was recruited in the English Medium School after an interview and screening with Fr. Rector, Vijay and Ravi Bhushan. At AROUSE the CHILDLIE Team underwent a rigorous training from 22-26 August under a trainer from Kolkata. There is another project launched by the World Bank for the basket weavers. Under it some 20 trainees are engaged in the course at the AROUSE.

Our Football Team under 14 departed for Delhi on 25th. They played three league matches which they won gloriously scoring 16 goals in all and received only 3, but in the quarter final they lost just by 0-1 to Mizoram. Better luck the next time! Parents-Teachers meetings were organized class-wise in the English Medium School from 28-1st Oct. It was beneficial for the staff as well as the parents/guardians. On 29th Manohar and I went to meet the Provincial and then visited JAC. The same day Br. Francis had expired, so we paid him our last respect before departing from Ranchi. Fr. Erentius Minj went for the Headmasters meeting in Ranchi and then proceeded to Bundu for some work before returning back.

Fr. Christopher Lakra, SJ

St. Mary's, Samtoli

St. Xavier's College, Simdega, re-opened after the exams of the First Year. Fr. Provincial was present for the first day of the class for both: part I & II. In the beginning the students of Part II welcomed the students of Part I by their welcome song. Thereafter, Fr. Rector welcomed them and gave a short message to the students. Fr. Provincial welcomed every student and encouraged both: the staff and students. He gave a strong message to both the students and staff. He left for Ranchi at 11.30 am to attend the burial Mass of Br. Yacub Xalxo, SJ.

The Inspection Team for St. Xavier's College, Simdega, from the Ranchi University arrived at 3.00 pm. The team consisted of 5 Professors: 1) Dr. I. K. Choudhary, Team Leader and Dean of Social Sciences, 2) Dr. V.V.N. Pandey, Dean of Humanities, 3) Dr. G. K. Srivastava, Dean of Commerce, 4) Dr. Vishwarup Mukherjee, H.O.D. Zoology and 5) Dr. G. S. Tiwary, Assistant Registrar, Ranchi University. They were welcomed by the students with a welcome dance and a few cultural items. After snacks and tea they went round the building for inspection. There was a short meeting with the management thereafter. They were served meal and then left for Ranchi. We hope they are satisfied and will approve it.

From the next day there were regular classes for both: Degree I and Degree II. The campus is brimming with students.

For St. Monica Diwas requests came from different parishes for recollections and talks as a preparation for it.

The request of Sogra Parish was accepted by Fr. Ireneus To:ppo on Saturday. Fr. Isaac went for confession. There was a request for confession from the Cathedral also and Fr. Albert Dungkung obliged it. On the feast day Frs. Isaac Tete and Gilbert D'Souza concelebrated in the Cathedral.

After the exams in the school, the students were busy with the inter-house football tournament. Each group was very active in cheering its team. It went on for three days.

Fr. Linus Dungkung, SJ

Vidyaniketan, Trivandrum, Kerala

Vidyaniketan was highly elated to welcome 33 Juniors from nine different provinces. All the Juniors felt at home. However, there was a slight change in the weather which showed its effect in fever on the Juniors. It took a little time to adjust ourselves with the climate here.

On 26 June we had the inauguration of the academic year 2017-18 followed by an orientation and community building by Fr. Thachil, SJ. He injected in us a new vigour and zeal and reminded us of our goals in the Juniorate to make a good start and grow together. We had a beautiful chance in 'Trivandrum Darshan' to have a good idea of the important places in the city. We are also very lucky to have a two day course on "Time Management" by Fr. Lawrence Amalraj, SJ. On 31 July we celebrated the feast of St. Ignatius with a solemn mass. There was a friendly basketball match among us.

We, the Ranchi Juniors, feel privileged to have Holy Mass in Hindi offered by Fr. Deva once a week, an evening prayer and a recreation in Hindi on the same day. Our classes are in full swing. We are trying our best to polish and brush up our English.

Sch. Praveen Minij

St. Xavier's School, Doranda

2017 so far, St. Xavier's Doranda, has brought a lot of blessings in the form of major as well as breakthrough accomplishments. Although, we are now quite well used to various features of academic and non-academic excellence, the parameters and variables for further performances and experiences in this regard have

undergone exceptional changes and innovation. For example, we do not merely now focus on the teaching of the conventional and classic concepts of various subjects but we have also with time evolved a very special space for our children to help them grow in the changing scenario of our ever developing world. Honestly, not only does this space allow them to grow intellectually but it also helps them build and inculcate within them very strong and healthy cultural and vocational skills.

As such, the results are all here to see for us. We have now on a regular basis begun to reap the harvest of our earnest investments. Both within the country and overseas, our students have initiated waves for themselves. First, a group of three students: Tarush Modi, Alokith Charles Toppo and Altamas Sami, came out with astounding results to bag the **Overall Championship Trophy** in the recently held **Inter Jesuit Schools' Speech and Elocution Contest** in Durgapur, West Bengal. Among the best 16 participating schools from Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal, St. Xavier's Doranda, left indelible memories in the history of the iconic event. While Tarush Modi was declared the best extempore speaker, Altamas Shami and Alokith Chales Toppo commendably ensured second and third rank for themselves in Junior and Senior Elocution Contests respectively.

Hardly had these boys soaked us in the euphoria of their groundbreaking achievements when the school most convincingly won the **Overall Championship Trophy** in the all prestigious **Doranda Old Xaverians Inter School Co-Curricular Activities Championship** held on 31st August 2017. Given the magnitude of the contests, with 32 schools participating from Ranchi, Jamshedpur and Hazaribagh, it was an awe-inspiring demonstration by the ever industrious students from St. Xavier's Doranda.

Adding to these, the two well deserving students from our school: Master Tarush Modi and Ms. Rahat have kept up the legacy of victories alive by winning the Regional ICSE/ISC Challenges and emerged as the leading participants in this year's **National ICSE/ISC Debate and Declamation Contests** which will be held at City Montessori School, Lucknow, on 15 October 2017. Both of these students along with other talented ones from the school have incredibly compounded their efforts and interests to win this year many medals for the school at the

zonal and regional levels of Bihar and Jharkhand. Moreover, Tarush Modi along with his companion Akash Singh would also participate at the famous TV rounds of **INDIA TODAY Inter School Quiz Contest** towards the end of October 2017 in New Delhi.

Things don't end here however. Rather, we just restart all over again post many accomplishments of such kind. Few months behind, a delegation from the International Olympic Committee visited our school to most fittingly award us with the opportunity to represent the youth of the nation at the **International Youth Forum in Estonia**. A Team of five students from our school led by an escort teacher participated at the International Gathering of Youth in Estonia and they put up a tremendous show to be awarded medals of merit during the programme days.

When the nation very deferentially announced the celebration and ceremonies of **International Yoga Day** this year, we were also all decked up on the day to express our solidarity and enthusiasm for the same. Supporting this unique initiative for general good health, our school organized a very special programme on the day in the morning assembly. We participated in the well anchored yoga exercises. The school has kept the momentum going by organizing weekly yoga exercises thereafter.

Bidding to become able and responsible citizens of the society, the students put in enough fervor in their interaction with the aged and the invalid of the local **Cheshire Home, Ranchi**. It was indeed a life-time experience for the students to have spent some golden hours with these distinctive people. The students, on their own, had arranged good assortment of goods and money for the noble purpose. Not only did they share their heartfelt contributions with them but also blissfully communicated their concerns for them. The people at the Cheshire home were awed by the innocent but conscious responses of our young children.

Furthermore, on 5th September, during the **Teachers' Day Celebration**, the students through their affectionate and respectful gestures showed why teachers are integral part of their life. The teachers were fairly taken by the spectacular schedule of the day. The prayer service, the entertainment extravaganza and the sumptuous lunch for an icing on the cake – everything seemed so honourable and mesmerizing.

Fr. Ajit, the principal of our school, was invited by the **Council for the Indian School Certificate Examination (CISCE)** to play a vital role among the Panel of Inspectors. Since three two years he is visiting many schools in West Bengal and UP to inspect the schools and more recently Appointed by the Council to inspect an upcoming school in Lucknow, Fr. Ajit visited the school to participate in the prescribed proceedings to check viabilities for the affiliation from the council.

For now, everyone in the community here is doing well. All are enjoying some pristine health. God keeps on blessing us in this regard.

Fr. Ajit Kumar Xess, SJ

Israel

Once the big celebration of 31 July was over, the PBI community members had a time to relax. Practically all of us planned for holidays. Fr José M. Abrego, the House Superior left for Spain already on 1 August 2017 and spent the whole month among his near and dear ones. Apart from the family visits, he had to consult four doctors for four different medical treatments. The results seem to be all right and Fr Abrego feels satisfied. Fr Stefano, the Director of the Institute left for Italy on 9 August 2017 for his holidays and stayed there till 24 August 2017. He had a good time and perfect relaxation. Fr Hicham, Fr David and Fr Peter had their time for various meetings and some days of holidays as well. Concerning myself, there were no holidays as such since I had already spent one month in May-June at Ranchi. However, I was blessed by two important visitors from Ranchi. First, Fr George Valentine Kerketta from Simdega Diocese who visited the Holy Land from 8 to 17 August 2017 and second, Fr Aurel Brys from 22 to 29 August 2017. Fr Brys came to visit the Holy Land as part of his Spiritual Exercises. Hence, he made his plan for his visit to Jerusalem and Galilee according to the movement of his prayer. He expressed great happiness and satisfaction. Fr George came for a pilgrimage making it a part of his holidays. He arrived at Tel Aviv Airport on 8 August 2017 around noon time. I welcomed him at the Airport and immediately we travelled together to Jerusalem by Shuttle Bus Service. I had the pleasure of giving him company through the entire period

of his pilgrimage. The first part of the pilgrimage tour was Galilee, while the second was Jerusalem and the rest. Hence we left for Galilee on 10 August and stayed in Tiberias right on the shore of the Lake. The weather was hot and humid but evening breeze was pleasant. With two days of our stay we were able to visit all the Holy sites on the shore of the Lake Galilee including Mount Tabor, Nazareth, Baniyas, Akko and Mount Carmel in Haifa. As we walked in these places, particularly on the shore of the Lake of Galilee, we had a deep sense of being with Jesus walking during his public ministry. The second part of the pilgrimage was a unique experience of faith as we visited walking all the holy sites in Jerusalem and Bethlehem. Praying at the Holy Sepulchre, Calvary, and Gethsemane was quite touching. Thousands of pilgrims praying or making the Way of the Cross everyday left a deep impression on our faith and prayer. Our last day was swimming in the Dead Sea and wading into the shore of the Red Sea at the city of Eilat, the southernmost part of Israel.

Camil Kerketta SJ

Rome

On 4 August, Edwin Ritesh and Ravi Hemant returned from Israel after their one month sojourn in Jerusalem, during which they visited some of the important historical, cultural and religious sites as part of their formation. After the pilgrimage, they had a short biblical-theological course organized by the Pontifical Biblical Institute of Jerusalem. On 7 August, both of them left for their language course to Munich and Brussels. Edwin Ritesh opted to learn some basics of German language in Munich, whereas Ravi Hemant preferred to learn a bit of French in Brussels. Both of them had a good company of Jesuits and non-Jesuits in Munich and Brussels, which helped them to pick up manageable German and French languages. They also visited the important places attached to life and memories of Fr. Constant Lievens in Belgium to get more acquainted with the land of the Belgian missionaries, who brought the light of faith to Chotanagpur. Edwin Ritesh and Ravi will be back to Rome by 20 September.

Edwin Dang had a wonderful pastoral experience in a Parish near Loreto called Porto Recanati. He accompanied a group of young students in their summer camp to

help them prepare for their first communion and confirmation. He also willingly accepted the invitation of the Parish Priest to go for house blessings, which provided him with an occasion to learn and know more about the faith formation, family crisis and pastoral challenges in Italy. During the third week of August, he spent his time with the Lord in silence by doing his Annual Retreat. He came back to Rome on 28 August to give a final touch to his thesis. After submitting his Papers, he went on a pilgrimage to Ignatian sites in Spain.

Kulwant completed his three months' pastoral experience in Keondtand and came back to Ranchi on 8 September to prepare himself to go back to Rome. He was sent there with a specific mission of resolving some contentious issues, which he did diligently under the guidance of R. P. Provincial and with the help of the Parish Priest. He seems to be happy with the outcome of his efforts and with all his experiences within a short span of time, which will be useful while studying Canon Law from the next Academic Year.

Anselm, Linus and Sanjay had stayed back in Rome during the Roman summer. In the Curia, Anselm had the first experience of the exodus of the Fathers during August. Most of the Curia members went out of Rome either for their summer vacations or for their personal retreats. The Curia was mostly deserted except for a few community members who stayed back to look after the necessary house and office works. Anselm was alone in the Treasurers' Office to look after the day-to-day transactions. A few lay staff extended their helping hands in the office work. In the absence of the House Minister, he also had to look after the financial needs of the House as the Acting Minister. And he did a commendable job!

Since the House was closed for August, Linus had shifted to St. Pietro Canisio Residence to be with Sanjay. On 26 August, he left for Belgium to visit some of the important sites related to the Servant of God Fr. Constant Lievens. The Decree of Validity for the Diocesan Phase was received on 14 June 2017 by Rev. Don Bart Geryl, Diocesan Postulator, who had done a commendable job of collecting all the relevant documents pertaining to life, virtues and fame of sanctity of Fr. Constant Lievens. The collection of documents was submitted to the Congregation for the Causes

of Saints on 4 November 2015. Receiving the Decree of Validity even after almost two years ignites the hope and signals the start of a new phase, that is, the Roman Phase. Linus met Don Geryl there to discuss the ways and means of taking further steps towards the beatification process of Fr. Lievens. He came back to Rome on 4 September.

Ajit Kumar Xess had invited Prem to preside over the festive Eucharistic celebration in St. Xavier's School, Doranda. The enthusiasm and energetic spirit of the students and the staff in celebrating the feast in solemn manner is always highly appreciable under the leadership of our young Jesuits of SXS, Doranda. Immediately after the Ignatian feast, Prem left for Pune to offer a course on *Communication Ethics in an Age of Diversity* in the Department of Moral Theology of JDV. Later he moved to DVK, Bangalore to offer the same course to the Licentiate students of Moral Theology from 21 August to 2 September. On 19 August, he participated in the Ordination Ceremony of one of his Gregorian students from Kerala. The five long hour ceremony in Syro-Malabar rite was very solemn and fascinating. Biju Sebastian warmly received him in his house and helped him to have a glimpse of the beauty and a taste of the culinary of Kerala by taking round the houses of all his relatives. Both Kulwant and Prem will leave for Rome via Delhi on 20 September to begin yet another Academic Year from 2 October.

Fr. Prem Xalxo, SJ

Spain

The last phase of our summer holidays was yet another opportunity to witness a new variety of experience. On 1 August Anuj went to Málaga (South Spain) to render his service in the Jesuit infirmary. James, on the other hand, went to Burgos in northern Spain on 29 July for a working camp known as ATALAYA. This camp is basically active among the immigrant families, especially with the children.

On 17 August, we all the scholastics gathered together at Loyola to make our Annual Retreat. It was under the able guidance of Fr. Francisco Javier Álvarez de los Mozos, SJ, who was also one of the Spanish delegates to the GC 36. We were all enthused to have a desire to encounter God in our personal meditations and

contemplations. The inputs were well combined with the decrees of GC 36. We concluded our retreat with the Eucharistic celebration in the Chapel of Conversion, the very place where St. Ignatius, during the time of his convalescence experienced a radical change in his life. The following day we went to a Jesuit Villa house in Getaria for our Scholastics gathering. Getaria is a coastal town located in the northern Spain. The theme was "Rowing into the deep". Sch. Antonio, a would be theologian this year, led us into reflections. We, in accordance with the theme and the Gospel passage (Lk. 5, 1-11) spent some time sharing in a group our personal life and its ups and downs. The formation delegate, PCF, Fr. Pablo Alonso, SJ, also made it possible to come to our gathering by travelling 1200 kms. He summarized the present scenario and the upcoming Jesuit vocations in the Province.

We came back to our respective Communities on 28 August. After two days, on the 31st James celebrated his birthday in his community. The following day we both of us, Anuj and I, made it an occasion to celebrate it together with some Indian dishes. Now we have a good rapport with some of the owners of the Indian restaurants. In a coincidence when we arrived to celebrate it, it so happened to be the birthday of the owner also, and the rest of the story you can imagine.

This year there are many changes in our communities. James has got a new Superior as Fr. Manuel García Bonasa, SJ and many theologians are interchanged from one community to another. We wish to proceed ahead in gusto as the new academic year awaits us.

Sch. James

Guyana

The Republic of Guyana celebrated the Emancipation Day on 1 August to commemorate the abolition of the slave trade in the British Empire which took place on 1 August 1834. In the North West region of Guyana, Fr. Amar Bage seemed to be happy and satisfied with his enormous efforts to organize the youth. Fifteen youth whom he had sent for three weeks' training and exposure to Trinidad and Tobago are now more active in the church activities. Fr. Mark Mukul was still busy conducting intense catechism classes for the children, youth and parents in Berbice, Corentyne. After having six months of lessons on the extraordinary



Eucharistic Minister, seven lay people were commissioned by Fr. Anil Kishor as Eucharistic Ministers in his Parish in the East Coast Demerara, Georgetown. The symbol of our faith and unity, the magnificent church building in Karasabai, in South Pakaraimas, dedicated to St. Teresa of Child Jesus was opened and blessed on 6 August by His Lordship Bishop Francis Alleyne, OSB, and Bishop of Georgetown. Fr. Joseph, Fr. Britto Arockiam, Fr. Edwin Anthony, Fr. James Conway and Fr. Elias Surin were concelebrants during the Solemn Holy Eucharist. The melodious hymns and devotional dances mesmerized the entire faithful. On this auspicious occasion 86 young people from six communities: Yurongparu, Rukumuta, Tipuru, Pi Pong, Tiger Pond and Karasabai received the Sacrament of Confirmation in the presence of 500 people. Hearty Congratulations to our dear Sr. Divya Gulab, Sr. Serophina Kerketta, Sr. Nishi S. Kujur and Sr. Crecencia Toppo for taking up the leadership role in working together with the local community of Karasabai to complete the church building within a year. Sr. Divya Gulab and Sr. Serophina Kerketta were given farewell after their seven and a half years of tireless and selfless service to the people of Guyana. Their contribution to the church of Guyana,

especially in Karasabai will be remembered. Sr. Sosan A. Kujur and Sr. Helena Soreng, the young and energetic Ursuline Sisters from Ranchi, are the new arrivals to replace them.

Patriotism for the mother land was obvious on 15 August, the Independence Day of India, as many of us gathered together in the Indian Cultural Centre, Georgetown, Guyana, for the tricolour flag hoisting. Mr. V. Mahalingam, the Indian High Commissioner unfurled the national flag. Varieties of Indian Sweets were served to everyone.

Sr. Crecencia Toppo, Sr. Nishi S. Kujur, Sr. Sosan A. Kujur and Sr. Helena Soreng had a community outing in Kumu water falls in St. Ignatius' Lethem in the Central Rupununi. It was also the occasion for them to have their faith sharing, struggles, challenges and dreams in this mission. Fr. Edwin Anthony and Fr. James Conway accompanied them. On 18 August Fr. Paul Chemparthy (Nepal) and Fr. Stephan Selvanathan (Madurai), the experienced and courageous Jesuits as they were working in Russia and Afganistan respectively, have arrived Guyana to join us in our mission field.

Fr. Elias Surin, SJ

A Day to celebrate

SEPTEMBER

02	Delporte Antoon
04	Kerketta Patrick Xess Isayas
07	Ekka Severius
08	Kadookunnel Anthony Saras Ajit Kullu Elias
10	Ekka Prakash
12	Kerketta Elvius
13	Kindo Beatus
14	Tigga John Crus
15	Bara David
16	Ekka Patras Tirkey Alexius Dhanwar Fulit
17	Minj Claber
20	Tirkey Stanislaus
21	Toppo Christopher Raju Bage Tej Mati Dang Edwin Kandir Stephen
23	Kujur Linus Kujur Pingal
24	Tirkey Ignatius
25	Baxla Tej Kumar
OCTOBER	
04	Tirkey Anil Kishore
06	Kerketta Sukesh

08	Lakra Ignatius Ekka John Fabianus
09	Beck Walter
11	Toppo James Ignatius Minj Anthres Beck Suman Minj Erentius
12	Surin Victor Minj Billianus Kerketta Pradeep
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
28	Kujur Sudhir Soreng Kennedy Prabhat
30	Aind Alphonse Kindo Ravi Sushil

Announcements:

1. Fr. Florence Guria will take his final vows on at 9.00 am on 15 October 2017 at St. Ignatius' High School, Gumla.
2. The **Annual Retreat** for all the **Jesuit Brothers** of the **Central Zone** is arranged at the **Retreat House, Satyodaya, Secunderabad** from **Sunday, 12th Evening to Monday 20th Evening in November 2017**. **Fr. Alphonse, SJ**, of **Andhra Province** will be the retreat director. Total Expenses (inclusive of all expenses) will be Rs. 6000.00 (six thousand rupees only).

For more details you can contact **Br. James Barla, SJ, (Ranchi)**, Mobile No. 9973284758 or **Br. Tony Dias (Pat)**, Mobile No. 9431011284.

Br. James Barla, SJ

3. New Mobile Number of Brother Telesphore Horo, SJ - 9572654451
4. Loyola Training Centre, Dr. Camil Bulcke Path, Ranchi, is re-opening on 1 October 2017, with courses of Typing and Shorthand.

Let us remember them in our prayers

1. Mr. Nazarius Tirkey, 85, died on 26.7.2017, eldest brother of Br. Modestus Tirkey, SJ
2. Mr. Protatius Minj, 53, died on 31.8.2017, elder brother of Fr. Anthres Minj, SJ.

Please send your articles with some photos by the Fifth of every month