

# RANCHI BULLETIN



79/12 Ranchi Jesuits, Sadbhavna P.B. - 4, Ranchi -834 001, Jharkhand **December 2020**

## APPOINTMENTS BY FR. GENERAL

- Fr. Shajumon Chakkalakkal, SJ (DAR) as the new Socius, Admonitor and Consultor to the POSA.
- Fr. Roland Coelho, SJ (Provincial of Goa) as Consultor to the POSA and Chair of the West-Zone provincials.

## APPOINTMENTS BY FR. PROVINCIAL

- Fr. Walter Beck, SJ, Director, Treasurer & Principal of the School, Kishor Nagar, Namkum.
- Fr. Anuj Minj, SJ, Asst. Director & Asst. Teacher, Kishor Nagar, Namkum.
- Fr. James V. Dungdung, SJ, Asst. Parish Priest, Catholic Church Maranghada (Ad Tempus).

## FR. PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

### December :

- **03 Dec :**
  - Xavier's Day Celebration
  - 6:15 a.m. Holy Mass in Manresa House, Ranchi
  - 9:30 a.m. Inauguration and blessing of Science Laboratories in St. Xavier's School, Doranda
- **08 Dec :** Final Vows of Fr. Sylverius Chermako, SJ, Ashirvad , Namkum
- **18-19 Dec :** Province Consult
- **21 Dec :** Golden Jubilee Celebration in Manresa House, Ranchi
- **24 Dec -01 Jan 2021:** Province Curia Office will remain close. However in urgency you could contact the concerned persons in office.

- 05 Jan : Kereng Priestly ordination of Dcn Claber Minj & Dcn Elphiz Kerketta
- 12 Jan : Noadih Priestly ordination of Dcn Rohit Kujur & Dcn Bimal Minj
- 16 Jan : Majhatoli Priestly ordination of Dcn Subodh Lakra
- 31 Jan : Maranghada Priestly ordination of Dcn Bimal Nag
- 31 Jan : Samtoli Priestly ordination of Dcn Ajit Kerketta
- 07 Feb : Dhingurpani Priestly ordination of Dcn Samir Xavier Bhawnra

### FR. PROVINCIAL'S MESSAGE

**Dear Brothers in Christ,**

**Peace of Christ!**

*It is yet another season of advent and also a time of prayer and spiritual renewal for all of us. As Pandemic situation in Covid- 19 continues to shape our normal life, I am sure, we have learnt to live with it by now. However, I urge all of you to continue to take care of your personal health. I also pray that we become sensitive to the well being of everyone in general.*



*Definitely brethren, our life has undergone extreme changes in the past months of the year 2020. Who could have ever thought that we would stay confined and constrained in our individual lives? But, just look at the way how life in general has continued to move forward. People have persevered in valuing the gift of life. In few days from now, we would be celebrating the GREAT BIRTH OF CHRIST. Ever since this amazing event of INCARNATION OF GOD upon earth, the world has appreciated and honoured the GIFT OF LIFE on the day of Christmas.*

*There is no denying the fact that the prevailing situation will affect our Christmas celebrations. In renewing our faith in the great promise of GOOD NEWS, kindly follow the Covid-19 guidelines in celebrating the feast meaningfully. Let us consciously strive to avoid any kind of show off in our celebrations. Rather, let us device ways*

*to make this year's Christmas different and uniquely meaningful for all to see and share the Birth of Christ. For a start, let me request all our communities to arrange special prayer services and recollections during this advent season.*

*Let us remember brothers that we need to show our solidarity with the people who are affected the most, such as migrant workers, sick people and the families who have lost their beloved ones in these trying times. Each community also could organize some works of charity during the Christmas season.*

*Traditionally, the blessed season of Christmas is coupled with many other feasts and festivals; marriages and family gatherings. Therefore, in keeping with the spirit of Covid-19 guidelines, it is expected that we avoid any unnecessary visits, travels, gatherings and social celebrations so as to take care of our health.*

*May this Christmas bring hope in our life so as to share this hope with one another.*

*Wish you all "A Very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year 2021."*

**Fr. Ajit Kumar Xess, SJ**

**Provincial**



### MANRESA HOUSE, RANCHI

November ushered in with the solemnity of All Saints. Unlike other years there was no mass at graveyard on the commemoration of all Souls. But fathers from Sadbhavna and Fr. Rector Amrit Lakra, S.J. along with a few scholastics visited the Tumtum Cemetery and offered prayers and homage.

Brothers of the province left for Jamshedpur on November 5th for their Annual Retreat. Sch. Sagar Xalxo ably acted as the acting Minister in the absence of Br. Blacius Tigga, S.J. A few scholastics rehearsed and recorded Karam Dance at Bagaicha for JCSA. Sch. Priyatam Lakra, S.J. after a prolonged waiting and preparation finally flew to Japan for Regency on 16th November.

Scholastics started their Tally Programme under the tutelage of Fr. Francis David Kullu, S.J. On 18th November Fr. Mahendra Peter Tigga left for Dolda in preparation of his final vows which was solemnized on November 27th in the presence of Father Provincial. The neighbouring Jesuits and the family members and close relatives were present on this great occasion presenting two big goats as a gesture for their appreciation and gratitude.

*Schs. Alok & Sumit Soreng & Arvind Barla, SJ*

## **ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, RANCHI**

The offline End-Semester Examinations of UG VI semester and PG IV semester were over by 19th Oct. 2020. The Professors were busy in evaluating the papers and finally the results were published in time. It was a bold step of the Principal and the Controller of Examination. Moreover the professors also co-operated in conducting the examination in view of the good of the final year students. In the given situation of COVID-19 all precautions were taken during the examination. The admission process of UG is over but for PG it is still going on.

On the occasion of Birsa Jayanti on 15th Nov. the AICUF and AYCM organized a cultural programme in the auditorium. There was a good number of participants in spite of COVID. The theme of the programme was "Pratyek Yuva Mein Birsa Basta Hai." This event brought the sense of dignity and pride among the youth to work like Birsa for the people. The young mind could feel the love and sacrifice Veer Birsa treasured in his heart. On 21st Nov. there was a silent rally to support Fr. Stan Swamy by the AICUF. The rally started near the college quadrangle and made one round by going to Albert Ekka Chowk, Dangratoli via Dr. Camil Bulcke Path and back to the college. Thanks to Fr. Vinod Bilung, SJ the State Advisor for guiding and encouraging the AICUFers. This protest rally gave a message to stand against injustices done to people who are working for the emancipation of the poor and oppressed groups.

The RUSA (Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan) team came to college on 27th Nov. to inspect the project works. The team members went through the documents and

also saw the construction site. Things were found correct except some minor suggestions.

These days the original certificates of newly admitted students are being verified. This will facilitate the registration process. Time is running fast and this year will also be over soon. We are waiting for the re-opening of the college. Hope things will be better in the days to come.

*Fr. Nabor Lakra, SJ*

## **XISS, RANCHI**

Greetings from Fathers at XISS – Xavier Soreng, Joseph Marianus Kujur, Ashok Ohol, Pradeep Kerketta and Francis David Kullu. Jesuit staff and other faculty and staff members are all doing well and living lives and operating as per the standard operating procedures and guidelines given by the government during the Covid-19 Pandemic world over. Gratefully so far all of us Jesuits here are Covid-19 Negative.

Nov 2, 2020 The institute reopened for the non-teaching staffs after lockdown of over seven months due to world wide spread of Covid-19 Pandemic. However, the XISS campus still remains empty without students and faculties. The faculties are working from homes – conducting classes online, examinations, placements and other activities. The students are attending classes and exams online from their homes. Academic activities are going on in online mode. Second year students have completed their Trimester IV and classes are going on for the Trimester V. First Year completed their Trimester I End Term Examination on Nov 25, 2020 and their Classes in Trimester II have begun as well. That is how, despite the Pandemic Crises, XISS is trying its best to function smoothly. However, all are awaiting eagerly for the complete normalcy.

This month we have had two important meetings. XISS Governing Body meeting was held on November 10, 2020 and the General Body meeting took place just two days after. The second sitting of the Governing Body and General body matters pertaining to XIPT was held on November 30, 2020.

Jesuits at XISS are busy in their responsibilities. Fr Joseph Marianus Kujur, after taking the office

of the Director from June 15, 2020, is learning his jobs/responsibilities well. After his arrival and making good use of Covid-19 Lockdown time, a lot of maintenance and administrative works are going on in the campus. Fr Francis apart from his Finance administrative duties, finished his first ever course for the First-Year students of Marketing Management in their Trimester I. Fr Xavier is learning the new skills of teaching students online. He has a paper to teach to the First-Year students of Rural Management. Fr Ashok is currently busy in different Webinars/Workshops and in writing project proposal. He has a paper to teach in the Trimester III. Fr Pradeep apart from his administrative and PhD work, is currently teaching a paper for the second-year students of Financial Management.

Fr John Berchmans Dungdung has been our guest here in our community for few days. Sudden death of Fr Joachim Dungdung, SJ last month on October 19, 2020, who was his own brother and our Ranchi Jesuit, has saddened and shocked us all. Our heartfelt condolences to JB Dungdung and prayerful support to him and his entire family at this time of great sorrow and loss.

*Wish you all a blessed season of Advent! Stay safe and healthy!*

*XJSS Community*

### **ST. XAVIER'S DORANDA**

After using Extramarks (Learning & Teaching Module) for six months the school shifted to Cutebrains (School Management App) ensuring an integrated platform for entire school activities. Initially the teachers had sufficient orientations and learning sessions to plunge on the new platform effectively. The first ever SAT (Self Assessment Test) was conducted very efficiently for all the classes from 5th to 17th October, 2020. The questions were uploaded for a stipulated time on the school website and even on the computers/mobiles of the parents at home. The students wrote their examinations under the supervision of parents. Even Fr. Principal, Vice Principals and many other teachers visited the families of

students during the test hours which remained as a great surprise for many. The Test meant for self evaluation of knowledge, honesty and integrity. The marking schemes were uploaded on the website again. The Papers were corrected by the parents only with the help of their sons. Finally answer scripts were submitted to the school for further evaluation by the teachers. With gratitude a meaningful birthday was celebrated of Fr. Ignatius in the community. On 18th Oct. Fr. Britius' health went down and was immediately admitted to Orchid Hospital in ICU. Later as his health was better he was shifted to St. Anne's Hospital Ulhatu for further close monitoring and nursing care. Presently he is regaining his health at Manresa Infirmary. The admission mania began in PREP 2021-22 through online and Parents submitted the printed Application Forms with required documents. After Interactive Sessions the selected candidates were admitted on Nov. 18 – 24, 2020.

We were very much saddened with some death news in November. On 1st Nov. Fr. Ravi H Kujur lost his aunty who died of cancer after the diagnosis of hardly two weeks. She was buried at Aragate. On 4th Nov. Sch. Patras Topno sj rushed to Torpa to pay a last homage to the mortal remains his maternal uncle. On 8th Nov. 2020 Fr. Ravi Hemant lost his dear mother. The second death in the family in a week time was a big blow for the entire family. The SXD Community was present for the last rite to pray for the departed soul of Mrs. Sibiria and to console the family.

This year Fr. Fuldeo had a unique birthday celebration, being Jharkhand day (15th November) in the morning he offered Holy Mass for his village since on the same day the villagers accepted Christianity for the first time. We had the thanksgiving Mass in the evening. On 24th of November Sch. Patras celebrated his birthday, thanking the Lord for all blessings and gifts in his life. After much exposure to hospitals and others emergencies we all went through COVID19 tests with much of fear and anxiety. Thank God, our reports are negative !

*Sch. Patras Topno, Sj*

## RTC TARUNODAY, ARSANDAY

We entered into the month of November with monthly recollection which started on 31st Oct. evening and ended next day with the Eucharistic celebration on 1st Nov. We spent our time reviewing back our community and the academic life. Due to pandemic and lockdown schools, colleges and educational institutes are forced to conduct online classes, but we are fortunate to have uninterrupted normal classes. With the recollected mind the first and the second years had combined classes on two courses: Mariology and Dalit theology. Sr. Shalini Mulakal PBVM came all the way from Vidya Jyoti Delhi, during the risk and fear of Covid-19, to offer these courses. Tarunoday community appreciates her services. After the end of these courses the first years engaged themselves with Theological Anthropology whereas the second year had the course on the Church History.

On 2nd Nov, we celebrated the feast of all the departed souls. Our community was one with all the brothers who recently lost their beloved ones. Sch. Valentine Sinduria lost his father, Sch. Sasi lost his grandfather and Sch. Anurajan lost his niece, Sch. Amit Juel lost his uncle and Mr. Libin, the cook, lost his wife. May their souls rest in eternal peace.

On 14 Nov. the community celebrated Sohrai cum Diwali with meaningful Eucharist celebration and by illuminating the whole house with diyas. From 20th to 22nd Nov. Fr. Francis Minj was in his visit to Kolkata to collect some historical data from the Archive of the Archbishop House Kolkata with the purpose of helping the Daughters' of St. Anne's Ranchi in writing their history of the Congregation. He came back on 22nd November to resume his classes on 23rd. Fr. Santosh Minj, the Provincial of Hazaribag, came for visitation to his province men on 27 November. Next day, he celebrated the Eucharist for the community and then proceeded to Manresa House to see the Scholastics of Hazaribag. On 28 November, we had a community recreation in the evening which brought cheer and laughter of being together. Lockdown period has given an opportunity to grow in the solidarity with the suffering people. We are growing in bonding with one another through various community activities and at the same time enhancing our theological learning through academic engagement.

*Sch. Pramod Bara, SJ*

## JHARNA/ASHIRVAD, NAMKUM

Beautiful celebration of the feast of "Holy Guardian Angels" on 2nd of October in the Novitiate Zone inflamed the joy within us. The Holy Mass was solemnized by the novices at 6:15 A.M. Fr. J. Paul Baxla, SJ was the main celebrant and one of the novices gave an inspiring and captivating homily on the theme of the day. On the same day, in the evening the felicitation program was held by the first year novices for their guardian angels and followed a delicious supper thereafter.

On October 6, the novices had a wonderful opportunity to lead the choir during the burial Mass of Lt. Fr. Louis Francken SJ, at Kishornagar. Most Rev. Bishop Felix Toppo, SJ presided over the Mass and along with him there were Frs. Provincial Ajit Kr. Xess, SJ, Raimond Kerketta, SJ, Xavier Soreng, SJ and Walter Beck, SJ on the Altar. The homily of the day was given very solemnly by Fr. Walter Beck, SJ (The Director & Headmaster of Kishornagar.)

The 10th October was the day when novices were engrossed in gearing up for their most awaited experiments: the first-year novices for their Long Retreat and the second-year novices for their 'One month of intensive English course' instead of hospital experiment. Traditionally, we, the second-year novices go for the Hospital Experiment but this year due to COVID-19, this was replaced by a month of Intensive English Course. This new experiment was quite helpful and successful; it was really good because we could learn many things from this course. Meanwhile our first-year novices shifted to Jharna Zone for their 'One Month of Spiritual Journey.' They were provided with a good accommodation there and indeed it helped them to pray well. On 11th of November, we finished our experiments - the Long Retreat as well as the English course. In the evening, we had a small wishing program before our festive supper; spiritually well enriched first-year novices were wished 'A Happy New Life and a Successful Journey' ahead by the second-year novices together with community members.

The 13th November was our day, when we celebrated the feast of St. Stanislaus Kostka, the patron saint of Jesuit novices. The day began with the sense of joy and happiness; we had a solemn

Mass, offered by Fr. David Minj, SJ. He added extra color to the celebration by his inspiring and challenging message during homily. We also put up a two and half-hours program at 9:30 A.M., in honor of St. Stanislaus and that was indeed memorable for us because we had various types of items to present, for instance – skits, songs, dances, speeches, etc. On the very next day, the 14th Nov., we had a beautiful chance to go for harvesting paddy of Mrs. Magdali, our co-worker, near Kishornagar. All of us had gone along with three community members. We were served with Puri - Chhola and Jalebee in the field itself; it was a beautiful experience for us to have such an opportunity. Sincere words of gratitude to Fr. Master for allowing us! On this same day, one of our first year brothers, NS Anmol Guria from Gangutoli, discontinued; Fr. Master went to reach him to his house.

We devoted 15 and 16 November to evaluate and to share our inner experiences of Long Retreat and Intensive English Course. We had valuable and quality time to listen to one another's experiences. They were highly enriching and encouraging to each one of us. Goodness gracious! I was forgetting to inform our readers and well-wishers that we really enjoyed one full month listening to the sweet and melodious voices and teaching styles of our three full-fledged professors. Thank you, Frs. Edwin Dang, J. Paul Baxla and David Minj.

As for the Jharna Spirituality Centre is concerned, Frs. Edwin Dang, KC Philip and Camil Kerketta were quite busy in spiritual nourishment of different groups of retreatants : 26 Ranchi Scholastics (21 - 28 Oct.), 16 CSS + 3 MMS + 2 OSU Sisters (2 - 10 Nov.), 6 OSU Sisters (10 - 14 Nov.), 2 Claressan Sisters (15 - 21 Nov.), and 7 OSU Sisters, Gumla (19 - 27 Nov.). Fr. Sylverius Chermako, SJ went to Tongo Parish to make preparatory retreat (24 Nov. - 5 Dec.) for his final vows to be held on 8th of December in Jharna - Ashirvad Community. On 27th Nov. the health of Fr. KC Philip suddenly went down as neither was he able to sit straight nor stand up by himself due to strong giddiness. He is admitted in Seva Nilaya Hospital, Ara Gate. Let's pray for his speedy recovery! We wish you all A Fruitful Advent Journey! MARANATHA!

*NS Simon Tudu*

## **SARWADA COMMUNITY**

The partial unlocking of lockdown brought happy news for the parishioners. The government allowed the worship place to be opened with terms and conditions. The Church of Sarwada was opened for the public from mid-October onwards. The thirst and longing for the Eucharist was indeed genuine and real among the faithful. A good number of faithful attend the Sunday mass. Meanwhile the sacraments of baptism, funeral service, bachandatt etc. are going on in the parish. The parish priest is making sure that the deacon knows to perform all these services. The guidelines for the deacons provided by the province are very well followed by the parish priest. The Covid-19 lockdown has adversely affected the schools. Due to long break from the school the children seem to have forgotten Hindi speaking. The students have not been able to have benefit from online classes for basically two main reasons; first is that there is very poor mobile network service in this area and second, that most of them do not have smartphones. The lockdown has kept the students away from the schools but not the teachers. Besides coming to school every day the teachers have to appear for the online exam and get the certificate. Fr. Xavier is seen busy with his Smart phone appearing for online exam and downloading certificates thereafter. The poor network is of course a real challenge in all these exercises. To have better network one needs to come to Murhu which is about 7 km from Sarwada. In the high school the lockdown challenge is that the students are not even coming to enroll themselves in the school. The administrator and the teachers feel helpless as how to encourage them to come to school. Nevertheless, the administration of the school is looking for the alternative to deal with this issue.

*Dn. Ajit Kerketta, SJ*

## **ST. MARY'S SAMTOLI**

**All Souls Day** : Fr. Rector offered Mass in the school chapel at 6.00 a.m. After Mass we had the blessing of graves near the chapel then went to bless the graves in the garden. Some of our Fathers went to bless the family graves in some Tolas.

**Sohrai** : In Samtoli parish sohrai feast was celebrated. In the community though we don't have cattle but we too joined in celebration. We prepared some laddu, kohri, sweet potatoes. Junior Sisters from St. Anne's convent helped us prepare laddus etc. For tea Sisters from St. Anne's convent joined with us to celebrate the feast.

**To Ranchi** : Frs Rector, Bruno and Erenius went to Ranchi for the meeting on 04th November. On the first day we had meeting on financial matters. Auditor Banka told us some irregularities in the account especially with regard to the land at Dhawaipani. On the second day we had G.B. meeting of Xavier's Ranchi. Both the days we had long meeting. Br Basil too came along with us as he had to leave for Jamshedpur for the annual retreat on 06 November. He came back on 15th November refreshed and full of joy and energy.

**Blessing of new house** : Fr. Rector, Fr. Freddie and both the scholastics went to Gumla on 08th November for the blessing of the new house of the brother of Fr. Freddie. On 09th November Frs Rector and Dominic Topno went to Kasdega for the blessing of the retreat house of Redemptorists Fathers. Because of Covid 19 limited number of people were invited. After Mass Bishop, their Provincial and two more priests sprinkled holy water on the three storied building.

**Visit of dignitaries** : Frs Provincial and Medard from Ranchi and Fr. John Tirkey from Noadih blest us by their visit to St. Mary's. They had come for the blessing of the house of relative of Fr. Provincial in Anand Nagar (Simdega). Blessing of the house took place in the evening of 13th November. All the community members of St. Mary's were invited for supper. On 14th November morning at 10.00 a.m. Fr. Provincial officiated the Gami mass of Sr Ignatia, SJA. Frs Medard and Rector concelebrated. St. Anne's Juniors led the singing.

**Zonal Gathering of Jesuits** : The coincidence of the presence of Fr. Provincial and the birthday of Sch Joseph Kennedy Soreng brought us together for celebration. In the morning we had birthday community Mass. In the evening we had

community meeting to fill the format of UAP. For that our Jesuits brethren from neighbourhood too were invited. We had long meeting but we could not finish and we had to sit on another day also. After the meeting we had the festive meal in honour of Provincial and the birthday baby.

**Online Registration** : Teachers were very busy registering the names of students of classes IX and XII. Earlier registration work was given outside but this time Principal decided to have in the school itself. It was a tedious job but with great patience they managed it and saved the expenses. Computer teachers, Principal, Scholastics and 4 St. Anne's Juniors were busy doing this work of more than thousand students.

Similarly in the college too chancellor portal admission was done online. For that too St. Anne's Sisters (Students) were called to help. They faithfully did the job and chancellor portal admission was done. Due to chancellor portal admission the number of students has decreased.

**Joint annual meeting** : Fr. Rector, Fr. Sylvanus and two Sisters attended Joint Annual Meeting of RBC, CRI and CDPI in Ranchi on Nov. 24. Fr. John Crasta, professor of St. Albert's College gave a talk on issue based – "The Pastoral Conversion of the Parish community in service of the evangelizing mission of the Church" and Pope's document on "FratelliTutti".

Fr. Tony Raj, S.J., Principal of Loyola B.Ed College talked on N.E.P. where he clarified the policy and gave guidelines. Another talk was on F.C.R.A. by Fr. Christu Raj, S.J. from Dumka Province. He tried to explain the complication of F.C.R.A. Still another talk on "Land Laws of Jharkhand" given by Mr Deonis Kiro. Many questions were asked and Mr. Deonis clarified the doubts. The meeting ended at 5.00 p.m.

The birthday of Sch. Gabriel was celebrated in a very simple way on Nov.27. In the morning we had Mass offered by Fr. Bruno where we prayed for Gabriel and family members. In the evening once again we came together to pray for Gabriel. After evening prayer we had simple meal with pork and chicken.

*Fr. Linus Dungdung, SJ*

## ST. IGNATIUS GUMLA

As the winter has set in after Diwali, most of us like hibernating as soon as the supper is over. Fr. Nico went for his Annual Retreat to Don Bosco, Gumla. Meanwhile, Fr. Mark De Brouwer, who wants to ride his old and vintage Rajdoot, had to humble himself to the ground, after a knock by an auto on Sisai Road. But he claimed that nothing could harm him and he will escape unscathed but after two weeks he realized that some bones have missed their places. Ultimately Dr. Amit Mukherjee after the x-ray managed to confine him for one month bed rest. Now Father is taking rest horizontally in Manresa House, infirmary.

On 22nd of November, on the occasion of 50 years of Jubilee of Fr. Nico, all roads led to St. Ignatius Gumla. The Holy Eucharist started at 9.30 a.m. His Lordship, Bishop Paul Lakra solemnized the occasion. Fr. Ajit K. Xess, our Provincial gave a very inspiring and motivating homily. It was a big gathering after several lockdowns and lock off. In short it was a very good function befitting the 50 years Golden Jubilee. "There were about 90 Jesuits" Fr. Pradeep Tirkey told me and equal number of religious from neighbouring communities besides Jesuit Scholastics and brothers. Fr. Anuranjan and Fr. Praful left no stone unturned for possible mismanagement and disorder. Both the directors saw to it that everything went smoothly. Fr. Sibil and Fr. Anil with the choir consisted of some U.C. sisters and a few apostolic boys hit the right chord and with their melodious singing won the applause of one and all. Fr. Augustine took charge as the master of ceremony for a short felicitation programme and conducted it efficiently. To heighten the programme, there was a short power-point presentation on the life and works of Fr. Nico. After 12.45 p.m the lunch was served and Fr. George and Bro. Prakash took charge to feed guests. Fr. Sikander saw to it that Jesuits and guests priests were treated well in the upper room. Fr. George informed that around 275 guests enjoyed the jubilee lunch.

Fr. Nico and Br. Prakash have converted one vegetable garden into apple orchard. 50 apple saplings from Himachal Pradesh have been planted. So far they are doing well.

Fr. John Lakra is making his spiritual journey in his room. Without students the campus has a deserted

look which once bustling with life and activities. The hostel football fields have overgrown grass which visibly indicates the side effect of COVID -19 pandemic. There is a huge loss of food grains and other stored edibles mainly for the hostellers.

*Fr. Nicholas Tete, SJ*

## SSC SITAGARHA

The month of November was a wonderful time to enjoy together in the community. There was the Holy Mass at SSC cemetery on the feast of "All Souls day". On 12th of November we celebrated the birth day of Fr. Tom Venard. Fr. Ranjit Marandi had organized the higher level of quiz competition for us. We celebrated the feast of St. Stanislaus Kostka in a grand way and we had with the splendid volleyball and football match with novices. Novices managed to defeat us in volleyball but we juniors beat them in football. Br. Lawrence Richard Saldanha passed away on 17th of November at 5 p.m. On the feast of Christ the King, we had our Mass at parish. The feast of St. John Berchmans was very special and memorable one for all of us. Some of us went to Hazaribag at Prerna Bhawan for correction of Aadhar card on 28th of November. The monthly recollection was on 28 and 29 November. It was very fruitful for us. The tertian fathers alternatively gave us the recollection talk.

*Sch. Thomas Purty, SJ*

## NORTH INDIA MISSION

### ST. XAVIER'S MAHWA

**School:** The month of November was disturbing for the online classes because of Internet ban in our area over the Gurjar agitation. This shutdown went on for 13 days. The classes are resumed now.

We had observed a day of token strike of not taking online class on November 20, in support of the striking Non-aided private schools.

**Community:** The Scholastics had joined in the Triduum during the Deepawali holidays in Jaipur along with other scholastics in Rajasthan.

Fr. Provincial had come on visitation on 26. Quickly he finished with the business here and



left Mahwa as other pressing matters were to be attended to. Father Provincial got a chance to meet Fr. Jugal in Behror. Dayal, who had gone to drop off the Provincial at Behror brought Jugal home. On 29 Fr. Ravi and three of his office staff had visited us. These men were appreciated with a friendly meal FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS made toward getting the CBSE Affiliation. Prior to that they had gone to Hindoon to say a hello to Fr. Michael, MSFS.

*Sch. Ruben Kalxo, SJ*

## ASSAM MISSION

### JESUIT BHAWAN & GANA CHETNA SAMAJ

**Visitors:** Fr. Anupchand Kiran Minj along with his two staff members came to our community on November 28, 2020 and stayed overnight and left on the following morning after breakfast for Salana, Tezpur to hold a project meeting. His presence with us was a point of cementing the bond of union and fellowship.

**Holy Mass at the cemetery:** On November 02, 2020 on the occasion of "All Souls Day" a Holy Mass was held at the cemetery, Lalmati, Tezpur at 10.30 A.M. It was presided over by Rev. Fr. Xavier Narzary, Secretary, Bishop's house, Tezpur. Fr. Clement Ekka, the Parish Priest of Cathedral, Tezpur delivered a very meaningful sermon and invited the faithful to pray for the departed souls and appealed to them to offer selfless service to the needy. Fr. Pius said the final prayer for the departed faithful and holy water was sprinkled over the graves. Due to COVID -19 situation, Holy Mass was kept simple with restricted number of faithful for celebration. It was a meaningful celebration all the same.

**Thanksgiving Mass and felicitation:** Fr. Pius and Fr. Xavier left for Dibrugarh on November 04, 2020 to attend the thanksgiving Holy Mass and felicitation to be held in honour of Bp. Joseph Aind sdb DD on the following day at 10.00 A.M. at Bishop's House, Dibrugarh. On the way they had their lunch at Ursuline convent, Jorhat and in the afternoon visited M.C Sisters working in Jorhat. After having tea, they left for Demow to have their night stay. Fr. Augustine Toppo, Principal received them warmly and provided sumptuous supper and a cozy accommodation. Next morning

after breakfast we participated in the thanksgiving ceremony and felicitation organized by Dibrugarh Diocese restricting the numbers of Priests, religious and laity. Thanksgiving ceremony started with the Holy Eucharist presided over by Rt. Rev. Joseph Aind sdb, DD on the completion of his Episcopal ministry and his 75th birthday. During the Eucharistic celebration as well as felicitation ceremony, he said that he is extremely thankful to God for His abundant and continual blessings to the Diocese of Dibrugarh and its faithful through his instrumentality during his tenure as Bishop. He, too, expressed his sincere thanks to all the Priests, religious and laity for their full support, cooperation and collaboration in materializing his plan of action. He emphatically said whatever God does, it is all for the benefit of the humanity. God carries out His mission through the instrumentality of human beings and therefore, human cooperation is very much needed. During the felicitation, he was honoured with Assamese Gamocha, bouquet, songs, words of gratitude, appreciation and a new car as a parting gift. While articulating gratitude and appreciation towards him, he was praised and thanked for opening a good number of new Parishes, inviting religious from different Congregations, supporting the laity and strengthening the existing Commissions and taking some new steps. His personality of simplicity, humility and availability was very well highlighted at length. Soon after felicitation, dinner prepared for the occasion was enjoyed by one and all.

**Visit:** After the programme in the Bishop's House, Dibrugarh, Fr. Pius and Fr. Xavier visited Bogapani where Fr. Telephone Lakra is working in school. They had a brief interaction with him with regard to school and related issues. They were served tea and after that they proceeded to Pengaree for the night halt. Dinner was given to them by the St. Anne's Sisters, our collaborators staying in our campus. Next morning, they left for Tezpur and reached there by 7.00 P.M. Fr. Xavier went back to his community at SXC, Sonabheel.

**Inspection of construction work of new church building:** Fr. Pius, Fr. Thomas and Fr. Xavier left Tezpur at 7.10 A.M. for Loyola, Kathalguri to inspect the construction work of new church building that is coming up. They reached Kathalguri at 6.15 P.M. but failed to inspect it since it was already dark. Next morning they went to the site and found that it is still in the stage of

furnishing. There was a meeting of Jesuits and SCJM Sisters with Mr. Prasoon Banjerjee, the contractor and his colleagues to fix the deadline for the construction work. They were told to complete the work by December 10, 2020 which will be inspected by Fr. Xavier on December 11, 2020. We all had our lunch at the Jesuit community and Fr. Pius, Fr. Xavier and Fr. Thomas left for Manas Bansbari and stayed overnight there. Next morning they left for Mushalpur and had their lunch in the Parish. Fr. Thomas D'Silva, Parish Priest cum Principal and Sisters working there welcomed them with much warmth and hospitality. After the lunch around 2.45 P.M., they left for Tezpur and reached there at 6.15 P.M.

**Children's Day celebration and Matric Coaching Class:** Gana Chetana Samaj conducted Children's Day celebration at study centres of Kathalguri (11 centres), Manas Bansbari (13 centres), Pengaree (13 centres) and Balipara and Misamari (37 centres) which started from November 14, 2020 and will get concluded on December 01, 2020. Main events of Children's Day celebration were different kinds of competitions comprising of dance, solo singing, speech, poem recitation, sports, skit and quiz. Through these events, students got an opportunity to show case their talents and grow in confidence.

In view of helping the matric students in order to make their Matric results better next year, Gana Chetana Samaj started coaching classes in the centres of Pengaree (2 centres), Manas Bansbari (1 centre) Balipara (2 centres) and Misamari (1 centre). Hope with these coaching classes, Matric students will pass their examination with colourful marks and pursue their further studies.

*Fr. Pius Kalxo, SJ*

## **FOREIGN MISSION**

### **PARIS, FRANCE**

Bonjour à tous!

After lot of difficulties, a prolonged uncertain period and adverse situation, we two, Sch. Peter Paul Horo and Sch. Sudhir Lakra arrived in Paris on Sunday 8 November. We left Ranchi on 7 November in the afternoon and reached Delhi in the evening and on 8 November, left early in the morning from Delhi for Paris. We were indeed lucky

to reach Paris in such a situation of uncertainties and difficulties. Sch. Subodh Lakra and two other fathers Fr. Romain Subtiland, Fr. Bruno Saintot were at the Airport to receive us. Immediately after arrival in the community Peter had to attend the Welcome Holy Eucharistic Celebration in the afternoon. The same day he was welcomed by the community members. Myself after one-day rest, I had the speed Covid Test next day and found negative. I was also welcomed by the community members same day having the Eucharistic Celebration and grand Lunch. We are not in-home quarantine. We are actively participating in all the community activities. Both of us are placed in different communities, Peter is in Communauté Saint Louis de Gonzague 9 Rue Raynouard 75016 PARIS and myself in Saint -Jean Brébeuf 14 rue d'Assas, 75006. Since French Government has declared the 2nd Phase of Confinement (Lock-down) with certain guidance, so we cannot move around freely. Only in case of emergency and necessary we can go to 1 Km distance with the attestation paper. The 2nd phase of Confinement will end on 30th of November. We gradually began to adapt ourselves to the new culture, new situation, and new life style. Certainly, we find new context, new atmosphere and new situation but we could adjust ourselves quite easily.

Fr. Jyoti Baxla as our Master and Guide of our French classes in Jharna Namkum taught us French language. He did a commendable job by teaching us the fundamentals of French grammar. We had gained confidence in expressing ourselves in French. We are grateful to Fr. Jyoti Baxla for his patience and paternal guidance in teaching the basic French grammar. We feel indebted to our Province men, very specially to Former Provincial Fr. Marianus Kujur, Present Provincial Fr. Ajit Xess, Fr. Socius, Fr. PCF, Sadbhavana Community, and Jharana Community for their constant effort, love, concerns and prayers to make our journey to France a successful one. In the process of our Journey we had unforgettable and enriching experiences.

Since we reached late in France, now we have begun our French language classes in different places online. I joined the Alliance Française Paris for my French classes online on 23rd of November and Peter will begin his French classes on 30th November in one of the language schools. We have also joined our theology Classes, that

is “Introduction to Christian Theology” online classes by Fr. Philip Endean. Now we are doing our language classes in different places, but from the next semester 2nd cycle we will join the group in the month of January. We had our online Zoom meeting with Fr. Guilhem Causse, the Director of the Premier Cycle. He furnished us with some basic information and update regarding Centre Sèvres Jesuit faculty University.

As we begin our life and journey in France, we have many new experiences and insights. The moment we meet someone no matter what time of the day, the greeting is “Bonjour” (Good Morning). Another thing commonly said is “Bien Dormi” (Slept well) and last, they will say “C’est bon” (It is good), Merci (Thanks). We took part in the community meeting in the week-end that is on Saturday, Sunday or somewhere it is on Monday. On 15th Novembre Sch. Tousseliat Mareus (CAN) shared with us about the mission of his Province. We experienced that Christ is the Centre of everything and hence with such zeal and enthusiasm they are working for the service of mankind. On 22nd November Sch. Niyigena Charles (RWB) shared about the Pre-diaconate experience. It was a really enriching experience. We hope to do well in our studies and the work or responsibilities given to us.

Merci Beaucoup (Thank you very much)

*Sch. Sudhir Lakra, SJ*

## ROME, ITALY

International College of Gesù, the community of Nirmal, Sandeep and Kuldeep had one of the hectic months in November due to various community activities and some serious academic commitments during past 30 days. The most important activity of the month was the personal encounter of all 46 Scholastics with Fr. Luis Orlando, Rector of the College. The Italian test for the new Gregorian students as the part of the academic requirement was held in the month which brought lots of exam pressure to the 20 First Year Scholastics. Sandeep and Kuldeep appeared for the test on 9 and 12 November respectively. Both were quite satisfied with whatever they could do in the stipulated time, and now, are hoping for the better result which

will be declared during the second week of December. The second wave of Covid-19 forced the Italian Government to issue a new Decree which directed all educational institutions to conduct 100% online classes. The maternal schools were kept open with strict guidelines to take care of the children. Following the Government Decree, Gregorian University too started to conduct 100% online classes from 6 November using the Moodle Platform. As per the preparations for the Diaconate Ordination and eventual priestly ministry, the ongoing Ad Audiendas classes for the Third Year Scholastics under the guidance of Fr. Robert Geisinger, were concluded successfully on 27 November.

The South Asian Scholastics came together on Saturday 14 November to celebrate a special Holy Mass in the Rooms of St. Ignatius with some particular intentions, viz., to invoke God’s blessing on all the students during the new Academic Year 2020-2021, to thank the Lord for the gift of life of Fr. Cecil Azzopardi for completing 60 years in the Society of Jesus, and to pray in a special manner for Fr. Stan Swamy for his better health of mind and body, and for his immediate release from the prison. Fr. Vernon D’Cunha, ASM Regional Assistant, was a special guest for the occasion. Cecil, the man of simple living with deep spirituality, inspired and enriched the Scholastics immensely by sharing of his life experiences as a Jesuit in India during a long span of 42 years. At the end of the Eucharistic celebration, the Scholastics felicitated him with bouquet and songs, and honored him with a sumptuous dinner prepared especially for the occasion. On 17 November, the community celebrated the birthday of Sandeep Bage. He was extremely happy to celebrate his first birthday in Gesù community.

On 20-21 November, Gesù community members dedicated their time in prayer and reflection on Fratelli tutti, the new Encyclical of Pope Francis on Fraternity and Social Friendship. The recollection was guided by Fr. Diego Alonso-Lasheras, Professor of Moral Theology. On 25 November, the community celebrated the Jubilee of two of its staff members – 60 years of Fr. Cecil Azzopardi and Bro. Jan Laskar in the Society of Jesus. During the solemn Holy Eucharistic celebration, the entire community congratulated

the Jubilarians and expressed heartfelt gratitude for their generous service to the community and to the Society at large.

For Collegio San Roberto Bellarmino, the community of Deepak and Kulwant, the month of November was quite intense and challenging. External movements had almost come to a halt because of the new Government Decree, which directed all educational institutions to conduct 100% online classes. However, Gregorian University remained active as usual. The students were kept busy with online classes and continuous assignments. Like all other new students, Deepak too appeared for the Italian language test. He seems to have done well and is confident of passing the test. Now, he is fully occupied with number of weekly assignments. He is trying his best to keep the pace with all assignments. Kulwant has started his doctoral research in Canon Law; and as a result, he is not seen much at the common places, but in library and in his room with books. By his fervor for studies, he is being a model and an inspiration to Deepak. South Asian Jesuits residing in Collegio Bellarmino came together for a Holy Mass on 19 November. During the Holy Mass, Kulwant shared his reflection on the life and mission of the Servant of God Fr. Herman Rasschaert: Peacemaker among Religious Communities. His reflections were based on his article which appeared in *Jivan* (November 2020). His sharing was highly informative and enriching. Saturday 28 November, was a day of Advent Recollection guided by Fr. Carlo Casalone.

Linus Kujur has finished his courses of the First Semester, and now is busy learning more about the Servant of God, Father Constant Livens. It is interesting to know what Lievens observed in his journeyed from London to Calcutta in 1880, and especially about the British. He writes to his family members, "Our ship is about 100 meters long, 300 feet, and 30 to 40 ft. broad. We are about 400 passengers; some 30 sheep, chickens etc. in abundance, cows and calves etc." [25 Nov.]. "It is unbelievably big and there are all kinds of people: black and white, old men, women, children, and youths. All speak English, but so quick that we do not understand anything." [27 Oct.]. About the British, he had this impression, "English people are polite: they speak gently, but as quickly as the wind." [28 Oct.]. Yet he looked

at them with compassion, for according to him they thought they were in the true faith [25 Oct.]. Father Lievens was very sharp in observing and understanding the situation that made him successful.

After the holiday month of August, there was a notable upward surge in the cases of Covid-19 in Europe; and the Italian Government issued new precautionary directives, and imposed restrictions on the movements from 6 November. Although all the classes are being held online, unlike the other Roman Pontifical Universities, the doors of Gregorian University are kept open for a limited number of students to use the Library with compulsory prior online booking. The non-teaching staff members take turn to come to be physically present in various offices. Since closure of Restaurants and Bars from 6.00 p.m. and the start of the night curfew from 10.00 p.m. the streets of Rome, always buzzing with life and various activities in normal times, are completely deserted. The Advent season was given a somber start with a hope of better future; and the reason of hope was none other than the Saviour Jesus Christ himself, the fount of all joy and hope!

Amidst uncertainty and claustrophobia caused by Covid-19, Anselm has maintained perfectly his health and continued his mission in the *Economato Generale* with zeal and fervor. There were various community activities and events during the month of November. On 14 November 2020, the Jesuit Refugee Service completed its 40 years of serving, walking and accompanying the Refugees in different countries. JRS was founded by the Servant of God Fr. Pedro Arrupe in 14 November 1980. Now it is working in 50 countries having 10 Regional Offices in the Middle East, Africa, Asia, the Americas and Europe. It accompanies, renders essential services, and advocates for the rights of refugees and forcibly displaced people. On such an auspicious occasion, Pope Francis sent his cordial best wishes to Fr. Thomas H. Smolich, JRS Director, JRS Staff members, and the volunteers saying, "Pope remains close to men, women and children who seek refuge and assistance from JRS and praying for them. I pray that all of you will continue to draw encouragement and wisdom from the vision and example of your funder." A solemn online Eucharist was celebrated in the Congregation Aula to thank and praise God for 40

successful years. All the Regional Offices of JRS participated in the Holy Mass and offered their petitionary prayers in their own mother tongue. Rt. Rev. Arturo Sosa presided over the Holy Mass. In his homily, he invited all to keep awake just like Fr. Pedro Arrupe, who always remained awake and listened to the urgent call of the refugees and displaced people. He added further that the Universal Body of the Society of Jesus was awake and alert to the call of GC 32 for the service of faith and promotion of justice as the integral dimensions of its identity and mission. Indeed, a creative response to the situation of displaced people and refugees in different parts of the world have become a universal apostolic commitment.

On 25 November, the Curia Community spent time in prayer, reflection and personal faith sharing on the theme VOCATION. Fr. Federico Lombardi shared his own vocation story to help us in our personal prayer and reflection. Some of the salient points that surfaced in the personal faith sharing were as follows: the fundamental aspect of personal vocation is to journey with Jesus Christ towards God; love for Jesus with self-denial and self-sacrifice makes life journey more meaningful; all are called to follow Jesus by taking up one's cross with generosity and humility; readiness to confront the crises of all kinds; living one's life in the presence of God guides the way to a deeper understanding of the essential and living dimension of every religious vocation. The active and worth participation in the Eucharistic celebration makes alive the presence of God in day-to-day life and becomes the fount of energy and impetus to carry forward the mission entrusted to each one always for the greater glory of God.

*Fr. Prem Xalxo, SJ*

## **DEONIA, NEPAL**

The Holy Mother Church has dedicated the month of November to pray for the repose of souls of those who have gone ahead from this world. With this faith, the faithful of Deonia had evening Mass on November 02, 2020 which was presided over by Fr Juel Kispotta, S.J. and con-celebrated by Fr Boniface Tigga, S.J.. After the Mass, there was the blessing of graveyard at Methibari. Thereafter, Fr Juel stayed back for a week,

visiting different Jesuit Communities of Jhapa briefing them about the recording of different Financial Transactions as per the requirements of the current accounting system of the country.

On November 12, 2020, on the occasion of Tihar, there was a friendly football match between the office staff and the supporting staff of the school. Some of the teachers, Scholastics and Rev Fr Principal joined the office staff for the match. This helped us strengthen our bond as members of the Xavierian family. The supporting staff won the match; immediately after the match there was a high-tea for all present. We missed Fr Arul on that day; he had gone to Sadakbai to give Recollection to the Carmel Sisters there. Then the school remained closed for a short break of five days on account of Tihar.

On November 13, 2020 there was a one-day Recollection at Arrupe Niwas, Deonia for the Jesuits of Maheshpur & Deonia, the F.C. Sisters, our collaborators at Maheshpur and Deonia, and the Adorer Sisters of Itabhatta. The overarching theme of the Recollection was Religious Vocation. Our resource person of the day was Sr Malika, F.C., who gave the recollection points as well as shared with us her experiences of God in her life. The recollection ended with the Holy Mass followed by Tihar Agape. Our joy was doubled that evening with the visit of Fr Samuel Simik and Sch Ashish Ekka from Godavari. They stayed with us for three days before going back to Godavari.

"Shepherds should have the smell of their sheep", says the Holy Father, Pope Francis. Encouraged by these words, on November 15, 2020 Arrupe Niwas Jesuit Community went for a one-day pastoral visit to Gherabari and Mittal. It was a grace-filled day to meet and interact with our catholic faithful there. Their life stories and faith in God, inspired and moved all of us to do something more for the mission.

On November 17, 2020 the whole of Arrupe Niwas Jesuit community went to St Xavier's Parish, Maheshpur for a day of Youth Programme. Frs. Arul and Boniface spoke on the themes of Sacraments & Importance of Youth in the Church and the challenges in the Digital World respectively. Scholastics present on the occasion added life to the event with their action songs. The day ended with the Holy Mass.

This year the solemnity of Christ the King was celebrated sub-station wise. Besides faithful of Deonia, those of Bhutabari as well as Dhulabari joined in the Holy Mass. There was a Eucharistic Procession and Adoration within the school campus. After the Eucharistic procession and Adoration, all the faithful were served with beaten and puffed rice mixed with curry and an egg each.

We were very happy to welcome Fr Daniel Bara after two months on November 21, 2020 who had gone to Matigara for his treatment after a bike accident. His health has improved much; he is recuperating fast. However, it will still take some more time for his complete recovery. We thank and appreciate Fr Boniface who made all necessary arrangements in bringing back Fr Daniel safely to the community.

Fr Arul went to Kathmandu on November 26, 2020 for the Consult; along with him he took Sch. Ruben Hembrom, who has come back from Bangalore last month for his medical check-up.

From November 23 to 27, 2020 the First Cycle Retests were conducted for the students of Classes II to X who were absent during the Online Cycle Test. The First Cycle Test for Class I too was conducted simultaneously. The National Examination Board of Nepal conducted the Class 12 Board Examinations, which, under the prevailing Covid-19 pandemic, were scheduled between 8.00 AM and 9.30 AM., with each Higher Secondary School of the area serving as the Examination Centre. St Xavier's School, Deonia felt honoured and privileged to conduct the Class XII Board Examinations from November 24 to December 1, 2020 for the first time in its history; it successfully conducted the examinations strictly adhering to guidelines provided under the Covid-19 pandemic. During these examinations, students arranged their own means of transportation to and from the school.

*Sch. Wilson Kandulna, SJ*

## GUYANA

The Diocese of Georgetown, Guyana, heavily depends on the lay leaders to run the parishes efficiently. The Covid-19 pandemic has renewed our Christian life and our vocation. It has opened our eyes to see the things in different perspectives. Our creativity and depth in our mission is the

demand of the time. With great zeal and enthusiasm our Ursuline Sisters of Tildonk in Karasabai- Sr. Sosan A. Kujur, OSU, Sr. Helena Soreng, OSU, Sr. Crecencia Toppo, OSU and Sr. Nishi S. Kujur, OSU are accompanying the parishioners in their faith journey in South Pakaraimas.

All five members of the Jesuit community in the interior mission- Rupununi and Pakaraimas - Fr. Paulose Vellacada, SJ, Fr. Ronald Fernandes, SJ, Fr. Amar Bage, SJ, Fr. Edwin Anthony, SJ and Fr. Elias Surin, SJ actively participated in the Clergy Conference held in Brickdam presbytery, Georgetown from November 17-19. The adult faith formation and Parish Lay Assistants formation was emphasized.

On 21st November, Saturday, Deacon Francis Xavier Savarimuthu was ordained as a priest for the Diocese of Georgetown by His Lordship Bishop Francis Alleyne, OSB, in the Immaculate Conception Cathedral Brickdam, Georgetown. Bishop John Persaud, the Bishop of Mandeville, Jamaica, blessed us with his presence. A good number of religious men and women, along with faithful were present for the Priestly Ordination from all over the Diocese of Georgetown.

*We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year 2021!*

*Fr. Elias Surin, SJ*

## AMMAN (JORDAN)

Covid-19 is still very active here like any other country. As a consequence, daily curfew is there from 10 P.M. to 6 A.M. in the morning. Every Friday is a 24 hours total - lockdown. It will continue till the end of this year. It's amazing to see that people abide by the rules.

The New Provincial of the Near East Fr. Michael Zammit had to reschedule to make his early canonical visit to the Jordan Community. It was not easy. He had to make efforts for the entry to Jordan via Egypt as Lebanon still falls under red zone of covid-19. He had to follow the full eight days of home quarantine. It turned out to be the best moment for him to be able to meet all Jesuits and the collaborators inside the house. Earlier he was one of Country Directors of Jesuit Refugee Service. He knew well about the works and the old staff members. But the

time was not sufficient to pay a visit to the Latin Bishop. He had to limit himself only with the Greek Catholic Bishop who hails from Lebanon.

The month of November was the harvest season of collecting olives all over Jordan. We have seven growing trees. The harvest was better this year. I could collect with my Gardener a total amount of 165 kilograms. It was given in the oil presses and 22 liters of pure olive oil was brought home. It will be sufficient for the community for a year. Jordan olive oil is known as one of the best in the region and worldwide.

On 21st we had a community outing to the Baptism site of Jordan where Jesus was baptized. The other side is occupied by Israel. We came back driving through the long stretch of Dead Sea.

Embassy of India in Amman had observed a "Communal harmony week" in the last week of November. It had organized a seminar on the topic, "Importance of communal harmony in our multicultural society. The session was chaired by Ambassador H.E. Anwar Haleem. There were three speakers; I was privileged to be one of the first speakers. Dr. FaridKawar, a Greek Orthodox (Jordan - India Friendship Society) had his studies in late 70's in the then Bombay. He has already visited India twenty times. Mr. Deepak Joshi-Chairman, Al-Qamer for Energy & Infrastructure Ltd. Originally from Chandigarh, he is here for more than ten years. It was an enriching experience.

*Fr. Bimal Kr. Kerketta, SJ*

### REST IN PEACE

1. Br. Lawrence Richard Saldanha, SJ (HAZ), 83/58, Passed away on 17th Nov. 2020 in the dispensary of St. Stanislaus College Sitagarha.
2. Fr Lourdu Susai Irudayaraj, SJ (DUM), 74/53 passed away on 16 November 2020 at Ursula Hospital, Dumka, Jharkhand.
3. Br. Desmond Dias, SJ (BOM), 87/65 passed away peacefully on 2nd December in Mumbai.
4. Fr. Augustine Lopes, SJ (BOM), 75/49, passed away this morning at Mumbai.
5. Fr. S. Paul Lourdusamy, SJ (CCU) died on 22nd November 2020 in Kolkota.

## BIRTHDAYS

### DECEMBER

- |    |                       |
|----|-----------------------|
| 01 | Surin Elias           |
| 07 | Tirkey Vijay Manohar  |
| 08 | Linda Kuldeep         |
| 04 | Kujur Ashish          |
|    | Hemrom Mouris         |
| 11 | Kerketta Sanjay       |
| 12 | Dungdung Rohit D      |
|    | Kerketta Elphiz       |
| 13 | Horo Simon            |
| 17 | Baghwar Marius        |
| 18 | Xalxo Ignatius        |
|    | Bage Kamal Chandra    |
|    | Toppo Bruno           |
| 19 | Bilung Nitin          |
| 22 | Bilung Gilbert        |
|    | Kullu Ferdinand       |
| 23 | Toppo Christopher     |
|    | Kandulna Pawan        |
|    | Kujur Sandeep         |
| 24 | Lakra Christopher     |
| 25 | Barla Emmanuel        |
|    | Kujur Ernest          |
| 26 | Beck Milianus         |
|    | Hassa Purty Nelson    |
| 27 | Dungdung Edwin Ritesh |
| 28 | Kandir Agustin        |
| 29 | Dungdung John B.      |
|    | Basumatary Lazarus    |
| 30 | Dungdung Anand        |
| 31 | Toppo Abhishek        |



**JANUARY**

- 03 Jojo Joachim  
Xalxo Sagar
- 06 Minj Patras (Naud)
- 07 Ekka Philemon  
Kujur Anselm
- 08 Kullu Elias
- 09 Lakra Amrit
- 10 Guria Benjamin
- 11 Kullu Clement  
Toppo Rohit
- 12 Dungdung Mathias
- 13 Kindo Robert
- 15 Tirkey Sumit Samir  
Toppo Alok
- 17 Bage Sandeep Birendra  
Kiro Laurentus
- 19 Bilung Pingal  
Kullu Rajesh K
- 20 Tete Ignatius (K)
- 21 Minj Ritesh Rohit  
Nag Anil`
- 22 Kujur John Jyoti  
Minj Nelson
- 24 Lakra Chonhas
- 25 Baxla Jyoti Paul
- 26 Kerketta Raymond  
Tigga Tej Kumar
- 28 Lakra Nabor
- 29 Horo Telesphore
- 30 Dungdung Johny Savio  
Ekka Manoj



**Fr, Provincial and  
Sadbhavna Community**

**Wish all of You**



**“A Happy  
CHRISTMAS  
and  
A Prosperous  
NEW YEAR  
2021”.**