

## **Installation of the new Provincial**

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### **Sadbhavna, Jesuit Provincial's Residence, Fr. Camil Bulcke Rd, Ranchi - 1 2 INSTALLATION OF THE NEW PROVINCIAL OF RANCHI PROVINCE**

Thank You Dear Dr. Fr. Joseph Marianus Kujur, S.J. for your leadership & valuable Service to God & to the human society.

And

Wish You Dear Fr. Ajit Kumar Xess, S.J. for your future responsibilities as a new Provincial of the Ranchi Jesuit Society to work under Ranchi Archdiocese.

On 23 May 2020, Fr Joseph Marianus Kujur, SJ, during a very modest but meaningful guided evening prayer at Sadbhavna, Provincials Residence, Ranchi, at 7:00 PM handed over his office as the Provincial of Ranchi Jesuit Province to Fr Ajit Kumar Xess, SJ, the new Provincial, his successor. Due to the strict health guidelines of the Government at this situation of COVID-19, participants were a chosen few, namely, the Consulters Fr. Xavier Soreng, Francis Minj, Rectors Fr. Nicholas Tete, Fr. Nabor Lakra, Fr. Amrit Lakra, St. Xaviers School, Doranda Superior Fr. Ignatius Lakra, Fr Alex Tirkey, the camera person and the Sadbhavna community Fr. Raymond Kerketta, Fr. Ajay Soreng, Fr. George Kerketta, Fr. Vijay Monohar Tirkey, Fr. Medard Xalxo, Fr. Ashok Kandulna.

His Grace Archbishop Felix Toppo, SJ and Bishop Theodore Mascarenhas, SFX, graced the occasion with their meaningful presence during the prayer hour and handing over ceremony and imparted their paternal blessings upon the outgoing and the incoming Provincials.

As part of the prayer, Fr Francis Minj, SJ, expressed words of gratitude to God on behalf of the Province men for the gift of Fr J Marianus Kujur, SJ in the following words:

Lord our God, Creator and Protector,

We believe that you love us, feed us, and trust and guide us. We have gathered here to thank you and one another at a moment when our world, especially of the poor, is reeling under the debilitating impact of Covid-19; we also remember your servant Fr Adolfo Nicol, who was buried a few hours ago.

But we wish to thank you today for giving us Fr Joseph Marianus Kujur as Provincial for the past six years. We thank you for giving him indefatigable energy, conviction and enthusiasm to carry out the task entrusted to him. As a quick decision maker, fast worker, risk taker, communicator, visionary and planner and audacious leader, he led the Province, at times singlehandedly, to new heights. You made him an

institution builder by inspiring him to establish Central Zone Education Bureau, St Xaviers College, Simdega, and English Medium Schools in Khunti, Gumla and Diglipur.

While consolidating our ministries, he centralized finance, created funds for private teachers in our schools; he also settled School issues in Muri and forged collaboration with DSA in Manresa, Gumla, Khunti, Kishor Nagar and with the Loreto Sisters in Gumla. He worked for improved infrastructure for XISS, St Xaviers Simdega, Prabhat Tara and purchased land in two places. Future generations will be grateful for the improved facilities and additions at the infirmary, halls, refectory and rooms at Manresa House and in parishes like Rengarh and Soso.

Lord our God, we thank you for his contributions at CRI and BIJHAN meetings and his role in relating to the government in critical times in socio-political and livelihood issues of the people of Jharkhand. We thank you for work initiated for the cause of martyr Fr Herman Rasschaert and for the homecoming of the mortal remains of Fr Camil Bulcke.

We also thank you Lord for facilitating studies for our Scholastics in Europe and for collaborating with the Jesuit Provinces of Delhi, Nepal, Cambodia, Japan and Bombay.

Lord our God, we can do nothing without you. As we thank you for the umpteen blessings we have received during the past years through Fr Marianus. We also pray for his good health and quality service in the days to come. Amen

At the end of the prayer they exchanged shawls as a mark of transfer of office and Fr Marianus handed over the relevant documents to Fr Ajit.

Emotion-filled words of gratitude by the outgoing Provincial, Fr Joseph Marianus Kujur made it very personal and exhibited a sense of concern and hope for the Province. On his part, Fr Ajit Kumar Xess, the new Provincial, expressed his humility and trust in God and the Province men. Incidentally, this is his first transfer after his ordination.

The whole prayer procedure planned by Fr Raymond Kerketta and Fr Francis Minj and with technical assistance with PPT by Fr Ashok Kandulna made the prayer meaningful, effective and memorable.

Raymond Kerketta, SJ  
Francis Minj, SJ

