



RANCHI BULLETIN



85/04 Ranchi Jesuits, P.B. - 4, Ranchi -834001, Jharkhand April 2026

The visit of Rev. Fr. Arturo Sosa, the Superior General of the Society of Jesus to the Ranchi Province from 3 to 8 March 2026



Rich tribal cultural welcome: dances, rituals (washing of feet), traditional honors (Pagri & Bandi).



The inauguration of St. Xavier's College building in Simdega and meetings with School children



Fr. Sosa's interactions with Jesuits across the Ranchi, Gumla, and Simdega zones.



The journey through Khunti and Kochang (the first mission station in Chotanagpur)



POPE'S INTENTION: APRIL 2026**For priests in crisis**

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

APPOINTMENTS BY REV. FR. PROVINCIAL

(w.e.f. April, 2026)

1	Fr. Jaywant Soreng	Minister (Addnl.) St. Ignatius' High School, Gumla
2	Fr. Ranjit Kumar Horo	Secretary to the Provincial (Ad. Tempus)
3	Fr. Ajay P. Minj	Acting Minister, Manresa House (Ad Tempus)
4	Sch. Sameer Kerketta	Assistant Minister, Manresa House (Ad Tempus)

DIACONATE MINISTRY (w.e.f. May, 2026)

1	Dn. Albert Beng	Catholic Church, Soso
2	Dn. Benjamin Guria	Catholic Church, Sarwada
3	Dn. James Ekka	Catholic Church, Balipara, Assam
4	Dn. Sagar Xalxo	Catholic Church, Patrachuali
5	Dn. Zacharias Surin	Catholic Church, Vijaygiri
6	Dn. Ashish Kujur (w.e.f. July, 2026)	Catholic Church, Rengarih

HIGHER STUDIES ((w.e.f. June, 2026)

1	Fr. Sameer Ekka	Licentiate, Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome
2	Fr. Simon Horo	Licentiate, Pastoral Management JD, Pune
3	Fr. Ajay Paulus Minj	Print and Media, Chennai
4	Fr. Ruben Xalxo	MSW, Mumbai

ANNOUNCEMENTS**1. PROVINCE DAYS 2026**

DATE: May 21, 4:00 pm to May 24 noon

2. SCHOLASTICS SUMMER PROGRAMME 2026**A. Workshop and Seminars**

- Group I: May 6- 11: Social Analysis Workshop at BAGAICHA by Bagaicha team
- Group II: May 5 eve – 11 Workshop: Constitutions of the Society of Jesus at JFCT, Kanke
Resource Person: Rev. Fr. Medard Xalxo, SJ

B. Retreat

- Group I: May 12-20: Retreat at Jeevan Deep Pre-novitiate, Namkum
Preacher: Rev. Fr. Bipin Tirkey, SJ
- Group II: May 12-20 at JFCT, Kanke Preacher: Fr. Pradeep Soreng, SJ
- Group III: June – dates to be announced

3. RETREATS

a. For those in Schools:

VENUE		SPIRITUALITY CENTRE, JHARNA, NAMKUM
Date		1 - 9 June 2026
Preacher		Fr. Mario SJ (Pune Province)
Participants	1	Fr. Alexander Tirkey
	2	Fr. Amit Juel Lakra
	3	Fr. Anthres Minj
	4	Fr. Billianus Minj
	5	Fr. Bimal Minj
	6	Fr. Brice Bilung
	7	Fr. Clestine Minj
	8	Fr. Damian Cosmos Minj
	9	Fr. Deonis Ekka
	10	Fr. Ephrem Ba'a
	11	Fr. Erenius Toppo
	12	Fr. Ignatius Kujur
	13	Fr. Jerome Stephen Xalxo
	14	Fr. John A. Beck
	15	Fr. Joseph Marianus Kujur
Participants	16	Fr. Marius Baghwar
	17	Fr. Mukul R. Kerketta
	18	Fr. Prabhat Kennedy Soreng
	19	Fr. Pradeep Kerketta
	20	Fr. Pradeep Tirkey
	21	Fr. Rakesh Kerketta
	22	Fr. Ranjit Kujur
	23	Fr. Robert Pradeep Kujur
	24	Fr. Roshan Ba'a
	25	Fr. Rozario Mosahari
	26	Fr. Sandeep B. Bage
	27	Fr. Sanjay Kerketta
	28	Fr. Shailesh Lakra
	29	Fr. Sikander Kerketta
	30	Fr. Suman Beck
	31	Fr. Swarn Tigga
	32	Fr. Telesphore Lakra
	33	Fr. Walter Xavier Minj
	34	Fr. Xavier Kerketta

b. Zonal Retreats based on The Autobiography and The Constitutions

Retreat - 1		
VENUE		Asha Deep Pathalgaon, CG
Date		03 – 11 October 2026
Preacher		Fr. Deepak Ekka, SJ
Participants	1	Fr. Kullu Rajesh
	2	Fr. Balmuchu James Peter
	3	Fr. Bara David
	4	Fr. Dungdung Samir
	5	Fr. Ekka Praful
	6	Fr. Kerketta Camil
	7	Fr. Kerketta Elvius
	8	Fr. Aind Suresh Marcus
Retreat - 2		
VENUE		Spirituality Centre Jharna Namkum, Ranchi
Date		17- 25 October 2026
Preacher		Fr. Ignatius Tete, SJ
Participants	1	Fr. Toppo Suman P.
	2	Fr. Kujur Sandeep
	3	Fr. Dungdung John
	4	Fr. Nag Bimal
	5	Fr. Ekka Philemon
	6	Fr. Kullu Alphonse
	7	Fr. Dungdung Alexius
	8	Fr. Tirkey Sikander
Retreat - 3		
VENUE		Upasana, Mango, Jamshedpur
Date		17- 25 October 2026
Preacher		Fr. Sunny Jacob, SJ
Participants	1	Fr. Lakra Ignatius
	2	Fr. Guria Florence
	3	Fr. Kerketta Rakesh
	4	Fr. Linda Kuldeep
	5	Fr. Khoya Manohar
	6	Fr. Kujur Ajit Kalyan

	7	Fr. Kujur Rohit
	8	Fr. Bage Roshan
Retreat - 4		
Venue	Jeevan Dhara, Raiganj	
Date	17 – 25 October 2026	
Preacher	Fr. Tom Kuzhivelil, SJ	
Participants	1	Fr. Bage Kamal Chandra
	2	Fr. Basumatary Lazarus
	3	Fr. Beck Walter
	4	Fr. Dungdung John Berchmans
	5	Fr. Ekka Anup Arvind
	6	Fr. Kandulna Anil
	7	Fr. Minj Ignatius
	8	Fr. Bage Tej Mati
Retreat - 5		
Venue	Spirituality Centre Jharna Namkum, Ranchi	
Date	04 – 12 November 2026	
Preacher	Fr. Ignatius Tete, SJ	
Participants	1	Fr. Barla Rajenius
	2	Fr. Lugun Bipin
	3	Fr. Kullu Elias
	4	Fr. Kujur Florence
	5	Fr. Kujur Augustine
	6	Fr. Lakra Ranjit
	7	Fr. Lakra Subodh
	8	Fr. Baxla Suman Joseph
Retreat - 6		
Venue	Jeevan Dhara, Raiganj	
Date	4 – 12 November 2026	
Preacher	Fr. Tom Kuzhivelil, SJ	
Participants	1	Fr. Kiro Laurentus
	2	Fr. Kerketta Mukul Ranjan
	3	Fr. Kullu Pradeep
	4	Fr. To'ppo Ireneus
	5	Fr. Purty Zacharias Bijit
	6	Fr. Xalxo Pius
	7	Fr. Xess Gabriel
	8	Fr. Minj Claber

Retreat - 7		
Venue	Upasana, Mango, Jamshedpur	
Date	22 – 29 November 2026	
Preacher	Fr. Sunny Jacob, SJ	
Participants	1	Fr. Tirkey Sushil
	2	Fr. Bhanwra Samir
	3	Fr. Guria Cyril
	4	Fr. Horo Sibil Joseph
	5	Fr. Kerketta Elphiz
	6	Fr. Kujur Ravi Hemant
	7	Fr. Minj Ajay Arun
	8	Fr. Beck Anand Amar
Retreat - 8		
Venue	SSC Sitagarh, Hazaribagh	
Date	23 – 31 January 2027	
Preacher	Fr. RC Chacko, SJ	
Participants	1	Fr. Kujur Anselm
	2	Fr. Kindo Beatus
	3	Fr. Kullu Anil
	4	Fr. Minj Abraham
	5	Fr. Minj David
	6	Fr. Minj Nelson
	7	Fr. Minj Vijay Kumar
	8	Fr. Kerketta Sylvanus
Retreat - 9		
Venue	Asha Deep Pathalgaon	
Date	23 – 31 January 2027	
Preacher	Fr. Deepak Ekka, SJ	
Participants	1	Fr. Kindo Alexius
	2	Fr. Minz Ajay Paulus
	3	Fr. Purty Florence
	4	Fr. Soreng Jaywant
	5	Fr. Soreng Pradeep
	6	Fr. Tigga Sanjay
	7	Fr. Toppo Binod
	8	Fr. Tigga Mahendra Peter

Retreat - 10		
Venue	SSC Sitagarh, Hazaribagh	
Date	20 – 28 February 2027	
Preacher	Fr. RC Chacko, SJ	
Participants	1	Fr. Kujur Johny
	2	Fr. Soreng Fuldeo

	3	Fr. Tigga John Crus
	4	Fr. Tigga Lalit John
	5	Fr. Toppo Alexius
	6	Fr. Toppo Bruno
	7	Fr. Toppo Manohar
	8	Fr. Sandil Rajesh

PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAMME

April 2026	
01 - 04	Holy Week, Ranchi
06 - 07	Visitation in Noadih
07	General Body meeting (St. Ignatius High School Gumla: 6. 00 PM)
08 - 09	Visitation in Tongo
08	Governing Body meeting (St. Ignatius High School Gumla: 6. 00 PM)
10	Visitation in Bardih
12	Priestly Ordination in Pakripath (Netarhat)
13	Visitation in Soso
14 - 15	Province Office
19 - 20	Meeting of the CZ Provincials in Ranchi
21 - 22	Meeting of Rectors and Superiors/ Vice Superiors/PPs in Manresa House, Ranchi
23 - 30	Province Office

PROVINCIAL'S EASTER MESSAGE

**Dear Brothers,
Peace of the Risen Lord!**



At a time when our world is weighed down by conflict, uncertainty, and fear—including the growing tensions among nations—we cannot but feel how fragile peace truly is. Yet it is precisely into such a world that the Risen Lord comes and stands among His disciples, offering His first gift: “Peace be with you.” This is not a fragile or passing peace, but a deep and enduring gift—born from His victory over sin and death, and rooted in His living presence among us.

The Resurrection is, above all, a promise—a promise that darkness will not prevail, that fear will not have the final word, and that life is stronger than death. The disciples, once shaken and afraid, encounter the Risen Lord, and their hearts are changed. His presence heals their wounds, frees them from fear, and fills them with a quiet but unshakable hope. This same Lord comes to us, meets us where we are, and gently restores us from within.

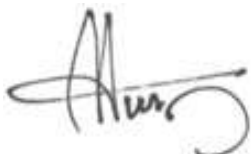
Easter is also an invitation—an invitation to move forward in trust. Like Mary Magdalene, we are called not to cling to what is familiar, but to open ourselves to something new. Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we are accompanied by the Lord even when we do not recognize Him, as He patiently opens our hearts and leads us toward deeper understanding. In these encounters, He invites us to go beyond our fears and limitations, and to grow in freedom, faith, and generosity.

And from this encounter flows our mission. The Risen Lord enters even through closed doors and sends His companions forth with courage and purpose. Our call, as companions of Jesus, is to share in His mission—a mission of reconciliation, justice, and peace. We are sent to be gentle yet courageous ministers of reconciliation: bringing healing where there is division, hope where there is discouragement, and compassion where there is suffering. In a wounded world, our lives themselves are called to become signs of His presence.

In Him, we are made a new creation (2 Cor 5:17). The Risen Lord remains with us as a loving and healing presence, assuring us that no wound is beyond His grace, and no history beyond redemption. Even today, His Cross continues to bear fruit “for the healing of the nations” (Rev 22:2).

Dear brothers, may this Easter renew in each of us a personal and living encounter with the Risen Lord. May He deepen our joy, strengthen our hope, and make us ever more faithful companions—men who are free, available, and ready to serve. And may our lives become simple, credible, and joyful witnesses of His peace in a world that longs for it.

Fraternally yours in the Lord,



Fr. Ajit Kumar Xess, SJ
Provincial
Ranchi Jesuit Province



PROVINCIAL'S OFFICE

The month of March was marked by moments of grace, governance, and accompaniment across the Province. Fr. Provincial welcomed Rev. Fr. General on 3 March during his visit to the Ranchi Province (3–8 March) and accompanied him throughout the programme. The visit proved to be a time of spiritual renewal and apostolic encouragement for the men of the Province.

From 10 to 13 March, the Provincial attended to matters at the Office. On 14 March, he participated in the GB meeting at Xavier's, Doranda.

On 15 March, the Provincial, along with his team,

travelled to Assam for the Annual Budget Sessions (15–18 March), followed by similar sessions in Ranchi from 19 to 25 March. These meetings reflected the Province's commitment to responsible stewardship and apostolic discernment.

Amid these engagements, on 22 March, the Provincial participated in the Holy Eucharist at Jamgain, commemorating the arrival of Fr. Constant Lievens, the Apostle of Chotanagpur. The celebration was presided over by Archbishop Vincent Aind of Ranchi, with Bishop Anand Jojo of Hazaribagh delivering the homily. It was a significant moment of faith and remembrance for the local Church.

The month concluded with the Foresheet Examinations at the Pre-Novitiate, Namkum (30–31 March), marking an important step in the formation journey of our candidates.

Fr. Deepak Toppo

SADBHAVNA, RANCHI

From 3rd to 8th March, the entire community was involved in the visit of Rt. Rev. Fr. General to the Ranchi Province, contributing in various ways to ensure the smooth conduct of the programme.

On 8th March, Fr. Johny Kujur left for Matigara to assist with the Foresheet Examinations at the Pre-Novitiate and returned on 12th March after completing his responsibility. On 14th March, Fr. Sylverius Chermako, Socius to the Provincial, departed for Rome to participate in the Socii Meeting. The same day, Fr. Francis David Kullu attended the GB meeting at Xavier's, Doranda.

From 15th to 18th March, Fr. Francis David accompanied Fr. Provincial to Assam for the Annual Budget Sessions, and later played a key role in the sessions held in Ranchi from 19th to 25th March.

On 22nd March, members of the community—Frs. Deepak Toppo, Francis David, Johny, and Sch. Ananias Xess—participated in the Eucharistic celebration at Jamgain, marking the arrival of Fr. Constant Lievens, the apostle of Chotanagpur.

On 23rd March, Fr. Deepak left for Daltonganj to assist in the Foresheet Examinations at Vivek Sadan Pre-Novitiate, Shahpur, and returned on 25th March. Toward the end of the month, on 31st March, Frs. Deepak and Johny accompanied Fr. Provincial for the Foresheet Examinations at Jeevan Deep Pre-Novitiate, Namkum.

Within the community, Fr. Nirmal Minj, after completing his examinations, has begun his internship at the Catholic Press, Ranchi under the guidance of

Fr. Francis David. Sch. Ananias continues his study of Italian language with the help of the MJEP Sisters at Morhabadi. Fr. George Kerketta remains engaged in his responsibilities at the PDD Office and also visited the construction work at Keondtanr.

Fr. Deepak Toppo

MANRESA HOUSE, RANCHI

The life of our community continues to unfold with moments of joy, sorrow and grace, each event weaving into the larger tapestry of our shared mission. March was a month of deep significance for Manresa House, marked by farewells to beloved companions, the historic visit of Rt. Rev. Fr. General Arturo Sosa, vibrant cultural celebrations, and the quiet resilience of daily life.

On 3rd March, in front of the statue of Lievens on horseback the Marwa, a tribal ceremonial spot, was decorated with Sal branches by Kishor Nagar boys under the supervision of Fr. Sanjay Tigga. Under its shade, Fr. Superior General Arturo Sosa and his team - Frs. Vernon D'Cunha, George Mutholil, Claudio Paul, and Vivian Richard-were escorted from the main gate to the Marwa with adivasi swagat geet and graceful dancing steps performed by Ranchi Jesuits. Fr. Provincial, Ajit Kumar Xess welcomed the guests with bouquet and pagri, while the dance crew of Manresa scholastics, Ursuline sisters of Tildonk and DSA delighted the visitors with their rhythmic tribal dance. Fr. Francis Minj offered words of welcome, and Fr. General encouraged the Jesuits to create their own history while reliving the glorious legacy of the 529 Belgian Jesuit missionaries.

On 6th March, Frs. Nicolas Tete, Alex Tirkey, and Florence Purty attended the blessing ceremony of the new St. Xavier's College in Simdega. On 7th March, Fr. Superior General and his team returned to the mother house (Manresa) after their fruitful visits to different missions of the province, and on 8th March the Manresa scholastics interacted with him, sharing their faith and vocation, while he encouraged them to remain rooted in spiritual depth. After completing his mission journey in Ranchi Province, Fr. General received a solemn farewell from the Manresa community and members of the Ranchi Jesuit province at 2:30 p.m.

On 12th March, the province mourned the passing of two Jesuits. Fr. Ernest Kujur, aged 72, breathed his last in the morning, and later that evening at 9:30 p.m. Fr. Emmanuel Kujur, a successful missionary in Africa, passed away in Mandar

Hospital. Both were buried at Tumtum graveyard after ceremonies at St. Mary's Cathedral, Ranchi. Following these losses, the community gradually resumed normal life.

On 16th March, Fr. Ajit Saras returned to the house after undergoing gall bladder surgery, and on 17th March a solar water heater was installed above the kitchen. On 19th March, Fr. Anand Kerketta was successfully operated on at Belle Vue Hospital in Kolkata, while Fr. Benedict Kiro was referred to Mandar Hospital for health review. Fr. Gilbert was shifted to his private room and cared for by Sch. Joseph Prasant.

On 20th March, the Ranchi Zone 1 Budget Session was held in the Manresa Conference Hall. The Sarhul festival coincided with Id-ul-Fitr on 21st March, and the community celebrated joyously in unity by participating in the Sarhul procession in the city. On the same day, Fr. Justin Tirkey braved the rain to preach a one-day Lenten Recollection at Muri Parish, attended by 65 parishioners, with prayer sessions focused on gratitude, the cross, and turning to God.

Thus, after weeks filled with liturgical celebrations, cultural festivities, health concerns, and farewells, the Manresa House community gracefully resumed its rhythm of daily life. These days remind us that our mission is lived not only in extraordinary events but also in the ordinary faithfulness of daily service. With gratitude for the past and hope for the future, the community continues to walk together in unity, rooted in Christ and committed to the people of Ranchi Province.

Sch. Sushant Xalxo

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, RANCHI

On 4th March 2026, evening, St. Xavier's College community was blessed to have Most Reverend Fr. Arturo Sosa, the Superior General of the Society of Jesus and his team, Rev. Fr. Vernon D'Cunha Assistant ad Providentiam and Regional Assistant for South Asia, Rev. Fr. George Mutholil, Regional Assistant for South Asia, Rev. Fr. Claudio Paul, Regional Assistant for Latin America, South, accompanying him, and Rev. Fr. Vivian Richard, Member of General Curia Media Team.

On 13th March, Fr. Ajay Minj left for Don Bosco Institute, Karguli, Guwahati, Assam to participate in Academic Conclave of Catholic Higher Education Institutions of the Eastern Region. Its theme was 'A Roadmap for Academic leadership and Intuitional Networking: Christian Higher Educational Institutions in the East and North Eastern Region'.

On 14th March, Fr. Pradeep Kujur and Ravi Hemant Kujur went to St. Xavier's College, Sonabil to participate in the Budget Meeting Sessions of the Assam-Mission.

On 17th March, 2026, a talk on 'Career in Armed Forces' was organized by the NCC and Training and Placement Cell of the College. Brigadier Ram Naresh, Gaya Group Commander, encouraged the students to join the armed forces for the service of the nation.

The Sparrow Day & International Day of Forest was observed in the College on 18 March 2026 under the guidance of Fr. Ajay Minj and Fr. Kennedy Soreng. On the same day, the English Language Club of the Dept. of Education organized "Meraki: The Muse of Spring" – a celebration of creativity, expression and the vibrant spirit of spring.

A week long 'Faculty Development Programme' (FDP) was inaugurated on March 23, 2026. The subject matter of the FDP was "Research Methodology and Data Analysis for Social Sciences, Commerce and Management Faculty." Dr. Sudesh Kumar Sahu, Dean, Ranchi University, inaugurating the Programme, stressed, "Management Skill can solve all the problems." A number of experts were invited to speak on various relevant topics and about 35 researchers and professors from the College, and Central Zone took part in the programme.

On 24 March, 2026, the Dept. of History, in collaboration with the Jharkhand Government Youth Commission and Central Institute of Psychiatry, Ranchi, organized a one-day Mental Health Awareness Programme in the college.

Fr. Sudhir Kr. Minj

KISS, RANCHI

Fr. John Rose from Bombay Province paid a flying visit to XISS while returning to Mumbai from XLRI, Jamshedpur on 28th February. Fr. Ashok Sandil being the coordinator of the core committee for the visit of Fr. Arturo Sosa, the Superior General of the Society of Jesus to Ranchi Province was busy and was traveling with the escort team from 3-8 March. We appreciate his commitment and dedication towards the assigned tasks. We also congratulate him as he pronounced his final vows on 4th March together with Fr. Ajay Minj. In a blessing ceremony of a new college building of St Xavier's College, Simdega, Fr. Marianus Kujur, Fr. Pradeep Kerketta and Fr. Ashok Sandil took part and witnessed a mega event in the new site of the college on 6th March. It was blessed by His Lordship Bp. Vincent Barwa and inaugurated by Rt. Rev. Fr. General by way of unveiling the plaque. Fr. Nicholas Barla went to Banaras for the CSR audit of Hindalco Industries. More than 250 alumni of

Ranchi Province and Jesuits gathered on 7th March in the auditorium of XISS to listen to Fr. General's talk and the interaction thereafter. Our alumni had a very fruitful interaction with Rev. Fr. General followed by fellowship meal. On 10th March, Fr. Marianus went to XLRI, Jamshedpur for the MDP as a resource person. On 13th March, Fr. Ashok Sandil went to Bengaluru for a meeting of mission partner formation. Fr. Pradeep went to St. Xavier's College, Tezpur from 15-17 March to know different aspects of the college and its growth. From 20-28 March, Fr. Marianus together with faculty members went to Delhi and Kolkata for group discussion and personal interview process of aspirants. At the same time, Fr. Pradeep with faculty members went to Mumbai and Bengaluru for the GD & PI process. We have conducted the GD & PI for a good number of prospective students and are hoping to reap a good harvest. On 24th March, Fr. Ashok Kandulna had gone to the US Consulate in Kolkata for visa work. On 28th March, Fr. Marianus went to XLRI, Jamshedpur for the BOG meeting and convocation and came back late evening with Fr. POSA, Jerome Stanislaus D'souza who was with us till lunch on 29th March. On 31st March, carrying forward the legacy of XISS, we bid adieu to the graduating students, wishing them all success in their future endeavors.

Fr. Pradeep Kerketta

ST. XAVIER'S SCHOOL, DORANDA

March proved to be an eventful month at the school, with various activities and happenings. A Life Orientation Programme was organized for Std-IX students from 2-5 March at DBYES, Bariatu, Ranchi, which saw participation from 44 students. The programme provided a spiritual awakening and lifelong experience for the students. On 3 March Frs. Sudhir Kumar Kujur, Fuldeo Soerng, Kuldeep Linda and Sandeep Kujur availed themselves for hearing confession at Nirmala Hostel for the students. Fr. General Arturo Sosa delivered a common address to Ranchi Zone on 4 March at Herman Rasschaert Auditorium, Manresa House, Ranchi, which was attended by the community. The following day, Fr. Sudhir and Fr. Ravi Bhushan Xess were invited to breakfast with Fr. Superior General, coinciding with Fr. Ravi's birthday.

An educational tour to Puri was conducted from 6-9 March for 64 Std-V students, accompanied by Fr. Ravi and few primary teachers and support staff. The tour aimed to promote confidence and responsibility among students. After the results and PTM for classes IX and XI on 10 March 2026 the students have begun their regular classes of the New Academic Session (2026-27) from 16 March. Fr. Sudhir accompanied Fr. Jeyraj (KOL) on a visit to parishes in Simdega and

Khunti Dioceses from 11-13 March, focusing on the history of Chotanagpur Mission.

The Junior Section also organized various inter-class tournaments and activities during the session break from 9-20 March. Students actively participated and enjoyed activities such as chess, carrom, badminton, football, cricket and music classes which helped them in their overall development. The school further conducted preparatory classes from 10-20 March for the Crusveer students who are going to receive their First Holy Communion this year. Five students attended the classes regularly and they were given a certificate of participation.

The school held various meetings throughout the month, including a General Body Meeting on 13 March and a Governing Body Meeting of XAVIERS DORANDA on 14 March 2026. A Managing Committee Meeting of the school was held on 19 March in the school and a Budget Meeting was organized at Manresa House on 21 March.

Parent-Teacher Meetings (PTM) were held on 20 and 23 March to mark the successful completion of the academic year 2025-26. The Std-X ICSE Board Exams concluded on 23 March. Fr. Bipin Tirkey gave an inspiring recollection to Christian teaching and non-teaching staff on 24 March, and in the afternoon, there was PTM and annual prize distribution for the outreach students in Xavier Auditorium. Fr. Kuldeep initiated Triduum at St. Kuldeep School, Harmu, for the St. Anne's Sisters in the evening.



A cricket tournament named DPL (DOX Premier League) was held from 26-29 March with great enthusiasm and team spirit to unite DOX members and to celebrate the Xaverian spirit. The community participated in a zonal recollection at Khrist Jyoti Niwas, Bingaon, on 28 March, serving as a preparation for Easter. The new session for classes I-IX commenced on the same day, following a session break. On Sundays (8, 15 and 29 March) Fr. Sandeep, Fr. Fuldeo and Fr. Kuldeep and Fr. Sudhir went to celebrate Holy Mass at Sukurda respectively.

Fr. Ravi Bhushan Xess

ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL, RANCHI

On 26th March 2026, students of Classes IX and XI (English Medium) embarked on an educational tour to Hyderabad, marking a moment of excitement and experiential learning beyond the classroom.

Alongside internal assessments, the Hindi Medium section completed its examinations and observed a session break, while also declaring results for newly admitted students. The institution further extended its academic contribution by actively participating in the evaluation of Matric and Inter board answer sheets, reflecting its commitment to the larger educational community.

A key highlight of the month was the 5th In-House Training Programme held on 14th March 2026 on the theme "Gender Sensitivity in Schools." The programme began with a prayer and a welcome address by Rev. Fr. Ignatius Lakra, SJ (Principal), followed by insightful sessions conducted by Mr. Deepak Rosario on Gender Construct and Mrs. Patricia Ann Nag on A Gender Sensitive School, making the training enriching and relevant for all educators.

The school also ensured continuous planning and coordination through important meetings, including the Cultural Committee's discussion on the Annual Day and a joint meeting of teachers (Classes IX-XII) regarding the Investiture Ceremony. Parent-Teacher Meetings for Classes IX and XI were thoughtfully rescheduled to ensure smooth conduct and active participation, further strengthening the school-home partnership.



The management expresses sincere appreciation to all teaching and non-teaching staff for their dedication, teamwork, and tireless efforts in completing examinations, evaluations, and result preparation with responsibility and care. As the session concludes with a well-deserved break for staff on 30th March 2026, the school looks ahead with renewed enthusiasm and commitment to excellence in the upcoming academic year.

Sch. Nitesh Rohit Minj

JEEVAN DEEP, ATC, NAMKUM

By the grace of God, all the members of the community are keeping well, and the formation activities continue smoothly in a spirit of prayer and fraternity.

Pre-Novice Anand Minj, who had been in Mandar assisting in the care of the late Fr. Earnest Kujur during his illness, has now returned to the Pre-Novitiate community. The community appreciates his generous service during that time.

In preparation for the visit of the Superior General, Rt. Rev. Fr. Arturo Sosa, SJ, the community spent two days cleaning the campus and its surroundings. The pre-novices were privileged to attend the program of Fr. General held at Kishor Nagar, Namkum. It was a joyful experience for them to see and listen to Fr. General and to feel connected to the wider Society of Jesus.

On 13 March, Fr. Eentius Minj lost his nephew, Basant Minj. He left for his native place to be with his family during this time of grief. The community kept him and his family in prayer.

Fr. Ferdinand Kullu is steadily recuperating and is happy to be part of the community life again. As he regains strength, he has begun rendering his services to the pre-novices, which is a source of encouragement to the community.

On 20 March, the South India Assistancy examination was conducted. Fr. Deepak Toppo served as the examiner, and Sch. Ananias Xess accompanied him. It was a meaningful academic engagement for the candidates.

On 28 March, the pre-novices cleaned the well connected to the river, which is used for pumping water for irrigation. The day also included a time of recreation, as the community went fishing in the pond and enjoyed a good catch together.

In the evening, Scholastic John Fisher Osga joined the community as the new regent for the Jeevandeep and ATC community. The community warmly welcomed him.



Palm Sunday was celebrated with great devotion and active participation of the faithful. The procession began from Jharna Spirituality Centre and proceeded to the ATC ground, where the Holy Eucharist was celebrated. The pre-novices along with the ATC youth led the liturgy in a prayerful and vibrant manner.

On 30 and 31 March, the four-sheet examinations were held. The examiners were Fr. Provincial, Fr. PCF, Fr. Novice Master, and Fr. Johnny Kujur. It was a time of evaluation and reflection for the candidates as they continue their formation journey.

Sch. Kanchan Minj

CATHOLIC CHURCH, KANKE

Catholic Mahila Sangh went to Ulihatu Parish to participate in the 62nd Convention of the Catholic Mahila Sangh of the Ranchi Archdiocese on 1st March. Sr. Ruth Xalxo, DSA and Fr. Samir Dungdung, SJ accompanied them. The Holy Eucharist was presided over by Archbishop Vincent Aind. The main speakers were: (1) Fr. Francis Minj, SJ on the topic "Catholic Mahila Sangh ki Matawon se Kalisia ki Apekchayen"; and (2) Mrs. Ranjita Hembrom on "Adhunik Chunauiyan." The gathering witnessed a participation of over ten thousand faithful.

A three-day retreat for the faithful was organized from 3rd to 5th March. Bro. Kishor, a visually challenged lay preacher from Kunwarmunda, Odisha, along with his team, animated the retreat. It proved to be deeply meaningful and spiritually enriching, with confessions being heard over two days by four priests.

A joint meeting of the Catholic Sabha, Catholic Mahila Sangh, Catholic Yuva Sangh, along with Superiors, headmasters, and headmistresses, was held on 15th March to plan the celebrations of Palm Sunday, Holy Week, Easter, First Communion, and Confirmation.

On 16th and 17th March, Fr. Samir Dungdung, SJ attended the BEC Seminar and Capacity Building Programme organized by the BCCI Secretary of JHAN at SDC, Ranchi. The programme was both enriching and well appreciated.

The Marriage Encounter Team conducted marriage preparation classes from 4th to 8th March at SDC, Ranchi, with the participation of 61 couples. LNN organized a two-day seminar on Organization and Faith from 21st to 22nd March at the Catholic Church, Kokar, with 28 participants and five resource persons, including Fr. Tony Herbert.

workshop of the Central Zone Provinces SOF

A workshop of the Central Zone Provinces of

SOF was held from 10th to 12th February 2026 at Pathalgaon (Chhattisgarh–Madhya Pradesh). The theme of the workshop was Liturgy, and the resource person was Fr. Valerian Lobo.



We arrived on 10th February 2026 at Asha Deep, the Spirituality Centre of the Madhya Pradesh Province, while a few participants reached the following morning. In all, there were about 50 participants. On 11th February, we had four sessions, beginning with the Holy Eucharist, presided over by Fr. Alphonse Turkey, the Superior of the house. The sessions were informative and interactive, with participants actively engaging through questions and clarifications. This helped in resolving many doubts and brought greater clarity on the understanding of liturgy. Before concluding the workshop, we introduced ourselves, as many of us were not previously acquainted, and we evaluated the programme, expressing our gratitude to the resource person.

The following day, we had a pilgrimage. The day began with the Holy Eucharist, with Fr. Valerian Lobo as the main celebrant. After breakfast, we proceeded to Pathrai Shrine, a diocesan parish of the Ambikapur Diocese at Manpath. The place has a church, an English-medium school, and the tomb of Fr. Jan Bulcken, a great missionary of the Madhya Pradesh Province. We paid homage at his tomb.

We returned in the late afternoon and, after lunch, dispersed to our respective mission places, while a few left the following morning.

Thus, we returned to our missions enriched by the workshop and by the opportunity to encounter one another after many years. We express our gratitude to Fr. Zacharias Lakra, the Province Coordinator of SOF, for organizing the workshop, as well as to the Director, Superior, and Minister of the house for their hospitality.

Fr. Samir Dungdung

ST. XAVIER'S SCHOOL, BUNDU

March 2026 was a month of celebration, transitions, and new beginnings at St. Xavier's, Bundu. The academic milestones began with the declaration of results for Class IX on 5th March, followed by a series

of result days for various classes—Classes I to IV on 10th March and Classes V to VIII on 11th March. These occasions brought a mix of joy, reflection, and encouragement as students, along with their parents, celebrated their achievements and looked ahead with renewed determination.

Amidst these academic activities, the community also shared moments of joy and togetherness. On 6th March, the Bundu community, along with the parish youth and parishioners, joyfully celebrated the birthday of the Superior, Fr. Ranjit Walter Lakra, SJ, expressing gratitude for his leadership and presence. The following day, 7th March, an orientation program for Class 10 students was conducted, guiding them as they prepare for the important academic journey ahead.

The spirit of renewal was especially evident as the new academic session 2026–27 commenced on 16th March at St. Xavier's English Medium School, Bundu. The beginning of the session was marked by enthusiasm and hope. On 24th March, the school warmly welcomed its youngest members—the Nursery children—on their first day. Accompanied by their parents, the children were received with a special welcome program, and the interaction session with parents proved to be both meaningful and fruitful.

The same day also witnessed Fr. Ranjit, Fr. Mukul, and Fr. Anup participating in the budget session for the administrative units of the Khunti Zone. The month concluded with the declaration of results for Classes 1 to 7 of St. Xavier's Hindi Medium School on 25th March, marking the successful completion of another academic cycle.

Overall, March was a time of joyful achievements, meaningful gatherings, and hopeful beginnings, strengthening both the academic and community life.

Sch. Prawin Minj

PRABHAT TARA, DHURWA

The final term examinations for all three schools—Middle School, High School, and English Medium School—were conducted smoothly and peacefully. Meanwhile, the ICSE Board examinations began in the English Medium School, with the first batch of 62 students appearing for the exams. Prior to this, a farewell programme was organized to wish them success. Mr. Anil Birender Kullu, Professor at Ranchi University, was the Chief Guest. Fr. Fuldeo Soreng, Fr. Philemon Ekka, Fr. Vijay Kumar Minj, and Fr. Jerome Xalxo were the Guests of Honour. In his address, the Chief Guest encouraged the students to perform well in their examinations.

On 4th March, we went to Ranchi to meet Fr. Arturo Sosa. A video on the “Chotanagpur Mission” was

presented, which inspired us to revisit our rich missionary history. Fr. General's message was both encouraging and motivating for all present.

During the Lenten season, every Friday we organized the Way of the Cross in the morning for students and the faithful. It was heartening to see many youth actively participating. Lenten tour Masses were also conducted in different units, helping the faithful to grow spiritually. Many availed themselves of the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for Easter. Frs. Philemon, Vijay, and Jerome shared the responsibility of these tour Masses.

On 15th March, a joint meeting of the Catholic Sabha, Mahila Sangh, and Youth was held to plan the Holy Week celebrations. Under the leadership of Fr. Philemon (President) and Mr. Salim (Secretary), it was decided to organize a common Palm Sunday procession, as in previous years. A large number of faithful participated in the celebration.

The English Medium School declared its results on 19th March, and classes resumed on 24th March. The Middle School results were announced on 28th March, and prizes were awarded to the top three students.

A recollection for Ranchi Zone-II was organized at Bingaon by the Coordinator, Fr. Philemon Ekka, as part of the Lenten preparation. Fr. James Toppo delivered an inspiring talk on the "Missionaries of Chotanagpur," highlighting their motivation, adaptation, and dedication, and challenging us to renew our missionary zeal. After personal reflection, the participants had the opportunity for confession, with Fr. Sudhir Kujur, Fr. Ajit Kalyan Kujur, and Fr. Sylvanus Kerketta serving as confessors. The recollection concluded with a short adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and a fellowship meal, after which all dispersed, exchanging Easter greetings.

Fr. Philemon Ekka

ST. MICHAEL'S KHUNTI

On 1st March, Fr. Mahendra P. Tigga visited Gomia in connection with a land dispute settlement. Fr. Bimal Minj, after attending the National CLC Animators' Meeting held at Samtoli, Simdega, returned to the community the same day.

On 4th March, six of us went to Manresa House, Ranchi, to attend the felicitation programme organized in honour of Rev. Fr. General, Arturo Sosa and other distinguished guests. Jesuit companions from Sarwada also joined us. On 7th March, Fr. General and his team visited Kochang, a historic parish, where they were given a warm and traditional welcome by Bishop Binay Kandulna, Fr. Simon Horo, and the faithful. All the Jesuits of the Khunti Zone

were present. Fr. Simon Horo delivered the welcome address, and Bishop Binay Kandulna presented a brief history of Kochang and the Khunti Diocese. On this occasion, the book "Mountains in Flame" by Fr. Emmanuel Barla was released. Fr. Amrit Lakra proposed the vote of thanks, concluding the programme, followed by an interaction and group photo with Fr. General.

Later at 4:00 p.m., Fr. General reached Khunti, where he and his team were warmly received by the Bishop, Jesuits, clergy, religious, and the faithful. A short prayer was held at the grave of Fr. Augustus Stockman, led by Fr. Amrit Lakra. After paying homage, the gathering proceeded to the Cathedral for prayer. Fr. General later met with the Bishop, priests, and local administration. The programme was well organized, thanks to the efforts of Fr. Bisu Benjamin Aind, Fr. Suman P. Toppo, and Fr. Amit Barla.

On 8th March, Fr. Amrit Lakra accompanied a group of faithful from Dibdih, Ranchi, to Kochang and celebrated the Holy Eucharist. Fr. Augustine Kujur, along with his Jeevan Pravesh team, preached an inspiring and thought-provoking homily. On the same day, Fr. Mahendra P. Tigga conducted a programme at the Pastoral Centre, Kunjla, on the occasion of Women's Day.

The 3rd Inter-School Under-12 Rugby Championship (2025-26) was held at Loyola School grounds on 15th March. Fr. Amrit Lakra was the Chief Guest and Fr. Bimal Minj the Guest of Honour. Sixteen teams participated. Loyola School, Khunti (boys) and St. Xavier's School, Bundu (girls) emerged as champions.

On 16th March, Fr. Edward Dungdung and Fr. Rajen Lakra arrived from Patna to conduct a vocation camp. Eleven boys participated, and the camp concluded on 19th March.

On 17th March, Fr. Mahendra P. Tigga conducted an orientation programme for teachers at Children of New Dawn School, Torpa. Fr. Amrit Lakra preached a triduum at St. Anne's, Khunti, concluding on 19th March. Fr. Emmanuel Barla visited Kuda Parish to address members of the Catholic Sabha on the feast of St. Joseph. On 21st March, Fr. Amrit Lakra assisted in hearing the confessions of diocesan priests during their recollection at the Pastoral Centre, Kunjla.

On 22nd March, Fr. Mahendra P. Tigga shared the sad news of his mother's demise. The following day, Fr. Bimal Minj, Fr. Amrit Lakra, and three St. Anne's Sisters went to Ranchi to pay homage and offer condolences. On 24th March, community members went to Gumla for the burial and to be with the bereaved family.

On 23rd March, the ICSE Class X examinations

at Loyola English Medium School and the annual examinations at Loyola High School concluded successfully. The High School results were declared on 26th March, bringing the academic session 2025–26 to a close.

Fr. Amrit Lakra

ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL, SANTOLI

Birthday Celebration: The community celebrated the birthdays of Fr. Roshan Ba'a on March 01 and Fr. Fredrick Kujur on March 04. Holy Mass and prayer services marked the occasions, with inspiring sharing and blessings offered. Both birthdays concluded with formal wishes and evening fellowship by the community.

Blessing of New House Chapel: The new house chapel of St. Mary's was blessed by Rt. Rev. Bishop Vincent Barwa DD of Simdega Diocese on March 04, 2026, in the presence of the community. He offered prayers of blessing and consecrated the chapel with holy water. The community expressed gratitude for his presence, and the occasion concluded with refreshment.

Fr. General's Visit: On March 06–07, 2026, St. Mary's and St. Xavier's College, Simdega, had the privilege of welcoming Most Rev. Fr. Arturo Sosa SJ, Superior General of the Society of Jesus, accompanied by Rev. Fr. Vernon D'Cunha SJ, Rev. Fr. George Mutholil SJ, Fr. Claudio Paul SJ, Fr. Vivian Richard SJ, Rev. Fr. Ajit Kumar Xess SJ, Provincial, and other Jesuit dignitaries.

The visit included blessings, inaugurations, cultural programs, and inspiring addresses by Fr. General and Fr. Ajit Kumar Xess SJ, with Rt. Rev. Bishop Vincent Barwa DD also present. The community expressed gratitude to Fr. Roshan Ba'a SJ, Fr. Bruno Toppo SJ, Fr. Pius Xalxo SJ, and all faculty and students for their dedicated efforts.

Fr. General's talk on identity, universality, and frontier mission, followed by interaction and fellowship, made the occasion historic and memorable. The visit concluded with Holy Mass and a photo session before their departure to Kochang.

Educational Tour: On 12th March a group of students from St. Mary's English Medium School, Santoli embarked on an enriching 10 days educational tour covering the vibrant destinations of Goa, Mangalore and Bangalore. The tour aimed to provide students with practical exposure, cultural understanding and experiential learning beyond the classroom.

The journey began in Goa, where students explored historical landmarks, churches and coastal ecosystems. They learnt about Portuguese heritage, marine biodiversity and sustainable tourism practices. The visit offered both educational insights and recreational

experiences along the scenic beaches.

The next destination was Mangalore, known for its cultural diversity and educational institutions. Students visited local industries and interacted with professionals to understand real-world applications of their studies. They also explored temples, churches and the coastal environment, gaining knowledge about regional traditions and livelihoods.

The final leg of the tour took students to Bangalore, a major hub for technology and innovation. Visits to science centres, museums and reputed institutions gave students exposure to advancement in science and technology.

Tour concluded successfully, leaving students with valuable knowledge, unforgettable memories, and a broader perspective of learning beyond textbooks.

Visit to heritage Centre: On 7th March 40 students visited the Simdega heritage centre and museum. It was worth visiting as they could see many old but important things of the olden times in the museum.

Exam Evaluation Centre: St. Mary's H/S has been serving as the exam evaluation centre for the Plus Two. Assigned teachers from different schools are regularly coming for the evaluation of the exam papers. Fr. Florence Guria, Principal of the school, is smoothly running the whole show with much ease and competence.

Annual Exam and Career Guidance: From 9th to 16th March the Annual Exam was conducted for the students of class 6th to 9th. On 17th of March there was a day of Career Guidance Programme for the students.

Tribute to martyr Herman Rascaert SJ: 62nd martyrdom of Fr. Herman Rasschaert, SJ was observed on March 24 at Catholic Church, Kutungia in Simdega Diocese. Fr. Pius Xalxo and Fr. James Peter Balmuchu participated in the ceremony. The ceremony started with the blessing of the statue of martyr Fr. Herman Rasschaert by Rt. Rev. Bishop Anand Jojo DD, Hazaribag Diocese followed by the recitation of rosary and floral tribute at his tomb. Soon after this, Holy Mass was presided over by Rt. Rev. Bishop Vincent Barwa DD, Simdega Diocese whose sermon was very inspiring and enriching.

Budget Session: Under the able guidance of Fr. Roshan Ba'a and Fr. Bruno Toppo, Jesuits of Simdega Zone came on March 23 for the internal Budget session for the FY 2026-2027. Fr. Roshan gave the spirituality of budget and the importance of it for the success of our mission and ministry. All the centres presented their budget proposal and necessary correction were made. This Budget session was a time of learning from one another. On March 25, there was a budget session

for the Simdega zone which started at 9.00 am and went up to late afternoon. This session was a time of learning from one another and getting the budget passed. Thanks to Fr. Ajit Kumar Xess, Provincial and the finance commission members for their guidance and orientation!

Fr. Pius Xalxo

VIDYAJYOTI, DELHI

On March 8, 2026, Rev. Deepak Valerian Tauro, the auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Delhi, ordained Scholastics Albert Beng, Benjamin Guria, James Ekka and Zacharias Surin to the diaconate, marking a profound and grace-filled moment in their journey of dedication and service to the Church. The solemn celebration was held at the Millennium Hall, St. Xavier's School campus. On this solemn occasion, a total of thirty-five Jesuit scholastics, along with one brother from the Indian Missionary Society (IMS), were ordained as deacons.



The celebration stood as a powerful witness to their commitment to serve God's people with humility, zeal, and fidelity. The Eucharistic celebration was graced by the presence of several Provincials and PCFs from various provinces. The presence of numerous religious, clergy, and lay faithful added to the solemnity and joy of the celebration.

Following the Eucharistic celebration, a time of fellowship was shared with refreshments for all attendees. This was followed by a warm and meaningful felicitation program at the Vidyajyoti Jesuit community, where the newly ordained deacons were honoured and encouraged as they begin their ministry.

Please keep us in your prayers as we are going to begin our comprehensive exams on 18th April '26. We are also very grateful to the whole Province for constant love and support throughout our formation and to this day.

Dn. James Ekka

SATYA NILAYAM, CHENNAI

The month of March was a busy and academically significant period, filled with Continuous Internal Assessment (CIA) tests and semester examinations. From 2nd to 7th March, the first-year students appeared



for their CIA II examinations. This was followed by the second-year students, who wrote their CIA II exams from 9th to 11th March. The first-year students were given study leave from 8th to 16th March to prepare for their semester examinations. Subsequently, they appeared for their Second Semester Examinations from 17th to 30th March. On 12th March, the community gathered for a community photo shoot, providing a memorable moment amid the academic schedule. Later, on 21st March, the community joyfully celebrated the birthday of Fr. Benedict Lakra SJ, marking the occasion with warm wishes and fellowship. Meanwhile, the second-year students undertook their Comprehensive Examination on 27th and 28th March. After completing their semester examinations, the first-year students began departing to their respective provinces on 30th and 31st March. Following the comprehensive examinations, the second-year students have been actively preparing for their Fourth Semester Examinations, scheduled from 7th to 11th April.

Sch. Thomas Purty

BERCHMANS ILLAM, CHENNAI

The month of March was filled with significant academic, spiritual, and community-oriented activities that contributed to both personal growth and community bonding. On the 3rd of March with a Thanksgiving Mass held at the Boys' Hostel. We, the brothers and fathers of Berchmans Illam attended Mass in Boys' hostel. It was a meaningful spiritual gathering, allowing all of us to express gratitude and strengthen our faith. The solemn and prayerful atmosphere set a positive tone for the rest of the month. On the 7th of March, there was College Day at Loyola College. The event was vibrant and joyful, showcasing the talents and achievements of students across various fields. It was a day of celebration, unity, and pride in being part of the institution.

From the 11th to the 17th of March, we had our Second Continuous Internal Assessment (CIA) examinations. This period was academically intense, requiring focused preparation and disciplined study. Despite the pressure, we were able to complete the examinations successfully, marking an important milestone in our academic journey.

On the 18th of March, the college celebrated its 97th Graduation Day. This was a prestigious occasion,

honouring the achievements of graduating students. The ceremony was inspiring, as it reflected years of hard work and dedication, and motivated us to strive for excellence in our own academic pursuits.

The following day, on the 19th of March, Fr. Britto Vincent SJ, the Provincial of Chennai province visited Berchmans Illam. His visitation was a significant event for the community. He met all members of Chennai Province fathers and brothers personally, and other brothers in common. And on 20th March in the evening there was Holy Mass with this Fr. Provincial's visitation was concluded. His presence and interaction with the community members made the day special and memorable.

On the 21st of March, Loyola College organized a Penitential Walk to St. Thomas Mount Chennai. We had "Way of the Cross" from the foot of the mount. After Way of the Cross, we had Holy Mass. Fr. J. Antony Robinson SJ the rector of Loyola college offered Holy Mass. This spiritual activity provided an opportunity for reflection, repentance, and renewal. It was a meaningful experience that helped deepen our spiritual commitment.

On the 26th of March, we had a farewell program for the outgoing fathers and brothers in a grand manner. In the evening, we had a Holy Mass, and after dinner, the farewell program was conducted. It was a joyful and memorable occasion where we expressed our gratitude.

On the 27th and 28th of March, we had our recollection days. Fr. Rubin S. Seelan gave us valuable points for reflection. It was a very meaningful time, helping us to think about the preciousness of life. We concluded the recollection with the Holy Mass.

Sch. Rohit Toppo

OURS IN ASSAM MISSION

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE SONABHEEL

St. Xavier's College: The International Women's Day was celebrated on 7th March. And while some Jesuits of the community went to welcome Rt. Rev. Fr. General Arturo Sosa on 10th March at Shillong for the official creation of the Kohima Province, the students of the Department Political Science went for a study tour to Batadmua Nagaon. Fr. Pradeep Kerketta, SJ, Assistant Director of XISS, gave a talk to the Faculty Members on the challenges and opportunities in higher education in today's context and to the students on Soft skills and Strategic learning on 16th March in the first half of the day. The annual budget of the College was presented before the Provincial and his team in the afternoon of 16th March and the meeting of the Xavier Board of Trustees was held on 17th March. And on 19th March the Departments of Education and English went for a study tour to Su-ka-pha Samanway and to the Kajiranga University. As regards promoting the admissions in the College Professor David Boro and his team met the youth of different districts and

distributed 1500 Xavier College Admission Leaflets to them in the third week of March. Similarly, Fr. Erenius Toppo, SJ the Principal of the College briefed 500 Catholic Youth of Rangapara Parish on 22nd March on the admission procedure, quality education and the scholarship facilities for the students at St. Xavier's College, Tezpur. Due to the completion of studies, the class XII students staying in the hostel left for home after their send-off programme on 14th March. Similarly, class XI students also went home after their final examination concluded on 23rd March.

St. Xavier's Senior Secondary School: Class XII students of the School started the final Board Examination on 13th February and ended on 13th March 2026. Like last year, some Senior Teachers of the school were asked by the Examination Department of the Government to come and correct the answer papers in different centres. The students of class IX started the final and promotional examination on 13th March and ended on 24th March. The students of St. Xavier's Primary School, Sonabheel started their annual examination on 20th February and ended on 11th March. Their results were declared on 20th March with flying colours making them happy and their parents proud of their wards in the school. The Primary section of the school is on holidays right now but will reopen after the state elections in April.

Spiritual Ministry of Fr. Xavier Lakra, SJ: Following were the talks, confessions and masses of Fr. Xavier Lakra for Sisters and trainees in the month of March 2026. (1) He gave talk to 35 students of Tronkatti hostel girls and 4 Sisters on lent and heard their confessions on 14th March and again gave on 21st March the same spiritual exercises for 5 Sisters and 10 hostel girls. (2) He gave a talk to 150 Mahila Sangh women of Balipara Parish in their annual 'Thirth Yatra' during lent that implied holding their crosses and walking from their village units to the Parish reciting prayers and singing hymns. It ended with Fr. Xavier's talk on the meaning of Christian pilgrimage of which Jesus was the supreme example through his suffering and death thus reconciling them with the Father. All Mahila Sangh women made good confessions at the end. (3) He shared his reflections on the meaning lent with 5 Holy Cross Sisters of Bakula Community, then heard their confessions and ended with mass on 22nd March and (4) He gave a talk to 15 Holy Cross Sisters and hostel girls on the meaning of lent according to Pope Leo XIV and ended his spiritual ministry with confessions.

Fr. Alex Ekka

OURS IN DIASPORA

INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE OF GESÙ

On the 12th of February, Mathew Kawa and Nitin At Gesù community, the month of March holds special significance for the Scholastics. During this period, fourteen Third-Year Theologians are deeply engaged

in their preparation for their Diaconate Ordination, which includes intensive liturgical training and the practice of preaching homilies.

On the 14th of March, Nitin Bilung, together with eleven other First-Year Scholastics, participated in a liturgical workshop focused on the ministries of Lector and Acolyte. The session was conducted by Juanjo Bernal, a Second-Year Scholastic. Subsequently, on the 16th March, Nitin was formally instituted into the ministry of acolyte by R.P. Johan Verschueren, Delegate of A.R.P.N. Superior General, during the Eucharistic celebration.

On Sunday, the 15th March, three Jesuit companions, namely, Fr. Sylverius Chermako (Socius RNC), Blacius Soreng (Socius DUM), and Joshy Kunnel Xavier (Socius JAM) arrived in Rome to participate in a Training Program at the General Curia. They were warmly received at Fiumicino Airport by Mathew Kawa, who generously accompanied them to the General Curia. Sincere appreciation is extended to Mathew for his timely assistance and warm hospitality.

On the 25th March, the fourteen would-be Deacons of the Gesù community began their Pre-Ordination Retreat in Camaldoli, in the Region of Tuscany, Italy. They will be ordained Deacons on the 7th of April in the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore by H.Em. Cardinal Peter Turkson, Chancellor of the Pontifical Academies of Sciences and Social Sciences. The entire community will work together to make the Ordination Ceremony a memorable event.

COLLEGIO ROBERTO BELLARMINO

For the community of Alok, Kulwant and Pramod, the month of March was relatively quiet with only a few major activities. Alok and Pramod continued with their regular academic commitments until the 27th of March, after which they commenced their Easter holidays. From the 3rd – the 14th of March, R.P. Johan Verschueren, Delegate of A.R.P.N. Superior General, for the Interprovincial Houses and Works of the Society of Jesus in Rome (DIR) was in the community for the Canonical Visitation. On the evening of the 11th of March, he addressed the community, highlighting key concerns, expectations, and areas of growth in community life.

On Friday, the 13th of March, in communion with the entire Italian Church, the Italian Episcopal Conference called for a day of fasting and prayer for world peace, with particular attention to the conflict in the Middle East. In response, the community observed the day of prayer and fasting. As a part of the new community project, were assigned names and nameplates were installed at the entrance of rooms and chapels to facilitate clearer identification of spaces used for various purposes. Louis Caruana, Prefect of the studies,

made his Semestral Visit to the Gregorian students residing at Collegio Bellarmino on the 20th and the 25th of March. His visit was an important support for the students in ensuring the smooth pursue of their studies.

On the 21st of March, members of the Ranchi Province gathered at Residence San Pietro Canisio for a fellowship meal in the honor of Sylverius Chermako and Manoj Ekka. The gathering provided an opportunity for fraternal interaction and mutual encouragement through sharing updates on the province activities and the mission work in Cambodia.

Following the successful public defence of his doctoral dissertation, Kulwant travelled to San Giovanni Rotondo (Padre Pio's Sanctuary) on the 5th of March for much-needed rest and pastoral work. Upon arriving at the Sanctuary of San Giovanni Rotondo, Kulwant immersed himself in an atmosphere of peace and devotion. The quiet hills, the gentle flow of pilgrims, and the sacred spaces associated with Padre Pio welcomed him warmly and offered him an opportunity to engage in pastoral ministry. His days quickly became filled with the rhythm of priestly service. Celebrating Holy Mass allowed him to deepen his connection to the mystery of the Eucharist alongside pilgrims from around the world. Hearing confessions became a meaningful experience, during which he witnessed the sincerity, struggles, and hopes of those seeking God's mercy. Blessing pilgrims and their religious items, such as rosaries, medals, and holy images, became a simple yet powerful way to share God's tenderness with people who travelled from afar to pray. As he continued his service at the Sanctuary, he carried a deep sense of gratitude for his academic achievement, the opportunity to serve in such a holy place, and for the countless pilgrims whose faith illuminated his own journey. After spending nearly 20 days at the Sanctuary, Kulwant returned to Rome on the 26th of March, renewed not only by the sacred environment but also by the faith of the people he served. Their devotion strengthened his own, reminding him of the responsibility of priestly ministry. Now, in the company of Alok and Pramod, he is preparing one part of his Doctoral Dissertation for the publication as part of the requirement to receive the Certificate.

PONTIFICAL BIBLICAL INSTITUTE

On the 26th of March, Jyoti Paul received the news of the sad demise of his beloved mother Late Mrs. Juliyana (81 years). She was in serious condition for more than two weeks in Samford Hospital, Ranchi. The authorities of Pontifical Biblical Institute made immediate arrangements for his journey to be with the grieving family members. After the completion of the obsequies, he expressed his gratitude to all RNC Jesuits for their fraternal solidarity and support during

those moments of grief and sorrow: “Dear Fathers and Brothers, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to you all for your fraternal support and prayers during this sad moment for me and my family. As soon as I got my new passport issued I booked the ticket and flew but I couldn’t be there for the burial. I reached one day later. However, I completed the burial rite with the mud kept aside for me. Villagers joined for prayers three evenings after the burial. On the tenth day, that is on March 27, there will be Requiem Mass. I am keeping well and trying to recover myself from exhaustion caused by both long journey and emotion of loss. RIP beloved mom Juliyana!” He plans to come back to Rome by mid-May to complete his final Paper.

GENERAL CURIA

On the 4th of March, the Community observed a day of recollection to enter the Lenten Season, a desert of prayer and fasting where God meets us and leads us towards Easter light, and reflected on the theme “To Live Synodality in the Community and in my Mission”. Sr. Nathalie Becquart, XMCJ, Undersecretary of the Synod, shared her reflections on the theme. She highlighted Synodality as a spiritual disposition—a way of walking together that counters individualism and fragmentation through listening, humility, and openness to the Spirit. Drawing on Scripture, she presented the Exodus journey as the first great school of synodality: a people led by God, celebrating diversity, sharing resources, and embracing shared responsibility. Moses’ own transformation reveals the inner conversion that grounds authentic leadership.

She also explored contemporary expressions of synodal conversion, where she highlighted how Pope Francis models a form of leadership grounded in encounter and deep listening, while Pope Leo XIII offers a vision of communion that does not demand uniformity. St. Francis Xavier a missionary figure who embodies dialogue, inculturation, and confidence in God’s saving power. Further, she ended by naming five steps in synodal conversion: desiring real change, learning to listen, engaging in conversation in the Spirit, practicing honest and true discernment as a Church, and embracing the self emptying that comes from the Christ the Lord.

At the end of her presentation, she invited the community to deepen its commitment to making synodality a way of proceeding, discernment, relationships, and mission on the frontiers. She also proposed a few questions for group reflection and spiritual sharing:

1. How do I experience synodality today—in the community, in my mission, and in the Society of Jesus?
2. What calls to conversion do I perceive? What steps or new practices might be possible?

The Day of Recollection turned into a day of highly rich spiritual experiences on the basis of the points and reflections guided by Sr. Nathalie Becquart and the Community of General Curia hopes to put them into practice in day-to-day life and activities.



PONTIFICAL GREGORIAN UNIVERSITY

Apart from the regular classes on Communication Ethics for the Licentiate students of Moral Theology, Prem had two important sessions on the theme of the Integral Ecology. On the 12th of March, he coordinated the Fourth Session of the Joint Diploma in Integral Ecology (Italian edition). On the 26th March, he moderated the Third Session of the Online Course “From Laudato si’ to Laudate Deum” (English edition). He is working hard to develop the theme “Theology of Creation in the light of God-Human Relation”. With the influx of the requests for the enrolment to the Online Course, Prem was relieved to receive the timely heling hands of Alok Ekka in responding to the incoming queries and clarifications. With his creative and attractive style of formulating sentences, Alok left a long-lasting impact on the students coming from different corners of the world.

On the 22nd of March, Sylverius Chermako and Manoj Ekka visited Pontifical Gregorian University under the guidance of Anselm Ekka. All three were accorded a cordial welcome by the Gregorian Community during the lunch. The community members were content to see two Ranchi Jesuits working in two different capacities in two Provinces. Jeong Javier Hwang, Provincial of South Korea, was the member of the Community until recently, and hence, Manoj was received by some members with great enthusiasm and cordiality.

On the 27th of March, the University was closed for the Pasqual festivities. More than half of the Community members left for the Easter ministries. The University will reopen for the regular classes after the Easter vacation on the 13th of April.

Fr. Prem Xalxo

CARIBBEAN JESUITS-GUYANA-JAMAICA

The Church offers forty days of Lenten Season to turn away from sin, deepen one's relationship with God, and prepare hearts for the celebration of Jesus' Resurrection at Easter. In the diocese of Georgetown various activities took place in the preparation for Easter during Lenten Season. On 3 March, the young people from Georgetown came together for a meaningful Lenten activity centred on act of faith and charity. As part of their Lenten journey, they walked through the streets of Georgetown sharing an especially prepared meal with their homeless brothers and sisters. On the same day, the central cluster -Immaculate Conception Cathedral Brickdam, Sacred Heart Main Street and Our Lady of Fatima made their annual retreat at Immaculate Conception Cathedral Brickdam, Georgetown.

From 19 – 21 March, the Ascension Church New Amsterdam, Berbice organized three days retreat as part of their spiritual preparation for the Easter Celebration. There was a Lenten pilgrimage to the Holy Name Church Blackbush Polder where all the local Churches actively participated in it. Fr. Anugrah Amar Bage, SJ was the main celebrant in the Holy Eucharist. The faithful renewed their spiritual journey.

From 13 – 15 March, a two – days formation seminar for the lay ministers was held at St. Ignatius Mission Lethem. There were 120 participants from South Pakaraimas and Central Rupununi. Fr. Edwin Anthony, SJ, Fr. Cristovao Primo, SJ and Sch. Jose Javier were the resource persons who highlighted on the importance of liturgy and the active participation of the young people in the Church activities. Sr. Judika Ba'a, OSU and Sr. Rashmi Kerketta, OSU accompanied their parishioners from South Pakaraimas.

On 24 March, there was one day recollection for all the priests of the diocese of Georgetown. Fr. Francis Xavier Savarimuthu gave the opening talk and Rev. John Persaud, DD the Bishop of Mandeville, Jamaica gave the points for reflection via zoom. They had the occasion to have the sacrament of reconciliation. In the afternoon, there was Chrism Mass in the Immaculate Conception Cathedral Brickdam, Georgetown. His Lordship Bishop Francis Alleyne, OSB presided over the Chrism Mass and all the 23 priests were concelebrants.

In Kingston, Jamaica, Fr. Elias Surin, SJ dedicated his time and energy in his studies. He was preparing himself for his second semester exams in the University of West Indies. It was his excitement and joy to have a depth knowledge of Pastoral Care and Clinical Education, Christian Theology and Church history in the Caribbean.

From 13 – 20 March, Fr. Lester Shields guided eight days retreat to the Missionaries of the Poor Tertiaries at Mount Tabor Monastery, Godling Spring, St. Andrew. Fr. Ramesh Vanan, SJ guided the Triduum to the Missionaries of the Poor brothers in Jesus Christ

the Redeemer community downtown, Kingston from 20-22 March. From 23-30 March, Rev. Fr. Martin Lenk, SJ the Caribbean Jesuit Provincial came to Patrick House, Jesuit Community Kingston for his canonical visitation. It was a moment of grace, joy and encouragement. Sch. Pablo Velasques, SJ gave recollection to St. George's College students as part of Lenten preparation.

Fr. Elias Surin

AMMAN (JORDAN)

The Catholics of Jordan come under the jurisdiction of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem. The Greek Orthodox church is in majority in Jordan. In recent years, to bring together all the denominations under one umbrella, the King of Jordan declared that Easter be followed according to the Julian calendar and Christmas according to the Gregorian calendar. Hence Ash Wednesday was on Feb 25, one week behind the Latin rite. Easter here will be on April 12. On Feb 28, the sudden attack on Iran by Israel and the USA have a devastating effect on all the middle east, Gulf and neighbouring countries. The



very next day, the closure of airports of about thirteen countries began. Within a day, the retaliation began on behalf of Iran. Missiles and drones started crossing above our house buildings as it's a direct route. And, begins the warning sound of sirens every now and then. Unfortunately, it seems to be taking a brutal twist.

Jordan is sandwiched between the attacks of Israel and Iran. It has a huge American military base. Till now, only some damages have occurred here with the debris of drones/missiles interception attack which falls down like a fireball. There are no casualties so far. Prices of general commodities are soaring every day.

In the pretext of war and bombardment, after more than seventy years, the Christians in Jerusalem were deprived from having the procession of Palm Sunday from Mount Olives to the church of the Holy Sepulchre. The Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem Cardinal Pier Battista Pizzabala and the custodian Custos Francesco were prevented from entering the church for the same. Thus, no Holy Week ceremonies are allowed in this Easter triduum. The ceremony of Chrism Mass on Maundy Thursday has been postponed to a later date.

The situation of Lebanon is getting from bad to worse. In south Lebanon, the majority are Shia. It is controlled by Hezbollah but Israel is attacking anywhere and everywhere. Even the capital Beirut is not spared. More than thousand have been killed, thousands are wounded. More than one million people have been displaced

and many are on the streets in this time of cold and rainy weather. Church premises, monasteries, schools, mosques, government places are trying to shelter the needy which is not sufficient. Jesuits and the Institutions are directly involved in this hour of humanitarian aid.

Fr. Bimal Kerketta

IN LOVING MEMORY OF FR. EMMANUEL KUJUR, SJ [1934 - 2026]



Born:	09 April 1934
Entry into SJ:	20 June 1956
Ordination:	28 March 1969
Final Vows:	15 August 1977
Transcription to ZAM:	24 March 2019
Death:	12 March 2026

Fr. Emmanuel Kujur, SJ was born in Kathrapara, Burhadanr on the 09th April 1934. He did his Primary & Middle Schooling in Bantotoli, Pirai and Musgutri, High Schooling at St. John's High School, Ranchi, and Intermediate Schooling at St. Xavier's College, Ranchi.

He entered the Society of Jesus in Sitagarh on the 20th of June 1956. After Novitiate, he did two years of Juniorate in Bangalore and three years of Philosophy in Poona. His theology was also done in Poona. He was ordained in Ginabhar, on the 28th of March 1969, a date he always celebrated with great devotion.

He began his early apostolic life in the schools of his province of origin in Ranchi. However, an encounter in India with a fellow Jesuit destined for Zambia, Father Lawrence Tomazin SJ, planted in him the desire to offer himself for missionary work in that country. After his Final Vows on the 15th of August 1977, he was sent to Zambia. He started his mission in ZAM in 1978.

In Zambia, he was involved in Parish work at the service of the Church in the Archdiocese of Lusaka. For many years, he was Parish Priest in the western township Parishes of St. Kizito and Matero. In 1989-1990, Fr Kujur followed an Integration for Ministry Program at Regis

College during a Sabbatical. This shows his preoccupation for Continuing Formation. In 1990, he was appointed Parish Priest of the extensive east-side Parish of Our Heavenly Father in Chelston, where he stayed for over twelve years. His constancy in providing the Eucharist and the sacraments to his parishioners, his promotion of their devotional life and his quiet availability at the Parish were greatly appreciated over the years.

After many years of excellent work at Chelston Parish, he was missioned to Kasisi Parish in August 2007, where he became assistant to Fr Ludwik Zapala SJ, the Parish Priest. During his time in Kasisi, he was very active in building churches in two outstations, Chipokolo and Maboloko.

He was also close to his Jesuit companions, supportive of his brothers and for many years a regular participant in Sunday afternoon tennis for Jesuits, the senior-most player on the court. In 2018, after some problems with his eyesight, he retired to Chula House but enjoyed recreating with the novices and going out with them to Villa Houses, playing dominoes and telling stories. And he had many to tell! He was deeply esteemed by all.

It was a conversation with Fr Afulo SJ who was visiting AOR Novices at Xavier House in 2019, who made Fr Kujur decide to finally transcribe from Ranchi to SAP. On the 15th of December 2024, Fr Emmanuel Kujur, SJ asked to go back to Ranchi. Since he did not feel comfortable in the infirmary over there, he was sent to the Jharna Spirituality Center in Namkum, Ranchi, where he passed away on March 12, 2026. May he rest in Eternal Peace.

HEALTH BULLETIN

1. Frs. Henry Barla, SJ, Gilbert D'Souza, SJ and Robert Kindo, SJ are recuperating in Constant Lievence Hospital and Research Centre Mandar.
2. Fr. Ajit Saras, SJ was operated of gallbladder stone successfully on 8 March 2026 at St. Anne's Hospital and Research Centre, Ulhatu, and recuperating at Pratiksha Regional Propaedeutic Seminary, Jamshedpur.
3. Fr. Anand Kerketta, SJ, went through heart surgery successfully at Belle Vue Hospital Kolkata and recuperating in St. Xavier's Kolkata.

Let us show our fraternal concern through our prayers and also by making some time to visit them in the infirmary and hospitals.

Fr. Socius

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

APRIL	
02	Ajay Arun Minj
03	Praveen Minj
04	Anthres Dungdung
05	Samir Kerketta
06	James Barla
	Amar Anugrah Bage
07	Anand Kumar Kerketta
	Anthony Ekka
08	Sudhir Oreya
09	Cyril Guria
	Pradeep Bara
	Suman Bara
	Nishant Dungdung
10	Ajit Minj
11	Alexius Toppo
	Praveen Kullu
13	James Pascal Tete
14	Pius Xalxo
	Binod Toppo
	Ashok Kandulna
15	Ravindra Ekka
20	Sikander Kerketta
22	Wilson Kandulna
	Navin Lakra

23	Sandeep Bara
24	Pramod Bara
26	Francis Minj
	Amrit Toppo
28	Mathew Kawa
29	Zacharias Surin
30	Emmanuel Baxla
MAY	
01	Xavier Soreng
02	Ajay Prakash Minj
	Hemant Kujur
03	Erentius Minj
	Amit Barla
	Hemant Soreng
	Alok Abhay Bara
04	Samir Dungdung
	Erenius Toppo
	Shailesh Lakra
05	Ereneus To'ppo

THOSE WHO HAVE GONE TO ETERNAL ABODE

1. **Mr. Felix Tete**, the elder brother of Fr. Ignatius Tete, SJ (Sunderpur), passed away on 3 March 2026
2. **Fr. Ernest Kujur, SJ** (RAN), 72/49 passed away on 12 March 2026
3. **Fr. Emmanuel Kujur, SJ** (RAN), 92/69 passed away on 12 March 2026
4. **Mrs. Juliana Baxla** (81,) beloved mother of Fr. Jyoti Paul Baxla, SJ (RAN) & Fr. Tej Kumar Baxla, SJ (RAN), passed away on 16 March 2026
5. **Mrs. Norberta**, the daughter in law of Fr. Alexius Tirkey, SJ (RAN), passed away on 17 March 2026
6. **Mr. John Paul Kindo**, beloved father of Sch. Ashwin Kindo, SJ & the elder brother of Fr. Alexius Kindo, SJ (RAN) passed away on 20 March 2026
7. **Mrs. Phulmani Lugun** (92), beloved mother of Fr. Justin Kandulna, SJ (RAN) passed away on 22 March 2026
8. **Mrs. Matilda Tigga**, beloved mother of Fr. Mahendra Peter Tigga, SJ (RAN), passed away on 22 March 2026

