

RANCHI BULLETIN



78/1

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

JANUARY 2019

FR PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAM

February

- 02/02 Ordination of Dcn Shailesh Lakra, SJ in St. Patric's Cathedral, Gumla
10/02 Ordination of Dcn Roshan Ba'a, SJ in Barwadih parish Church
20/02 Jubilee of Fr. Emmanuel Kujur, SJ
21/02 To Goa – JCSA Meeting

March

- 02/03 Back to Ranchi from Goa
05/03 To Pune
06-07/03 Visitation – DNC Scholastics
07/03 : Meeting of Jesuit Brothers with Fr. General
 : Off to Goa with Brothers
08/03 Holy Mass with Brothers in Bom Jesu, Goa
09/03 Back to Ranchi

INFORMATION

- All the Superiors and Treasurers of the Houses and Institutions are requested to send their contribution for the following: (i) **FACSI Contribution** for the Year 2018 by **20th Feb. 2019**; (ii) **Common Expenses and Parish Fund** of the Province by **20th Feb. 2019**.
- All the Superiors/Rectors/Treasurers/Directors of the works of each Community/Institution/Parish are requested to plan out and prepare the budget for the **Financial Year 2018-19** and submit a hard copy & soft copy of prepared budget to Fr Vijay M. Tirkey (Acting Provice Treasurer) latest by **20th Feb. 2019**. Please make sure that you prepare budget in the Excel Sheet programme.

St Mary's Samtoli

Feast of St. Francis Xavier : On the feast day of the patron of St. Xavier's College, there was Holy Mass in the college campus. Fr. Tobias Kerketta, the PP of Samtoli parish was the main celebrant. Few guests from outside were invited. After the Mass there was refreshment for the staff and the guests. After the refreshment the students performed short cultural programmes consisting of different tribal- dance groups such as Asamese, Gujrati and others. Few guests i.e. some religious sisters came for the lunch in the residence. In the evening there was a gathering for the Jesuits of this area.

Preparation of Christmas: The community had recollection on Dec. 15 eve. to 16 noon. Fr. Prakash Lakra, Redemptorist was the resource person. Fathers from the community went to different places to give recollection talks and confessions. Fr. Rector went to Lachragarh and Rengarh, Fr. Ireneus To:ppo guided the Daughters of St. Anne of Samtoli Vicariate. Fr. Bruno went to Katukona for Holy Cross and Fr. John to Nanesera for this spiritual ministry..

Demise of Mrs Rose Mariam Tirkey : On December 09 Fr. Anup received the sad news of the death of his mother (Rose Mariam Tirkey) at Barnabas Hospital Ranchi. In fact the previous night he had received the news that his mother was serious and in critical condition. Hence on Dec. 9, he left for Ranchi. He reached Ranchi and his mother expired in the afternoon. She was taken to his village Kotpali where she was buried on the following day. Fr. Rector, Fr. Ephrem and Fr. Ajit Saras and some professors and students went for the burial. Staff and students arrived when we were doing the final rite at the grave. We waited for some time till they arrived and then the body was lowered to the grave. Former education minister Gitashree was present for the burial.

Visit of Jesuit High School Headmasters : The headmasters of Jesuit schools came to St. Mary's High School, Samtoli to discuss about Chakrabuha as the house was not ready to host this year. The reason was that the bills are still pending to be paid. The headmasters agreed

that the payment of the bills will be shared by different headmasters. The house agreed to that. The meeting was from 6.00 P.M. to 9.00 P.M.

Christmas Gathering : There were Christmas gatherings separately organized by different units. St. Xavier's College had gathering on Dec. 19. Gathering started at 10.00 A.M. with the blessing of the crib followed by programmes. The leaders of students of each department conducted the programme. For the Community the evening meal was prepared by the non-teaching staff. The teaching and non-teaching staff did not take part in the extra curriculum activity.

The English Medium had its gathering on Dec. 20. Only the students of Classes VI – IX were present because the classes from nursery to V were given holidays announced by the government because of the cold weather.

In the evening of Dec. 21, the gatherings were held in the hostel as well as in the Apostolic School. Programmes were short. In both the places meals were served to the community members.

The common Christmas gathering was held on Dec. 22. Though the programme consisted of few short items yet it lasted almost for two hours. After the programme the holiday was announced. The boys from the Apostolic and the hostel left for home.

Christmas Ministries : The community members went to different places for the ministry. 3 priests and a scholastic – Rector, Sikander, Alexander and Schol. Nelson went to Dumki village. Fr. Erenius Toppo went to Jharain while Fr. Damian to Sogra. On Dec. 25 Fr. Ajit and Anup went to a village called Ledritoli while Fr. Ireneus To:ppo celebrated the Eucharist with the inmates of jail. All of us from different places came back by 4.30 P.M. For those of us who went to Dumki, it was rather difficult to reach the place because 7 kms before the destination, the light of the vehicle got fuse. We reached the place with the help of a torch light. Our expert driver Fr. Sikander, reached us to our destination safely.

Jubilee : It was the jubilee season for Fathers (priests) and Sisters. The silver jubilee of Fr. Raymond was on Dec. 27 in his village called Palemura, Mahuatoli, in Samsera parish. Frs Rector and Ireneus attended the celebration. On Dec. 28 it was the turn of Fr. George Soreng. Fr. Rector and Br. Basil went for the occasion. During the Mass Br. Basil did not feel well and he had to be under the blankets. Fr. Alexander took part in the golden jubilee of Fr. Ajay Soreng at Kasira village in Samsera. Fr. Sikander went to Mahuadanr.

Ordination : For the ordination of Dcn Ravi Hemant Kujur Frs. Rector, Ephrem, Erenius, Bruno, Alexander, Br. Basil and one of our cooks went to Ara Gate. Fr. Bruno and Alexander were already in Ranchi the previous day. Fr. Ephrem, Br. Basil and the cook stayed back after the ordination.

G.B. Meeting : On Dec. 18 we had two G.B. meetings. The first one was the G.B. meeting of SXC Simdega which took place from 9.30 A.M. 1.30 P.M. After lunch we had another G.B. Meeting of St. Mary's High School which ended at 4.30 P.M. Fr. Provincial went back to Ranchi after the meeting. The same day it was the birthday Day of Fr Bruno. In the evening we had the Birthday celebration in his honour.

Guests : St. Mary's is always houseful during the holidays. The guests from different provinces come either for their home visit, wedding or some celebration at home. They spend one or two days at St. Mary's. It is a good occasion for us too to meet our Jesuits from other provinces.

Principals : The principals of St. Mary's and SXC, Simdega are in tension. The principal of St. Mary's High School as well as the Inter college is facing the problem regarding the location and grants of the Inter college. Everyday he goes to the DEO's office but still it is not solved. The principal of SXC is facing the problem with the teaching staff as he refused to collaborate with them in the extra curriculum activities. He is often going to Provincial and other knowledgeable persons to find out how to deal with the teaching staff. Finally he has given them the letter and asked them to respond to it within 48 hrs.

Linus

ASSAM MISSION

JESUIT BHAVAN & GANA CHETNA SAMAJ, TEZPUR

Celebrations: On Dec. 1, 2018, Fr. Pius, as a guest of honour, attended the Annual Day cum Feast of St. Francis Xavier celebrated by St. Xavier's College, Sonabheel and gave a message based on the personality of St. Francis Xavier, the patron saint of the college.

On Dec. 3, 2018, Fr. Pius and Fr. Cyril went to St. Xavier's college to celebrate the Feast of St. Francis Xavier. It started with the blessing of newly built house chapel followed by the Holy Eucharistic celebration presided over by Rt. Rev. Michael Akasius Toppo, Bishop of Tezpur. A sizeable number of Priests and Religious took part in the celebration and the rich food was prepared for the occasion was enjoyed by everyone.

On December 4, 2018, Fr. Pius and Fr. Cyril went to attend an inaugural ceremony of new parish called Lamabari which was curved out of Mazbat Parish in Tezpur diocese. It was given to Capuchin congregation and the very dress of Capuchins created a confusion in the mind of the faithful and they started enquiring whether they are Catholics. Knowing their confusion, Bishop Michael Akasius had to clear the doubts saying they are very good Catholics and they belong to a congregation well known all over the world. He emphatically assured the faithful that their life and work will certainly help them grow in all respects. After the Holy Mass, there was a felicitation programme which depicted the cultural diversity of the people and oneness in faith among the believers. After having meal both of us came back to our community.

We attended the first vows and Final vows of the Ursuline Sisters, Tezpur Province on Dec. 8, 2018. Rt. Rev. Michael Akasius Toppo, Bishop of Tezpur presided over the Mass. Soon after the Mass, a short felicitation programme took place and a festive meal was served.

Visitors: Mr. Arun and his party from Jharkhand who had come to attend the first vows at Ursuline Provincial

House, Tezpur visited our community on Dec. 9, 2018. Fr. Thomas made a good arrangement for their Tezpur darshan and meal at Jesuit Bhavan. Fr. Sibrus Barwa and Fr. John, Hazaribag Province visited our community on Dec. 15, 2018 in the afternoon. Just after the lunch, Fr. Thomas took them for a short tour to Arunachal border and St. Xavier's College community. They stayed overnight in Tezpur and on the following day left for St. Xavier's School, Mushalpur. On Dec. 18, 2018, Fr. Vijay Manohar Tirkey, Province Treasurer came to our community and updated our accounts and gave us valuable suggestions and guidance to maintain the accounts. We will remain indebted to him for all the help he has offered to us.

Meetings: Fr. Cyril Guria left for Ranchi on Dec. 6, 2018 to attend REGAE meeting scheduled for 7-9 December 2018 at Jhanrna, Namkum. He came back on 11th December 2018.

On Dec. 8, 2018, three communities of ours working in Tezpur Diocese had a meeting in Jesuit Bhavan in view of the visit of Fr. Vernon D'Cunha, Regional Assistant, SA to Assam Mission scheduled for 12 – 16 Feb. 2019.

Fr. Thomas made the GCS premise available for the meeting of PAJHRA, an NGO which conducted a leadership programme for one and half day. The number of the Participants was more than thirty. Another NGO named PAD conducted its programme for the women on "Women Empowerment and Education" in GCS from 18 Dec.- 19th Dec. 2018. As many as 40 women profitted from this workshop.

Fr. Thomas attended the PAJHRA Annual Day, 2018 on the occasion of its Annual Body Meeting held on 10th December 2018 at Pastoral centre, Lichubaries, Tezpur.

CRI, Tezpur Unit meeting was held on Dec. 10, 2018 at Bishop House, Tezpur. In this meeting, Report of Annual meeting at Guwahati was read out and planning was done for the next year-2019. Some other issues

pertaining to CRI were also taken up for discussion. Fr. Pius and team did a commendable job.

There was a short meeting for the teachers of "Study Centers" who received their remuneration after the meeting.

Fr. Pius and Fr. Xavier went to Mushalpur on 20 December 2018 to have a Consult meeting in response to the Bishop's proposal of handing over of Mushalpur Parish to Bongaigaon Diocese. Process of discernment and deliberation has already begun and it will take its final shape in due time.

Recollection: Monthly recollection of Tezpur Diocese for all the Priests and Religious was held on Dec. 11, 2018 in the evening at Bishop's House. Talk was given by Rt. Rev. Michael Akasius, Bishop of Tezpur followed by confession and adoration. Bishop's House provided dinner for all the participants.

Fr. Pius gave recollection points for the Holy Cross Sisters on Dec. 16, 2018 at Bokola and came back to the community in the afternoon.

Pre-Christmas gathering: Students of Spoken English had Pre-Christmas gathering in GCS. All the Jesuit staff and GCS Staff were invited for the occasion. This celebration was marked by carol singing and dance by the students. Fr. Pius gave a short message on this occasion and the gathering got concluded with cutting of the cake and refreshment.

Farewell cum Pre-Christmas gathering: This programme was held in the Jesuit Bhavan on 21 December 2018 for the domestic workers and some students learning computer. Miss Lakshmi and Miss Sunita who served the community and GCS as cooks dedicatedly for eight years and one year respectively were given farewell. Fr. Pius thanked them profusely for their dedicated service and wished them all the best for their future. In gratitude and as a token of love a suitcase was given to each one. Christmas song was sung and all of us enjoyed the food that was prepared for the occasion.

Burial Mass: Burial Mass of late Bishop Robert Kerketta Sdb who passed away on December 22, 2019 took place in the cathedral at Bishop's House, Tezpur on December 27, 2018 at 11.00 am. Bishops, Priests, religious and faithful turned up in huge number to participate in holy Mass and witness last rite of beloved Bishop. May his soul rest in peace!

Home visit: Fr. Thomas left for home visit on 22 December 2018. Fr. Pius along with 4 Jesuits from Assam Mission left for Ranchi on December 26, 2018 and went for home visit on December 27, 2018 and came back to Tezpur on December 31, 2018.

Christmas celebration in central jail, Tezpur: CRI of Tezpur unit organized holy Mass and arranged refreshment for the inmates of central jail, Tezpur on December 25, 2018. Bishop Michael Akasius Toppo, Bishop of Tezpur presided over the Mass and Fr. Xavier Lakra and Fr. Pius Xalxo assisted him. Superintendent of Jail was very happy with our presence and served lunch for 32 of us who took part in this programme. After the lunch we were invited to take part in the Christmas gathering which was arranged for the inmates. On his request we had to remain till the end of the programme. Together with the inmates we found the programme quite good and meaningful.

Golden Jubilee celebration: Golden Jubilee celebration of Fr. Xavier Lakra took place at home on December 30, 2018. It began with holy Mass presided over by Archbishop Felix Toppo SJ in the Samlong parish church. Fr. Pius and Fr. Ashok from Assam Mission took part in the celebration. Holy Mass was followed by breakfast, felicitation and jubilee dinner. A good number of people participated in it and made it a great success.

Pius Xalxo

Foreign Mission

Munich, Germany

Wunderbar (Marvellous)! This word expresses our feelings of last month. On 1st of Dec. we had one day recollection in Berchmans College Community. Fr. Bernhard Bürgler

Provincial of the Austrian province gave us points to reflect upon. In Advent, on every Thursday there was a 'Rorate Messe', a special advent mass in candle light. The mass was alternatively arranged by both the communities namely, Gonzaga and Hurtado. It was a wonderful experience, as both the communities went for ice-skating on the evening of 19th. Both of us seem to have made some improvements in ice-skating. We fell a quite many times during ice-skating but we got up and continued. Christmas holidays began on 22nd of Dec. On Christmas-eve, Sameer cooked chilli chicken in his community and explained about Christmas celebration in his hometown. Paulus and his community went to Unterhaching, a community of elderly Jesuits. They visited the elderly fathers in their respective rooms individually and spent time with them. The elderly fathers were happy to see and talk with the young Jesuits. Paulus and his community had their dinner at home. Later on, they went to Frauen Kirche (the Church of Our Lady) for Vigil Mass. On 25th Dec. Sameer and his community went to a Croatian restaurant for dinner. While other community members went to their Province or visited their home, we stayed back to welcome Ranchians from Paris and Madrid. On 26th we welcomed Schs. David, Subodh, Anuj, James and Alex (MDU). It was a great joy to have them in our midst. One could call it 'a mini Scholastic get-together'. The purpose of coming together was to share our 'Dhukam-Sukham'. We enjoyed cooking together. We sang Sadri and Hindi songs, accompanied by guitar and Cachon. This gave us feeling, as if we were in Ranchi. We also went for sightseeing. Some wanted to see Bavarian Alps. Paulus took them on a tour of Garmisch Partenkirchen, where the Alps begin. They had a happy and jolly time there. This wonderful time came to an end, as David and Subodh had to leave on 30th and Anuj and James on 31st. As a whole the month of December was Wunderbar.

Schs. Ajay Paulus & Sameer

LEFT THE SOCIETY

Sch	Naveen Xavier Tigga	on 06/10/2018
NSJ	Agustin Kandir	on 15/11/2018
NSJ	Anish Ekka	on 08/11/2018
Sch	Prakash Ekka	on 31/12/2018
NSJ	Teophil Barla	on 05/01/2019

Let us pray for the dear departed

1. 1. Mrs. Celina Ekka (86 years), elder sister of Br. Isidore Ekka, SJ, expired on 31.12.2018.
2. Mr. Petrus Kerketta, (77 years), eldest brother of Fr. Xavier Kerketta, SJ, expired on 01.01.2019.
3. Fr. Philemon Lakra SJ, (MAP), 76/53, died on 06 January 2019.
4. Mrs Rose Maiam Tirkey (82), mother of Fr. Anup Arvind Ekka, S.J. expired on Dec. 09, 2018 at Gurunanak Hospital, Ranchi.
5. Fr Sylvanus Kiro, S.J. 81/ 58 the elder brother of Fr Benedict Kiro, s.j died in Gurunank Hospital, Ranchi on 17 January 2019 at 08.25 A.M.
6. Fr Samuel Rayan, SJ, KER (98/79), expired today (02.01.2019) at Kozhikode, Kerala.
7. Father Anthony Delporte, SJ, (Ranchi Province) expired on Wednesday, on 12 December 2018, in Heverlee, Belgium. He was 95 years of age, 75 years a Jesuit and 63 years a Priest. He had returned from Ranchi to Belgium in 2009.
8. REV. FR. BENJAMIN HENRY MILLER, S.J., (77/93) passed away at early hours on 01st January (Tuesday), 2019 at St Michael's Jesuit Residence, Batticaloa, Sri Lanka.
9. FR JOSEPH KANDULNA, S.J. (RAN) 79/58 DIED IN MANRESA HOUSE INFIRMARY ON 19 JANUARY 2019

FR. ANTOON DELPORTE (1923-2018)

Though Fr. Antoon Delporte returned to Belgium nine years ago, I guess many still remember the Architect, residing in the Apostolic School building and belonging to Manresa House. After all, he made the plans of so many churches, schools and convents so that many people came into contact with him.

Fr. Antoon Delporte entered the world in 1923 in Harelbeke, close to Kortrijk in West Vlaanderen, the region of Fr. Lievens. Hij was the eldest of 10 children. They moved to Kortrijk where his father had started his work as a painter and repairer of homes and houses. His father was a friendly and understanding man and his mother was a strict disciplinarian, needed of course to keep the 10 children growing up and helping them to grow up properly. As eldest he had to see that everything went well when both parents were absent. That is how our fr Delporte had a critical eye on all that happened. One of his brothers became an Oblate Missionary in Japan. He kept good contact with him.

Though younger than our Toon, he was ordained before him and on his way to Japan he visited his elder brother who was then a theologian in Kurseong. He also humbled his elder brother by becoming a Japanese citizen, something Antoon failed to get: Indian citizenship. Toon loved his family and frequently asked our people here visiting Europe to go and see one or other of his sisters.

He began his secondary education in the High School of Kortrijk, but thereafter his parents sent him to the Jesuit high school in Turnhout where he resided in the Apostolic School, probably because of the 10 children life was not easy. Our fr. Delporte regretted this till his old age, because he believed –wrongly according to me- that on that account he was not appreciated in the Society on his real person and somehow looked down upon. This I think was one of the reasons why he could be very critical on others and that he had rather a negative view on the world of the Society and the Church.

He joined the Society of Jesus after overcoming his doubt to become an Oblate Missionary, on completing his secondary education in 1943 in Drongen. After his noviciate he went to Wepion to the so called Indian juniorate. After his coming to India he did philosophy in Shembaganur and for regency he was sent to Kunkuri. From there he went to Kurseong for theology and was ordained there in 1955. After his tertianship Antoon worked in a couple of our schools. But the best memory he kept was starting St. Xavier's School in Doranda. After this he was appointed PP in Lohardaga. During his stay there he took the idea to move the parish from the town to Keimo Patratoli. He convinced the archbishop and the archdiocese and bought there some land. The idea of shifting was I believe his desire to join to the parish an agricultural school. This did not happen. However he built up the parish and drew the plans for the church. His first architectorial work. He loved it and was able to convince the provincial to let him study for architect and then moved to Manresa House [or better the room in the Apostolic School], where he resided for the rest of his life in Ranchi. I guess that our Ranchi men remember him almost exclusively as the province architect. He drew the plans for many churches, close by and far away. He was a very conscientious man and went to inspect the works as they were busy. So he has driven miles and miles all around here. Not only churches but also convents and Christian schools were prepared by him. One of the buildings he was proud about was our Regional Theologate in Arsande and esp. one of his last works: the beautiful chapel there, a fine model of inculturation in our local culture.

The critical man did not have too many friends in the society and outside it, and mostly friendship did not last too long. This was due to his character. Yet he was a very conscientious and deep believing person. He was also very helpful to people in need. Prayer was part and parcel of his life. He had a deep devotion to St. Bernadette, the simple girl to whom Our Lady appeared in Lourdes. When he went to Belgium, he always tried to find time to visit Lourdes to encounter Our lady and Bernadette.

Towards the end here his health went from bad to worse and so he finally decided to go back to Belgium in 2009 where he got good care till the end of his life.

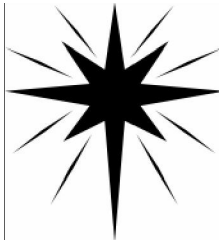
Erik Breye s.j.

BIRTHDAYS**JANUARY**

02 Tirkey Sumit Kumar
 03 Xalxo Sagar
 06 Minj Patras
 07 Ekka Philemon
 Kujur Anselm
 Kiro Laurentus
 10 Guria Benjamin
 09 Lakra Amrit
 11 Kullu Clement
 12 Dungdung Mathias
 13 Kindo Robert
 15 Toppo Alok
 17 Bage Sandeep Birendra
 19 Kullu Rajesh Kuldeep
 20 Tete Ignatius
 Hassa Purty Felix
 21 Nag Anil
 22 Minj Nelson
 24 Lakra Chonhas
 26 Baxla Jyoti Paul
 26 Kerketta Raymond
 Tigga Tej Kumar
 27 Lakra Bimal Elias
 28 Lakra Nabor
 30 Ekka Manoj

FEBRUARY

03 Tigga Blacius
 04 Kacchap Johnson
 05 Beck John Anuranjan
 Kerketta Cherobin
 06 Ekka Anup Arvind
 09 Kujur Ranjit
 10 Kujur Robert Pradeep
 11 Minj Anuj
 12 Kujur Ignatius
 13 Dungdung Paulus
 14 Kujur Johny
 15 Ekka Sameer
 16 Toppo Deepak
 Lakra Amit Juel
 21 Tirkey Suresh John
 22 Kerketta Bimal
 23 Tete Isaac
 Ekka Alok
 24 Horo Emmanuel
 Kerketta Edward
 Kullu Pradeep
 Kujur Amit
 27 Minj Kanchan
 Soreng Sumit
 29 Dungdung James W.



HAPPY NEW YEAR