



DECEMBER- 2018 Arrupe Niwas, P.O. Box 6, Hazaribag, Jharkhand 825 301 Vol. 65 No. 11

Joyful Christmas Greetings and Best Wishes for the year 2019

Merry Christmas

DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS: Dec 25th THE BABE IN THE MANGER

FR. PROVINCIAL'S PROGRAM

December 2018

- 01-03 Vidyajyoti Delhi, Visitation
- 08-09 Young Priests' Meeting
- 10 Pakripath
- 11 Mahuadanr
- 12 Tundtoli
- 13 Daltonganj
- 17-18 Province Extended Consultation,. at 3.00 p.m. (A.N)
- 20 St. Xavier's School Bokaro Steel City
- 27 Jubilee Mass-Arrupe Niwas 6.00 p.m.

January 2019

- 08 Finance Commission Meeting at 10.30 a.m. (A.N)
- 13 Province Consult
- 14 Churadohar visitation
- 15-16 Jamuniatanr visitation
- 18 Sahodaya visitation

- 19-20 Vivek Sadan visitation
- 23-24 Manresa House, Ranchi visitation

February 2019

- 4-5 Pakripath visitation
- 6-7 Mahuadanr Community visitation
- 8 Chiropath visitation
- 9 Tundtoli visitation
- 10 St. Xavier's College, Mahuadanr-visitation
- 17 Province Consult
- 20-21 Ahmedabad visitation
- 22-28 JCSA, Goa

COMING EVENTS: 2018

- Province extended consult is from 17 Dec. at 3.00 p.m. to 18 Dec. 2018, evening.
- We shall have a special Mass on 27 December 2018 at 6.00 p.m. in the Arrupe hall to honor our Jubilarians.

FROM AROUND THE PROVINCE

BOKARO, ST. XAVIER'S

35 of our students along with Principal, **Fr Saju** and two teachers went to Tarumitra, Patna for three days of Environmental seminar cum Harvest Festival. Students enjoyed the paddy harvesting and threshing. Mr Anil Palta was our Chief Guest for the Annual Sports on 9th December. Large number of parents and Boxans witnessed the events. Diocese Education Director, **Fr. Cyriac** was the Chief Guest for the Social Service School Sports. **Saju** attended the Annual meeting of the ASISC, Principal's meeting at Kolkata. He also visited **Frs. Packiam** and **Augustine** while he was in Calcutta. **Fr Francis Kurien** came for the final hearing of a case and received the good news of being acquitted from it. **Fr. Arun Minj** attended the young priests meeting. Four Melbourne, Xavier College boys were with us for four days. We are busy with the preparations for the Parents' Day cum House Competitions.

CHARHI

On 2nd November, the all souls day. Special masses were offered at Charhi and Kedla. The school organized a special awareness rally during the Dipawali time. Students and staffs went around the significant places in Charhi to create awareness regarding the use of crackers and their pollution to the environment.

On 9th November Krus Veer Children of the school participated in the diocese level Kurs Veer rally organized in Gomia. On 12th November Students of YCS (Young Christian Students) went for pilgrimage to Bandel Basilica, Kolkata. **Sch. Sasi** and other school staffs accompanied the students in their trip. 10th class students had their third unit test followed by sent-up test.

Fr. Gregory Kerketta participated in REGAE II at St. Xavier's School Hazaribag from 16th to 18th November. **Fr. Nicholas** attended the various village meetings within Charhi parish. We celebrated Christ the King Feast at different mass centers. In Charhi, **Frs. Nicholas** and **Shyam Tudu** concelebrated Santhali mass followed by procession within School campus.

The 26th Annual sports events started with cross country race followed by the selection for other house events. The students were excited to participate in all events. Our school annual sports was on 7th December. **Fr. Emile Ekka** went for his brother's house at Ghaghra for special thanks

giving mass organized in honor of his younger brother's retirement from Bank.

HAZARIBAG, ARRUPE NIWAS

From 9th September to his return on 17th November, **Bob Slattery** was busy in Australia, first for two weeks with **Fr. Santosh Minj**, and then for a further 5 weeks before going to New Zealand for two weeks. In both Australia and New Zealand, he made very good contacts with old and possible new benefactors. He found old Hazaribag hands, **Phil Crotty** and **Hans Hendriks** busy, **Phil** is in the Lavender Bay Parish and **Hans** in the Jesuit home, caring for homeless and sick men. In New Zealand, he spent a short time staying with **Fr. Peter Brockhill**, PP of St. Francis Xavier parish Marton. **Peter** is the grand nephew of the late **Fr. Drumm**, former Mission Director, who died in Daltonganj. **Peter** kindly allowed an appeal in his parish which resulted in a generous response from the parishioners. The Province is very grateful to the Australian Province for the hospitality and support to **Bob** and **Santosh** from **Fr. Brian McCoy**, Australian Provincial and the Australian Province. Great friendship in the Lord!

From 23rd to 25th November, Hazaribag Province hosted the Assistancy level PDD meeting at Arrupe Niwas. Except two PDDs from MP and Sri Lanka, all the PDDs participated in the meeting. Not only were PDDs present, but also **Jorje Serrano sj** and **Charles Lasarado sj** from Rome and the PDD from Nepal. In addition the Assistancy team of Lourdes Baptista and his three assistants took part in the meeting. The main focus in the meeting was the sharing of the PDDs on their mission with benefactors. The only "external" resource persons were our own **R C. Chacko** who gave a much appreciated talk, in his usual style, plenty of power points!, on the "*Spirituality of Fundraising*" (I can send a copy if anyone wants) and of course **Fr. Provincial, Santosh Minj** who welcomed the participants and outlined for them the challenges of our Province. The meeting was only possible due to the wonderful cooperation of the Prerana, St. Xavier's and Arrupe communities.

Fr. Barry came back to Hazaribag on 15 November. We are very grateful to **Br. Chintamoni sj**, and the Jesuits of St. Xavier's community of Kolkata for taking care of **Frs. Barry, Augustine** and **R.M. Packiam**.

Fr. P.J. James attended Northern Zone Dialogue Coordinators' Meeting, at St. Xavier's College, Kolkata on Nov 21. He took 3-day classes for Holy Cross Tertians on the Encyclicals and other letters of Pope Francis on Nov 26-28 and on 30 November, he went to Kerala for treatment.

As Patna Jesuits facilitate **Fr. Paul Jackson** on the occasion of his golden Jubilee, we in Hazaribag join with them in thanking God for the many graces he has bestowed on all of us through **Paul**, wishing him good health and happy days.

HAZARIBAG, ST. XAVIER'S

Parents' Night on 3 November was a gala event for the elders to see their children display their entertainment talents. Then the school went into recession for Deepawali holidays.

Fr. Barry said goodbye to his medical carers in Kolkata to recuperate with us in Hazaribag. He is mobile but likes to keep a wall within arm's length. He is spending a lot of time preparing the multiple documents to convince the guardians of law and order that he may be given an extension of his residence permit.

After surgery on his arm in HFH Kurji, and a rest period in Koderma **Fr. Bill Dwyer** came home. His arm is slowly showing improvement. The operation on the arm involved also a separate operation and a separate anesthesia to get bone from his left hip for a graft. Afterwards when he was told to get out of bed he found his left leg unpredictably would not support him and for some time he needed help to walk. He is now walking more comfortably and has also resumed driving.

Despite weakness **Fr. Suleman** continues to contribute his talent as community treasurer. We say a big thanks to Sr Laisa and her staff at Holy Cross Hospital, Tarwa, for their services to our invalids; we are glad you are not too far away.

We were the venue for a meeting of the PDD's of the Assistency, together with some Roman experts. On Xavier Day **Fr. George**, with **Frs. Manoj, Rosner** and **Bill** as concelebrants presided at Mass for the Christian children and their families, Breakfast was provided for all. As usual the annual "Cross Country" was held, and the teachers gathered for lunch afterwards. In the evening we were the host to the clergy and brothers of the town. **Bro. Francis**, along with his house and kitchen staff, decorated the dining room and provided a memorable meal.

PATKI, MASI MARSAL

Frs. Gyan and **Tintus** were busy as usual in their pastoral tours. **Gyan** and a catechist directed three days retreat for renewal of the families. One day **Frs. Vincent** and **Nicholas** made a surprise visit to us keeping their busy schedule aside. They met all of us; Sisters, workers and Fathers and Catholic community of our Parish (Mission Centre). Now the hostellers have started yoga in the morning before their studies. Yoga Guru **Fr. Kamal** says there is an improvement in their studies as they are able to concentrate better.

In the school, Sr. Rekha and her staff were busy in the preparation of the School Annual Day cum Parents day program. It was held on 1st of December. Many parents turned up for the day. It was a very successful event. The chief guest for the day was **Fr Pius Kerketta** from Kajarkilo. He observed that the children have a lot of talents but the parents and teachers have to channelize those talents so that children are able to succeed in life.

The Santhal Sohrae feast is in full swing and it will go on till February. Because of this the children are often in and out of the school; as each village celebrates it on different dates.

P.T.E.C., GURWA

The month of November was all exciting and hectic for us. The Annual Retreat was held on 8-9 and 10th Nov. for the trainees as well as the staff of the college and the middle school. Six Tertian Fathers were asked for their kind services to the students. They were very inspiring and the students were thrilled to listen to them. It went off very well. One of the academic requirements for the 2nd year students is to have an Educational Tour which was fulfilled by their excursion to Delhi, Agra and Jaipur. It was conducted under the able leadership of **Frs. Vincent** and **Shyam**.

On 15-17 Holy Cross Sr. Alma Gulab from KVK, Hazaribag was here to teach our students some herbal medicine which was benefitted by our students. The Cross Country Race, the middle school children's picnic to Konar River and **Fr. Sebastian's** cataract plus retina operation took place on 1st December. All three events got through successfully. Fr. Silas at last managed to write his M.A. exams. Xavier House Day celebrations in the morning with a Holy Mass and Kho-Kho match in the afternoon were the main events of 3rd December. The 2nd year students won the match by six points.

St. Xavier's High school had Drawing, Quiz and Singing competition. 10th Std. students went to Kolkata on an Educational Tour. Right now, they are writing their sent-up examination. Loyola English Medium School also had competitions in singing, speech, dancing, drawing and fancy dress. The 2nd, 3rd and 4th Std. students had a nice picnic to Bhagwan Birsa Biological Park, Ormannjhi. It was quite enjoyable for the kids.

PRERANA RESOURCE CENTRE

We had many visitors in the month of November. Some of the participants of REGAE from The Central Zone were accommodated at Prerana. That was followed by the Assisntancy PDD meeting at Arrupe for which also we provided accommodation for the PDDs of Karnataka, Andhra and Goa. And on the last day of the PDD meeting, Prerana hosted the evening gathering and meal for the participants (except those who hurried back to their provinces immediately after the last session) and members of Arrupe community.

Fr. Shyju attended the All India Religious Lawyers' annual meeting at Trivandrum. Then he made his retreat at Mt. St. Joseph Bangalore under the guidance of **Fr. Hilario SJ. Fr. Christopher** went to Patna, commissioned by the provincial, to attend the PDD training programme.

Prerana community has now a hundred percent REGAE graduates as **Fr. Thomas** joined the Hazaribag REGAE sessions; **Christopher** attended the same in Pathalgaon and **Shyju** participated in the Ranchi programme.

Fr. RC Chacko was in Satyanilayam Chennai for a week on Ignatian Spirituality. He also took classes for the Jesuit tertians in Sitagarha. He also conducted a programme for the AC Superiors in Patna. **Thomas** accompanied **Fr. Tony Ryan** to Ranchi for medical consultations. He also met his own doctor who advised him to continue medication for his prostate related problems.

SAHODAYA, SHAHPUR

Fr. Moris Ekka attended REGAE II programme in Hazaribag amidst registration of class X students for the board examination. The work was done on time without much difficulty and the students have finished their sent up exam. **Sch. Amit Xalxo** finds himself busy in looking after the hostellers. The construction works on new middle school building slowly reaching to its

completion. The foundations for new bathrooms for the hostel and the guard wall near the main entrance of the school are laid and related works are on. **Fr. Lawrence Tirkey** went to Barwadih to Preach on the feast of Christ the King. He is exploring the possibility of reducing the firewood consumption in the hostel kitchen.

ST. STANISLAUS COLLEGE, SITAGARHA

During the first part of the month, the House was almost silent and empty. The 2nd year novices were out on poverty experiment in different villages under Dumar Centre. The tertians were out on Retreat Preaching experiment. And the 1st year novices were being led by **Fr. Anil** to experience the Lord in the month long retreat. By the middle of the month the House started to come alive as the two fore-mentioned groups came back and meantime the 1st year novices too, brought their intense journey with the Lord to an end. A common experience, expressed by all the groups was that each of us prayed for everybody for their deeper experience of the Lord during these journeys. And fully knowing that everybody was praying for everybody else the experience was very enriching. After settling down within few days each department got busy in its own business.

Christ the King was celebrated with the parishioners with great devotion. This year the procession ended in St. Stanislaus ground. The Novice Master and the novices made sure that every needful thing was well-arranged for the faithful to sit during the "pravachan" followed by Benediction.

Our community was visited by POSA **Fr. George Pattery, SJ**. Besides meeting the tertians and the teartian instructors he also met the community members and shared the "Halchal" of the Assisntancy and encouraged us to carry on the very important work of the Lord's vineyard.

VIVEK SADAN

Songs of Christmas is overwhelming the guests and well wishers when they visit Vivek Sadan. Preparation of Christmas ministry has begun and the Christmas song is heard everywhere. Pre-Novices are learning Christmas songs under the guidance of **Fr. Sushil Osga**, who has joined the community last month. In the absence of **Fr. Geoff**, home visit Australia, **Fr. Sushil Osga** has taken the responsibility of training Pre-Novices. He is taking a special care and interest in teaching, correcting and making

pre-novices to sing and lead choir. On the occasion of Christ the King they conducted choir in the cathedral along with Jyoti Hostel girls and it was well appreciated.

Fr. Ajit Soreng went for Pre-Novitiate directors and Vocation Promoters meet at Baroda, Gujarat. He represented Hazaribag province and came back with new and innovative ideas to improve the standard of the Pre-Novices.

Fr. Arbind Beck was in and out for vocation work and REGAE Programme. He combined his vocation work with REGAE in Pathalgaon, Chhattisgarh. He also went around the

province to distribute next year calendar 2019 to different communities.

In the absence of **Fr. Ajit** and **Arbind** pre-novices had 5 days of health and hygienic classes. The class was taken by Sr. Nirmala from CIC. A big thanks to **Sr. Nirmala** for rendering a helping hand to us and sharing information and knowledge with our pre-novices.

Fr. Victor went to Hazaribag to attend REGAE Programme and soon after that he went to visit his sister at Noadih, Gumla who is sick for a long time. He also attended the final vows of one of his cousins.

FROM DIASPORA

KERALA, VIDYA NIKETAN JUNIARATE

"Art is life and life is art" from November 5th to 8th we had a course on Art Appreciation by Fr. Roy sj.(KER).The course was both enjoyable and meaningful. It was the time to explore and express our creativity. At the last day of the course we visited Art Gallery in the city.

"Tamsa Ma Jyotirgamaya" On 6th we, the Hindi assistancy juniors celebrated Deepavali. **Frs. Augustine sj.** (KER) and **Prabhudas sj.** (AND) offered Hindi Mass for us. **Sch James Ekka** the Hindi assistancy coordinator was given the main responsibility for the preparation. **Schols. John Robert Tigga** and **Samuel Nagesia** volunteered to teach the Hindi Mass rite to the Southern scholastics. Soon after Deepavali we began our Migrant Ministry.

"If I do not become a saint while I am young, I shall never be one" We began our Novena to St. John Berchmans; patron of Juniors on 17th. **Fr. C.J sj** (KER) guided us to choose the appropriate themes each day. November 26th on the feast day of St. John Berchmans three of our Junior companions pronounced their first vows in the Society of Jesus. The presence of Southern Provincials doubled our joy on that great and glorious day. Thank you! *Sch. James Ekka, sj*

KOLKATA, JUNIORATE

From 01 to 06 November we were busy with introduction to English literature by **Fr. Shaju Scaria, sj.** It was an enriching experience for all the juniors. On 2nd we had Eucharistic celebration in cemetery in remembrance of our departed brothers. On 10th we had a day of Monthly recollection.

On November 22nd and 23rd we had Psycho-Spiritual Integration course by **Fr. Jerome**

Francis sj. We had a privilege of spending some time in Alipur Zoo in Kolkata as a day of relaxation on 24th and it was a beautiful biography learning experience for all of us to see several animals and birds.

The feast of Christ the King was celebrated in Thakur Pukur Parish. It was the first time to celebrate the feast of Christ the king in Bengali, in Thakur Pukur Parish, followed by procession from parish to Loreto Novitiate, where we concluded with adoration. St. John Brakeman's feast was celebrated solemnly and one of the juniors **Sch. Jisu Basu Hembrom** (DUM) took his first vows. *Sch. Ashim Minj, sj.*

AUSTRALIA

All is going well. I am having a pleasant time both with family and Jesuits, as well as at the mission office. Recently I visited my doctor who referred me to a hospital for a checkup for my prostate and also a brain scan. On 12 December I received the report of the MRI of my brain and the Ultra Sound of my prostate. The MRI report is positive, but the prostate report indicates that treatment is needed for my prostate. The doctor here has put me on medication for a month, but recommends that soon after my return to India that I may need an operation on my prostate. I'll be returning to Hazaribag by 20th January 2019. Christmas and New Year's greetings From *Phil* and *me. Geoff,*

CAMBODIA

Time is just flying away; therefore I am making best use of it. From 6th of November to 14th of Nov. we the Jesuits of Cambodia had annual retreat in Kampong Saom, some volunteers too joined us. All together we were 29 participants

for the retreat. **Br. Ian J Cribb sj** from Australia Province guided us. He enlightened and challenged us with his vast experiences and he highlighted the point of GC36.

We, 30 Jesuits and lay volunteers took part in an important workshop "**Fey Alegria**" in Siem Reap, from 19th to 20th of November. **Fr. Carlos Fritzen sj**, the International Coordinator for Fey Alegria coordinated the workshop. "Fey Alegria is a Popular Education and Social Promotion Movement, which originates from and is driven by the experience of the Christian faith. Facing situations of injustice, Fey Alegria is committed to building a just and fraternal society together with the historical processes of marginalized sectors. From 21st of November to 24th of November the Cambodians celebrated the Water Festival so Schools were closed. Cambodian Water Festival (Bon Om Touk) is one of the most important holidays in Cambodia, This festival is celebrated in every province,(state) but many Cambodians make a special trip from the provinces to the capital city, Phnom Penh. They usually spend at least two days enjoying the festivities. In Phnom Penh people gather for big boat races, illuminated boats, a moon salutation and eating of special rice made with banana or coconut juice. Being in an international family, I celebrated my birthday on 22nd of November, in the Community in a grand way. On this day I received many unexpected messages and wishes. I feel that mission in Cambodia, particularly in the school, is quite demanding. Working with a team of professionals, I have grown a lot in the area of discipline and punctuality. Over the time I have learnt to live an independent life. I am busy for 10-12 hours a day and yet, I find joy in doing them.

In Cambodia, the mission stations are quite wide spread, which makes us to travel even a whole day to visit a mission station. I find time to go out and visit the mission stations; and I enjoy journeying from one place to another. Health is wealth; I am enjoying my good health. The weather is very pleasant here, so my warm clothes are still in the trolley. Thanks to each one of you for your prayerful support; I do assure you all, of my prayers and wishes. In this Advent Season let's pray for one another that we may become more generous and humble. *Sch. Deepak Lakra, sj*

PARIS, FRANCE

The month of November showed a swift change in the weather. The temperature at times descended to -10C. A season like rainy season here starts in November and ends in April. The classes in Catholic Institute, Paris continued again in full swing after a week-long holiday. On 10th September, **Amit** with his Fraternity group went to Saint-Michael, Belgium for the faith-sharing. Saint-Michel is one of the most beautiful and historical places surrounded by hills and forests of Luxembourg, Belgium. The ancient Churches and Basilica like 'WAHA' Chapel and Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul, add to the beauty and serenity of the place. **George** had his faith sharing of Fraternity group in Paris. Seeing the weather condition, the superior of community took us for shopping. We purchased few warm clothes, a thick leather shoes and thick jackets. On 1st December, we had a reunion of Jesuits, who came to Paris this year from India.

To mark the feasts of St. Luis Gonzaga and St. Francis Xavier, we had a novena prayer circulated throughout the province on the theme "**Vocation to serve as a Jesuit**". On 3rd December, we celebrated it in a big way with the Holy Eucharist. After a grand dinner, the six new members of our community took the community in a voyage to new cultures and the people. **Amit** gave a presentation on the theme "Karam-Puja and the Culture of Chotanagpur". **George** put a presentation on the theme "**Baha Porob** and Santhal (Hor) culture". On 6th Dec, **Amit** visited an eye doctor, and he has been asked to change the power of lenses. On the whole we are keeping fine. We wish you in advance: A MERY CHRISTMAS AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR- 2019!

Schs. Amit & George, sj

KINDLY REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Fr. Bento Fernandes, sj (GUJ), passed away on 27 Nov, 2018 in, Vadodara, Gujarat.77/53

Fr. Manu (Manuel Alphonse, sj), (MDU), passed away on 17 November 2018) at OXYMED Hospitals, Chennai, owing to cardiac arrest. 69/53

DECEMBER DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

01/2016 **Tony D'Souza**

03/1988 **Gerard Drumm**

18/2000 **Edmund O'Connor**