

Mahipal



St. Francis Xavier
Patron of Ranchi Archdiocese

Monthly News Letter of Ranchi Archdiocese

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No. 2

Archbishop's Message



My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

God loved us, the human beings, so much that he sent his only Son Jesus Christ into the world (Cf. John 3:16). Lord Jesus incarnated as a human being in order to save us. He laid down his life on the cross so that our sins may be forgiven and by his resurrection he saved us from eternal

death. He founded the Church so as to keep his teaching alive, secure and that it may be propagated everywhere. The Church by preserving the Word of God enshrined in the Scripture, the Sacraments, religious rituals, exhortations of numerous persons, examples of the saints and testimony of the martyrs safeguards the teachings of the Lord. She leads people onto the path of holiness and ceaselessly bears witness to the Gospel. In addition to the Apostles there have been innumerable men and women saints and martyrs who, as faithful witnesses to the supreme testimony of Lord Jesus, have either laid down their lives for Him or led a dedicated life of holiness. Blessed are such saints and martyrs!

In our religion there are numerous mystical truths that we cannot grasp with our limited intellect. Yet with the wisdom granted by the Holy Spirit we know them, believe in them and lead our lives according to God's will. True, it is difficult to live in accordance with the teaching of Lord Jesus. The internal reason for it is that on account of the Original Sin, a continuous conflict between good and evil goes on within us. While the Holy Spirit draws a human being towards goodness, humility, holiness, piety and loving service, the Unholy Spirit pushes and pulls him towards evil, pride, wickedness, malice, licentiousness and selfishness. A person guided by the Evil Spirit, seeks wealth, power and fame. He may unscrupulously resort to immoral act even to the extent of taking away someone's life. Such a trend in the history of the Church has primarily accounted for persecution of the believers in Christ every now and then, and at various places. Our Lord Jesus has said, "Remember the word that I said to you, 'Servants are not greater than their master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you; if they kept my word, they will keep

yours also." (John 15:20) To this day the believers in Lord Jesus Christ are enduring persecution and losing their lives for His sake in several countries.

Unfortunately, some powers active in our mother land are suppressing the principle of unity in diversity so as to advertise uniformity in the guise of religion. By enforcing such a principle on the masses they hope to capture wealth, power and prestige of the entire nation for themselves. They even resort to immoral means in order to subjugate the Nation. Even as the poor and illiterate in our society are being explicated and atrocity being inflicted upon, their land is being robbed away. The social workers taking side of the weak and those who struggle for their cause, are being unjustly framed and persecuted in various ways. Court cases are brought upon them. Such indictment and atrocity are also overtly and covertly being inflicted upon our institutions.

Our Lord Jesus says to us, "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you" (Mt 5:10-12). We draw consolation and strength from great Apostle Paul, who says, "We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh" (2Cor 4:8-11).

Our Lord has assured that He will be with us always, to the end of the age (Cf. Mt 28:20). Let us stay firm in Faith; continue to devoutly praise the Lord in glorious worship; and having firmly adhered to the truth, let us continue to serve the neighbour. May Mother Mary protect you and your families!

+ Felix Toppo, S.J.

Cardinal's gratitude to the Local Church

On August 6, after the installation ceremony of Most Rev. Felix Toppo, S.J., as the new Archbishop of Ranchi, His Eminence, Telesphore P. Cardinal Toppo expressed to the Local Church a note of gratitude. The following are the sentiments he tendered in acknowledgement:



In June 1978, when my name was announced as the new Bishop of Dumka, I selected the following call of our Lord Jesus Christ as my motto — “Prepare the way of the Lord!” (Mt. 3:3) Despite my humble Adivasi background, the Lord commissioned me, an unworthy servant, to prepare His way. Even as I was aware of my unworthiness and human limitations, I had recourse to the encouraging words of the great Apostle Paul, “I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.” (2 Cor 12:10)



In the very month (August) of 1984, I was transferred to Ranchi Archdiocese. Even as the vast region of geographical and social diversity posed veritable challenges to me as a Church leader, yet in the past 34 years in office, the above indicated encouraging words of St. Paul and the call of Lord Jesus Christ expressed through my Episcopal motto continued to sustain my zeal. In the mean time responsibilities at the national and international levels continued to be bestowed upon me. Long before I was created Cardinal, I was entrusted with the responsibility of supervising Gospel witness at the Asian level. I consider this august office as the Church's admiration for miraculous works of the “Apostle of Chotanagpur” and Servant of God, Father Constant Lievens and his zealous companions.

If despite my personal inadequacy I have been created a Cardinal, it is definitely the Universal Church's acknowledgement of the awesome Gospel witness the believers in Chotanagpur have borne — by the mercy of God — in the short period of a century. Great Saint, Pope John Paul II thus bestowed tremendous honour — surely, more

than upon my person — upon the Church in Chotanagpur. That is why on numerous occasions I stated that by the immense mercy of God, the Church in Chotanagpur has come of age.

Dear Parents, Brothers-Sisters and Children, all of you merit the above indicated honour bestowed by the Church. On this occasion, I express heartfelt

gratitude to all believers of Chotanagpur and all people of good will. Indeed, all of you have cooperated with me towards fostering “a disciplined and well-knit community”, as envisaged by Servant of God, Father Constant Lievens. I entreat you to sink mutual differences so as to relentlessly pursue this goal. Even though I may appear less frequently among you, yet I assure that you will be ever fresh to me, especially through my sustained prayer for you all. I give my sincere regards to the newly appointed Archbishop, Most Rev. Felix Toppo. May the Holy Spirit ever inspire you so that you may dedicatedly tend the sheep of the Great Shepherd, Our Lord Jesus Christ.

I also place my sincere gratitude to both Auxiliary Bishops, Most Rev. Telesphore Bilung and Most Rev. Theodore Mascarenhas. Your friendship, cooperation and counsel have immensely helped me to decipher the promptings of the Holy Spirit as also to follow them in action. Finally, for my personal shortcomings I tender my sincere apology to all. May the blessings of the Blessed Trinity and affectionate intercession of Mother Mary be always with you. Jai Yesu and thank you to all!



News & Views

Cardinal Telesphore moves to new residence

1 September, Saturday. Cardinal Telesphore formally moved out of the Archbishop's House today to occupy the refurbished residential quarters at Ulhatu Parish. In commemoration of his 33 years of stewardship, Auxiliary Bishop Telesphore Bilung coordinated the prayers of thanksgiving at the Cathedral. It was attended by a large number of priests, religious and the laity. Most of them also accompanied His Eminence as he proceeded to his new residential quarters at Ulhatu Parish. Upon arrival amidst torrential rain, the Cardinal's motorcade was delightfully greeted by the Ulhatu Catholics. Columns

of motorcycle riders escorted him to Minor Basilica, where a solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was held. The local Mahila Sangh ladies ushered him with traditional songs and dance into what is henceforth to be his living quarters. Notably, Minor Basilica of the “Mother of God and the Seat of Wisdom” at Ulhatu is a dream project of His Eminence. After being remodeled according to the Holy See's guidelines, it was blessed and inaugurated by him on December 8, 2016, feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mother Mary.

Coordinator of the entire procedure, Most Rev. Telesphore Bilung, SVD, wishes to acknowledge generous

contribution of the following donors towards refurbishing the living quarters of His Eminence's at Ulhatu:

- 1) Mother General, Sr. Linda Mary Vaughan DSA - A.C. Set
- 2) Provincial Superior, Fr. Joseph Marianus Kujur, SJ - Inverter set
- 3) Provincial Superior, Sr. Suchita S Xalxo, OSU - Sofa Set
- 4) St. Albert Seminary, Ranchi - A Tabernacle
- 5) All Saints Church, Doranda - A washing machine
- 6) St. James Church, Lalpur - A Refrigerator
- 7) St. Mary's Cathedral, Ranchi - A T.V. Set
- 8) St. Francis Assisi Church, Harmu - Two steel book-shelves
- 9) St. Anthony's Church, Saporom - An office Chair
- 10) Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Samlong - Rs. 25,000/-
- 11) Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Bariatu - Rs. 25,000/-
- 12) Superior delegate, Fr. Mark, O.C.D. - Rs. 25,000/-
- 13) Mahila Sangh, Ranchi - Rs. 10,000/-
- 14) Ursuline Niketan, Hostel, Ranchi - Rs. 15,000/-
- 15) Fr. Roshan Tiru, SDC, Oblates Sisters, Fr. Robin Doss - Sacristy items

Episcopal Consecration at Raiganj

Raiganj. 28 August, Friday. Episcopal Consecration of Rev.



Fr. Fulgence Aloisius Tigga, 52, was held here today. Officiated by His Grace, Thomas D'Souza, the Archbishop of Kolkata, the Consecration liturgy was concelebrated by Bishop Vincent Aind of Bagdogra and Bishop Peter Sebastian Goveas of Bettiah. Eight Bishops, including the Archbishops of Raipur

and Ranchi also shared the altar. About 150 priests and over 12 thousand faithful filled the venue, some occupying the shade while others staying in the open ground. Tasteful Santhal dance and melodious music marked the celebration. Msgr. Fernando Domingo S. from the Apostolic Nunciature read out Pope Francis' Pontifical Bull that authorizes Rev. Fr. Tigga as Bishop. The Liturgy included prayers in Bangla, Santhali and Hindi. Born on March 3, 1965 in Katkahi Parish of Gumla Diocese, Bishop Fulgence Aloisius Tigga was ordained priest on May 3, 1997 for Muzafferpur Diocese. After the bifurcation of the said Diocese, he dedicatedly worked for long as priest in-charge in various parishes. He also shouldered various significant responsibilities in the diocese.

CLHRC Receives Honour

Ranchi. 25 August, Saturday. Among the three noted hospitals in the region, Constant Lievens' Hospital and Research Centre (CLHRC), Mandar, was honoured this evening at Ranchi. The Hospital's Medical Director, Dr. Sr. Eileen Kujur together with her new colleague, Dr. Sr. Bimal Jyothi, received the honorific memento at a function organized by a noted regional newspaper. Such a



civic accolade to the nascent CLHRC may indicate that the significant humanitarian initiative of the Church is being widely

appreciated in the region. The event also saw 26 doctors with various specialties being similarly honoured. Notably, the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India (CBCI) founded CLHRC at Mandar on November 7, 2015, in view of availing modern health facilities at affordable price to most needy patients of the predominantly tribal region. The Institute is since evolving steadily into becoming a Medical College.

Final Vows of the Sisters

Ranchi. The Sisters of Charity of Jesus and Mary (SCJM) saw 11 of their members being permanently incorporated into the congregation through their final vows on Septemebr 9 at Nirmala College Hall. Similarly, 10 members of the Ursuline Sisters of Tildonk (OSU) pronounced their final vows on September 15 at the Provincialate quadrangle. Both ceremonies, concelebrated at the altar by numerous priests, were presided over by His Grace, Felix Toppo, SJ. The relatives and well wishers of the Sisters respectively attended both the celebrations in large numbers. Sr. Lily Pullipurath and Sr. Suchita Shalini Xalxo, Provincial Superiors respectively, received the vows. Felicitations and festive meal also suitably marked the occasion.

10th Ordinary General Chapter of SRA in motion

Ranchi: The 10th Ordinary General Chapter of the Missionary Sisters of the Queen of the Apostles (SRA) is being held in Mumbai during 23 Sept.—16 October. The theme of the Chapter, SRA: Missionary Disciples of Compassion and Joy at the Service of the Gospel, "prioritizes the core values of our call, life and mission in keeping with the teachings of Pope Francis in the recent years", an SRA statement said. The Sisters' delegation from Ranchi with the voting right includes 6 delegates, including the Provincial.

Ulhatu Vicariate Mahila Sangh met at Muri

Muri. September 16, Sunday: The 12th General Assembly of Catholic Mahila Sangh of Ulhatu Vicariate today reflected on mother's role in the family, society and the Church at large. With the theme, "Mothers, be the bridge!", they renewed commitment to bring about forgiveness and reconciliation in the community. Central to their "action plan" is to be "love and compassion", said Jesuit Fr. James V. Dungdung, Parish Priest of Muri. He added that "harmonious integration of the Gospel values with current technology" would amount to "timely response to the signs of time." Substantiated by video clips, his talk adequately underlined that Lord Jesus Christ is the first bridge builder who reconnects the broken humanity to God. Rev. Fr. Maximus Toppo, Dean of the Vicariate, who earlier hoisted the Monica flag at the Ursuline Convent venue, also officiated at the Mass with the concelebrants. Deceased members of Catholic Mahila Sangh of the archdiocese were paid a silent tribute. The estimated participants were about 1500, including the 12 hundred registered ones. Amid inputs from chaplains and guides, opinions were expressed in favour of a longer session so as to exhaustively treat the topics. The faithful of Muri Parish deserve appreciation for their hospitality.



World Mission Sunday-2018

- Pope Pius XI started the celebration of World Mission Sunday in 1926. Occurring on the Sunday before the last one in October, this year it falls on 21st October.
- It is a day set aside for the Catholic Church throughout the world to publicly renew her commitment to give life witness to the Gospel message through prayers, cooperation and help for missions.
- During October 3-28 a synod of bishops will deliberate in the Vatican on “Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment.” Hence the theme of this year’s World Mission Sunday is, “Together with young people, let us bring the Gospel to all.”

Sometimes Holy Father enunciates the purpose and significance of important events well ahead of the actual occurrence, often even before he releases the document proper. He may be said to have done so in his Angelus Message on 15th July this year at St. Peter’s Square.

While commenting on the call of the Twelve as in Mark 6:7-13, Holy Father observed that Lord Jesus prioritizes the Apostles’ duty “to be with Him” (Mk 3:14). This implies listening to His words and observing His healing gestures. In other words, the missionary disciple has first of all the person of Lord Jesus as the center of reference. As for the content of proclamation, the Apostles have nothing of their own or their own capacities to demonstrate, but they speak and act in as much as “sent,” in as much as messengers of Jesus. They are to radiate the Lord in all that they say and do.

The second feature of the missionary’s style consists in the poverty of means. In fact, the Twelve are given the order to “take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts” (v.8). The staff and the sandals are the pilgrims’ supplies, because such are the messengers and humble labourers of the Kingdom of God, not omnipotent managers, not immovable functionaries, and not entertainers on tour.

The experience of failure in the mission is also part of poverty. Jesus’ experience of being rejected, persecuted and crucified prefigures the destiny of His messenger. And it’s only if we are united to Him, dead and risen, that we succeed in finding the courage of evangelization.

The evangelical call for bearing witness to Lord Jesus applies not only to priests and

religious, but also to all the baptized living in various environments of life. No Christian proclaims the Gospel on his own, but is only sent by the Church, which has received the mandate from Christ Himself. World Mission Day is an opportunity for enabling the missionary heart of Christian communities to join in prayer, testimony of life and communion of goods, in responding to the vast and pressing needs of evangelization. May the Virgin Mary, first disciple and missionary of the Word of God, help us to take the message of the Gospel to the world.

“Mission reminds the Church that she is not an end unto herself, but a humble instrument and mediation of the Kingdom.”

Pope Francis (Cf. World Mission Sunday-2018, 7)

Programme of Archbishop Felix Toppo October 2018

Dates	Events	Time	Place
06	Final Commitment of Assisi Brothers	10.00 am	Samlong
07	Mass, St. Francis of Assisi Church	06.00 am	Harmu
12	Krusveer Rally at Chhipadohor, Daltonganj	05.00 pm	Chhipadohor
13	Holy Eucharist	07.00 am	Chhipadohor
14	Final profession, St. Joseph of Apparition	10.15 am	Mosaboni
15 -17	Caritas India Reg. Fora Chairmen & Directors’ Meet Bangalore		Bangalore
24	Mass at Claret Vidyaniketan	10.15 am	Saparom
28	Dhori Mata Feast, Mass	10.00 am	Dhori
29	Final profession of Brothers of Charity	09.00 am	Simlia
30	Mass : Golden Jubilee of Carmel Convent	06.30 am	Samlong
31	Golden Jubilee Programme, Carmel School	05.00 pm	Samlong

Bishop Telesphore Bilung’s Programme October 2018

Dates	Events	Time	Place
4	Feast of St. Francis of Assisi – Holy Eucharist	6.30am	Harmu Parish
13	Feast of CTC Sisters – Holy Mass	–	Hardag, Hulhundu Parish
14	Silver Jubilee of Banhora Church	6.30am	Banhora Parish
15	First Profession – Vincent de Paul Sisters	9.00am	Kokar Parish
17	Village Chapel Blessing		Rogo Village
20-22	Pune		Pune
November 2018			
4	Confirmation		Saparom