

Mahipal



St. Francis Xavier
Patron of Ranchi Archdiocese

Monthly News Letter of Ranchi Archdiocese

June 2019

No. 10

Archbishop's Message

June : A Month of Religious Solemnities

My dear Christian Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Our mother Church desires that we become holy. She wishes that we celebrate the vital and mystical events of our religion with appropriate solemnity. Through the Word of God and prayers in such liturgical celebrations, the Church invites us to consider the depth of God's immense love and to strengthen our faith in Him. She desires that all of us become true followers of Lord Jesus Christ. She wishes that we establish deep intimacy with the most holy God and having thus obtained inner spiritual strength, we emerge victorious over various negative and destructive bodily concupiscence and inclinations. She further wishes that we focus our mind and heart on God and the divine realities. By doing so we, as true Christians, may fashion our daily lives successfully and peacefully. Our Church celebrates with solemnity five religious feasts in the month of June. They are — The Ascension of Our Lord, the Pentecost, the Blessed Trinity, the sacred body and blood of Lord Jesus, and the Sacred Heart. Let me make very brief comments on each of them.

The Ascension of Our Lord: We thank the Lord God on this occasion, as He, in the highest heaven, over the ranks of the astounded and mesmerised heavenly angels, receives the most glorious King, Jesus Our Lord, who has triumphed over Sin and Death. He indeed is the Mediator between God and human beings; He indeed is the Judge of the universe; He indeed is the Emperor of the heavenly angels! Through the ascension of Lord Jesus to heaven, God has given us assurance that where He, our Head and the Source of everything, has gone, we too are destined to reach one day. Before being lifted to heaven Lord Jesus said to His apostles, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Mt 28:18-20). Even as the Lord ascended to heaven, the angels said to the disciples, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven" (Acts 1:11). In obedience to the same command of the Lord, the evangelizers from Belgium made disciples in thousands from among the Adivasis of Chhotanagpur several decades ago.

The Pentecost : We are reminded at the solemnity of Pentecost that by granting the life of His only Son, God has made us His own children and that by granting us the Holy Spirit, He has overwhelmed us with the Pascal mystery. It is the Holy Spirit, who, in the nascent Church, granted the knowledge of God to all nations and united the people of a variety of languages in one Faith. The Acts of the Apostles describes the coming of the Holy Spirit in these words, "When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability" (Acts 2:1-4). To this day the Holy Spirit descends upon us through the Church. He grants the seven special gifts to each one of us. The gifts are — wisdom, discernment, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, faithfulness and filial fear. These spiritual gifts help us to live the Christian life effectively.

Feast of the Blessed Trinity : The feast reminds us that God the Father, His only Son and the Holy Spirit are one and the same God and that they are the one Lord. Although Trinitarian in persons, they are one in essence. In the event of the assassination of St. Stephen, the first martyr, a well seasoned Trinitarian Faith of the early Church is evident, "Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God" (Acts 7: 55). We believe that the Son and the Holy Spirit share the same glory which God the Father reveals. That is why in the glorification of Truth and Eternal God, three Persons equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, yet one Lord, one God are invoked. While addressing the Romans, Apostle Paul writes, "... You have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ — if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him" (Rom 8:15-17). We are children of the Holy Spirit.

Feast of the Sacred Body and Blood of Lord Jesus : The love of God reminds us of His mercy. While at the last supper with His disciples, our Lord Jesus desired that His followers down the ages would maintain the salvific memory of the Cross. Therefore He offered Himself as the innocent sacrifice into the

Father's hands. This most acceptable gift gives glory to God the Father. By this ever salutary Sacrament God sanctifies His Faithful by nourishing them so that all of us, the human beings inhabiting the earth, be illuminated by the same Faith and be bound in the same bond of love. It is hoped that having tasted the sweetness of God's grace in the immensity of the Sacrament of Holy Communion we progressively mirror the Divine Life thereof. Our Lord has said, "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh" (John 6:51).

Feast of the Sacred Heart : The feast calls into our memory that our Lord Jesus embraced the Cross and laid down His life on it for the sake of His immense love for us. He let the blood and water flow from His pierced heart so that sacraments of

the Church may spring out from there and that having been attracted to the open heart of their Saviour, all peoples may ceaselessly get energized by the fount of salvation. Indeed, the counsel of the Lord stands forever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations. Lord Jesus says, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink ... 'Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water' " (John 7:37-38).

Dear Brothers and Sisters, in June this year let us celebrate the above indicated feasts with sentiments of deep faith and love, devotion and ardour. God will surely grant us innumerable spiritual gifts.

Your servant and friend

✠ Felix Toppo, S.J.

Official

Transfers and Appointments

SN	NAME	FROM	TO
1	Fr. William Tirkey	Dean & P.P. St. Aloysius Church, Mandar	P.P., Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Lapra
2	Fr. Deonis Xess	P.P., Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Lapra	Dean & P.P., St. Aloysius Church, Mandar
3	Fr. Ajay Lakra	P.P., St. Luke Evangelist Church, Kurkuria	P.P., St. Paul's Church, Garhalodhma
4	Fr. George Minj	Priest In-charge, Catholic Church, Jaratoli	Asst. P.P., St. Mary's Cathedral, Ranchi
5	Fr. Bipin K. Bilung	Minister, ABH, Ranchi	P.P., Good Shepherd Church, McMandro
6	Fr. R. Tobias Toppo	Asst. P.P. & Defender of Bonds, Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Samlong	Asst. P.P. & Defender of Bonds, St. Mary's Cathedral, Ranchi
7	Fr. Deepak Bara	Asst. P.P., St. Aloysius' Church, Mandar	Minister of ABH & Archdiocesan Project In-charge, Ranchi
8	Fr. Paul D. Lakra	Asst. P.P., St. Mary's Cathedral, Ranchi	In-charge, Senior Priests' Home, Mandar
9	Fr. Paramdayal Xess	Asst. P.P., Catholic Church, Jaratoli	Priest In-charge, Catholic Church, Jaratoli
10	Fr. Birendra Xalxo	Asst. P.P. & In-charge, Middle School, Kaimo, Lohardaga	Asst. P.P., & HM St. Paul's School, Garhalodhma
11	Fr. Sudhir Kerketta	P.P. & H M, St. Paul's School, Garhalodhma	Asst. P.P., In-charge of Middle School & Hostel, Kaimo, Lohardaga
12	Fr. Philip Minj	Director, Archdiocesan Vocation Centre, Hulhundu	Director, Orientation Students & Archdiocesan Voc. Centre, Hulhundu
13	Fr. Anjelus Ekka	Asst. Director of Archdiocesan Vocation Centre, Hulhundu	Asst. Director & In-charge of Archdiocesan Voc. Centre, Hulhundu
14	Fr. James Beck	Asst. P.P., St. Francis' Church, Baheya	Staff Member, Archdiocesan Vocation Centre, Hulhundu
15	Fr. Ajay Kr. Minj	Asst. P.P., St. Luke's Church, Kurkuria	Asst. Mission In-charge & Primary School, Brambe
16	Fr. Rajendra Xaxa	Asst. Mission In-charge and Primary School, Brambe	Asst.P.P. & In-charge, St. Aloysius Middle School, Mandar
17	Fr. Roshan S. Minj	Asst. P.P. & In-charge, St. Aloysius' Middle School, Mandar	Asst. Teacher & Office In-charge, Prakash High School, Hulhundu
18	Fr. Lucas Runda	Asst. P.P. & Asst. Teacher, RC Middle School, Kaimo, Lohardaga	Asst. P.P., & Asst. Teacher, St. Xavier's H. Sch. & Inter-College, Mandar
19	Fr. Gulshan Minj	Pastoral Ministry, St. Mary's Cathedral, Ranchi	Asst. P.P., St. Bernadette, Catholic Church, Kaimo, Lohardaga
20	Fr. Edwin Minj	P.P., Good Shepherd Church, McMandro	Asst. P.P., St. Francis' Catholic Church, Baheya
21	Fr. Ireneus Kerketta	Office In-charge, Prakash High School, Hulhundu	Asst. Priest In-charge of Catholic Mission, Jaratoli

22	Fr. James Bhengra	Asst. P.P., St. Mary's Cathedral, Ranchi	P.P., St. Luke the Evangelist Church, Kurkuria
23	Fr. Victor Lakra	Asst. P.P., St. Paul's Church, Garhalodhma	Asst. P.P., Our Lady of Lourdes' Church, Samlong

Please Note: All the Transfers should take place in the presence of the Bishops, Vicar General or Deans, between May 15 and May 31, 2019, unless otherwise informed to or got permission from the Archbishop and Bishop T. Bilung, SVD.

✚Felix Toppo, S.J.
Archbishop, Ranchi

✚Telesphore Bilung, S.V.D.
Auxiliary Bishop, Ranchi

News & View

Two Mandar countryside chapels blessed

1. Salya Tikra. 25 April, Thursday. On the right of a busy road amidst the jungle, 5 KM North of Mandar Parish, is located Salya Tikra village where a new chapel was blessed and inaugurated by His Grace, Felix Toppo, SJ, Archbishop of Ranchi today. Dedicated to the patronage of St. Joseph, the chapel saw a solemn Eucharistic celebration with the Faithful in attendance. His Grace also blessed a little

1998, however, under the leadership of Catechist Johan, the Catholic families, now increased to five in number, routinely assembled under a tree or in front of one of their houses to recite the Sunday prayers. After due consideration, construction of a chapel was started in 2000. However, its mud walls soon crumbled in the rain. Not only was the chapel reconstructed in 2003, but it was also duly blessed



Marian grotto located next to the chapel. In admiration of the villagers' enthusiasm in constructing the chapel, His Grace later disclosed to **Mahipal**, commenting, "It's a matter of consideration that presently the socio-political and economic conditions are not in favour of the Church. In these hard times, however, thanks to the sustained inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the Faithful have been striving to become an ideal Catholic community and that in response to His motivation they built a house of prayer. Let us thank the Lord for the same."

The lone Catholic family of Salya Tikra used to associate with the Kamati village community for prayer. In

and dedicated. Later, even as the building construction was restarted in the course of time, it remained inconclusive for reasons. However, thanks to the support, encouragement and guidance of Rev. Fr. William Tirkey, the Parish Priest, the work was finally completed. Reminiscent by the villagers of a type of incense producing wood, the village additionally acquired the name, Salya Tikra, meaning the Salya-covered hillock abounding in the Salya trees (the botanical name of the same as yet not explored). It's soft timber is also said to be used for manufacturing match boxes. An estimated ten thousand people are said to inhabit the region.

2. Bargadi. 12 May, Sunday. Dedicated to Mother Mary, the newly constructed chapel at Bargadi village was today blessed and entrusted to the villagers by His Lordship, Telesphore Bilung, SVD, Auxiliary Bishop of Ranchi. Situated at a distance of roughly 5 KM North-East of Mandar Parish, the village has a tale of people going to sell their bullock cart laden merchandise in Ranchi. They would halt either way their bullock carts for a night's respite here under a great banyan tree. The village is said to have thus acquired its name — the bullock cart halt at a Banyan tree. As for the Christian presence, the village sources report that the GEL and CNI Christians preceded here. From among them, certain Vishwas and Patras, the two brothers, in 1880 embraced Catholicism. Not only had the Mundas of the neighbouring Zaher village proceeded to embrace Catholicism, they had also built a chapel of their own. That's where Vishwas and Patras would participate in the obligatory Sunday prayers. In the course of time, the distraught Mundas quit the place for inter community squabble. By the time Bargadi village could sport ten Catholic families. They constructed in 1910 a little

muddy chapel. Even as the Catholics' number grew to 25-30 families or so in 1980, they built with mud a relatively bigger chapel. Similarly, when the Catholics' number grew to 35-40 families or so, the foundation of a new chapel was dug. Even as its walls were raised to a considerable height with bricks and stones, the construction was inconclusively abandoned.

Finally, upon insistence of the clan mothers of Vishwas and Patras a meeting of the Catholic residents was held on some Sunday. Not only was the proposal to construct a community chapel was passed in the meeting, certain Masihcharan Kachhap, a retired job holder, also came forward to supervise the construction. Commenced on April 4, 2012, the work was completed on May 11, 2019. The community's novel accomplishment was blessed and dedicated by Bishop Telesphore Bilung today — May 12, 2019 — at a solemn Holy Mass. An estimated twelve thousand people are said to inhabit the region.

The construction of both the aforementioned churches are to be jointly accredited to the encouragement given by Rev. Fr. William Tirkey, the Parish Priest, and to

the cooperation and generous manual labour of the Faithful. The inauguration day was marked by cultural festivity and *agape* meal at both places respectively. It may be recalled that community chapels at Kamati village and Mudma village were also blessed and inaugurated by Bishop Telesphore Bilung, SVD, on May 24, 2018 and February 12, 2019 respectively.

First Communion and Confirmation at Lalpur

Lalpur. 5 May, Sunday. St. James' Church, Lalpur, today saw 36 children receiving Confirmation and 17 children taking their first Communion. His Lordship, Telesphore Bilung, SVD, Auxiliary Bishop of Ranchi solemnized the respective sacraments. He elaborated on the merciful mandate of Lord Jesus regarding Gospel proclamation already explicit in the sacrament of Baptism and now the same being furthered through the sacraments of Holy Communion and Confirmation. "As Lord Jesus offered Himself for us, we too are called to offer ourselves likewise to the Lord by our very



way of life dedicated in love towards helping the poor and the needy", he exhorted the sacrament recipients. He expressed gratitude to numerous benefactors, both compatriots and foreign, thanks to whose generosity our multidimensional development is sustained. "These are the works of God's love," he said. The Bishop also exhorted both the children and the parishioners to continue receiving the sacraments regularly and with requisite preparation. While appreciating the well organized festivity, he underlined the parents' responsibility towards their children's spiritual formation by regular participation in Holy Mass and prayers in addition to supervising the young ones.

Jointly prepared with special instructions and spiritual devotions by the Oblate Sisters of Nazareth, the Sisters of Sacred Heart and the CMC Sisters, the children enthusiastically danced, sang and read the prescribed scripture passages at the solemn liturgy. Fervent cooperation of the Parish youth was indeed a yet another significant feature. The Parish Priest, Fr. Deosahay Minj gave the vote of thanks to His Lordship and the Parish

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team for their respective roles at the solemn occasion. Earlier, the Mahila Sangh mothers welcomed the Bishop with a traditional dance, while Mr. Michael Kachhap and his associates of the Catholic Sabha ceremonially ushered him in. Assistant parish priest, Fr. Samuel Hembrom, Fr. Raimund Tigga and Fr. Jini P. also assisted the Bishop at the altar. Confirmation and the first Communion ceremony are held once in two years.

Newly Ordained Jesuits of Ranchi Province

The Ranchi Jesuit Province is grateful to the Lord for granting six young priests this year (serialized according to their Ordination dates) to work in His vineyard.



Fr. Ravi Hemant Kujur, SJ. : Ordained a priest at his home Parish, Ara Gate, on December 30, 2018 by His Lordship, Telesphore Bilung, SVD., Auxiliary Bishop of Ranchi.



Fr. Edwin Ritesh Ddungdung, SJ. : Ordained a priest at his home Parish, Kanke, on January 6, 2019 by His Grace, Felix Toppo, SJ., Archbishop of Ranchi.



Fr. Fuldeo Soreng, SJ. : Ordained a priest at his home Parish, Tamra, on January 16, 2019 by His Lordship, Vincent Barwa, Bishop of Simdega Diocese.



Fr. Rakesh Kerketta, SJ. : Ordained a priest at his home Parish, Salangapos, on January 27, 2019 by His Lordship, Vincent Barwa, Bishop of Simdega Diocese.



Fr. Shailesh Lakra, SJ. : Ordained a priest at his home Parish, Gumla, on February 2, 2019 by His Lordship, Paul Lakra, Bishop of Gumla Diocese.



Fr. Roshan Ba'a, SJ. : Ordained a priest at his home Parish, Barwadih, on February 10, 2019 by His Lordship, Vincent Barwa, Bishop of Simdega Diocese.

Golden Jubilee of Rengarih Church celebrated

Rangarih. 19 May, Sunday. Presided over by His Grace, Felix Toppo, SJ, Archbishop of Ranchi, St. Anthony's Church, Rangarih, observed its golden jubilee today. He



was flanked at the altar by His Lordships, Vincent Barwa, Bishop of Simdega and Angelus Kujur, SJ, Bishop of Purnea, while numerous priests in Mass vestments attended them. Thanks to the foresight of Fr. Louis Cardon and companions (the pioneering Jesuit missionaries in the Biru Raj), Rengarih Parish was started

on May 2, 1901. Its territory spanned the entire present Simdega district and that of Gangpur in Odisha. From the Rengarih headquarters built in 1903, Fr. Cardon and his companions campaigned on behalf of the tribals being exploited by the landlords. In 1968, Fr. Henry de Yong constructed the present church over the one built by Fr. Cardon in 1906. The latter, therefore, completed 50 years already last year. In the course of time, the vast ecclesiastical territory was subdivided into 12 parishes. The region boasts to have produced 6 Prelates. Numerous priests, religious men and women from this parish are presently bearing Gospel witness in numerous countries.

Programme of Archbishop Felix Toppo, June 2019

Dt	Events	Time	Place
02	Arrival, Communion, Confirmation	6.30 AM	Chanho
4-16	Vacation		
29	Inauguration, Tarunodaya, Boreya	09.00 AM	Kanke
30	Confirmation	06.30 AM	Samlong

Bishop Telesphore Bilung's Programme, June 2019

2	Confirmation	06.30 AM	Kokar
3	Holy Eucharist, SMI	11.00 AM	Tharpakhna
9	Village Chapple Blessing	09.00 AM	Baribera, Jaratoli Mission
16	Confirmation	06.30 AM	Jonha