



THE MARIANISTS DISTRICT OF INDIA

NEWS LETTER

Vol: 8
Issue: 4

December 2008

PERSONNEL CHANGES, ADDITIONS:

- Suresh Gaddam, former Marianist has asked to be re-admitted to the Society of Mary. After consulting with the provincial and general administrations we have accepted him as a candidate and assigned him to work in the Maria Nilaya Community in Patna. He is ministering at Chaminade Training Institute.
- Bro. Arockia Doss Mullai is being asked by the provincial to remain at his home while psychological evaluation and therapy is arranged.
- Bro. Ajit Kullu has been transferred to the Gyan Deep community with ministry at REDS.
- Bro. Ismail Sindur is transferred to Faustino Community to assist the formation program. There are still 24 Aspirants at Faustino.
- Fr. Ignase has accepted our request to be the Indian Representative for the committee working on the Marianist Formation Centre in Asia.
- Bro. Marianus Bilung, S. M. has been given permission to stay in Dayton until the end of July so as to take Mariology courses.
- Novice Fuljence Lakra left the Novitiate in early December.
- Birthday missed: Bro. Peter Paul K.'s birthday is 21 April
- Bro. Vinod V. T. is allowed only one birthday and it is 23 February, not also 16 May
- Nirdeshika correction: page 18 should be 17 and page 17 should be 18. Tear out the page and reverse it and it will be correct. We have yet to fix the blame for this error.
- New email addresses:
 - George Hans is:
geohans@rediffmail.com
 - Paulus Lakra is:
palusm@rediffmail.com
 - Sylverius Kerketta is:
ksylveri@yahoo.com
 - M., Arul Raj is:
mugaiarul@yahoo.co.in
 - D'Cruz Nicholas is only:
nicksm7@rediffmail.com

- Fr. Syl's mailing address should have Gomardih after Catholic Church.

NEPAL UPDATES:

- Fr. Pragasam and Nicky visited our Nepal communities from November 1st to 14th and had lengthy meetings. Later on Bro. Del visited our communities during his visa trip to Nepal. We are impressed by the progress of Morning Star Schools in Bharwal and Chakkarghatti and our brothers' ministry involvement.
- Our community in Biratnagar has temporarily moved out of Biratnagar due to the recent developments because the Italian Foundation has requested us to withdraw our presence from Don Bosco School. A couple issues have developed in the recent days: 1. Teachers are demanding more salary according to the government pay scale. 2. The late Mr. Vimsen's family intends to withdraw from the project and is expecting compensation from the Foundation. Due to these two issues we are worried about our brothers' safety. The Marianists are not in a position of supporting this project financially and it is being expressed to all the parties that are connected with it. So, the District Council decided to request our brothers to move out of Biratnagar community house until we get further instructions from the Foundation.

- Bro. Victor Sahayaraj is now living at our Chakkarghatti School and he is involving with the school ministry. He joins with the Morning Star Community for his liturgical needs.
- Registering the "Nepal Marianist Society" is in progress. Fr. Varghese will be traveling to Kathmandu to obtain one more paper this week. We believe that this process will be over before Christmas.
- The Morning Star School has started the Agricultural Training program for the youth from November onwards.

GROWTH AT DEEPAHALLI:

- When our brothers assemble in Deepahalli at the end of December they should make sure to tour our REDS multipurpose building which is almost finished. There is a toilet block behind the main building still under construction.
- The renovation of Faustino continues. Praise to our Faustino staff and Aspirants for suffering through this long renewal process.
- The vanilla garden is going strong again.
- Make sure you visit the first floor library at the Deepahalli Education Centre—the nicest looking library to be seen in Bangalore. While there view Bro.

Darwin's collection of Fr. Chaminade portraits. On the ground floor you can see all the photographs of the people responsible for UD Deepahalli from the very beginning until present time. Exciting new website for Deepahalli Educational Centre:

<http://academic.udayton.edu//deepahalli/>

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION VISIT TO THE DISTRICT OF INDIA:

We regret that our Superior General, Very Rev. Manuel Cortes, S. M. and our Head of Temporalities, Bro. Edward Violett, S. M. were unable to come. Fr. Cortes is having a long term treatment for an eye problem. He is sure to be cured as our own Fr. Jose Ramon Sebastian's sister is his doctor. Bro. Ed had successful surgery on his back but is not allowed to travel as yet. But we are happy to welcome for the first time to India, Fr. Andre Fetis, S. M., Head of Religious Life and Bro. Jose Maria Alvara, S. M. for the third or fourth time. They have already had interesting adventures, starting with their arrival in Delhi on 30 November. There they met with the District Council at the Indian Social Institute. The Council briefed them on each community and work of the district. They did get to see Taj Mahal on the second day. Getting in and out of Nepal was their next challenge which went well, especially after they found Bro. Dennis Lobo at the New Jalpaguri train station. Bro. Dennis accompanied them to Barh where their train arrived at 1:43 a. m. Bro. Dennis also got to drive them from Patna to Ranchi as no flights were available. For

the rest ask them when we come together in Bangalore.

COMMUNITY REPORTS:

1. Budakata, Orissa:

After the hard work of Fr. Marianus Lugun and the community the demarcation work for the School land is done with the presence of the Revenue Inspector, local police and the villagers. It is only 10% of work but there is a hope of settling this issue, but we can't say when. We have to make clear the land settlement before we proceed with any building projects. So far the brothers have not received any threats but they are worried about the recent developments in Orissa. The mutation work for the community land that we purchased is yet to be done. The District provided some assistance for the teacher's salary to a nearby Catholic school in the diocese.

2. Gyan Deep:

- The REDS office and store room have been moved to the new building named REDS Prerna Centre, so there is now another guest room on the ground floor of the Gyan Deep residence. The REDS kitchen has also been shifted so the Gyan Deep Residence is fully a residence once again.
- The REDS nutrition program will be centralized in Gyan Deep and the REDS kitchen is being

- equipped to meet this requirement.
- The Computer centre at Prerna Centre is about to begin with the addition of new computers and furniture. Finally the REDS Prerna Centre's rooms are now arranged.
 - There is hope of getting funds for the REDS program from the Government of Jharkhand. Bro. Alex and Doss are working on this matters also, renovation works of REDS centers have already began with the help of our Marianist Sisters.

3. Chaminade Parish, Singhpur:

We are trying to secure funds to build the parish church on land purchased near the school. Fr. Alphonse has raised part of it and the rest will be raised soon. Once the trust is registered by Fr. Alphonse, the construction work will be started. Now the compound wall work is in progress.

4 REDS Skill Training Centre for the Boys, Ranchi:

In the presence of the members of the Italian Foundation, District Council and brothers from our local communities, the foundation for the Skill Training Centre in Singhpur was inaugurated. There are four sections of the buildings planned

1. Boys hostel
2. Administrative Block
3. Toilet blocks and
4. Training Units.

Mr. Gino Prandino the vice president of the Fondazione Fratelli Di Dimenticati laid the foundation with the blessings of Fr. Alphonse Ekka.

5. St. Mary's Multipurpose Centre, Barh:

The class room for typewriter classes in the old building has been renovated. The computer centre at the new building has been shifted to the first floor. The centre has been very attractive with new computers and furniture. The new additions and facilities have attracted more students. The brothers have begun to draw salaries from the Institute once again. The compound wall issue not yet settled.

6. Scholasticate:

Bro. Erose Kujur had successful knee surgery on 8 December and is back at the Scholasticate.

7. REDS Children day:

The Children's Day for the REDS children was celebrated on 14th December in Bangalore. There were about 1200 in attendance. The cultural programs, games and meals were organized by REDS. Thanks for the Marianist communities, staff, donors and the government official for making this day possible.



REDS – Children’s Day Celebration, Lighting of the lamp by Fr. Pragasam- District Superior, The Superior General of the Marianist Sisters, Sr. Marie Joelle Bec, FMI, Assistant for Instruction, Sr. Maria Jose Jauregui, FMI and Mrs. Prema.



Play school children’s participation in fancy dress.



Children having their meals

SUCCESSFUL PERPETUAL VOW RETREAT AT NIRMAL DEEP:

- Fr. Ignase Arulappen directed for 30 days our seven brothers approved for final vows. We owe much gratitude to Fr. Ignase for completing this difficult program. The seven making final vows are: Saju Chittadiyil, Arul Raj M., Bhaskar Madanu, Britto Murmu, Jinu Muthukattil, Peter Samad and Josephraj R.
- The Committee that was appointed by District Council based on the direction given by the District Chapter to study and make recommendations for final vows ceremonies has asked each brother to have some kind of thanksgiving program in their village. Hopefully some members of the brothers’ communities will be able to be part of this village ceremony.

VISITORS TO OUR DISTRICT:

- The Superior General of the Marianist Sisters, Sr. Marie Joelle Bec, FMI and the Assistant for Instruction, Sr. Maria Jose Jauregui, FMI, arrived in Bangalore very late at night, about the time that Fr. Dave Fleming, S. M. also arrived after finishing his sabbatical. Sr. Joelle attended a conference of major superiors of women held at Mt. St. Joseph, Bangalore. Sr. M. Jose enjoyed the quiet of Deepahalli and sharpened her English by attending Fr. Dave’s

classes. Very early on 15 Dec. they flew to Ranchi to spend Christmas with our Marianist sisters.

- Representatives of the USA Province attending our assembly are Fr. Joe Lackner, S. M. and Fr. James Fitz, S. M.
- Fr. Bernard Lee, S. M., Vice-President for Mission & Identity at St. Mary's U., San Antonio, will be coming for a conference but will also visit our communities in Bangalore. He will arrive with Fr. Joe Lackner on 29 December.

UPDATES ON LAND PURCHASING AND PRESENT CONSTRUCTION:

- Ambikapur, Chattisgarh: we have given up purchasing land there at the present time. Land prices and locations are unsatisfactory at this time.
- Khammam, Andhra Pradesh: we have completed five and half acres purchase of land from the Bishop of Khammam; registration is done. The property is on a good road. The school's ground floor is about to be started.
- Siliguri, W. Bengal: Seven and half acres of land were purchased for a school and aspirancy building. The boundary wall has yet to be started, but should start soon.
- Singhpur: we plan to purchase three acres of land near to the STC property for cultivation of rice to support the STC hostel. Land registration of our present Prabhat Tara School is still going forward.

*“To all of our readers a blessed
Advent and Christmas season. Pray
especially for a just peace in the
troubled areas of India”.*



Thank You