

Dec 2012



# The Marianists District of India NEWSLETTER



**Christmas and New Year  
Wishes**

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Rejoice our Savior has come! Warm wishes and prayers for joy in the Lord and Mother Mary from the District Council on this solemnity of the Birth of Our Lord Jesus! And may “the peace of

A black and white silhouette-style illustration of the nativity scene. It shows the Holy Family: Mary, Joseph, and the infant Jesus in the manger. There are also silhouettes of a donkey, a cow, and a sheep. In the background, there's a small stable structure and a cross on a hill.

God which surpasses all understanding guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus”.



## Ashok, Libin and John Paul make Perpetual Vows



Our brothers Ashok, Libin and John Paul made their commitment of perpetual vows on the special Marianist feast of Mary's Immaculate Conception in the chapel of Our Lady of Wisdom in Deepahalli.

With over 100 people in attendance, Bro. Augustus received the vows, Fr. Iggie presided at the Eucharist, Fr. Kip preached and the scholastics and aspirants sang liturgical music beautifully in five languages. Much time had been devoted to preparing the chapel and grounds in a splendid way.

A special point was made at the ceremonies to thank the parents and families of our brothers for their role in nurturing and supporting these Marianist vocations. Arrangements for the event were made by the three communities of Deepahalli and the District Council.

Ashok, Libin and John Paul prepared for this event through a month's study of Scripture, ten days of special Marianist Studies and a 30-day retreat (with the deacons) under the direction of Fr. Kip and Fr. Iggie at Nirmal Deep.

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## Referrals and Decisions of the District Chapter

### Deepahalli, Gyan Deep and Two-year Aspirancy

The District Chapter has asked the District Council to look into several issues with the hope that some or all of them will prove desirable and feasible. One is the investigation of the practicality of an English medium school on the Deepahalli property. The rationale for this idea includes: 1)Marianist educational ministry to a quickly growing area; 2)the District's financial sustainability; 3)the suitability of the Deepahalli property; 4)possibility of a training ground for Marianist teachers; 5)other groups in the area are thinking of the same option.

Another area of improvement could be Gyan Deep. We are in a very confined space and the residence we do have doesn't lend itself to much renovation or expansion. A bigger facility in its place could provide additional REDS possibilities, commercial rental space, and a residence for the Brothers. This idea had already been launched in the past but the financing, from a bank office, which would have paid for the construction fell through, so the project didn't happen.

There is a desire among some Chapter members and others to study the desirability of a two-year aspirancy program. Greater proficiency in English could be a desirable outcome but an overly long, static program would be a disadvantage. Cost and personnel are also major aspects to consider.

As a policy decision the Chapter has determined that starting in 2013, the terms of elected capitulants would be for three years instead of five years. This will put the election terms in harmony with the appointed terms of the District Council

while allowing a greater possibility of Chapter experience for more people. The District Chapter now has eight elected positions because there are seven brothers on the Council who are automatically members of the Chapter.

