

Newsletter

Marianists - District of India

October 18, 2013

Vol: 13 # 3

Feast of St. Luke, Evangelist

Greetings with prayer and affection from the District Council! May each of us have such a love for the Word of God, like St. Luke, that the testimony of our lives would help persuade those who long for God that there is a possibility Jesus' love and message could be true.

World Day of Prayer at Nirmal Deep

As part of three days of formation the Marianist Lay Community members in the Ranchi area gathered at Nirmal Deep to pray, reflect, think and some to prepare for Marian consecration. Eight made their public commitment as consecrated MLC members. Fr. Santosh Tudu and Fr. Joseph Barla preached the formation retreat to the MLC members. The other Marianists joined them on October 13 for the World Day of Prayer Remembrance.



Brothers with MLC at Nirmal Deep, Ranchi

World Day of Prayer at Bengaluru

All five of the Marianist communities in the Bangalore area honored the Marianist World Day of Prayer by a pilgrimage on October 13 to the Shrine of **Our Lady of Lourdes** at Nagamangala near Hosur, Tamil Nadu. It is cared for by the Vallambrosan Benedictines. There was a Eucharist, personal prayer, a rosary and a picnic on the grounds of the shrine/monastery. Fr. Iggie presided the Eucharist along with Fr. Jack the Assistant District Superior and other Marianists. It was a time of grace, sharing and spiritual nourishment to our Holy Brothers.



Brothers at Our Lady of Lourdes at Nagamangala

Aspirants make commitment of Aspirancy



On September 12, paternal feast of The Most Holy Name of Mary, the 21 aspirants of the Faustino Community made their commitment promises to the aspirancy program. The Eucharistic Liturgy took place in the hall of the Faustino community. The aspirants prepared a fine liturgy and sang very well. Fr. Jack McGrath, Assistant District Superior, presided at the liturgy and received the promises in the name of Bro. Augustus, District Superior. Let us keep these young men and future pillars of our

District in our daily prayers. Thanks to our Brothers those who are helping these young men in their discernment process.

Dan Stupka Farewell

Bro. Dan Stupka has had more than one ceremony of thanks and farewell, but the place where he spent the most time, energy and musical talent was Faustino community. The aspirants offered an evening of dances, skits and singing on October 8. The enthusiasm of the 21 aspirants was a happy sign of their gratitude for Dan's hard work of English and musical instruction. The scholastics also showed their thanks in a dinner appreciation.

Perpetual Vow Date Set for Feast of the Holy Family

We will be holding our celebration of Perpetual Vows on the Feast of the Holy Family, December 29, in Nirmal Deep. We made the change from January 1)to give attending Brothers a chance to be at the ceremony and still get back to their schools in time for the beginning of classes; 2)to allow families from the north who are attending to still have the option of celebrating their families with special activities on January 1. We cannot make the same accommodation next year because our District Assembly does leave us room for the same maneuver.



Bro. Dan Stupka with the Perpetual Vows preparation Brothers.

Apostolic Help during Perpetual Vow Preparation

While four of our brothers are preparing for perpetual vows during September, October and November, three other Marianists have been taking their places in the classroom. Oscar Kerketta has been taking classes of Sudhir Soreng in Binda, Chitti Babu Gunja is doing Renny Markose's work at Jacob Gapp School in Khammam, and Pratap Guria has become the newest teacher of English at Chaminade Training Institute at Patna in place of Kumaraswamy. Their very ready generosity was impressive and we are very grateful.

Assembly Committee meets on October 25

The Committee planning the District Assembly will be meeting after Kairos 3 at Nirmal Deep on the morning of October 25. The Assembly will take place in Bangalore on Dec. 28,29,30 and 31, 2014. The installation of the new Council will take place on January 1. Members are of the Assembly committee are: co-chairs: Basant Kujur and Jack McGrath; also Alex Toppo, Chinnaiyah Polishetty, Bhaskar Galleli, Sudhir Kujur, Kumarawamy, Renny Markose.

District Chapter at Nirmal Deep

The District Chapter meetings of 2013 will be held at the novitiate, Nirmal Deep on October 25 to 27. The newly elected members: Marianus Bilung, Birendra Kullu and Sanjay Ekka, will all be there. We are grateful to Fr. Dave Fleming, the staff and the novices for their hospitality.



Bro. Marianus Bilung



Fr. Birendra Kullu



Bro. Sanjay Ekka

Kairos III Workshop on Leadership Development

Over 30 Marianists will be gathering at Nirmal Deep from October 20 to 24 for the third session of **Kairos: Marianist Leadership Development**. Again we are very glad to welcome Bro. Tom Giardino and Mr. Savio Franco back for their very valuable and committed facilitation. Again we are very grateful to the Marianists of Nirmal Deep for the generosity and care of their hospitality.

Meeting with Bishop Kandulna of Khunti

Bro. Augustus and Jack McGrath met with **Bishop Binay Kandulna** and Jesuit Provincial Fr. Xavier and his assistant for development, Fr. Gregory on July 3 at the Bishop's office. Our discussion involved the relationship of our Catholic Mission School Roro, our small church nearby, with the Rumtukel parish in which we live. The outcome of the meeting was that we could celebrate Sunday Masses freely in our small church, ask the people to go to the main parish on the main feasts of the year, and let the parishioners near Rumtukel see if they can raise enough school fees. The Bishop wants to talk with his board of Consultors about the future of the small church, perhaps becoming a parish, and the two schools, Rumtukel and Roro.

Audits Completed

District Audits for both north and south were completed from September 7 to 9. Hearty thanks are due to, Paulus Lakra, Lucian Tigga, Alexis Toppo and Mrs. Amala Jyothi for their long hours, much research, patience and expertise in bringing things to a successful conclusion. Mr. Kandasami was highly complimentary of Fr. Kip's organization of the audit. There were also accountants' workshops associated with the audits, a project planned over the past two years; Bro. Paulus is to be particularly thanked for this.

District Marianists of the Philippines

We have welcome back **Bro. Oscar Kerketta** from his dedicated years of ministry in the Philippines especially doing the difficult work of formation and vocation promotion. Initially

God doesn't require us to succeed; he only requires that you try.

Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Oscar is at Binda replacing Sudhir Soreng in the classroom and community. Later he will make a personal renewal program before beginning a regular ministry assignment next year. **Bro. Raimond Toppo** will not be coming back immediately. He is in the midst of a Master's degree in Social Work at the Jesuit *Ateneo de Davao University*, so he will be living with the Holy Family brothers until he completes his degree in May.



Bro. Augustus gives staff workshop

Bro. Augustus gave a day-long workshop to our REDS Bangalore staff, at Infant Nilaya on September 5. He explained the questions of Human Development and the importance at all stages of parents, teachers, guardians, and mentors. Augustus gave a similar workshop to the REDS staffs of Ranchi and the CDRP of Binda.

Strong support from *MISSIO* for REDS Ranchi

Big congratulations to Bro. Kuldeep and the **REDS team in Ranchi** for being awarded a very substantial grant to set up a 3-year Family Counselling program for the REDS families around Gyan Deep! It is a grant for Euros 130,800 (or Rs 109,87,200) over three years to cover interviews, personal and family counseling, input sessions and multiple follow-ups. It will focus on things like health, jobs, and relationships. *MISSIO* is one of the largest Catholic charitable foundations in the world; it is a ministry of the German Church.



⇐ Bro. Darwin Joseph

Home Ministry workshops for NGOs

Recently the Home Ministry held workshops for NGOs in various parts of the country, and we were invited. Augustus and Kip attended the Chennai program on August 7, and Augustus and Paulus in Bangalore on October 8. The topic was the regulations and requirements of the **Foreign Currency Receiving Act**. At the meeting were government officials, auditors and representatives of organizations who have FCRA status. Participants said the speakers were very sharp and knew many of the NGO groups quite well. The Ministry provided lunch during the 10 to 3 program.

Darwin returns

Darwin Joseph is back at the St. Joseph's community until after Christmas. He is teaching the UD computer class and carrying on his philosophy research. Assumption University (Bangkok) is synchronizing its calendar with a consortium of Asian universities so that students can move between them more easily.

Teachers' Day at St. Mary's Training Institute, Barh

On September 5, Fr. Birendra Kullu and the community at Barh planned and carried off a fine Teachers' Day program at St. Mary's Training Institute, Barh which the local Legislative Assemblyman participated along with our own District Superior, Bro. Augustus.



Students at St. Mary's Training Institute, Barh receive certificate from the distinguished guest



← *Students at St. Mary's Training Institute, Barh perform a dance*

Perpetual Vow Preparation and Visitors from Marianist Africa

Preparing for their perpetual vows, **Brothers Anup, Kumar, Renny and Sudhir** have completed their Scriptural program in the BCLC in September, their Marianist Studies at Deepahalli with Fr. Jack in October and will soon begin their month-long Saragossa retreat (Nov.1-30) under the guidance of Fr. Kip and Fr. Iggie. This year they will be joined by two of our Brothers from the Region of Eastern Africa who successfully got their visas and will arrive in India next week. They are **Bros. Anthony Karari Wanyoike and Joseph Kimani Kamotho**. Both were with us for CHARISM 2011. Welcome back! We support all these brothers in remembrance and prayer.

Lectio Divina

Lectio Divina or faith-sharing for Sunday is practiced in most or all our District communities. This is a really practical and communitarian way to celebrate the Year of Faith as well as a very Chaminadean way to grow into the “just one who lives by faith”.

UD Graduation Ceremonies in 2014

It looks like a good possibility that the Deepahalli Education Centre will celebrate a UD Graduation Ceremony on April 9, 2014. President Daniel Curran wants to come and has put it on his calendar! Since our last graduation in 2009, 42 men have completed their UD studies; 22 of them were Marianists. All will be invited to come.

Let us remember each other and the flourishing of the Marianist spirit in the District as we celebrate the Marianist Matryrs of Madrid on November 6!

A word from Fr. Chaminade as we near the end of the Year of Faith:

“On my dear son, what happiness for us if for the rest of our lives we can walk along the beautiful paths of faith, act only by faith, and live only by faith!” (Chaminade, Letters, III, 61)

Birthdays

October

18 V., Tamilarasan (Daniel)
Soreng, Telesphore

26 Tete, Julius

November

12 Lakra, Rajesh Kumar*

15 J., Paul Prakash

23 Lugun, Marianus*

24 Soreng, Sudhir

December

02 Dungdung, Suman

03 Dhanwar, Lalit

14 Ekka, Sanjay

16 Toppo, Raymond

20 Surin, Augustus

27 Samad, Suresh

31 Stander Charles*

