

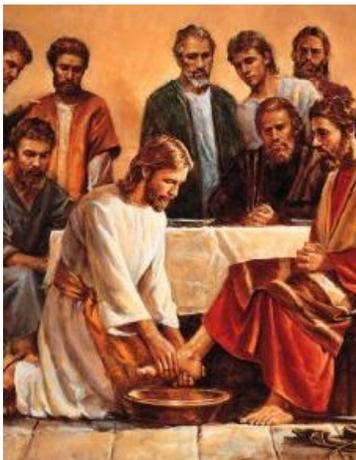
The light, the pioneering Marianists lit, is still burning!
-Holy Thursday 1989 – 2019: 30th Anniversary of our involvement in REDS-



Mr. Clement Kujur, Fr. Santosh Tudu., SM, and Br. Jerin P., SM, 'entertaining the angles' on Maria Nilaya Campus, Patna. Since October 2012, nearby child-labourers & their siblings come here on Saturdays' for refreshment, as a part of REDS-Patna initiatives. Photo: 23/03/2019 Br. George Hans, SM

Dear Brothers, Sisters and Friends,

This Holy Thursday, 18 April 2019, will remind us that we have been associating ourselves with the underprivileged child-labourers for the past 30 years! On the 23rd March 1989, the then Scholastics, Arokiadoss (Mullai), Santosh Tudu and others, led by Br. Richard E. Joyal, SM., the then Unit Co-ordinator of South Asia –Bangladesh, India and Nepal -, assisted by Fr Florien R. Chabot, SM., used their “**Lenten Community Sacrifice**” for a noble cause. In spite of their social-cultural-economical background and other differences among them, they entertained child labours, ragpickers, their siblings and friends; washed their feet and served them a delicious meal. The rest is history!



That evening's liturgy, hospitality and charitable activities brought mutual blessings. Through our involvements in REDS since then, we have become a hopeful-ladder for the downtrodden. The specific ongoing educational and skill development programs of REDS became a participatory-learning-center for novices, volunteers, trainees and professionals. Everyone who entered in REDS shared their gifts and talents and received blessings! Brother Richard had acknowledged the team behind the scene: our friends, youth, benevolent supporters in the various agencies, the local and international contributors.

In *Vita Consecrata* (110), Saint Pope John Paul II reminds that we have not only a glorious history to remember and to recount, but also a great history still to be accomplished; to do greater things; to build fraternal communities, to join him in **washing the feet of the poor** and to contribute to the transfiguration of the world. Pope Francis continuously encourages to work for the welfare of the poor and the needy. Please pray that the Lord, Mother Mary, Blessed Father Chaminade and Venerable Mother Adele continue to guide us and our ministries. Thank you!

Fraternally yours,

Bro. S. Victor Sahayaraj, SM
 Program Director, REDS-Patna

Fr. Santosh Tudu, SM
 Director, Maria Nilaya

Fr. Sudhir Kujur, SM
 Executive Director of REDS