



THE DISTRICT OF INDIA

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THE DISTRICT UPDATES

District Chapter



The District Chapter 2021 participants.

On October 1-3, the 21st District Chapter was held in Nirmal Deep, Ranchi. The chapter had five members by right and eight members by election. This District Chapter resumed after a year's break due to the pandemic and the travel concerns. The Chapter members diligently spent their time in reviewing the reports of the District Superior, the Councillors, propositions, the District's Formation Guide, and the District's Strategic Plan Document. Bros. Basant Kujur and Pratap Guria were generous in assisting the Chapter with the documentation work. Their service to the Chapter was immensely appreciated. The District Chapter members are so grateful to Fr. Jinu Muthukattil, and the novitiate community at Nirmal Deep for their assistance in setting up their community for the Chapter. The minutes and the acts of the District Chapter will be sent to the Provincial Administration for ratification.

Annual Retreat

From October 9-16, Fr. Nittamaria Varaprasad organized an annual retreat in the Upasana Jesuit Renewal Centre, Jamshedpur. Thirty-one Brothers participated in the annual retreat. Fr. Joseph Njara SJ preached the retreat on the



A group picture of the annual retreat participants.

theme of 'The Challenging Face of Religious in the Present Covid Situation.' Fr. Xavier Raj said that the days' topics were very enriching and enlightening in many ways. In fact, they were very much connected to our way of life. The participants were immersed in the presence of God while they spiritually nourished themselves in the experience of silence and peace. Every day the liturgy and prayers were very creative and meaningful, which helped everyone to pray well. Overall, the Brothers had a wonderful retreat with meaningful prayer services. All those who attended the retreat can actively participate in their school ministries during the months of summer.

October 2nd

October 2nd is an important day in India, because it marks the anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi's birth on October 2, 1869. Internationally, the day is known as a non-violence day. Marianists all over the world also celebrate October 2nd as the anniversary of the foundation of our Society of Mary. Communities across the District highlighted the day's significance by having special prayer services and a Solemn Mass.



PV Preparation Program

From September 22-October 6, Bro. Pulkit Minj participated in an exposure program assisting the Skill Training Centre (STC) Deepahalli Program (<https://reds.in/reds-deepahalli/>). This exposure program offered an opportunity to interact and listen to the stories of the STC students.



Bro. Pulkit Minj gave a presentation on Blessed Fr. William J. Chaminade to the formation communities in Deepahalli.

Then from October 9-23, he joined a Marianist studies program in Deepahalli under the guidance of Fr. Ignase Arulappen. On October 25, he gave a presentation on Blessed Fr. William J. Chaminade's understanding of humility to the formation communities in Deepahalli. The STC exposure and the Marianist studies program give him ample time to deeply reflect on his own vocation journey as he prepares to take his perpetual vows in the Society of Mary. On November 1, he will begin a month-long Zaragoza retreat directed by Fr. Fr. Ignase Arulappen. Kindly keep him in your prayers.

REDS Ranchi

REDS Ranchi continues to ease the financial burden of the poor children and their parents by distributing food provisions. During the months of September and October, the Brothers and the staff distributed food provisions to five hundred and forty-one children who are actively participating in various REDS Ranchi Centres.



Bro. Pratap Guria shared his insights with the students who recently completed 10th standard.

On September 20, The Brothers conducted a day's workshop for the students who have recently completed 10th Standard. Thirty-four students participated in the workshop which gave them an opportunity to reflect well on their future study plans and goals.

World Day of Prayer



A group picture of the Marianist World Day of Prayer participants in Deepahalli.

Every year, Marianists from around the world gather to pray on the Marianist World Day of Prayer. This year, Marianists united themselves by invoking Our Lady of Subukia, Nakuru-Kenya (Eastern Africa), as a special way of praying for our universe, peace, victims of the pandemic, and vocations to the Family of Mary. This year the Marianist Communities along with some of the friends of the SM in Bangalore held the celebration on Sunday, October 10. Bro. Julius Tete introduced the participants to the goodness of Our Lady of Subukia, Nakuru-Kenya. Fr. Renny Markose was the main celebrant, and he gave a captivating homily to the participants.



A group picture of the Marianist World Day of Prayer participants in Blessed Chaminade Parish.

On October 24, The Family of Marianists in Ranchi gathered in Blessed Chaminade Parish to take part in the World Day of Prayer. Bro. Sanjay Ekka began it with a sharing about the signification of Our Lady of Subukia, Nakuru-Kenya, to the participants. Mr. Genius then shared his experience and the goodness of MLC members which was followed by a Solemn Mass and a rosary service. The final activity of the day was the tribal dance which ended at sunset.

Prabhat Tara High School, Ranchi



Sr. Nirmala Soreng, FMI, handovers a health awareness kit to a student.

On October 4, Bro. Sanjay Ekka organized a health awareness seminar, stressing the particular health needs of the high school girls. About two hundred and seventy girls participated in the program. Sr. Nirmala

Soreng, FMI, and Dr. Anita Xalxo helped the girls to understand the importance of taking care of their health and offered them solid advice on nutrition and food habits. At the end of the seminar, Sr. Nirmala distributed health awareness kits to the students.

Post-Scholastic Workshop



Bros. Victor Xaxa, George Soreng, Fr. Suman Dungdung, Bros. Ajay Soreng, and Issac Minj.

On October 23-24, Fr. Suman Dungdung conducted a two-day workshop for the four post-scholastic Brothers in Nirmal Deep, Ranchi. The topics of the workshop were “The Importance of the Marianist Religious Vocation and Challenges of Today's World,” “A Commitment to Marianist Religious Life in Relation to the Brotherhood,” “Community Life and the Integration of Marianist Spirituality,” and “A Call to Be a Marianist and the Virtues.” The presentations of the workshop were given by Fr. Santhosh Tudu, Bro. Sanjay Ekka, Fr. Birendra Kullu, and Fr Suman Dungdung. The workshop offered an opportunity for the post-scholastic Brothers to deepen their Marianist vocation and seek advice from their mentor as they continue to discern their call to perpetual vows in the Society of Mary.

Council Visitation

From October 4-10 Bro. Sukrit Tirkey, Assistant for Education, visited the Singhpur community and Prabhat Tara High/Middle School. He interacted with the school principals and teachers. From October 19-26, he visited Fidel Nilaya to assist the school principal and teachers of the St. Mary's English Medium School.

First Interim Audit

Bro. Lucian Tiggia, Assistant for Temporalities, organized the District's first interim audit. From October 4-10, the auditing was done for all communities and ministries of the southern units. From October 25-28, the auditing was carried out for the communities and the ministries in the north.

Prayer Requests

Kindly pray for our Brothers and Sisters who are in the process of healing and for their speedy recovery from physical or psychological illness.

Kindly pray for Mr. Nesam, the father of Bro. Antony Nesam, who passed away at the age of 83 on October 3. May God grant him eternal rest, and bring peace to Bro. Antony's family.

Mr. Gunja Kiran Kumar, the cousin of Fr. Gunja Chittibabu, passed away at the age of 44 on October 18. May his soul rest in peace and God grant strength to all who mourn his loss.

Mr. Matthai Chacko, the father of Bro. Varghese Manooparampil, passed away at the age of 83 on October 27. Please pray for his soul and his family members' peace and consolation.

Kindly keep in your prayers the mother of Fr. Sudhir Kujur, who is ill and having issues with her eyes.

Please pray for the Brothers who celebrate their birthdays during the month of November:

12 Lakra, Rajesh Kumar

21 Kumar, Vickey

23 Lugun, Marianus

24 Soreng, Sudhir

