



THE DISTRICT OF INDIA

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THE DISTRICT UPDATES

## REDS Bangalore



Women Staff of REDS Bangalore.

On March 11, Fr. Arulraj and the REDS staff organized a Women's Day celebration, with the theme of "Embrace Equity." Almost 200 women who are associated with the program participated in the event. Fr. Arul Raj, S.M., welcomed and honored the chief guest, Dr. Rani T., as well as the other guests of honor: Fr. Sudhir, S.M., REDS Executive Director, and University of Dayton professor Dr. Shanthi. Additionally, guest speakers Dr. Sr. Prema, SSAM, and Dr. Kavya from St. Anne's Degree College for Women, Halasuru, Bangalore, attended the celebration. The event was filled with inspiring and powerful messages/speeches by the guests, as well as cultural programs, games, and expressions of thanks and appreciation. All participants enjoyed a delicious lunch and received gifts. Around 250 women participated, including REDS-Bangalore staff, REDS-SHG (Self-Help Group), and St. Chaminade School's staff. Bro. John Paul, S.M., thanked and appreciated the guests and women. Finally, at the end of the celebration, Fr. Arul Raj, S.M., expressed his gratitude towards Mrs. Catherine and the Seby Family for their financial support of the day's expenses. He concluded by saying, "Where there is a woman, there is magic!"

## MLC Gathering



Participants of the MLC gathering.

On March 5, Fr. Suman Dungdung and Fr. Birendra Kullu guided a day of recollection and Lenten preparation for the MLC members in Asha Deep, Binda. The participants were reminded of the importance of inner preparation during Lent. Following the talks, the participants gathered in the chapel for Mass, which was celebrated by Fr. Sebastian Bara. After lunch, the participants had an hour-long meeting to plan for the coming year. The day was fruitful for the MLC, and the SM members who attended the recollection.

## St. Joseph Chaminade Academy



A student showcases his creativity and innovation to Bro. Saju Chittadiyil, Mrs. Kavita, and Mrs. Jaya, Vice Principal of the school.



On March 4, St. Joseph Chaminade Academy held its annual exhibition day, ExhiBlitz. The event was inaugurated by Mrs. Kavita, who is the CRP for the Department of Education, Anekal Taluk. Students from all grades participated in the exhibition, displaying a wide range of projects, including the fields of science, language, math, arts & crafts, and computers. The exhibition was well-attended by parents who were eager to see their child's creativity and hard work on display. The event received high praise from all the parents who attended, with many commenting on the impressive display of knowledge, teamwork, organization, and innovation shown by the students and staff. One parent was particularly impressed with the wide range of topics and how every subject, even languages, was given equal importance. They praised the teachers for their special skills and the effort put into making the event the great success that it was, showcasing the talent and hard work of the students and the dedication of the teachers. Such events are crucial in encouraging students to think creatively and apply their knowledge in practical ways. St. Joseph Chaminade Academy can be proud of the success of ExhiBlitz and the positive impact it had on both the students and the community.

### Prabhat Tara High School



Bro. Sanjay Ekka (in middle) with the 10<sup>th</sup> standard students.

On March 11, Bro. Sanjay Ekka informed us that Prabhat Tara High School, Singhpur, had organized a heart-touching farewell program to bid adieu to the 132 students who will be writing their 10th standard exams. The program acknowledged and celebrated the students' hard work, dedication, and

achievements during their academic journey. The farewell day was quite emotional for the students, who had spent their formative years at the school since their 1st standard. Many students shared their experiences, memories, and expressed their gratitude towards their teachers and the school administration for their support and guidance. Bro. Sanjay and the school staff gave inspirational speeches, encouraging students to follow their passions and strive towards achieving their goals. They also wished the students the best for their future endeavors and advised them to stay connected with the school as alumni.

### The Provincial Chapter

On March 4, Fr. Sudhir Kujur participated online in the Provincial Chapter that took place in St. Louis, MO. He presented a PowerPoint report to the Chapter members about the District and its status during 2022-23.



### Chaminade School



Bro. John Paul and Fr. Santhosh Savarimuthu with teachers and students.

On March 8, Chaminade School hosted a program to highlight International Women's Day. The day began with a warm welcome by one of our students and proceeded with different cultural programs given by the students. Finally, all the women teachers and the girls were honored with a rose to thank them for their generosity and for being symbols of love and sacrifice. On the same day, the school also bade farewell to the eight students from 10th standard who will be writing their

exams on March 31--the first group from our school to be writing the 10<sup>th</sup> standard exam. Therefore, kindly keep them in your prayers.

### St. Joseph's Feast Day



A group of Brothers in front of St. Joseph's statue.

St. Joseph is the patron saint of both the St. Joseph's community and the Skill Training Centre (STC), Deepahalli. Every year on March 19, the staff, students, and Brothers of STC celebrate this feast day with immense joy and devotion. Brothers from the Bangalore area communities participated in the special evening prayers organized by Fr. Xavier Raj, the STC director, followed by a festive meal served by the members of the St. Joseph's community to all the participants. The celebration of this feast day is a testament to the deep faith and devotion of the community to the values of St. Joseph.

### REDS Ranchi



Fr. George Majhi engages with students during an interactive and educational workshop.

On March 4, Bro. Pratap Guria, the director of the REDS Ranchi program, informed us that they organized a day-long workshop to motivate the twenty-eight students preparing to write their 10<sup>th</sup> standard exams. The

workshop provided encouragement and support, and helped the students focus on achieving their academic goals. During the workshop, Father George Majhi gave a speech emphasizing the importance of perseverance and focus to achieve success. He motivated the students to work hard and make their best effort to obtain good grades in their 10<sup>th</sup> standard exams. Overall, the workshop aimed to provide students with the necessary tools and guidance to help them succeed in their academic pursuits.

On March 11, 16, and 22, the REDS Ranchi program organized three guardian workshops in different locations. The purpose of these workshops was to educate parents on the importance of being responsible and proactive in their children's lives. A total of 206 parents participated in these workshops and benefited from the information provided. The workshops focused on two key topics: "To Be Responsible Parents" and "Prevention is Better than Cure." The workshop resource persons were Binod Kumar Thankur and Sanjay Kerketta, who are experts in the field of child development and education. Overall, these workshops were aimed at empowering parents with the knowledge and tools necessary to raise happy, healthy, and well-adjusted children. The REDS Ranchi program hopes to continue organizing such workshops in the future to further support parents in their important role as caregivers and mentors to their children.

### REDS Patna



Participants gathered for an International Women's Day event.

On March 6, REDS Patna, organized Holi Milan and Women's Day celebrations on its campus. The event was attended by students, parents, and members of the local community. The Head Teacher, Ms. Geeta Devi, of the nearby Government School, interacted with the attendees and motivated them to strive for better education and opportunities. Additionally, Mr. Shreedhar Rajni, a junior lawyer, was also present at the event and sensitized the parents on child marriage and illiteracy in Bihar. He emphasized the importance of educating their children, especially girls, and the harmful effects of child marriage on their future.

### Recollection



Singhpur Community Brothers with the Preacher (in the middle). Bro. Ajay Soreng is not seen in the picture.

On March 18, the Singhpur Marianist Community spent a day of prayer and silence to prepare themselves for Holy Week. Fr. Gilbert Barla, SJ, delivered the spiritual input to the Brothers, which would help them to deepen their faith and spirituality during Holy Week ceremonies.

On March 26, Fr. James Dungdung, the parish priest of the Blessed Chaminade Parish, organized a day of recollection for the parishioners. The day was a time for spiritual reflection, when the parishioners were invited to take a break from their daily routine and spend some time in prayer, reflection, and silence. The day of recollection was an opportunity for the parishioners to deepen their relationship with God and prepare themselves for the celebration of Easter.

### Joint Council Meeting



Fr. Jinu takes a selfie with the group participants.

From March 24-25, the Steering Committee members and District Council members convened at Chaminade Nilaya, Bangalore, for a meeting to discuss and plan for the forthcoming District Assembly. During the meeting, all the participants worked on editing various documents related to the District, including the Chapter referrals, and planned for the assembly agenda based upon input from superiors of the General Council and Provincial Council.

### UD Deepahalli Graduation 2023



The Class of 2023 graduates (second row) with faculty members.

On March 31, the UD Deepahalli Program staff successfully organized a graduation photo session for the class of 2023, which consisted of seven students. Among these students, two were Marianist scholastics who successfully completed their BA studies. Let us congratulate them on their achievement and wish them all the best as they embark on the next step in their religious life.

**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 Fr. Sebastian Bara who is recuperating after a surgery.

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

06 Hans, George

07 Markose, Renny

16 Kerketta, Sylverius

21 A., Mariandu Belevendiran

K., Peter Paul

23 Barla, Joseph

