

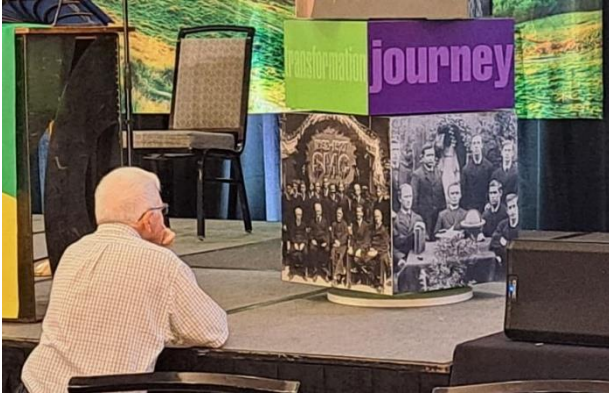


THE DISTRICT OF INDIA

Vol: 23 Issue:7

THE DISTRICT UPDATES

Province Assembly 2023



Bro. Delmar Jorn takes a moment to cherish the rich history and 75 years of Marianist legacy in Texas.

From June 29 to July 2, the Province's assembly was held in St. Louis, MO, bringing together approximately one hundred and seventy Marianist Brothers, Sisters, and lay Marianist collaborators. The assembly revolved around the theme "Brothers on the Journey," which permeated the presentations and all the liturgical celebrations throughout the event. Fr. Sudhir Kujur and Bro. Darwin Joseph from the District participated in the assembly.

A significant focus of the assembly was the celebration of the jubilees of Brothers who had devoted themselves to the Marianist religious life, ranging from 25 to 75 years of commitment. To conclude the assembly, the Provincial Council was officially installed, marking an important event for the Province. After the assembly, Fr. Oscar and Bro. Bernie generously offered their valuable time to meet with Fr. Sudhir and Bro. Darwin to discuss matters pertinent to the District of India on its path to becoming a Region.



Fr. Sudhir Kujur, Bro. Bernard Ploeger, and Fr. Oscar Vasquez. (Bro. Darwin Joseph is not pictured).

Overall, the atmosphere at the assembly was one of joy and celebration, emphasizing the strong sense of brotherhood that characterizes the Marianist religious life.

Horizon 2023



A group picture of the Horizon participants.

From July 27-30, Bros. Antony Xavier, Anup Ranjan Kullu, Ashok Kumar Dungkung, and Julius Tete from the District participated in the Horizon program held in Berriz, Spain. The program brought together 30 Brothers and Sisters from the Society of Mary (SM) and the Daughters of Mary Immaculate (FMI) from various parts of the world. Bro. Ashok



Dungdung provided information about the event as follows:

During the program, resource persons from the four branches of the Marianist Family presented carefully chosen and well-delivered topics. The agenda included presentations, discussions, and reporting sessions. The topics covered a wide range of subjects such as Marianist history, the origin of the Marianist movement, religious life, the Marianist family, the Pope's calls to synodality, the cry of the Church listening to the world, and the challenges of being religious in today's world. Apart from the enriching program, participants were privileged to visit significant places associated with the Marianist heritage. Among these were those of Blessed Fr. Chaminade and Blessed Mother Adèle in France. The group visited Zaragoza, where they had the opportunity to see the SM school and the Cathedral. The following week, they traveled to Bordeaux, where they visited several churches, the Madeline community, and the tomb of Chaminade himself. St. Sebastian was also on the itinerary, where they visited a school.



Participants from India.

These visits to historically significant locations served as a reminder of the origins of the SM and FMI, and provided insights into the rich history of the Marianist family. Overall, the Horizon Program in Berriz, Spain, provided an excellent opportunity for Brothers and Sisters from different parts of the world to come together, learn, and deepen their understanding of their shared religious heritage.

Faustino Community (Aspirancy)



Bros. Jerin J. Pananthanam and Prakash Kujur (front row) with the candidates.

The Faustino community has enthusiastically begun its new formation year with a total of four pre-novices and ten aspirants. Bros. Prakash Kujur and Jerin J. Pananthanam are engaging these young candidates through basic English classes and various other community activities to facilitate their discernment of a Marianist vocation. They have taken up the roles of teaching and providing various assistance to both the pre-novices and aspirants.

Workshop



The workshop participants.

On July 1-2, a newly ordained priests' workshop was held for Frs. George Majhi, Renny Markose, K. Peterpaul, and Santhosh Savarimuthu. Fr. Ignase Arulappen and Fr. Varghese were the resource persons who guided and organized the workshop. The priests who were ordained in the recent past gathered to enhance their knowledge, pastoral skills, and pastoral effectiveness in the Marianist communities and in the local parishes wherever they are placed. It served as

a platform for sharing experiences, discussing important topics, and fostering spiritual growth among the young Marianist priests in the District.

The meeting aimed at helping young Marianist priests to be effective in their work, balancing the ministry of the community with local sacramental needs. In the workshop’s first session, there were questions about our past experiences, which were shared with the group. In the second session, they talked about the spirituality of priesthood in light of the reflection by Pope John Paul II. In the third session, we again considered the spirituality of priesthood in light of the reflections of our present Pope Francis. The final session was enriched by two other articles on living the priesthood in the humble way of a child. It emphasized the importance of a priest’s humility, teaching them to carefully use the power and authority they’ve been given. It underlined an important fact: that the abuse of power becomes the primary source of violence against children and the vulnerable. The participants were grateful for the resource persons.

Prabhat Tara Middle/High School



Honouring the top eleven students for their outstanding performance in the 10th standard exam.

On July 7, the Prabhat Tara M/H School, Singhpur, held a parents’ meeting to celebrate and honor the top eleven students who passed the recent 10th standard exam. This significant event marked a milestone for the school, as it was the first meeting of its kind in approximately 20 years.

Approximately 800 parents attended the meeting, demonstrating a remarkable turnout and a strong sense of community involvement. The gathering provided an excellent opportunity for parents to engage with the school administration, teachers, and fellow parents, fostering a collaborative and supportive environment.



Parents and students attentively engaged in a meaningful meeting with teachers at the school.

During the event, the top ten students, who had achieved outstanding academic success in their 10th standard exams, were acknowledged and celebrated for their remarkable accomplishments. This recognition not only served as an encouragement for the honored students, but also highlighted the dedication and hard work of their parents in nurturing their educational journey. The Prabhat Tara M/H School Singhpur took pride in organizing such a successful parents’ meeting, which will undoubtedly inspire future endeavors to strengthen the bond between the school and the parents.

CRDP, Binda



Sr. Justina imparts her expertise in detergent and phenyl preparation to the students.

On July 8, CRDP (Chaminade Rural Development Program), Binda, organized an extracurricular day for the driving and tailoring students. The purpose of this day was to teach them how to prepare powder detergent and phenyl for both selling and personal use. Sister Justina, a Holy Cross sister from Bichna, Khunti, was invited as a resource person, and she enthusiastically guided them through the procedures of making phenyl and detergent. The students were very enthusiastic about the workshop and hopeful about applying what they had learned. The primary objective of this workshop was to equip the students with the skills and knowledge to start a small business for their livelihood.

UD Deepahalli Program



Dr. Cynthia Shafer (in middle) with the faculty members and the students.

Dr. Cynthia Shafer, Assistant Dean for Student Academic Affairs, visited the UD Deepahalli Program from July 16-21. On the evening of July 16, the scholastic community warmly welcomed her and her daughter, Evelyn, with garlands and a welcome song. Throughout their stay, the scholastic community showed great hospitality and kindness.

On July 17, the staff and students of the UD Deepahalli Program organized a special welcoming and cultural program in honour of Dr. Cindy to commemorate her visit to the program. On the same day, she spent time meeting the director and the Dean of the program for various clarifications and updates

regarding the Program. Throughout her visit, there was an atmosphere of joy and warmth.

REDS Ranchi



Medical Camp in Full Swing: Dedicated doctors diligently examining students' health.

On July 8, REDS Ranchi organized a medical camp for the students from Pahadi, Khadgadha, and Irgutoli centers. Dr. JP Barla and Dr. Manoj Kora, along with their nurses, offered their medical services. During this medical camp, the students were administered vaccinations to protect against common infections, and were taught basic medical knowledge about healthy hygiene practices to prevent illness. The main purpose of this camp was to assist the street children who are unable to receive standard medical care.

STC Deepahalli



A group picture of the STC staff, students with the workshop presenters.

On July 14, STC Deepahalli offered a special workshop for the students and staff with the help of two research scholars, Sr. Mary Dayana and Sr. Sophya, from the Department of Social Work at PMIS, Tanjavur. Sr. Dayana presented "Children against Tobacco," covering the history of tobacco, different types of tobacco, types of cancers caused by smoking, and ways

to avoid smoking. Her presentation included interactive methods like showing short videos, and using chart papers to help students understand better. In the afternoon, Sr. Sophya presented "Time Management," emphasizing the value of time and how to use it efficiently. Her engaging teaching methods to capture the students' attention including singing, dancing, and balloon games. Later in the evening, Sr. Dayana conducted psychotherapy for the boys, recognizing their diverse family backgrounds and emotional wounds. The boys actively participated in the therapy, expressing their feelings, and experiencing the immediate positive impact of the session. Overall, the workshop was a success with engaging presentations, interactive teaching methods, and therapeutic sessions which left a significant impact on the students' well-being.

St. Joseph Chaminade Academy



A teacher leads a group play, strengthening bonds between students and parents.

On July 22, St. Joseph Chaminade Academy celebrated Family Day, an important occasion aimed at reinforcing the significance of family, fostering a positive and inclusive school environment, and enhancing the overall well-being and academic success of students. The event strongly promoted the idea that families play a vital role in a child's life and education, and their active involvement is both welcomed and valued within the school community. The festivities brought together all the students, along with their parents and grandparents, who actively participated in a wide array of enjoyable activities, games, and dances on the

campus. Family Day commenced at 9:00 am, allowing ample time for families to engage in the various activities and concluded at 2:00 pm. All in all, it was a heartwarming and memorable occasion that further solidified the school's dedication to creating a supportive and nurturing environment for every student and their family.

Major Superiors' Meeting at Bangalore



The KRCR annual assembly participants.

The Karnataka Regional Conference of Religious (KRCR) held its 26th Annual Assembly in DVK Annex, Dharmaram College campus, Bangalore, from July 21-23. The major superiors and their delegates from 122 Catholic congregations of women and men religious participated in this assembly. The theme of the assembly was "Retelling the Story of Jesus in Our Context Today in the Spirit of Synodality." Fr. Sudhir Kujur represented the Marianists, and it gave him an opportunity to interact with the major superiors from many other religious congregations of Karnataka.

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 going through physical rehabilitation.

Paulose, uncle of Fr. Renny Markose, passed away after surgery at the age of 78 on July 13. Just two months ago, Fr. Renny's aunt Theresia who was 75 also passed away. Kindly pray for Fr. Renny and his family to overcome these great losses.

Fr. Peter Paul had surgery for hernia and an infection in his kidneys on July 25. Kindly keep him in your prayers for his quick recovery.

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

04 Lakra, Anuranjan

05 Mullangi, Mathew

08 S., Xavier Raj

10 Kujur, Anand Prakash

Tudu, Santosh

Kerketta, Oscar

18 L., John Paul

21 Kandulna, Rajesh Kumar

27 Kujur, Sudhir

29 A., Santhosh Savarimuthu

30 Minj, Pulkit

