



THE DISTRICT OF INDIA

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THE DISTRICT UPDATES

Silver Jubilee Celebration of four of our brothers:



Four of our Jubilarians: Fr. Rajesh Kandulna, Bro. Sanjay Ekka, Bro. Oscar Kerketta and Bro. John G. Minz

On 3 February 2024, Marianists in India had the honour of celebrating a significant milestone - the Silver Jubilee of Bro. John Gracious Minz, SM, Bro. Oscar Kerketta, SM, Fr. Rajesh Kumar Kandulna, SM and Bro. Sanjay Ekka, SM. This momentous occasion not only marks a quarter-century of dedicated service but also reflects the unwavering commitment and steadfast devotion of four of our brothers which is demonstrated throughout their journey.

The day provided a great opportunity for our Jubilarians to reflect on their journey over the past 25 years. From the day of their first profession to the present moment in the Society of Mary. The celebration was filled with expressions of gratitude and appreciation from the Society of Mary, Daughters of Mary Immaculate, MLC, nearby religious congregations, friends and relatives of our Jubilarians. Fr. Sudhir Kujur, SM presided over

the Holy Eucharist and thanked the Lord for the Jubilarians' tireless efforts and selfless service, acknowledging the profound impact they have had on the lives of others. In his homily, he refreshed their memory of the Novitiate and the different experiences they shared together with Fr. Sudhir Kujur. He reminded the Jubilarians that this day is not only to thank the Lord for the Commitment of the brothers towards the Society of Mary but specially to thank the Lord for God's commitment towards the Jubilarians in their life.



The Silver Jubilee of Bro. John Gracious Minz, SM, Bro. Oscar Kerketta, SM, Fr. Rajesh Kumar Kandulna, SM and Bro. Sanjay Ekka, SM is a momentous occasion that reminds us of the power of dedication, commitment, and selflessness. As we celebrate this milestone, we are filled with gratitude for their remarkable contributions and commitment to the Society of Mary and the Church. May their journey continue to inspire us all as we strive to live out the values of our Founder Blessed William Joseph Chaminade with integrity and compassion.



Scholastics participate in a workshop



From 3 - 4 February 2024, the Marianist scholastics from Vidya Sagar Community participated in a thought-provoking workshop titled "Reclaiming the Prophetic Voice in VUCA India: A Challenge for the Consecrated Today." The workshop was conducted by the ICLS (Institute of Consecrated Life – Sanyasa), Bangalore. The workshop aimed to explore the role of consecrated individuals in addressing the challenges posed by the volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous (VUCA) of consecrated life in India today.

The workshop provided scholastics with a platform to engage deeply with the socio-political, economic, and cultural realities of contemporary India. Through interactive discussions, case studies, and presentations, participants gained insights into the multifaceted challenges facing the country.

The workshop "Reclaiming the Prophetic Voice in VUCA India" provided scholastics with a valuable opportunity to deepen their understanding of the challenges and opportunities inherent in contemporary Indian society. Thanks to Fr. Varghese, Bro. Augustus, and Bro. Balaswamy for organizing this workshop for the scholastics.

REDS Patna:



REDS Patna is dedicated to social welfare and community development. Through its focus on education, healthcare, women's empowerment, and sustainable development, REDS Patna has made significant strides in addressing the socio-economic challenges faced by vulnerable populations. On 10 February 2024 evening REDS Patna honoured Fr Rajesh K Kandulna, SM on completing 25 successful years in the Society of Mary. Fr. Rajesh expressed gratitude and distributed 5 Kg Atta (Wheat flour) to 60 children. Besides the regular meetings and contacts with the children, Brothers engage themselves in educating them on weekends and help them learn good hygiene.

Board Exams:



10th Grade students of Prabhat Tara School at Singhpur

Exam Days are coming close in India! The academic year is coming to an end and also the examinations. Number of our schools have students who appear for their Board exams this year. Prabhat Tara High School (Singhpur), Chaminade School (Austin Town), St. Joseph School (Budakata), Budakata Mission Primary School (Odiya Medium in Budakata) and St. Joseph Chaminade Academy (Deepahalli) are

promoting students to perform their 10th Grade Exams. We invite our communities to uphold the students in your prayers.



Grade 10th Students from Odiya Medium School, Budakata



10th Grade students from St. Joseph School Budakata



10th Grade Students from Chaminade School

Steering Committee Meeting:

On 12 February 2024, Steering Committee arranged a Zoom meeting to discuss and finalize the Time-Table and various other plans for the Regional Assembly 2024. There were eight participants: Sukrit Tirkey, Prakash Kujur, Prasad, Jinu, Ignase Arulappen, Joseph Barla, Basant Kujur and Santhosh. We thank all the participants for their valuable suggestions and feedbacks on different plans for the Regional Assembly.



10th Grade Students from Jacob Gapp School, Khammam



A screenshot of the Zoom meeting



10th Grade Students from St. Joseph Chaminade Academy

Pilgrimage to a Marian Shrine:



Jacob Gapp Nivasam (Marianist Community in Khammam Diocese) organized a Marian Pilgrimage for the community members to Gunadala Matha Shrine in Vijaywada. This was part of their recollection and a pilgrimage to the most visited shrine in that locality. The day was enriched with spiritual talks and a good amount of time for prayer. The feast was celebrated on the 11 February 2024.

Vocation Board Meeting:



Fr. Birendra Kullu, SM (third from left) along with other religious and Bishop of Raurkela Diocese
Most. Rev. Kishor Kumar Kujur

Fr. Birendra Kullu SM attends Vocation Board meeting at Kalunga in Raurkela on the 9 February 2024. He is accepted as a full member of the Board. This board is chaired by officials from Raurkela Diocese. Let us wish him all the best for the future works in recruiting candidates from this diocese and to continue to spread the name of the Mary among the young men who strive for 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.

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

01 G., Darwin Joseph
09 R., Josephraj*
10 M., Arul Raj*
12 Naresh, Andugala
18 Kujur, Basant
21 Bilung, Marianus

