



## The Region of India

Vol: I / Issue: 2

# The Regional Updates

### Annual Retreat for the Temporary Professed



The annual retreat for the Temporary Professed was held from May 31, 2024, to June 6, 2024, at CRI Brothers' Institute, Ulsoor. Nine temporary professed brothers attended, along with Brother Sanjay Ekka and Father Ignase. Fr. Peter Paul, SM, served as the retreat preacher, focusing on the

theme "Mysteries of Christ and Our Life." The atmosphere was conducive to prayer and personal reflection. The retreat included special prayer sessions for departed members of the Society of Mary, Examination of Conscience, a Reconciliation service, and the renewal of Temporary vows. On June 6, 2024, a Solemn Eucharist was organized for the renewal of temporary vows. Fr. Ignase Arulappen, SM, presided over the Holy Eucharist, and Bro. Prakash Kujur, SM, received the vows in the presence of Bro. Sanjay Ekka, SM, and Fr. Peter Paul, SM. The Regional Council expresses heartfelt gratitude to Fr. Peter Paul, SM, for organizing the retreat for the temporary professed brothers so effectively. We extend our best wishes to Fr. Peter for continued success in his future endeavours.

### Teacher's Workshop at Singhpur, Ranchi



A workshop for Marianist educators was held at Singhpur in Ranchi, India. Brothers, priests, sisters, and lay collaborators gathered for a two-day workshop on education. Fr. Peter Mehender Tigga, SJ, served as the resource person for the workshop, which took place

from June 13-15, 2024. This event proved to be enriching and developmental, providing teachers with insights into new educational developments in the country.

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The workshop aimed to bring together teachers from various Marianist schools to deepen their understanding of Marianist pedagogy and its application in the classroom. Participants engaged in interactive sessions led by Fr. Peter Mehender Tigga, SJ, focusing on integrating Marianist educational principles with the directives of educational boards in Jharkhand and India. Special thanks go to Bro. Sanjay and the other principals who diligently organized this workshop. Overall, the Marianist Teacher's Workshop was a successful and transformative event, empowering educators to further the Marianist mission and positively impact the lives of their students.

## International Yoga Day



International Yoga Day is celebrated annually on June 21st. This year, on June 21, 2024, St. Joseph Chaminade Academy observed Yoga Day in the morning hours. The event was a lively celebration of wellness and mindfulness, recognizing yoga's global acclaim for enhancing physical, mental, and spiritual well-being.

Students, teachers, and brothers gathered in the school assembly area to take part in yoga sessions guided by experienced instructors. Through gentle stretches, breathing exercises, and meditation, participants experienced the profound benefits of yoga, promoting health and inner peace throughout St. Joseph Chaminade Academy.



## Regional Council Meetings

After the District of India was erected as a Region, the first Regional Council Meeting was called by Bro. Prakash Kujur from 28-30 May 2024 and 17-19 June 2024. Along with Bro. Prakash Kujur, the Regional Superior, Fr. Ignase Arulappen, Deputy Regional Superior, Bro. Basant Kujur, Asst. to the Office of Education, Bro. Pratap, Asst. to the Office of Temporalities and Fr. Prasad, council members were present to discuss various themes on formation, development of ministries and legal issues. Let us continue to pray for the successful completion of the decisions made at the meetings.

## Completion of Course:



Bro. Telesphore Soreng has completed his B.Ed. (Bachelor of Education) studies at St. Xavier's College in Palayamkottai, Tamilnadu. He began his studies two years ago in 2022. He has now successfully completed his studies on 6 June 2024 and is appointed as Principal of Jacob Gapp School in Khammam, Telengana. We wish him all the best for this new responsibility and continue to pray for his successful leadership in the school.



## New Candidates at Faustino Community

It is with great joy that we announce 9 new candidates for the Aspirancy program. These new candidates traveled with the Pre-Novices to Bangalore. The program has commenced with orientation sessions at Faustino. The first-year candidates are: Adison



Dungdung, Abhisek Raj, Ansit Ekka, Augustine Ekka, Binit Minz, Prem Rohit Kujur, Roshan Beck, Saurav Kumar, Saleem Tirkey, and Umesh Kujur. In the second year are: Alexcious Lakra, Amit Kujur, Deepak Ekka, Rijwan Ekka, Subodh Kumar, Sujit Kumar, Tusar Pandan, and Vikash Xess. Let us keep them in our prayers as they discern their path to becoming Marianist Religious. We also pray for Fr. Marianus Lugun, SM, the Aspirancy and Pre-Novices director, Bro. Anup Kullu, SM, and Bro. Jerin Pananthanam, SM, for their dedicated service to these young men.

## Two New Novices at Nirmal Deep



Fr. Jinu Muthukkattil, SM, the Novice Director at Nirmal Deep, has informed us that two new novices have joined this year. They are Petris Nag from the Diocese of Khunti and Anugrah Toppo from Simdega Diocese. Both arrived at Nirmal Deep on June 15 and have commenced their orientation this week. They will undergo a short retreat in preparation for their official entry into the novitiate. Other preparations are also underway to support them on this discernment journey.

Their formal admission is scheduled for mid-July 2024. Let us keep them in our prayers, along with the staff: Brother Ajay Soreng, SM, Brother Steve Grazulis, SM, and Father Birendra SM, Vocation Promoter for the Northern part of India, as they guide the formation process at Nirmal Deep.

## Death in the Region

On June 23, 2024, the Region of India experienced profound shock upon the loss of our second Indian Marianist Brother. It was deeply saddening to hear of the passing of our beloved Bro. Oscar Kerketta, SM, a member of the Maria Nivas Community in Budakata, Odisha. Bro. Oscar had served the Society of Mary in various roles, including a decade-long mission in the Philippines. He was trained as a formator and contributed extensively to our formation communities over the years. In his final days, he was assigned to teach at the school and oversee the CRDP (Chaminade Rural Development Program), benefiting numerous young people in the area.



The news of his demise on June 23, 2024, came as a shock to us all. His mortal remains were laid to rest at Nirmal Deep in Ranchi, with many paying their respects, including members of the Society of Mary, Daughters of Mary Immaculate, Marianist Lay Communities, neighboring religious communities, local parishioners, teachers from our schools and REDS, Bro. Oscar's

family, and numerous friends. His passing is a significant loss for the recently established Region of India. We humbly request your prayers for his soul and for all who mourn his departure.

### 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.

- Pray for the soul of Bro. Oscar Kerketta, SM who passed away on the 23 June 2024.
- Pray for the soul of the mother of Miss Salomi (one of our MLC members of Kolambi).
- Mrs. Marilena, cook at Via Latina, Rome, for her quick recovery and God's healing touch upon her.
- Pray for the soul of Mr. Sebastian, uncle of Bro. Jerin

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

### JULY

05 Sunil Lakra  
 06 Gunja Chittibabu\*  
 11 Arulappan Ignase\*  
 16 Soreng Ajay  
 19 Nesam Antony

### Regional Calendar - July 2024

3	St. Thomas Apostle of India
6	Bro. Basant attends KRCE Meeting
5-27	XXXVI General Chapter 2024, Rome, Italy
4 - 31	Bro. Prakash Kujur in Rome for General Chapter
5 - 31	Fr. Sudhir Kujur in Rome for General Chapter
11	Feast of St. Benedict
26	Bro. Darwin leaves for Sabbatical Course
31	Fr. Renny Markose travels to USA for Marianist Specialization Course

# Thank You!