



The Region of India  
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**The Regional Updates**

**First Profession in the Society of Mary**



Fr. Jinu shares with us the following information on First Profession in the Region of India.

With great joy and gratitude to God, the Marianist Family in India celebrated the First Profession of Bro. Wilfred Kujur and Bro. Rahul Meriya on May 12, 2025, at Nirmal Deep, our Novitiate House. The celebration was a deeply spiritual and communal moment for the entire Marianist Region of India.

The Eucharistic Celebration was presided over by Fr. Ignase Arulappan, Deputy Regional Superior, who also preached a meaningful homily centered on the evangelical counsels, highlighting the beauty and demands of religious commitment in the Marianist way of life. The Mass was concelebrated by several Marianist priests as well as local clergy, adding to the solemnity and communal spirit of the event. Following the homily, the Rite of First Profession was held. Fr. Jinu Muthukattil, Novice Master, presented the candidates to the assembly and attested to their readiness. Bro. Prakash Kujur, Regional Superior, officially received their vows on behalf of the Society of Mary.

The celebration was graced by the presence of Marianist Brothers and Sisters from neighboring communities, as well as members of the Marianist Lay Communities, who came together in support of our two brothers. Family members of Bro. Rahul and Bro. Wilfred were also present, making the occasion more personal and joyous. In total, approximately 170 people participated in the celebration. The joy, reverence, and unity experienced that day were a strong testimony to the vitality of Marianist religious life and the



continued fruitfulness of our formation efforts in India. We give thanks to the Lord for the gift of these two young men who have courageously taken this first step in their Marianist vocation. May their commitment inspire others and may they continue to grow in fidelity, joy, and service to the Marianist Family and the Church.

### **Growing gracefully into the second half of Marianist Life.**

A workshop was organized by the Region of India, Fr. Ignase taking the responsibility to plan the workshop from 4 May 2025 to 7 May 2025. Brother Stephen Glodek, our former Provincial, is a man of deep experience, broad knowledge, and an objective understanding of India. A joyful Marianist religious, he led the workshop with wisdom and grace. He opened the participants' eyes to the emotional signals associated with midlife challenges, while also highlighting the transitions many face—such as shifting from introversion to extroversion, and vice versa.

The heart of the workshop focused on the emotional and psychological baggage we often carry. Brother Stephen invited participants to acknowledge their feelings rather than avoid them, encouraging personal work toward emotional healing. He emphasized that life in midlife and beyond is not about shrinking but expanding—growing into a fuller, freer version of ourselves.

With gentle yet firm guidance, Brother Stephen encouraged everyone to prioritize mental health, foster meaningful community, and nurture healthy friendships, all essential for living a joyful and fulfilling second half of Marianist life. He also offered a panoramic view of the Society of Mary's origins and growth, and spoke with hope about the potential contributions the Region of India can make. He challenged us to rise above barriers and extend our service to the wider Marianist world. It was an energizing workshop, offering participants a hopeful and meaningful vision for the future.

### **Annual Retreat in the South**

The annual retreat was preached by a young and docile Jesuit priest, Fr. Praveen. It was based on Ignatian spirituality and the midlife crisis through different stages. Fr. Praveen prepared the retreatants very well from the beginning, helping them to be disposed with four attitudes: desire, perseverance, generosity, and openness, and to seek in prayer and discernment what each one truly desired by the end of the retreat.

The talks were lively and focused, filled with thought-provoking examples and insightful wisdom to understand the blend of human psychology and spirituality. Fr. Praveen also spoke about Pope Francis as a person who walked with and witnessed to the joy of the Gospel, inspiring millions of people.

Everything was done in such a way that both the Holy Bible and the book of one's own life were referred to and intertwined, probing deeply into one's commitment to religious life.

Realizing the vast material available on Ignatian spirituality and human psychology, Fr. Joseph Raj stated that the deadliest distraction to one's religious commitment is the ego, and the conquering mantra to overcome all inclinations to evil is Agere Contra (to act against). The retreat was greatly appreciated and proved beneficial to all the participants.

### **16th National Convention of the National Assembly of Religious Brothers**



The 16th National Convention of the National Assembly of Religious Brothers, India (NARBI), held from May 16–18, 2025, in Bengaluru, was a deeply spiritual and unifying event for religious brothers across the country. The convention, attended by around 90 brothers from various congregations and states, served as a vital platform for renewal, reflection, and fellowship.



With leadership from former NARBI President Brother Mani and his team, the event featured plenary sessions, group discussions, liturgical celebrations, and the election of new office bearers. Central to the gathering was the theme “Pilgrims of Hope,” inspired by the 2025 Jubilee Year proclaimed by Pope Francis, emphasizing Christian hope as a guiding force in both personal vocation and societal ministry.

The convention underscore NARBI’s role in strengthening the identity, mission, and collaboration among religious brothers in India, while addressing the contemporary challenges they face. Participants engaged with themes of hope, mercy, and communal transformation, echoing the broader call of the Jubilee to become renewed witnesses of the Gospel. The event not only deepened the participants’ sense of purpose and fraternity but also reinvigorated their commitment to serve as “joyful messengers of hope” and “builders of peace.” As the brothers return to their communities, they carry with them a renewed spirit and a shared conviction to embody God’s love and hope in a wounded world.

## REDS Patna



On the 17th of May 2025, REDS Patna concluded the academic year on Maria Nilaya Campus. Fr Rajesh addressed the gathering. He thanked the REDS Patna Staff Team, the beneficiaries and the benefactors and encouragedOn May 17th, 2025, a significant milestone was reached as REDS Patna celebrated the conclusion of the academic year at the Maria Nilaya Campus. The event was marked by a formal gathering where Fr. Rajesh delivered an address to all those

present. In his speech, he expressed profound gratitude towards the dedicated REDS Patna Staff Team for their unwavering commitment and diligent efforts throughout the academic year. He also extended heartfelt appreciation to the beneficiaries who participated in and benefited from the programs offered by REDS Patna. Recognizing the importance of support, Fr. Rajesh also acknowledged and thanked the benefactors whose generous contributions have been instrumental in enabling REDS Patna to carry out its mission and initiatives. Furthermore, he provided words of encouragement to all, inspiring them to continue their endeavors with enthusiasm and purpose..



## **Aspirants and Pre-Novices officially concluded their formation year**



On the notable date of May 14th, 2025, the Faustino Community gathered for a significant occasion—the heartfelt farewell ceremony for both the aspirants and the Pre-Novices. This event brought together the members of all three communities residing within the Deepahalli campus, fostering a strong sense of unity and shared experience.

Under the meticulous and thoughtful organization of Fr. Marianus Lugun, the day unfolded smoothly and memorably. This farewell marks the beginning of the aspirants' and Pre-Novices' home visits, a period of time they will spend with their families before proceeding to the subsequent levels of formation. This stage is a vital part of their development and spiritual journey, allowing them to reconnect with their roots and prepare for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead in their vocation.

### **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.

Let us pray for the repose of the souls of Bro. Julius' Mother and Bro. Lucian's elder Brother. We continue to pray for Bro. Ashok and Fr. Sebastian Bara for their healing!

Let us pray for the following brothers who celebrate their birthdays in the Month of June:

**June**

05 B., Rayappan

12 Minz, John Gracious

14 P., Antony Xavier

26 Tirkey, Sukrit

**Calendar: June 2025**

- 5 Pratap, Santhosh and Amala Leave for FC4 Filing in Chennai
- 7 Newly Professed travel to Bangalore
- 10 UD Classes Begin
- 12-14 Bro. Basant participates in Teacher's Workshop at St. Joseph School, Budakata
- 13 Fr. Renny returns to India
- 15 15th - Final date for brothers to be in the assigned communities (assigned brothers expected to be in the respective communities)
- 15 1st year novices report to Novitiate
- 16-01 July Fr. Ignase guides Marianist studies for FMI Sisters at Deepahalli
- 25 Pre-novices report to the Faustino community
- 30 Aspirants arrive in Faustino Community

**Thank  
You!**