



The Region of India

January 2025

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The Regional Updates

Priestly Ordination



It was a joyous moment for the Region of India to witness the ordination of another Marianist priest, Fr. Showriah Ravulapalli, SM. The ordination took place at the Jacob Gapp Nivasam Community in the Khammam Diocese of Telangana State, India. The Jacob Gapp Nivasam community had organized the celebration beautifully. This event was especially significant because it was the first major Marianist celebration held at this location. Dn. Showriah was ordained by His Lordship Most Rev. Dr. Sagili Prakash, the Bishop of Khammam Diocese. The Bishop emphasized various aspects of the priesthood and the call to serve the people of God as a humble shepherd.



The Bishop highlighted the importance of the "call." He explained that the call to be a priest did not begin when one joins the religious order, but even before being formed in the womb of one's mother. He continued by sharing that religious accept the vocation with the trust that the Lord is always there to support and strengthen those whom He calls. Priests and religious should not rely on their own abilities but on the will of God. The invitation is to do everything in the name of God and for God. The Bishop encouraged the priest to rely solely on God's love and mercy. He reminded all priests not to speak their own words, but, following the words of Jeremiah, to proclaim the words of God that He has placed in their mouths.

Priests, though sinful, are called by God, who makes them instruments of His mercy and grace. The Bishop likened this to a wounded soldier who understands the pain of others; similarly, a sinful man who becomes a priest can understand the suffering of his fellow human beings. God knows our weaknesses, but He calls us despite them and grants us the strength and power to live a life worthy of Him. He also encouraged the faithful not to gossip about priests or accuse them of their mistakes, but rather to care for them and pray for them daily that they may remain faithful to their call. Quoting St. Francis of Assisi, the Bishop urged the priests to be humble and holy. He concluded by congratulating Fr. Showriah and assuring him of his prayers.



Approximately 1,000 people attended the ordination, including 25 Marianist brothers and sisters. The liturgy and other arrangements were well planned by the community brothers, teachers from Jacob Gapp School, volunteers, the faithful from the substations, and the MLC. The Regional

Council extends its thanks to Fr. Prasad and the members of Jacob Gapp Nivasam for their excellent preparation and arrangements for the celebration.

The newly ordained Fr. Showriah celebrated his first thanksgiving Eucharist at his home parish, Patibandla, on January 13, 2025. The parish had planned the occasion meticulously. This year also marked the jubilee year for the parish, celebrating 100



years since its founding in 1925. Fr. Showriah's family was very welcoming and hospitable to the Marianists and other guests who attended the celebration. We express our gratitude to the Ravulapalli family for their generous hospitality during the event. We continue to pray for Fr. Showriah as he embarks on his future ministry as a priest.

Silver Jubilee Celebrations of Bro. Sanjay Ekka, SM



On January 3, 2025, Bro. Sanjay Ekka and his family in Mahuadarh celebrated a Thanksgiving Mass to honor God's continued blessings in Bro. Sanjay's life, marking 25 years of his religious profession. While Bro. Sanjay had already commemorated this milestone with a grand celebration alongside his vow group at Nirmal Deep last year, his family wanted to host a special gathering at home to thank God for the abundant graces bestowed upon him. On this occasion, family members, friends, relatives, and many members of the Marianist Family gathered in Mahuadarh to join in the celebration. Bro. Prakash Kujur, the Regional Superior, was also present to mark the event. The celebration was highlighted by the Holy Eucharist, presided over by Fr. Santosh Tudu, followed by a cultural dance performance and a festive meal shared by all. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the family of Bro. Sanjay for their warm hospitality and for graciously welcoming our brothers and sisters to this joyous celebration.

Founders' Day celebration by Marianist Family at Singhpur



The Marianist Family Council in India made the heartfelt decision to dedicate a special day for prayer, reflection, and celebration during the month of January, between the 10th and 22nd. To bring this vision to life, the Marianist family in Ranchi gathered on January 14, 2025, at Singhpur. The day was marked

by a spirit of joy, deep devotion, and inspiring reflections shared by the members of the Marianist Family, creating a truly memorable and meaningful experience for all who attended.

Annual Day Celebration



St. Joseph Chaminade Academy, Deepahalli, Bangalore, celebrated its Annual Day with great enthusiasm and pride. The event, held on 25th January 2025, provided a wonderful opportunity for the children to showcase their talents, creativity, and the spirit of their education. The celebration began with a prayer, followed by a warm welcome address from the school management. The program continued with the annual report, which highlighted the school's achievements throughout the year.

Fr. Ignase Arulappen, SM, the deputy Regional Superior, was the presider of the Annual Day celebrations, Rev. Fr. Jesudoss Rajamanickam, the Director of St. John's Medical College Hospital & St. John's National Academy of Health Sciences was the Chief Guest and the guest of Honor was Air Comodore Jose Joseph VSM.



The students showcased their skills through a variety of cultural performances, including music, dance, and drama. This year, the school chose a theme to honor the frontline workers of society, who work tirelessly every day to ensure the well-being of citizens. The management organized this event to recognize and honor the actual frontline workers in the school's surrounding area. Each performance reflected the students' hard work and dedication, leaving the audience in awe. Special awards and accolades were presented to students excelling in academics, sports, and extracurricular activities, acknowledging their efforts and accomplishments.



The event was further blessed with an inspiring speech from the chief guest, who encouraged the students to continue striving for excellence. The Annual Day celebrations at St. Joseph Chaminade Academy were a resounding success, highlighting the school's commitment to holistic development and the fostering of talent in all its students. This day will be memorable not only for the students but also for honouring the frontline workers who serve society tirelessly. The regional

administration thanks Bro. Saju Chittadiyil, SM, the Principal, Bro. Lucian, the Correspondent, all the Marianist Brothers, and the staff who were involved in making this day a remarkable milestone in the life of the institution.

Annual Day Celebration at St. Joseph School, Budakata, Odisha



On January 25th, St. Joseph School Budakata celebrated its Annual Day with great enthusiasm and joy. The theme for this year's event was "Blossoms of Unity: Nature, Family, and Nation," which reflected the school's deep appreciation for the core pillars that shape our lives. The day was dedicated to honouring and expressing gratitude towards Mother Earth for nurturing life, family for shaping our journey, and the nation for providing shelter and pride. The school campus was beautifully adorned with vibrant decorations and twinkling lights, creating a festive atmosphere. The event was graced by the esteemed presence of Bro. Prakash Kujur, SM, the Regional Superior of India, who served as the chief guest. The celebration featured a variety of captivating cultural performances by the students, each showcasing their talent and creativity. To further enrich the occasion, the chief guest, along with other distinguished guests, delivered inspiring speeches that added a meaningful touch to the celebration. The Regional Council thanks Fr. Joseph Barla, SM., Fr. George Majhi, SM., and other brothers in the community for their tireless work in making this day a memorable one in the life of the students.

Pongal Celebration at REDS Bangalore

The REDS Bangalore family celebrated the harvest festival of Pongal at the REDS office in Infant Nilaya on 25th January 2025. The event was meticulously planned and organized by the REDS Administration. It was a joyous occasion to come together and express gratitude to the Lord for all the blessings received in the past year. Pongal is a festival dedicated to thanking the Sun God for aiding farmers in their cultivation throughout the year. The venue was beautifully decorated with fresh, green sugarcanes, vibrant kolam designs, and staff and well-wishers dressed in festive attire. The staff of St. Chaminade School also participated in the celebration. Ignase blessed the occasion with a prayer, while Arulraj, Peter, Britto, and others assisted in the festivities. Pratap and Ignase represented the Regional Council. A sumptuous meal was served at the end of the celebration. We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to making this day a memorable success.



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 Bro. Marianus Bilung who will be celebrating his jubilee on 15 February 2025.
- We thank God for the 25 years of grace that he has showered upon Fr. Iggie from the time of his priestly ordination on 5 February 2000.

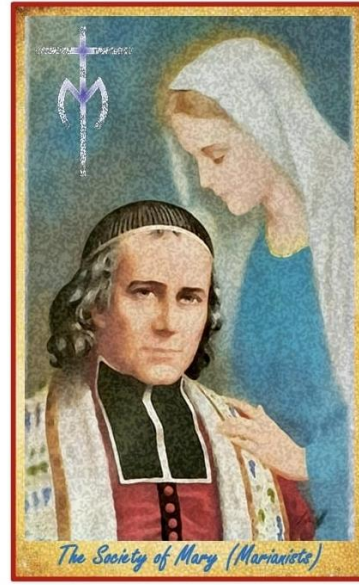
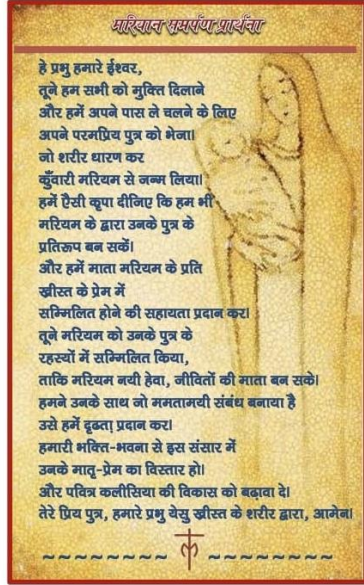
Please pray for the Brothers who celebrate their birthdays during the month of February:

February

06 Tirkey, Pitar
 18 Xalxo, Kerobim
 23 Gallelli, Bhaskar *

Prayer Card for Communities

"Fr. Birendra Kullu, SM, is working under the guidance of Fr. Ignase, SM, to prepare the prayer card that will be used in all our communities starting in February. Once the card is ready in both English and Hindi, it will be distributed to the communities and ministries. We kindly request that you make use of the prayer cards to pray for the youth who are engaged with us in various ministries."



Calendar - February 2025

1	Requests for PV & study requests are due in the Regional Office
2	Presentation of the Lord Anniversary of the first sodality of Bordeaux
3 - 5	Regional Council Meeting
6-24	General Assistant for the office of Religious Life Fr. Pablo and General Assistant for the office of Education Bro. Dennis visit Communities in India
9	PV consultations sent to communities
10-17	Secretarial Course at NBCLC
15	Silver Jubilee Celebration in Nirmal Deep – Bro. Marianus Bilung
23	Confirmation at Bl. Chaminade Parish, Singhpur
22-23	Vocation Promotor's Meeting at Vailankanni, Tamilnadu
24-28	Second Interim Audit in the South
28	PV consultation is due in the Regional Office

**GA Visitation Calendar
(7 Feb to 24 Feb)**

Date	Meeting and Travel Plan
February 7	Arrival at Deepahalli, rest in the morning, 4:00PM-6:00PM Conference for brothers in South communities
February 8	Meeting with Jacob Gapp Nivasam Community & Vidya Sagar Community Deepahalli
February 9	St. Joseph's Community, Deepahalli
February 10	Infant Nilaya
February 11	Faustino Community
February 12	Chaminade Nilaya
February 13	Travel to Ranchi by Air
February 14	Conference 10:30AM – 12:30PM & Meeting with Patna Community
February 15	Jubilee Celebration and Nirmal Deep
February 16	Singhpur Community
February 17	Fidel Nilaya
February 18	Gyan Deep
February 19	Asha Deep
February 20 – 21	Travel to Budakata, Odisha by Car
February 22	Travel from Jharsuguda, Odisha to Bangalore by Air & stay at Chaminade
February 23	Meeting with Regional Council
February 24	Departure back to Rome

Thank You!
