



ISHOPANTHI ASHRM, PURI

Christmas 2009



This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger (Luke 1.12)

Liebe Josef, Rudolf, Elke und alle Freunde der Berufskolleg,

Herzliche Weihnachtsgrüsse und besseres wunschen feur des Neues Jhar. Together with my confreres and our people, especially those in the leprosy colony, I wish you the joy of Christmas. I join you to celebrate Christmas with joy and gratitude to God and to you. Thanks for your concern and care. Wish you all good health and joy and peace.



Our Christmas Celebrations

On Christmas day we will join all the inmates of Karunalaya and the other leprosy affected people in Puri (about 1300 people) to celebrate the day together. We will share together all the meals of the day as one family.

Our school will celebrate Christmas in an intercultural and inter religious way. The children will present the Christmas story in a dance drama presentation. We will remember all our friends and benefactors. Christmas Papa will give every child a gift.



The events of 2009 leading to this Christmas

Eye camp and Artificial limbs camp

We organized an eye camp with the help of Rotary club of Puri for the inmates of Karunalaya. 49 of our people underwent cataract surgery. Some of them who had lost sight have recovered their vision. We were also able provide artificial limbs to 20 handicapped leprosy affected people.

House repairs

We made RCC roof and repaired fifteen houses of our people in Karunalaya. People are happy it was done before the start of the monsoon and they could stay in houses feeling more at home without water leaking in.

Tube wells with hand pumps

It is a cherished dream of every household to have its own tube well. Before Christmas we hope to complete 25 tube wells. Each tube well will cost us about Rs. 10,000/-.

Annex to Karunalaya hospital

The limited facilities of our 20 bedded hospital of Karunalaya needs some additions and modifications to cope up with the present demands. So we are planning for an extension of the building to house the dental clinic the OPD section with a lab, dispensary etc.



Children of Karunalaya/Beatrix school

This year there are 184 children from Karunalaya Leprosy Care Center studying in the schools and colleges. Among these 94 are studying in Beatrix school, 47 in various High Schools and 43 in colleges in Puri. They are aged 5 -18. We have a good team of people closely accompanying them. Beatrix school has 550 children. We are glad that the last batch of the 7th class children had 100% pass in final the exams.



Karunalaya Children's Home cares for 60 children of the leprosy patients from nine leprosy colonies in Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Angul, Talcher, Bolonda, Ganjam and Denkanal (distances up to 300 KMs). They come from vary poor backgrounds, from colonies not cared by anyone. Health care and emotional support are crucial for these children. I regularly visit their homes and keep in touch with their guardians.

Special assistance and attention

Special attention is given to extracurricular activities. Regular classes are offered in Yoga, Teak wan do, music and dance. Our computer center provides them with an opportunity to learn the basics of computer.



3rd death anniversary of Fr. Marian

Saintly Marian's third death anniversary was observed on the 30th of April with a peace meeting. Peopel from all walks of life and religions participated in it. Our Archbishop, the Chief pirst of Sree Jagannath temple, SVD provincial superiors from Poland and Orissa, twenty people from Poland and Muni Baba were among the dignitaries present on the occasion.

The chief priest of Jagannath temple paying homage to Fr. Marian

Spirituality center

It was a busy year for our center with a number of programs organized by us and various agencies making use of our center for seminars, training programs etc. Besides, we had a number of visitors and volunteers from India and abroad for an experience of the reality around here.

Marian memorial High School

Our Christmas vision and New Year dream is a High School in memory of Fr. Marian. It has been a felt need and a long cherished dream for us to raise Beatrix School to the level of a High School adding classes VIII - X. This will be a major initiative and we need your assistance. We need to raise funds for the infrastructure, salaries for the staff. There are lots of government requirements to be met. With your help and trusting in the Providence we hope to start with class VIII in the coming school year. We count on the accompaniment of Fr. Marian and each one of you.



Thanks for your concern and accompaniment. We move into 2010 with gratutude and enthusiasm. Wishing you continued success & Blessings of Harmony

Fr. Kurian, SVD

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