

# Claretian Fraternity

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## CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE PROVINCIAL SUPERIOR

It's Christmas time. Once again we ready ourselves to receive the baby boy born on this earth who is the King of the universe. He was ready to be born in a manger as a child to poor parents, who had to look out for a place for this Saviour to be born. The vulnerability of the humans even about the basic needs He understood even at His birth. His birth was the good news for the humanity and the entire universe.

The message of Christmas is the message of goodness, message of love and message of hope. The beauty and goodness of the creation is brought out once again during Christmas. Everything what God created is good as we see in the book of Genesis and the goodness of creation and the goodness that is there in each human being is highlighted at the time of Christmas. We exchange cards, wish others, share cakes, and visit people. Christmas is also giving us a message of love. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." (John 3:16). God loves us even by giving His son as an expiation for our sins. Christmas also gives us the message of hope, hope about a better world, a better life here on earth in peace and love and hope about our life with God as His Son promised us.

As we celebrate Christmas, let us appreciate the beauty and goodness of each other, appreciate the beauty of the universe and try to preserve this beauty

and enhance it as Pope Francis tells us through his encyclical Laudato Si. Let us make use of this time of Christmas to reach out to persons who need our love and care. Let us also give hope to persons who are in the margins of the society, who need our support so that they can have a life tomorrow.

We, the Claretian Missionaries, are celebrating 175 years of the Foundation of our Congregation; it's the Jubilee of the Foundation. Our Congregation was founded by Anthony Mary Claret and five of his companions in Vic, Spain on 16 July 1849. As we thank God for His amazing grace over these years, we would like to thank you all for being part of our missionary journey.



May the peace and love of Christmas be with you and with your loved ones!

**From all of us in the Claretian Family, Wishing you Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year.**

**Fr. Sabu George Koottarappallil, CMF**  
Provincial Superior



We, the Claretian Missionaries, especially in the Province of Bangalore, are engaged in diverse ministries and apostolic activities. The inspiration and style that we derive from our Founder, St. Anthony Mary Claret, urges us to be timely and effective in our ministries. Here we highlight a few of our pastoral and educational ministries through which we care and inspire people to grow in faith and life.

### CHODAVARAM, CHRIST THE KING CHURCH

Christ the King Church Chodavaram, Visakhapatnam, celebrated their annual feast on 22 November 2023. Most Rev. Dr. Rayarala Vijaya Kumar, PIME, Bishop of Srikakulam solemnised the celebration. During the homily, bishop



inspired the faithful to live the sovereignty of Christ by accepting Him as the Saviour and King and allowing Christ to be the Lord of life. After the Holy Eucharist and the solemn procession, the parishioners engaged themselves in various interactive programmes to glorify God. Thus making the celebration more participative and fostering the bond of unity among the faithful.

### DASARAHALLI, SS JOSEPH AND CLARET CHURCH

Saints Joseph & Claret Church Dasarahalli, Bengaluru celebrated the day of Holy Sacraments on Sunday, 19 November 2023. On the day, during the Holy Eucharist, 16 children received the First Holy Communion and seven of them also received the Sacrament of Confirmation. His Excellency Mar Sebastian Adayantharath, bishop of Mandya, presided the celebration accompanied by Fr. Xavier Manavath, the Episcopal Vicar for Archdiocese of Bangalore, Fr. John Payikattu, the Vice Provincial of Claretian Province of Bangalore and other priests. For the parishioners, especially for the children receiving the sacraments, it was a very joyful celebration with meaningful participation.





### KARAHALLI, ST. JUDE'S CHURCH

In order to encourage the children and make them more participative in the church, St Joseph's Church, Doddasagarahalli in Bengaluru, the substation of Karahalli, celebrated the children's day on 19 November 2023. The liturgy of the day was animated by the children themselves. After the Holy Eucharist various activities were conducted for the children and gifts distributed, making it a colourful celebration. The parish priest, Fr. Arogya Nadhan CMF and the Canossian Sisters in the parish motivated the children for this eventful celebration.



### BARIKHAJURI, ST PETER'S SCHOOL



St Peter School Barikhajuri, Jharkhand celebrated its annual day with great zest and enthusiasm on 08 November 2023. On the occasion, the School had the joy of having Mr Dilip Tirkey, Director, Jharkhand State Food and Consumer Affairs Directorate, as the Chief Guest and Rev. Fr. Sanjay Gidh, Director, Catholic Christian Minority Board of Education (C.C.M.B.) as the Guest of Honour. The annual day cultural extravaganza based on the theme 'Rainbow' highlighted the diversity of Indian heritage and brought out the cultural, religious and secular values of our country.

In his speech, the Chief Guest appreciated the great service rendered by the School to the people of the area. The Chief Guest and Guest of Honour along with the other dignitaries honoured the class toppers of the previous academic year. Similarly, the alumni of the school who have excelled in other higher studies from various institutions were also felicitated on the occasion. The event brought together students, parents, faculty, distinguished guests and well-wishers to commemorate yet another successful academic year.



### BUTIBORI, ST. CLARET SCHOOL

St. Claret School in Butibori, Nagpur has emerged triumphant in the recently held Orange Olympics-School Championship November 2023 under the flagship of Khelo Nagpur, showcasing exceptional prowess and sportsmanship. The school's athletes displayed unparalleled dedication and skill, securing the top position in the medal tally in Orange Olympics.

St. Claret School demonstrated outstanding performance across various disciplines, leading to an impressive accumulation of 24 medals - 10 Gold, 8 silver and 6 Bronze. The collective efforts of the athletes, coaches, and the school's commitment to excellence in sports contributed to this remarkable achievement. The school takes pride in nurturing talent and fostering a conducive environment for development of sports. The achievements of the athletes serve as an inspiration for future generations, reinforcing the importance of sports in education.





### JALAHALLI, ST. CLARET COLLEGE

The first TEDx Claret College talk show on the theme, “Living with a Purpose” was organized at St. Claret College Jalahalli, Bengaluru on Friday, 10 November 2023. TEDx talk events are organized independently under a free license granted by New York based TED. It is a grassroots initiative, created in the spirit of TED’s overall mission to research and discover “ideas worth spreading.”



TEDx Claret College had six speakers: Mr. Milind Soman, Supermodel and Actor; Dr. Rajmohan Pillai, Business Tycoon and CEO of Beta Group; Lt. General P. G. Kamath, Veteran of Indian Army; Dr. Tahbit Ahmed, Cardiologist; Fr. George Kannanthanam, CMF, Social Activist; and Ms. Shruthi Reddy, Shark Tank India Finalist. The speakers narrated their inspiring personal stories of hard work, determination, setbacks, triumphs and altruism.

The event was a celebration of life and its purpose intertwined with cultural and artistic performances from Mr. Aakarsh, Illusionist and Mentalist; Mr. Rajeev Pulawar and team, Shadow Artists; Mr. Abhishek N. S., Classical Singer; Mr. Arun Sriram, Standup Comedian; Ms. Rachana R. Karanik and team, Classical Dancers; and the Musical Band, Silence of Chaos.

### MEDCHAL, ST. CLARET SCHOOL

St. Claret High School Medchal, Telangana, transformed into a hub of joy and generosity during its Children’s Day celebrations held on 14 November 2023. The event was also marked by a Food Fest.

The highlights of the day included a variety of fast-food items, fun games, and a lottery dip. The school playground buzzed with activity as teachers doubled up as event organisers and chefs offering a variety of delicious dishes.

Besides the culinary delights, the festival featured a special charity lottery. The lottery was a unique feature, with proceeds going to support the underprivileged in the community. The excitement was palpable as the winners of the lottery were announced, receiving an array of exciting prizes. The funds raised through the lottery and food festival will be used for initiatives aimed at providing some financial assistance and participating in the well-being of the less fortunate.

