



Christmas in Repalle We extend a heartfelt thanks to you, the donors who make the Christmas celebration at IREF so successful and special for so many children. School staff again headed committees for decorating, reception, seating, and food preparation. Even the children got involved, as they decorated the church, trees and plants along the pathways with colored bulbs and balloons. It takes a great deal of planning to bring about a Christmas celebration for so many people.

The "Nativity of Christ", a play telling the Christmas story, is an IREF tradition that the students anticipate and prepare for each year. The large gathering enjoy the Christmas play each year. After scripture reading and prayer, the IREF girls and boys choir sang Christmas carols. The joy of gift-giving is one that is universal as the IREF staff and students were given gifts in light of the holiday season. The children accepted their gifts with delight and gratitude as most of these young people come from poor socio-economic backgrounds where gift giving is not an option.

The Christmas celebration brought in about 10,000 people to celebrate the birth of Christ at the IREF compound. The most memorable moments came when 2nd and 3rd grade girls recited verses from the Old Testament and the Gospels pertaining to the birth of Christ. The night ended with a play about Christ's birth, which the IREF students have been doing for the last 20 years. So much hard work is put into the play each year and this year was no different. The audience watched the play in enthusiasm as it was a great success.

We thank you for making Christmas so memorable in Repalle!



IREF students re-enact the story of our Savior's birth and share the Good News with fellow students.



Nursing Students Graduate IREF has strived to provide all young people opportunities for promising futures. The second batch students from the Nursing School graduated this past month. Their farewell ceremony was full of laughs and tears as they each spoke about their experiences at IREF and their dependence on the Lord throughout it all. The senior students also shared their testimonies and words of advise with the new senior class and encouraged each student to take their calling as nurses seriously as their follow God's will for their lives.



For two of the girls this is their farewell from IREF since they have been with IREF since they were children. Most of the students at IREF come from very unfortunate and impoverished backgrounds, whose parents are prostitutes, alcoholics, poor laborers, or even deceased. We can offer them a future with a quality education, but won't neglect the most important thing, the gospel. In seemingly hopeless situations, God is working in miraculous ways! Although it's hard to see them leave, they leave with the confidence that the Lord is with them.

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Highlights from Christmas at IREF



Young children recite memory verses at the Christmas celebration.



John Rebba distributes Christmas gifts to college students.



Emmanuel Rebba dedicates the Christmas star as IREF kicks off of the Advent season.



The IREF choir opened Christmas morning with carols sung in Telugu.

Prayers & Praise

Thank you for sharing in the Christmas season at IREF. Your prayers and support made it possible to share the Good News of Hope thru our Savior's birth with so many new students and their families. God is so good!

Pray for the upcoming January/February Youth Conference and Gospel meetings.

Pray for the the US and UK teams as they travel to India for the conferences in January/February and reach so many with the message of Salvation.

Pray for the medical teams as they treat so many poor people of the Repalle area who would otherwise have no access to medical attention.

Praise God for the thousands of viewers who are hearing the Gospel through IREF TV each week. Many continue to call into IREF each week with prayer requests and testimonies of salvation.