OMI Japan: Christmas in Kochi – Dec. 28 ~ 29, 2021

Oblates from Japan came together in Kochi to celebrate their annual community Christmas.

Unlike December 2020, last month, due to zero cases of covid in the city of Kochi, it was possible to hold a gathering with a small number.

The gathering began on December 28th with the evening prayer led by the Oblates of Kochi district. It was a liturgy based on the Scripture (John 1:1-14) with time for silent prayer and meditation. During this pandemic time, coming together in person as a community gave an opportunity to thank and praise God for the gift of life and to strengthen our bond as a Delegation. Having prayed together, the members relaxed with a social hour, which was followed by a simple dinner. At the end of another covid-dominated-year, just to be together and relax over a few drinks made everyone comfortable.

The following day, the men came together for a one hour business meeting to listen to the Delegation Superior and to plan a few things for the new year and future of the Delegation. After the meeting the group left for the Nankoku cemetery to pray for the deceased Oblates who had worked for Japan mission. Following the prayers, since some who had come from afar had to get back home, those that remained till the end went to a nearby restaurant for a good lunch.

Next on schedule is our spring gathering in April 2022. We hope that the pandemic situation will improve and that we get to meet again. If not, we will meet online together with our brother Oblates from Korea.

Brad