Dear Brothers,

The memorial celebration of Christ’s Birth is only four weeks away. Why is this Christmas gathering so important for us as an Oblate Missionary Family? When we come together in Kochi for Christmas, we partake in a family tradition where everyone has a sense of belonging, sharing and focusing on Jesus' birth. The Christmas tradition can be powerful incentive for the Oblate family. For one thing, it brings us closer together. It allows us to spend time together making new memories while remembering the past and those who came before us. It allows us to stop our busy cycle of missionary activities long enough to reconnect and strengthen bonds, much like the traditional Japanese Bonenkai and Shinnenkai. In this spirit of OMI family tradition, the Christmas Organizing Team presents the following schedule for 2019.

**Japan OMI Traditional Christmas - Dec. 25-26-27, 2019**

**Place:** Nakajima-cho, Kochi City

**Rooms:** Priest Residence

Church Residence

Oriental Hotel

**\*\*\*** For Room Reservations contact Iru

 ***before December 9th***. (iru.raj@gmail.com)

**Schedule:**

**--------------->Dec. 25th ARRIVAL**

*(Evening)* - No Meal at Nakajima Parish. There are at least five restaurants within 5-10 minute walk from the Parish for those who are interested.

**--------------->Dec. 26th Thursday**

*(Morning)* - **[7-9am]** Breakfast at Nakajima-cho. Coffee and

 Bakery Goodies.

**\*\*\*** There was a good feedback on the variety of last year's international native dishes, we would like to continue this tradition. (optional, prepare amount for only 5-6 people) Kitchen will be open like last year from 9-12noon. Obento boxes will be provide for leftovers. Please notify Iru if your bringing food.

*(Afternoon)* - **[12:30pm]** - Noon Meal at Restaurant.

 \*\*\* For Noon Meal notify Fr. Iru

***before December 9th.***

 (iru.raj@gmail.com)

**[2-3pm]** - Meal table and Gaudeamus

 preparations – Honshu Community

**[3:30-4:30pm]** - Liturgy prepared by Kyushu

Community

**[5-6pm]** – Gaudeamus hour

*(Evening)* - **[6-7:30pm]** - Christmas Meal

 -various homemade dishes

 -sashimi

 -sushi

 -pizza

 -Christmas cake

 **[7:30-8pm]** - Wash Dishes, Clean up area.

**[8:15pm]** - Christmas recreation prepared by

Tokushima Community

**--------------->Dec. 27th DEPARTURE Friday**

*(Morning)* - **[7-9am]** - Breakfast at Nakajima-cho - Coffee +

Bakery Goodies

**[10am]** - Nangoku-Gomen Bochi. Fr Jude will lead us in a brief service.

**For additional inquiries email organizing team:**

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Jude - peirisp@gmail.com

Jerry - jerry@shirt.ocn.ne.jp