

Dear Church Family,

Warmest wishes from us both all of you, and we wish you a magnificently happy and fulfilling 2012!

Thank-you again immensely for all your prayers and encouragement and support during the past year of 2011. We are truly grateful.

Thought you would enjoy seeing some glimpses of how we celebrated Christmas with the patients at Lalgadh Leprosy Hospital the world's busiest leprosy hospital.

It was very moving (well... I was moved and I hope you are too!)...gathering all the patients together with their missing fingers and feet and...(enough of that!), singing carols, some of the leprosy-kids had learnt special Nepali carols with actions... some carols with dancing, then listening to the Christmas message... then the thrill everyone getting presents... then that whopping Christmas dinner (yep...goat...their favourite!).

The moving bit is really when you remember that many of these folks (like IndraKala... remember her?... you may spot her in some of the piccies, wearing dark glasses because leprosy has almost blinded her now) are ostracised, rejected by their communities and sometimes kicked out of their families. No-one wants them anywhere near (sometimes just like in Jesus days), families don't want a leper in the family, and many go for years without anyone even touching them.

Sooooooooo.... imagine being like that, and then the thrill and joy of being given presents and huge hugs, and compassion and love.....yep...it's totally moving!

Please keep this wonderful leprosy work, and the spread of the Christian message of love and salvation, and us, in your prayers during this year of 2012. We feel very much we are here to extend a mission arm of Christian care, love and healing, as an outreach from our church family.

And so we send you our love and warmest wishes, and God's blessings.

graeme & meena

