



EAST ASIA MARIST LIFE Newsletter

October 31, 2022, Volume 01, Issue No. 10

Featured Community

THE APOSTOLATE IN CHUNGJU: "A TRULY GOOD HOME"

Good day to you! I am Br. Laurencio Park, in charge of our "Truly Good Home", the facility we have for the protection and care of severely handicapped youngsters.

Below are some photos of the event that captured the joy of the residents of the center and staff as they shared together a meaningful celebration during the Autumn Moon Festival (similar to a Thanksgiving day).

We experienced many difficulties due to the prolonged precautionary restrictions of the Covid-19 pandemic, but we could still share the joy of the holiday through our own simple yet meaningful celebration of the event.



Br. Laurencio Park Br. Dominique Ryu



The Brothers of the community of Chungju (Br. Laurencio Park and Dominique Ryu) participated in the annual retreat from Oct 1 to 7th. On the 11th of October, we attended the wake and funeral of Br. Augustin Lee.

On October 13, we were blessed to receive donations for the "Good Home" from the Rotary Club. They donated medical instruments that were useful for the care of the residents of the Center. There was a simple program for the handing over of the donation on the same day.

This group or chapter of the Rotary Club has adapted the Truly Good Home as part of their social work engagement. For this reason, they extended full support in addressing the needs of the center. They ensured that the residents and personnel of the Truly Good Home and the Protective Working Place that functions within the same compound have healthy and clean water to drink and also to be used in their day-to-day needs.

Thank you all for your prayers and we ask you to continue praying for us so that we may live always in peace and harmony of heart and spirit. Blessings to you all.



PROMOTING FULLNESS OF LIFE

Br. Manuel Valencia De Leon,
Philippines

*THERE IS
GREAT
VALUE IN
BEING
A
BROTHER
TODAY*

I have been a Marist Brother for 47 years and all these years, I find my life as a Brother more meaningful and with a sense of purpose when I am with children and young people as a teacher, a companion, a friend and a “kuya” or older brother. At the same time, I find real joy in an orderly environment and when I am connected with the soil doing gardening and growing trees.

Since 2000, The Great Jubilee Year, right after my second novitiate in Manizana and the canonization of St. Marcellin, I was inspired to start SAGIP KA 2000 FOUNDATION, INC. which has a vision of promoting FULLNESS OF LIFE by GOING BACK TO BASICS. Going back to our basic values means observing unity and order, truth, justice, sense of others, beauty, freedom and faith in God in our daily life.

As I grow in years as a Marist Brother, I keep reminding myself that my reason for being is to take care of the earth, to take care of the children. If we truly care for the children, we need to take care of the earth that rightfully belongs to them.

Regardless of my work assignment or ministry, it doesn't really matter anymore whether I am in the classroom teaching, a uni-



versity president or an ordinary Brother working in the community garden, I find a sense of fulfilment in my chosen vocation as a Brother today.

Now, Notre Dame of Dadiangas University has accepted the invitation of Pope Francis to join the Seven (7) Year Journey of the Laudato Si'. Part of the journey is to come up with programs and projects in line with the principles of Laudato Si'.

Lately, the University has acquired 5 hectares of land to be developed into an ecology center where we plan to grow Philippine endemic trees and promote sustainable agriculture for young people to experience the beauty of God's creation.

(From: FMS Message Year XXXV-N.52-August 2022, page 46)

ONGOING PREPARATION AND FORMATION OF VOLUNTEERS FOR MISSION

Last October 22, the Coordinator of the East Asia Province Volunteer Desk Br. Edgar Cerialles, FMS, convened the LaValla200 volunteers Khim Arguez Camiring and Ariane Jane Ylarde for their on-going preparation and formation for mission. They were given sessions by Ms. Joy A. Alave, a Clinical Psychologist and Ms. Grace Suay Dalde, Cultural Educator. The facilitators are volunteers themselves and currently faculty of Notre Dame of Marbel University. The theme of the said on-going formation is Bridging Self and Culture: Gaining Deeper Understanding of Self and Developing Cultural Competence for Marist Intercultural Living for Mission.

On October 29, said volunteers continued their formation with their mentor, Dr. Joven Ryan Malida, Region 12 Indigenous Peoples Education Program Focal Person.

Khim Arguez Caminiring will be sent to mission in Sydney Australia while Ariane Jane Ylarde to the Marist mission in Malawi, Africa.



Happy 80th Birthday

10.28.2022

Br. Crispin P. Betita, FMS



NDDU RECEIVES AWARDS FROM LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF GENERAL SANTOS CITY

During the 20th Session of the Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of General Santos, Dr. Jose Dagoc, Jr., the Academic Vice President of Notre Dame of Dadiangas University (NDDU) received the award given to NDDU for the 3 commendations as follows:

- Top 2 finish of Carlos Cary Salinas Colon in the Electronics Technician Licensure Examination.
- Charmaine "Ming" Hermonio, a 3rd-year BSBA-HRM student as Miss General Santos City.
- Notre Dame of Dadiangas University was recognized for its valuable contribution as an academe in maintaining, preserving, and conserving the environment during the 1st Gawad Kinaiyahan Award.

For Dr. Dagoc, such recognitions were truly a remarkable feat for the University as these manifest the University's passion and commitment to the holistic development of students and personnel.



Among the awardees are proud alumni and parents, especially Ms. Daisy Jane, the former Hiyas ng NDDU, JPIA Ambassadors of Goodwill (Local and Regional) and Miss Gensan, currently the Director of Miss General Santos pageant; and the ever-proud Marist parent, Hon. Councilor Jonathan Blando.

To the NDDU family,

Congratulations!

FMSI RECOGNIZES MARCELLIN FOUNDATION, INC. AS A PROJECT OF THE YEAR AWARDEE

Last October 21, the FMSI, on the occasion of its 15th Year Anniversary celebration, awarded a plaque of recognition to Marcellin Foundation, Inc. as the Project of the Year Awardee.

This citation was given to Marcellin in recognition of its initiatives that helped street children, those at risk, and those in conflict with the law. FMSI also recognized the project of Marcellin for marginalized children that protected them from online abuses through initiatives of promotion of education and social reintegration. Br. Crispin P. Betita was not able to personally receive the award in Rome. On his behalf, Ms. Agnes Reyes represented Marcellin Foundation during the said event.



Invitation from Marist Ecology Ministry

"THE LETTER"

Leonardo DiCaprio tweets on October 8, 2022:
"Pope Francis and frontline champions find new hope for our planet.
Watch now."
<https://theletterfilm.org/Watch/>

DiCaprio, together with other celebrities and environmental activists, are endorsing "The Letter: A Message from our Earth," an 80-minute film produced by YouTube Originals in partnership with the *Laudato Si'* Movement and Off the Fence (Oscar-winning producer of "My Octopus Teacher").



"The Letter," with the special participation of Pope Francis, shares how *Laudato Si'* has inspired people around the world and brought a message of hope that people can come together to care for our common home.

"The Letter" invites every person and community to take action to address the climate emergency, biodiversity loss, and socio-ecological injustice. It invites all to come together to save the planet.

In this regard, Brother Allan De Castro, fms, provincial of East Asia province, is asking the communities to view "The Letter," reflect on its message and intensify their ecological initiatives.

Marist Stewards: Responding to the Voice of Creation

Jezreel Mark T. Raymundo

As a concrete response of the call to listen to the voice of creation, the Religious Education 111 of the Notre Dame of Marbel University, conducted their online symposium on October 29, 2022, dubbed as Marist Stewards, with the theme, "Responding to the voice of creation."

The online symposium aims to raise awareness and to deepen the students' knowledge as well as to provide new insights on the current environmental status of the planet and challenges us as individuals on how we can respond to the voice of creation.

The esteemed speaker during the symposium was the Rev. Ted Vincent Emboltorio of the Diocese of Marbel. In his talk, he shared three points, which were the See, Judge, and Act that would help us to see and respond to the current climate crisis. First, we must be able to see the current situation of the planet; where we are now and why we are experiencing this phenomenon. Second, we must reflect on what we can do in order to address the different environmental issues. Judging entails looking at and assessing the various effects of the current problem, as well as who was most affected. Lastly, we must be able to act, to propose and provide long-term solutions to the problem. In addressing the problem, we must gather not as individuals but as a group in order to create impact and change.

The symposium was part of the Religious Education 111 Pastoral Integration activities. After the symposium, students are tasked with forming groups and creating an advocacy as their response from listening to the voice of creation.



Provincial Visitation



October 12-14:
Dadiangas Community



October 16-18:
Lake Sebu Community



October 19-20:
Marcellin Homes Community



October 20-21:
Our Lady of Fourviere Community



October 21:
**With Rev. Bishop Cerilo Allan Casicas,
DD, Bishop of Diocese of Marbel**



October 21:
**With Rev. Fr. Jerome Millan, DCM, Director of the
Diocesan Center for Social Activities**

Photo News

October 16:

Br. Tony Leon (Australia) with Br. Hudson (Solomon Islands), Br. Ralph (Solomon Islands), and Br. Abraham (Korea) visited the Petaling Jaya Community and Catholic High School in, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



October 16:

The brothers and the mission partners of the Marist Malutok Ministry in Puerto Prinsesa, Palawan had their opening clean-up activity for Indigenous Peoples' (IPs) Month Celebration.



On October 18, the ministry received an award from Pilipinas Shell Foundation, Inc.



October 16:

Br. Lloyd Gamboa, Vocation, Promotion and Recruitment Director visited St. Joseph Chapel in Barangay Lamba, Banga South Cotabato, Philippines to gladly introduce the Marist Vocation to the young Altar Servers and Catholic Youth Ministry (CYM) of the said Chapel.



Photo News

October 27:
Marist Malutok Mission
celebrated the
Culmination Day of the
Indigenous Peoples' (IP)
Month at Puerto
Princesa City,
Philippines



October 2022:
China Sector hosted the Preparation for Perpetual Profession Program.



October 30:
The brothers of Marist Kobe Community
visited the tomb of the brothers and
particularly prayed for the repose of the
soul of Br. Ramon, FMS.



Photo News



October 20:
Friends from Petaling Jaya visited the brothers in Kuching Community.



October 28: *Celebration of Feast of St. Simon at SRS Datuk Simon Fung, Kota Kinabalu.*

October 2022:

The Marist brothers together with the clergy and religious during the feast of St. Francis of Assisi at the Diocese of Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia.



October 29:

Br. Anthony Cheng's friends from Petaling Jaya visited the brothers in Sibu Community.

October 30:

The teachers and students at St. Joseph International School in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia gathered and prayed during the month long devotion to the Holy Rosary.



A Glimpse of the Province

NEWSBITS FROM BROTHER ARPEE'S NOTES

Excerpts from BROTHER ARPEE'S¹ NOTES as published in the AMINAN NEWSLETTER of Philippine Province, June-July 1998, Volume 11, Number 3, pages 2-3.

Our Bawing beach rest house² is all ready for accommodation. The two floors are 36 square meter each. It has its own kitchen and comfort room. There is a water pump inside the house. All the Brothers are invited to spend their holidays or spiritual rejuvenation there. Reservations are done through our office here in Lagao. We might as well enjoy our Bawing place before the former owner gets it back. At present, the Muslim family from whom we bought the land in 1987 is filing a case in order to repurchase the property. The pre-trial is set on September 7, 1990.³

The boat trip with 6 scholastics⁴ last May was both enjoyable and tiring. Tiring in a sense that to get into the boat at Polloc Port in Parang was already a great hassle due to lack of discipline and order. Arriving at midnight in Manila, again due to too many delays along the way, adds to the inconvenience. Anyway even though we were accommodated in the cabins, still we were able to save money on the fare compared to when we traveled by air.

Lagao house became the Provincial House last October 1, 1990. The former room of Bro. Reginald is now our finance office and computer room. Bro. Renato, as the Provincial, works either in the living room upstairs or in his room. He receives his visitors in the receiving room which is also the community's TV room. Br. Ted, our Vocation Director, holds office also in his bedroom.

It has been recommended and talked about that we will employ a layperson to do some secretarial work in the office. The problem is office space. If we get one, he or she has to do office in our dining room, the center of traffic in the house.

How nice would it be if our province has decent office spaces. I conferred with Br. Ray some possible floor plans but nothing materialized for formal discussion with the concerned group. The problem is where to get the needed funds.

The proposed permanent building for Marist Asian Center in Marikina is another area that the Province has to face. Although the project is under the General Administration, still, we are expected to do some first moves like scouting for the right location and presenting options for building designs. For the first two years, MAC has to contend with temporary dwellings. This first year, MAC "squats" at Marikina community house. Next year, with additional scholastics coming in, it has to move somewhere else to look for a bigger place. Two options are being floated around at the moment. First, to build a building within the Marikina property, just below the swimming pool facing the Rancho Estate subdivision. The second is to take over the Marikina house and build a smaller one for the school community.⁵ # # #

¹This is Br. Romy Porras' pen name for the AMIHAN NEWSLETTER.

²Bawing Beach property was sold on November 20, 2017, to two fishing companies.

³The case with the former landowner of Bawing property was settled out of court with the assistance of Atty. Thomas Falgui.

⁴The six scholastics were Br. Rey Aude, Br. Ollie Dagala, Br. Dominador Santiago, Br. Moises Tabora, Br. Robert Miranda (Sri-Lankan) and Br. Derick Silva (Sri-Lankan). Out of these six scholastics, only Br. Dominador (Ador) persevered and became the Provincial of East Asia Province from April 2019 to April 2022.

⁵The Marikina community had actually moved out of the house to give room for the scholastics for a couple of years until a new scholasticate (to become later as Marist Asia Pacific Center) was established. The school community rented a house at Mustang Street of the Rancho Estate subdivision, a walking distance from the school.

PROVINCIAL'S SCHEDULE

November 01-15, 2022

October 31 – November 11:
Rome – International Forum on
the Vocation of Marist Lay

November 12-17:
Visit to Br. Demosthenes at the
ND Hermitage, France

November 18:
Flight back to the Philippines
(Marist Province Center,
General Santos City)

November

Birthday

Greetings



November 01

Br. John Tan Wee Eng

November 02

Br. John Emil I. Alada

November 04

Ms. Mary Wei Ling Ru
(Affiliate Member)

CONGRATULATIONS to Br. George E. Valle, FMS for having been elected as one of the five district councilors of the Marist District of Asia (MDA). The four other elected councilors are: Br. Jiji Dhasan of Talit Community in West Bengal, India; Br. Anton Cong Nguyen of Cu Chi Community, Vietnam; Br. Paco "Kikko" Garcia Ruiz of Tudella International Novitiate, Sri Lanka; and Br. Juan Castro of Pre-novitiate community, Davao City, Philippines.



Prayer Intentions:

- For all the souls of the dead that they may find eternal rest in peace with God.
- For a peaceful and meaningful observance of All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day.
- For the safety and protection of all participants traveling to General Santos City, Philippines to attend the Marist International Commission on Economic Affairs meeting this November.
- For our commitment to stand against environmental threats and our active response to climate emergencies.
- For the victims of floods and landslides brought by torrential rains from a typhoon Paeng in other areas of the Philippines particularly in BARMM region.
- For the safety of everyone.
- For our birthday celebrants that they may be filled with God's profound blessings.