



EAST ASIA

MARIST LIFE

Newsletter

September 15, 2023 Volume 02, Issue No. 17

China Sector Annual Assembly and Celebration of the 60th Anniversary of Br. Joachim Heng as Marist Brother

The Marist Brothers of the China Sector had their Annual Sector Assembly from September 1 to 3. It was held at the Parish Hall of Holy Name of Mary Catholic Church in Permatang Tinggi, Simpang Ampat, Penang, Malaysia.

The first day was intended as an arrival day since the brothers came from different countries, namely Singapore, West and East Malaysia, and the Philippines. It was participated by 11 brothers who were housed at Homestay Ang Garden in Bukit Mertajam, Pulau Penang, Malaysia.

During the morning of the second day, September 2, the brothers, through the help of the former Marist Juniors of Penang, went on a pilgrimage to Minor Basilica of St. Anne and visited SRJK (C) Kim Sen, the school that used to be administered by the brothers in Bukit Mertajam. In the afternoon, the Parish Priest of the Holy Name of Mary Catholic Church generously allowed the brothers to use their Parish Hall for their Assembly. Br. Anthony Tay, the Sector Coordinator, together with Br. Allan J. de Castro, the Provincial, led the brothers into a meaningful reflection of their life and mission in the province in the midst of their present realities, namely the aging brothers, the lack of vocation, the presence in school and other ministries and many others.

On September 3, the Sector celebrated the Jubilee of Br. Joachim Heng, FMS - 60th Year Anniversary of being a Marist Brother. It was attended by the Brothers, Lay Marists, and his own family, relatives, friends, and benefactors. During the reception, he thanked all those who journeyed with him during the last 60 years. Indeed, it was a day full of gratitude for the brothers in the China Sector.



Photos during the Jubilee celebration



REST IN PEACE

BR. JOSEPH AN SU-UN, FMS

OBITUARY NOTICE

J.M.J.



The Community of Ansan and the Korea/Japan Sector invites all of you to pray for the eternal repose of **BR. JOSEPH AN SU-UN** who was called to the Father's House on September 11th, 2023.

Br. Joseph An was 74 years of age and had lived as a Marist Brother for 45 years.

May the Lord receive him in his arms. We believe that Mary, our Good Mother, and St. Marcellin has already received him in heaven.

The funeral Mass and the interment will take place in the Ansan Gamgol Parish, Diocese of Suwon at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Sept. 14, 2023

Seoul, Korea, September 12, 2023



Photo News

September 7:

Br. Nino begins his new ministry year at General House as Assistant Director of the Secretariat of Education and Evangelization



September 2:

Visited Mr. Michael Lim, affiliated member of China Sector at Permatang Tinggi, Simpang Ampat, Penang, Malaysia. He is 104 years old.



September 7:

Br. Lindley starts his new ministry year at General House as Assistant Director of the Secretariat of Brothers Today



September 7:

Br. Romar Dave welcomed by the Seoul Community in Korea as their new community member.



September 8:
NDDU-IBED retired administrators and teachers visited Saint Joseph Community



Sept 15:

Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia-SJIS Monthly Mass at St. Peter's Church Padungan. First time to use the Church again after the lockdown.



Marist School personnel participated in a cosmic walk to celebrate the universe's 13.8 billion journey. The event was held on September 15, 2023, as part of the school's observance of the Season of Creation.



Celebration of the Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary

September 8, 2023



Notre Dame of Kidapawan College



Fourviere Community



General Administration in Rome, Italy



Notre Dame of Dadiangas University



The brothers and priests during the celebration at NDDU covered court.

KHIM and LIZ, MARIST VOLUNTEERS

Inspiring Hearts, Igniting Hope Globally

Two Cultural Pilgrims of Hope Inspire with Resilience and Compassion on Their Transformative Journey



MARIST VOLUNTEERS
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Transforming Lives, Empowering Communities
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Liz

Khim

In a world often overshadowed by uncertainties and challenges, there are stories that shine as beacons of hope. Let us delve into the extraordinary journey of two ordinary individuals with extraordinary hearts, Khim and Liz, who, as Marist Volunteers, have embarked on a transformative journey. They have resonated with countless hearts and left indelible mark on the lives of thousands, emerging as a wellspring of inspiration and positive influence. They draw ever closer to the remarkable milestone of reaching nearly 5000 individuals through their compelling stories shared on Facebook.

A Journey of Purpose and Passion

Khim and Liz's story is not just one of volunteerism; it's a testament to the incredible power of the human spirit. These two cultural pilgrims of hope embarked on their journey with the Marist Volunteers, guided by the enduring charism of Saint Marcellin Champagnat and a shared purpose: to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those less fortunate.

Liz's Radiant Path: From Cape Town to Cambodia, Now Embracing Malawi

Liz's adventure led her to the vibrant community of Cape Town, South Africa. In this unfamiliar landscape, she uncovered the profound potential of empathy, forgiveness, and understanding through heartfelt conversations and shared meals with her LaValla200> intercultural community. But it was her work with children with disabilities that truly touched her soul. Liz discovered that her presence brought boundless joy to these children, reminding us all that even in the face of adversity, we can discover our greatest joys.

As fate would have it, the closure of that particular mission led Liz to the Marist Education Center in Pailin, Cambodia, where her unwavering dedication continued to shine.

Now, as a testament to her invaluable contributions and the pressing needs of a newly established mission, Liz is preparing to embark on a new chapter in Malawi, Africa. Her transfer is scheduled for December 2023, marking yet another significant step in her remarkable journey of service and selflessness.

Khim's Compassion Shines in Sydney

Khim's journey unfolded in the heart of Mt. Druitt, Sydney, where she transitioned from elementary education to supporting high school students at Marist Learning Zone. This ministry of her LaValla200> community reignites the spark of learning in students who've strayed from the traditional path. Khim's dedication and compassion shine as she guides these young learners, offering a compassionate ear for their life stories. Her journey is a testament to the power of patience and understanding in the face of challenges.

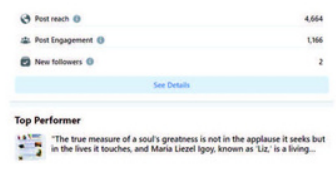
Inspiration Beyond Borders

What makes Khim and Liz's journey truly exceptional is the way they have shared it with the world. Their story has touched the lives of nearly 5000 individuals through the compelling stories they've generously shared on Facebook, all the while continuing to ignite inspiration in countless others with its message of hope, resilience, and their unwavering commitment to making the world a better place.

A Call to Action

Khim and Liz's story is a reminder that each of us holds the power to make a difference. As Picasso once said, "The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away." These volunteers have selflessly shared their gifts, illuminating a path for others and contributing to a world filled with boundless compassion and radiance. Their journey invites us all to discover our gifts and find our own unique ways to give back to our communities and the world.


As we acknowledge Khim and Liz's incredible journey, a perpetual source of inspiration that continues to infuse hope, touch hearts, and forge enduring imprints in the lives of others, let us unite in recognizing the profound influence of service. Together, we can embrace the power of service and together, we can illuminate the path to a brighter, more compassionate world.



Facebook Post Reach is a metric that represents the number of unique users who have seen your post in their Facebook feed or on your Facebook Page. It measures the potential size of your audience, indicating how many individual users your post has reached. Understanding post reach is crucial for assessing the effectiveness of your content and your ability to connect with your target audience on the platform.

SPECIAL EVENT IN THE LIFE OF THE BROTHER


JUBILEE CELEBRATION
of
BR. JOSEPH YOSHIDA, FMS


MARIST BROTHERS OF THE SCHOOLS
EAST ASIA PROVINCE

*60th Anniversary of being a
Marist Brother and
to have his Renewal of Vows*

17 September 2023 (Sunday)
at 8:30 a.m
Mass in: Japanese

Venue: Marist Brothers Convent,
Kobe, Japan



Invitation

 Be part of CHAMPAGNAT GLOBAL WEEK! 

#MaristasDeChampagnat, get ready for the global experience of the year!

From 16th to 20th October, CHAMPAGNAT GLOBAL WEEK brings you a week full of interaction and unmissable activities...

Registration - <https://champagnat.global/en/participation-and-registration/>

DOWNLOAD the Champagnat Global Week brochure with all the information...

CHAMPAGNAT
GLOBAL
 WEEK 2023

<https://champagnat.global/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/EN-FOLLETO-CHAMPAGNAT-GLOBAL-WEEK23.pdf>



Invitation



Fund Raising and Project Management Online Workshop organized by ROME-FMSI for Asia

Dear Brothers and Lay Marists of East Asia, Good day!

I am happy to inform you that ROME-FMSI is organizing a "Fund Raising and Project Management Online Workshop" for brothers and lay Marists of Asia. It will be on the following dates and times:

1. November 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2023 - for 2 hours.
2. Time:
from 3 pm to 5 pm for the Philippine and China Sectors time,
from 4 pm to 6 pm for Korea-Japan Sector time

I would like to encourage the active participation of Brothers and Lay in this online workshop, which will enhance our skills in writing project proposals and fundraising.

It will be a very good opportunity for us to be trained and to contribute to our Marist life and mission.

You may forward your Name, Email Address, and Country to Gelyn at gelyns@yahoo.com

Thank you very much!

Fraternally yours,

Br. Allan J de Castro, FMS
Provincial

Registration link: <https://forms.gle/yuAbhRmvHVJ2U4cu5>



Birthday Celebration

of Br. John Chin in Hong Kong Community on September 13.



Glimpses of the Past

LAGAO PROVINCIAL HOUSE COMMUNITY

(This is a reprint from the AMIHAN, Volume 18, No. 5, September-October 1997 issue. AMIHAN was the Philippine Province newsletter. This article was written by the late Br. Gilbert Bogacia, fms)

Greetings from the "Nerve Center" of the Province!

Since I arrived from Marikina, I have been continuously adjusting to the new environment, one that I experienced as more relaxing but, at the same time, demanding. It is relaxing in so far as the quiet, less polluted environment is concerned. It is away from the hustle and bustle of the Metro Dadiangas and only a minute's walk from the parish church. It is demanding because of the variety of office work, totally unlike the business office of a school I was accustomed to, where I have more specific helpers to do the job. Here in the Province business office, I don't have the luxury of experts' advice. I have to switch from one type of job to another depending on my capacity to think and the demands of the time. Nonetheless, I am challenged to cope with the situation, most especially after Romy left for his New Zealand course. This difficult job is very much lightened, however, by the presence of Bebs Bacalando, whose expertise is very much in demand. She is the source of answers to all the problems I have encountered in the past, and will continue to depend on her in the future. So far, the situation is very much under control.

The Province House community includes five Brothers, two houseboys, a cook, and a lavandera. Also included in our extended family are the two regular office employees and the two student aides. The Brothers are Ted, the Provincial, as well as the House Superior. Romy, his secretary, and George, the recruiter who is constantly on the go. Pop, the retired member of the community, and Gilbert, the newcomer. All are non-earners but are good spenders. Most often, Gilbert is the only one left to hold the fort, which he doesn't mind at all. Pops and George often just come in and go without notice. Pops, when he wants to renew his community life or that of his family, and George, when he needs replenishment of his purse. Since they do not have jobs in the office, they follow their own specific schedules and hidden agenda. Working in the "Nerve Center" of the Province gave me a wider horizon and perspective. News from around the Marist World, both good and bad, filters through the office. Thanks to the hi-tech communication in the form of e-mails and faxes, I can easily learn what is going on in any part of the planet. Ted and Romy had been using these modern modes of communication. Often, in his many stopovers in various places he visited, Ted had sent messages either by e-mail or fax for his news and updates to the office. Romy is doing the same thing now while following his course in Wellington, New Zealand. Ted phoned the news about the death of the younger sister of the late Bro—Leonard from Toronto, Canada. The whole proceedings of the Conference of Provincials in Rome, including their sightseeing trips, were relayed to the office via e-mails. And Romy's request from Wellington, New Zealand, for articles he needs for the course came also by fax. These sighted incidents prove the versatility of these wonderful inventions. Besides, they are faster and cheaper than regular telephone calls! As per the schedules of Brothers Ted Fernandez and Romy Porras, the former will be arriving here on the 14 of November, while the latter, on the 25th of the same month. Ted intends to pass by Korea before touching down at GenSan airport. Romy and Wency may visit Adelaide to see Columbanus. Meanwhile, Gilbert will continue to run the office as much as possible, doing the necessary work for the Province. Brother John Tan, the Province Econome, will be happy to entertain all financial questions. Please direct your communication to his office at NDKC, Kidapawan, Cotabato.

-by Br. Gilbert Bogacia, fms

P.S. Br. Gilbert Bogacia, the author of the article, died on July 14, 2022, at the General Santos Doctors Hospital. He was 87. He wrote the article 26 years ago when he was 61 years old. Br. Romy, on the other hand, moved to Tamontaka Novitiate the following year, where he stayed there for the next six years. Bebs Bacalando was the predecessor of Gelyn Simtim-Ninofranco.

The Philippine Province Provincial House is now occupied by the Pre-Novitiate Community, where Br. Danny Sevilla, the Provincial Econome resides. The Provincial is now residing at St. Joseph Community.



Provincial's Schedule

September 13 to Sept. 30, 2023

September 13-20:

Provincial Council Meeting no. 11 in Kobe, Japan, and Jubilee celebration of the of Br. Joseph Yoshida, FMS

September 21-22:

Community Visit to Fourviere and Marcellin Home, Katangawan

September 23-25:

To accompany Br. James Mc Knight, FMS, in visiting the schools and communities

September 26:

Exist Conference with the Valdez & Abad Accounting Firm in Davao City

September 28-30:

Community Visit to Cotabato and Tamontaka



September 16:
Br. Jay Jay E. Escudro

September 17:
Br. Romulo L. Porras
Ms. Christine Stokes
(Affiliate member)

September 21:
Br. Fred A. Salubre

September 22:
Br. Danilo M. Sevilla

September 23:
Br. Paterno S. Corpus

September 26:
Ms. Thelma Almonicar
(Affiliate member)

Prayer Intentions:

- For the eternal repose of the soul of BR. JOSEPH AN SU-UN, FMS.
- For the Church throughout the world and for the needs of our local Church.
- For the children and youth at risk, they may find more generous people to help address their needs.
- For the health and well-being of our elderly and sick brothers, Marist laity, and friends.
- For healing of families broken by relationship crisis.
- For our birthday celebrants, God's choicest blessings be their inspiration in living life to the fullest.