

# **Year of the Clergy and Consecrated Persons**

## PRAYER FOR THE 2018 YEAR OF THE CLERGY AND CONSECRATED PERSONS

O God Most Loving Father,
with your priests and those who consecrated their lives
to you,may we be fully and ever united to Christ.
May they be our constant guides in this oneness
with you through prayer,
the Eucharist and personal conversion.

We have sinned and we have failed in so many ways.

There are many brothers and sisters
in our midst who continue to suffer.

They hunger for truth and justice, for charity
and solidarity.

We pray that we may become bearers of the Gospel that transforms lives as we reach out to our suffering brethren.

We pray that the Gospel may urge us to action, to witness to charity and compassionate service.

Together may we all be renewed and learn how to be Servant-Leaders for the Gospel of Christ.

Like him who rose from the table to wash the disciples' feet,may we too rise up to the challenge to take care of the poor and the weak, to be always approachable rather than untouchable, and "to imbibe the odor of the sheep."

May our young people who are discerning the gentle callof the Lord to serve, be filled with courage and determination to follow you in service with humility and love.

With Mary, Star of the New Evangelization, may we continue to be instruments of the Gospel in our country and in the world.

Amen.



The Official Logo for the 2018 Year of the Clergy and Consecrated Persons

THE logo is a stylized illustration of Jesus' act of washing the feet of the disciples. It is also the same challenge being given to those who committed themselves to priestly and consecrated lives (thus the figures are not bound by any gender—it can be seen either as male or female) to God and the Church.

In these contemporary times where people are looking for role models and authentic witnesses to Christianity because of inconsistencies to living virtuous lives (e.g. scandals and other forms of pain brought to the faithful) the clergy and consecrated persons are asked not to put themselves on pedestals and positions of authority but to be examples of humble service to others and witnessing to the life of Jesus with credibility and integrity.

Embracing this life, even in their weaknesses, imperfections and sinfulness, their renewal as "men and women of the cloth" can be a focal point for a new evangelization (symbolized by the bright light blue field background) in the Philippines—a renewed clergy / consecrated persons, (yes, even in their unworthiness) gives real witness to the mercy and love of God for His people.

Thus, the act of washing each other's feet does not only become an act of those who consecrated themselves to Jesus, but becomes an act that challenges everyone to live lives in real communion with each other!



# Fr. Alvarez and 3 others to be Granted Full Professorship by the University of San Agustin

In recognition of their excellent dedication, hard work, and commitment to the vocation of teaching and passion for research, four honorees will be granted the status of full professors at the University of San Agustin on a Conferment Ceremony on March 9, 2018 (9 AM) at the USA Auditorium. With four honorees in one ceremony, this milestone ushers a happy celebration of the University's 65th anniversary as an institution of higher learning. The USA was granted University status on March 1, 1953. The honorees are Fr. Czar Emmanuel V. Alvarez, OSA, Dr. Doralyn S. Dalisay, Dr. Jonel P. Saludes and Dr. Ma. Cecilia D. Alimen (a former guest professor at the Saint Thomas of Villanova Institute in SACS, Quezon City).

Congratulations!!!

#### Vulnerasti 2019

Preparations are under way for the 4th edition of Vulnerasti. Published annually by the Commission on Liturgy in cooperation with the Mass Media and Social Communications Office of the Province, next year's edition will feature gospel reflections written by:

- 1. Fr. Eusebio B. Berdon, OSA
- 2. Fr. Anthony P. Acupan, OSA
  (a friar from the Vicariate of the Orient)
- Fr. Norberto Dominic S. Don III, OSA
- 4. Fr. Oswald F. Duran, OSA
- 5. Fr. Rodel D. Magin, OSA
- 6. Sr. Ma. Luz F. Mijares, OSA
- 7. Sr. Joan Brigida S. Infante, OSA







On this site will soon rise The Roman Catholic Parish Church of Guipos, Zamboanga del Sur

#### **Updates from Guipos, Zamboanga del Sur**

Responding to the invitation of the Most Rev. Emmanuel T. Cabajar, CSsR, Bishop of Pagadian, two friars of the Province, Frs. Vicente F. Amplayo, OSA and Mark Anthony C. Tampos, OSA were sent to Guipos town in Zamboanga del Sur last July 1, 2017 to start their exposure in the area. While temporarily staying at a convent at the back of San Isidro Labrador Chapel in Barangay Poblacion, Guipos, the two friars are also preparing for the construction of the future parish church, convent and parish office in another lot donated to the diocese. This coming June 27, 2018, Bishop Cabajar will officially erect the Parish of Our Mother of Perpetual Help in Guipos. This Marian title is dear both to the Augustinians and the Redemptorists to which Bishop Cabajar belongs. The Augustinians were the former custodians of the icon of Our Mother of Perpetual Help before Blessed Pope Pius IX gave it to the Redemptorists in 1866.

#### NSdG Parish's Dinner for a Cause

Parishioners and benefactors of Nuestra Señora de Gracia Parish gathered at the inner garden of the Monasterio de Guadalupe in Guadalupe Viejo, Makati City on the evening of February 10, 2018 for NSdG's Pre – Valentine Dinner for a Cause. Proceeds of the said project will be used for the renovation of the NSdG Formation Center at the side of the centuries-old Guadalupe Viejo church. Invited guest performers included pop singer Iñigo Pascual who is an NSdG parishioner, harpist Holly Angel Paraiso, Butch Montejo, Bench Bautista, The Attitudes and Gerard Co, a former seminarian of the Province.





PHOTO CREDIT: Fr. Harold Rentoria, OSA

# The Augustinians in EDSA People Power's 32nd Anniversary

Fr. Harold Ll. Rentoria, OSA, presided at the early morning celebration of the Holy Mass held at the People Power Monument in Quezon City last February 25, 2018. The said Mass was part of the commemoration of the 32nd Anniversary of the EDSA People Power Revolution. With Fr. Rentoria were some simply professed friars, seminarians from the Saint Thomas of Villanova Hall and San Agustin Seminary who lead the congregation in singing during the Mass. Fr. Rentoria also led the invocation along with another religious leader during the opening rites of the program.



Photo by: Fr. Donato Ellezar, OSA

#### **Bell Tower in Burgos Undergoes Retrofitting**

The bell tower of Santa Ana Parish Church in Burgos, Surigao del Norte is currently undergoing a retrofitting. Generous parishioners and benefactors contributed for the said project.

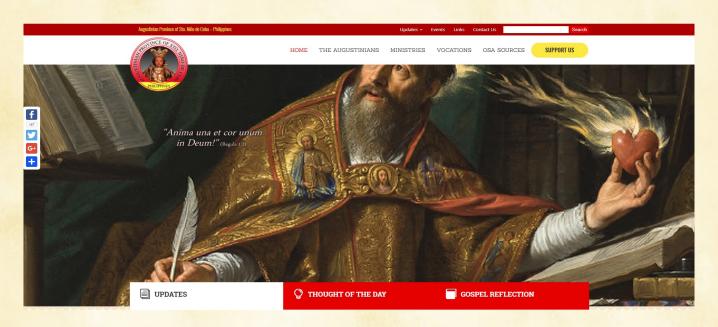




The new papal nuncio to the Philippines, Mons. Gabrielle Giordano Caccia, DD, holding an image of the Holy Child during the traditional religious Sinulog after the Vesperas Mass on January 20, 2018 at the pilgrim center.

### Papal Nuncio joined the Fiesta Señor 2018 celebrations

Papal Nuncio to the Philippines, Archbishop Gabriele Giordano Caccia, DD joined this year's Fiesta Señor celebrations at the Basilica del Santo Niño in Cebu City not once but twice. Prior to concelebrating with Archbishop John F. Du, DD of Palo the Vesperas Mass last January 20, 2018, the papal nuncio visited first the chapel that houses the centuries old image of Señor Santo Niño de Cebu. After the Mass, the nuncio gamely joined the traditional religious Sinulog while holding high an image of the Santo Niño. On the fiesta day itself, the papal nuncio presided at the 5:30 PM Mass at the pilgrim center.



**New Website of the Province** 

The Mass Media and Social Communications Office has recently launched a new website of the Province: www.augustiniansphilippines.com.

We invite all friars and friends of the Province to visit the website in order to see the latest news and events in the life of the Province. Fr. Genesis P. Labana, OSA is the web master.

### **UPDATES ON KETAPANG**











Fr. Victor F. Gonzaga, OSA, the Province's lone missionary to Ketapang in Indonesia, sent the pictures above which shows the on-going construction of the friars' residence there. The residence will be blessed by Bishop Pius Riana Prapdi, Local Ordinary of Ketapang on May 8, 2018. Some members of the Provincial Council (Fathers Mirador, Zerda and Paderog) together with the Prior Provincial, Fr. Andres D. Rivera, Jr., OSA will grace the said event. Mother Elizabeth D. Montuya, OSA, Prioress of the Augustinian Monastery of Santo Niño in Talisay City also intends to join the friars in going to Indonesia because her monastery is planning to expand their presence abroad.



### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### From the Commission on Community Life and Ongoing Formation

All junior friars who have reached 6 – 10 years in their priestly ministry, are cordially invited to attend the ongoing formation program organized by the Tagbadbad Foundation. The formation program deals on the theological, psychological and spiritual dimensions of the priestly and consecrated life scheduled on May 21 – June 3 at the Cornerstone Center, Barangay Guinhawa South, Tagaytay City.

#### From the Commission on Mission

- 1. Annual Gathering of Friars in Local Mission for Evaluation, Group Support and Bonding
- 2. Visitation of Local Mission Area of Burgos
- 3. Commission on Mission Meeting

#### SCHEDULE:

April 2 Arrival of Participants

April 3 Morning: Visitation of Sta. Ana Parish, Burgos, Siargao Is.

Afternoon: Meeting of the Commission with OSA Local Missionaries

April 4 Morning: Conference and Sharing (Guest: Bishop Arturo Bastes, DD)

Evening: Bonding

April 5 Morning: Closing Mass

Afternoon Home Sweet Home

#### From the Commission on Augustinian History and Cultural Heritage

The Commission is organizing a Heritage Seminar-Workshop to be held in Ilocos Norte on April 10-13, 2018. The activity is in line with the Province's Quadrennial Program key priorities 1- Cultural Education, 2- Policies and Guidelines on the Conservation of Cultural Heritage, and 3- Augustinian Heritage Research and Publication. The Commission in partnership with the National Commission for Culture and the Arts is inviting heritage experts to help us attain the objectives of the activity.



### **Anniversaries of Friars**

Ordination to the Presbyterate



Fr. Rodolfo A. Bugna, OSA April 26, 2018



Fr. Richard L. Pido, OSA November 25, 2018



Fr. Edgar A. Polotan, OSA April 26, 2018



Fr. Armando M. Dayao, OSA November 29, 2018

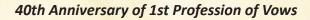


Fr. Agustin S. Ty, OSA December 20, 2018

**50th Anniversary** 



Fr. Medardo A. Durmiendo, OSA July 21,2018





Fr. Bernardo B. Coleco, OSA June 05, 2018



Fr. Benj<mark>amin B. Gamos, OSA</mark> June 05, 2018



Fr. Alfredo B. Jubac, OSA June 05, 2018



Fr. Melchor L. Mirador, OSA June 05, 2018

**50th Anniversary of 1st Profession of Vows** 

25th Anniversary of First Profession of Vows



Fr. Edgardo A. Lazo, OSA July 2, 2018



Fr. Noli Deto<mark>yato,OSA</mark> May 30, <mark>2018</mark>





### FR. EFREN BUEZA NAÑO

Fr. Efren B. Naño, a priest of the Diocese of Tyler (Texas, USA) and a former friar of the Province died last February 23, 2018 at the age of 60.

Fr. Efren served as Provincial Secretary from 1992 - 1994 during the term of the late Fr. Bernardino R. Ricafrente. Rest in God's peace Fr. Efren!

Born: October 8, 1957

Birthplace: Bato, Camarines Sur First Profession: June 1, 1983

Solemn Profession: January 1, 1987

Presbyteral Ordination: September 30, 1987

#### Assignments:

May 1987: Member – Colegio San Agustin-Biñan, Laguna

May 1988: Assistant Parish Priest – St. Jerome Emiliani Parish (now Mother of Good Counsel Par-

ish), Chrysanthemum Village, San Pedro, Laguna

June 1989: Treasurer – Colegio del Santo Niño; Basilica del Santo Niño Community

May 1990: Treasurer – University of San Agustin Community

April 1992: Provincial Secretary, Treasurer – Colegio del Santo Niño, Treasurer

**Provincialate Community** 

June 1994: Approved for mission work for a period of 2 years

(renewable per the approval of the Provincial Council) in Aruba, the Dutch Netherlands.

1998: Applied for exclaustration 2000: Transferred to Texas, USA.

2005-2016: Diocese of Tyler (St. Peter the Apostle Parish, Mineola, Texas)

- Published work: Celebrating the Sacraments
- Chairman Editorial Board of the Souvenir Book (10 years) of the Province Editorial Board of the Augustinian Newsletter of the Province (1992-1994)

\*gathered from the Provincial Archives by Ms. Judith Fe M. Pilongo

#### Necrology

Mr. Beate G. Alabat

+February 17, 2018

(Affiliated to the Order on April 16, 2012 through the recommendation of Socorro Community)



# 9TH INTERMEDIATE PROVINCIAL CHAPTER



The Chapter Delegates posed for posterity after the morning Mass on the 4th day of the Intermediate Provincial Chapter.



Fr. Napoleon B. Sipalay, Jr., OP, the current Prior Provincial of the Dominican Province of the Philippines gave a half-day recollection to the chapter delegates which gave the friars the needed spiritual preparation for the celebration of the 9th Intermediate Provincial Chapter.

Some chapter delegates deliberating their assigned provincial policy during the working group discussion.



#### 9th Intermediate Provincial Chapter celebrated

Two years after the 9th Ordinary Provincial (May 2 – 6, 2016), the Augustinian friars of the Province of Santo Niño de Cebu – Philippines gathered again last February 19 – 23, 2018 at the Santo Niño Spirituality Center in Consolacion, Cebu for the 9th Intermediate Provincial Chapter. An Intermediate Provincial Chapter aims to evaluate the execution of the programs promulgated in the Ordinary Provincial Chapter and to seek better means of implementing them.

A total of 43 Augustinian friars were present as delegates of the chapter, composed of the immediate past and present Prior Provincial, Members of the Provincial Council, Priors/Superiors of Communities and Residences, Chairmen of the Provincial Commissions, Masters of Formation, School Heads, Parish Priests, basilica rector and retreat house director. Fr. Paulus W. Ulipi, OSA, represented the Vicariate of West Papua and Fr. Anthony N. Banks, OSA, Assistant General of the Order for Asia Pacific was delegated by the Prior General as the President of the Chapter.

On the morning before the official start of the chapter, Fr. Napoleon B. Sipalay, Jr., OP, Prior Provincial of the Dominican Province of the Philippines facilitated a half-day recollection for the delegates. Fr. Sipalay shared his thoughts on the theme: "Renewal of Community Life for the New Evangelization".

The chapter officially started in the afternoon of February 19, 2018 with the Prior Provincial and the Chapter President respectively giving their opening addresses to the chapter delegates. It was followed by the reporting of all 13 Commission Chairmen. Fr. Vicente F. Amplayo, OSA gave a report for Guipos and Fr. Ulipi presented the report for the Vicariate of West Papua. The 6 working groups formed based on the apostolate and competence of each friar-delegate also met to discuss the assigned provincial policy or manual to each group and then later the secretary or chair of each group reported their deliberations to the plenum. On the morning of the last day of the chapter, the friars voted on a total of 26 proposals. Fr. Mabanta then read to the body the Acts of the Chapter. Just before noon, the closing Mass was celebrated with the Prior Provincial delivering the homily. The 9th IPC closed with the friar-delegates signing the Acts of the Chapter.



#### 12th Huniño (Huni halad alang kang Santo Niño) Songwriting Competition

The Basilica del Santo Niño in coordination with the Santo Niño Children's Welfare Foundation, Inc. is now open to accept song entries for the 12th HUNIÑO (Huni halad alang kang Santo Niño). This year's songwriting competition's performance night is scheduled on April 25, 2018, Wednesday, 7:00 PM at the Santo Niño Pilgrim Center, Cebu City. Moreover, on its twelfth year, the organizers will accept liturgical song entries for the:

- a. Entrance Song Category
- b. Communion Song Category
- c. Final Song Category

Interested songwriters may submit one entry in each of the three categories. A Seminar on Liturgical Music was held last February 10, 2018 at the sala of the Convento del Santo Niño to guide the composers and songwriters in making their composition.

Entry forms are available at the Rector's Office of the Basilica del Santo Niño. The final date of submission is on March 14, 2018, Wednesday until 7:00 P.M. Contact number is (032)255-6697 to 99.

