



Cor Inquietum

The Official Newsletter of the Augustinian Province of Santo Niño de Cebu – Philippines

OCTOBER 2019 ISSUE



International Conference on the 450th Anniversary of the Christianization, Hispanization and Urbanization of Luzon

The Partido State University, the City of Naga, the National Commission for Culture and the Arts in partnership with the Augustinian Province of Santo Niño de Cebu – Philippines successfully staged the International Conference on the 450th Anniversary of the Christianization, Hispanization and Urbanization of Luzon last September 30 to October 2, 2019 at the Convention Center of Avenue Plaza Hotel in Naga City, Camarines Sur. The said conference featured lectures delivered by eminent local and foreign historians. The Province's history scholar, Fr. Ericson M. Borre, OSA was delivered a talk about the life of Fray Alonso Jimenez, OSA, the First Apostle of Bicol. The conference, aside from tracing the history of Christianity in Luzon, also highlighted the missionary endeavors of the early Augustinian missionaries in what is now the Bicol region. Numerous history students and enthusiasts, Bicolano clergy, religious sisters and brothers and members of the academe joined the said conference. The following were the talks were delivered during the three-day conference:

1. Understanding the Late Spanish Period in Philippine History: A Personal Journey by **Dr. Reynaldo C. Iletto, PhD**
2. Paleography, Transmission and Translation: A Review of the Sources, and Aids in doing Research on the Spanish Colonial Period by **Dr. Francis M. Navarro, PhD**
3. History, Propaganda and Glory in the Early Dominican Chronicles of the Philippines by **Dr. Jorge R. Mojarro, PhD**
4. Pre-Hispanic Philippines focused on Bicol by **Dr. Eusebio Z. Dizon, PhD**
5. Idolatria y Hechicaria: Witchcraft and the Spirit of Resistance in the Early Colonial Philippines (1569 – 1700) by **Dr. Danilo M. Gerona, PhD**

6. Disarming the Catalonas of Zambales during the 17th Century by **Dr. Ma. Luisa T. Camagay, PhD**
7. Fray Alonso Jimenez: The 1st Apostle of Bicol by **Fr. Ericson M. Borre, OSA, MA**
8. The Christianization of Luzon: The Augustinian Recollect Experience (1606 – 1806) by **Fr. Emilio Edgardo A. Quilatan, OAR, HED**
9. Proto-Nationalism among Filipino Jesuits: A Preliminary Account by **Fr. Antonio B. de Castro, SJ, STL, HED**
10. Architectural Structures in Luzon from the Spanish Era by **Dr. Javier G. Galvan, PhD**
11. History of Scientific, Oceanographical and Botanical Inquiries during the Spanish Colonization of Luzon: Precursor of Research Utilization supporting Urbanization and Antecedent of Resource Conservation by **Dr. Raul G. Bradecina, PhD**

After the plenary sessions, simultaneous panel lectures were given by junior researchers from different universities in the Bicol region.

Aside from Fr. Borre, around 9 other friars from the Province joined the said conference led by Fr. Harold Ll. Rentoria, OSA, NCCA Commissioner and Fr. Aladdin P. Luzon, OSA, Chair of the Santo Niño at 500 Committee.



FRAY ERICSON M. BORRE, OSA



FRAY ALONZO JIMENEZ: THE FIRST APOSTLE OF BICOL

The period between about 1500 and 1750 brought dramatic changes in world history, one of which was the spread of Christianity around the world. Triggered by the energy unleashed by the Reformation and the Counter - Reformation, Religious Orders launched aggressive programs of evangelization to territories newly acquired as a consequence the vibrant Age of Exploration. It was thus the confluence of both the religious and technological developments that the vibrant age of Catholic conversion rose as missionaries followed the path blazed by European conquerors, traders, and colonists.

Accompanied by the first batch of Augustinians, the Legazpi expedition arrived in the Philippines in 1565 which was immediately followed by the arrival of more missionaries in succeeding years. Apart from the laurels earned from their evangelical work, the missionaries made distinctions in the areas of historiography, linguistics, art, literature, pedagogy, theology, engineering, architecture, botany, and medicine.

One of the Augustinians who pioneered in the preaching of the Catholic faith in the Philippines was Fray Alonso Jimenez - known as the first apostle of Masbate, Burias Islands, Leyte, Samar, Albay, Camarines and Sorsogon.

A native of Malaga, Fray Alonso joined the Augustinian province of Castile and was sent to Nueva España where he professed his vows on August 21, 1558. In 1569, this indefatigable friar volunteered for the second batch of Augustinian mission to the Philippines where he was sent him to evangelize the southern part of Luzon. Appointed prior of the Convent of Cebu in 1575, Jimenez spent the rest of his life in this mission until he died on August 2, 1577. Fray Alonso earned distinction of being the first polyglot of the islands and one of his outstanding accomplishments was the composition of the first Catechism in the Bicol language.

A history professor of San Agustin Major Seminary in Quezon City and a friar - member of the Augustinian Province of the Sto. Niño de Cebu - Philippines, Fray Ericson Borre, OSA, earned his Masters in Religious Studies from San Sebastian College -Manila, and History at the Universidad de Valladolid in Spain in 2015. Currently assigned at the Real Colegio de los Padres Agustinos in Valladolid where he is completing his doctoral studies in European History at the Universidad de Valladolid, Fray Borre specializes on the Spanish-Philippine relation during the American colonial period in the Philippines. He is also a member - correspondent of the Augustinian Historical Institute based in Rome.



The Augustinian Friars at the International Conference on the 450th Anniversary of the Christianization, Hispanization and Urbanization of Luzon (Naga City, Camarines Sur).



Commemoration of the 450th Anniversary of the First Mass in Luzon

The Province joined the commemorative celebrations of the 450th Anniversary of the First Mass in Luzon. The celebrations were held at the newly-built galleon shaped shrine in Sitio Gibalon, Barangay Siuton in the town of Magallanes, Sorsogon on the morning of October 19, 2019. On the said site, the Augustinian friar and priest, Fray Alonso Jimenez, OSA celebrated the first ever Holy Mass in the island of Luzon in 1569 thus commencing the Christianization, Hispanization and urbanization of the largest island in the Philippines.

Archbishop Gabriele Giordano Caccia, Apostolic Nuncio to the Philippines, presided at the Holy Mass concelebrated by Sorsogon Bishop Arturo M. Bastes and other Bicolano clergy. Fr. Aladdin P. Luzon, OSA, represented the Prior Provincial during the said event. The friars from the Saint Augustine Parish Community led by their Prior, Fr. Wilboy D. Bracamonte, OSA also concelebrated during the Mass. Other government officials and civil leaders were also present as well as the Spanish Ambassador to the Philippines, HE Jorge Moragas Sanchez. Furthermore, the Pilgrim Image of Señor Santo Niño de Cebu also graced the commemorative celebrations. The image went on a pilgrimage around the Diocese of Sorsogon visiting several parishes including the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Sorsogon City and the Saint Augustine Parish in Gubat.



The Augustinians with Sorsogon Bishop-elect Jose Alan V. Dialogo (center).



Our gratitude to the Provincial Government of Sorsogon and also to the Diocese of Sorsogon for this Plaque given to the AUGUSTINIANS on the occasion of the 450th Anniversary of the First Mass in Luzon (Beginning of Christianity in Luzon) given last October 19, 2019 in Sitio Gibalon, Barangay Siuton, Magallanes, Sorsogon.

AUGUSTIKNOW

There are four Sorsogueño Augustinian friars (Province of Santo Niño de Cebu – Philippines): Fr. Manuel M. Vergara, OSA, Fr. Raul M. Marchan, OSA, Fr. Arlon M. Vergara, OSA and Fr. Patrick Paul M. de Castro, OSA. Many other friars are from the other provinces in the Bicol region. These friars are the living legacy of Fray Jimenez' apostolic zeal.

Friars' New Assignments

- Fr. Peter S. Cantones, OSA** Member of the Augustinian Novitiate and Prayer House Community
(effective October 1, 2019)
- Fr. Benjamin B. Gamos, OSA** Member of San Agustin Center of Studies Community
(effective October 1, 2019)
- Fr. Williener Jack E. Luna, OSA** Member of Monasterio de Guadalupe Community
(effective November 1, 2019)



Third Batch of Annual Retreat 2019 with Pagadian Bishop Ronald I. Lunas as Facilitator (October 7 to 11, 2019 at the Santo Niño Spirituality Center, Consolacion, Cebu)



Annual Retreat of the Province's Simply Professed Friars with Fr. Joel L. Beronque, OSA as Retreat Master (Burgos, Ilocos Norte last October 21 to 25, 2019).



Program Evaluation. For two days (October 14 to 15, 2019) 33 friars gathered at the Santo Niño Spirituality Center in Consolacion, Cebu. Together they evaluated the programs of the Province's 13 Commissions and drafted a new, albeit raw, quadrennial program for the next term 2020 – 2024. The said activity was attended by the Prior Provincial, Provincial Council, Chairmen of the 13 Provincial Commissions and some Commission Members.



FEAST OF SAINT THOMAS OF VILLANOVA. Fr. Ericson M. Borre, OSA delivered the homily during the Mass for the Feast of Saint Thomas of Villanova. Fr. Edgardo L. Lazo, OSA was the presider (STVI Oratory, October 10, 2019).

AUGUSTIKNOW

The Three Feasts of Saint Thomas of Villanova (by + Fr. John E. Rotelle, OSA)

- 1) **22 September** — we must remember the reform of the liturgical calendar after the Council of Trent. There were octaves for major feasts. So, Saint Thomas died on 8 September — that day is the Birth of Mary. An octave followed — thus 15 September. On 14 September the Triumph of the Cross is celebrated. It too had an octave — thus 21 September. So the next open day for the feast of Saint Thomas was 22 September. *In most towns and parishes in the PHL, the feast of Saint Thomas is still celebrated every September 22.*
- 2) In 1968, when the calendar was revised, the date **25 November**, the day on which Thomas professed vows, was selected as his feast day. One has to keep in mind that the Order wanted to emphasize Thomas as pastor but also as educator. Thus the 22 September feast was transferred to 25 November because many of our educational institutions begin the school year in October or November. However, 25 November did not work for a variety of reasons. In the United States, for example, this feast always fell on or near the Thanksgiving weekend. Hence there was not a worthy celebration of this important saint.
- 3) Since Spain, South America, and the Augustinian Recollects celebrated a people's feast of Saint Thomas of Villanova on **10 October**, it was suggested and agreed that we should link ourselves to that already known feast day. *Thus, in 1998 when the liturgical calendar of the Order was again revised, the feast of Saint Thomas was transferred to this date.* In addition, it hopefully comes at a time appropriate for schools.

Since 10 October was the Commemoration of the Deceased Benefactors of the Order, this commemoration was moved to 13 October.

*Words in Italics were added by the Cor Inquietum Team.



AUGUSTIKNOW

Santa Magdalena de Nagasaki was canonized together with San Lorenzo de Manila and their other Companion Martyrs on October 18, 1987. The Universal Church observes their feast day every September 28. The Augustinian Family, on the other hand, keeps her memorial every October 20.



October is the Month of the Holy Rosary

The Augustinian friars are the caretakers of the image of Our Lady of the Rosary of Iloilo. The miraculous image is enthroned at a side retablo inside San Jose Parish in Iloilo City.



ORDER OF SAINT AUGUSTINE
Province of Santo Niño de Cebu – Philippines

An old photo of the Santo Rosario on a carroza.

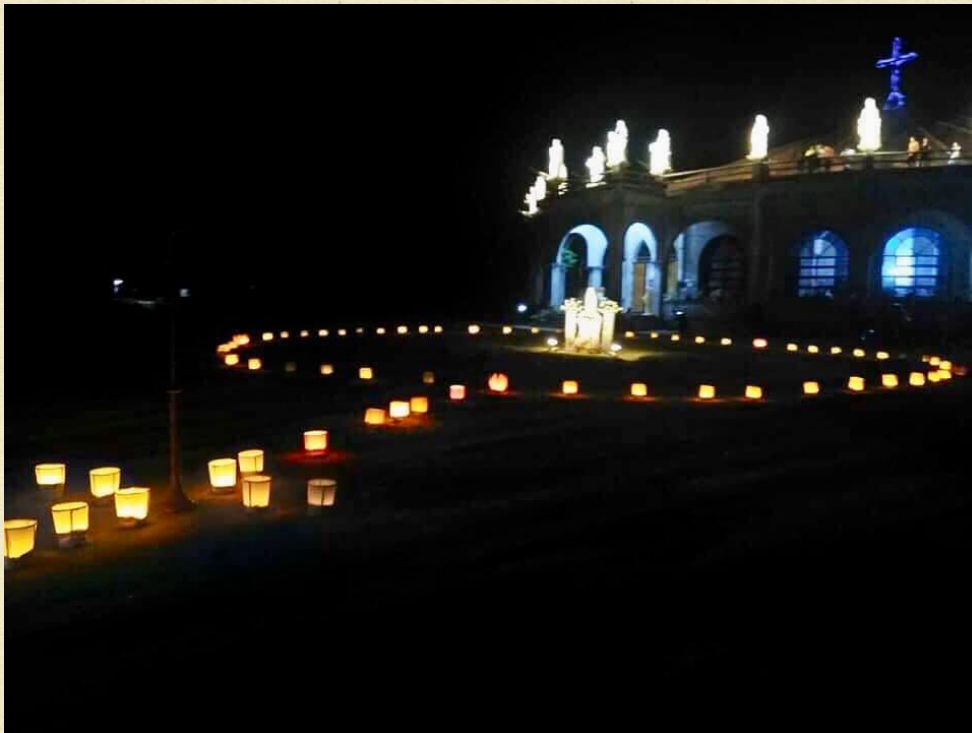


The Santo Rosario at present.

CULMINATION OF ROSARY MONTH in the different Communities and Institutions of the Province



Culmination of Rosary Month 2019
Augustinian Simply Professed Friars
San Agustin Center of Studies
October 30, 2019



Culmination of Rosary Month 2019
Saint Augustine Parish, Barangay Cogon - San Ignacio, Gubat, Sorsogon
October 26, 2019



The Rosary that gives Life at the Augustinian-ministered Mother of Good Counsel Parish in Chrysanthemum Village, San Pedro, Laguna
October 27, 2019



Culmination of the Rosary Month
University of San Agustin in Iloilo City
October 30, 2019

**The goods collected from this activity were turned-over to Caritas Manila for the benefit of earthquake victims in Mindanao.*



Culmination of Rosary Month 2019
(Procession around the main streets of the Parish)
Saint Augustine of Hippo Parish
Barangay Rizal, Saguday, Quirino
October 31, 2019



Culmination of Rosary Month 2019
Our Mother of Perpetual Help Parish
Guipos, Zamboanga del Sur
October 31, 2019



BMSN MEDIA CENTRE

Culmination of Rosary Month 2019
Basilica Minore del Santo Niño de Cebu

SANTO CRISTO DE LIMPIAS SHRINE



SANTO CRISTO DE LIMPIAS SHRINE. The newly renovated shrine of Santo Cristo de Limpías inside the Basilica del Santo Niño in Cebu City was unveiled and blessed yesterday (October 9, 2019). The renovation was sponsored by the Gullas Family.

Misa de Gracia of Fr. Jaime Silvestre C. Parmisano, OSA at the Augustinian Monastery of the Resurrection in Daus, Bohol (October 6, 2019)



Misa de Gracia of Fr. Jaime Silvestre C. Parmisano, OSA at his home parish in Panglao, Bohol (Saint Augustine Parish, Poblacion, Panglao, Bohol last October 5, 2019)

Congratulations, Fr. Jaime!!



FR. RAUL M. MARCHAN, OSA's 40TH PRESBYTERAL ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY

Holy Family Parish, Putiao, Pilar, Sorsogon

November 4, 2019

Fr. Marchan, currently assigned at the Augustinian Community of San Jose in Iloilo City, was ordained to the presbyterate on August 28, 1979.



Fr. Marchan renewing his priestly vows before Fr. Jose R. Gonzales, OSA, Prior of the Augustinian Community of San Jose in Iloilo City (November 4, 2019).

Ongoing Construction of the Façade of Santo Niño de Cebu Parish in Barangay Mohon, Talisay City, Cebu



Updates on the Renovation Works – Saint Augustine of Hippo Parish in Saguday, Quirino



Roof Repairs and Ceiling Project (Saint Augustine Parish, Gubat, Sorsogon)



Updates: Santo Niño Mission Station in Pallas Valley, Vintar, Ilocos Norte



Saguday Friars in Pallas Valley, Vintar, Ilocos Norte



Chapter of Renewal of Friars from Saguday Residence together with the 3 simply professed friars on exposure at Pallas Valley: (from left) Fr. Christian E. Funtanares, OSA, Fr. Mark N. Domasian, OSA, Fr. Richard Bryan O. Mijares, OSA, Fray Jebie U. Jugarap, OSA, Fray Rey Cyril C. Lagrosa, OSA, Fr. Exuper G. Lumintac, OSA and Fray Roner M. Anildes, OSA (October 17, 2019) .



The Province's Simply Professed Friars, together with their Master, Fr. Jasper V. Valmores, OSA, visited the Santo Niño Mission Station in Barangay Bulbulala, Vintar, Ilocos Norte (October 20, 2019).

Congratulations, San Ag!!!

The University of San Agustin is now closer to its greater goal of achieving the autonomous status! Viva, San Agustin!!!

≡≡≡ JUST IN ≡≡≡



**UNIVERSITY OF
SAN AGUSTIN**

**DEREGULATED
STATUS**

THE UNIVERSITY OF SAN AGUSTIN IS ONE OF THE PRIVATE HIGHER INSTITUTIONS WHICH WAS GRANTED THE DEREGULATED STATUS BY THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION ON OCTOBER 24, 2019.

CMO 12 SERIES OF 2019

Congratulations to the University of San Agustin for successfully hosting the 24th Philippine University Games (UNIGAMES) 2019 last October 19 – 27, 2019.



The UNIGAMES was first held in 1996 with the founding host, the University of Saint La Salle - Bacolod City. The goal is to gather the finest varsity athletes from private and government universities from all over the country in the spirit of fair play, friendship and top-caliber competition. Through the years, the UNIGAMES has provided a continuum of opportunities for our student-athletes in the various national teams representing the country in the Olympics, the Asian Games, Southeast Asian Games and other international sports competitions.

The UNIGAMES is composed of fourteen (14) sports disciplines with an average of 1,500 student-athlete participants. These disciplines are Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Chess, Football, Lawn Tennis, Sepak Takraw, Swimming, Table Tennis, Taekwondo, Volleyball, Beach Volleyball and Archery (from *Unigames' Official FB Page*).



AUGUSTINIAN SCHOOLS ATHLETIC MEET

OCTOBER 27-30, 2019 | UNIVERSITY OF SAN AGUSTIN | ILOILO CITY
HOST SCHOOL: COLEGIO SAN AGUSTIN - BACOLOD

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS:



SPONSORS:



Congratulations to Colegio San Agustin – Bacolod for successfully hosting ASAM 2019!!! The biennial event was held at the University of San Agustin Campus in Iloilo City last October 27 to 31, 2019.

Augustinian Schools Athletic Meet 2019
15 Augustinian Schools
4 days
1 big gathering of Augustinian athletes and performers
(Sports, Academic and Cultural Events)



ASAM 2019 Opening Mass at the University of San Agustin Chapel (October 27, 2019).



Fr. Alfredo B. Jubac, OSA together with the Basketball Team of Colegio San Agustin – Biñan (ASAM 2019).

UPCOMING EVENTS

PHILOSOPHICAL SYMPOSIUM

NOVEMBER 23, 2019 | SATURDAY
8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.



"Aristotle on Friendship and Virtue"

Dr. Jean Emily P. Tan
Chair, Department of Philosophy
School of Humanities
Loyola Schools
Ateneo de Manila University

"Ordo Amoris in Thomas Aquinas"

Fr. V. Fullente Suarez, Ph.L.
Department of Philosophy
School of Humanities
Loyola Schools
Ateneo de Manila University

"Karol Wojtyla on Love and Sexuality"

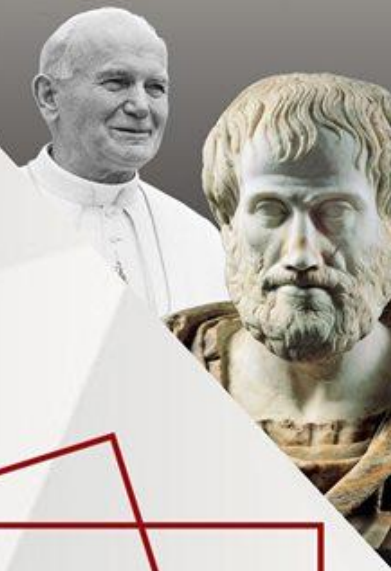
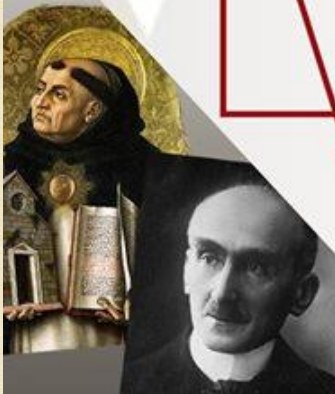
Dr. Jove Jim S. Aguas
Department of Philosophy
Faculty of Arts and Letters
University of Santo Tomas

"Henri Bergson's Open and Close Morality as a Paradigm for Love and Solidarity"

Fr. Gilbert Queñano, CMF
Department of Philosophy
Saint Anthony Mary Claret College

VENUE

**San Agustin Center of Studies
Saint Thomas of Villanova Institute
#1 Fisheries St., VASRA, Quezon City**



Augustinian Vocation Jamboree 2019

"Leading the Way to Where God has Called You to BE"

Listen... Discern... Respond

#LDR

November 29 - December 01
Sto. Niño Spirituality Center
Consolacion, Cebu

See You Augustinians!

#AVJ2109CEBU



Office of the National Director of Vocations
Commission on Vocation Promotion
Augustinian Vocation Promoters - BMSN

SPECIAL FEATURE

In the light of the very recent decision of Pope Francis to include the feast of Our Lady of Loreto to the General Calendar of the Roman Church as an optional memorial every December 10, the Cor Inquietum Team is featuring Saint Nicholas of Tolentino's remarkable devotion to Our Lady under this particular title:

A local legend, of which there are several versions, tells us that St. Nicholas of Tolentino was a witness of the arrival of the Holy House of Loreto—or at least that he enjoyed a vision of its arrival. It is said that he had heard of and lamented the departure of the Holy House from Tersatto, Dalmatia, when he was consoled by an apparition of Our Lady, telling him that the Holy House was being translated to a place near the town of Recanati, called Loreto. Others say he actually observed the Holy House being transported by angels on the 10th of December, 1294, at about three in the morning, and that he announced the news to some of his Augustinian brethren, who could only observe the prodigy by standing on the Saint's foot. Perhaps it is for this reason, together with its convenient location, that the Saint's shrine in Tolentino became a favorite stop for pilgrims traveling between the shrines of the Holy House of Loreto and that of St. Francis at Assisi (from www.salvemariaregina.info/SalveMariaRegina/SMR-189/Tolentino.htm).



**Message of the Secretary General of the Order on the sudden death of our Brother,
Monseñor Miguel Olaortúa Laspra, Apostolic Vicar of Iquitos in Peru**



Dear brothers and sisters, greetings in the Lord!

On the day when the pilgrim Church on earth celebrates in a great festive jubilation the memory of those who contemplate the face of God and live in the heritage of eternal glory, our brother Bishop, Fr. Miguel Olaortúa Laspra, Apostolic Vicar of Iquitos in Peru, suddenly ended his earthly journey. Mon. Miguel Olaortúa Laspra would have turned 57 on November 22nd. Pastor dedicated to prayer and jovial with everyone, he was born in Bilbao, Spain, where he made religious vows in the Order of Saint Augustine on 2 October 1982, joining the Province of the Holy Name of Jesus of the Philippines. Ordained a priest on October 4, 1987, after specialization studies in Education at the Salesian Pontifical University in Rome, he carried out various pastoral duties in Spain in parish ministry, teaching, in the direction of the College, in the service of the Augustinian Community and the Province of the Philippines. On February 2, 2011, Pope Benedict XVI appointed him Vicar Apostolic of the Vicariate of Iquitos, Peru, elevating him to the dignity of Titular Bishop of Abbir Maius. He received his episcopal consecration on 16 April 2011 and took possession of the Vicariate of Iquitos the following 27 May. From October 6th to 27, 2019, he participated in the Synod for Amazonia as a Synodal Father. During this period he resided in the General Curia, sharing the life of prayer and communion with the confreres of the Community. As we express gratitude to the Lord for the gift of the generous service of this our brother, let us pray for the Lord of Mercy to reward Fr. Miguel Olaortúa Laspra, Bishop who spent himself for the good of the people of God entrusted to him, and grant him to enjoy the abundance of Grace reserved for His children, in the bliss of the saints.

Padre Pasquale di Lernia, OSA
Secretary General

Captions and Texts provided by the Province's Mass Media and Social Communications Office. Credits to the rightful owners of the photos featured. We apologize for any inadvertent mistake in the content of this newsletter.

Please help us by sending your: creative comments, constructive criticisms, articles, pictures, news and suggestions for improvement. Send us an e-mail at osacebumassmedia@gmail.com.

For quick information about the many happenings around the Province and the Order, kindly visit our Official Website: augustiniansphilippines.com and our Official Facebook Page: Order of Saint Augustine – Province of Santo Niño de Cebu.

Thank you, dear Readers! Pit Señor!!!