

# COR INQUIETUM

The Official News Magazine of the  
Augustinian Province of Santo Niño de Cebu - Philippines



**Rev. Fr. Leonard Realiza, OSA joins the tree-growing activity at the Augustinian Novitiate and Prayer House, Mohon, Talisay City, Cebu.**

**This initiative is part of the Philippine Augustinians 'Laudato Si' campaign in celebration of this year's Season of Creation.**

July - September 2021



## Message of Fr. Andres D. Rivera Jr., OSA on the Feast of Saint Augustine

While the world has been searching for the best defense and treatment against COVID-19, people at the same time hope anxiously to see the end of this pandemic. The experience of the mandatory social isolation is distressing and has ignited a deep sense of turmoil in every human soul which is basically designed to be a social being.

The evil and the maladies brought about by this obscure virus have directly affected almost every aspect of human life, be it socio-economic, political, and psycho-spiritual. Where will this pandemic lead us?

On this Feast of Saint Augustine, the renowned doctor of the Church, what can he teach us today as we continue our search for the truth of our present predicament and to understand the core meaning of all these. Looking at the life of this great saint, Augustine was a man of prayer, whose faith is strengthened and inspired by the grace of God. In Augustine's life, we can describe that grace is a great force that modifies the human mind from fear into trust, from confusion into certainty, from encountering evil thoughts towards being drawn to a life of charity and chastity.

In this manner, human efforts may be great but it should always be complimented and aided by the grace of God so that it can promote love and establish unity. There is great uncertainty in our present time; but looking at the life of this great saint, we are inspired by his personal struggles to search and to see the perfect goodness in the middle of darkness and the pain of evil in every human suffering and confusion. Yes, we are in the dark. Our hearts will never stop to search for the light. Like Saint Augustine, we pray for guidance and enlightenment. Augustine declares, "God enlightens, and in your light we see light."

VIVA SAN AGUSTIN!



Province of Santo Niño de Cebu  
- Philippines  
Order of Saint Augustine

**Rev. Fr. Andres D. Rivera Jr., OSA**  
Prior Provincial

**Rev. Fr. John Paul S. Mabanta, OSA**  
Provincial Secretary

**Rev. Fr. Jose Rene C. Delariarte, OSA**  
Provincial Treasurer

**Rev. Fr. Melchor L. Mirador, OSA**  
**Rev. Fr. Frederick C. Comendador, OSA**  
**Rev. Fr. Nelson G. Zerda, OSA**  
**Rev. Fr. Sisinio A. Paderog, OSA**  
**Rev. Fr. Jose Rene C. Delariarte, OSA**  
**Fr. Aladdin P. Luzon, OSA**  
Provincial Counselors

Rev. Fr. Genesis P. Labana, OSA  
*Director, Province Mass Media and  
Social Communications*

Shiela Mae Gumapon  
*Copy Editor*

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# GENERAL CURIA

## Augustinian Appointed as Auxiliary Bishop in Tanzania

On July 7, 2021, Pope Francis announced the appointment of Rev. Msgr. Stephano Musomba, O.S.A. as one of the two Auxiliary Bishops of the Metropolitan Archdiocese of Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania. He is currently the Parish Priest of the Immaculate Conception Parish of Mavurunza in Dar-es-Salaam, assigning him the titular see of Perdices.



In a letter sent to all friars of the Order, the Prior General congratulates the appointment of Msgr. Mosumba, OSA who is originally from Malonji, Mbeya (Tanzania) - part of the Augustinian Vicariate of Tanzania under the Province of San Juan de Sahagún de España.

“In expressing our gratitude to God and the Holy Father, Pope Francis, we offer our brother best wishes for a fruitful journey in the Church in Tanzania, in the different realities that have been entrusted to his care as Father and Pastor” the official statement said.

Msgr. Stephano Musomba, O.S.A was born on 25 September 1969 in the village of Malonji, Metropolitan Archdiocese of Mbeya. He studied philosophy (1995-1998) and theology (1999-2003) at the Jordan University College of Morogoro. From 2004 to 2008, he attended the Augustinianum Patristic Institute in Rome where he obtained a licentiate in patrology.

He entered the Order of Saint Augustine and completed his novitiate in the San Agustín Convent in Manila, Philippines (1998-1999), and made his religious vows on 25 September 2002. He was ordained priest on 24 July 2003.

Mosumba held the following offices before his appointment; Parish Assistant at the Immaculate Conception Parish in Mavurunza, Dar-es-Salaam (2003-2004); formator at the House of Formation of the Order, Lecturer in the Faculty of Theology of the Jordan University in Morogoro (2008-2009) and from 2008, Secretary of the Tanzanian Delegation of the Order.

He was also the Parish Priest of Saint Augustine’s Parish in Ternboni, Dar-es-Salaam and lecturer at the Jordan University in Morogoro (2009-2014); Parish Assistant at the Immaculate Conception Parish in Dar-es-Salaam (2014-2016); formator at the House of Formation of the Order in Morogoro (2016-2018) and from 2018 to present, Parish Priest of the Immaculate Conception Parish of Mavurunza in Dar-es-Salaam and Prior of the Community of Saint Monica. (D)

# PROVINCE UPDATE

## New Assignments of Friars

The Province of Santo Niño de Cebu-Philippines made a major reshuffling to all nineteen communities and residences and announced on its official Facebook page the new assignments of friars for the term 2020-2021 which is effective starting July 1, 2021.

The new assignments were finally released after a year of postponement due to the COVID-19 pandemic which was originally planned to begin in 2020.

One of the major changes in the composition of new assignments is the dissolution of the residence in San Fernando, Cebu where the Colegio del Santo Niño extension campus is located.

Another residence that was also affected by not sending friars is the Ketapang, Indonesia mission station. Ketapang Residence is the lone foreign mission station overseen by the Philippine Province.

However, an extension residence composed of four friars was established, the Sant’ Benedicto Retreat House Residence in Don Salvador Benedicto, Negros Occidental.

Here is the official list of new assignments:

### NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION – LUZON ZONE

#### SAN AGUSTIN CENTER OF STUDIES COMMUNITY Quezon City

Prior Fr. Edgardo L. Lazo OSA  
Treasurer Fr. Jessie T. Tabobo, OSA  
Procurator Fr. John Jericho F. Mier, OSA  
STVI Director Fr. Dante O. Juloc, OSA

#### Master, Simply Professed Friars

Fr. Fernando S. Cleopas, OSA

#### Master, College Students

Fr. Rommel G. Bongcac, OSA

#### Members

Fray Jose Z. Lopez, OSA  
Fr. Jaime Silvestre C. Parmisano, OSA  
Fr. Jose Francisco L. Teves, OSA  
Fr. Rommel D. Par, OSA (Italy)  
Fr. Jubanie Rey F. Baller, OSA (Italy)  
Fr. Norberto Dominic S. Don III, OSA  
(for further studies in Italy)

#### MONASTERIO DE GUADALUPE COMMUNITY Makati City

Prior Fr. Danilo M. Carido, OSA  
Treasurer Fray Eduardo D. Obrique, OSA  
Procurator Fr. Richard Bryan O. Mijares, OSA  
Parish Priest Fr. Aimark P. Asor, OSA  
Master, SAS Students

#### Members

Fr. Williener Jack E. Luna, OSA  
Fr. Peter S. Cantones, Jr., OSA  
Fr. Edgar A. Polotan, OSA  
(for foreign mission)  
Fr. Jose S. Seidel, Jr., OSA

#### BIÑAN COMMUNITY Biñan City, Laguna

#### Prior and School President

Fr. Wilson A. Capellan, OSA

#### House and School Treasurer

Fr. Arvin C. Salceda, OSA

#### House Procurator

Fray Urminico L. Baronda IV, OSA

#### Parish Priest

Fr. Wilboy D. Bracamonte, OSA

#### Members

Fr. Alberto L. Esmeralda, OSA  
Fr. Czar Emmanuel V. Alvarez, OSA  
Fr. Reo G. Cabahug, OSA

# PROVINCE UPDATE

## SAINT AUGUSTINE PARISH COMMUNITY

Gubat, Sorsogon

Prior and Parish Priest

Fr. Ronald P. Siaga, OSA

Treasurer Fr. Mark N. Domasian, OSA

Procurator Fr. Cyril Jeth N. Tagalog, OSA

## MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL PARISH COMMUNITY

San Pedro, Laguna

Prior, Procurator and Parish Priest

Fr. Noel P. Cogasa, OSA

Treasurer Fr. Peter John C. Cardos, OSA

Members Fr. Danilo C. Dagsaan, OSA

Fr. Jesus M. Daño, OSA

## WESTERN VISAYAS ZONE

### UNIVERSITY OF SAN AGUSTIN COMMUNITY

Iloilo City

Prior Fr. Jonas M. Mejares, OSA

House Treasurer Fr. Patrick Paul M. De Castro, OSA

House Procurator Fr. Julius D. Tubid, OSA

School President Fr. Frederick C. Comendador, OSA

School Treasurer Fr. Melchor L. Mirador, OSA

Members Fr. Mamerto A. Alfeche, OSA  
Fr. Harold Ll. Rentoria, OSA  
Fr. Ian V. Ragodon, OSA  
Fr. Rodel D. Magin, OSA  
Fr. Ric Anthony A. Reyes, OSA

### SAN JOSE COMMUNITY

Iloilo City

Prior and School Director Fr. Leo Mario F. Singco, OSA

House Treasurer and Parish Priest Fr. Rennie Vicente T. Senoro, OSA

House Procurator and School Treas. Fr. Raul M. Marchan, OSA

Member Fray Arturo P. Adalim, OSA

## SAGUDAY RESIDENCE\*

Saguday, Quirino

Superior Fr. Armando M. Dayao, OSA

Parish Priest Fr. Exuper G. Lumintac, OSA

Treasurer Fr. Christian E. Funtanares, OSA

Procurator Fr. Harold C. Langahin, OSA

Members Fr. Sisinio A. Paderog, OSA

Rev. Jebie U. Jugarap, OSA

The friars from this residence will also minister to Santo Niño de Cebu Mission Station, Vintar, Ilocos Norte.

### COLEGIO SAN AGUSTIN – BACOLOD COMMUNITY

Bacolod City

Prior and School President Fr. Arnel S. Dizon, OSA

House and School Treasurer Fr. Bernardo B. Coleco, OSA

House Procurator Fray Stephen O. Tan, OSA

Members Fr. Raymundo T. Alcayaga, OSA  
Fr. Isabelo A. Carloman, Jr., OSA  
Fr. Manuel M. Vergara, OSA

Extension Residence Don Salvador Benedicto, Negros Occidental

Fr. Elmer J. Lendo, OSA  
Fr. Alfredo B. Jubac, OSA  
Fray Leonardo A. Jallorina, OSA  
Fr. Vincent O. Liwag

### SAMBAG RESIDENCE

Iloilo City

Superior Fr. Jose R. Gonzales, OSA

Treasurer Fr. Pederito A. Aparece, OSA

Members Fr. Rodolfo P. Sicio, OSA

Fr. Agustin S. Ty, OSA

# PROVINCE UPDATE

## CENTRAL VISAYAS – MINDANO ZONE

### SANTO NIÑO PILGRIM CENTER COMMUNITY

Cebu City

Prior and School Director Fr. Andrew P. Batayola, OSA

House Treasurer Fr. Jose Rene C. Delariarte, OSA

House Procurator and School Treasurer Fr. Melitito Pocholo C. Visda, Jr., OSA

Members Fr. Andres D. Rivera, Jr., OSA  
Fr. Elizer R. Pelingo, OSA  
(for foreign mission)

Fr. John Paul S. Mabanta, OSA

### BASILICA DEL SANTO NIÑO COMMUNITY

Cebu City

Prior Fr. Basilio S. Sugata-on, OSA  
House Treasurer

Fr. John Ion C. Miranda, OSA

Basilica Treasurer and Procurator Fr. Mark Anthony C. Tampos, OSA

Basilica Rector Fr. Nelson G. Zerda, OSA  
Members Fr. Aladdin P. Luzon, OSA  
Fr. Pacifico C. Nohara, OSA  
(for foreign mission)

Fr. Genesis P. Labana, OSA

Fr. Nestor B. Bandalan, Jr., OSA

### SANTO NIÑO DE CEBU PARISH COMMUNITY

Talisay City, Cebu

Prior and Treasurer Fr. Jerome P. Mesina, OSA

Procurator Fr. Donato E. Ellezar, OSA

Parish Priest Fr. Generous P. Gonesto, OSA

Member Fr. Dominador M. Besares, OSA

### AUGUSTINIAN NOVITIATE AND PRAYER HOUSE COMMUNITY

Talisay City, Cebu

Prior Fr. Eusebio B. Berdon, OSA  
Treasurer and Novice Master

Fr. Joel L. Beronque, OSA

Procurator Fr. Leonard B. Realiza, OSA

Members Fr. Nicolas M. Echeveria, OSA

Fr. Romanico O. Cañon, OSA

Fr. Raul A. Cabugao, OSA

Fr. Jasper V. Valmores, OSA

Fr. Rodolfo A. Bugna, OSA

### SANTO NIÑO SPIRITUALITY CENTER COMMUNITY

Consolacion, Cebu

Prior Fr. Candido P. Saladaga, Jr., OSA

Treasurer Fr. Ian-Narcissus C. Openia, OSA

Procurator and Retreat House Director

Fr. Roy D. Aspera, OSA

Member Fr. Medardo A. Durmiendo, OSA

### OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP PARISH COMMUNITY

Socorro, Surigao del Norte

Prior Fr. Benjamin B. Gamos, OSA

Treasurer Fr. Alfonso D. Sedurifa, OSA

Procurator Rev. Roner M. Anildes, OSA

Parish Priest Fr. Edmar A. Escobar, OSA

### MATI COMMUNITY

Mati City, Davao Oriental

Prior and House Treasurer Fr. Victor F. Gonzaga, OSA

Procurator Fr. Ian Geoffrey D. Kasilag, OSA

School Director Fr. Antonio O. Nombrefia, OSA

### BURGOS RESIDENCE

Burgos, Surigao del Norte

Superior Fr. Tito D. Soquiño, OSA

Treasurer Fr. Freddie C. Billones, OSA

Procurator Rev. Elmer E. Ebol, OSA

Parish Priest Fr. Noli P. Detoyato, OSA

### GUIPOS RESIDENCE

Guipos, Zamboanga del Sur

Superior and Parish Priest Fr. Vicente F. Amplayo, OSA

Treasurer Rev. Rey Cyril C. Lagrosa, OSA

Procurator Rev. John Louis S. Ricamora, OSA

# PROVINCE UPDATE

## PROVINCIAL COMMISSION CHAIRMEN AND MEMBERS

### Commission on Community Life and Ongoing Formation

Fr. Nelson G. Zerda, OSA – Chairman

*Members:*

Fr. Elmer J. Lendo, OSA  
Fr. Williener Jack E. Luna, OSA  
Fr. Vincent O. Liwag, OSA  
Fr. Jose Francisco L. Teves, OSA

### Commission on Youth and Vocations

Fr. Basilio S. Sugata-on, OSA – Chairman

*Members:*

Fr. Mark N. Domasian, OSA  
Fr. Julius D. Tubid, OSA  
Fr. Roy D. Aspera, OSA  
Fr. Leonard B. Realiza, OSA

### Commission on Initial Formation

Fr. Joel L. Beronque, OSA – Chairman

*Members:*

Fr. Rommel G. Bongcac, OSA  
Fr. Danilo M. Carido, OSA  
Fr. Ferando S. Cleopas, OSA

### Commission on Governance and Financial Affairs

Fr. Jose Rene C. Delariarte, OSA – Chairman

*Members:*

Fr. Andres D. Rivera, Jr., OSA  
Fr. Eusebio B. Berdon, OSA  
Fr. Jerome P. Mesina, OSA  
Fr. Bernardo B. Coleco, OSA

### Commission on Educational Apostolate Sub-Commission on Campus Ministry

Fr. Frederick C. Comendador, OSA – Chairman

*Members:*

Fr. Raul M. Marchan, OSA  
Fr. Pederito A. Aparece, OSA  
Fr. Antonio O. Nombrefia, OSA  
Fr. Reo G. Cabahug, OSA

### Commission on Parish Ministry and Mission

Fr. Sisinio A. Paderog, OSA – Chairman

*Members:*

Fr. Vicente F. Amplayo, OSA  
Fr. Edmar A. Escobar, OSA  
Fr. Exuper G. Lumintac, OSA  
Fr. Noli P. Detoyato, OSA

### Commission on Liturgy and Augustinian Devotions

Fr. Nestor B. Bandalan, Jr., OSA – Chairman

*Members:*

Fr. Noel P. Cogasa, OSA  
Fr. Cyril Jeth N. Tagalog, OSA  
Fr. John Paul S. Mabanta, OSA  
Rev. John Louis S. Ricamora, OSA

### Commission on Justice and Peace

Fr. John Ion C. Miranda, OSA – Chairman

*Members:*

Fr. John Jericho F. Mier, OSA  
Fr. Aimark P. Asor, OSA  
Fr. Christian E. Funtaneres, OSA  
Rev. Rey Cyril C. Lagrosa, OSA

### Commission on Augustinian Affiliates and Laity

Fr. Andrew P. Batayola, OSA – Chairman

*Members:*

Fr. Benjamin B. Gamos, OSA  
Fr. Candido P. Saladaga, Jr., OSA  
Fr. Leo Mario F. Singco, OSA  
Fr. Wilboy D. Bracamonte, OSA

### Commission on Augustinian History and Cultural Heritage

Fr. Arnel S. Dizon, OSA – Chairman

*Members:*

Fr. Czar Emmanuel V. Alvarez, OSA  
Fr. Ericson M. Borre, OSA  
Fr. Ric Anthony A. Reyes, OSA  
Fr. Richard Bryan O. Mijares, OSA

# PROVINCE UPDATE

## PROVINCIAL APPOINTMENTS

### Provincial Sacristan

Fr. Basilio S. Sugata-on, OSA

### Provincial Archivist

Fr. Nestor B. Bandalan, Jr., OSA

### Provincial Liturgist

Fr. Nestor B. Bandalan, Jr., OSA

### National Director of Vocations

Fr. Basilio S. Sugata-on, OSA

### Mass Media Director

Fr. Genesis P. Labana, OSA

### Candle House in-charge

Fr. Leonard B. Realiza, OSA

### Superintendent of Schools

Fr. Frederick C. Comendador, OSA

### Mission Coordinator

Fr. Sisinio A. Paderog, OSA

### Justice and Peace Coordinator

Fr. John Ion C. Miranda, OSA

### Santo Niño de Cebu Augustinian Social Development Foundation, Inc. (SNAF) Director

Fr. Aladdin P. Luzon, OSA

### Philippine Augustinians Development Office, Inc. (PADO) Director

Fr. Jose Rene C. Delariarte, OSA

### Property Custodian

Fr. Jose Rene C. Delariarte, OSA

### Zonal Coordinators

Luzon/National Capital Region

– Fr. Danilo M. Carido, OSA

Central Visayas/Mindanao

– Fr. Basilio S. Sugata-on, OSA

Western Visayas

– Fr. Leo Mario F. Singco, OSA

### Theological Commission

Fr. Jerome P. Mesina, OSA – Chair

Fr. Mamerto A. Alfeche, OSA

Fr. Jonas M. Mejares, OSA

Fr. Czar Emmanuel V. Alvarez, OSA (alternate)

### Screening Board

Fr. Eusebio B. Berdon, OSA

Fr. Edgardo L. Lazo, OSA

Fr. Danilo M. Carido, OSA

# PROVINCE UPDATE

Rev. Fr. Aladdin Luzon, OSA, the chairman of the Commission on Justice and Peace of the Province of Santo Niño de Cebu, has been appointed by the Prior General of the Order of Saint Augustine, Most Rev. Alejandro Moral Anton, OSA, to be the Permanent Representative of the Order to the United Nations (UN).

He is the first Filipino and first Asian Augustinian to hold the office since the establishment of the Order's presence in the United Nations in 2002.

In 1997, the Order registered to participate in the UN as a non-governmental organization in affiliation with the Department of Public Information (DPI/NGO). Fr. Jesus Guzman, OSA from the Province of Michoacan in Mexico was the first full time friar to work at the UN from 2002-2007.

For the past few years, the Augustinians International, name of the Order's NGO in the UN, looked on trafficking and poverty, promoting respect for every human being's life and dignity, under the Culture of Peace Movement sponsored by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Fr. Aladdin officially started his work on September 1, 2021 by reporting first to the General Curia in Rome and assisting the works of the Commission on Justice, Peace, Integrity of Creation, the Augustinian team in the United Nations, and the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development in the Roman Curia.

Prior to his international role in the Order, he was assigned in the Provincialate Community and the Basilica Minore del Santo Niño de Cebu Community since 2008. He has also been involved for a number of years in the promotion of justice and peace in the Province.

He also held the office as the chairman of the Santo Niño at 500 Committee of the Province, which leads the programs and activities of the 500th anniversary of the arrival of the image of Santo Niño in Cebu coinciding with the 500 Years of Christianity in the Philippines (500 YOC). (D)

## Fr. Luzon assigned as UN Representative of the Order



# PROVINCE UPDATE



## Sto. Niño Image enthroned at Vatican

Bishop Palma blesses the image of Santo Niño now enshrined at Saint Anne Parish, Vatican City.

On the occasion of the Quincentennial Celebration of the Years of Christianity in the Philippines and the Arrival of the Image of Señor Santo Niño in Cebu, the Augustinian Province of Santo Niño de Cebu- Philippines and the Archdiocese of Cebu enshrined an image of the Santo Niño at the Pontifical Parish of Saint Anne, Vatican City on September 1, 2021.

Most Rev. Jose S. Palma, D.D., Archbishop of Cebu, led the enshrinement of the image in the presence of the Parish Priest of Saint Anne Church, Fr. Mario Millardi, OSA and other Augustinian friars of the Italian and Cebu Province. Bishop Palma dropped by Rome and before the enshrinement, he met Pope Francis during his General Audience at the Paul VI Hall, Citta di Vaticana. Bishop Palma is set to attend the 52nd International Eucharistic Congress (IEC) slated from September 5 to 12, 2021 in Budapest, Hungary.

Rev. Fr. Aladdin Luzon, OSA, who was reporting for his new assignment as the Permanent Representative of the Augustinians to the United Nations, brought the image from the Basilica to Rome together with the endorsement letter signed by the Prior Provincial of the Province of Sto. Niño de Cebu, Rev. Fr. Andres Rivera Jr., OSA, and the

rector of the Basilica, Rev. Fr. Nelson Zerda, OSA. As stated in the endorsement letter, the image will serve as the official image in the European Pilgrimage of the Santo Niño de Cebu.

The event marked history since the Sto. Niño de Cebu image was enshrined in the only parish in the State of Vatican which is beside the St. Peter's Basilica – the seat of the Bishop of Rome, Pope Francis. The Augustinians of the Italian Province are the administrators of the parish since 1929.

One occasion, the late Pope John Paul II visited Saint Anne Parish and said with humor that he was 'visiting his parish priest.' Pope Francis has also visited the parish during his first few days as the Pope after his proclamation.

Meanwhile, this is not the first time that an image of Sto. Niño was brought to Italy. In 2003, Rev. Fr. Dominador Besares, OSA enthroned an image at the chapel of the Augustinian Contemplative Monastery in Milan. Up to the present, a fiesta celebration in honor of the Holy Child is held every January which is participated by the devotees and the Filipino community. *IBMSN Media Centre*

# PROVINCE UPDATE

The Province of Santo Niño de Cebu- Philippines has chosen Rev. Fr. Jubanie Baller, OSA to work in the Papal Sacristy upon the request of the Prior General Alejandro Moral Anton, OSA in Rome.

Fr. Baller is a Cebuano who hails from Talisay City, Cebu. He joined the Augustinians in 2008 and was ordained priest on June 12, 2019.

He will be reporting on September 19, 2021 after his assignment as the Parochial Vicar of the St. Augustine of Hippo Parish, Gubat, Sorsogon for two years.

Fr. Baller will join the Augustinian community at the Papal Sacristy together with three other Augustinian friars from Italy, India, and Congo.

The main apostolate of the community is to prepare the liturgical vestments and vessels of the masses of the Pope at the Vatican and the Diocese of Rome.

In the past, a Filipino Augustinian, Rev. Fr. Nestor Bandalan Jr., OSA, was already assigned in the

Papal Sacristy. Currently, he is now reporting as one of the friars of the Basilica Minore del Santo Niño de Cebu community.

Fr. Bandalan Jr. has been assisting Pope Francis' masses for five years after his theological studies in the Augustinianum from July 2014 to December 2019.

The work at the Papal Sacristy is assigned to the Augustinians under the Office for the Liturgical Celebrations of the Supreme Pontiff which was headed by the Master of Pontifical Celebrations, the newly elected Bishop Guido Marini, until August 29, 2021.

The last Augustinian Papal Sacristan was Dutch Bishop Pietro Canisio van Lierde in 1991 and Pope John Paul II confirmed that the Augustinians would remain present in the pontifical sacristy alongside the task of being guardians of the parish of St. Anne.

The Pontifical Sacristy has been entrusted to the Order of Saint Augustine since the 14th century.



**Cebuano Augustinian Friar assigned to the Papal Sacristy**

# PROVINCE UPDATE

## Prior Provincial installs Priors and Superiors

With the reshuffling of assignments last July 1, 2021, Prior Provincial, Rev. Fr. Andres D. Rivera Jr., OSA, has formally installed the Priors and Superiors of the different communities and residences of the Province of Sto. Niño de Cebu respectively.

He visited some communities to preside over the rite of installation while others were done virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions.

In the Constitutions of the Order of Saint Augustine (OSA), the local Prior is the head of the community and presides over each house. At the same time, he directs and represents the community.

It is also mandated that he should concern himself about learning the rights and obligations of the whole community as well as promoting common life and unity of the friars among themselves and with the Province or Vicariate, fostering discipline, and notifying the friars of the decisions from the higher superiors.



### Priors and Residences and Dates of Installation

Fr. Andrew P. Batayola, OSA Sto. Niño Pilgrim Centre Community	- July 5
Fr. Basilio S. Sugata-on, OSA Basilica del Santo Niño Comunity	- July 13
Fr. Eusebio B. Berdon, OSA Augustinian Novitiate and Prayer House Community	- July 18
Fr. Candido P. Saladaga, Jr., OSA Sto. Niño Spirituality Ctr. Community	- July 20
Fr. Jerome P. Mesina, OSA Sto. Niño de Cebu Parish Community, Mohon	- July 21
Fr. Jonas M. Mejares, OSA USA - Iloilo Community	- August 7
Fr. Jose R. Gonzales, OSA Sambag Residence	- August 8
Fr. Arnel S. Dizon, OSA CSA - Bacolod Community	- August 9
Fr. Ronald P. Siaga, OSA St. Augustine Parish Community, Gubat	- August 9
Fr. Leo Mario F. Singco, OSA San Jose Community	- August 10
Fr. Armando M. Dayao, OSA Saguday Residence	- August 10
Fr. Noel P. Cogasa, OSA OMGCP Community, San Pedro	- August 10
Fr. Danilo M. Carido, OSA Monasterio de Guadalupe Community	- August 14
Fr. Wilson A. Capellan, OSA Biñan Community	- August 17
Fr. Tito D. Soquiño, OSA Burgos Residence	- August 19
Fr. Edgardo L. Lazo, OSA SACS Community	- August 21
Fr. Victor F. Gonzaga, OSA Mati Community	- August 24
Fr. Vicente F. Amplayo, OSA Guipos Residence	- August 31
Fr. Benjamin B. Gamos, OSA OMPH Parish Community, Socorro	- August 31

## Fray Alibong Professes Final Vows

Fray James Alibong Jr., OSA, the remaining graduate from the 16th Villanovans of the St. Thomas of Villanova Institute as aspirants in 2011, professed his final vows at the San Agustin Center of Studies in Quezon City on September 25, 2021.

During the occasion, Fr. Andres Rivera Jr., OSA, Prior Provincial of the Province of Sto. Niño de Cebu- Philippines, highlighted that his solemn profession is the beginning to continue listening to the voice of God and to seek His face in the community.

Fr. Rivera added that as Augustinians living in the community, "We are not making a living here in the community. Hindi tayo pumasok sa community para mabuhay; but we are called to enter for us to experience life in the community."

Fray Alibong, OSA hails from Olango Island, Lapu-lapu City, Cebu. He is the eldest son of James Maloloy-on Alibong and Merlina Amit Ompad.

At the age of 17, he was accepted as an aspirant and entered the Order at the San Agustin Center of Studies (SACS) in Quezon City where the Augustinians' philosophical institute is also located. Three years later he was accepted to the postulancy. For four years, he studied at the St. Thomas of Villanova Institute affiliated to the University of San Agustin in Iloilo City finishing Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and graduated in March 2015.

In the same year (2015), he travelled to Cebu to spend his canonical novitiate year at the Augustinian Novitiate and Prayer House, Talisay City from June 2015 to June 2016. His first profession of vows was held at Santo Niño de Cebu Parish, Mohon, Talisay City, Cebu on June 28, 2016.

After his first profession, he went back to SACS to take his Theological Studies at the Recoletos School of Theology in Miranila,

Quezon City which is affiliated to the Royal and Pontifical University of Santo Tomas. He finished his theological studies in three years and graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts Major in Sacred Theology in 2019. Two years later, he was conferred with the Degree of Master of Arts in Theology in June 2021.

The Solemn Profession is the last step of becoming a full member in the life of the Order of Saint Augustine.

It is a custom in the Province of Sto. Niño de Cebu- Philippines that after the solemn profession, a friar receives his first assignment and lives together with the brothers in the community.

Fray Alibong will continue to discern and seek the face of God in his new community as he will be assigned to the Colegio San Agustin – Mati community in Davao Oriental.

## CSA-Bacolod celebrates 59th Founding Anniv

The Colegio San Agustin – Bacolod (CSA-B) gloriously celebrates its 59th founding anniversary on July 8, 2021.

The celebration started with a Eucharistic celebration presided over by its new President, Rev. Fr. Arnel Dizon, OSA.

It was then followed by a virtual program that highlights the glorious history of the school as it looks forward to its diamond foundation anniversary in 2022.

In a message by Fr. Dizon to all the stakeholders, "59 years is indeed a journey of faith, hope and love or expressed by our own categories and core values. It is one journey anchored on truth, blessed with unity and guided by charity."

CSA-Bacolod continues to strengthen its distinct Augustinian identity and mission through the years.

The 60th founding anniversary next year is a "milestone worth celebrating" Fr. Dizon added.

As part of the preparations, the CSA-B announced a logo-making contest which will be used for the celebration at the same time the opening of nominations



for the most outstanding alumni.

The event was an interactive program that allowed the online audience to join a trivia game wherein questions were taken from the history of the school since its foundation in 1962 up to the present.

## SJCS Gears Up for 'New' School Year



Facing the challenges in today's changing time may be difficult.

In the contrary, a call of service prevails if one's passion is teaching.

A decrease in the enrollment this school year 2021-2022 is felt, but this did not hamper the Augustinian Administrators to pursue the San Jose Catholic School's (SJCS) operations.

Enrollment of students from other provinces and abroad through alumni parents were encouraged and

accommodated to increase enrollees.

Enhanced Blended Learning - Modular and Online Learning - were still implemented and Enhanced Technology through Digital Mobile Campus (DMC) is upgraded and oriented well to the stakeholders.

Books in major subjects were made available to the students for better teaching and learning process on online and modular classes.

Faculty members attended INSET Webinars and other development programs to enhance their teaching competence.

A virtual orientation on August 23, 24, and 26 signaled the formal opening of classes.

It also paved the way to students, parents and guardians on the awareness of the succeeding concerns namely: Online Conference Reminders, Class Rules and a Thorough Guideline Information on Enhanced Use of Digital Mobile Campus (D.M.C.).



# EDUCATION MINISTRY



## USA-Iloilo celebrates 117 years

The University of San Agustin (USA) - Iloilo celebrated its 117 years of Catholic education and Augustinian experience on July 15, 2021.

The event opened with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

A short glimpse of the University of San Agustin through the years was shared to students, faculty, personnel, alumni, sponsors and donors, and other stakeholders through live streaming in its social media page (FB University of San Agustin – Iloilo).

It was also a momentous day as the university continues its mission to explore and discover possibilities through research with the blessing and groundbreaking of the USA Magnetic Resonance Facility.

The announcement of finalists for the Dinagyang Monument

Design Competition was also one of the highlights of the celebration.

It was in 1904 when the Augustinian friars founded the school and it began as a preparatory school for boys.

As the years passed by, various programs for science and the arts were opened to cater to more students who are willing to learn.

The university has also expanded its courses and programs to provide students more options in harnessing their skills and knowledge that would equip them for the industry later on.

At present, it continues to grow and remain stronger amidst the challenges brought about by the pandemic. *Excerpts from the Daily Guardian*

## CSA-Biñan inaugurates “Healing Rooms”

On September 20, 2021, the Colegio San Agustin – Biñan inaugurated its “Healing Rooms” or Isolation rooms as part of their health and safety precautionary measures in handling possible COVID-19 cases for its stakeholders.

It can accommodate two patients at a time with two individual rooms and is located at the Basketball gym near the garage.

Individuals staying at the school, who will have COVID-19-like symptoms will be advised to stay at the isolation rooms. Other purpose of the facility is where suspected patients could be taken for swab testing.

## Magin earns Doctorate in Theology

On September 15, 2021, Rev. Fr. Rodel D. Magin, OSA successfully defended his Dissertation for a Doctorate on Sacred Theology Major in Biblical Theology (Old Testament).

He defended via Zoom virtual platform in the presence of the defense panel under the auspices of Loyola School of Theology, Ateneo de Manila University, Quezon City, Metro Manila.

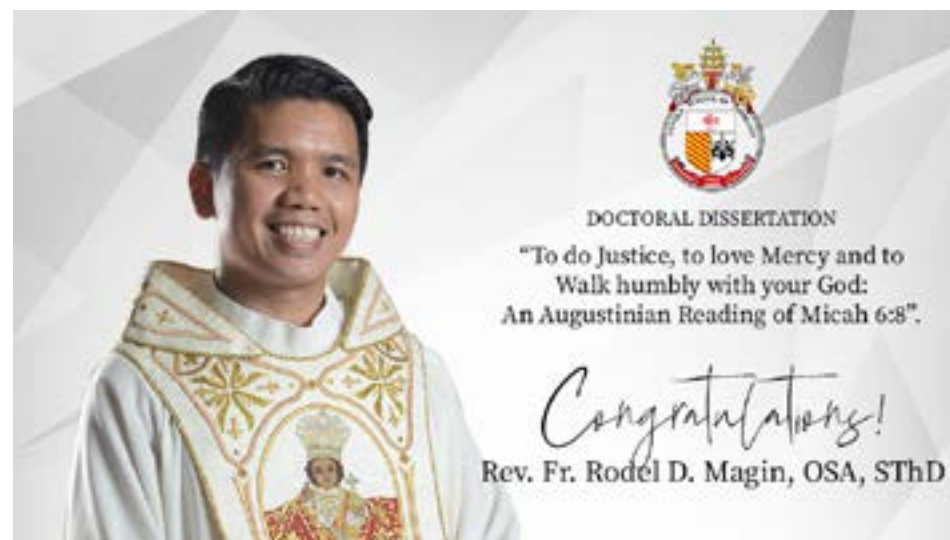
His Doctoral Dissertation is entitled “To do Justice, to love Mercy and to Walk humbly with your God: An Augustinian Reading of Micah 6:8”.

Meticulously working on his doctoral research since 2015, he

was well directed by Dr. Federico Villanueva, his thesis adviser.

Fr. Magin is presently assigned in the University of San

Agustin, Iloilo City as Director of Religious Studies. (Fr. Ric Anthony A. Reyes, OSA)



# PASTORAL MINISTRY

## St. Augustine Parish welcomes the Jubilee Cross of the Diocese of Sorsogon

In celebration of the 500 Years of Christianity in the Philippines, the St. Augustine Parish welcomed the Jubilee Cross of the Diocese of Sorsogon on the 16th of July, 2021.

Upon its arrival from St. John the Baptist Parish in Castilla, Sorsogon, a short motorcade welcomed its entry to the jurisdiction of the parish.

It was followed by the welcome rites led by Rev. Fr. Ronald Siaga, OSA, Parish Priest of St. Augustine Parish, together with Rev. Fr. Heginio Lagarde, Parish Priest of St. John the Baptist Parish.

A Eucharistic celebration was held thereafter by the receiving Parish Priest with Rev. Fr. Cyril Jeth Tagalog, OSA, and Rev. Fr. Mark Domasian, OSA - members of the St. Augustine Parish, Gubat, Sorsogon community.

As the Jubilee Cross stays in the parish, they have organized the Cross' visitation to all the chapels within the jurisdiction of the parish.

Prayer vigils were also conducted throughout the entire duration of the Jubilee Cross' visit.

On July 28, 2021, the last day of the Jubilee Cross' visitation, the image of the Santo Niño de Cebu was permitted to be on pilgrimage alongside the Jubilee Cross across the entire diocese.

From Saint Augustine Parish, the Cross was brought to St. Lawrence the Deacon Parish, Pto. Diaz by Rev. Fr. Alex Jerus, its Parish Priest.



## OMPH Guipos officially welcomes its 2nd Parish Priest

The Our Mother of Perpetual Help Parish (OMPH) in Guipos, Zamboanga del Sur officially welcomed its second Parish Priest on July 4, 2021.

Rev. Fr. Vicente F. Amplayo, OSA was installed as the second Parish Priest of OMPH.

The Eucharistic celebration and the rites of installation was presided over by Most Rev. Ronald I. Lunas, D.D, Bishop of Pagadian.

Among those present in the activity was the first and the outgoing Parish Priest of OMPH Guipos, Fr. Mark Anthony C. Tampos, OSA together with several diocesan clergy.

Fr. Amplayo was previously assigned as the School Director of the Colegio del Santo Niño de Cebu for five years.

He made his simple profession of vows in 1995 and was ordained priest in 2000.

Rev. John Louis Ricamora, OSA and Rev. Rey Cyril C. Lagrosa, OSA were also assigned to assist the pastoral needs of the parish.

They were both ordained deacons on April 29, 2021 at the University of San Agustin – Iloilo Chapel.

The parish was canonically established in 2018. (D)



## New Rector Ready to Serve the Sto. Niño and His Devotees

On July 23, 2021, Rev. Fr. Nelson G. Zerda, OSA has been formally installed as the new Rector of the Basilica Minore del Sto. Niño de Cebu – the home of the five-century old miraculous image of the Holy Child.

Before he took the path of priesthood, Fr. Zerda was a Licensed Architect and a teacher. He took up his late vocation at Guadalupe Monastery in Makati City.

He said that becoming a priest was not part of his plan but he saw the life of being an Augustinian appealing– the idea of friends living together in one mind and one heart which charmed him.

As an Augustinian, he had his solemn profession on November 21, 2000 and was ordained priest on August 21, 2001.

Acclaimed as an introvert, he was able to overcome it with friends and one of the charisms as an Augustinian is their identity of being with friends– being with a community of brothers.

Like Saint Augustine, he claimed that he was a late comer in the sense that he was in his thirties when he stepped foot into his vocation.

“Sto. Niño in my life is the Holy Child that continues to remind me as a priest to be humble and

how to fuse the responsibilities given to me. [He is] a reminder to be dependent on the grace of the Lord.” Fr. Zerda said when asked who the Sto. Niño is in his life.

Moreover, he added that the roles and responsibilities of being a Rector and a pastor are the same but there are parochial responsibilities that he is not allowed to do just like the responsibilities of being a parish priest. He also wants to give importance to his role as Spiritual Director of the Cofradia del Sto. Niño de Cebu – the organization responsible for the propagation of the Sto. Niño devotion – especially because it has both national and international coverages.

“To the devotees of Sto. Niño, I urge you to continue this devotion to the Holy Child the Señor Sto. Niño, worthy to be emulated by His image, reminding us to remain humble of ourselves no matter what we face. We always have the promise of Sto. Niño because He is the one who blesses us. As His followers, we will not lose hope. So, continue to be an instrument of this propagation of faith to the Holy Child so that we will be faithful and believe in this humble image of God – Santo Niño.” Fr. Zerda highlighted. */Lou Paghasian, Stenus Allessandra Olid with GERALYN MAE LISTON, CNU Communication Interns*



## Socorro greets new Parish Administrators



The Our Mother of Perpetual Help Parish (OMPH) in Bucas Grande Island, Socorro, Surigao del Norte, welcomed its new parish administrators.

Rev. Fr. Edmar A. Escobar, OSA alongside Rev. Fr. Benjamin Gamos, OSA and Rev. Fr. Alfonso Sedurifa, OSA were installed as Parish Priest and Parochial Vicars respectively on August 14, 2021.

In lieu of the penitential rite during the mass, Rev. Fr. Laureano L. Espuerta Jr., Vicar Forane, installed the new pastors of the parish on behalf of the Bishop of the Diocese of Surigao, Most Rev. Antonieto D. Cabajog, D.D.

Rev. Fr. Glen Donoso, DCS, Parish Priest of San Benito, Siargao Island, read the appointment letter of Bishop Cabajog.

Fr. Escobar, the new Parish Priest, was formerly designated as Parochial Vicar of the same diocese at Santa Ana Parish, Burgos, Siargao Island.

Meanwhile, Fr. Sedurifa was formerly assigned at the Augustinian Novitiate and Prayer House in Cebu and Fr. Gamos was previously serving at the San Augustin Center of Studies in Quezon City.

Moreover, Rev. Roner Anildes, OSA, deacon, is also part of the community assisting to the parish’s pastoral ministry.

The diocesan priests from the Vicariate of Mount Carmel composed of the parishes in Siargao Island and Bucas Grande Island were also present in the installation. (D)

## Gubat Parish has a new Parish Priest



On the seventh day novena in honor of Saint Augustine, August 25, Rev. Fr. Ronald Siaga, OSA was installed as the new Parish Priest of the Saint Augustine of Hippo Parish in Gubat, Sorsogon.

Most Rev. Jose Alan V. Dialogo, D.D, Bishop of the Diocese of Sorsogon, presided over the rite of installation during the novena mass that was attended by the diocesan priests from nearby parishes, the Augustinian friars and the parishioners.

Fr. Siaga, the third parish priest, replaces Fr. Wilboy Bracamonte, OSA who now holds the same office at Santo Niño de Cebu Parish in Biñan City, Laguna.

Fr. Mark Domasian, OSA and Fr. Cyril Jeth Tagalog, OSA were also installed as the Parochial Vicars of the parish.

The Augustinians started their presence in Sorsogon in 2006 while administering the St. Lawrence the Deacon Quasi-Parish in Barangay Bagacay but a new church was built in Cogon-San Ignacio and was later established the Saint Augustine of Hippo Parish on August 30, 2014 with Fr. Tomas Banayag, OSA as its first parish priest. (D)

## Basilica welcomes new organization: Confraternity of Our Mother of Good Counsel



The Basilica Minore del Sto. de Cebu (BMSN) welcomes the newly established organization called the 'Confraternity of Our Mother of Good Counsel' (COMGC) with the installation of its founding members and induction of officers last August 29, 2021 at Colegio del Sto. Niño (CSN) Activity Center.

BMSN established a new organization whose goal is to propagate the devotion of Our Mother of Good Counsel and facilitate the home visit of her image in the community as well as to foster the Augustinian friendship and community life among many others.

The event began with an assembly and orientation spearheaded by the Spiritual Director of the organization, Rev. Fr. Pacifico Nohara, OSA. Together with him was Rev. Fr. Andrew Batayola, OSA who had his talk

about the topic: "Our Mother of Good Counsel: Her Devotion and Relationship to her Son Jesus."

"If there is a mother of Good Counsel, who is the good counsel? It's Jesus. Jesus is the good counsel." Fr. Batayola highlighted in his sharing.

According to him, any saints or any devotion like Mary will help mankind be drawn closer to Jesus.

Atty. Geraldine Jorda who initiated the founding of COMGC later discussed the constitution and by-laws towards the aspiring members of the organization.

When asked about how the idea started she said, "Kanang kuan lang gyud ni, it came, mura'g huros sa hangin lang gyud ni siya. Huros sa hangin nga nagdala sa pulong sa Ginoo...Mura'g Espiritu Santo ang nagsugo namo niini pag-create."

It just came like a breeze of the wind – a breeze of the wind which brings the word of God. It's as if the Holy Spirit instructed us to create this.

According to Atty. Jorda, right after the pilgrimage of the 13 Holy Doors in Cebu last June 13 of this year, the volunteers of the 450th Kaplag Celebration in 2015 were inspired to create an organization which they can call their "home". Thus, the creation of the COMGC confraternity since there is no confraternity yet in the Basilica carrying her name. Most of all, the Mother of Good Counsel has a special place of honor among the Augustinians.

Few days later, they proposed the idea to the former BMSN Prior and Rector, Rev. Fr. Pacifico Nohara, OSA, [Fr. Nohara was still the rector at that time of the proposal]. Then, series of discussion came after.

"There is openness in our hearts. Once we are touched by the Holy Spirit and we are open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit and then we do, we act on it," Atty. Jorda added.

Subsequently, a mass was held presided by the new rector of the Basilica, Rev. Fr. Nelson Zerda, OSA. It was followed by the installation of the members where each received a scapular of Our Mother of Good Counsel and the oath-taking of the newly elected officers namely;

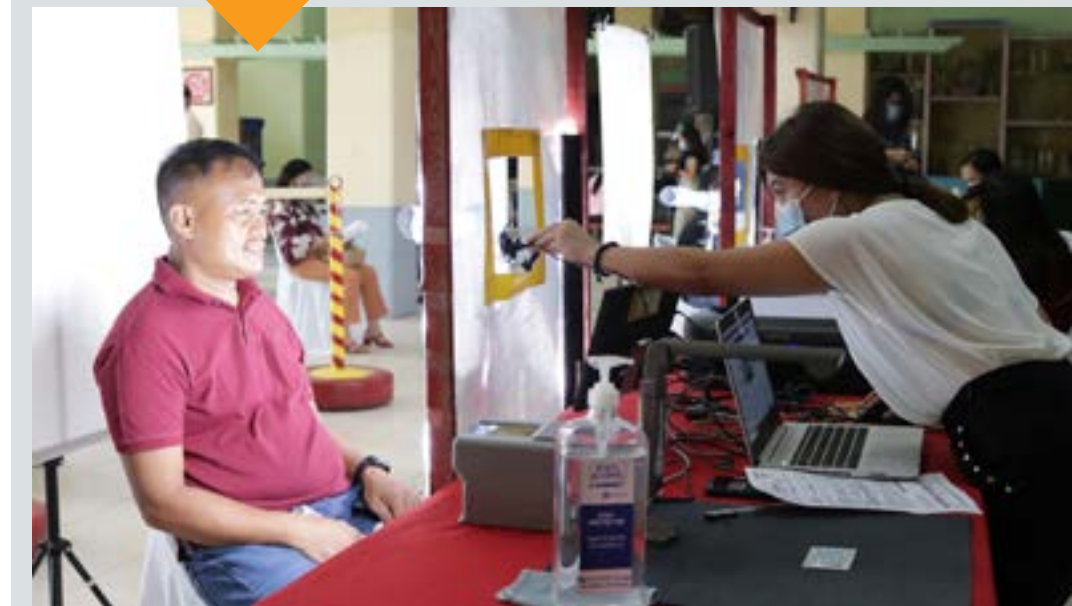
Spiritual Director:  
Rev. Fr. Pacifico C. Nohara, OSA  
President:  
Atty. Geraldine Jorda  
Vice-President:  
Saturnino Camasura  
Secretary:  
Leony Makasiar  
Treasurer:  
Margie Parado  
Auditor:  
Hazel Jarangdon

According to Fr. Nohara, COMGC will be part of the mandated organizations of the Basilica.

The importance of confraternities in the social and religious life of the community deepens the Catholic faith of people through devotion and belonging to a group sharing the same values.

Last August 1, 2021 was the supposed date of installation of the confraternity. However, due to the stricter implementation of the Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine (MECQ) in Cebu City, it was moved to August 29 instead.

COMGC is looking forward to expanding and having more members in the future. /Grace C. Noynay, BMSN Media Centre volunteer



## Basilica Partners with PSA for Nat'l ID

The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) held a three-day National ID registration for the Basilica Minore del Sto. Niño de Cebu (BMSN) personnel and volunteers at the Colegio del Sto. Niño (CSN) Activity Center.

As part of the program of PSA, Basilica negotiated with them to conduct registration for its employees and volunteers.

According to Angelica Raut-raut, Registration Center

Supervisor of PSA, the National ID registration has three programs namely; (1) LGU based registration – where mall registration centers welcome people to have themselves registered; (2) Fix Registration – NSO-like registration where people can directly register; and (3) Institutional Registration – where an institution can request to conduct the registration within their premises.

The Basilica is under the institutional program of PSA.

Due to the implementation of the Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine (MECQ) in almost all provinces and cities including Cebu City, the registration centers were temporarily closed and have resorted to the institutional registration program instead.

The program started last August 26 and ended on the Feast of St. Augustine – August 28. / Grace C. Noynay, BMSN Media Centre volunteer



# PASTORAL MINISTRY

## Bishop Billones to Fr. Gonesto: “Let Jesus, the good shepherd, be your foundation”

“To become an effective shepherd we acknowledge first that primarily, “I am the lost sheep.” And in front of Jesus, “I am ‘that’ lost sheep” that needs to receive first his love, his care, his protection and guidance... Let Jesus, the good shepherd, be your foundation.”

This is Bishop Billones’ message to the new parish priest of Sto. Niño de Cebu Parish Mohon, Talisay City, Rev. Fr. Generous P. “Fr. G” Gonesto, OSA, who was installed on September 16, 2021.

Fr. Gonesto is the 9th parish priest of the Sto. Niño Parish since its establishment in 1985.

Fr. Gonesto hails from Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental and he first professed his vows in 1998 and was ordained priest in 2002.



Most Rev. Midyphil Billones, D.D., the Auxiliary Bishop of Cebu, fraternally invited the new parish priest together with the assigned Augustinian friars to acknowledge themselves that they are the sheep that need the good shepherd. “If we miss this, we will think that we own the mission or we own the priesthood or we own the ministry,” he said.

As a shepherd, “We are only extensions of the loving heart of Jesus, who promised I love

my people. I will send shepherds patterned after on my own heart.” Bishop Billones said in his homily.

Other friars assigned as pastors of the church are Fr. Jerome P. Mesina, OSA, Prior, Fr. Donato E. Ellezar, OSA, Procurator, and Fr. Dominador M. Besares, OSA, member.

Present in the installation were the Augustinian friars headed by the Prior Provincial, Rev. Fr. Andres Rivera Jr., OSA and the parishioners. (D)

## Santa Ana celebrates Parish Fiesta



Surigao Bishop Antonieto D. Cabajog was the main celebrant of the Fiesta Mass at the Santa Ana Parish in Burgos, Surigao del Norte last July 26, 2021. The Augustinian friar-priests of Burgos Residence together with some diocesan clergy concelebrated during the Mass.

Santa Ana, the mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary, is the Patroness of Burgos. The administration of the parish in Burgos was accepted and approved during the 8th

Ordinary Provincial Chapter (May 2012) but the friars started their ministry as early as May 2010. The current church retablo and back wall were decorated with paintings depicting archangels and other religious motifs during the term of Fr. Donato E. Ellezar, OSA, former Burgos parish priest while Fr. Noli P. Detoyato, OSA was assigned as the new parish priest effective July 1, 2021.

# PASTORAL MINISTRY

## Guipos Hopes to Build New Parish Church

Four years after the Augustinians arrived in Guipos, Zamboanga del Sur, parishioners of the Our Mother of Perpetual Help (OMPH) Parish presented a prospective design of a new church that it hopes to build.

The rendered perspective is a thousand seat capacity church

designed by Engr. Licah Siton & Architect Philmark Caliso.

With the plan, the Augustinian friars and the parishioners are aiming to have a sturdier and concrete structure as a house of worship for its people.

At present, the church structure is made out of bamboo

and wood.

The Augustinians officially started their missionary presence in the town on July 1, 2017 with Fr. Vicente Amplayo, OSA and Fr. Mark Anthony Tampos, OSA as its first administrators at San Isidro Chapel, Poblacion, Guipos; but in 2018, on its declaration as a parish, the location of the current parish is built on a separate lot donated to the Diocese which is still in Poblacion and San Isidro remains as a chapel. The Augustinian presence in Guipos is a 10-year agreement between the Diocese of Pagadian and the Augustinian Province of Santo Niño de Cebu-Philippines and is subject for renewal.

Estimated to cost fifty million pesos, the friars and the parishioners are still gathering funds for the project to begin.

Together, let us support and help OMPH build their church.



## Saguday Parish Delivers Food Packs

The Commission on Social Action of the Parish delivered food packs to the families affected by the granular lockdown in Purok 1 and 2 of Brgy. Rizal, Saguday, Quirino.

The St. Augustine of Hippo Parish would like to thank the personnel of Barangay Rizal for accompanying the team.

Moreover, the parish would also like to express its gratitude to all the parishioners and donors for supporting the cause.



# INITIAL FORMATION

## SACS-STVH Welcomes 4 New Aspirants

The San Agustin Center of Studies-Saint Thomas of Villanova Hall Community gladly welcomed the four new aspirants, namely: Rejemel M. Abella (19) from Cebu City, Cebu; Gabriel Niño A. Barrido (18) from Poblacion Castilla, Sorsogon; Robert C. Cabardo (21) from Montebello Kananga, Leyte; Christian Lendelud L. Delcampo (18) from Compostela, Davao de Oro.

Aspirants Abella, Cabardo, and Delcampo arrived in the Community last July 21, 2021, whereas Aspirant Barrido came last September 3, 2021 due to COVID restrictions in Metro Manila. All of them underwent a 14-day room isolation as part of the Community's protocols against COVID-19.

Rev. Fr. Rommel G. Bongcac, OSA, the Master of the College Seminarians, was in great



joy knowing that in spite of this current pandemic, the new aspirants still reported to the community in order to begin their journey as young aspiring Augustinians.

The new aspirants were already enrolled to Saint Thomas

of Villanova Institute (STVI), the philosophical institute of the Augustinian Province of Santo Niño de Cebu-Philippines, for their four-year philosophical studies.

*We are the Augustinians!*  
*We Evangelize with a heart!*  
Come and be an Augustinian!



# INITIAL FORMATION

## Two Novices Profess Vows in Cebu; APAN suspended

On the feast of St. Thomas the Apostle, Novice Reden S. Lequin and Novice Miguel Jerrico M. Rodriguez made their profession of religious vows at the Augustinian Novitiate and Prayer House in Talisay City, Cebu last July 3, 2021.

This happened after a year of novitiate formation in discerning and living out the Augustinian religious life more intensely.

After careful deliberation from the formators, the novices have been granted to be suitable for the profession of vows of poverty,

novitiate life under the program of the Asia-Pacific Augustinian Novitiate (APAN).

During the homily, Fr. Rivera encouraged the brothers – incoming novices, simply and the solemnly professed friars – most especially the two candidates for profession ‘to continue doubting; however, doubt is the beginning of wisdom. For doubt is a process of understanding deeper a reality of something – the presence of Christ in the community.’ At the same time, he hopes that the Holy Spirit

### APAN Suspended

At the end of the profession, Fr. Rivera, OSA announced the suspension of the Asia - Pacific Augustinian Novitiate (APAN) program that would send formators and novices from different circumscriptions in Asia and the Pacific to the Novitiate house in Talisay City.

APAN is an international novitiate program of the Order of Saint Augustine in the Asia-Pacific (OSAAP) region as the Augustinians



obedience, and chastity.

Rev. Fr. Andres D. Rivera Jr., OSA, Prior Provincial of the Province of Sto. Niño de Cebu, accepted their profession on behalf of the Prior General, Most Rev. Alejandro Moral Anton, OSA.

Nov. Lequin hails from Bogo City, Cebu, and he is under the Province of Santo Niño de Cebu-Philippines while Nov. Rodriguez is from Santo Rosa City, Laguna who belongs to the Vicariate of the Orient. Both of them spent their

through their prayers will lead and guide the brothers as they go and search for the truth of Christ, the presence of the community.

Meanwhile, Fray Miguel Jerrico M. Rodriguez, OSA gave a message of gratitude. He said that with only two brothers undergoing the canonical year of the novitiate, their experience is quite unique compared to the usual number of novices that varies from eight to fifteen novices annually. Nevertheless, he remains thankful to God for the experience.

are present in Australia, India, Indonesia, South Korea, Japan, Vietnam and the Philippines.

The decision came from the superiors of the OSAAP and this was due to the continuous threat of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The novitiate program still continues by accepting brothers from the Vicariate of the Orient and the Province of Santo Niño de Cebu respectively. (D)

# INITIAL FORMATION

## 3 Aspirants accepted to Postulancy in QC and Makati

Two aspirants from the San Agustin Seminary (Seminary formation for Professionals) in Makati City were accepted to the year of postulancy on August 9, 2021.

Postulancy is the second year of formation for late vocations of the Province at the same time the last stage before being accepted to the novitiate.

The newly accepted postulants are Bro. Mhelcar C. Anierdes and Bro. Mark Lester B. Sales.

Rev. Fr. Danilo Carido, OSA, Prior of the Monasterio de Guadalupe Community and Master of the seminarians, received their acceptance as postulants.

The rite of acceptance was held at the Nuestra Señora de Gracia Parish during the celebration of the Eucharist and was attended by the former Master of seminarians, Rev. Fr. Williener Jack Luna, OSA.

Meanwhile, one aspirant was also accepted to the postulancy at San Agustin Center of Studies in Quezon City on September 5, 2021.

Brother John Andrew V. Castañeda, who is starting his 4th year college studies in the same compound at St. Thomas of Villanova Institute, was accepted by the Prior of the House, Rev. Fr. Edgardo Lazo, OSA.



## 5 Novices receive the Augustinian Habit

As a sign of acceptance to the novitiate, five postulants were given their habit last July 6, 2021.

Four are from the Province of Sto. Niño de Cebu and one from the Vicariate of the Orient.

The novitiate formation program is a year of discernment for brothers who wish to fully live the Augustinian way of life by professing the vows of chastity, poverty, and obedience.

From the Province of Santo Niño de Cebu, the five novices are Arjie Santosidad (Kinatarcan Island, Sta. Fe, Cebu), Rey Gungob (Consolacion, Cebu), Katrieno Bennit Jorda (Matag-ob, Leyte), and

Rafael Martin Musa (Muntinlupa, City).

While from the Vicariate of the Orient is Rey! Jon Esma (Olongapo City, Zambales).

The rite of acceptance and blessing of the Augustinian habit was led by Fr. Eusebio B. Berdon, OSA, Prior of the Augustinian Novitiate and Prayer House, together with Fr. Joel L. Beronque, OSA, Novice Master, and the other members of the community namely: Fr. Leonard B. Realiza, OSA, Fr. Nicolas M. Echeveria, OSA, Fr. Romanico O. Cañon, OSA, Fr. Jasper V. Valmores, OSA, and Fr. Rodolfo A. Bugna, OSA.



# INITIAL FORMATION

## Augustinians institute Simply-Professed Friars to the Lectorate and Acolytate Ministries



Eleven simply-professed Augustinian friars were instituted to the ministries of lectorate and acolytate during the community Mass on September 18, 2021 at the Multi-purpose Hall of the San Agustin Center of Studies (SACS): eight for the lectorate and three for the acolytate. They received their ministries from the hands of Rev. Fr. Edgardo L. Lazo, OSA, the Prior of SACS Community, on behalf of the Prior Provincial, Rev. Fr. Andres D. Rivera Jr., OSA.

The Augustinian community prays that the good Lord may continue to help them become worthy ministers to serve Him and His people, especially in the proclamation of the Word and in assisting at the altar.

## Four Simply-Professed friars undergo Pastoral Exposure



After years of seminary studies, four simply-professed friars have started their pastoral exposure to various parishes under the Province of Sto. Niño de Cebu as part of their initial formation before the solemn profession.

Fray Ariel A. Panimdim, OSA is assigned at the Santo Niño Mission Station in Pallas Valley, Ilocos Norte; Fray Anacleto M. Morales III, OSA is assigned at Santa Ana Parish, Burgos, Siargao Island, Surigao del Norte; Fray James Carlo M. Atienza, OSA is assigned to Saint Augustine Parish, Cogon-San Ignacio, Gubat, Sorsogon; and Fray Ronnel Ian M. Garcia is at Our Mother of Perpetual Help Parish, Poblacion, Guipos, Zamboanga del Sur.

Pastoral exposure is a six-month program that would immerse the friars in the daily life of a parish.

They started the program in September.

Let us continue to pray for our brothers in formation as they journey with us as brothers living harmoniously in one mind and heart intent upon God.

# SEASON OF CREATION

## CBCP releases Pastoral Letter on the Season of Creation



The Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) released a Pastoral Letter for the Philippine Church entitled “Journeying together this Season of Creation 2021 towards renewing the Oikos of God” on August 23, 2021.

Most Rev. Romulo G. Valles, D.D., Archbishop of Davao and CBCP President, signed the letter that urges Catholics to join the celebration of the Season of Creation which begins on September 1 and ends on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi on October 4.

Here is the complete text of the letter:

“Code Red for humanity” is how the UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres describes the latest IPCC Sixth Assessment Report [1], which shows the world is dangerously close to irreversible global warming unequivocally caused by human activities. This is the context where we are called to celebrate the Season of Creation, renewing our home which is on the verge of the abyss.

From September 1 to October 4, the Christian family celebrates the beauty and goodness of creation. This global celebration began in 1989 with the Ecumenical Patriarchate’s recognition of Creation Day, which is September 1, and is now embraced by the wide ecumenical community.

In 2003, through the Pastoral Statement of the Permanent Council [2] “Celebrating Creation Day and Creation Time”, CBCP called for the observance of Creation time. In 2015, Pope Francis formally added the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation [3] to the Catholic calendar as an annual day of prayer. And in 2016, the Holy Father officially invited all Catholics to celebrate the full season. [4] This year, our theme for the Season of Creation is “A Home for all? Renewing the Oikos of God”. In the Philippines, we extend our celebration of this special season to the second Sunday of October, the Indigenous People’s Sunday.

This “time for creation” offers, in the words of Pope Francis, “individual believers and communities a fitting opportunity to reaffirm their personal vocation to be stewards of creation, to thank God for the wonderful handiwork which he has entrusted to our care, and to implore his help for the protection of creation as well as his pardon for the sins committed against the world in which we live.” [5]

Let us pray for the two important meetings that are happening this year. The UN Biodiversity Conference (COP 15) gathers nations around the world to face the problem of biodiversity loss and the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) to address the urgency of the climate crisis. These two issues, climate and biodiversity, are intricately connected, with climate change projected to become an increasingly important driver of biodiversity loss.

On behalf of the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of the Philippines, drawing inspiration from our previous pastoral letters and from the vision of *Laudato Si’*, I would like to enjoin all to:

1. Celebrate the Season of Creation with your families, communities and parishes. To help you with the celebration please visit <https://www.facebook.com/CBCPLaudatoSi> for more resources.
2. Participate in the activities organized through the National *Laudato Si’* Program to roll out the *Laudato Si’* Action Platform [6] – a 7-year journey together towards living the vision of *Laudato Si’*.
3. Sign the Healthy Planet, Healthy People Petition [7]. Invite your families and friends to sign this petition for the upcoming two big meetings on Biodiversity and Climate Change. I encourage all dioceses and parishes to use their social media platforms by connecting to the Facebook page of the CBCP National *Laudato Si’* Program to monitor signatures from the Philippines.

Our common home is on the brink of catastrophe. Urgent actions are needed. We hope that this Season of Creation would lead us to renew our commitment to action to ensure that all creation will have a safe and healthy home to flourish and participate in renewing the Oikos of God.

+Romulo Valles, DD  
CBCP President

# SEASON OF CREATION

## Pope Francis Encourages Participation for the Season of Creation 2021



Photo by: Vatican.va

In two separate messages, Pope Francis encourages Catholics and those people in good faith to participate in the care for creation, our common home, through the celebration of the ecumenical Season of Creation 2021 from September 1 to October 4, 2021.

In the Pope’s video released on September 1 by the Pope’s Worldwide Prayer Network, Pope Francis issues an urgent exhortation for us to question our lifestyles and the way we use the planet’s resources in order to propose a change based on responsible care, respect, simplicity and austerity.

Pope Francis is happy with the initiatives and commitment of the young people in the projects for environmental and social improvement and that we, adults, can learn from them.

Moreover, on the same day, in Pope Francis’ weekly General Audience at the Paul VI Audience Hall, he recalled the celebration

of the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation and the beginning of the Season of Creation Month.

The Pope said, “Together with our brothers and sisters of different Christian denominations, let us pray and work for our common home in these times of grave planetary crisis.”

This year, the Season of Creation carries the theme of “A home for all? Renewing the Oikos of God.” Oikos is a Greek word which means “home.” The organizers have focused on how climate change and other environmental threats jeopardize the homes of millions of people as well as millions more species.

One of the highlights of the celebration is the online petition, “Healthy Planet, Healthy People.” This is a petition organized by the *Laudato Si* Movement that calls for a robust global action at the coming two UN Summits, COP26 and the COP15.



## Season of Creation 2021 Logo: Abraham’s Tent

This year’s logo for the Season of Creation is Abraham’s tent, symbolizing “A home for all”.

Abraham and Sarah opened their tent as a home for three strangers, who turned out to be God’s angels (Genesis 18). By creating a home for all, their act of radical hospitality became a source of great blessing. Abraham’s tent is a symbol of our ecumenical call to practice creation care as an act of radical hospitality, safeguarding a place for all creatures, human and more human, in our common home, the household (oikos) of God.

This Season of Creation, consider pitching “Abraham’s tent” in the church garden or green space as a sign of hospitality for all beings who are excluded. Communities could be invited to pray with and for the vulnerable of the community. Perhaps bring parts of creation into the tent to pray with you. The tent can also be present as a symbol during events or in worship throughout the Season of Creation as a symbol of the community’s intention to create a home for all. (*Excerpt from the Season of Creation 2021 Guide*)

# SEASON OF CREATION

## SEASON OF CREATION 2021 *A home for all? Renewing the Oikos of God*

Stay updated on this page for the Philippine Augustinians' Laudato Si' Campaign activities September to December 2021

A home for all

The Philippine Augustinians successfully launched its Laudato-Si' campaign on September 1, 2021 in time for the opening of the Season of Creation and World Day of Prayer.

The launching started with a Holy Mass held at the Pilgrim Center of the Basilica Minore del Santo Niño de Cebu. The Mass was presided over by Fr. John Ion Miranda, OSA, Executive Director of the Santo Niño de Cebu Augustinian Social Development Foundation, Inc. (SNAF), the campaign secretariat and social development arm of the Justice and Peace Commission of the Philippine Augustinians.

Before the final blessing, Fr. Miranda, OSA blessed seedlings of endemic hardwood and fruit-bearing



### PH Augustinians Roll Out Environmental Campaign

trees to be grown on September 9, 2021 in nearby Augustinian communities to symbolize the process of reconciliation with the rest of Creation, especially in these times of disasters and pandemic.

After the mass was a webinar themed, "Our Planet, Our Responsibility: Localizing the UN SDGs towards the Care of Creation."

In 2015, the United Nations set its Strategic Development Goals (SDGs) as pathways for sustainable development and ecological protection. This document converged with the ecological encyclical Laudato Si issued in the same year by Pope Francis to address the human roots of the ecological crisis.

The webinar tackled the Cebu City ordinance that sought to create the "Cebu City UN SDG Council". It was discussed by Councilor Alvin Dizon who authored the said ordinance.

"The realization of UN Sustainable Development Goals starts with us. In our homes, in our respective organizations, we can begin transforming the world," Dizon said.

Afterwards, various organizations from the academe, church, legal community, and civil society shared their local concerns, issues and activities.

The webinar also premiered the video presentation of SNAF on its responses to the worsening environmental degradation.

The webinar was endorsed at the onset by Fr. Andres D. Rivera, Jr., Prior Provincial of the Philippine Augustinians, and Fr. Murphy Sarsonas, Chairperson of the Cebu Archdiocesan Commission on Environmental concerns.

The webinar concluded with a community prayer led by Sr. Virginia Ligaray, RVM. */with PR from SNAF*

# SEASON OF CREATION

### Augustinians Call Out to Grow More Trees

The Order of Saint Augustine - Province of Sto. Niño de Cebu held a coordinated tree-growing activities from September 9-10, 2021 across its various communities and mission territories as part of its 4-month-long Laudato-Si' campaign.

The campaign intends to instigate response from all those who identify themselves with Augustinian traditions at heeding the call of the papal encyclical Laudato Si to address the human roots of the ecological crisis.

Towards this goal, staff and volunteers from its Provincialate Offices and the Basilica Minore del Santo Niño planted about 500 endemic hardwood and fruit-bearing trees on September 9, 2021 in the Augustinian property in San Fernando, Cebu. The 500 trees take reference to the Quincentennial Celebration of the introduction of Christianity in the country and the legacy of Christian stewardship of God's Creation.

Other Augustinian communities also held similar tree-growing initiatives in their jurisdiction on September 10, 2021.

Already, around 2,300 various endemic tree species have been grown by Santo Niño devotees and volunteers since the start of the year in the 10-hectare climate-smart village managed by the Santo Niño de Cebu Augustinian Social Development Foundation, Inc. (SNAF) in the Augustinian mission area in Dumanjug, Cebu. It is part of the "Trees of Hope" project of SNAF to grow 10,000 endemic trees as a symbolic gesture of reconnecting to

the integral relationship with God's Creation.

The campaign sees the COVID-19 pandemic as a symptom of the moral malaise that eroded humanity's harmonious relationship with its ecosystem.

The campaign is a series of ecology-centered activities spearheaded by SNAF, the social development arm of the Justice and Peace Commission of the Philippine Augustinians. It formally commenced on September 1,

2021 with a Holy Mass, Webinar, and launching of the video call to protect our "Common Home" from profit-driven plunder. It closes with the celebration of human life and dignity on December 10, 2021.

Throughout the period, it strives to foster fraternal charity in Augustinian communities and ministries through nurturance of their duty as stewards of God's Creation in pursuit of the common good. */with PR from SNAF*





## Augustinian Communities support Season of Creation 2021

In observance of the Season of Creation 2021, various communities and institutions of the Province heeded to the call and showed their support by conducting tree-growing activities.

In a message by Pope Francis, he encouraged the Catholic faithful to support the cause for the care of our common home.

### Our Mother of Perpetual Help Parish Guipos

On the Feast of Saint Nicholas of Tolentino, the Augustinian Residence in Guipos, Zamboanga del Sur planted Narra seedlings within the parish property in oneness with the celebration of the Season of Creation of the Augustinian Province of Santo Niño de Cebu.

Aware of being stewards of God's creation and conscious that all are living under the same common home, Mother Earth, the activity envisions to reawaken the spirit of stewardship of creation, gratitude for this gift that all enjoy, and humility in the face of God's wonders.

The seedlings and the soil were blessed by the Superior, Fr. Vicente Amplayo, OSA together with the members Rev. John Louis Ricamora, OSA, Rev. Rey Cyril Lagrosa, OSA, and a seminarian on Pastoral Exposure, Fray Ronnel Ian Garcia, OSA.



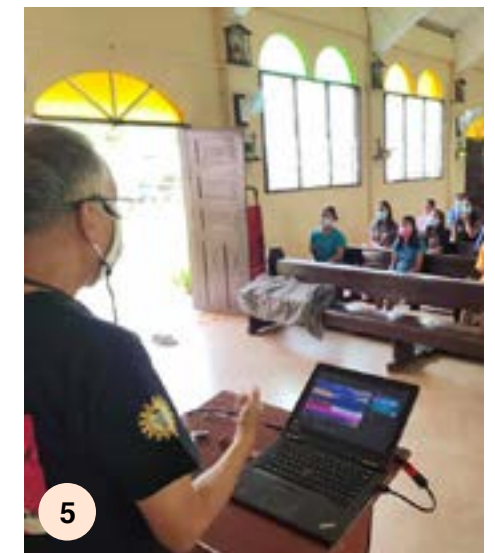
**Colegio San Agustin Bacolod**  
Colegio San Agustin - Bacolod through its Community Extension Program Office (CEPO) resumed its mangrove-growing works in Bago City last September 8 to 9, 2021 with their Senior High School Faculty and Non-Teaching Personnel.

**Augustinian Novitiate and Prayer House**  
Tree-growing activity was conducted by the friars, novices, staff and volunteers of the Augustinian Novitiate and Prayer House in Mohon, Talisay City, Cebu last September 10, 2021.



**Santa Ana Parish, Burgos**  
Rev. Fr. Tito Soquiño, OSA, parochial vicar of Santa Ana Parish, Burgos, Siargao Island, Surigao del Norte, gave a talk on Laudato Si' to the youth of the parish on September 18, 2021.  
Fr. Soquiño has been an advocate of the care for the environment and once served as chairman of the Santo Niño de Cebu-Augustinian Social Development Foundation, Inc. (SNAF).

**Colegio del Santo Niño**  
The Colegio del Sto. Niño de Cebu headed by Fr. Andrew Batayola, OSA, School Director, joined the "Tree of Hope Project" of the Philippine Augustinians' Laudato Si' Campaign, a tree-growing project for ecological healing and restoration.  
The activity was held at the CSN- Greenhills, San Fernando, Cebu.



**IN PHOTOS:**  
1 - Our Mother of Perpetual Help Parish Guipos  
2 - Colegio San Agustin - Bacolod  
3 - Augustinian Novitiate and Prayer House, Taisay City  
4 - Colegio del Santo Niño  
5 - Santa Ana Parish Burgos

# SEASON OF CREATION

## GREEN LEGAL CLINICS

MAINSTREAMING ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

LAUNCHING

September  
Via Zoom

### USA College of Law establishes Green Legal Clinics in Panay

The University of San Agustin College of Law and the Philippine Earth Justice Center (PEJC, Inc.), a non-government organization connected with the College of Law of the University of Cebu, recently entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the establishment of Green Legal Clinics in Panay. The College of Law is one of only five other law schools in the Philippines, and the only one in Western Visayas, in the consortium of Green Legal Clinics with JEPC, Inc.

The two-year project was formally launched online on September 14, 2021. In attendance were officials of PEJC, Inc. led by its Managing Trustee Atty. Christopher John C. Menguito and its External Affairs Director Atty. Kristine Joy Argallon; on the side of the College of Law were its Dean Jose Mari Tirol, Vice Dean Cirilo Yuro Jr., Legal Clinic Director Atty Fitzgerald P. Macalalag, faculty member Atty.

Ricardo Escanlar III, and more than 40 law students.

The Project is focused on legal defense for the environment and the defenseless, legal environment advocacy and education, and legal and policy research on environment. It aims to enhance the capacity of the law school's legal clinic in terms of addressing environment issues within their respective communities. It seeks to train lawyers and law students aspects of environmental advocacy through research, litigation, and legal strategies.

It has a threefold purpose: to deepen and broaden our law students' awareness of environmental issues and to transform them into protectors of the environment particularly in Panay and their respective communities, to qualify them to sit in the Bar Examinations pursuant to the Supreme Court's Clinical Legal Education Program (CLEP),

and to further inculcate into them the necessity of protecting our environment, and extension humankind.

The Green Legal Clinic is the latest of the College of Law's partnerships with local, regional, national, and international institutions. It aims to expose its students to additional modes of legal learning and advocacy work, to capacitate them for their future roles as vanguards of justice and the Rule of Law. */text from www.usa.edu.ph*



# SEASON OF CREATION

## Season of Creation 2021 Prayer

Creator of All,

We are grateful that from your communion of love you created our planet to be a home for all. By your Holy Wisdom you made the Earth to bring forth a diversity of living beings that filled the soil, water and air. Each part of creation praises you in their being, and cares for one another from our place in the web of life.

With the Psalmist, we sing your praise that in your house “even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young.” We remember that you call human beings to keep your garden in ways that honor the dignity of each creature and conserve their place in the abundance of life on Earth.

But we know that our will to power pushes the planet beyond her limits. Our consumption is out of harmony and rhythm with Earth's capacity to heal herself. Habitats are left barren or lost. Species are lost and systems fail. Where reefs and burrows, mountaintops and ocean deeps once teemed with life and relationships, wet and dry deserts lie empty, as if uncreated. Human families are displaced by insecurity and conflict, migrating in search of peace. Animals flee fires, deforestation and famine, wandering in search of a new place to find a home to lay their young and live.

In this Season of Creation, we pray that the breath of your creative Word would move our hearts, as in the waters of our birth and baptism. Give us faith to follow Christ to our just place in the beloved community. Enlighten us with the grace to respond to your covenant and call to care for our common home. In our tilling and keeping, gladden our hearts to know that we participate with your Holy Spirit to renew the face of your Earth, and safeguard a home for all.

In the name of the One who came to proclaim good news to all creation, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

## Filipino Augustinians celebrate Augustine's Feast

With the theme, "St. Augustine: Model of Search for Truth and Hope in Our Times," the Augustinians celebrate the feast of their Spiritual Founder, St. Augustine of Hippo.

The different communities across the Province of Sto. Niño de Cebu - Philippines honored the Bishop of Hippo with novena masses and other activities.

Meanwhile, the Basilica Minore del Sto. Niño de Cebu Media Centre produced a virtual talk about St. Augustine's interiority and pastoral ministry with Fr. Andrew Batayola, OSA as the guest speaker.

Moreover, the Province Media Center also held virtual discussions about the Augustinian way of life and Augustinian vocations through its OSAPAN: Kwentuhang Augustinian - an internet radio program.

Here are some glimpses of the Augustinian festivities:



Images of St. Augustine, Our Lady of Consolation and Cincture, and St. Monica at the Sto. Niño Pilgrim Center.



Rev. Fr. Andres D. Rivera Jr., OSA, Prior Provincial, presided over the Eucharistic celebration and was joined by the Augustinian friars of Cebu.



A number of parishioners join the Eucharistic celebration at the Nuestra Señora de Gracia Parish, Makati City.



Most Rev. Antonieto Cabajog, DD, Bishop of Surigao is surrounded by the Augustinian friars on the feast of St. Monica, wherein Fr. Noli Detoyato, OSA (4th from L-R) was also installed as parish priest of Santa Ana Parish, Burgos, Surigao del Norte.



Physical distancing is observed by parishioners who joined the Holy Mass in honor of their patron's feast at the St. Augustine of Hippo Parish, Saguday, Quirino Province.



A group photo of the pastors of Saint Augustine Parish in Cogon-Ignacio, Gubat, Sorsogon. (L-R: Fr. Cyril Jeth Tagalog, OSA, Fr. Ronald Siaga, OSA, and Fr. Mark Domasian, OSA)



Rev. Roner Anildes, OSA reads the gospel on their celebration of the Solemnity of Saint Augustine in Our Mother of Perpetual Help Parish, Socorro, SDN.



Fr. Edgardo Lazo, OSA shares his homily at a mass on the Solemnity of St. Augustine in San Agustin Center of Studies, Quezon City.



Rev. Fr. Arnel Dizon, OSA, Colegio San Agustin-Bacolod President, presides the Holy Mass in honor of Saint Augustine.

# SPECIALS

## GREETINGS FROM THE PRIOR GENERAL FOR THE FEAST OF SAINT AUGUSTINE TO THE BROTHERS AND SISTERS, THE FRATERNITIES AND THE LAITY OF THE AUGUSTINIAN FAMILY

Dear brothers and sisters of the Augustinian Family,

on the occasion of the two great feasts we are about to celebrate, Saint Monica and Saint Augustine, I send each one of you, and also in the name of the General Council, a fraternal greeting and best wishes.

In this time of great precariousness due to the difficulties caused by the pandemic, it is appropriate that, as we celebrate the feast of our Mother Monica and the solemnity of our Father Augustine, we give thanks to God for the gifts received, for the graces and for the mercy that we have been granted. It is true that some brothers and sisters have died, and others have suffered the consequences of this disease, but none of them or none of us has been abandoned by the love of God., the God who supports and protects us in unusual and unknown ways.

Now is the time to strengthen our faith, to rekindle our hope and to live in charity. "It is in our weaknesses that we feel and experience the presence of the Spirit more strongly and we feel united in Him". This time, which is special from many points of view, asks each of us to make a greater effort to be witnesses of communion. The strength of each group of the Augustinian Family, laity and fraternity, community of men and women religious, of each Circumscription and of the Order, lies in the union of the brothers who act and live, moved by the same Love. "For this we have gathered in the same house, to be one heart and one soul in God". Living in communion means already living in the Love of God, being moved by his Spirit, being resurrected to new life, abandoning our old selves.

For the solemnity of our Father, I propose to you the reflection of a text by Augustine that can help us today to be in solidarity with those who suffer and feel abandoned. Our Holy Father Augustine writes: "Blessed are those who have compassion for others, because they will obtain compassion". With an excellent and logical connection, after saying "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for justice, because they will be satisfied", he adds: "Blessed are those who feel compassion, because God will have compassion on them. In fact, you are hungry and thirsty for justice. If you are hungry and thirsty, you are a beggar for God. So, you stand like a beggar in front of God's door, but there is also another beggar in front of your door. What you will do with your beggar, God will do with his " (St. Augustine, Discourse 53 / A, 10).

This is how Saint Augustine explains the beatitude of the merciful: the poor are your beggar; you are a beggar for God. What you do with your beggar, God will do with his.

I conclude by recalling the words of two great Popes, St. Paul VI and St. John Paul II, with whom I would like to concur: "St. Augustine is unique for his richness, unique for his clarity of thought, unique for the depth of human experience, unique for his relevance! If St. Augustine lived today, he would speak as he spoke more than a thousand years ago, because he truly personifies the humanity that believes, that loves Christ and our God" (St. Paul VI, Homily, 3 November 1973), for this "I manifest the strong desire that he be studied and that his doctrine be widely known and that his pastoral zeal be imitated, so that the magisterium of such a great Doctor and Pastor may continue in the Church and in the world for the benefit of culture and of faith " (St. John Paul II, Augustinum Hipponensem, 28 August 1986).

Rome, from the General Curia of the Order, August 27, 2021, Santa Monica Feast Day. Prat. N. 173/2021

P. Alejandro Moral Anton O.S.A.  
Prior General



# IN PHOTOS



On the Feast of St. Nicholas, Fr. Nicholas Echeveria, OSA is celebrating his birthday together with the friars and seminarians of San Agustin Seminary.



Rev. Fr. John Ion Miranda, OSA incenses the image during a mass in the Sto. Niño Pilgrim Center.



Simply-Professed friars of SACS took a group photo together with their patron after the Holy Mass in honor of St. Nicholas of Tolentine.



Our Mother of Perpetual Help Parish, Guipos highlighted the feast of St. Nicholas with a tree planting in the morning and a mass in the afternoon.



## FEAST OF SAINT NICHOLAS OF TOLENTINE September 10

## September 4 Feast of Nuestra Señora de la Consolacion y Correa

Patroness of the Order of Saint Augustine and the Augustinian Family



Basilica Minore del Santo Niño de Cebu  
Cebu City, Cebu



St. Augustine Parish  
Gubat, Sorsogon



Santo Niño de Cebu Parish  
Mohon, Talisay City, Cebu  
(Segunda Patron)



## Vicariate of Indonesia elects new council members

The Vicariate of Indonesia has elected its new council members during their 3rd vicarial chapter that was held from September 6 until 11, 2021.

The new council members are Fr. John Richard Jempomase,

OSA, Fr. Bernardus was Baru, OSA, Br. Wempi Yanson, OSA and Fr. Markus Malar, OSA.

Meanwhile, Rev. Fr. Jan Pieter Fatem, OSA remains as the Regional Vicar.

Fr. Hilarius Soro, OSA is

the new Vicariate Treasurer and Fr. Paulis Wilem Ulipi, OSA as the Vicariate Secretary.

The 6-day chapter was held in Oriestom Bay Hotel, Maokwari Papua-Barat, Indonesia.

## 4 brothers in Indonesia professed final vows to the Order

On August 1, 2021, four brothers from the Vicariate of Christos Totus Papua Indonesia professed their final vows to the Order of Saint Augustine.

They are Fray Kornelis Warombri, OSA, Fray Sersianus Lessing, OSA, Fray Romundus Karo, OSA, and Fray Deventus Lio Raja Wero, OSA.

The Regional Vicar, Fr. Jan Pieter Fatem, OSA, received their solemn vows in behalf of the Prior General, Alejandro Anton Moral, OSA.



# AUGUSTINIAN FAMILY

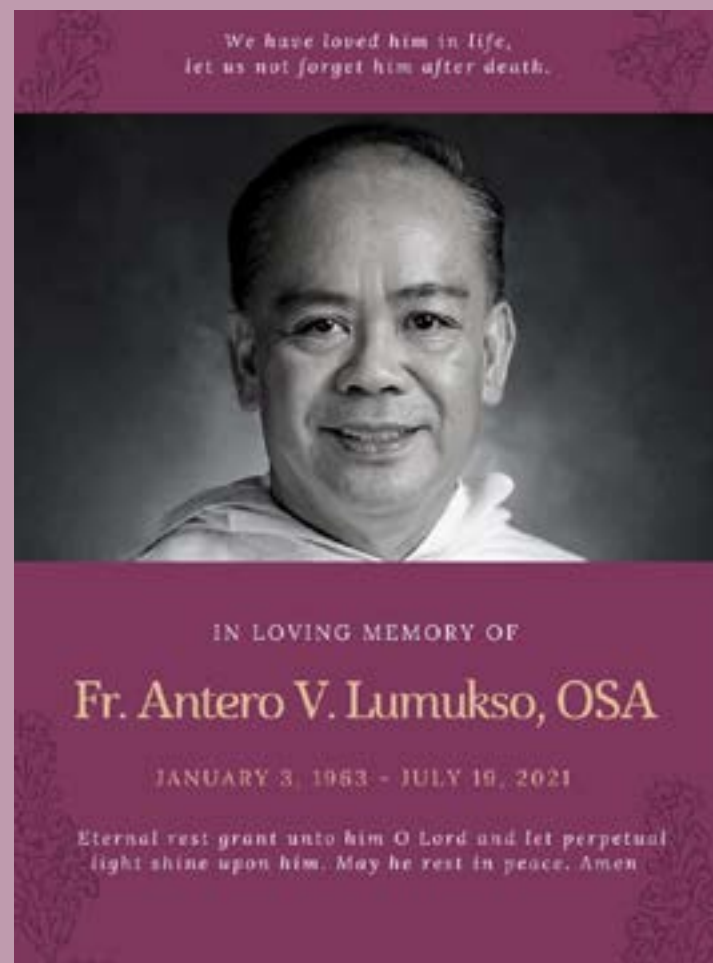
## Augustinian Sisters profess First Vows

The Augustinian Sisters namely Sr. Lydia Lampasa Jacobe, OSA and Sr. Mona Lisa Sacay Panilag, OSA, professed their first vows on July 11, 2021 at the Augustinian Monastery of Santo Niño, Mohon, Talisay City, Cebu.

Sr. Jacobe, OSA is from Villareal, Western Samar while Sr. Panilag, OSA hails from Talisay City, Cebu.

They were accepted by Rev. Mo. Anecita R. Pepito, OSA, Prioress of the Augustinian Monastery.

The holy mass was presided over by Fr. Andrew P. Batayola, OSA and was concelebrated by Fr. Eusebio B. Berdon, OSA, Fr. Romanico O. Cañon, OSA, Fr. Danilo C. Dagsaan, OSA and Fr. Alfonso D. Sedurifa, OSA.



## Vicariate of the Orient mourns Fr. Lumukso's death

The Vicariate of the Orient announced with a heavy heart the death of Rev. Fr. Antero "Tony" Lumukso y Villamarzo, OSA, Prior of the Colegio San Agustin – Bulacan Community on July 19, 2021.

He passed away early in the morning of July 19 due to aneurysm.

He was 58 years old and has been a professed religious in the Order for 26 years and a priest for 21 years.

Fr. Lumukso first professed his vows on 17 September 1994 and made his solemn profession on 16 March 1999.

His remains were brought to the Archdiocesan Shrine of Nuestra Señora de la Consolación y Correa - San Agustin Church on July 22, 2021 before his interment on the following day at the Laloma Cemetery in Caloocan, Metro Manila.

# OBITUARY

September 24, 2021  
+ Carmelo Baronia Par  
Father of Fr. Rommel D. Par, OSA

September 21, 2021  
+Tessie Gomez Parroco  
Lay Affiliate, Colegio San Agustin Bacolod

September 13, 2021  
+Romulo Guden Dogon  
Father of Fray Ronelle S. Dogon, OSA

August 25, 2021  
+Guillermo R. Gonzales  
Brother of Fr. Jose R. Gonzales, OSA

August 15, 2021  
+Saturnina C. Tampos  
Mother of Fr. Mark Anthony Tampos, OSA

July 29, 2021  
+Dr. Lilia S. Teves  
Lay Affiliate, University of San Agustin – Iloilo

July 24, 2021  
+Jose M. Vergara, Jr.  
Brother of Fr. Manuel M. Vergara, OSA and Fr. Arlon M. Vergara, OSA

July 10, 2021  
+Generoso R. Pelingo  
Father of Fr. Elizer R. Pelingo, OSA

*"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let your perpetual light shine upon them."*

### Devotion to St. Nicholas of Tolentine (Perpetual Novena) For the suffering Souls in Purgatory

Remember, O gentle and compassionate Lord, the pity that stirred your heart when the cry of misery and sorrow came to your ears in Israel.

How your eyes searched the rocks for the poor lepers who called to you; how you reached out your hand to the child of Jairus and to the widow's son at Naim,

How the tears came to your eyes at the tomb of Lazarus.

Look upon Purgatory, the land of suffering, where souls that love you await the touch of your healing mercy.

Through the merits of your great sufferings reach out your hand once more to relieve the poor souls in their sufferings.

O Lord, hear our prayers unworthy though be.

We unite them to the prayers of your holy servant, Saint Nicholas, which he offered to you through the silent hours of the night.

Hear our prayers for those who cannot plead for themselves; and grant to the holy souls in Purgatory happiness and rest. Amen.



Order of Saint Augustine  
Province of Sto. Niño de Cebu - Philippines



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*We Evangelize*  
*with a heart!*

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