



Chronicles from Manila n°11

Antipolo - Marikina - Quezon City
Easter 2009

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*Christ is risen, Alleluia!
Yes, He is truly risen. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Death is vanquished for ever!*

On Easter morning, according to a popular tradition in the Philippines, the *Salubong* is celebrated which is the encounter of the Virgin Mary with her risen Son. The statue of the Risen Christ comes in procession with the men from one end of the parish while the statue of the Blessed Mother is carried by the women from another part of the parish territory. Both groups meet in front of the church where an angel removes the veil of sorrow covering Mary's face and all enter the church singing the joyful Easter hymn to Mary:

*Queen of heaven, rejoice, Alleluia!
The Son whom you merited to bear, Alleluia!
Has risen as He had said, Alleluia!
Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, Alleluia!
For the Lord has truly risen, Alleluia!*

Joy and Pain as we celebrate Easter

Just before the beginning of the Holy Week, the Provincial Superior of the North American Province announced the new structure of the Philippines Mission.

Opening of a 3rd autonomous community in Manila

This community will have as its mission the welcoming and the formation of postulants. It will conserve the name of Pavel House. However, we leave the rented house since 2 years for another more spacious one in a more popular neighborhood. The postulants will participate in an "Inter-postulate" and will receive a complementary formation at Pavel House.

The welcoming of candidates will pursue itself, but no longer as permanent residents. The discernment will be done by a series of short stays and some sessions.

Delegate of the Provincial

The mission in the Philippines is growing. To assure a harmonious development, the Provincial, with the consent of his Council has named Father Bernard Holzer, Provincial Delegate for the mission in the Philippines. His task will consist in assuring communications with the Provincial and his Council; entertaining collaboration between the three communities, through visits, meetings of local superiors or of formators, meetings of religious, etc..., assuring collaboration with the mission of Korea and Vietnam, and representing the Provincial with the religious and civil authorities.

More specific tasks could, on occasion, be entrusted to Father Bernard.

Superior, local bursar, and others...

The Provincial with the consent of his Council has named Father Jean-Marie Adubango Chuvi, superior of the new community, and Brother Alex Castro local bursar of the new community. Brother Alex will assure the accompaniment of the postulants.

Father Juan Carlos Giraldo, of Columbia, and newly arrived in Manila, will be part of the team.

Bursar of the mission

Each community has its budget. However, a certain amount of expenses are committed for the development of the whole mission. They will be posted apart. We have asked Father Gilles Blouin to assume the role of Bursar of the mission and to lead the local bursars. He will supervise the setting up of the "Procure" or "Development Office".

Novitiate

Father Richard Brunelle is the Master of Novices of Blair Nuyda and Joseph Maccalangan. A new group of novices will start their program on April 25th.

The Provincial with the consent of his Council has accepted the request to enter Novitiate of 4 young Filipinos : Rowel Casiño, Rodel Cervantes, Glen Galvez and Ellis Luciano.

On Palm Sunday, the community was informed about the sudden death of Faustin, the eldest brother of Fr. Chuvi. He was 44 only and leaves behind him 5 children. Minutes later, we also learned about the death of Fr. Juan Carlos' nephew, Santiago at 11.

The brothers, sisters and friends of the Assumption surrounded these two brothers around the Eucharistic table, late afternoon of Holy Wednesday.

On Holy Thursday, after the celebration of the Last Supper at the parish, the community of Adveniat House along with the candidates of Pavel House proceeded with the blessing of the "Little Asian House", six additional rooms with toilets and showers to accommodate vocations from various Asian countries. This annex will be named after our first Chinese Assumptionist, Fr. Martin Yen.



We are grateful to the many benefactors who helped finance this project which will allow the community to welcome more young people from Asia who want to become priests or religious.

We also wish to announce to you that our website is now available in Chinese: www.assumprionists.ph

The Spanish version is in progress



April 2009
Manila, Philippines

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