THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE DOMINICAN PROVINCE OF THE PHILIPPINES

A MISSIONARY OPTION TO THE PERIPHERIES + SPIRIT OF ITINERANCY + DEEPER FRATERNAL INTEGRATION + QUALITY FORMATION

February 2019

PHILDOM

THE BROTHERS ON FOREIGN TRIP
(By reason of Office)

✈ 27 Feb-14 Mar – USA – Br. Christopher Jeffrey Aytona, OP – to attend the University Broadcasting Conferences in New York City.
✈ 3-10 Mar – France – Br. Herminio Dagohoy, OP – to attend the IFCU Board Meeting in Paris.

IN THIS ISSUE...

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☞ Queen City of the South Hosts 27th CLSP National Convention
☞ UST Canon Law Students Visit the Diocese of Pasig
☞ UST Holds Fides et Ratio Symposium
☞ Youth Jam 2.0
☞ NEWS IN PHOTOS
☞ FEATURES
☞ To Love Is To See

Prior Provincial’s March 2019 Calendar

1-3 - 1MBA in Letran College, Calamba
5 - Bahay Dominiko Chapter
6-8 - Golden Anniversary Profession of Fray Jose Francisco OP, General Santos City
8-12 - Funeral Ronaldo Obsioma, Cagayan De Oro City
- Mass at Our Lady of Manaog Chapel, Limketkai Mall Cagayan De Oro City

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The brethren who were recently ordained more than a year ago are now doing ministry in Calayan and Camiguin mission stations. This is part of their permanent formation program which follows their one year of assignment in a priory or house of formation.

The program for the newly ordained states that “At the conclusion of their post-ordination year program, all clerical brothers shall exercise their priestly ministry in the mission stations of the Province.” As defined by Statute 54 of our Province, a mission station is “a parish accepted by our Province in a place where a convent or house of our brothers cannot yet be established”. At present, these are the parishes of St. Bartholomew in Calayan, Cagayan and St. Vincent Ferrer in Camiguin Island, Cagayan.

The program further explains that the primary goal of sending the brothers on their 2nd year of priestly ministry in these mission stations is “to assure that all the succeeding generation of brothers in the Province would have the privilege of doing ministry in these mission stations which, due to their distance and other circumstances, are often seen as “marginal” in the life of the Province; it is, literally, ministry ad limina, i.e., going to the limits or periphery. Establishing these mission stations as integral part of the ministerial experience of all newly ordained brothers is to transform what seems peripheral into a central experience of priestly ministry for the newly ordained.”

The brethren who were recently sent to the mission stations are Br. Carlo Rey Canto, OP, Br. Stephen Mari La Ja, OP, and Br. Christopher Garinganao, OP. Br. Canto who is assigned to the Priory of the Holy Rosary in Manaoag, Pangasinan, was accompanied by the Promoter of the Missions, Br. Jose Martin Sibug, to Calayan Mission Station on December 10, 2018. About a month after, on the last week of January, Br. Stephen Mari La Ja, OP, who is assigned at Sto. Domingo Convent, also went to Calayan Mission Station together with Br. Rommel Olivar, Parish Priest of St. Bartholomew Parish. Br. Canto and Br. Laja will be doing ministry as Parochial Vicars of St. Bartholomew Parish.

Meanwhile, Br. Christopher Garinganao, OP, who is presently assigned at the Priory of St. Thomas Aquinas, will be doing ministry in Camiguin Island as Parochial Vicar of St. Vincent Ferrer Parish. Br. Felix Delos Reyes, OP, and Br. Art Vincent Pangan, OP, are also doing ministry.
in Camiguin Mission Station as the Parish Priest of St. Vincent Ferrer Parish and as the Director of Lyceum of Camiguin (Junior and Senior High School), respectively.

DEEPER FRATERNAL INTEGRATION
(as a Priority of the Province)

FEATURED BATCH

In the course of their Dominican formation, these brothers shared something in common together.

Entrance to the Novitiate: 28 July 1956
Simple Profession: 29 July 1957
Solemn Profession: 29 July 1960
Ordination: 31 May 1964

We pray as they journey together in heeding God’s call!

First Name: EDUARDO
Middle Name: MOYA
Surname: ALAPIDE
Nickname: “Fr. Alapide”
Birthday: 8 Nov 1934
DPP ID No.: 195702
Current Assignment: Priory of Our Lady of the Rosary (since Mar 1978)

First Name: ROGELIO
Middle Name: BAUTISTA
Surname: ALARCON
Nickname: “Fr. Roger”
Birthday: 26 Oct 1937
DPP ID No.: 195703
Current Assignment: Santo Domingo Convent (since Sep 2009)

QUALITY FORMATION
(as a Priority of the Province)

THE DSMC AWARDS’ BEST PICTURE GOES TO... PEREGRINO!
By Br. Francis M. Borre, OP

KAPATID Apostolic Group’s ‘Peregrino’ bagged the 7th DSMC Awards Best Picture.

The most awaited film festival of the studentate announced its winners on February 23, 2019 at the Dominican Studentate Community Area with ‘Peregrino’ taking the lion’s share of special awards.
Aside from the Best Picture, the film also amassed the Best Cinematography, Best Editing, Best Production Design, Best Story, Best Score and Best Actor played by Br. John Rheed Caturza.

The film depicts the story of a prodigal son in a modern day setting. Coupled with convincing acting, the story was presented with a balance between the formal aesthetics and the social ideological aspects of the film.

Following ‘Peregrino’ is KADAUPAN’s ‘1941’ which won the Second Best Picture. The film also gave Br. Mervin Lomague and Br. Ariel Adolfo their second Best Director and Best Supporting Actor Awards respectively.

PST’s ‘Tanging Hiling’ was given the Third Best Picture while Mukhaad’s ‘Busal’ got the Fourth Best Picture award. Br. Junel Pedroso was hailed as the ‘Star of the Night’.

This year’s competition was judged by Rev. Fr. John Stephen Besa, OP, Rev. Fr. Louie Coronel, OP, and Rev. Fr. Felix delos Reyes Jr., OP.

Consumerism and materialism drive people to work hard to get what they want from what is being advertised. This culture is creeping into the lives of Religious as evidenced by convents that are filled with consumeristic goods.

The religious are so active that they become less attractive; however, if we want to be attractive, we must live an orderly life aligning our lives with the Will of God as guided by the Beatitudes.

Some salient points of the Beatitudes:
Blessed are the poor - a happy person is one who is not afraid to lose anything because he/she claims nothing as his/her own. When we claim something as our own, we begin to fear of losing it that will make us insecure and that will cause our unhappiness. Learn to limit your wants because your needs are only little.

Happy are those who mourn - those who mourn are people who have lost or missed someone who is precious or something valuable. When we lose our sense of mourning, we become apathetic, we don’t feel anymore the pain of losing; we don’t see the value of someone we live or work with. For instance, when a sister or brother in the congregation dies, do we mourn? Sometimes we don’t cry because we think she/he is now with God.

Blessed are the meek - those who don’t pretend to be strong; meekness is a product of gratitude, and recognizing who I am before God, that will make us humble. Holiness is founded on humility, humility is founded on Truth.

Blessed are the merciful. In the Dominican rite of
profession, we are asked: “what do you seek?” and we say: “God’s mercy and yours.” Mercy is an expression of love.

Blessed are the pure of heart; single heartedness makes us an integral person; Integrity is wholeness- wholeness means one who is healthy- whole- holiness. The greeting of the angel to Mary Hail- comes from the word healthy, no discomfort.

Happy are the Peacemakers. Peace is the tranquility of order; we are called to live an orderly life that is doing God’s will.

Happy are the persecuted. If good people are bystanders and don’t do something to combat evil in our society, evil triumphs.

Fr. Christopher Jeffrey Aytona, OP, the Director of the Dominican Networks for the Youth, inspired the sisters on how they could influence the youth in their ministry to become partners in the mission. He called to mind the message of Pope John Paul II on his 2nd visit to the Philippines during the World Youth Day in January 1995, “The Dominican commitment is to educate, to catechize the youth; the youth are not only seeking knowledge to fill their minds, but formation in the faith to strengthen their soul.” They need formation to become disciples of Christ.

We can ask ourselves why is there vocation crisis today. Is it because in our schools we don’t have pastoral program for the young? This is the challenge for us, it is not only to give the youth the academic formation, but most of all value formation which can be manifested in their desire to follow Christ and to participate in the Mission of the Church.

The representatives of DOMNET Youth poured out their hearts and expressed what the youth of today need. They need proper guidance and wisdom from the elderly and not from the internet. They desire to have personal experience with God, not with the institutional Church. They want to belong. They ask to be formed, to be connected with the right people. Generally, the youth of today are connected with the whole world through the internet, but they still feel left out and in the end, they are not happy. They need to experience the care and guidance of true and real mentors in life, not virtual mentors.

The young people must be empowered with Veritas (Truth). We religious should be role models to the youth who are witnesses to the joy of the gospel.

The Recollection was highlighted by the celebration of the Holy Eucharist presided over by Fr. Quirico Pedregosa Jr., OP, Rector of UST Central Seminary.

FRAY JOE CELEBRATES GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY
By Rev. Valentinus Bayuhadi Ruseno, OP

In the Order, there is a way to serve the Lord that does not require an ordination. It is a cooperator brotherhood. To become obedient, chaste and poor, yet without entering the Holy Orders, is a life that is not only possible, but a life that leads to a true happiness.

Fray Jose “Joe” Flaviano Francisco, OP, is a humble embodiment of this joyful life. Left his hometown Altavas, Aklan, Fray Joe embraced the road less travelled even among the religious people. Fray Joe, now at 73, entered the Order even before the Dominican Province of the Philippines was born and made his first profession as a religious brother on March 8, 1969. He faithfully served the Order and the Church in various places and capacities. From taking care of the food of the brothers in Santo Domingo Church, into serving as the Provincial Secretary during the time of Fr. Honorato Castigador, OP; from traversing the mission areas in Mindanao to walking through the streets of Rome, his obedience and spirit of service have brought him to the places beyond his imagination.
He himself never imagined that he would land in the Tuna Capital of the Philippines, General Santos City; yet in this vibrant and rapidly growing city, he found his place among the longest serving brothers in the Province and the Order. He reached his golden anniversary of his religious profession, a milestone that many young brothers could only dream of.

A thanksgiving Eucharist and a renewal of profession at the hands of the Provincial, Fr. Napoleon Sipalay, Jr., OP were held at Our Lady Manaoag Chapel, St. Antoninus House. Fr. Enrico Gonzalez, OP, the batchmate of Fray Joe, served as the preacher of the celebration. Fr. Gonzales highlighted that true happiness springs from faithfully following the Lord. To serve or “lingkod” means to follow “nasa linkot”. Fr. Gonzales also shared some of his personal stories about Fray Joe when they were still together in Coristado. Among his batchmates, Fray Joe is the healthiest and the most young-looking simply because he is serving the Lord joyfully.

The celebration was attended by a good number of Dominican priests, lay faithful, especially the Dominican laity, and the religious sisters from the different congregations.

Happy Golden Anniversary, Fray Joe!

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**QUEEN CITY OF THE SOUTH HOSTS 27TH CLSP NATIONAL CONVENTION**

By Br. Glen Mar Gamboa, OP

"Let me first thank each of you for your time and dedication to your duties and responsibilities as Canon Lawyers. You have also been called to this specific ministry to bear good fruits for the service of the Holy Mother Church," the words of His Excellency Archbishop Jose Palma, DD as he welcomed the delegates of the 27th National Convention of the Canon Law Society of the Philippines during the inaugural Mass. This year’s convention with the theme “Collaboration Between the Philippine Church and the State” was held on 18-21 February 2019, at Quest Hotel and Conference Center, Cebu City. This theme is prompted by the current socio-political situation in the country and the attacks of the President against Church hierarchy, clergy, and ecclesiastical policies and teachings. Invoking the principle of Separation of Church and State does not only confuse people but it also incites divisions, hence, the executive committee chose this theme to articulate for collaboration the common grounds and venues between them.

The resource speakers were indeed top of the heap: Fr. Ranhilio Callangan Aquino Ph.D., JD, is the present dean of San Beda University’s Graduate School of Law, Chair of the Department of Jurisprudence and Legal Philosophy of the
Philippine Judicial Academy of the Supreme Court, and a member of the Consultative Committee who presented the Draft for the Federal Constitution. His first talk entitled, “Declaration of Nullity and Annulment Proceedings in Philippine Family Court: Substantive and Procedural Considerations,” explained how the process of nullity and annulment is being conducted in the civil forum; likewise, he presented how the procedures differ from the ecclesiastical tribunals. As expected, many questions were triggered and answered, in which concrete proposals for legislation on family and marriage issues were drawn out. His second talk entitled, “Jurisprudential Doctrines on Church and State in the Philippines” touched the issue on the shift to the federal system of our government. His role in the commission is vital in order to assure that the fundamental rights of the Church and of the people are intact and well safeguarded in the proposed federal system.

The Former Chief Justice Hilario Davide, Jr., was a delegate to the 1971 Constitutional Convention, Chairman of the Committee on Duties and Obligations of Citizens and Ethics of Public Officials, one of the appointed commissioners who drafted the 1987 Constitution, once appointed Associate Justice of the Supreme Court and later on was appointed as the 20th Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Philippines, and served in various important offices in the government. In a table ronde discussion format, he made a critical analysis of the final draft of the proposed federal constitution. Here, he exposed its disadvantages and strongly argued for the strict implementation of the current constitution and repudiation of any proposal that would change the current form of government system. This session did not fail to be interesting because of the participation and questions coming from the delegates.

Prof. Maria Liza Lopez-Rosario, is the current dean of the UST Graduate School of Law, a professor to faculties and institutes of law of various universities. She is an appointed Deputy Legal Counsel of the Archbishop of Manila and the legal counsel of many dioceses and of the CBCP. Her expertise in civil law is always at the service of educating the clergy and lay leaders with the Philippine laws on different matters of ecclesiastical relevance. Her talk, “Canonization of Philippine Civil Law on Taxation,” reminded the clerics of their social responsibility in paying taxes and posted a challenge to avoid accumulate wealth.

The convention was excellent and fruitful, not only because of the exceptional expertise of the speakers but also because of the active participation of the delegates which spiced every discussion. Furthermore, it provided a clear line of action that would help the lay faithful and religious to conscientiously perform their moral and civil duties for the common good.

**UST CANON LAW STUDENTS VISIT THE DIOCESE OF PASIG**

*By Br. Jaymar D. Capalaran, OP*

On the 33rd Anniversary of the EDSA People Power Revolution, February 25, 2019, the first and second year UST students of the Faculty Canon Law visited the diocesan curia of Pasig. With them were Fr. Romulo Rodriguez, OP, JCD, professor in Hierarchical Constitution of the Church and Fr. Renier Llorca, the Episcopal Vicar for Guest Priests and the Parish Priest of the Archdiocesan
Shrine of St. Anne, Santa Ana, Taguig City. Fr. Llorca facilitated the tour as he narrated the pioneering construction of Santa Clara Church and the Diocesan Curia Building in the Diocese of Pasig. Accordingly, 90 percent of the funding of the Santa Clara Church came from the ossuary, while the rest came from the donations of the faithful and other fund raising schemes.

The installed bishop then, Most Reverend Francisco C. San Diego, DD, had no residence yet upon his term. For this reason, the Tahanan ng Mabuting Pastol was built, followed by the creation of the curial offices of the Diocese of Pasig. It is 6,000 square meters with 4 floors having an estimated cost of ₱300 million. The first floor covers the curial offices and function hall, finance department office chancery, office of the diocesan bishop, mezzanine for archives, bishop’s office, and memorial department. The second floor houses the rooms for the retired clergy with recreational pool and chapel. The third floor contains the curial offices, diocesan tribunal of first instance, judicial, tribunal, superintendent office, ministries, and the like. Lastly, the fourth floor serves as the place for the resident bishop with conference hall for clergy and a residence for the sisters.

Established on August 21, 2013, the Diocese of Pasig has gone a long way so far!

UST HOLDS FIDES ET RATIO SYMPOSIUM
By Br. Siddharta B. Chiong, OP

The University of Santo Tomas holds the “Fides et Ratio Symposium,” the 5th Leonardo Z. Legaspi, OP, Lecture series, on February 27-28, 2019 at the auditorium of Thomas Aquinas Research Center, UST. This symposium is in celebration of the 50th anniversary of St. Pope John Paul II’s encyclical letter, Fides et Ratio. The symposium boasted of international speakers like Fr. Nicholas Lombardo, OP, and John Weckert, Ph.D. The symposium was spearheaded by the Center for Religious Studies and Ethics under the directorship of Fr. Jannel N. Abogado, OP. The auditorium was overflowing with participants from UST and other schools who were eager to listen to the talks. On the first day, the speakers were, Dr. Alfredo P. Co, Ph.D., Dr. Pablito Baybado, Ph.D. Fr. Nicholas Lombardo, and Br. Allan Basas, Ph.D. On the second day, the speakers were, Fr. Jose Antonio Aureada, OP, Fr. Danilo Flores, JUD, Jove Jim Aguas, Ph.D., and John Weckert, Ph.D.

YOUTH JAM 2.0
Br. Wilhelm B. Boñon, OP

On March 2, 2019, in celebration of the Year of the Youth, the Dominican Province of the Philippines’ Promoter of the Dominican Youth and Promoter of Dominican Vocations, in collaboration with the Dominican Studentate through Pagtugon sa Tawag (PST), held the vocation jamboree “Youth Jam 2.0” at the UST Angelicum College Gymnasium in Quezon City.

The said gathering was attended by almost 600 young people from different parishes around Metro Manila and from the different Dominican Institutions in Luzon. It was also attended by the Dominican Sisters, who set up promotional booths for vocation.

The aim of the said event is to deepen the youth’s understanding of their vocation and to strengthen their resolution in serving the Lord, as assisted by the music and preaching of the Joyful Friars, the preaching band of the Dominican Studentate.

The program started with the celebration of the Mass at three o’clock in the afternoon, presided over by the Promoter of the Dominican Youth, Br. Mhandy S. Malijan, OP. The program continued with praise and worship,
dances, songs, games, a talk on vocation and discernment by Br. Jerone R. Geronimo, OP, and an inspirational talk by Michael Angelo Lobrin. One of the highlights of the said program was the Dominican commissioning which was presided by Br. Jayson R. Gonzales, OP.

The event ended at seven o’clock in the evening with a closing praise and worship led by the Joyful Friars.

March in DPP History
(Culled from the Archives of the Province)

1936 March 19 – The very first Filipino, Gregorio Hontomin, a native of Batanes, was admitted to the Dominican Order. He stayed in the Order as a Cooperator-brother for 44 years. He died on 6 July 1982.

1969 March 20 – 34 Filipino Dominican priests held the first Filipino Dominican Conference at the University of Santo Tomas Central Seminary that formed an Executive Committee paving the way for the eventual establishment of the Dominican Province of the Philippines on 8 December 1971.

1976 March 31 – The maiden issue of PHILDOM, the official newsletter of the Dominican Province of the Philippines was released after the First Provincial Chapter of the Dominican Province of the Philippines was held from 25 December 1975 until 22 January 1976 (Convent of St. Raymond of Peñafort, Legazpi City).

1990 March 25 – The building of the Dominican Novitiate of the Annunciation within the compound of the Priory of Our Lady of the Rosary in Manaoag, Pangasinan was inaugurated.

1994 March 1 – The House of St. Albert in Colegio de San Juan de Letran, Calamba, Laguna was elevated to a Convent with Br. Patricio Apa, OP, as the first Prior.

A NOVITIATE WITH NO PARTICULAR PLACE TO BE
By Fr. Hilario V. Sicat Jr., OP

On March 1, 1978, Fr. Vincent de Couesnongle authorized the transfer of the Novitiate from the then Convent of the Most Holy Rosary in Jaro, Iloilo to the Convent of Our Lady of the Rosary in Manaoag, Pangasinan. The Novitiate was moved to Manaoag due to the impending plan to use the Lizares Mansion as the venue for a new formal school of the Province: the Angelicum School-Iloilo (In its incipient years, the cash-strapped Province established entities, e.g., parishes and schools, that would facilitate cash inflow for the support of its apostolates and for the expenses for the formation of the brothers.). In Manaoag, the novices occupied the third floor of the fathers’ residence.

The Novitiate remained in Manaoag until May 1982. But because the provisionary quarters of the novices at the third floor of the Fathers’ residence could no longer accommodate the growing number of novices, and at the same time, due to the increasing number of assigned priests in the convent, it was transferred anew to the Convent of Santo Domingo in Quezon City.

Incidentally, with the transfer of the Pre-Novitiate from the Studentate Building in the Convent of Santo Domingo to Letran College in Calamba in June 1981, ample space in the Studentate Building was made available for the novices. The novices occupied only half of the third floor of the Studentate Building, separating them from the Student-brothers who were in the second floor, and in the other half of the third floor.

In the course of time, due to limited space and the increasing number of brothers, over-crowding was once again experienced in the Studentate. Thus, the Provincial Chapter of 1988 commissioned the Provincial to establish a separate formation house for the novices.

The task of looking for a place and constructing a new edifice for the novices fell on the shoulders of the then Master of Novices, Br. Edmund Nantes, OP. Many places were considered for the location of the Novitiate, such as the Dominican Hill in Baguio, Marikina, Antipolo, Binangonan, Angat, Tagaytay, and Davao. With the stroke of Providence, and the intercession of the Lady of the Rosary,
the Novitiate found its place on an idle lot in the vicinity of the Church. On September 8, 1989, the cornerstone of the Novitiate was laid. And on March 25, 1990, on the Solemnity from which its name was derived, the Dominican Novitiate of Annunciation was inaugurated. This ended a long search for a place where the brothers might spend a year or so in solitude and prayer. It turned out the Lady wanted her sons to be initiated in the Dominican way of life, under her maternal protection.

**Prior Provincial’s March 2019 Calendar**

... continued from page 1

13 - Joint Meeting of PDCIS and IP BOTs, Quezon City
14 - Meeting with Bishop Socrates Villegas OP, Dagupan City
   - Meeting with Rev. Don Go, OP, Manaoag
15 - BOT Meeting of Letran College, Manila
16 - Concelebrant Funeral Mass for Julieta Pedregosa, Iloilo
18 - General Assembly for Urgent Initiative on Climate Change, Cubao
19 - Meeting with Dr. Pat Punzalan, Bahay Dominiko
20 - Meeting with Fr. Lasantha, Bahay Dominiko
22 - Mass, Holy Rosary College, Tala
27 - Mass at RMI Sisters, Quezon City
   - Mass at St. James Academy, Malabon

**BROTHERS ON FOREIGN TRIP**

(By reason of Office)  ... continued from page 1

✈ 4-6 Mar – Singapore – Br. Hermel Pama, OP – to accompany the administrators of the Institute of Information and Computing Sciences of the University of Santo Tomas in an international benchmarking activity.
✈ 4-16 Mar – Holy Land – Br. Alfredo Fernandez Jr., OP – to serve as Chaplain in a pilgrimage.
✈ 13-18 Mar – China – Br. Dexter Austria, OP – for the Factory Acceptance Tests of Ring Main Unit and the tables and chairs for the classrooms and canteen of the UST Senior High School building.
✈ 19-26 Mar – Indonesia – Fr. Ramon Salibay, OP – to visit the community of Rumah Santo Tomas Aquino and the student brothers who are staying at the Formation House in Surabaya.
✈ 26-30 Mar – Malaysia – Br. Jesus Miranda Jr., OP – to attend the conference being organized by Asia Pacific Association of International Education (APAIE) with the Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) in Kuala Lumpur.
✈ 26 Mar-1 Apr – Italy – Br. Jannel Abogado, OP – to attend the annual meeting of the Permanent Commission on the Promotion of Study in the Order

**DEATH IN THE FAMILY**

We pray for the eternal repose of the souls of:

✠ ELENITA G. JAMERLAN, OP, of the Congregation of Dominican Sisters of St. Catherine of Siena, Philippines,
who passed away on March 6, 2019 at the age of 57 and 24 years of religious profession.

✞ CONSOLACION FRANCISCO DAVID, who passed away on February 20, 2019. She is the sister of Br. Jose Francisco, OP.

✞ JULIETA PEDREGOSA who passed away on February 23, 2019. She is the mother of our Br. Quirico Pedregosa Jr., OP.

✞ RONALDO OBSIOMA who passed away on February 28, 2019. He is the brother of our Br. Raul Obsioma, OP.

FOR OUR DECEASED BROTHER

Per mandate by the Eleventh Provincial Chapter Statute 26, V, we kindly request all communities to include in the intentions of their Conventual Mass and Evening Prayer our deceased brothers during the anniversary of their death in the month of March.

March 12  Br. Antonio Posadas, OP
13  Br. Gaudencio Mondragon, OP

Thanks to our Brothers and friends who contributed articles and pictures for Phildom.

We in the secretariat will do our best to publish the PHILDOM newsletter monthly for all the readers. We apologize for any inadvertent mistake in the content of this newsletter.

Help us by sending your:
» Creative comments
» Articles and news
» Thoughts to ponder
» Suggestions for improvement

Fax to:  732-4652 or e-mail to: opphil@phils.op.org

All articles sent to the Secretariat/Phildom shall be given due consideration. Due to some limit in space however, we may not be able to print them all at once. It may come out at the forthcoming issues. Just the same we are grateful for the articles and newsbits. Please continue sending them; they will be most welcome.
TAKEN FROM THE 2018 REPORT OF THE REGENT OF STUDIES SUBMITTED TO THE GENERAL CURIA

A. BROTHERS WHO RECENTLY EARNED GRADUATE DEGREES

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<th>Name (SURNAME, First Name, Middle I.)</th>
<th>Academic Preparation</th>
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<td>1. Luanzon, Roberto Jr. S.Th.D./D.Lit.</td>
<td>S.Th.D.</td>
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<td>2. Dacuma, Arden Xerxes J.C.L.</td>
<td>S.Th.D.</td>
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<td>3. Ruseno, Valentinus Bayuhadi S.Th.L.-M.A.</td>
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B. BROTHERS PURSUING GRADUATE DEGREES

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<td>1. Cabanatan, Romualdo Jr. J.C.D.</td>
<td>S.Th.L.-M.A. in Socio Pastoral Communication</td>
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<td>2. Magboo, Cecilio Vladimir S.Th.D.</td>
<td>Ponitifical University of St. Thomas, Rome</td>
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<td>3. Obando, Ivan Paul S.Th.D.</td>
<td>Ponitifical University of St. Thomas, Rome</td>
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<td>4. Padilla, Wenifredo III S.Th.D.</td>
<td>University of Fribourg, Switzerland</td>
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<td>5. Yap, Jessie E.H.L.</td>
<td>Pontifical Gregorian University</td>
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<td>6. Adolfo, Ariel S.Th.L.-M.A. in Socio Pastoral Communication</td>
<td>UST Faculty of Sacred Theology</td>
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<td>7. Arachchige Don, Asanka Melroy M.A. in Preaching</td>
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<td>8. Ayttona, Christopher Jeffrey S.Th.L.-M.A. in Socio Pastoral Communication</td>
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<td>9. Borre, Francis M.A. in Film Studies</td>
<td>University of the Philippines</td>
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<td>10. Cansancio, Rodel Ph.L.-M.A.</td>
<td>UST Faculty of Philosophy</td>
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<td>11. Gamboa, Glenmar J.C.L.</td>
<td>UST Faculty of Canon Law</td>
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<td>12. Garcia, Simon Peter S.Th.L.-M.A. in Islamic Studies</td>
<td>UST Faculty of Sacred Theology/ University of the Philippines</td>
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<td>13. Gorroza, Mark Philip M.A. in Education</td>
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<td>14. Munsayac, Reynor M.A. in Preaching</td>
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<td>15. Pedros, Junel S.Th.L.-M.A.</td>
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<td>17. Sales, Michael M.A. in Education</td>
<td>UST Graduate School</td>
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<td>18. Seno, Rudolf Steven Ph.D.</td>
<td>UST Faculty of Philosophy</td>
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<td>19. Sigaya, Gaspar Ph.D. in Library Science</td>
<td>Universidad Complutense di Madrid, Spain</td>
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<td>20. Sontillano, John Paul S.Th.L.-M.A.</td>
<td>UST Faculty of Sacred Theology</td>
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<td>21. Tiong, Pablo S.Th.D.</td>
<td>UST Faculty of Sacred Theology</td>
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<td>22. Zamora, Reginald M.A. in Preaching</td>
<td>PDCIS-Institute of Preaching</td>
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<td>23. Castellano, Robert M.A. in Guidance and Counseling</td>
<td>De La Salle University, Manila</td>
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<td>24. Capalaran, Jaymar J.C.L.</td>
<td>Faculty of Canon Law, UST</td>
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<td>25. De los Reyes, Felix Ph.D.</td>
<td>Faculty of Philosophy, UST</td>
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Celebration of the 75th Sacerdotal Anniversary of Br. Francisco C. Mendoza, OP
Archbishop's Chapel, Arzobispado de Pampanga, San Jose, City of Pampanga
10:00 AM, March 4, 2019

The Dominican Province of the Philippines - Bahay Dominiko and the Family of Fr. Francisco C. Mendoza OP warmly invite you to join us in a simple Thanksgiving celebration of his 75th Sacerdotal Anniversary.

On the 4th day of March, 2019, Solemn Mass will be at the Archbishop’s Chapel, Arzobispado de Pampanga, San Jose, City of San Fernando at 10:00 am. Lunch immediately follows at their Event Hall.
Celebration of the 75th Sacerdotal Anniversary of Br. Francisco C. Mendoza, OP
March 4, 2019
Celebration of the 50th Profession Anniversary of Br. Jose F. Francisco, OP

March 8, 2019, Our Lady of Manaoag Chapel, General Santos City
UST GROUP WORKSHOP AT THE ANGELICUM SCHOOL ILOILO
The University of Santo Tomas (UST) group held a workshop last February 16, 2019 at the Angelicum School Iloilo. The group focused on how they could collaborate through the DoT-ED (Dominican-Thomistic Education by Design), a signature pedagogy of the Institute of Religion, on research and community service. The event was attended by heads and representatives from UST Manila, UST Legazpi, UST-Angelicum, & Angelicum School Iloilo.
NEWS IN PHOTOS

UST GROUP WORKSHOP AT THE ANGELICUM SCHOOL ILOILO
February 16, 2019
INGGO 1587, AN EVENING OF PRAISE AND WORSHIP

Last February 22, 2019, during the Domnet Regional Youth gathering held at the Angelicum School Iloilo. The evening started with praise songs by the Youth For Christ, Iloilo followed by songs from the album Lead Me On by Inggo 1587.
INGGO 1587, AN EVENING OF PRAISE AND WORSHIP
February 22, 2019
INGGO 1587 WITH THE DIFFERENT RELIGIOUS MEN AND WOMEN IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF JARO

Angelicum School Iloilo, February 23, 2019
INGGO 1587 WITH THE DIFFERENT RELIGIOUS MEN AND WOMEN IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF JARO

Angelicum School Iloilo, February 23, 2019
NEWS IN PHOTOS

2019 DOMNET WESTERN VISAYAS REGIONAL ASSEMBLY
FEBRUARY 21-23, 2019
NEWS IN PHOTOS

2019 DOMNET WESTERN VISAYAS REGIONAL ASSEMBLY
FEBRUARY 21-23, 2019
Is frequent evaluation of one’s perspective important?

Definitely yes, since the perspective by which one sees the events in his life greatly affects his judgments in life. Perspective is like the different machines used by medical practitioners that do a variety of scanning techniques to diagnose diseases and illnesses. These machines are important to medical practitioners because the method of observation they use has a dramatic effect on their understanding of the human anatomy and physiology which affects their diagnosis and judgment on the patient’s condition. This means that a change of diagnostic imaging technique would change their perspective of the body parts or function. Consequently, it would also affect their judgment on the patient’s condition. When a doctor, for example, uses a CT Scan rather than a standard X-Ray he would have a better judgment on the condition of the patient because a CT Scan with a three-dimensional relationship and soft tissue structures provides a clearer image than a standard X-Ray.

The same is true with life. One who sees things negatively would have a negative perception in life which in turn would affect the way he responds to life situations and challenges. On the other hand, one who sees his life-experiences positively will respond differently. In situations where the former type of person would see despair, the latter would see an opportunity.

One’s perspective or manner of seeing his life is greatly affected by his context. A person reacts to life’s situations differently because everyone comes from different subjective and objective context. Beyond the objective reality a person is in, he is moulded by the subjective reality formed in him. A man, for example, who had his daughter raped and murdered by a drug addict would react differently to the “War on Drugs in the Philippines” where many were killed, compared to a man whose daughter is a drug pusher. The former would probably be happy since the kinds of people who killed his daughter are being killed. However, the latter would worry since his daughter could be killed in that war.

Since the lens or perspective one uses affect greatly his judgments of events, one must always be cautious and critical not only to the events he encounters, but even so with the lens or perspectives through which he reads these events. Moreover, as Jesus said in the Gospel, “For as you judge, so will you be judged, and the measure with which you measure will be measured out to you” (Mt. 7:2).

In consideration to everything that was said, how must a person then see reality? In the book “The Little Prince,” the Fox shared to the Little Prince a very important lesson in life. The Fox shared, “It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye.” Anyone who desires to see reality in its grandeur and beauty must always see it with his heart. He must judge life events with love. Only then will he recognize the goods that was given to mankind by the provident God.

However, would this proportionally mean that man will have no need to use his reason? Definitely not since for one who truly loves must use his reason, as St. Augustine said that none can love what he does not know. This is because only when one knows something truly that he can love it truly. If a person, for example, does not know the other truly, he is not loving the other truly but only the false image that he has of the other. However, this does not mean that one must have a perfect knowledge of the other to love him perfectly. St. Thomas explains that since love is in the appetitive power of man, “it suffices, for the perfection of love, that a thing be loved according as it is known in itself. Hence it is, therefore, that a thing is loved more than it is known; since it can be loved perfectly even without being perfectly known” (STh I-II Q. 27 Art.2 Ad 2). As long as the person knows the other truly in himself, he can begin to love him perfectly.

If one’s perspective affects greatly his judgment of reality, there is no better manner or perspective to see reality than through the lens of love.