

AUGUST – 2023

# NUNNTIA





# SPIRITUAL RETIREMENTS CARTAGO - VALLE

Cordial greetings to the confreres of the Province, from this house of our elders where we are beginning the annual retreat with the presence of 30 confreres, under the guidance of Fr. Juan Carlos Diaz as preacher, a priest of the diocese of Cartago, whom we thank for his closeness and his service.

Last night, after the orientations about the stay in the house for this retreat, we made the completes in community and retired to rest.



Today, Monday 7th, the lauds in the small chapel of the house and the opening of the big hall where we received the conference following Galatians 3,26-29, insisting that in a society where we are not believed, where we announce something that society does not want to understand, where we have deviated from the task, giving ourselves to an instrumentalisation of the things of God, selling grace cheaply at the price of our needs, making ourselves transparent, mimicking everything and remaining in nothing, offering nothing. Therefore, we have to put on Jesus Christ again, to return to the physical gestures of welcoming, embracing, forgiving, of closeness, because that is the way in which the Vincentian can recover the gestures of closeness and love that will save the church and the congregation.

We are grateful for the welcome of the confreres of this house and we want to count on the prayers of all for this retreat.

# MISSIONARY PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN BRAZIL AND PHILIPPINES IN THE JAPAN VINCENTIAN MISSION





Hello everyone. I am Fr. Rogelio D. Cardenas II, CM a Filipino Vincentian Missionary working in the Diocese of Yokohama Japan. I have been working here for 15 years now. Currently I am in my 7th year as a pastor in my present assignment in Shizuoka Prefecture.

I have two parishes. Iwata Catholic church and Kakegawa Catholic church . In these two parishes, I found out that we have a big number of Brazilians. I have realized too that while these two churches are full of Brazilians during their once a month Portuguese Mass (by a Salesian Missionary from East Timor), very few Brazilians would join the regular Japanese Mass every Sunday. In the beginning, probably only around 5-7 Brazilians in one church, and even less in my other parish, would come and join the Japanese Masses . And mostly these were the leaders of their communities. I found out too that many Brazilians still have the difficulty in speaking and understanding Japanese language/Nihongo. For sometime I just let that situation. I would do my homily in both Japanese and English and sometimes with a little Filipino translation. It took me few years to decide that I should be doing something for these big Brazilian communities in my parishes. As their pastor, I thought of doing something to make the participation of the Brazilians increase even in the Japanese Mass, and also to have a better connection with them.



Through social media (Facebook) I got connected with Fr. Fabio/Fr Cleber, who at that time was still in theology. We became instant friends aside from being brothers in the Congregation, of course. I don't remember exactly now, how this partnership came into being, but I think I asked a favor from him if he could translate a portion of my homily (not the whole homily, only the significant parts) so that I could use his translation when I deliver my homily during my Japanese Mass. I told him about the situation in my two parishes, and I told him also that maybe even just a small part of Portuguese the Brazilians would hear, would help increase the number of Brazilians coming to Mass. He agreed to do it as a kind of a "foreign mission" for him. Since then, up to the present, Fr. Fabio has been helping me with the translation. As the years went by, I observed that, there's an increase of Brazilians in my Japanese Masses. Their number has increased, not very large though, but I am happy that the Brazilians appreciate the effort that I do and I think they tell other Brazilians to come because the priest (me) delivers a portion of the homily in Portuguese. They are grateful to Fr. Fabio for doing this for them.

The process is, I would send that portion of my homily for translation either Wednesday or Thursday, and Fr. Fabio would send back the text around Thursday or Friday, accompanied by an audio, so that I have a guide on how to pronounce the words properly. It has been years now that we partner in this endeavor. When we started Fr Fabio was just a theology student, now he is a priest. And the partnership continues. I thank God for this gift of Fr. Fabio. And I thank our founder St. Vincent for the inspiration to do this especial mission to the Brazilian communities.





While the little effort that I do for the Brazilian communities is very much appreciated by them, I still believe more has to be done. What I do in my homily is a just a very little thing. The Brazilian communities in my parishes need more, like actual Portuguese Masses, hearing confessions in their own language and other sacraments, formation sessions, counseling, etc. And I can't do them.

I really hope that this effort that Fr. Fabio and I do, would lead to a bigger opportunity to help and do actual mission here in Japan, specifically in the Diocese of Yokohama where I work as a Filipino Vincentians. For years, I have been requesting and finding ways to encourage a confrere from Brazil ( also from the Spanish speaking Vincentians/Latin America, because there is also a big number of Peruvians in both my parish and within the Diocese) to come and join us in the Japan mission, but obviously, it has not happened yet. But I am not losing hope though. I believe the day will come that a Brazilian and Spanish speaking confrere will be part of our Mission here in Japan.

# MASS TO RECEIPT INTO THE INTERNAL SEMINARY





Thanks to God's grace!

He has given the Province of Vietnam abundant vocations for the mission of the Congregation of the Mission and the Church.

Today, August 7, 2023, at the Church of the Sacred Heart, 38 Tran Phu, Ward 4, Da Lat City, Lam Dong Province, Vietnam, the Province of Vietnam held the Mass to receipt into the Internal Seminary for Seminarians course 27 and finish a year of the Internal Seminary for seminarians course 26, Province of Vietnam.

Present at the Mass were Father Francis Xavier Ly Thanh Nguyen, Visitor of the Province of Vietnam, along with the Fathers of the Vietnamese Province. Especially, parents, relatives, and benefactors of seminarians from many parts of Vietnam gathered here to give thanks to God and pray for the seminarians.



The following are the seminarians who have received the Inner Seminary:

1. Ho Van Joseph Lien
2. Tran Quoc Anthony Truong
3. Nguyen Cong John Baptist Nguyen
4. Nguyen Duc Francis Xavier Quang
5. Tran Van John Cong
6. Nguyen Van Joseph Tiep
7. Nguyen Van Paul Quy
8. Nguyen Van Anthony An
9. Dang Dinh Peter Thinh
10. Nguyen Van Peter Tuan
11. Nguyen Van Peter Oanh
12. Nguyen Van Joachim Khiem
13. Pham Minh Thomas Thien Ngoc
14. Nguyen Dinh Carolos Tao
15. Nguyen Duy Joseph Phuong
16. Nguyen Van Peter Quang
17. Truong Tran Quang Francis Xavier Diep
18. Tran Van Joseph Thuy
19. Doan Minh Vincent Tam
20. Phan Hong Joseph Phuong

Seminarians at the finish of a year of the Internal Seminary: 2022-2023

1. Pham Ngoc Andrews Dung Lac Thien
2. Nguyen Van Anthony Vinh
3. Nguyen Kim Dominic Kang
4. Nguyen Van Dominic Nghia
5. Cung Du Huy John Hoang
6. Nguyen Van Joseph Phong
7. Tran Dang Joseph Thinh





Let us pray to the Lord that these brothers may endure to the end in their Vincentian vocation.

Upcoming, August 10, 2023, which is also a special day for the Province of Vietnam, will have 12 more priests, and 7 deacons.

Bishop of Da Lat Diocese Nguyen Van Dominic Manh will ordain 12 deacons to the priesthood, and at the same time ordain 7 brothers to deacon belonging to the Congregation of the Mission, Province of Vietnam.

This is really good news for the Congregation in general and for the Province of Vietnam in particular. These confreres will contribute to the immense mission of the Province and aim to open up the mission of the whole Congregation.

We pray in a special way for ordained confreres, filled with the Gift of the Holy Spirit, so that they may continue the missionary mission to the poor that Saint Vincent de Paul has bequeathed to us.

I will share information and pictures with you after the Mass of ordination.

May God bless us!

**Fr. Joseph Huan Tuyen Vu, CM**  
**Secretary, Province of Vietnam**

# VOW PROFESSION & MISSION SENDING



MEMORIAL OF ST. JUSTIN  
DE JACOBIS



Constitution 57 paragraph 1 states: “The permission to take vows given by the major superior after a request by the member brings with it, when the vows are taken, incorporation into the Congregation. Reception of the diaconate by a member brings with it incardination into the Congregation.”

And in the Direct formula for the taking of the vows it says: “Lord, my God, I, NN., in the presence of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, vow that I will faithfully dedicate myself, in the Congregation of the Mission, for the whole time of my life, to the evangelization of the poor, after the example of Christ evangelizing. Therefore, with the help of your grace, I vow chastity, poverty, and obedience, according to the Constitutions and Statutes of our Institute.”

In summary, taking the vows brings with it incorporation into the Congregation which means full membership in the Little Company and full-time commitment to the evangelization of the poor after the example of Christ evangelizing.

In other words, the context is the Vincentian community and the content is the evangelization of the poor after Christ evangelizing which is also our identity.

When St. Vincent said that we should be “Carthusians at home and apostles in the field,” he was putting in one sentence the context, the content, and the identity of our Vincentian vocation.

The Gospel today speaks about the treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.”





The Gospel account today and our Vincentian vocation clarifies three things for us:

1. The treasure buried in a field is the *missio Dei* which for us Vincentians is the content the mission of evangelizing the poor. This is the reason for our existence, the *raison d'être* and lies at the heart of our life. This is the very purpose for which all other purposes and engagements derive meaning and passion. Everything else pales in comparison with this core commitment. Hopefully, we get up each day and go to bed each night for no other reason than to be on fire for the mission!

2. The person who finds and hides again what he has found is the context the Little Company, the community of dear friends. The community makes possible for us to be Carthusians at home. We are rejuvenated, refreshed, readied, and provided much needed breathing space to grow and flourish as missionaries. The community provides the space and the time to be nourished in prayer, rest, relaxation, meetings, and fraternity. Loneliness is somehow diminished and courage is reinforced to keep going for a difficult mission assignment. Lest we forget, the community should never be too comfortable or too luxurious a place that missionaries become attached to it and find excuse or alibi to delay or quit the mission altogether! Rather, the role of the community is to animate and embolden the confreres to go, to become eager, and to inspire to volunteer for the mission!

1. Finally, the person out of joy goes and sells all and buys the field is the identity of the Vincentian who goes out into the world, into the peripheries of society! The desperation we experience, which so many of our poor sisters and brothers experience on a daily basis, cause us to be open to radical solutions, willing to risk in order to find what we are looking for. We can then run as we would to a fire, all the way to the edges of our own answers until we have exhausted the possibilities and are finally ready to embrace our powerlessness in the face of the unfixables of life and of the world. As Vincentians, we do not claim answers to all questions or solutions to all problems. But we can always try, take risks, and be humble in the face of uncertainties and even failings. Such is the spirituality of the mission, patterned after that Man and that Missionary from Galilee!

For Brothers Earl and RC, may you eagerly find and embrace wholeheartedly this treasure hidden in the community!

For Fr. Efren, may you receive the courage and unflinching hope of a true missionary come rascals or pirates on the sea!

**Fr Peter M Solis, CM**







# WORLD YOUTH DAY



Tuesday 1 August: We have arrived in Lisbon, the coastal and mountainous capital of Portugal, where the young and enthusiastic church will meet, full of expectations after a beautiful preparation in Felgueira at the meeting of young Vincentians. We have settled in a parish hall, together with many other young Vincentians from all over the world.

At 19:00 we had the opening Eucharist for the WYD, invited to be protagonists, witnesses and above all a sign of faith and unity.

The Eucharist was presided over by Cardinal Juan José Omella.

Wednesday 2 August: We went on pilgrimage to Fatima, the place where Our Lady manifested herself and where today her words continue to vibrate and where many young people, children and old people continue to listen to her. The 8 of us, sent from the province, have come here.



Thursday 3 August: On this day we met with Father Francis, his joy infected us to such an extent that the young people entered into a furor of impressive joy that the city was shaken to hear thousands of young followers of Christ saying with one voice: This is the youth of the Pope! This is the youth of the Pope!

Friday, 4th August: Together with Peter we remembered the way of the Cross, praying for the world, for the war, for the mistakes of the Church, for the deviations of the family today, for the aimless youth.

Saturday, 5th August: "Jesus said to them: Come, let us go away by ourselves and rest a while in a quiet place". Mark 6:31. This time it was Peter (H.H. Francis) who called us to rest in the Lord, Peter could be seen in the background, an old man full of strength, vigor which radiates the presence of Christ the Lord.

A vigil which moved the hearts of all the young people, which lit more strongly in us the flame of the Gospel, this vigil allowed the Imposition of the Holy Spirit of God in our life. The Pope invited us to become roots of joy, in dialogue, in closeness, in love. Francis constantly tells us do not be afraid!

Sunday 6 August: The Eucharist we had to experience on foot, because it was difficult to stay in one place in the midst of 2 million people. It was difficult to stay in one place in the midst of 2 million people, so we looked for a secluded, cool place and from there we experienced it.

Thanks to the Provincial Government, especially to Fathers Diego Luis and Johan Sebastian, who from the first moment of planning this trip have been very attentive to us; how not to thank, also, to Giovanni Martinez for all his efforts against the relevant procedures that were necessary; to Father Rector who has been a father, concerned about our stay and welfare in this experience.

Thank you all and we hope to contribute something to the Church from what we have lived and experienced in this WYD Lisbon 2023.

# VINCENTIAN YOUTH WEEK



The week of August 07-13, 2023 will forever remain engraved in the catalogues of the history of the Vincentian Family in Cameroon and in the minds of the Christians of the diocese of Obala, especially those of Mva'a. This week was dedicated to a youth camp called VINCENTIAN YOUTH WEEK (SEVINJE). It took place at the Collège Sainte-Thérèse in Mva'a under the theme: YOUTH AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SYNODAL AND PROPHETIC CHURCH.

In total, 177 young people (120 girls and 57 boys) from six dioceses of Cameroon (Douala, Yagoua, Bafoussam, Yaoundé, Bafia and Obala) will take part in this week dedicated to spiritual, moral, human and Vincentian formation.

The first edition of the Vincentian Youth Caravan departed on Monday 07 August 2023. At around 4 p.m., the delegations from the North, the West, the Littoral, Ntui and Yaoundé will join those from the diocese of Obala, which is strongly represented in its various branches: Mva'a, Minsoa, Bgobassi, Sa'assi, Ntuisong, Ekékam, Nkolmetou and Konabeng. This was followed immediately by the installation of the campers and supervisors. After dinner, Rev. Sisters Gladice Crodelle AZANGUIM, FDLC, and Marie Madeleine MVO, FDLC, gave practical details and orientation.

During this week, various activities will be organised: spiritual talks, Eucharistic celebrations, missionary walks, sports and relaxation, cultural evenings, etc.

Sunday 13 August marked the end of SVJ-Mva'a 2023. The closing mass was presided by Father Guérolé FEUGANG, CM (Visitor of the Vice-Province of Cameroon) and concelebrated by Father Laurent Georges ZIBI, CM, the parish priest and his vicar.

The Eucharistic celebration took place in the majestic parish church of Mva'a, and it was at the end of the Mass that the next venue of the JRS 2024 was revealed. We all rejoiced to hear that the next event will be held in Garoua. And it was with cheers, youyous and songs of joy that the SEVINJE candle was handed over to the northern delegation.

**Text: Fr Jean Emmanuel ONANENA, CM - 3rd year theology student, Vice-Province of Cameroon.**







# MEETING OF YOUNG MISSIONARIES





On the 22nd, 23rd and 24th, the young missionaries of our Province held their traditional meeting, this time in the city of Ica, in a different location from the usual ones. The young missionaries were accompanied by the Visitor and shared a formation session led by Mgr Juan José Salaverry OP, auxiliary bishop of Lima, and a reflection session led by Mrs Milagros Calderón, past president of AIC Peru. Finally, on the last day, we took the opportunity to share our experiences, hopes and the feelings of each one of us in these "first years" or "months" of ministry. We thank those who have accompanied this meeting with their prayer and closeness, and we ask the Lord that these meetings may continue to encourage the maturity and formation of our confreres, in order to serve the Church better, through the Congregatio Missionis, in the service of the poorest.



## NOMINATIONES

BREŽÁNI Tomáš	12/07/2023	Visitor Slovakia (Reconfirmed)
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## ORDINATIONES

ANDRIAMILAMINA Manakawana A. Noël	Sac	MAD	06/08/2023
ANDRIANANTENAINA Olivier Clément	Sac	MAD	06/08/2023
RAFALIANDRAINIMANANA François de Paul	Sac	MAD	06/08/2023
RANDRIANANTENAINA Hermann	Sac	MAD	06/08/2023
RAZAFIKENDRY Marcellin Méthode	Sac	MAD	06/08/2023
TENAINA Stanislas Albert	Sac	MAD	06/08/2023
ZAMANA Laurent Zava	Sac	MAD	06/08/2023
DINH QUANG Joseph Tien	Sac	VTN	10/08/2023
DO NGUYEN Paul Vu	Sac	VTN	10/08/2023
NGUYEN DUC Francis Xavier Thuan	Sac	VTN	10/08/2023
NGUYEN NGOC Anthony Thuan	Sac	VTN	10/08/2023
NGUYEN QUOC Joseph Dung	Sac	VTN	10/08/2023
NGUYEN VAN Anthony Binh	Sac	VTN	10/08/2023
NGUYEN VAN Joseph Mary Toan	Sac	VTN	10/08/2023
NGUYEN VAN Vincent Ferrier Thong	Sac	VTN	10/08/2023
PHAM MINH Joseph Tuan	Sac	VTN	10/08/2023
SANG DAM Joseph Khang	Sac	VTN	10/08/2023
YA Joseph Do	Sac	VTN	10/08/2023
YA Martin Nghiep	Sac	VTN	10/08/2023
TAWAKE Visasio	Sac	AUL	19/08/2023
SHPORAJ Rrok	Sac	ITA	23/08/2023

## NECROLOGIUM

Nomen	Cond.	Dies ob.	Prov.	Aet.	Voc.
MEADE Bernard	Sac	01/08/2023	HIB	84	51
DURAND* Marcel	Fra	04/08/2023	FRA	92	67
LORENZO VILA Aser	Sac	05/08/2023	SVP	97	81
VAN AERT Jan Emmanuel (J.E.M.)	Sac	05/08/2023	CGN (HOL)	88	67
RUIZ CUETO Antonio	Sac	14/08/2023	MAD	75	58
AZNAR BELLO Manuel	Sac	16/08/2023	POR	82	64

# MOVIMIENTOS



# Congregation of the Mission

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