



RECOLETOS OAR / CP

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The Official Information Bulletin of the OAR
Vicariate of the Philippines and China

2nd Quarter, 1994

RECOLETOS IN ASIA HOLD VICARIATE'S FIRST CONGRESS

The year 1988 marked the Fourth Centenary of the Birth of the Augustinian Recollection. The celebration was an eye-opener. In their desire and effort to deepen the Recoletos identity, the Recollects in the Philippines saw the need for a gathering "of brothers for self-examination and renewal." The idea of a congress warmed up. The Fr. Vicar then who in many previous occasions already introduced the idea, took the initiative of conceptualizing the dynamics of the congress, and with the support of the Vicarial Council created an Executive Committee. From 1991 to April 1994 were long years of preparation that brought out Committees and Commissions to run the whole affair. Three phases were clearly defined: Preparation, Celebration, Implementation. The celebration phase fixed on January 4-8, 1994 in Cebu City was postponed to April 11-15 in Baguio. Thus, by summer, for the Recollects in the Philippines, Taiwan



"Congressmen" pose for history

and China, all roads led to Baguio City—for the First Congress of the Vicariate! Their Vision: Moving and growing toward renewed and authentic witnessing of OAR charism as the Order responds

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FIRST CONGRESS OF THE OAR PHILIPPINE VICARIATE

Message to Our Brothers

The Lord is risen, Alleluia

We, the Augustinian Recollects of the Philippines, gathered in the first Congress of the Vicariate, are happy to send Easter greetings to all the brothers of the Order whom we feel so near in the person of our Rev. Fr. Prior General, Fray Jose Javier Pipaon, here present among us.

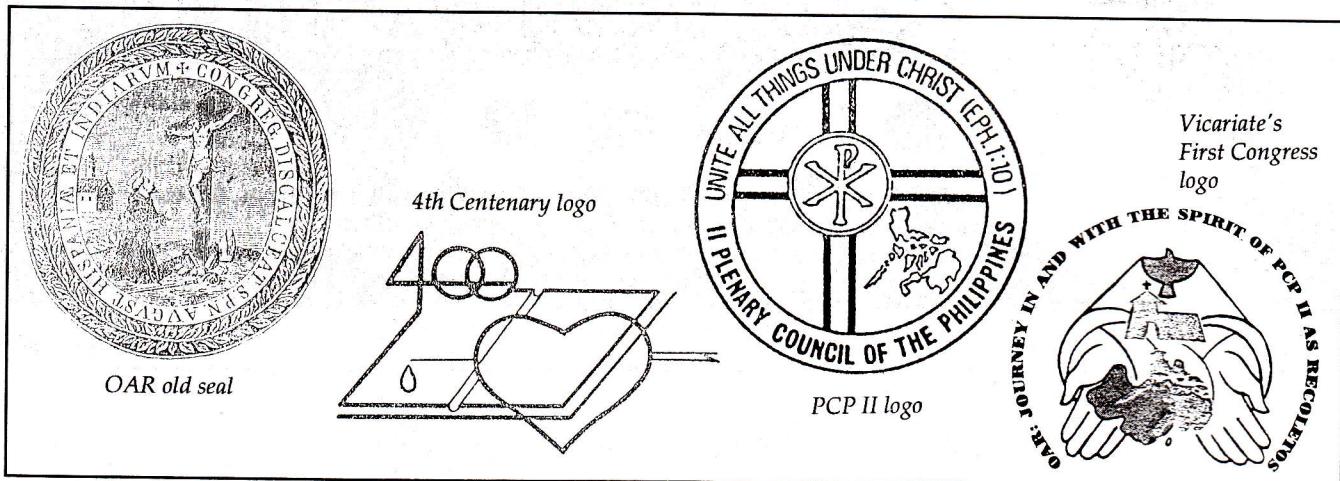
In a special manner we greet our Prior Provincial, Fray Carlos Imas, who has relayed to us his

advice and best wishes, and through him, we salute all the brothers in the Province of Saint Nicholas of Tolentine of the Philippine Islands, with whom we share joys and dreams.

Our greetings of Easter joy also extend to all the religious of the Vicariate. First, to the brothers who honor us with their perseverance amid trials in our mission in China. We are sorry that Msgr. Nicholas She could not be with us, as we have desired.

We also remember our old and sick religious,

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Towards Maturity

The Philippine Vicariate is considered among Recollect circles in the world as a peculiarly young community. Not in historical but in personal age. Starting from the 1980s, while the number of Filipino Recollects steadily increased, the age level of the Vicariate continuously decreased. According to the statistics of 1993-94 report*, fifty-two percent of the religious members belong to the 20 to 30-year age bracket.

Hence, the Filipino community is looked upon as hardly capable of forging a stable future. Youthfulness is identified with instability. It is a danger zone due to dreamy idealism. Yet it is also a period of discovery of one's capacities. It is a time for constructing one's plan of life. Youth is a promise amidst its perils. The Philippine Vicariate is undergoing both. The promise of the historical growth and missionary expansion of the Recollection was begun and re-shaped in this

Vicariate. It was evoked and re-awakened among Philippine constituents at the celebration of the IV Centenary of the Recollection's Birth. It is slowly colored and re-directed at the urgings of PCPII. But it was reaching towards maturity when it was re-affirmed at the Vicariate's First Congress. These were moments of peril, too, in the life of the Vicariate of the Philippines and China.

Youthfulness is a dangerous call towards maturity.

For no other fulfilling reasons, perhaps, did the Holy Father decide to celebrate World Youth Day in Manila—in 1995, in the Philippines, this time.

* p. 35, Vicar Provincial and Council, "Report on the Present Status of the Vicariate of the Philippines and China," Quezon City, April, 1992.



The RECOLETO'S OBSERVER is a quarterly publication of the OAR Vicariate of the Philippines and China which aims "to provide the religious a regular, updated and systematic information . . . in the various OAR apostolates" (Vicarial Circular Letter, July 3, 1989).

Fr. REGINO Z. BANGCAYA, OAR
Editor

FR. VICTOR LLUCH, OAR
Moderator

STAFF CORRESPONDENTS: Seminaries - Fr. William Villaflor, OAR. Fr. J. Fortunato Garces, OAR. Fr. Dionisio Selma, OAR. Bro. Cristopher Maspara, OAR. Schools - Fr. Francisco Antonio, OAR. Fr. Leopoldo Estioko, OAR. Fr. Jose Tamayo, OAR. Fr. Nemesio Tolentin, OAR. Fr. Delfin Castillo, OAR. Fr. Camelo Borces, OAR. Fr. Alberto Avanzado, OAR. Fr. Loreto Dacanay, OAR. Fr. Arnie Visitacion, OAR. Religious Communities - All Local Superiors. Missions - Fr. Sotero Macabudbud, OAR. A.R. Sisters - Sr. Maxima Pelaez, A.R. Technical Staff: Mr. Nick Melgar, St. Ezekiel Moreno Publishing Center, SSC, Manila

FORMATION

Mira-nila, Q. C.

Easter Ordination

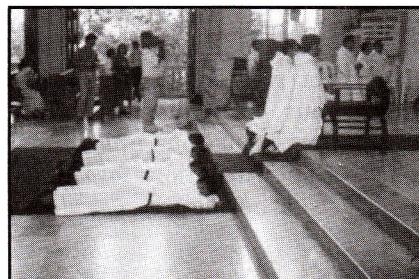


Newest Recolet priests

Easter Sunday this year 1994 was doubly blessed with the ordination of 2 Recollect Deacons to the Order of Priesthood. Rev. Fr. Cirilo Andan, OAR and Rev. Fr. Remo Rendora, OAR, were anointed priests by the Most Rev. Ramon Arguelles, D.D., Auxiliary Bishop of Manila, at OLCP Church in the afternoon of April 3, 1994. Msgr. Arguelles declared the 2 new priests as his memorable "firstborn", this being his first ordination act since he became bishop. Congratulations to the twin who incidentally are "long and short" put together.

New Schoolyear Welcomed

June 6, 1994 marked the opening of the Scholastic Year 1994-95. After the obligatory Mass of the Holy Spirit, an interesting symposium on the Catholic Faith Catechism was presented by Frays Anthony Morillo, OAR and Vicente Ramon, Jr., OAR. Prior to the opening of classes, the theologians spent a 5-day spiritual retreat at the RFC compound with Fr. Rex Bangcaya, OAR as retreat master who focused his talks on the Models of Renewal of Consecrated Life.



*Solemnly committing their whole life
Solemn Vows*

This year's Solemn Profession of vows was made by 4 determined young men on June 11, 1994 at OLCP Church before Fr. Rene Paglinawan, OAR, the then newly appointed Vicar Provincial. The professed brothers are: Fray Antonio Zabala, OAR; Fray Jose Florizel Dabalos, OAR; Fray Hernan Cañete, OAR; and Fray Reynaldo Jaranilla, OAR—the newest additions to the Recoletos Family.

Antipolo, Rizal

New Novices

After a five-day retreat with Fr. Dom Saladaga, OAR, 12 enthusiastic young men formally entered the Novitiate at a simple rite held on April 30, 1994 at the Chapel of St. Ezekiel Moreno Novitiate-Recoletos. The new Novices are: Fray Jose Peb Villacruis; Fray Urbano Galanido, Jr.; Fray Jonathan Cruel; Fray Celso Magbanua, Jr; Fray Joel Dequilla; Fray Jerry Diamante; Fray Renie Villalino; Fray Reggie Placido; Fray Jaazeal Jakosalem; Fray Jose Alnee Publico; and Fray Mark Rochelle Renacia. The total number increased to 13 when Fray Ronnie Atacador joined the group on May 13, 1994. Welcome all to the new life!

Completing the community are the old Novices, namely; Fray Reynaldo Romasanta, Fray Celedonio Lamprea, Jr., Fray Cid Titus Cempron, and Fray Vicente Fernandez.

Novitiate Enders

To finish the Novitiate means to be ready for a definitive response to the Divine Caller. Having ended their novice year, five courageous Recollects made their profession of simple vows on April 24, 1994 at the Novitiate Chapel in Antipolo.



Making the simple vows

The eucharistic celebration and the profession was presided by no less than the OAR Prior General himself, Rev. Fr. Javier Pipaon y Montreal. This year's simple professed are: Fray Lope Rama, OAR; Fray Amado Emmanuel Bolilia, OAR; Fray Yvonn Tonogbanua, OAR; Fray Arvin Portuquez, OAR; and Fray Jonathan Caballero, OAR. The presence of family members, relatives, friends, the ARSisters and the Secular Augustinian Recollects made the affair even more meaningful.

PARISHES

Valencia, Neg. Or.

Regional "Recollectnic" '94

What is this strange sound? "Recollectnic" coming from "recollement" and "picnic" blended together is a contemporary program held in summer by our college seminarians (Baguio) to give themselves spiritual anchor during vacation. Recollect seminarians from the

(See next page)

three islands of Cebu, Negros and Iloilo (Panay) chose the Parish of Our Lady of the Abandoned as the venue for their "Recollectnic" this year. Their spiritual exercises were held in Caidiocan, Valencia with Fray Leo Belos as recollection guide and Fr. Arnie Visitacion as confessor and Mass celebrant. They also had the opportunity to sing at the pontifical Mass by Msgr. Angel Lagdameo celebrated on the feast of St. Rita at the Caidiocan chapel. The last of the 4-day stint was spent in a picnic at the Casiroro falls and the Tajero pool.

Inter-Recoletos Parish Acolytes Meet



The organizers of Inter-Recoletos Parish Acolytes Meet

Wishing to extend the Recoleta community spirit to the youthful but necessary segment of the parish life - the acolytes, three Recollect parishes met in an Acolytes Sports-Fest hosted by the Valencia parish on May 4-6, 1994. Thirty delegates came from Carmel Parish (Cebu City) headed by Fr. Bebot Avanzado and Rev. Joey Villena, assisted by Frays Enteng Ramon and Nonie Morillo Consolacion Parish (Laray, Talisay, Cebu) sent 20 acolytes under Frs. Tinong Paglinawan and Remo Rendora. The OLA Parish met them with a 37-strong team plus 17 more from Caidiocan, led by Frs. Arnie Visitacion, Paul Dacanay and Cirilo Andan and backed by Frays Sixto Bitangjol, Ferdie Fornilos, Cris Maspara, and Charlie Orobio. In the Midget division, the Consolacion Team emerged as win-

ner while in the Junior, the Lady of the Abandoned team got the plum. The meet was completed with a night tour of Dumaguete City, swimming excursions and dinner party. Congratulations for this innovative gathering.

tion programs of this bustling parish. Held on May, 1994, the Center was blessed by Bishop Ramon Arguelles, Auxiliary Bishop of Manila, assisted by Frs. Victor Lluch, German Chicote and the parish priest, Fr. Leo Pauligue.

Cebu City

Good News for the Sick

Moved by the recent canonization of St. Ezekiel Moreno, known as a Recoleta healer-saint, Carmel Parish-Recoletos initiated the celebration of a "Healing Mass and Anointing" intended for the sick members of the parish last May 19, 1994. Spearheaded by Fr. Alberto Avanzado, OAR, incumbent parish priest, the ministry is done within the context of sacramental healing. It consists of three parts: sacrament of reconciliation (confession), Holy Mass and anointing with holy oil and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. The celebration is certainly a happy news for the sick and is responded to so positively by the parishioners that it will continue every 19th day of the month.

Quezon City

Formation Center Inaugurated



New SNDT Parish Formation Center

San Nicolas de Tolentino Parish has been working and waiting for this moment—the inauguration of the SNDT Formation Center for the much needed spiritual forma-

SCHOOLS

Talisay, Negros Occ.

Facilities for Quality Education

Year after year, UNO-R de Talisay stands to its commitment of providing quality education to the youth of its communities. This schoolyear offers improved Accounting Office, Faculty Room, Principal's and Director's Offices. The students have a renovated Campus Ministry office, widened lobby and a newly constructed canteen for happier breaktimes. Through these facilities, Fr. Delfin Castillo, OAR, the Director, hopes to maintain the quality status of the school.

Cebu City

Fr. Buñao's Six-year Term

The University of San Jose - Recoletos takes happy note of the successful six-year leadership of its president, Fr. Emeterio Buñao, OAR, serving the academe from 1988 to 1994. During his term, USJ-R passed the PAASCU re-accreditation programs of the Arts and Sciences, Commerce, Teacher's College, Engineering as well as the Elementary departments. It was a term marked by the promotion of the Augustinian spirituality, value-formation and academic excellence. Congratulations to Fr. Emie Buñao and the Josenian family!

**Housing Project
for USJ-R
Employees**

One of the major projects of the administration at present is the USJ-R Employee Housing Project located at Cansujong, Talisay, Cebu. Expected to be accommodated in the 10,177 square-meter lot are approximately 72 housing units. To assure the effective implementation of the plan, an Ad Hoc Housing Commission was appointed as a working group.

Manila

**SSC-R Professor is First
Representative to a Law
Fellowship in Dallas, Texas**

The San Sebastian College of Law is the first and only law school in Asia to be admitted as associate member of the Southwestern Legal Foundation allowing it to send one scholarship at least one faculty member to the Dallas Academy. Judge Mariano M. Umali of the Quezon City Regional Trial Court who teaches Civil Procedure and Remedial Law Review at SSC-R was chosen to be the first representative to the

1994 Academy of American and International Law sponsored by the Southwestern Legal Foundation to be held in Dallas, Texas. Congrats to SSC-R Law School!



*Blessing of St. Ezekiel Moreno Chapel,
SSC-R, Manila*

**School Chapel in
St. Ezekiel Moreno's Name**

The SSC-R Community is blessed to have their newly renovated chapel inaugurated last June 15, 1994 after a concelebrated Mass presided by Fr. Cornelio Moral, OAR, the Vice-President. Not only is the chapel more welcoming now, it is also attractive under St. Ezekiel Moreno's patronage.

BIRTHDAYS

JULY

- 02 - Fray Cid Titus Cempron
- 05 - Fray Vicente Fernandez
- 07 - Fr. Jose Tamayo
- 09 - Fr. Cirilo Andan
- 10 - Fr. Delfin Castillo
- 14 - Fr. Melecio Ho
- 16 - Fr. Arnie Visitacion
- 20 - Fr. Edwin de la Torre
- Fr. Gaudencio de Mesa
- 23 - Fr. Francisco Antonio
- Rev. Rouel Sia
- 25 - Fray Jose Ernil Almaya
- 26 - Bro. Joaquin Jamelo
- 27 - Fr. Jorge Peligro
- 30 - Fr. Faustino Paglinawan

AUGUST

- 04 - Fr. Edcel Celiz
- 11 - Fray Jose Opalda
- 13 - Fr. Casiano Cosmillia
- 14 - Fr. German Chicote
- 17 - Fray Rey Romasanta
- 21 - Bro. Leodigario Belos
- 22 - Fr. Leander Barrot
- 28 - Bro. Agustin Culaton
- 30 - Fr. Arsenio Escabusa

SEPTEMBER

- 02 - Fr. Federico Gregorio
- Fray Jovito Moral
- 05 - Fray Sixto Bitangjol
- 07 - Fr. Regino Bangcaya

- 08 - Fr. Crisostomo Garnica
- Fr. Rene Paglinawan
- 10 - Fr. Nicolas Salamanca
- 11 - Fr. Emilio Edgardo Quilatan
- 15 - Fray Anthony Morillo
- 16 - Fr. Remo Rendora
- 19 - Fr. Jose Maria Martinez
- Fr. Joseph Philip Trayvilla
- Fray Joel Alve
- 20 - Msgr. Gregorio Espiga
- 23 - Fr. Lino Agunod
- Fray Vicente Ramon
- 26 - Fr. Cipriano Zubiri
- Fr. Ferdinand Hernando
- Fray Genaro Monzon
- 29 - Rev. Herman Omeckill
- 30 - Fray Ferdinand Fornilos



The Vicariate's "Congressmen"

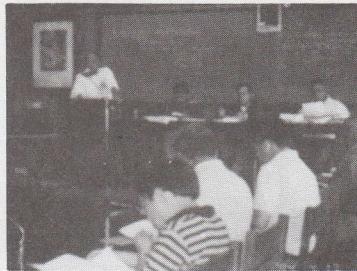


Congress Opening Mass

TOWARDS ONE HEART AND ONE SOUL



Congress in gala



An Exponent at the Rostrum



Congress Steering Committee



Congress, In action!



Big Men at Congress Opening



Serious objection?

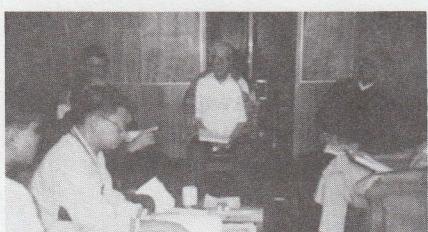
Congress journeying with Christ



One prayer, one mind in Congress



Worldwide representation at Congress



Groupings were for young and old



Congress Chroniclers: lighter side of the affairs



Secretariat did a fine job



Servers deserve their meal



Fr. Pais celebrated his b-day
at Congress



Fr. Melicio Ho from Taiwan Mission



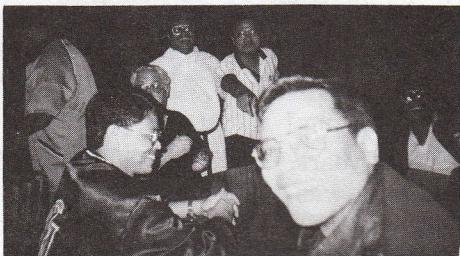
At recreation



Congressmen at play



Fr. General journeyed with us



After a hard day



Happy ending of Congress

PHOTOS: Fr. Cris Palomar, OAR, Fr. Emil Jaruda, OAR, Fr. Dom Saladaga, OAR

For the Missions...



Fr. Dom Saladaga, OAR and Fr. Ret Dacanay, OAR join missionaries in preparation

The Vicariate responds to the mission needs of the Church, slowly but surely. To prepare for their missionary stint in Labrea, Brazil, Frs. Dom Saladaga, OAR and Loreto Dacanay, OAR, attended the Mission-Orientation Course at Tagaytay City on May 9 to 19, 1994. They are the first Filipinos to be sent to that famous Recoleta mission area.

PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT

Fr. Hermenigildo C. Ceniza, OAR - M.A. in Higher Religious Studies, University of Sto. Tomas, Manila

THESIS: "An Assessment of the Program of the Christian Formation and Living of San Sebastian College-Recoletos, 1988-1991"

DEFENSE: May 13, 1994

MILESTONES

Ordained: Priesthood, April 3, 1994, OLCP-Rev. Fr. Cirilo M. Andan, OAR (Ronda, Cebu) and Rev. Fr. Remo D. Rendorra, OAR (Bayawan, Neg. Or.)

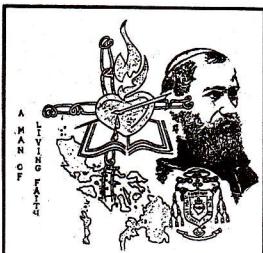
Solemn Profession: June 11, 1994, OLCP-Fray Antonio C. Zabala, OAR, (Parañaque, Metro Manila), Fray Jose Florizel A. Dabalos, OAR (Baclayon, Bohol), Fray Hernan A. Cañete, OAR (Toledo City, Cebu) and Fray Reynaldo E. Jaranilla, OAR (San Carlos City, Negros Occidental).

Simple Profession: April 24, 1994, SEMN-R - Fray Lope Rama, OAR (San Carlos City, Neg. Occ.), Fray Amado Emmanuel Bolilia, OAR (Padre Garcia, Batangas), Fray Yvonn Tonogbanua, OAR (Libertad, Antique), Fray Arvin Portuguez, OAR (San Carlos City, Neg. Occ.), Fray Jonathan Caballero, OAR (Baguio City).

STATISTICS OAR Formands, SY 1994-95 (start)

Recoletos Formation Center		Seminario Mayor - Recoletos	
I	- 6	I	- 24
II	- 7	II	- 25
III	- 10	III	- 24
IV	- 6	IV	- 20
Professed for Brotherhood - 1		TOTAL - 93	
TOTAL - 30			

St. Ezekiel Moreno Novitiate - Recoletos		Colegio de Sto. Tomas - Recoletos	
New Novices	- 13	II	- 4
Old Novices	- 4	III	- 7
TOTAL - 17		IV	- 11
		TOTAL - 22	



ST. EZEKIEL MORENO CORNER

(Note: St. Ezekiel Moreno Center at RFC, Mira-Nila, Q.C., now accepts reports of any favor received through the intercession of St. Ezekiel for filing and publication purposes).

Arthritic Polio Victim*

Since 1989, TERESITA CONCEPCION, 41 years old, single and resident of Sta. Cruz, Manila, was going in and out of hospital. In October 1992, her parish priest told her that they were asking for prayer petitions for the Canonization of St. Ezekiel Moreno. These petitions will be brought by Fr. Nory Vasquez, SSS, to the solemn celebration. Teresita presented her case.

On October 11, 1992, a Mass coinciding with the Canonization of the Saint was held at Sta. Cruz church. Teresita Concepcion attended the Mass. She prayed hard that if not cured, at least her pains will be lessened.

On October 22, she was really feeling "down, so depressed dahil sa sakit." To enter a hospital would just be a waste of money. At midnight, she could not sleep. She just kept crying because of pain. While praying to the Lord, "bigla kong naalaala si St. Ezekiel. Malapit siya kay Lord dahil bago siyang saint." She does not really go for devotions to saints as she centers herself on the Eucharist. After a while she fell asleep. When she woke up," natuwa ako, nakatulog na rin ako, naisip ko si St. Ezekiel, narinig niya ako."

That morning, still bearing the pain, she went to tend the store as was her daily routine. At the store, a man suddenly came near, "Ano kaya ang gusto nitong mama," she thought wondering a little. He looked at her straight to the eyes. "Mestiso, mahabang balbas, makinis ang pag-ahit ng balbas" was Teresita's description of the man. Now the man told her, "Ineng, may gusto sana akong sabihin." Teresita answered, "Ano ho 'yon?" "Hihingi sana ako ng kanin, malayo ang nilakaran ko," the man explained. Her mother who was standing right behind the man, went to the kitchen to look for some rice but could find none. The mother requested her to buy rice at a restaurant across the street, but instead she said to the man, "Naibusan ho kami ng kanin, gusto n'yo ho ba ng tinapay, bigyan ko ho kayo ng ulam," begged off Teresita. "Oo, sige," replied the man. He expressed shyness about accepting the food. He gazed at them with meaningful gratitude that Teresita thought, "sobra naman ang kanyang gratitude." Smiling at them the man said: "Thank you very much." Then he walked away. But

before he left, he looked back. "Nagkatinginan kami. Nagulat ako. Bakit ganoon ang tingin ng mama, parang may ibig sabihin ang mama... Baka nag-disguise lang ang mama, naisip ko baka he might be somebody" was the puzzled reaction of the polio victim. Her mother who also caught sight of his glance, thought: "Bakit ganoon ang mamang 'yon?"

That night in the kitchen," bigla akong tumayo. Dati-dati hindi ganyan kabilis." Usually she uses a support to stand. "Lumagatok ang aking spinal column, takot ako, baka mag slipdisk." But there was no pain. "Malakas and sound, baka malumpo ako, baka delikado," Teresita was afraid. She stood for a while and looked at the light. "Sobrang liwanag ang ilaw 'ata.' Naramdaman kong nawala ang pain sa likod ko." It was a feeling of a loosened knot. She reached for the pain at her feet,"parang gumaan." She usually cannot stand without a cane. "Bakit nakalakad ako na wala ang cane ko?... At once I realized it was a miracle! Naalaala ko kaagad si St. Ezekiel. I face the Sacred Heart. I woke my mother, it was 8:00 p.m. 'Nay, nakakalakad na ako na parang normal.' Teresita, since five years old was a polio victim with arthritis on both knees. She suffered immensely which the doctors could not explain. She also has diabetes. Her blood pressure would shoot up from 90 to 200, even to 240.

That whole night," naninibago ako, hinahanap ko ang pain ng katawan ko. The whole night I could not sleep, praising and thanking God."

"Next morning, I cleaned the house, wala talagang pain." It was exactly 12 days after the canonization of St. Ezekiel. When she glanced at the "stampita" she got from the church, the face looked familiar. She realized it was the man she gave food to that afternoon before her miracle.

Teresita felt her illness was beyond treatment. "The great miracle was to be released from great suffering. Malaking ginhawang nangyari sa akin." She is still limping though and needs some support.

*Summarized from a taped interview, courtesy of Our Lady of Pillar Parish Rectory, Sta. Cruz Mla., through Fr. Emil Quilatan, OAR (San Sebastian Parish, Manila)

Recoletos in Asia . . . from page 1

to PCPII and New Evangelization in the Philippines. Their Logo: a Dove over a Heart that contains two open Hands which in turn encompass the Maps of the Philippines, Taiwan and Continental China below a figure of a typical Filipino Church. Across the length of the Philippine archipelago are Persons joining hands. Encircling the logo is the Theme: OAR: Journey in and with the Spirit of PCP II as Recoletos.

Of the 44 participants who were mostly appointed and partly elected, four were non-Filipinos. Fr. Melecio Ho, and Fr. Jun Macabudbud came all the way from Taiwan. The delegates of mainland China could not come. The oldest member was 71 years old

and the youngest 28 years old. Gracing the opening rites was Msgr. Ernesto Salgado, D.D. of Baguio City, while presiding over the closing Mass was Rev. Fr. Javier Pipaon, OAR Prior General. With his secretary, Fr. General was present throughout the 5-day sessions. Elected to the Steering Committee were Fr. Lauro Larlar as Chairman, Fr. Federico de la Rosa as First Moderator, Fr. Rene Paglinawan as Second Moderator, Fr. Raul Buhay as Secretary and Fr. Victor Lluch as Adviser. Among those who delivered position papers were Frs. Rene Paglinawan who also gave the PCP II situationer, Emil Quilatan, German Chicote, Federico Gregorio, Melquiades Modequillo, Federico

de la Rosa, Rafael Cabarles, Joseph Philip Trayvilla, Dioniso Selma, Raul Buhay, Constantino Real and Dionisio Cachero. A host of other religious stood as reactors. Selected staffers from USJ-R manned the secretariat, while SM-R Junior seminarians under Fr. Jun de Mesa took charge of food and domestic needs.

When Fr. Lauro Larlar, as Congress Chairman, symbolically handed the "proposed resolutions" to Fr. Vicar, he signaled the end of the Congress. Forty solid recommendations were cited in them.

It was a shining moment for the Pinoy Recollects, and the Recollection in Asia! In their capacity to share thoughts and feelings, prayer and presence, hurts and hopes.

First Congress . . . from page 1

who together with the martyrs comprise the most precious part of our Vicariate. We have felt, too, the absence of Msgr. Gregorio Espiga, who has been in the bed of pain for some years now.

Nor can we forget the young men who are being formed in our seminaries: they are our successors, our future.

In the same way we send greetings of Easter joy to our Augustinian Recollect sisters: the contemplatives — with whose presence and prayer we feel honored and supported — as well as the sisters of the active life, with whom we share works and dreams since time immemorial.

Finally, we salute the members of our community of Secular Augustinian Recollects, which is happily developing and consolidating.

In the course of the past years, we have felt the challenge of the frequent calls to fidelity and renewal that the Church makes to us, religious. Of particular impact has been the Second Plenary Council of the Philippines (20 Jan - 17 Feb. 1991), in the country where the majority of our religious work. We have wanted to make its spirit our own and thus we chose as theme of our Congress that of "Journey In and With the Spirit of PCP II as Recoletos." As the Council, we have wanted "to

take stock of where we are; to look where we are going; to reanimate our life in Christ Jesus."

Conscious that the key of our evangelization is in the renewal of our own religious life, we have sought a deeper knowledge of the historical and theological roots of our charism. This has led to growth in our interest for the component parts of the Augustinian Recollect Family: the contemplative nuns, the sisters of the active life, and the Secular Augustinian Recollects.

Similarly, we have revised and upgraded the fundamental instruments of our common life (Ordo Domesticus, chapter of renewal, practices of poverty, etc.). We have solidified the bases of our structures of formation even as we have tried to strengthen our apostolic dimension by putting ourselves in clearer manner at the service of the Church of the Poor.

Finally, both in our religious and communitarian life and in the apostolate, we have ever sought to have before us the figure of our brother Saint Ezekiel Moreno, our predecessor in the vineyard of the Lord in the Philippines.

May he and our patron Saint Nicholas of Tolentine be our constant intercessors before the Lord. May our Lady of Consolation inspire and guide us in all our undertakings and those of the Order.

From the AR Sisters . . .

Sexennial Chapter

The Congregation held its 11th Ordinary General Chapter on April 15 to May 5, 1994 ably presided by Rev. Fr. Jose Antonio Calvo, OAR. The Chapter concluded with the election of Mother Ma. Eufemia Lauzon, AR, as Superior General (re-elected). Elected Councilors were Srs. Ma. Flora Silvero, AR, Modesta San Jose, AR, Ma. Adoracion Bonto, AR, Ma. Emilia Gaspillo, AR. Treasurer is Sr. Ma. Emma Navea, AR and Secretary is Sr. Maxima Pelaez, AR. More power to the new General Council!

Laborers for the Harvest

An assurance of good additional laborers in the Lord's field was made in the Congregation through the perpetual profession of consecrated virginity by eleven Sisters on May 28, 1994. Three days later, on May 31, ten young ladies made their first temporary vows (for one year) in the religious life. These affairs were witnessed by families, relatives and many guests. Prayerful congratulations!

From the AR Contemplative Nuns...

Monastery Construction Commenced



The Prioress, Sor Lourdes Eizaguirre, leading the ribbon-cutting

The Augustinian Recollect Contemplative nuns have, not so long ago, silently settled in Bacolod City. Of the five original members of the community, three are from Spain and two from Mexico. Early this year, the cornerstone of their new monastery was laid and blessed. The historic occasion was graced by Msgr. Camilo Gregorio of Bacolod, the then Fr. Vicar, Fr. Victor Lluch and Fr. Antonio Palacios who acts as director of this pioneering community. Heartfelt congratulations!



U.P. P. O. Box 206
1101 Diliman, Q. C.

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