

RECOLETOS RECOLLECTS

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Vicariate of the Philippines and China

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SECULAR AUGUSTINIAN RECOLLECTS HOLD NATIONAL CONVENTION

The Recollect parish priests nationwide in their reunion in Valencia, Negros Oriental last April 27-29, made the final touches to the plan — there is a need of a national gathering for the members of the Augustinian Recollect Secular Fraternity in the Philippines to establish their own local Statutes which will be an adaptation of the General Statutes found in the RULE OF LIFE. The Luzon chapters were to act as hosts this time. A series of meetings among the 5 Luzon chapters was called for by Fr. Rex Z. Bangcaya, OAR, appointed by Fr. Vicar as “delegated chairman” of the Secular Augustinian Recollects of the Vicariate (Vic. Council 14, 11 Nov., 1992).

Pre-convention accommodations were prepared at Our Lady of Consolation Parish and the Recoletos Formation Center. Recoletos-Baguio was the uncontested venue of this 2nd national convention. The delegates arrived on May 17 and left on May 20. There were 32 official delegates, three from each of the ten Chapters plus two “ad interim” national officials. Nine OAR parish priests who are spiritual directors of their respective chapters actively participated in the convention, namely: Fr. Bebot Avanzado of Our Lady of Mt.



SAR National Convention '93

Carmel Parish, Cebu City; Fr. Tinong Paglinawan of Our Lady of Consolation Parish, Laray, San Roque, Talisay, Cebu; Fr. Loreto Dacanay of Our Lady of Peace and Good Voyage, Tondo, Manila; Fr. Sammy Silloriquuez of Our Lady of Consolation Parish, Mira-Nila, Q.C.; Fr. Leo Pauligue of San Nicolas de Tolentino Parish, Congressional Subd., Q.C.; Fr. Hermie Ceniza of San Sebastian Parish, Quiapo, Manila;

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SAR OF CAVITE MARK FOUNDATION'S SILVER ANNIVERSARY

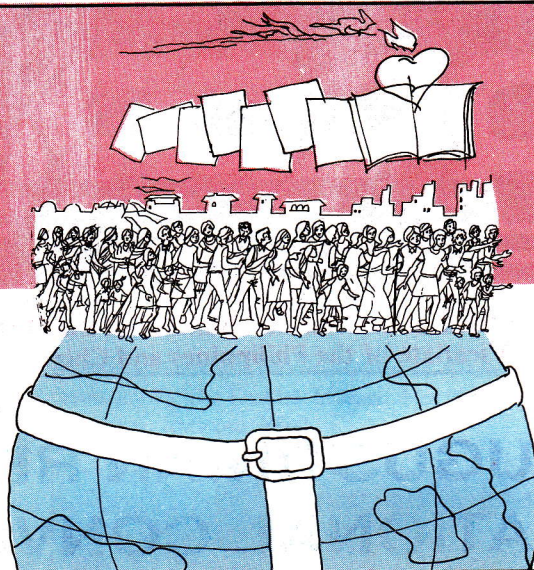
On May 5, 1968, Fr. Alfonso Diaz, OAR, with Bro. Fernando Dizon, OAR, called for a meeting of catholic lay leaders and urged them to form the Third Order of the Augustinian Recollects (TOAR) in the chapel of San Sebastian College, Cavite City. That was 25 years ago today! From 33 aspirants then, the members grew to 58 today. The first president, Dra. Rizalina Poblete, has persevered in the serv-

ice of her community and is still the president today. The TOAR has metamorphosed to SARF (Secular Augustinian Recollect Fraternity) after the Vatican II. The “Tertiaries” to Secular Augustinian Recollects of today.

As early as March 20, 1993, the Cavite SAR offered a series of seminars to its members. The big day was set on May 15. Representatives from Chapters all over the country and the delegates to the national convention had the opportunity to assist at the solemn Mass, then joined the commemorative program in the afternoon. The pride of the jubilee celebration is Barangay Pulo. A depressed area along the shore outside the city proper, it was called “Pulong Walang Diyos.” The

See *ANNIVERSARY*, page 10

EDITORIAL



Growing Family

Chapter Five of the OAR Constitutions is entitled "The Augustinian Family." The opening paragraph reads: "Our fraternal love must also embrace the institutes of nuns and sisters as well as associations of the faithful who, following the Rule of St. Augustine and the spirit of the Order, are dedicated to the contemplative life or to diverse apostolic works, or endeavor to achieve Christian perfection according to their secular state of life." It continues: "All of these institutes and associations, together with the Order of Augustinian Recollects, constitute the Augustinian Recollect family." (No. 112)

The foundational charism of the Recollection sprang from within a restless Augustinian family. More than four hundred years later, it still survives in a struggling family. And on the eve of the year 2000, it longs to grow toward an extended family. The Secular Augustinian Recollects augur this growing family.

We dedicate this Second Quarter issue to these Filipino men and women who, in varied customs, tongue, mentality and geography, commit themselves to live out the Augustinian Recollect vision within our Church and society.

The Third Order or Secular Fraternity, as it is now called, is not like other associations of the

faithful in the Church. It has many things in common with the private or public associations but, according to Canon 303, it stands above them in two dimensions, namely, communion and participation in the spirit of a religious institute and the over-all direction of the same institute. There is no better proof of the esteem that the Church has for the Third Order as well as of the rank that it occupies in the hierarchy of the associations than that the Holy See reserves to itself not only the initial approval of the Rule of Life and General Statutes by which the Third Order is ruled, but also all the subsequent modifications that might be introduced.

The Secular Fraternity as an extension of the Order in the world is "necessary to achieve the fullness of the charism of the institute." (p. 28, Francis Moriones, *Espiritualidad Agustino-Recoleta I*) In the Vicariate of the Philippines and China, there are ten duly organized communities of the Secular Augustinian Recollects, eight based on parishes and two on schools.

May St. Magdalena of Nagasaki, declared Patroness of the Secular Augustinian Recollect Fraternity on January 14, 1989, continually intercede for their growth in holiness for the glory of the Church and of the Order.

PARISHES

MANILA: "Carrozas" at Good Friday Procession

For San Sebastian Parish "it was the first time ever since the post war years" that a "Santo Entierro" procession was held on Good Friday bringing with it its pristine drama and color. Under the direction of Fr. Emil Quilatan, assistant parish priest, five

"carrozas" prepared by different parish organizations featured the highlights of the passion and death of our Lord. With a big turn-out of parishioners in the procession, there is something to look forward to in the next year's Viernes Santo.

Pope's Day for Whole Manila

San Sebastian Basilica was chosen as venue for the celebration of this year's Pope's Day. It is observed on a Sunday nearest to the feast of Apostles Peter and Paul to express the allegiance and unity of the hierarchy and the faithful with the Supreme Pontiff. The Apostolic Nuncio, His Excellency Gian Vincenzo Moreni, presided the evening Mass that kept the San Sebastian steel church to overflowing. Jaime Cardinal

Sin was present on his "throne" while Msgr. Josefino Ramirez acted as the preacher. The Coro de San Sebastian Basilica combined voices with the Coro de Santuario de San Antonio (Forbes Park) in singing the Latin Mass by Mozart that also included the Credo. A merienda-cena was served at the St. Rita Arcade. It was truly an honor for San Sebastian Parish to host such an important celebration.

QUEZON CITY: A New Parish Formation Center

San Nicolas de Tolentino Parish held a groundbreaking ceremony of the much-awaited Formation Center last March 21, 1993. Sunday. Fr. German Chicote laid the cornerstone in behalf of the Fr. Vicar while Fr. Leo Pauligue blessed the new site. The Center is a "three-storey building with roof top, spacious conference hall in

each floor" as well as other amenities of a good formation center. The project, launched by the parish priests, Fr. Leo and Fr. Dom Saladaga, officers and members of the Pastoral Council, is in line with PCP II's direction of utilizing "leadership training, retreats and seminars as are necessary for the new thrust of re-evangelization."

TALISAY, NEGROS OCC.: "Taltal '93"

Holy Week was made more significant for the Talisaynons and parishioners of San Nicolas de Tolentino with the production of the passion play aptly entitled "Taltal '93". The Barangay sang Birhen group recruited

159 participants from the different "Trinities" of the parish for the play. Part of the rehearsals was a seminar on the deep meaning of Christ's suffering to inspire the cast in their reenactment.

TONDO, MANILA: "Native Chapel"

In spite of difficult transition period, Our Lady of Peace and Good Voyage Parish managed to put up its own improvements. The kitchen is recently given a facelifting on time for the parish fiesta on May 16. Immediately after, the Parish Priests, led by Fr. Loreto Dacanay, decided to relocate their community chapel for better atmosphere and meaning and to allow more space for the Fathers' recreation hall. One comes upon it now right after entering the main door of the convent, designed with native materials that evokes a homely feeling. Even the floor is made of bamboo.

Twin Hearts Day at OLCP

Our Lady of Consolation Parish was unanimously voted as the venue for celebrating this year's feast of the Sacred Heart with the Immaculate Heart of Mary by the Apostleship of Prayer members in the Sto. Niño Vicariate of 6 parishes. The Twin Hearts day was held on June 19, Saturday. One hundred eighty-one (181) APs registered for the gathering. The Archdiocese of Manila's Over-all Director of the A.P., Msgr. Emmanuel Sunga, and Over-all A.P. President, Mrs. Susan Reyes, honored the celebration with their presence. Lunch was served at the newly air-conditioned conference hall of the parish. It was certainly a well coordinated affair. Previously, Novena Masses were held in preparation for the June 18 feast when Fr. Tony Limchaypo, assistant parish priest, imposed the Sacred Heart scapulars on 42 new members of the movement.

"Panaad '93"

San Nicolas de Tolentino Parish participated in Negros Occidental's daring move of uniting the laity's effort, time and resources through the celebration of "Panaad '93." The central part of the celebration was to bring the parish's patron saint's image to Bacolod City in an antique "carro" for a procession that hoped to express together the people's gratitude to the Lord Almighty. "Panaad" means promise. It aimed to lead the faithful to commit themselves being responsible for one another, town for another town, people for other people.

LARAY, TALISAY, CEBU: New Parish Organizations

Besides dedicating the month of May to Flores de Mayo, Consolacion Parish-Recoletos also conducted catechetical instruction in its seven (7) catechetical centers or chapels ably managed by more than 30 volunteer catechists. Two new organizations relevant to the parish were formed, namely, the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) with more than eighty members and the Lay Ministers' group who are still undergoing seminars given by the Parish Priest, Fr. Tinong Paglinawan, himself.

MIRA-NILA, Q.C.: Free Medical Clinic

The new free clinic of Our Lady of Consolation Parish was inaugurated and blessed by the Fr. Vicar last May 2. Established as a make-shift clinic at the parish basement in 1989, this medical outreach project provides weekly consultation and medicines to poor families around the parish. Volunteer physicians and their assistants serve some 50 to 100 patients per clinic day. Near the clinic a statue of St. Magdalena of Nagasaki was also unveiled and blessed.

SCHOOLS



SAN CARLOS CITY, NEGROS OCC.: NCEE National Standing

The Manila Bulletin of May 23, 1993 carried an item of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports issuing the list of the 250 top performing secondary schools nationwide based on their performance in the last

five years (1987-1991) in the National College Entrance Examination (NCEE). Colegio de Sto. Tomas-Recoletos ranked 193rd in the NCEE throughout the Philippines and 19th in the Regional Ranking. More power!

Second Placer, U-19

The CST-R football team represented the City of San Carlos at the 3rd Pepsi-cola Cup under -19 football tournament at the Paglaum Sports Complex in Bacolod City last June 5-10. The championship match was

played between the CST-R and UNO-R teams. The defending champion UNO-R kickers came out superior and forced the CST-R team to settle for the second place. All the same, it was a victory for the Recoletos schools.

CEBU CITY: New Facilities

University of San Jose-Recoletos has purchased a new school bus blessed last April 24. In the Basak campus, a deep well is being worked on in preparation for the construction of a retreat house.

More Benefits for Personnel

The Memorandum of Agreement between the administration and the Faculty Foundation, Inc. (FFI) and the United Josenian Employees Association (UJEA) was finally signed last June 2, 1993. With this agreement, effective SY 1992-93, the retirees will be receiving benefits equivalent to one month basic pay times the years of service. A big step towards effective mutual help.

Champs Again!

The much-improved USJ-R Varsity Team won the championship in the Cebu Basketball League (CBL) for 1933! Congrats!

TALISAY, NEGROS OCC.: New Schoolyear Program

UNO-R de Talisay launched its new program for the schoolyear by accepting a moderate number of new enrollees through rigid screening. In the administration and faculty meeting, activities designed to enhance the skills and potentialities of the students were slated. A new guidance program was introduced and the library has updated its set of textbooks and periodicals. Fr. Delfin Castillo, school director, stressed that "the institution is firmly committed to the task of serving the educational needs of the youths as an instrument of christian education."

MANILA: In-Service Training

San Sebastian College's concern for the total personality growth of the teacher took into consideration the socio-cultural, academic and spiritual dimensions in this year's in-service training. "The month-long training kicked off with a crash-course on Religion, with PCP II's renewed integral evangelization and pastoral management skills in focus." Other topics in academic and professional dimensions also got their speakers. The training conducted in a more dynamic and innovative manner is something the grade school teacher can always look forward to.

Along the same line, the high school department has sent faculty members to a series of seminars and conferences sponsored by the Administration. Surely, those were exhilarating summer months!

FORMATION



Solemn Profession: They who said "yes" forever

ANTIPOLO: Search-In

On April 15, St. Ezekiel Moreno Novitiate played host to fourteen (14) altar boys, all high school graduates from San Sebastian College of Cavite City who came with Fr. Federico de la Rosa, OAR. They stayed overnight for

a time of "searching-in" as well as observing the "inside life." While there, they received some input on the OAR religious life and had the occasion to play with the Novices, too.

"Toma de Habito"

Sixteen (16) hopefuls made their simple "toma de habito" marking their official entry to the Novitiate on April

17. In the group at present are two "balikbayans", Barnard Lumapas and Celedonio Lamprea II.

BAGUIO CITY: OAR Convention Site

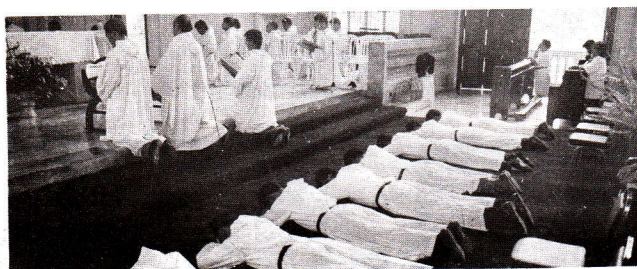
Seminario Mayor-Recoletos, amidst the fast-disappearing pines, truly deserves the title "OAR Convention Site." Several reunions happened here during the summer months. The month of special preparation of 9 Theologians occupied much of the time and space of the house. Weeks before, the outgoing Novices had their retreat before their simple vows. The Secular Augustinian Recollects held their national convention here, too, accompanied by their spiritual directors, mostly parish priests. Just before opening of classes, the Recollect priests took their

turn at SM-R in a week-long retreat under Msgr. Camilo Gregorio, D.D. The Seminary merits other improvements to keep up with its role as "favorite convention site." How about an orderly landscaping of its grounds?

It has even recently acquired two generators to put an end to the "generator gap." Now the Fathers can use them for vocation propaganda with attractive slogans like, "Come to Seminario Mayor-Recoletos, Baguio City. No brown-outs! Classes uninterrupted! Sermons continued!"



Fr. Ronel Gealon, OAR,
the newest Recoleta



Solemn Profession: They dared to say "yes" forever

SM-R Community at Rally

Responding to the appeal of Bishop Ernesto Salgado, the whole Recoletos community joined the rally against the establishment of the Casino in Baguio City last June 20. It turned out to be the largest gathering of people since the visit of the Holy Father in this city. Clearly the Baguio citizens do not want any PAGCORruption that may eventually follow. A Recoleta seminarian had the privilege to offer an intercessory prayer after the speeches and other discourses were through.

MIRA-NILA, Q.C.: Solo Ordination

Ordained to the sacerdotal ministry last April 11, 1993, at our Lady of Consolation church was Rev. Fr. Ronel Paglomutan Gealon, OAR. Officiating the ordination rites was Bishop Cornelio De Wit, D.D., Episcopal Vicar for Religious. Fr. Ronel hails from Ilog, Negros Occidental, is a product of our Univ. of Negros Occ.-Recoletos, Bacolod City, and is now counted among the increasing number of OAR priests in the Philippines.

Back to School

As a preparation for the schoolyear, the theologians spent an in-campus retreat last May 31 to June 4 with Rev. Fr. Fred Homedia, MSP, who led them toward "self transfiguration" in a new spiritual journey into oneself and to God. On June 7, after the Mass of the Holy Spirit, a symposium was held at the Theologate's Aula Magna. Fray Hernan Cañete, OAR, spoke on "Religious Prophetism in the PCP II." Later the theologians met the new Novices in a basketball exhibition at the gym.

Solemnly Professed

June 12, 1993 marked the Solemn Profession of Vows of eight theologians in a concelebrated Mass at OLCP presided by Rev. Fr. Victor Lluch, OAR, Vicar Provincial. Several family members of the professed came to witness the life-long commitment. They who have said "yes" forever are: Brothers Remo D. Rendora, OAR; Jose Marie R. Villena, OAR; Rouel M. Sia, OAR; Felipe E. Jaranilla, Jr., OAR; Joel G. Villaruel, OAR; Leodigario A. Belos, OAR; Hernan B. Omecillo, OAR and Bernabe M. Dosdos, OAR. All are now into their last year of theological studies except Bro. Remo who completed them last year.

MILESTONES

Ordained:

Priesthood, April 11, 1993, OLCP
- Rev. Fr. Ronel P. Gealon, OAR

Professed:

Solemn-Perpetual Vows, June 12,
OLCP - Frays Bernabe M. Dosdos,
OAR; Remo D. Rendora, OAR; Jose
Marie R. Villena, OAR; Rouel M. Sia,
OAR; Felipe E. Jaranilla, Jr., OAR;
Joel G. Villaruel, OAR; Leodigario A.
Belos, OAR; Hernan B. Omecillo,
OAR.

Professed:

Simple-Temporal Vows, April 30,
1993, SEMN-R - Frays Genaro V.
Monzon, OAR; Joseph M. Girasol,
OAR; Romeo A. Bersaluna, OAR; Joe
Gabriel P. Rios, OAR; Joel A. Alve,
OAR; Charlito A. Orobia, OAR;
Randolph Castulo V. Castillo, OAR;
Bernard F. Poloyapoy, OAR; Jose
Emil F. Almayo, OAR.

Admitted:

Novitiate, April 26, 1993, SEMN-
R - Frays Lope Rama, OAR; Amado
Emmanuel Bolilia, OAR; Henry
Moradilla, OAR; Jerome Antipuesto,
OAR; Celedonio Lamprea II, OAR;
Renerio Mansueto Jr., OAR; Joseph
Bernal, OAR; Yvonn Tonogbanua,
OAR; Dexter Pelias, OAR; Vicente
Fernandez, OAR; Cid Titus Cemprun,
OAR; Raynell Bernales, OAR; Arvin
Portuguez, OAR; Anthony Marollano,
OAR; Jonathan Caballero, OAR;
Johnias de Jesus, OAR.



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).

Total Conversion

At 23 years, ALEXIS BABISTA, was a topnotcher in the Foreign Service exam. He studied at Ateneo de Davao. In 1979, he contracted a disease which his auntie, Dra. Lourdes S. Pascual, calls sclero-derma, a collagen disease. It affects all body organs that have connective tissues, as in bones, muscles, heart and lungs.

In 1982, his sickness became serious. Accompanied by Dra. Pascual, he was brought to other countries like Switzerland and Germany but no one knew the exact diagnosis of his disease. "There is nothing to do," they were told. They decided to go to Rome to seek solutions from faith and prayers. Alexis arrived in a wheelchair, his whole body swelling, his back bent. Actually he was against this trip. Deep in his heart he still felt hatred and anger against priests which he nurtured since his nun-sister left the convent. In fact, he blamed his sickness on this departure. At any rate, they were able to join the audience with the Pope in the Vatican. As the Holy Father passed by the other side from where they were, the auntie spontaneously cried out to the Pope, "Bless my nephew, forgive his sins!" The Pope gladly looked back and upon seeing Alexis on the wheelchair invited him to a private audience. In his austere room, the Pope embraced him and said: "From now on I will include you in my prayers. I know that you don't like us, but we love you." The auntie spoke out for him: "Holy Father, we are praying to Blessed Ezekiel Moreno but he doesn't believe!" The Pope answered, "Why don't you believe?" The patient did not answer. He could not answer. Tears were falling on his cheeks. The Pope embraced him again and pleaded, "You pray." At home, his pain worsened. Alexis was asking for death, even euthanasia.

Back to the Philippines, his pain continued. When he took medicines he would vomit them all. One day, crying from severe suffering, he complained, "Can't you do anything for me?" His auntie, desperate but always at his side, answered, "Why not ask Blessed Ezekiel?" Dra. Pascual was a regular Mass-goer at San Sebastian basilica who

knew about the Blessed. There and then, they started a triduum to Blessed Ezekiel. After touching the picture of the Blessed upon his body, his pain suddenly disappeared. He began to eat. In spite of his weak condition, he went to the church and confessed. Since then, he became closer to the priests. He would declare: "Pain is only in thought." When he met Fr. Leandro Montañana, then president of Adamson University who was suffering from Parkinson's disease, he told him: "I'm praying for you. I learn not to complain anymore. If you have any pain, give it to me. I will suffer for you. You are somebody, I am nobody."

It was in 1984 to 1985 when the pain diminished considerably. He became a fervent devotee to the Sacred Heart just like and because of St. Ezekiel. By then he was praying for the speedy canonization of the Saint.

In 1987, on June 20, at 7:30 in the morning, he felt the usual pain once again. "Lord, do not abandon me! ... I'm so thirsty," he murmured. But he was requesting his companions at home, "Magsimba kayo." It was the eve of Corpus Christi, the Mass was of St. Camillus. He recited the Divine Mercy prayers and the Triduum to St. Ezekiel whose picture was always by his side. He also touched the relic of St. Vincent Ferrer. Msgr. Josefino Ramirez brought him communion and gave him the holy anointment. By 8:00, he had the oxygen apparatus pulled off. He died with only the househelpers around.

Alexis before his death was known to many priests. He left part of his property to his brothers and sisters, and donated a big amount to the Perpetual Adoration at the Dagat-Dagatan parish.

St. Ezekiel Moreno's intervention changed the heart and mind of Alexis. It was a strange but total conversion. In thanksgiving for St. Ezekiel's favor, Dra. Pascual of #4 Makling St., Talayan Village, Quezon City, had ordered the printing of the first novena to the Saint to be distributed by San Sebastian Parish way back in 1984.

INSCAPE

Fr. Regino Z. Bangcaya, OAR

The existence of the Augustinian Recollect Fraternity in our midst is a call, a challenge and a return.

It is a call to holiness. There is a clear hunger for God, his Word, his healing touch among people of our time. Holiness is a word they may not mention. But a deep desire for what is eternal, stable and reliable is implicitly a desire for God. A longing for God implies a longing to befriend Him which is holiness. The Fraternity in itself has no reason of being if not to tend toward a holy christian life. Its presence draws the world's attention to that fulfillment. It provokes the

SERIOUSLY
SPEAKING...

Fr. Emil Quilatan, OAR

St. Ezekiel Moreno:
(con't)

June 3, 1870 - Ezekiel received the Minor Orders and tonsure from the Bishop of Jaro, Iloilo.

June 2, 1871 - He was ordained to the priesthood in Manila by Archbishop Gregorio Meliton Martinez.

Reflection: "... To all priests, then, We say: Never doubt the nature of your ministerial priesthood, for it is not a place, office or service to be exercised for the ecclesial community but a service which participates in a very special manner, through the sacrament of Orders and with an indelible character, in the power of the priesthood of Christ." -- Pope Paul VI, message to priests quoting L.G. 10,28.

same fundamental call in the religious. There is a need for a more conscious and effective response to the Caller.

The Secular Augustinian Recollect communities pose a challenge to reform. To a certain point, they might even appear as a threat. If the way to a maturing christian life is constant renewal, daily conversion is the recipe. In their secular, more worldly condition, the process to self-renewal becomes violent if not costly. Going through it all, they come out stronger, profounder and more radiant. Their sapiential insights can be threatening because they stir. They put to question the Order's validity in the world because they themselves have clarified it there. Through them, the Recollect charism has no way out but growth through renewal.

The Fraternity's search for identity bids us return to the foundations of the Recollection. The founding reli-

gious yearned for a more authentic Augustinian life. To live an austere life with a renewed fervor. Fervor was not confined within the monastic walls. It first overflowed to mission life in the Philippines. As early as 1622, there were already the so-called "Tertiaries", lay men and women who consecrated themselves to the Augustinian Recollect life of renewed fervor, in far-flung areas like Taytay, Palawan and Butuan, Agusan. The renewed Augustinian fervor was the imperative to return to the heart. To enter into oneself where God awaits. The secular Augustinian Recollects captured the essence of this renewed-fervor movement much earlier. In the history of sanctity, an Augustinian Recollect secular girl was canonized first.

The Secular Augustinian Recollect Fraternity exists as a "leaven in the world" (OAR Const., 114) and in the Order as well.



The RECOLETOS 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).

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FROM THE AUGUSTINIAN RECOLLECT SISTERS...

Retreat and Conference Season

THE MONTHS of April, May and June were not only periods of spiritual retreats, courses, seminars and conferences but also of professions, jubilees and investitures.

SEVEN GROUPS of retreats for the A.R. sisters were made at the Tagaste Retreat House in Tagaytay City, each group consisting of at least 42 sisters. Retreat Masters were Fr. Raul Buhay, OAR, Fr. Emil Quilatan, OAR, Msgr. Simeon Valerio, SVD, Msgr. Amador Litong of Batangas and Fr. Rene Paglinawan, OAR who conducted two groups. In the Visayas, one batch of retreatants was handled by Fr. Leander Barrot, OAR, at Consolatrix Academy, Toledo City.

Mother Gen at Rome International Convention

Mother Ma. Eufemia Lauzon, A.R. Superior General, attended this year's convention of the International Union of Superiors General in Rome on May 10-14. The theme was: "Apostolic Women Religious at the Service of Life in All Its Dimensions, 'Fan into a flame the gift that God gave you'." (2 Tim. 1:6) With time constraints,

FIFTY NINE administrators composed of Directresses, Deans, Principals, Registrars and Treasurers participated in the A.R. Administrators Seminar-Workshop last May 1-6 at the Tagaste Retreat House with the theme: "Challenge to Catholic Administrators Towards the Year 2000." Resource speakers were stimulating and discussions of common problems were enlightening.

FORTY-TWO Sisters took refresher courses for six weeks, April 4-May 15 at Tagaytay City. As renewalists, they returned home brimming with enthusiasm and gratitude, ready for the incoming year.

Mother's trip was made possible through the help of Rev. Fr. Javier Pipaon, OAR Prior General and Fr. Eusebio Hernandez, OAR, who works at the Congregation of Religious and Secular Institutes in the Vatican. Mother Fem enjoyed the hospitality and fraternal care of the Recoletos community at the Generalate.

MILESTONES in the Congregation:

Perpetual Profession of Vows, SRC chapel, Manila, May 30 : Sr. Juliet Natinga, AR; Sr. Hermosilia Torreon, AR; and Sr. Logo Seater, AR — profession received by Mo. Ma. Eufemia Lauzon, AR; liturgy officiated by Rev. Fr. Victor Lluch, OAR.

First Profession of Vows, Tagaste Retreat House, Tagaytay City, May 31: Fourteen Novices — liturgy presided by Fr. Jose Ma. Martinez, OAR.

Initiation to Novitiate, Our Lady of Carmel Novitiate, Tagaytay City, May 30 afternoon: Sisters Adenda Baclayo, Raquel Tinga, Ma. Ulva Pe Aure, Suzanne Liwag, Marilou Alcala, Defa Gustilo, Evangeline Brana, Rosielyn Jardenil and Rosalie Ubo.

Investiture to Postulancy, AR Generalate, Manila, May 29: Seven aspirants.



*Staff of Stocco Hospital
Makeni, West Africa*

WELCOME! Sisters from Foreign Mission

Sr. Regina Bianes, AR, from Milpitas, CA, USA; home for medication and change of assignment.

Sr. Jeana Abejuela, AR, from Parammatta, New South Wales, Australia; arrived for a two-month break from her parish/diocesan work.

Sr. Dorothy Aguila, AR, from Makeni, West Africa; home for good from her job as administrator of the Leprosy Control Hospital in Makeni.

Sr. Ramona Plaza, AR, from Makeni, West Africa; came home to attend Refresher Course; worked at the Leprosy Control Programme in Makeni; she will return in June.

Contemplative Vocation

Sister Judith de Quiroz, a Junior AR Sister, in her desire for a truly cloistered life, joined the Augustinian Recollect Contemplative Nuns based in Bacolod City on April 27. She was invested as Postulant of the monastery on June 1.

CONVENTION, from page 1

Fr. Arnie Visitacion of Our Lady of the Abandoned Parish, Valencia, Negros Oriental; Fr. Kizzy Cosmilla of San Nicolas de Tolentino Parish, Talisay, Negros Occidental and Fr. Lino Agunod of San Sebastian College, Cavite City.

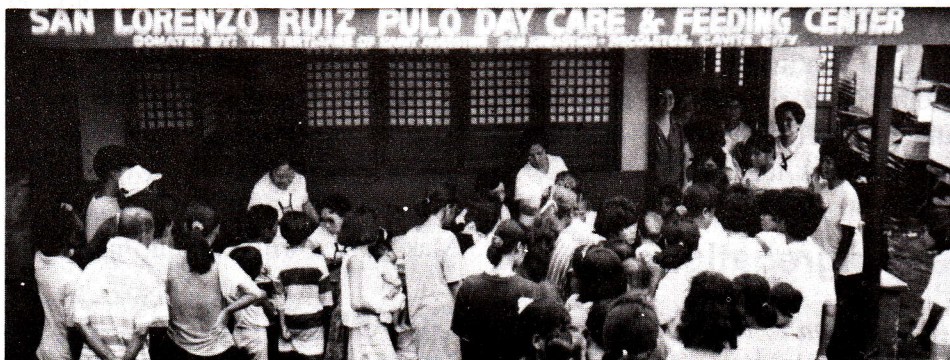
There were also 28 "observers", SAR members who assisted at the convention but who did not have the right to vote or be voted. Six "guests" from Baguio City observed the gathering, hopeful to join the Fraternity in the near future. In all, there were 71 participants.

Fr. Sammy Silloriquuez presided over the discussions which were all centered on the provisions to be included in the Statutes. Fr. Victor Lluch had his time slot to explain the organizational chart of the Vicariate and so point out the place of the SAR in the whole OAR scene. The afternoon of May 19, third day, was spent on tour and shopping. At night an interesting cultural program was presented by the members. On the last day, May 20 morning, a solemn closing Mass was presided by the Fr. Vicar. The theologians joined in to make the Eucharist a real "Recoleta Family" celebration. Within the Mass the newly elected officers were inducted.

Elected Officers of the NATIONAL COUNCIL (to serve for 4 years) are:

President	—	Dra. Rizalina B. Poblete (SSC-Cavite)
Vice-President	—	Sis. Rosario Ostia (OLPGVP-Tondo)
Councilors: Luzon	—	Sis. Zeny Maglalang (SSP-Manila)
Visayas	—	Sis. Aurora Cordova (OLCP- Cebu)
	—	Bro. Almario de la Cerna (OLMCP-Cebu City)
Mindanao	—	
Treasurer	—	Sis. Adie Pua (OLCP-Q.C.)
Secretary	—	Sis. Mely A. Casifio(appointed)
		(SNDTP-Q.C.)

The SAR national convention '93 hoped to strengthen the structures that would help deepen the members' christian commitment as they serve the Philippine Church and society through the Augustinian Recollect charism.

ANNIVERSARY, from page 1

SAR-Cavite at their pet project

SAR adopted the community, provided it with a chapel and a multi-purpose center that, through income-generating projects, gradually pulled the barangay up to its own feet. The once "place-for-the-hopeless" is now called San Lorenzo Ruiz Pulo.

The barangay is a "lesson in hope and humility" which the SAR of San Sebastian College have learned to concretize within their 25 years of existence.

The whole Augustinian Recollect Order prayerfully rejoices with this Silver Anniversary and wishes the SAR-Cavite more power for another 25 years more ... and beyond!

BIRTHDAYS**APRIL**

- 02 - Fr. Cirilo Durana
- Fray Yvonn Tonogbanua
- 06 - Fr. Celestino Cachapero
- 09 - Fr. Walthrode Conde
- 13 - Fr. Herminigildo Ceniza
- 18 - Fr. Amadeo Lucero
- 20 - Rev. Adonis Wagas
- 26 - Fr. Sotero Macabudbud

MAY

- 01 - Fr. Victor Lluch
- 05 - Fray Henry Moradilla
- 07 - Fr. Federico de la Rosa
- Fr. Demetrio Peñascoza
- Fr. Leopoldo Estioko
- 08 - Fr. Dionisio Cachero
- 10 - Fray Jose Florizel Dabalos
- 11 - Fr. Alverto Avanzado
- 12 - Fr. Joseph Granada
- 14 - Fr. Philip de la Dolorosa Liu
- 15 - Fray Jose Gabriel Rios
- 16 - Fr. Victoriano Polestico
- Fr. Carmelo Borces
- 19 - Fr. Clemente Jubera
- 20 - Fray Felipe Jaranilla
- 23 - Fray Celedonio Lamprea
- Fray Jerome Antipuesto
- 26 - Fray Johnias de Jesus

JUNE

- 01 - Fr. Raul Buhay
- 02 - Fr. Constantino Real
- 10 - Fr. Antonio Ramon Palacios
- Fray Joel Villaruel
- 11 - Fray Bernabe Dosdos
- 12 - Fray Barnard Lumapas
- 15 - Fr. Cornelio Moral
- 22 - Fr. Paulino Rommel Dacanay
- 25 - Fr. William Emelito Villaflor
- 26 - Fray Julius Marcos
- 28 - Fr. Enrico Silab
- Fr. Samson Silloriquuez

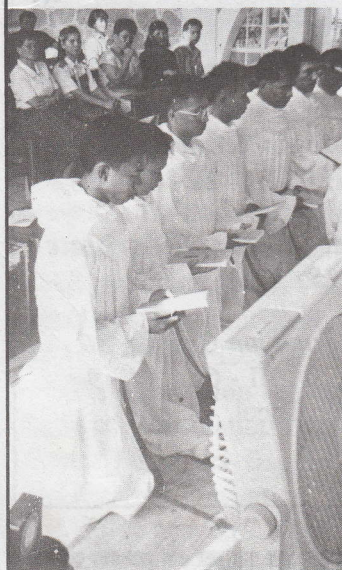
TOWARDS ONE HEART AND ONE SOUL



Groundbreaking for a new parish center (SNDTP, Q.C.)



Unveiling of St. Magdalena of Nagasaki's statue and free clinic blessing (OLCP, Mira-Nila, Q.C.)



Simple Vows: 9 brave young men



Simple Vows: They who said "yes" for three years

Dra. Rizalina Poblete, the enduring SAR President



SAR with Fr. Vicar, Baguio City



Solemn Mass: Silver Anniversary of SAR - Cavite



Induction of SAR National Officers, Baguio City

SAR National Convention '93 cultural night



DEPARTURES...

AFTER nerve-wracking squabbles with visa requirements, Frs. Enrico Silab and Ferdinand Hernando could finally mount Air France bound for Spain last June 24. Fr. Eric will observe the formation houses of the Recolets abroad and Fr. Soysoy will plunge into the study of Spanish language and culture in preparation for an academic stint in Rome.

Before his departure, Fr. Eric was Novice Master in Antipolo. Fr. Soysoy on the other hand served at Tondo parish while holding the editorship of RECOLETOS OBSERVER. Happy trip, and bienvenidos a España!

ARRIVALS...

AFTER more than two years of studies in Rome, Fr. Federico Gregorio arrived in Manila last April 29. He finished his Licentiate in Spiritual Theology at the Pontificia Facoltà Teologica "Teresianum". Seminario Mayor-Recoletos, Baguio City, gladly welcomes him as the new spiritual director of the philosophers. Benvenuto, and mabuhay!

APPOINTMENTS

Appointed:

March 16, 1993 (Provincialate, Madrid), General Protocol No. 2-35/70 (Rome) - Fr. Crisostomo A. Garnica, OAR, Prior, St. Ezekiel Moreno Novitiate-Recoletos, Antipolo, Rizal.

March 31, 1993 - Fr. Dionisio Q. Selma, OAR, (reassigned), St. Ezekiel Moreno Novitiate-Recoletos, Antipolo, Rizal.

April 11, 1993 - Fr. Ronel P. Gealon, OAR, resident, Univ. of Negros Occidental-Recoletos, Bacolod City.

May 31, 1993 - Fr. Federico S. Gregorio, OAR, resident and Spiritual Director, Seminario Mayor-Recoletos, Baguio City.

Transferred:

May 31, 1993 - Fr. Emmanuel Russel M. Sungcad, OAR, to Our Lady of Peace and Good Voyage Parish, Tondo, Manila.

OAR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Rev. Fr. Federico S. Gregorio, OAR

Finished: Licentiate in Theology with specialization in Spirituality

Thesis: "St. Ezequiel Moreno and His Sacred Heart Spirituality (In Particular in the "Dolores Internos")"

School: Pontifical Theological Faculty "Teresianum", Rome, 1990 - 1993.

STATISTICS

An overview of our Formandi at the start of the schoolyear.

Col. de Sto. Tomas-Recoletos: 32

I - _ II - 5 III - 10 IV - 17

Seminario Mayor-Recoletos: 97

I - 32 II - 21 III - 24 IV - 20

St. Ezekiel Moreno Novitiate-Recoletos: 15

Recoletos Formation Center: 36

I - 9 II - 10 III - 6 IV - 9

Post-academic Theol. - 1

Deacon - 1



San Sebastian Convent, Plaza del Carmen
P.O. Box 3173, Quiapo
Manila, Philippines

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