

The Inter-Provincial Novitiate Community

Phuket, Thailand

THE 6TH INTER-PROVINCIAL NOVITIATE YEAR (2018-19)

JUNE 2018



The 6th Asian Inter-Provincial Novitiate Community 2018-19



The novitiate year marks a very special year to every candidate to the religious life. It is the door to the religious life. "Religious life begins with the novitiate...to initiate the novice into the essential and primary requirements of the religious life, and also, in view of the greater clarity to implement the evangelical counsels of



chastity, poverty and obedience of which the latter will make profession." (RC 13) It is also the initial to a greater understanding of their divine vocation to the institute. Canon law clearly states that "during the novitiate, the novice is to experience the manner of life of the institute and form his mind and heart in its spirit. At the same time, his resolution and suitability are to be tested." (CC 646) Following the decision of the councils of the two provinces of Thailand and South Italy and the approval of the General council and in view of the success of the past five batches, we are privileged to hold another year of novitiate formation here in Phuket, Thailand. This is another year of "testing and a school of faith and prayer" (RFS 109). A year to "offer to God with the intention of knowing his will and following the way of Christ on the example of St. Gaspar" (RFS 109). The novices of this year's novitiate program are to be accompanied by this set of formators namely; Fr. Reby Arazo, CSS as the novice master, Fr. Paul Kittapat Jumjon, CSS as the spiritual director and Fr. Joseph Wattanasak Srivorakul, CSS, the new Provincial Superior of the Thai Province who is so kindly to stay with us and ever

ready to help us in the formation. Together they form the formation team that will accompany our five novices namely; 1. **Nov. Carlo Immanuelle Yap**, 21, from Archdiocese of Cagayan de Oro. 2. **Nov. Donrich Dacayana**, 22, from Archdiocese of Cagayan de Oro. 3. **Nov. Jhan Rey Cardosa**, 22, from the Diocese of Malaybalay. 4. **Nov. John Paul Molina**, 21, from the Diocese of Urdanita and **Nov. Petrus Renatus Lijung**, 23, from the Diocese of Ruteng.

The Arrival of the Postulants

Last June 11, 2018 five postulants (four Filipinos and one Indonesian) arrived in Phuket, Thailand. They were accompanied by their formators, Fr. Donato Lovito, CSS from Indonesia and Fr. Jimado Pura, CSS from the Philippines. This year, these postulants have asked to be accepted in the novitiate formation year. Together they formed the 6th Asian Inter-Provincial Novitiate Community. And the whole Phuket community welcomed and wished them a fruitful novitiate year. We also



ask all of you to keep our novices in your prayers. Let us help each other form these young men in the spirit our dear Founder St. Gaspar wished all of us to have. – Nov. Petrus

Feast day of the Founder and the Acceptance to the Novitiate





Every 12th of June, the Republic of the Philippines annually celebrates the country's Independence Day. The Filipinos all over the world rejoice over their freedom from foreign



colonization. We, the Stigmatines all over the world however, celebrate on the same day, the feast day of our dear founder St. Gaspar Bertoni. Here in Thailand, the Thai confreres celebrated this special day meaningfully by offering the mass in honor of the founder with the parishioners of Assumption church here in our novitiate community in Phuket.



For us novices, it was more meaningful because on the same celebration, we were accepted in the novitiate community. We, coming from two different countries, four from the Philippines and one from Indonesia, were accepted by the Provincial of the Thai Province, Fr. Joseph Wattanasak Srivorakul, CSS and witnessed by mostly of the Thai confreres and visitor priests (Fr. Donato Lovito, CSS and Fr. Jimado Pura, CSS, our former formators).



We are the 6th batch of novices to be hosted here in Phuket as part of the program of the congregation on internationality. Our novice master Fr.

Reby Arazo, CSS happily and willingly accepted the responsibility of forming us according to the demands of the congregation and the spirit of our dear founder. It is our wished on that day that you pray for us and our formators constantly as we journey together in the novitiate formation. It was indeed a meaningful celebration and we thank the Lord for his continuous providence to the Congregation and by constantly providing us with more vocations to evangelize. With the help and guidance of our dear founder St. Gaspar Bertoni, the Stigmatines are assured to succeed in their ministries, to go out to all the corners of the world and to preach the Good News to the people. God bless us all Stigmatines all over the world. Happy feast day of St. Gaspar Bertoni. Laus Deo Semper. Viva St. Gaspar! – Nov. Xino

A moment with Fr. Donato, CSS



There are moments wherein we want to take a short break and think about ourselves. A moment of asking questions and examining ourselves, our decisions and most of all our chosen vocation in life. "Life is really full of uncertainties", they said. There are moments when we are very sure to what we've chosen and then in just a split of a second everything changes. Despite of the changes that happens, we pretend to do the same things as if nothing has change. We walk in a moment of pretention that leads us to confusion and struggle. In this time of confusion, we

need the help and guidance of a pious man which can lead us back to be better again. Last June 13 to 18, 2018, the novitiate community of Phuket, Thailand invited Rev. Fr. Donato Lovito, CSS a missionary to Indonesia at present, to be a guest speaker for us, new novices. The talk was conducted within five consecutive days; one session in the morning and one in the afternoon. Both sessions consumed one and a half hour and sometimes it goes beyond the minimum time because Fr. Donato has a lot of wisdom to share to us. The topic of the conference is "Becoming Christ". The conference is very helpful for us novices because it opens our minds and hearts to be aware of the reality about religious life that we are aspiring to follow. A moment with Fr. Donato is a moment of enlightening ourselves as future servants of God. – Nov. Donrich

Blessing of the new school building at Phang-nga



On June 13 to 15 the confreres of the Thai Province, coming from the different communities all over Thailand have gathered together for their annual on-going formation in Phang-nga Province. Fr. Chai, a Redemptorist priest became their guest priest for the said



on-going formation. The 3-day on-going formation culminated with the blessing of the new school building (Marie Rak School) in the same province. It is worthy of mentioning that Marie Rak Phang-nga school is the first Catholic school of Phang-nga Province. The

blessing was officiated by Bishop Joseph Pratan of the Surathani Diocese. The blessing of the new school building was an opportune time for us, newly accepted novices, to visit our Stigmatine community in Phang-nga Province and to greet Fr. Peter Pakpoom, CSS, the Parish Priest and the director of the school on the occasion of his 60th birthday. The blessing was followed by the giving of gifts and certificates to the bishop and to the important persons instrumental in the construction of the new school building. Sumptuous lunch was serve to all the attendees of the blessing while students of the school entertained everybody with their performances. We thank the teachers of the school and their students for their warm welcome and service to everybody on that day. After the blessing we and the confreres headed back to our different communities. Although the blessing became the culmination of the on-going formation of the Thai confreres, it will nevertheless, also serves as a new chapter to continue and improve the mission of the Stigmatines in Thailand. – Nov. John Paul

Feast day of the Parish of the Sacred Heart, Ranong

On Sunday the 24th of June the novitiate community went to attend the feast day of Sacred Heart Parish in Ranong Province. We were gladly welcomed by our Stigmatine community members namely: Fr. Wichien, the Parish Priest of Sacred Heart Parish, Fr. Matthew Manop, the





Director of the school and Fr. Peter Waranyu, who takes care of the station chapels in the area. We were glad to meet them on that day. We were so kindly introduced to the whole community by Fr. Joseph Wattanasak and has brought us around the compound of the community before the mass. We were brought to the school (Sriarunothai School) and its extension school for migrants and we saw the kind of ministry our Stigmatine confreres are doing in the area especially their hard work for the school for the migrants. The celebration started at 10:30 AM and was celebrated by Bishop Joseph Prathan and concelebrated by Stigmatine priests who are present and some visiting priests from the Philippines and Myanmar and good number of

parishioners and visitors. The seminarians of the Minor Seminary of the Diocese became the choir and our Stigmatine minor seminarians with their formator, Fr. Tingly Supachai, CSS, were also present in the celebration. Lunch was served for all. While lunch is being served, we were entertained by the diocesan seminarians with their songs and presentations. After lunch we said some messages to the community; thanking them for inviting us and for their warm welcome. We also had the opportunity to hear supporting words from Fr. Wichien to us that we can bring back home aside from a lot of fruits that were given to us. Thanks to our Ranong community. Happy feast day of the Sacred Heart! – Nov. Jhan Rey

*Birthday celebrants of the month



Fr. Peter Waranyu, CSS – June 2

Fr. Joel Barcelona, CSS– June 18

Bro. Jerson Rey, CSS – June 20

Fr. Peter Pramote, CSS – June 22

Fr. Maximo Jr., CSS – June 25

Fr. Peter Pakpoom, CSS – June 29

And to all the birthday celebrants of the month of June

Congratulations



June 3 – Installation of Fr. Abel as the new Parish Priest and Shrine Rector of the Shrine of the Five Wounds, Las Piñas. Congratulations!

June 25, Carmona, Cavite – Happy 57th Priestly Anniversary to Fr. Romolo.



June 25, Kerala – Congratulations to our newly professed four Indian brothers!