



THE 7TH NOVITIATE YEAR (2019 - 2020)

AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2019



## Activities of the month



Inside: Feast days | Recollections  
50th Anniversary | Ordinations  
of the Diocese and others



# Feast day of Our Lady of All Graces Church



It was a very fine Saturday morning on August 3. Everyone was filled with joy and enthusiasm for it was the feast day of Our Lady of All graces in Pak Jan, Ranong. The Novices along with Fr. Joseph Wattanasak, CSS (Provincial Superior), Fr. Reby Arazo, CSS (Novice Master), Fr. Paul Kritapat (Spiritual director), Bro. Sujin and two Thai brothers on vacation Bro. Nattawut and Bro. Thawatchai were gratefully welcomed by the parishioners at Ranong's community headed by the actual presence of Fr. Peter Waranyo, CSS (The Church's Pastor).



The set-up of the celebration was completely fascinating, for it was amusingly organized by the parishioners. If you happen to attend the celebration you would literally witness the many bundles and bunches of the different kinds of fruits. These fruits were handily harvested by the parishioners intended as an offering to Mother Mary. This was their own way of expressing their gratitude for all the graces that they had received every day.



What highlighted the day was the celebration of the Holy Mass which started at exactly 10:00 am and was preceded by the Vicar of the Diocese. After the Mass everybody proceeded immediately to the dining area for lunch. Meanwhile, during lunch time the Novices were fortunate enough to meet and greet some of the Thai conferrers and Diocesan priests who were present in the celebration.



Before the Novices went back the parishioners offered some of the fruits which they enjoyed eating together along the road. It was just indeed an abundant day! Everyone was filled with graces. - Nov. Revin Nicole





### A Spiritual Gift made into Fruition

Ordination has always been a gift of God not only to those who receive it but also to all His people. Indeed, my ordination to the diaconate and the ordination to the priesthood of Rev. Dennes Ato CSS, is really a gift of God made into fruition.

Until now, I still couldn't believe that I am already an ordained minister of God – an ambassador to His people.

I could say that the celebration was rather simple but solemn. It started at 9:30 in the morning of August 10, 2019 on the feast day of St. Lawrence, at the Shrine of the Five Wounds of Jesus in Las Piñas City. The ordaining prelate was Most Rev. Jesse Mercado DD, Bishop of Paranaque. And it was attended by almost 300 people, composed of friends and relatives of the ordinandi, together with the benefactors of the seminary and some parents and relatives of the aspirants.

Bishop Jesse, in his homily, objectively said that the ordination is just another event in our lives. Time will come that we will forget all the small details that happened in the celebration. But the thing we should not forget, according to him, is the presence of God through the Holy Spirit in the celebration. In the celebration God changed us interiorly – from being unqualified, He qualified us, and from being unworthy, He made us worthy.

Now, as an ordained deacon, truly I am starting to forget the episodes that happened in the celebration – the visitors, the concelebrating priests and deacons, the servers, the religious sisters and brothers, and many others. What I always look forward now, is how to become an effective instrument of God to the people. Now that I am ordained I am becoming more careful of my actions. I am becoming aware that I have to preach to people not only through my words but most importantly through my actions. - Rev. Carlos



## Lectio Divina with Bishop Joseph Pratan



*Christians should live and be rooted in the Scriptures. Thus, the Church always recommends that the faithful always provide (not set aside!) time to read and meditate on the Word of God. These are words of Bishop Joseph Pratan of the Diocese of Surat Thani during his Lectio Divina lecture here in our novitiate house last August 10, 2019. The program was organized in preparation of the people for the Church Feast day celebration on the following week.*



In his presentation he quoted the words of St. Jerome who said; *Ignoratio Scripturarum, Ignoratio Christi est*, which means that those who do not know the Scriptures, do not know Christ. St. Jerome who translated the Scriptures from Greek and Hebrew to Latin understand that the only way to get to know Christ is to read and meditate on the Scriptures. *The church, therefore, he tells us, relentlessly invites the faithful to read and meditate on the Word of God.* The presentation also mentions the upcoming culminating celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the Diocese of Surat Thani this coming September 28, 2019. Invited speakers spoke about this celebration and the history of the Diocese spoke in between Bishop Pratan's lectures. The whole day lecture was attended by good number of parishioners and the novices. A confession and healing session followed the lectures and ended with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. – Nov. Damian, IND





## FEAST DAY OF OUR LADY OF ASSUMPTION

The Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Assumption of our Lady on August 15. At Assumption Church Phuket however due to pastoral purposes the feast day was celebrated on Sunday, August 18.

In line with this significant preparations were held; like the Triduum Masses were celebrated with Fr. Ferdinando Ronconi, Pastor of Sacred Heart Church Patong, for the first two days and Fr. Sowat, head of the Surat Thani Pastoral Center and pastor of Our Lady of All Graces Takuapa, on the last day of the Triduum, a week earlier a Lectio Divina lecture for the parishioners was held and the physical preparations of the church curtesy of the parishioners who came to participate.



On the feast day, at 9 a simple procession of the image of Our Lady of Assumption was held in front of the Church. The procession was followed by the celebration of the Mass presided by Bis. Joseph Pratan accompanied by concelebrating Stigmatine priests and guest priest from the Diocese. The participation of the parishioners was numerous as well as some people coming from other places to attend the celebration. The bishop urges people in his homily to imitate our Lady's example of holiness and humility that won her to be taken up to heaven. And like our Mother who looks to us her children and interceding for us always, we too may learn to inspire others and pray for them. In looking up to heaven (vertically) may we also look also horizontally – that is, we should also look after others.

The celebration ended with the prayer to our Lady done in front of the image of the Assumption and the offerings of flowers. Lunch were served after the celebration. –

Nov. Elias



## Recollection of the Month with Mr. Roy and Mrs. Jullie

Last August 29, 2019 we were blessed to have a couple from Patong, Phuket, Mr. Roy and Mrs. Julie to facilitate our recollection of the month of August.

This couple are devout Catholics and our parishioners here in Phuket. Both were coming from different backgrounds: Mr. Roy originally was a Chinese Buddhist and Mrs. Julie comes a devout Filipino Catholic family.

Their stories are memorable to us especially Mr. Roy's conversion because of Mrs. Julie. Both met in the Philippines where Mr. Roy was studying. They were married and now happily living in Phuket, having children and grandchild. All these things happen because of their love to God, prayer, sharing with others and their healthy relationship as a couple.

There were times they faced challenges as part of life but according to Mrs. Julie, when we never stop believing in God, God will surely help us cope up with the challenges. Challenges are there to make us strong, she says. - Nov. Toon Kuntawat





## Recollection with Fr. Ferdinando Ronconi, CSS



Last September 18, 2019, the Novitiate community was thoroughly excited to welcome Fr. Ferdinando Ronconi, CSS as the head of their monthly recollection. The activity was distinctively held in the Novitiate formation house chapel which was attended by the actual presence of Fr. Joseph Wattasnak, CSS (The Provincial Superior).

The recollection was all about “Missionary Vocation” and was divided into two parts. The first part was all about dealing with every Stigmatine confrere and the second part was all about establishing one’s identity in a given set of mission. It was absolutely captivating for Fr. Ronconi boldly imparted the role of the Holy Spouses in the Stigmatine Missionary life wherein he said “The Holy Spouses teach us how to be together and united the way they are devoted to Jesus as one”. These words of him led the Novices realized the importance of community life in binding towards the greater good of the congregation.

Indeed, it was a very fulfilling day for the Novices were helped to understand their chosen vocation as the best thing to work on. – Nov. Revin Nicole

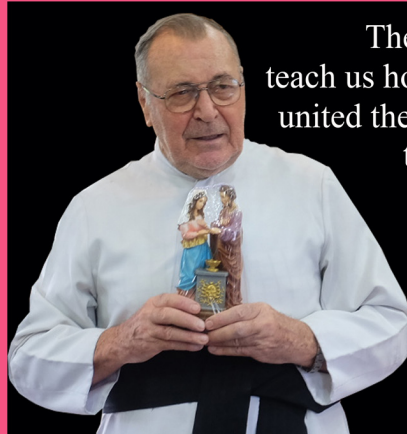
“Our charism is the best in the world. It asks us not what we like but what we can do best.”

Fr. Ferdinando R.  
Sept. 18, 2019 Phuket



The Holy Spouses teach us how to be together and united the way they are devoted to Jesus as one.

Fr. Ferdinando R.  
Sept. 18, 2019 Phuket





## “The 50th Anniversary of Surathani Diocese together with the Presbyteral Ordination of the Three Deacons”

Last September 28, 2019, the Surathani Diocese celebrated the culmination of the 50th Anniversary along with the Presbyteral ordination of the three Deacons namely: Deacon Joseph Amonthep Suripa, Deacon Francis Assisi Chainarong Ritsantipak and Deacon Francis Assisi Yuttakarn Kobwatanakun.

The ordination was earnestly celebrated by the joined holiness of Bishop Joseph Pratan and the two other bishops from Ratchaburi and Chiang Rai Dioceses. The setting of the celebration took place at St. Rafael Cathedral which was cordially attended by the various religious congregations both male and female.

It was a great celebration of the Diocese for it's been five years already since they had their last Presbyteral ordination. This was proximate reason why the Bishops were so glad to ordain these three young deacons for it was compellingly a perfect time to yield the fruits of the Diocese. It was indeed a very joyous celebration! – Nov. Riven Nicole







Happy Birthday August and September Celebrants!

Fr. Dominic Pattharaphon - Aug. 4

Bro. Jerome - Aug. 23

Fr. Paul Krittapat - Aug. 28

Fr. Anto - Sept. 2

Fr. Timothy Amarin - Sept. 3

Fr. Matthew Manop - Sept. 21

Bro. James Nattawut - Sept. 30

### Death Anniversaries

Fr. Richard Woodarek - Aug. 5

Fr. Rocco - Sept. 3

Eternal Rest grant unto the soul of  
Mrs. Paeng Jumjon (Fr. Paul's mom)

September 3, 2019

May she rest in peace.