

DMI Newsette

To Jesus through Mary

VOL. XXX, No. 1

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DAUGHTERS OF MARY IMMACULATE INTERNATIONAL

January - March 2013

2013-14 International Board Convenes First Meeting

The 2013-14 DMI International Officers and Board met for the first time last February 16, 2013 at the conference room of Mary's House. They were installed last December 1, 2012 during simple ceremonies at the Golden Bay Restaurant on Macapagal Ave., Pasay City. Also present during the meeting were International Chaplain Fr. Jerome Cruz, Past International Regent (IR) Sis. Lydia Ramirez, the international chairpersons of the DMI missions and the editor of the *DMI Newsette*. (Please turn to pp. 5-7 for an introduction of the new International Officers and Board and mission chairpersons.)



The DMI International Board in session

IR Sis. Mila Villanueva welcomed the attendees and in her opening statement called on DMI sisters for real conversion and transformation as the Church observes the Year of Faith. She said that conversion and change must first of all start with oneself before she may be able to convert others. Sis. Mila also urged the DMI members to serve with humility as

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Habemus Papam

At 2:07 a.m. (Manila time) of March 14, 2013, a breaking news from Vatican City was fed to the press, TV networks and other media outlets worldwide: **HABEMUS PAPAM!** We have a Pope!

Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio of Buenos Aires, Argentina was elected as the 266th successor to the throne of St. Peter and Supreme Pontiff of 1.2 billion Roman Catholics worldwide. The choice came quite early, the fifth voting during the conclave, for the first non-European pope, the first from the New World, who was not

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DMI Calendar of Events

The DMI calendar of events for 2013 has preliminarily been drawn up during the first meeting of the International Board last February 16, 2013. Some regions are still working out their schedules and will be announced as they become available.

Meetings and Conferences

Mindanao Area Conference
April 27-28, 2013 – Butuan City
2nd Quarter International Board Meeting
May 10, 2013 – DMI Office
National Officers' Meeting
May 11, 2013 – K of C Bldg., Intramuros, Manila
3rd Quarter Int'l Board Meeting
August 10, 2013 – DMI Office
4th Quarter Int'l Board Meeting
November 10, 2013, venue to be announced
Luzon Area Conference
October 11-13, 2013, Naga City

Regional Assemblies

Region X – June 8-9, 2013
venue to be announced (TBA)
Region V – July 12-13, 2013
Puerto Princesa City
Region VII – August 24, 2013
Nasugbu, Batangas
Region IV – September 21, 2013
Grotto Vista Resort, San Jose del Monte, Bulacan
Region III – September 28, 2013
Angeles City
Region I - October 18-19, 2013 – Cauayan City
Region XI – October 26, 2013
venue TBA
Region VI – November 16, 2012
venue TBA
Region XIV – November 23-24, 2013
Ozamis City
Region IX – November 30, 2013
venue TBA



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Executive Officers

Sis. Mila A. Villanueva - Int'l Regent
Sis. Paulita M. Canonizado - Vice- Int'l Regent - Luzon
Sis. Evelyn D. Aquino - Vice- Int'l Regent - Visayas
Sis. Cecille O. Apura - Vice- Int'l Regent - Mindanao
Sis. Corazon T. Afuang - Int'l Secretary
Sis. Amelia C. Castaneda - Int'l Treasurer
Sis. Miriam O. Angot - Int'l Advocate

Rev. Fr. Jerome Ma. J. Cruz
International Chaplain

DMI Newsette Editorial Board

Sis. Sally T. Estrada
Editor

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Sis. Carmencita D. G. Arce	Sis. Ruby P. Macario
Sis. Julieta V. Cruz	Sis. Perla R. Malazarte
Sis. Helen B. de Leon	Sis. Ma. Aurora C. Manangan
Sis. Leticia O. Gano	Sis. Ma. Clotilde R. Tong
Sis. Pureza M. Guzman	Sis. Annie O. Ty
Sis. Ma. Adeline A. Lee	Sis. Teresita L. Viola
Sis. Violeta C. Luna	Sis. Mylene Segundera-Bass

From the International Regent



MESSAGE

Greetings in this beginning of the Year of Faith!

The Year of Faith is "a call to renew our hearts to the Lord. It is a call for the true and authentic conversion to the Lord through prayers" (quoting our International Chaplain, Fr. Jerome Cruz).

My dear Sisters, now is the time to change! Now is the time to serve in our Missions in all humility - by accepting our inadequacies and resolving to improve ourselves and by asking for forgiveness as we learn to forgive others. Let us start with our own conversions so that we may be able to convert others.

Let us be true daughters of Mary, committed to serve, obedient to God and practicing the virtues of Mary that we have promised to emulate. Let our transformation be complete as we celebrate Easter.

HAPPY EASTER to all of you, dear Sisters in Christ through Mother Mary!

SIS. MILA A. VILLANUEVA
International Regent

they pursue projects and activities for the DMI missions.

In his inspirational message, Fr. Jerome cited the challenges facing the Catholic Church at present and called on the DMIs to immerse themselves in the DMI missions with humility and motivated by love as exemplified by Jesus.

The forthcoming major DMI events were also calendared. Among them are the National Officers' Meeting in May, the Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao Area Conferences and the regional assemblies in the 14 regions of the country. (These are listed on page 2 of this issue.)

The Mission Chairpersons reported the following plans for their respective thrusts:

PRO-LIFE. Sis. Helen de Leon said that the DMI will continue to stand up for life. In the aftermath of the passage into law of the Reproductive Health Bill, the organization will continue to campaign against the evils of contraception, intensify the lessons taught in Pre-Cana seminars and be more aggressive in teaching the natural family planning methods. Advocacies and projects for the conservation and preservation of the environment will continue to be pursued.

MORALITY IN MEDIA. Sis. Chit Arce said that this DMI mission aims to empower DMI members as media gatekeepers by being equipped with skills to be able to train and teach the good and adverse effects of media to families and communities as children spend more and more time consuming media. The committee's action plans include educating parents to be able to guide their children, commending groups promoting wholesome media, exercising vigilance against morally reprehensible, violent and pornographic media programs and materials, networking with other groups to boost the DMI's position in promoting good media and strengthening the organization's advocacy and campaign for good media.

UPLIFTMENT OF WOMEN WORKERS. Sis. Juliet Cruz will launch projects that would promote empowerment of women particularly in making them aware of their rights under the law. In addition to undertaking livelihood and skills seminars, the organization will intensify networking with government agencies and NGOs that could provide micro-financing to help women entrepreneurs and those seeking self-employment to start their livelihood ventures. They will also be assisted in marketing their products and services, a constant problem for those in micro-businesses. The Committee will continue to undertake projects aimed at the amelioration and upliftment of marginalized women in society such as women in crisis and victims of abuse, discrimination, human trafficking, etc

ASSISTANCE TO PRISONERS' FAMILIES AND THEIR VICTIMS. The 10-year educational program for families of prisoners and victims that Mission Chair Sis. Milde Tong launched in 2011 will continue to be the Committee's flagship program with the slogan "Educ a Child, Educ for Life, Educ Program of the DMI, Dream Come to Life". Already on stream, implementation of the program will continue to be monitored and evaluated from time to time for effectiveness. Prison visitations and outreach will continue to be undertaken to connect with prisoners' families.

YOUTH WELFARE. Sis. Ruby Macario provided an update on preparations being made for the forthcoming 14th SMI Biennial Convention. She appealed to the regional representatives to drum up attendance of Squirettes to this major event which promises a balanced program that will give delegates time to pray, learn and play. The ongoing campaign for more SMI circlettes and members all over the country will be given added impetus.

The mission chairpersons will present in full their programs during the National Officers' Meeting.

Meet Your International Officers and Board



Sis. Mila A. Villanueva

International Regent
Risen Christ Circle
(Home Circle)
Holy Eucharist Parish,
Paranaque City
Diocese of Paranaque
Entrepreneur



Sis. Paulita M. Canonizado

Vice-International
Regent for Luzon
& Region VI
Representative
Theresian Circle
Los Banos, Laguna
Diocese of San Pablo
Active hospice care
volunteer and
environmentalist



Sis. Evelyn D. Aquino

Vice-International
Regent for Mindanao &
Region X
Representative
Archdiocesan Shrine of
Our Lady of Lourdes
Cebu City
Archdiocese of Cebu
Active certified family
physician, Retired
assoc. professor in
Medicine, SWU, Cebu
City



Sis. Cecilia O. Apura

Vice-International
Regent for Visayas &
Region XIII
Representative
Christ the King Circle
Tagum City, Davao
del Norte
Diocese of Tagum
Self-employed



Sis. Corazon T. Afuang

Int'l Secretary &
Region V
Representative
St. Paul of the Cross
Circle
Marikina City, Metro
Manila
Diocese of Antipolo
Retired corporate
executive
Entrepreneur



Sis. Amelia C. Castaneda

Int'l Treasurer &
Region III
Representative
Our Lady of the
Ransom Circle
Tarlac City
Diocese of Tarlac
Retired educator
Treasurer, Tarlac Public
School Teachers Ass'n,
Parish council officer



Sis. Miriam O. Angot

International Advocate &
Region XIV
Representative
Our Lady of Perpetual
Help Circle, Ozamis City
Archdiocese of Ozamis
Presiding Judge,
Municipal Trial Court in
Cities, Branch I, Ozamis
City



Sis. Leticia O. Gaño

Region I
Representative
Mater Immaculata
Circle
Our Lady of the Pillar
Parish, Cauayan City
Diocese of Ilagan
Asso. Professor,
Isabela State
University – Cauayan
Campus

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Meet Your International Officers and Board...Cont'd from Page 5



Sis. Ma. Aurora C. Manangan
Region III
Representative
Mater Admirabilis
Circle
Urdaneta City
Diocese of Urdaneta



Sis. Violeta C. Luna
Region IV
Representative
Immaculate
Conception Circle
Malolos City
Diocese of Malolos
(Bulacan)
Zone Manager,
Standard Insurance Co.
Appliance dealer



Sis. Ma. Adeline A. Lee
Region VII
Representative
Our Lady of the Most
Holy Rosary Circle
Lopez, Quezon
Diocese of Gumaca
Retired high school
principal
President – Parish
Pastoral Council,
Diocesan
Council of the Laity,
Council & Deans of
Home Economics of
the Phils.



Sis. Teresita L. Viola
Region VIII
Representative
Our Lady of
Penafrancia Circle
Naga City
Archdiocese of
Caceres
Concert pianist



Sis. Pureza M. Guzman
Region IX
Representative
St. Thomas of
Villanova Circle
Miagao, Iloilo
Archdiocese of Jaro
Provincial
Government Division
Chief, PPO



Sis. Perla R. Malazarte
Region XI
Representative
Sts. Peter & Paul
Circle
Ormoc City
Archdiocese of Palo
(Leyte)
Part-time instructor,
San Lorenzo Ruiz
College of Ormoc



Sis. Annie O. Ty
Region XII Representative
San Nicolas de Tolentino Parish
Immaculate Conception Circle
Tandag City, Surigao del Sur
Diocese of Tandag
Businesswoman
Chairperson, Philippine Red Cross,
Surigao del Sur Chapter

Mission Chairpersons



Sis. Helen B. de Leon

International
Chairperson for Pro-
Life
Risen Christ Circle
Paranaque City
Medical Doctor
Fellow, Phil. Academy
of Family Physicians



Sis. Juliet V. Cruz

Int'l Chairperson for
Upliftment of Women
Workers
Risen Christ Circle
Paranaque City
Diocese of Paranaque
President, Cruzvill
Realty Holdings &
Development Corp.
President, JVC
Foundation
Vicarial Regent,
Vicariate of San Martin
de Porres



Sis. Carmencita de Guzman-Arce

Int'l Chairperson for
Morality in Media
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Circle
Marikina City, Metro
Manila
Diocese of Antipolo
Retired corporate
executive (VP for
Corporate Affairs, GMA
Network, Inc.)
Executive Director,
Phil. Business Center,
Inc.



Sis. Ma. Clotilde R. Tong

Int'l Chairperson for
Assistance to
Prisoners' Families &
their Victims
Risen Christ Circle
Paranaque City
Diocese of Paranaque
Entrepreneur
President, Apostleship
of Prayer, Holy
Eucharist Parish



Sis. Ruby P. Macario

Int'l Chairperson for
Youth Welfare
(Squirettes of Mary
Immaculate)
National Shrine of Our
Lady of Lourdes Circle
Quezon City
Diocese of Cubao
Executive Asst. to the
President, Vitarich
Corp.
Vicarial Regent,
Vicariate of San Pedro
Bautista



DMI NEWSETTE

Sis. Sally T. Estrada

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Risen Christ Circle
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executive (VP for
Human Resources &
Corporate
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Diocesan Secretary,
DMI Diocese of
Paranaque

..... Archdiocese of Zamboanga Hosts First Region XIV Assembly

The DMI sisters of Region XIV held their first-ever Regional Assembly at the Astoria Plaza in Zamboanga City on November 25, 2012. The Archdiocese of Zamboanga hosted the event.

Composed of the Archdiocese of Ozamis (Misamis Occidental, Oroquieta City and Ozamis), Archdiocese of Zamboanga, Diocese of Dipolog (Dipolog and Zamboanga del Norte), Diocese of Iligan-Iligan City and the Prelature of Isabela de Basilan, some 400 delegates, a sizeable number, attended the assembly considering the wide expanse of the region requiring long hours of traveling on irregular terrain and its attendant security and safety risks. (This was the reason past assemblies had been held only on the diocesan level.)

Region XIV Representative and now International Advocate Sis. Miriam Angot officially opened the assembly followed by the Eucharistic celebration officiated by Fr. Moises Cuevas. DMI spiritual director who was then celebrating his 40th birthday. Msgr. David Alonzo, Ph.D., ICAS Tetuan director, was the keynote speaker who expounded on the assembly theme "Serving God by Deepening our Faith through the Blessed Mother".



Fr. Moises Cuevas, DMI spiritual director, receives a plaque of appreciation from Sis. Beth. With them in photo are Sisters Baby de los Reyes, Lyding Ramirez and Miriam Angot.



The presidential table at the regional assembly with keynote speaker Msgr. David Alonzo seated at the center. Sis. Beth Salmon, over-all assembly chairperson, speaks at the podium.

Outgoing International Regent Sis. Lydia Ramirez and Sis. Ruby Macario, mission chair for Youth Welfare, were the speakers during the afternoon session – Sis. Lyding with her inspirational message and Sis. Ruby extending her invitation to the region's Squirettes of Mary to attend the 14th SMI Biennial Convention to be held in Luzon on May 24-26, 2013. Their messages were punctuated with characteristic humor which kept their audience wide awake during the unholy hour that was after lunch.

Plaques of recognition and appreciation were given to circles in good standing such as having an SMI circlette and submitting complete and up-to-date reports on their Mission projects and activities. The assembly's guest speakers and diocesan regents present were likewise given plaques of appreciation. The diocesan regents were Sis. Fortunata Lacaya of



The DMI sisters from the Diocese of Ozamis. With them in photo are Sisters Beth Salmon and Miriam Angot (seated fourth and fifth from left).



Sis. Miriam and the dance contest board of judges Sisters Tita Penaflor, Lyding Ramirez and Beling Panganiban.



The winning dance presentation by the Diocese of Dipolog.

Dipolog, Sis. Cristeta Lumbo of Iligan and Azucena Diaz' of Ozamis.

Sisters Flor Lim and Mila Fernandez were the day's program hosts.

The dinner and evening fellowship was fun-filled and full of surprises with dance presentations by sisters from the host diocese and three others who vied for the best presentation. The evening carried a Western (cowboy) motif. Sisters Beling Panganiban, past IR, Sis. Lyding and Sis. Tita Penaflor, diocesan chair for Ceremonials and chairperson of the Assembly's working committee composed the contest Board of Judges. The first prize went to the Diocese of Dipolog for

their lively synchronized Western dance ending with the very-in Gangnam style. The Diocese of Iligan got the second prize and the third prize went to the Diocese of Ipil. Line-dancing kept the delegates on the dance floor till late that night with Sisters Marilyn de Asis and Delly Tan emceeing the program.

The delegates agreed to hold the next regional assembly in Ozamis City.

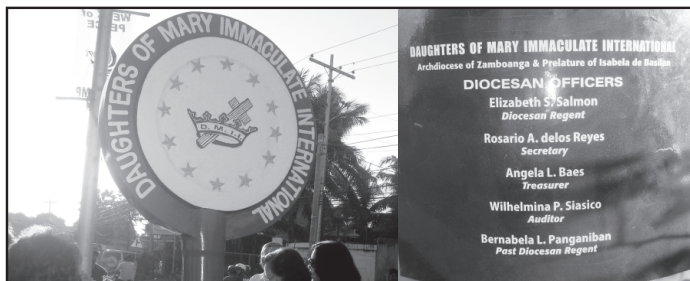
Sis. Beth Salmon, outgoing regent of the host diocese, thanked the diocesan regents of Region XIV and the committees who worked very hard for successfully managing the regional assembly. A resounding success indeed!

DMI Marker Unveiled and Blessed

To give added significance to the 1st Regional Assembly of Region XIV, the DMI Archdiocese of Zamboanga & Prelature of Isabela de Basilan installed a DMI marker at the rotunda of Camins Road in Zamboanga City.

The marker was unveiled and blessed on the afternoon of November 24, 2012, the eve of the assembly.

Present during the unveiling and blessing were the diocesan officers led by Outgoing Diocesan (DR) Sis. Beth Salmon, over-all assembly chairperson and



The DMI marker at the rotunda of Camins Road in Zamboanga City.

Incoming DR Sis. Angie Baes. Special guests were Outgoing International Regent Sis. Lyding Ramirez, Past IR Sis. Beling Panganiban and Mission Chair for Youth Welfare Sis. Ruby Macario. The chairpersons of the Assembly's working committees were also present. They were Sisters Moning Siasico, Pinky Saavedra, Grace Gonzales, Tita Penaflor, Laura Fuerte, Flor Lim, Marilyn de Asis, Lou Locson, Esther Quilala, Mila Navato, and Baby delos Reyes.

The marker was designed by Architect Rosalie Gangoso and executed by Engineer Romeo Ebol.



Sis. Beth Salmon, over-all chairperson of the Region XIV Assembly, hands an award of appreciation to Architect Rosalie Gangoso who designed the DMI marker.

Region XI Assembly Held in Calbayog City

The Julio Cardinal Rosales Circle hosted the regional assembly of Region XI consisting of the Archdiocese of Palo, Diocese of Maasin and Diocese of Calbayog in Calbayog City on October 27, 2012.

Delegates from the 17 circles in the

region led by their respective regents attended the assembly. Heading the Assembly participants were Incoming Regional Representative (RR) Sis. Perla Malazarte and Alternate RR Sis. Leny Larrazabal and the diocesan and vicarial regents of Region XI.

Special guest was Sis. Ruby Macario, international chairperson for Youth Welfare.

Much more than words, the accompanying photos show how well-run and successful the assembly was.



The entrance of the statue of the Blessed Mother carried by Vicarial Regent Sis. Esther Perez and Sis. Rachel Sumayo.



The opening song number by the host circle, Julio Cardinal Rosales Circle



(LEFT) Calbayog City Mayor Ronaldo Aquino welcomes the assembly delegates. (RIGHT) International Chairperson for Youth Welfare Sis. Ruby Macario (seated 3rd from right) with the Region XI officers RR Sis. Perla Malazarte, Past RR Sis. Alice Tugonon and Alternate RR Sis. Leny Larrazabal and some circle officers



(LEFT) Resource speaker for Morality in Media, Sis. Gemma Ria de la Cruz receives a token of appreciation. (RIGHT) Winner of the Most Popular DMI of the Night receives her crown and scepter from Sis. Perla Malazarte during the dinner-fellowship. Seated are the contest runners-up in their Western (cowboy) attire, the motif for the night.



PHOTO NEWS

From Region V



Funds Turned Over To National

The first regional meeting of Region V was held at Mary's House last Jan. 19, 2013 during which the new International Regent, Sis. Mila Villanueva turned over her responsibility as Region V Representative to incoming RR, Sis. Cora Afuang. During the meeting, Sis. Mila also received a check from Sis. Cora representing the share of the National Office in the proceeds of Region V-hosted convention, conference and assembly. Diocesan Treasurer Sis. Rita Lucena is shown at right.

From Quezon City



Donation to 'Pablo' Victims

The Mary All Beautiful Circle of Proj. 8, Quezon City turned over to Sagip Kapamilya a cash donation of P40,000 for victims of Typhoon 'Pablo'. Ms. Tina Monzon-Palma, executive director of ABS-CBN Foundation (in white blouse), is shown receiving the donation from Past Regents Sisters Mameng del Rosario, Lulu Villanueva, and Lily Capili, Regent Sis. Lourdes Moreno and Sisters Marina Navarette and Tessie Yap.

Habemus Papam...Cont'd from Page 1

on the list of *papabili* drawn up by international media. A manifestation indeed that the Holy Spirit might have been present at the Sistine Chapel during the conclave.

Known for his humility and simplicity, Cardinal Bergoglio who took the name Francis defies tradition and security protocol to be near God's people. Of his work as Archbishop of Buenos Aires, he had this to say: "We need to avoid the spiritual sickness of a Church that is wrapped up in its own world: when a Church becomes like this, it grows sick . . ." "Instead of being just a Church that welcomes and receives, we try to be a Church that comes

out of itself and goes to the men and women who do not participate in parish life, do not know much about it and are indifferent towards it. We organize missions in public squares where many people usually gather: we pray, we celebrate Mass, we offer baptism which we administer after a brief preparation . . ."

According to Fr. Joaquin Bernas, S.J. in his column Sounding Board in the *Inquirer* (March 18, 2012 issue), Pope Francis's apostolic style may be summarized as follows: "Jesus did not preach his own politics: He accompanied others. The conversions he inspired took place precisely because of His willingness to

accompany, which makes us all brothers and children and not members of an NGO or proselytes of some multi-national company."

Fr. Bernas's column ended with the following: "We should have interesting years ahead! A Jesuit Pope who names himself after a Franciscan who was a great reformer on the radical side of the Gospel is bound to produce some surprises."

The Holy Spirit must have really worked among the 115 cardinals to elect such a man in the face of the many challenges that confront our Church today. *Viva il Papa!*

From the Diocese of Kalookan

Grandparents' Day Celebrated

The DMIs of the Diocese of Kalookan celebrated Grandparents' Day with an event called "Grandparents' Day with the DMIs" last October 20, 2012. For the occasion, the DMIs from the circles in the Diocese invited grandparents from their respective communities. The occasion provided a venue for them to give tribute and thank the elderly who are their partners, helping them in the projects for the DMI missions.

Each of the circles in the Diocese invited four to five *lolos* and *lolas* as the day's honorees. There were songs and dances and poetry reading by the guests and some DMI sisters themselves. Highlighting the event was the selection of a Super *Lolo* or *Lola*. An 85-year-old *lola* who won the title said she was overwhelmed by the experience as it was the very first time in her life that she was called "super" and



The lolos and lolas with DMI sisters of the Diocese of Kalookan. The Super Lola is shown seated third from left.

received a crown. The guests expressed appreciation for the gesture of respect and love shown to them by the DMIs.

It was one happy occasion for both the guests and the DMI hosts who were one in saying that it was well worth the effort.

From Baguio City

DMI Sisters Turn Faithful Imparted

DMI sisters from the St. Joseph the Worker Circle of Pacdal, Baguio City turned faithful imparted during the Advent Recollection held last November 30, 2012 when they heard the lessons on the Church's celebration of the Year of Faith. The recollection was held at the St. Joseph the Worker Parish attended by the parish's mandated organizations.

Recollection speaker Rev. Fr. Angelo Mariano's message on the Year of Faith focused on

the empowerment of lay people in promoting the faith to those who have already been evangelized aimed at sharing with the Catholic laity the beauty of active expression of the faith through their actions. This living out of the faith would in turn inspire others faithful to the Lord, Catholic or not.

"Expression of faith is not only through the verbal pronouncement of the twelve Articles of the Apostle's Creed but more on the living out of the faith in our daily lives", Fr. Mariano said.

The Year of Faith has been declared by Pope Benedict XVI to make Catholics, the largest practitioners of the Christian faith, leaders in making the world aware and impressing upon the people the transforming truth of the love of God shown through His Son.

After the recollection, those present expressed their commitment to translate into action what had been imparted to them.

From Tarlac City

Lingap Sa Buntis - St. Michael The Archangel Circle's Pro-Life Project



The DMIs of St. Raphael the Archangel Circle and the seminar participants.

"Yes to life!" is the battle cry of Pro-Life

For the DMI sisters of the St. Raphael the Archangel Circle of Tarlac City, translating this into action means undertaking projects that promote life in all its stages. The latest of their pro-life activities was the launch recently of a seminar focusing on the proper care of women and children. Dubbed as "*Lingap sa Buntis*", the pre- and post-

natal care seminar was conducted by Dr. Elena Marie Maximo for about twenty pregnant women.

A pleasant surprise awaited the participants when at the end of the seminar, they received gift packs containing essential nutritional supplements that they would need after giving birth.

The Circle intends to continue pursuing this activity to assist indigent pregnant women who need to be aware of proper mother and child care principles.

Scholarship Awarded To A Prisoner's Child



During a visit to the families of prisoners detained at the Tarlac Provincial Jail, the members of the St. Raphael the Archangel Circle awarded one of the children with a scholarship that would give her the opportunity to continue her studies. Photo shows the Circle's scholar being awarded the scholarship grant.

From the Diocese of Antipolo

Media Learning Session, Contests Launched

Acknowledging the powerful influence that media exert in people's lives today, the DMI Diocese of Antipolo embarked on an aggressive program aimed at taking a stand on moral issues flowing from multi-media channels.

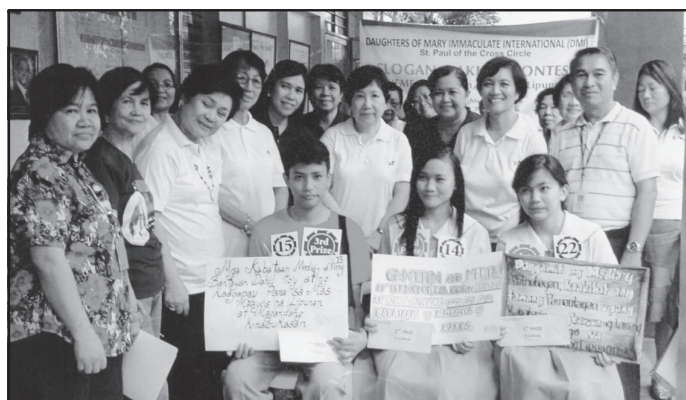
For a starter, a Learning Session on Morality in Media was conducted to prepare the mission chairpersons and committee members of all 13 circles comprising the diocese for the daunting task involved in pursuing this DMI mission.

Spearheaded by Sis. Eyra Umali, Morality in Media chairperson of the Our Lady of the Abandoned Circle in Marikina City, a half-day session was held with Sis. Sarah Manapol, SPC, a media practitioner from St. Paul's College, as resource speaker. Sis. Sarah gave valuable inputs on certain issues such as how to discern correctly and make a judgment as to when multi-media is morally good or bad, identifying ways in taking action against bad media and how to avert/neutralize abusive media.

International Regent Sis. Mila Villanueva, International Secretary and Region V Representative Sis. Cora Afuang and International Chairperson for Morality in Media Sis. Chit Arce were invited to form part of the panel of reactors.

Other officers and mission chairpersons of the circles within the diocese also attended the learning session.

A Learning Session on Morality in Media was conducted to prepare the mission chairpersons and committee members of all 13 circles comprising the diocese for the daunting task involved in pursuing this DMI mission.



The winners of the Poster Making and Slogan Making Contests with the St. Paul of the Cross Circle members and the principal of their school.

Diocesan Chairperson for Morality in Media Sis. Nini Calma has launched a Poster-Making Contest among elementary school students and a Slogan Making Contest among high school students in various schools within the Diocese.

First to adopt the project was the St. Paul of the Cross Circle which conducted a Poster Making Contest among Grades 4, 5 and 6 students of SSS Elementary School with the theme "Sino si Maria sa Buhay Ko" and a Slogan Making Contest with the theme "Kabataan, Media at Lipunan" among students of Marikina Heights High School. Sis. Mercy Ong, the circle's media chairperson spearheaded the project.

The adjudged winners who came up with very sensible and appropriate posters and slogans were awarded cash prizes.

The Diocese will conduct Round 2 of the contests later during the year when winners in the circle level will compete for the best poster and slogan in the Diocese.

From the Diocese of Paranaque

Christmas Gift-Giving at the Paranaque City Jail

DMI sisters from the 14 circles of the Diocese of Paranaque treated the families of prisoners at the Paranaque City Jail to a Christmas Party and Gift-Giving last Dec. 28, 2012. The event is an annual activity of the diocese.

The Christmas treat included a merienda cena and Christmas baskets containing groceries which were distributed to some 300 families. Prizes were also given away to winners of the parlor games that the DMI sisters conducted for the children.

Diocesan Chairperson for Assistance to Prisoners' Families and their Victims Sis. Christy Ligot coordinated the activity.



Part of the DMI diocesan group who assisted in the Christmas gift-giving.



Recipients of Christmas baskets with some DMI sisters

Christmas Treat for the Elderly

The Annual Christmas Treat for the Elderly of the Holy Eucharist Parish in Moonwalk Village, Paranaque City was held last Dec. 16, 2012 at the ROMVI Gym. Hosts

Bro. Angel and Sis. Milde Tong of the Risen Christ Circle provided the sumptuous food and bags of groceries to some 350 senior citizens who attended. Three 90+-year-olds

who were among the guests were given special gifts. The Risen Christ Circle donated gifts and provided assistance during the event.



From Las Pinas City

Mary Mother of the Church DMI Circle, SMI Circlette Hold Joint Activity



OUTREACH ACTIVITY FOR THE ELDERLY. Members of the DMI Mary Mother of the Church Circle and SMI Circlette held a joint outreach activity at the Mary Mother of Mercy of the Elderly Abandoned in San Pedro, Laguna on December 8, 2012.



CHRISTMAS GIFT-GIVING. Christmas came early to Grade 3 pupils of T.S. Cruz Almanza Elementary School in Las Pinas City when the DMIs and SMIs of Mary Mother of the Church Parish distributed gifts and served snacks to them.



SCHOLARSHIP ASSISTANCE GIVEN. Scholarship assistance in the form of monthly allowances was granted to a deserving public school student.

Squirrelles of Mary Immaculate

14th SMI Biennial Convention

May24-26, 2013

Immaculate Conception Circle News in Photos

By Sis. Feliciana Aldaba, Past Regent

The Committee on Assistance to Prisoners' Families & their Victims (APFV) of the Immaculate Conception Circle of Malolos City sponsored a *Tipanan* Class attended by 43 parolees and their wives. The seminar focused on the moral and spiritual life of the family. The event was held in coordination with the Commission on Family Life of the Immaculate Conception Cathedral Parish. Preceding the activity was the attendance of the Circle Regent and the APFV Committee Chairperson at the Parolees' Assembly last January 25, 2013 at the Bulacan Parolees & Probation Office.



Tipanan Class



Operation *Timbang* and Blood-Letting

On February 13, 2013, the Circle's Pro-life Committee assisted Barangay Sto. Rosario's Operation *Timbang* to identify degrees of malnourishment and overweight of children. The DMIs also helped in the Blood-Letting Project of the Commission on Services.

From the Archdiocese of Zamboanga

Orientation on DMI Missions Held

Diocesan Regent Sis. Angie Baes convened a Planning Meeting of diocesan officers and circle regents last January 12, 2013 to discuss their plans of action for the next two years.

On top of the agenda was an Orientation Seminar for mission chairpersons of all the circles in the Archdiocese of Zamboanga, Diocese of Ipil-Sibugay and Prelature of Isabela

de Basilan. The objective was to give them an overview of their individual tasks and to motivate them as they pursue the DMI missions in their respective circles.

Two orientation sessions had been held – on February 9 and February 16 attended by two groups. Resource speakers were the diocesan chairpersons who came prepared with their PowerPoint presentations. They were Sis. Edwina Cabato, a

medical doctor, for Pro-life, Sis. Flor Rosaldo for Upitment of Women Workers, Sis. Esther



Diocesan Regent Sis. Angie Baes of the Archdiocese of Zamboanga

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Activity Highlights from The Archdiocese of Cebu

By Sis. Ching Larrazabal, Diocesan Secretary



ARCHDIOCESAN MARIAN CONGRESS. The Archdiocese of Cebu held a Marian Congress on October 13, 2012 attended by several DMI delegates. Vice-International Regent for the Visayas Sis. Evelyn Aquino, Past International Regent Sis. Amy Veloso and Vicarial Regent Sis. Rose Espiritu of St. Joseph Circle of Mandaue City led the DMI delegation.



AREA CONVENTION IN TAGBILARAN CITY. An area convention was hosted by the Vicariate of Bohol at the Alzun's Resort in Tagbilaran City, Bohol recently. Past International Regents Sis. Lyding Ramirez and Amy Veloso (3rd and 5th from left, respectively), Past Vice-IR for Visayas Sis. Carmen de la Torre and VIR-Visayas Sis. Evelyn Aquino (2nd from right and at right, resp.) attended the convention.



OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART CIRCLE. The Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Circle launched recently a Wellness and Natural Family Planning Clinic at the Cebu Capitol Parish in Cebu City. The Center also provides free dental services. Photos show (at left) the DMI Circle and Squirettes of Mary members who attended the launching. Right photo shows Msgr. Dennis Villarojo who blessed the Center and Msgr. Agustin Ancajas with the DMI sisters headed by Diocesan Regent Sis. Delia Villacastin, Diocesan Secretary Sis. Ching Larrazabal, Circle Regent Sis. Myrna Veloso and Past Regent Sis. Tessie Mansueto.



OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CIRCLE. The Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle of Cebu City sponsored a Children's Congress and Bazaar last summer. Spearheading the activity were Past Vicarial Regent Sis. Lilia Veloso, Regent Sis. Avelina Velez, Vice-Regent Sis. Perla Gabato, Past Regent Sis. Paz Gallardo and Sis. Emma Gacayan. Sisters Lilia Veloso and Perla Gabato are shown at left photo preparing snacks for distribution to the children lined up at right photo. More than 2,000 children attended the event.



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Mother Of Perpetual Help Del Carmen Circle Report

By Sis. Shirley Perez, Circle Regent

The Mother of Perpetual Help del Carmen Circle of Barangay Carmen Annex, Ozamis City which was organized in November, 2009 had undertaken a number of activities in pursuance of the DMI missions. Among them are the following:



Pro-Life - A Feeding Program was held for indigent children of Purok 6 and 8 in Bgy. Carmen Annex. Spearheading the activity was the circle's Pro-Life Committee headed by Sis. Estrella Dampor.



Morality in Media -An Anti-Cyber Sex and Anti-RH Bill Campaign was conducted by the Circle's Morality in Media Committee chaired by Sis. Sim Vapor. Shown in photo are, from left, Sisters Shirley Perez, Sim Vapor, Tessie Ota, Rufina Cabatit, Lilia Jamoner, Teresita Cocos and Pastora Paredes during the inspection and interview they conducted at the WEBCARGO Internet Cafe.

Upliftment of Women Workers - Circle Regent Sis. Shirley Perez was the resource person during the Origami Demo-Seminar sponsored by the Upliftment of Women Workers Committee. Sisters Sim Vapor, Lilia Jamoner, Pastora Paredes and Rufina Cabatit are shown assisting Sis. Shirley.

Activity Highlights from The Archdiocese of Cebu...Cont'd from Page 18



STA. CRUZ CIRCLE. At left photo, members of the Sta. Cruz Circle participated in the Tree-Planting Project of Sta. Cruz Parish in Talavera, Toledo City in August, 2012. Circle Regent Sis. Eve Bolarde led the group. Photo at right shows the circle members during their pilgrimage to the Poor Clare's Monastery in Consolacion, Cebu.

From Kalibo, Aklan

News Updates from SMI Our Lady Of Lourdes Circlette

By Grace Yveth Manulat, SMI National President

First SMI Diocesan Assembly, Sept. 17, 2012



Photo at left shows the assembly participants. A certificate of appreciation is awarded to Squirette 'Alumna' Mary Loannie, assembly guest speaker.

Joint DMI-SMI Activities



Left photo: A DMI-SMI Hatter's Party was held last February, 2013 in celebration of Valentine's Day. Right photo: DMI and SMI members conducted a Pro-Life outreach activity benefiting pregnant women of Barangay Tigayon.

Active Participation in Diocesan Youth Conference



Left photo: The SMI delegates to the conference. Right photo: The Squirettes take the lead as animators.

From Ormoc City, Leyte



Sts. Peter and Paul Circle Joins Parish Fund-Raising Concert

The DMIs of Sts. Peter and Paul Circle participated in a Parish Fund-Raising Concert sponsored by the Sts. Peter and Paul Parish last January 18, 2013. The proceeds of the concert will go to identified indigent families in some barangays in Ormoc City. Conducting the group in their song numbers was Sis. Carolina Quezon.

Circle Members Attend Lenten Recollection

The members of the Sts. Peter and Paul Circle held their Annual Lenten Recollection last March 10, 2013 at the St. Dominic Hall of the Sts. Peter and Paul Parish. Recollection speaker was Fr. Kim Margallo who talked about renewal of faith and the lessons for the celebration of Lent.



From Davao del Sur



DMI Diocese of Digos Holds Pre-Christmas Get-Together

Five circles from the Diocese of Digos (Davao del Sur) held a Pre-Christmas Get-Together last Dec. 2, 2012 at the Mary Mediatrix of All Grace Cathedral Parish Social Hall in Digos City. The five circles were San Isidro Labrador Circle of Digos City, St. Michael Circle of Padada, Sto. Rosario Circle of Malita, Immaculate Conception Circle of Bansalan and the host circle, Mary Mediatrix of All Grace Circle headed by Regent Sis. Mila Llanos.



Exemplification of New Members Held

The Sto. Rosario Circle of Malita, Davao del Sur hosted the exemplification of new members at the Sto. Rosario Parish last Feb. 24, 2013. Exemplified were ten new members of the host circle and six from a newly-organized circle in St. Michael Parish in Davao del Sur. Diocesan Regent Sis. Adelaida Barcelona, Vicarial Regent Sis. Esther Molina and Circle Regent Sis. Mila Llanos led the exemplification team.

The Miracle at Naju

By Sis. Mathy Ramos, Past Regent, Risen Christ Circle

I – The Miracle – Its Beginning

In the small town of Naju, located near the southwestern tip of the Korean Peninsula, Our Lady began giving us urgent messages and supporting signs through Julia Kim, a middle-aged housewife and mother of four. Julia had been a Protestant but converted to Catholicism after being miraculously cured of cancer and other serious illnesses and seeing a vision of Jesus with His Heart broken and bleeding because of His love for us in spite of our continuous sinning.

It was almost midnight on June 30, 1985 when the Blessed Mother wept for the first time through her statue owned by Julia. Julia was then an operator of a beauty salon and Julio, her husband worked and still works in the agricultural department of the city government of Naju.



The image of the Blessed Mother shedding tears of blood.

The eyes of the Blessed Mother continued emitting tears of blood intermittently for seven years totaling exactly 700 days until January 14, 1992.

Simultaneously with her weeping, sweat and blood also frequently flowed from her nose.

Another sign that the Blessed Mother gave was in the form of fragrant oil oozing from the statue. She revealed to Julia that the oil and the fragrance of

roses represented her presence, friendship and love for us and that she was giving us these signs for the conversion of sinners. The statue began exuding oil on November 24, 1992 that continued for 700 days until October 23, 1994.

The tears of blood were tested at the medical laboratory of Seoul National University and were found to be human blood. Small pieces of cloth dipped in the fragrant oil have been sent to the Holy Father; some bishops and priests and Marian centers around the world.

Our Lady has also given Julia a "garment of fragrance" so that a sweet fragrance of roses surrounds her all the time. When Julia kisses a rosary or simply holds it in her hand, the rosary becomes fragrant, too.

Oftentimes, Julia also experiences severe pains for the conversion of others and in reparation for abortions and other sins in the world. Several times, she received the stigmata, the five wounds of Jesus while suffering the pains of Crucifixion. She was also allowed to experience Eucharistic miracles - in Naju (in May, 1991), Rome (June, 1992), and Lanciano, Italy (June, 1992). No less than Fr. Jerry Orbos, SVD experienced the Eucharistic miracle while serving as a missionary in Korea. He related that the host Julia received from him at



Sis. Mathy Ramos kneels in front of the image of the Blessed Mother at the chapel in Naju.

communion turned to blood and later as fresh flesh on her tongue. "The experience," Fr. Orbos said, "is a living testimony that the Eucharist is the dying wish of a Man about to be crucified." Many people including a number of priests and Filipinos who attended the Mass celebrated by Fr. Orbos have witnessed these miracles. The host Julia received turned light brown at first, then became covered with blood. Because of these miracles, many people began firmly believing in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.

There have been many amazing physical miracles and spiritual conversions in Naju that Monsignor Matthias Pedes Merino, a theologian who assists the Holy Father at the Vatican, stated after his trip to Naju and through examination of the messages and miracles in 1990 that Naju was the perfection of the Marian messages.

The Blessed Mother also warned us about sacrilegious communions and asked that the mystery of the Holy Eucharist be made known to all people so that they may be saved.

Between July 18, 1985 and June 12, 1997, the Blessed Mother gave messages through Julia 132 times. They were messages of the combined love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

II -My Visit to Our Lady of Naju

My trip to Naju was accidental. In August, 1997, my Korean friend, Peggy Park, a tenant of our building,



Sis. Mathy with Mr. Park and Mrs. Choi, her companions during the trip to Naju.

A SUMMARY OF OUR LADY'S MESSAGES IN NAJU

- *Do not criticize others but reform your lives.*
- *Pray the rosary fervently for world peace
and the conversion of sinners.*
- *Many families are sick.*
- Sanctify your family by loving each other.*
- *Console the Lord by frequently
visiting the Blessed Sacrament.*
- *Offer penance for the insults
that Jesus has received
by observing the Holy Hours on Thursdays.*
- *Abortion is murder,
because life begins at the moment of conception.*
- *Pray without ceasing that priests
may carry out their duties faithfully and with love.*
- *Welcome the Lord as a clean soul
by making frequent confessions.*
- *My House (the chapel in Naju)
is a house of salvation and
bathhouse for souls where
I gather my children with tears
and tears of blood and lead them to repentance.*
- *Turn your whole life into prayers.
Lead a consecrated life with prayers,
sacrifices and reparations.*
- *You will be saved, if you live
with the Heavenly Bread, following me.*
- *I, your Mother, am the string
that ties heaven and earth together.*
- *It is not too late yet.*
- Hurriedly come to me and drink my spiritual milk.*
- *When you follow me wholeheartedly
in response to my messages of love,
new buds will sprout even on the burnt ground, my
love will flame up on the ruins,
and a cup of blessing instead of a cup of wrath will
be bestowed upon you by God.*
- *Mary's Ark of Salvation is the Bosom of my love
which is larger than the universe.*

invited me to join her in going to Seoul, South Korea. I immediately accepted her invitation with the request that we go to Naju, a place often mentioned to me by Mr. and Mrs. Rafael Arnaldo. Mr. Arnaldo is a former president of Veterans Bank, and I considered him and his

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The Miracle at Naju...Cont'd from Page 23

wife my second parents having worked with him for 25 years.

As this trip to Korea was my second, I requested Peggy to go with me to Naju by train.

As she had to be elsewhere, she requested her cousin, Mrs. Choi to accompany me instead. Mrs. Choi, Mr. Park, Peggy's husband and I left Seoul by car at 10:00 a.m. on August 21, 1997. It was raining very hard all the way to Naju and I prayed to Mama Mary that we reach our destination safely. We had several stops as my companions were not too familiar with the place. It took us almost eight hours to reach the Shrine in Naju where the apparitions took place. We entered the chapel where the weeping image of the Blessed Mother was kept. As I approached and prayed to the miraculous image, I noticed traces of oil that oozed from her.

We stayed in the Shrine for almost two hours hoping to catch a glimpse of Sis Julia Kim, the visionary to whom

the Blessed Mother gave miraculous signs and her messages. Thinking that another eight hours would be required for our trip back to Seoul, we decided to leave Naju at 6:00 p.m. We arrived safely at the hotel at about 2:00 a.m. of August 22 despite the heavy rains. I thanked Mr. Park and Mrs. Choi who were also devotees of Mama Mary. They gifted me with a statue of Our Lady of Naju with a video tape entitled "Our Lady's Call to the Conversion of Naju, Korea". I also thanked Our Lady for giving me the chance to visit her shrine in the small village of Naju.

I am aware that the Blessed Mother's purpose in Naju is to awaken us from our spiritual complacency and our being insensitive to her message so that we may truly practice the teachings in the Gospels and to revitalize our faith and devotion as Catholics. She urges us to begin living a life of prayer, humility and love so that the devil's grip on our world may be broken and a new era of peace and love under the reign of Christ may begin. She asks us to become her little



The sacred host Julia Kim received at Communion during the Eucharistic celebration by Fr. Francis Sen on Sept. 17, 1999 turned into flesh and blood in the shape of a heart.

children, completely consecrated to her Immaculate Heart. She has predicted her victory over the devil in the near future, but for that victory to be achieved, she invites everyone to offer fervent prayers, especially the holy rosary, and sacrifices and to pray for and support the Holy Father, bishops and priests as they are the ministers of Christ on earth.

Orientation on DMI Missions Held...Cont'd from Page 17



Diocesan Chairperson for Morality in Media Sis. Flor Lim makes her PowerPoint presentation.

Quilala for Assistance to Prisoners' Families & their Victims, Sis. Flor Lim for Morality in Media and Sis. Ma. Darling Tandoc for Youth Welfare (SMI).

The Diocesan Plans of Action for the DMI missions will be cascaded down to the circle level. The diocesan chairs will meet with the circles to draw up their Circle Plans of Action.