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DMI'S BIRTHPLACE REVISITED; ANNUAL OFFICERS' MEETING HELD IN ANTIPOLO

During the month of May, the City of Antipolo teems with people making their annual pilgrimage to the place where the miraculous image of Our Lady of Peace and Good Voyage is enshrined in the city's cathedral.

May 13, 2017 was a special one for the Daughters of Mary Immaculate International as it was a homecoming of sorts. The occasion was the launching of DMII's 40th Anniversary that ushers in a year-long celebration culminating in May, 2018 simultaneous with the holding of the 21st DMII Biennial Convention in Baguio City.

Antipolo is the birthplace of the Daughters of Mary Immaculate International when the Late Jaime Cardinal Sin renamed the Daughters of Isabella, founded in 1951 and composed of spouses of Knights of Columbus members, as the Daughters of Mary Immaculate in May, 1978.

The 8 o'clock Mass at the cathedral was celebrated by DMI International Chaplain Fr. Jerome Cruz attended

by some 450 DMI sisters composed of the International officers and Board and diocesan, vicarial and circle regents representing the 14 DMI regions of the country. Father Jerome's homily centered on the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of the Blessed Mother in Fatima, Portugal and the canonization by Pope Francis of Jacinta and her brother, Francisco, two of the three children to whom Our Lady appeared.

A motorcade from the Antipolo Cathedral brought the meeting delegates in cars and vans festooned with red balloons, the official color of DMII's 40th (Ruby) Anniversary, to the venue of the Annual Officers' Meeting at Jamesville Resort.

International Regent Sis. Lelis Pimentel called the meeting to order after the enthronement and consecration of the image of the Blessed Mother. International Secretary and Region IV RR Sis. Theresa Curia acknowledged the presence of guests and

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International Chaplain Fr. Jerome Cruz celebrates Mass at the Antipolo Cathedral to launch DMII's 40th Anniversary celebration.

Update from Our Lady of Fatima Circle, Macau



From a Facebook post of Sis. Pinky Saavedra, diocesan regent of the Archdiocese of Zamboanga, a photo of members of the Our Lady of Fatima Circle of Macau shows that their circle is alive and well. The seed planted in 2011 has continued to grow and is bearing fruit.

The DMI sisters in Macau are preparing for the grand celebration of the 100th year of the last apparition of Our Lady in Fatima on October 17, 2017. The report was sent in by Sis. Mary Gail Kim.



The officers and members of the Our Lady of Fatima Circle of Macau.

The Our Lady of Fatima Circle of Macau was officially organized on Sept. 25, 2011 in the Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Macau with 15 charter members. The parish is located inside the big grounds of the Girls' Catholic School. Sis. Myrna Recto was the charter regent.

The organization of the circle came about when a delegation

from the Philippines visited Macau composed of then International Regent Sis. Lyding Ramirez, VIR for Luzon Sis. Mila Villanueva and Diocesan Regent Sis. Milde Tong of the Diocese of Paranaque and officers of the St. Joseph Circle of the Archdiocese of Zamboanga – Vicarial Regent Sis. Pinky Saavedra and daughter Fatima

Mae, Past Regent Sis. Patsy Ebol, Circle Regent Sis. Bernadette Santiago and Financial Secretary Sis. Rose Bulawin.

The full story about how the Our Lady of Fatima Circle was organized was published in the January-March, 2012 issue of the *DMI Newsette*.



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From the International Regent

DMI'S AS AGENTS OF TRANSFORMATION AND COMMUNION IN THE YEAR OF THE PARISH



The whole world is celebrating the 100th year of the series of apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima to the three young children at Cova de Iria in Portugal. Her central message of conversion, prayer and sacrifice for world peace is ever more relevant in our present time.

Everyone is called to a day-to-day conversion, fervent prayers offered not only for oneself but for others, especially for those who defy God in their lives and to make sacrifices so as to ease and to share the sufferings of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. If everyone is called to do these acts of piety, how much more are we who claim to be the Daughters of Mary Immaculate?

In this world full of anxieties, confusion and chaos, terrorism and violent wars, we seek transformation. We desperately need change and a world renewed in peace and harmony. I believe that the message of our Blessed Mother is the most effective way to world peace and harmony. As a true mother, Mary is calling us to go back home to the heart of God, our loving and merciful Father. We only have one Father and we are His beloved children. Therefore, we must be brothers and sisters to one another. Yes, we belong to one family by virtue of our humanity and more so by our faith in God Who created us in His image and likeness. Where there is true family, there is sharing, respect and understanding. Where there is true family, there is love. Where there is love, there is communion.

We believe in God Who Himself is communion because God is Trinity, three distinct persons – the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit – and yet sharing in one Divine Nature. The Church is called to live the divine life of the Trinity, that is, communion.

This is the recurrent theme of this Year of the Parish proclaimed by the CBCP. However, true communion can only be achieved through the gift of the Holy Spirit. That is why the Father and the Son sent forth the Holy Spirit during Pentecost, the birth of the Church.

As DMIs, we are called to be like Mary, the vessel of the Holy Spirit. Our lives must be led by the Spirit and in this way, we can be true agents of transformation and communion.

SIS. ROSALINDA C. PIMENTEL
International Regent

DMII's Birthplace... from page 1



The Mass processional with KC members as honor guards.



Motorcade to Jamesville Resort for the Annual Officers' Meeting.



Fr. Jerome and IR Sis. Lelis Pimentel carry the image of the Blessed Mother to the altar.



VIR- Luzon & Region V RR Sis. Ruby Macario welcomes the delegates to the meeting.

delegates and later declared the presence of a quorum.

VIR-Luzon and Region V RR Sis. Ruby Macario welcomed the delegates and declared the formal launching of the year-long 40th Anniversary celebration of the DMII with an audio-visual presentation of the organization's history and schedule of activities to highlight this milestone event. The theme of the celebration is "Living Mary's LOVE, COMPASSION and CARE through DMII's Presence and Mission . . . 40 Years and Counting".

The business meeting came next with Past International Officers rendering their reports on the organization's operations during the 2015-16 term.

The minutes of the 2016 membership meeting, part of the 20th Biennial Convention program in Davao City was read by Sis. Thess Curia on behalf of Past International Secretary Sis. Alma Cagampang who wasn't able to attend the meeting. The Treasurer's Report came next with Sis. Elvie Arambulo, International Treasurer, rendering her report on the organization's financial operations.

Past IR Sis. Pureza Guzman reported on the major

accomplishments of the 2015-16 International Board among which were the amendments to the DMII Constitution and By-laws ratified by the members during the 2016 Biennial Convention, the turn-over of seven houses donated by the DMII to 'Yolanda' victims in Leyte, the sale of the first Mary's House, the DMI headquarters in Pasay City and the acquisition of a new one in Lopez Village, Parañaque City.

International Advocate Sis. Myrna Trinidad presented to the body for ratification a number of Board resolutions concerning DMII operations notably the creation of board committees essential to the organization's growth and success and the designation of mission coordinators to handle dissemination of mission information and reporting of mission programs and activities.

A musical group, the Alterblare Acoustics Band, entertained the delegates during the lunch hour.

The afternoon session started with the International Regent's Time during which Sis. Lelis presented the organization's plans and programs during her term. These are: further defining the rules and procedures

covering the Calamity Fund, creation of technical committees and designation of mission coordinators and DMI Newsette regional correspondents for more effective and wider coverage of DMII area and regional events, identification of places of pilgrimage in various regions of the country, reorientation and planning workshops on the DMI missions, possibly during area conferences, provision of ID cards for all members such as the cards issued by the Philippine Red Cross with a P50,000 accident insurance coverage for an annual premium of P50, formation of more circles abroad, pursuing the campaign of one SMI circlette for every DMI circle, and setting up a DMI directory making use of an updated members' data base. Sis. Lelis also called on DMI members to continue supporting the activities of the organization, particularly in the pursuance of its CBCP-mandated missions.

The International Mission Chairpersons for 2017-

18 then presented their plans and programs during their term.

Sis. Cathy Pineda, for Youth Welfare/Squirettes of Mary, will continue with the campaign for more Squirettes members, encouraging the circlettes to recruit at least one member per month or 12 members per year. It is also the Committee's goal to have one SMI circlette per DMI circle in every parish. She had also circularized a year-round program of activities for the Squirettes aimed at developing their leadership skills and talents as well as their spirituality by emulating Mama Mary's virtues.

For Assistance to Prisoners' Families & their Victims, Sis. Lucina Binoya has drawn up a national program for the families of prisoners and victims to be implemented by DMI circles addressing both their spiritual and temporal needs such as teaching them

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A red-colored anniversary cake is placed in front of the presidential table showing Past IRs Sisters Myrna Zapanta, Jean Velarde, Lyding Ramirez and Pureza Guzman and IR Sis. Lelis Pimentel.



Sis. Pureza Guzman renders a report on the accomplishments of the 2015-16 International Board.



Sis. Lelis discusses the goals and programs of the International Board during her term.



Members of the International Board, past and present, in a group photo onstage.

DMII's Birthplace... from page 5

catechism and involving them in religious activities in the parish as well as providing them livelihood skills for income generation. The latter will require tying up with agencies such as DSWD, TESDA, NGOs and others.

Chairperson Sis. Milde Tong of Upliftment of Women Workers launched a campaign called “*Babae, Boses ng Pagbabago*” which would involve the empowerment of women in workplaces, overseas employment, as homemakers and other roles they play in the community. The Committee will also promote awareness of women of their rights under the Magna Carta of Women.

For Morality in Media, Sis. Edna May Landicho will continue to pursue her strategies/approaches that she summed up in PACT: Praise – commend individuals and groups who promote good media, Attack - protest and fight against morally reprehensible, violent and pornographic media, Consolidate – network with other groups to boost DMII’s stand in promoting good media and Thrust – organize assemblies and other forums and

issue printed references, guides and other promotional materials to help in the good media campaign. Her committee will specially target the youth focusing on the wise and effective use of social media.

Sis. Cora Afuang, chairperson for Pro-Life, also the meeting’s program host, whose committee’s primary objective is the respect and protection of life from womb to tomb will continue to work protecting the integrity and dignity of every individual – the unborn children and their mothers, the born children and their needs, the sick persons and those with disabilities who are unable to protect themselves, the aged and the dying, protection of the environment as well as continuing the fight against the culture of DEATH (divorce, euthanasia, abortion, total population control and homosexual or same-sex marriage). Added to the battle are modern-day scourges such as murder, revenge, war and the death penalty.

The meeting ended with the closing remarks by VIR-Mindanao Sis. Angie Baes. The recessional during which the Blessed Mother was carried out of the meeting hall followed the closing prayer.



The International Chairpersons for the Missions report their programs of action. From left: Sis. Cathry Pineda for Youth Welfare, Sis. Milde Tong for Upliftment of Women Workers, Sis. Cora Afuang for Pro-Life, Sis. Luz Binoya for Assistance to Prisoners & their Victims, and Sis. Edna May Landicho for Morality in Media.



The Alterblare Acoustics Band provides musical entertainment during the lunch hour.



Part of the meeting delegates in a group photo.

REGION V ASSEMBLY HELD

"You are the ambassadors of Christ, the presence of the Church in the secular world." These powerful words from the homily of Most Rev. Pablo "Ambo" David, bishop of the Diocese of Kalookan, seemed to have reverberated in the hall of One Esplanade within the Mall of Asia Complex in Pasay City, venue of this year's assembly of Region V on June 17, 2017.

The talks of subsequent speakers who spoke that day carried this central message revolving around the assembly theme "The DMI as Active Agent of Transformation in the Parish and Communities".



Candles are lit at the altar of the Blessed Mother.



Bishop Pablo David of the Diocese of Kalookan and Fr. Jerome Cruz, DMII International Chaplain, celebrate Mass at the opening of the assembly.



Speaker Dennis Orlina of TESDA, gives his presentation before assembly delegates.

Bishop Ambo keynoted the assembly by way of the homily he delivered during the Eucharistic celebration that followed the opening ceremonies. International Chaplain Fr. Jerome Cruz was concelebrant. In the homily, he said that the Church needs people immersed in the world.

"Modern men and women listen more to witnesses than to teachers." This is why the Church needs the transformative presence of lay people in society who bear witness to God's Word through the lives they lead. His message to the DMIs present: "Go out. Immerse yourselves in the world in order to be effective agents of transformation in your parishes and communities. Be the light of one little candle to people who curse the darkness."

International Regent Sis. Lelis Pimentel, in her inspirational message, reiterated her call for DMI sisters to be more actively involved in the missions for it is through their work in the missions that they can immerse themselves in the communities needing their transformative presence.

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Bishop Ambo receives a token gift from International Regent Sis. Lelis Pimentel, Past IR Sis. Mila Villanueva and Fr. Jerome.



Mr. Orlina is awarded a token of appreciation by VIR-Luzon Sis. Ruby Macario, Sis. Lelis, Fr. Jerome and Sis. Mila.

Region V Assembly... from page 7

Dennis Orlina of TESDA who is President and Philippine Representative of the ASEAN Handicraft Promotion and Development Association, was the first resource speaker who spoke on Entrepreneurship. Having focused now on rural community development centered on livelihood creation, marketing awareness training and entrepreneurship including people empowerment and core values training, he aims to develop grassroots entrepreneurs making use of indigenous materials readily available in their communities.

Mr. Orlina talked about three skills required for entrepreneurship – vision, execution and flexibility. He emphasized that excellence of products must be from the consumer's point of view, such as best quality for the lowest price, consumer intimacy as a competitive strategy, “buy one, give one to help another person”, shift from creating

wants to fulfilling needs. “In crisis situations,” he said, “consider them not as problems but as opportunities. Think out of the box.”

For entrepreneurs-to-be, Mr. Orlina cited the lowly bamboo as the building material of the century showing multifarious uses it can serve to value-add to construction of houses, household goods and handicrafts. China is the top grower and user of bamboo, followed by Japan. The Philippines is a poor third.

Mr. Orlina's current work is directed towards the transformation of the grassroots, particularly in the rural areas through empowerment and a better quality of life for them and their families.

Rev. Fr. Deo Layug, vicar general of Batanes, talked on “Aging Gracefully and Confidently in Service”. He said that old age is a gift from God; the extension of one's life gives him the chance for introspection, to be able to go back and reflect on the past and then be able to correct or set things right and do what remains to be done. It is in old age that one can realize the beauty of life, when he can do a lot in the service of God and fellowmen. He ended by quoting Pope Francis: “Your life is your message to the world. Make sure it is inspiring.”

Ahwel Paz of ABS-CBN hosts a number of programs on Channel 2, DZMM, the Filipino Channel (TFC) and other network outlets. As a media practitioner, he pointed out that media life has some hazards and cited several

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Sis. Lelis delivers her inspirational message.



Rev. Fr. Deo, Layug, vicar gen. of Batanes, resource speaker.



Resource speaker Ahwel Paz of ABS-CBN interacts with his audience.



A token of appreciation is presented to Ahwel Paz by Sisters Lelis, Ruby and Morality in Media Int'l Chairperson Edna May Landicho and Fr. Jerome.



Marian Exhibit during the Region V Assembly



Fr. Jerome blesses the images shown in the Marian Exhibit.

CITY OF GOLDEN FRIENDSHIP HOSTS MINDANAO AREA CONFERENCE

*By Sis. Bebing Guinitaran, Vicarial Regent,
Diocese of Cagayan de Oro*



The presidential table where members of the International Board and Cagayan de Oro diocesan officers are seated.

The 25th DMII Mindanao Area Conference was held in Cagayan de Oro City on April 29-30, 2017. Some 690 DMI sisters from Regions XII, XIII and XIV attended the event held at the Grand Caprice, Limketkai Center hosted by the Diocesan Family of the City of Golden Friendship, the DMI Diocese of Cagayan de Oro. The conference theme was “The DMII as Agent of Transformation in the Parish and Community”.

Days of preparation preceded the conference with the guidance of International Regent Sis. Lelis Pimentel, Vice-IR for Mindanao and Region XIV RR Sis. Angie Baes and Region XII RR Sis. Tess Miranda. Details of the conference such as the conference theme, choice of conference speakers, venue arrangements, assignments of working committees and others were meticulously discussed and planned.

The Conference began with the enthronement and consecration of the Blessed Virgin Mary after which Diocesan Regent Sis. Elnora Abuel of the Diocese of Cagayan de Oro as conference chairman declared the formal opening of the Mindanao Area Conference. VIR-Mindanao Sis. Angie Baes officially welcomed the delegates – 349 DMI sisters from Region XII, 188 from Region XIII and 153 from Region XIV.

In her inspirational message, Sis. Lelis Pimentel thanked the conference participants for their presence and support and encouraged each one to remain actively involved in the activities of the organization in pursuing the DMI missions. She also exhorted them to develop and sustain deep devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Rev. Msgr. Rey Monsanto, keynoted the conference. Expounding on the conference theme, he emphasized that the theme is a call to action for all organizations in the parish, the DMII included, to actively participate in parish activities, particularly in strengthening faith, promoting fellowship and increasing the sense of belonging among members of the parish community. As the CBCP declared this year as the Year of the Parish as Communion of Communities, Msgr. Monsanto said that individuals, particularly the DMIs, must first of all be strengthened in their faith in the Lord before they can become agents of transformation and communion.

A concelebrated Mass by Msgr. Perseus Cabunoc and Fr. Nemasio Pacana, SSJV ended the morning session.

The DMI missions and thrusts were the focal point of talks and presentations in the afternoon.

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IR Sis. Lelis Pimentel carries the image of the Blessed Mother for the Enthronement and Consecration Ceremony.

City of Golden Friendship... from page 9

Bro. Wilson Amad was the resource speaker for Morality in Media. He said that media must be handled and utilized with great care because media, in all its forms, shape people's minds – their moral behavior as well as most of their knowledge about the world.

For Upliftment of Women Workers, Fr. Florencio “Boy” Salvador, SSJV discussed the empowerment of women in today's world. From being treated as second class citizens some decades ago when they could not even vote or have any voice in society, Father Boy said that women now have become important members of the community enjoying co-equal status with men in many fields – professions, politics, business, etc. He said that this mission of the DMII is very important and relevant today because “a truly uplifted woman is one who is intimately close to God and asks for guidance and leadings before making a move” which is a necessary requirement for transformation.

Rev. Fr. Lourdesio Armstrong “Amy” Balacuit was the resource speaker for Assistance to Prisoners' Families & their Victims. Father Amy said that God's greatest commandment is Love and that the Ten Commandments are summarized in only two: love of

God and love of neighbor. Neighbor includes every fellowman, even a sinner. After all, nobody is sinless before the Lord. He further said that caring for prisoners, their families and victims is a pleasing service to God, because as the Lord said, “Whatever you do to the least of my brethren, you do it unto Me.” Besides, not all prisoners are absolute offenders. There were several great biblical men in the past who were imprisoned just because of their strong faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. To mention a few, Joseph the dreamer, Samson who was imprisoned by the Philistines, John the Baptist and Peter. He expressed appreciation for the DMII being an active partner in the Prison Ministry.

DMI International Chairperson for Youth Welfare/SMI Sis. Cathy Pineda, underscored the need to train and develop the skills of young Roman Catholic girls under the guidance of the Daughters of Mary Immaculate so that they will grow up pleasing to the Lord and, in adulthood, be ready to take on the responsibility as DMI members in the near future.

Sis. Ruby Macario spoke on Pro-Life on behalf of Sis. C ora Afuang, Pro-Life Int'l Chairperson, who was not able to come. She said that pro-life covers a host of activities and projects that promote protection and nurturance of life from womb to tomb such as care for the



Msgr. Rey Monsanto, keynote speaker, before conference delegates.



The Eucharistic celebration by DMI Chaplain Fr. Jerome Cruz.



DMIs of the Diocese of Cagayan de Oro, conference hosts.



DMI sisters who received loyalty awards for many years of committed service to the organization.

elderly, protection of the environment, promotion of health and wellness, natural family planning and breastfeeding, etc. She also called on the DMI sisters to fully and continuously support the position of the Catholic Church and DMII's campaign: "NO to Death Penalty".

Adding color to the event was the Fellowship Night held in the evening. Region XII RR Sis. Tess Miranda welcomed the guests and delegates to the occasion. A dance contest among the participating dioceses was the evening's highlight with the Archdiocese of Davao winning first place. The Archdiocese of Zamboanga placed second, Butuan. third place, Agusan del Norte, fourth and Surigao City, fifth.

Aside from the dance contest, an on-the-spot beauty contest meant to be a fund-raiser was also held. The top spot was won by Region XIII which was able to raise and donate the highest amount followed by Region XII, then Region XIV.



The conference hosts, the Diocese of Cagayan de Oro sisters, perform an intermission dance number.

DMII also paid tribute to DMI sisters in Mindanao who have served the organization for many years and remained loyal and committed to its vision and missions. They each received loyalty awards in recognition and appreciation of their faithful service to the organization.

Day 2, April 30 started with a Eucharistic celebration officiated by DMI International Chaplain Fr. Jerome Cruz. Diocesan and vicarial regents who were not able to attend the officers' installation rites in Davao City last December 4, 2016 were installed into office during the Mass.

A bidding for the next Mindanao Area Conference in 2019 was conducted. Iligan City was chosen to host the next conference.

Packed lunches were distributed to the conference delegates as they bade good-bye, promising to see each other again two years from now.

Region V Assembly... from page 8

occasions when one can fall prey to temptations for easy money and a good life. Being a Marian devotee and actively involved in church activities, he has been able to overcome the temptations. For the DMIs, he has become a living symbol of what is good in the media business.



Fr. Jerome gives his final blessing after Sis. Ruby's closing remarks.

During session breaks throughout the day, Emil Quejada, a Tawag ng Tanghalan winner, regaled the participants with well-loved songs, engaging some music lovers to a sing-along.

VIR for Luzon and Region V RR Sis. Ruby Macario closed the assembly with her invitation to the DMI sisters to attend upcoming events – the Luzon Area Conference on Oct. 20-22, 2017, the year-round schedule of activities for the 40th Anniversary celebration and the 21st Biennial Convention in Baguio City in May, 2018.

A total of 310 participants attended the assembly representing the Dioceses of Antipolo, Cubao, Kalookan, Imus, Manila, Novaliches, Paranaque, Pasig and the Vicariate of Palawan.

The program hosts were Sisters Alma Romerde of the Diocese of Cubao and Sol Eugenio of the Diocese of Parañaque.

DMII CELEBRATES WOMEN'S DAY

*By Sis. Ruby Macario,
Vice-IR for Luzon & Region V Representative*

*W*omen's Month is celebrated in March each year and last March 8, 2017, National Women's Day was celebrated in the Philippines .

On that day, DMIs trooped to the Correctional Institute for Women in Mandaluyong City to celebrate this important event with the inmates who welcomed their guests with a short program.

International Regent Sis. Lelis Pimentel and Congressional Spouses Foundation President Emily Alvarez led the group which included VIR-Luzon Sis. Ruby Macario, International Secretary Sis. Thess Curia, Region XII Representative Sis. Tess Miranda, Int'l Chairperson for Assistance to Prisoners Families &

their Victims Sis. Lucina Binoya, Pro-life Chairperson Sis. Cora Afuang, Youth Welfare Chairperson Sis. Cathy Pineda, SMI-Luzon Coordinator Sis. Biennah Villanueva and DMII Office Secretary Sis. Josie Halog.

DMIs from the Diocese of Imus led by Diocesan Regent Sis. Inday Ramos who make rosaries as part of their livelihood projects started teaching the inmates how to make rosaries.

DMII's commitment to this project for the inmates of the Correctional Institute for Women is to supply materials for their rosary-making project as well as helping them market their finished product . The proceeds will go to a Trust Fund set up by the institution for them.



Guests led by Congressional Spouses Foundation President Emily Alvarez and DMII International Regent Sis. Lelis Pimentel who visited the Correctional Institute for Women presented an image of Mary Immaculate to the inmates for their chapel.



DMIs from the Diocese of Imus led by Diocesan Regent Sis. Inday Ramos teach the inmates how to make rosaries.



Department of Health Secretary Rossel Ubial also came to greet the women inmates.

DIOCESE OF SAN PABLO TO HOST LUZON AREA CONFERENCE

*T*he Luzon Area Conference is scheduled to be held at the Batis Aramin Resort & Hotel in Lucban, Quezon on October 20 to 22, 2017. The Diocese of San Pablo (Region VI) composed of DMI circles in Laguna Province will host the conference.

Lucban is a favorite tourist destination particularly during the month of May when the Pahiyas Festival is held to honor the town's patron saint, San Isidro de Labrador, on his feast day, May 15. The town is situated 1,400 feet above sea level and lies northeast of majestic Mt. Banahaw. The Kamay ni Hesus Healing Shrine is also located in Lucban.

International Treasurer and Region VI Representative Sis. Elvie Arambulo, conference chairperson, and her working committee have drawn up an interesting conference program with the theme "The DMII as an Active Agent of Transformation in the Parish and Communities".

The conference will formally open on the afternoon of Oct. 20 with an official welcome by VIR-Luzon Sis. Ruby Macario after the enthronement and consecration of the image of the Blessed Mother. Mission workshops will then follow.

Most Rev. Buenaventura Famadico, DD, bishop of the Diocese of San Pablo will be the main celebrant in the Eucharistic celebration to be held later in the afternoon. He will be assisted by DMI Diocesan Chaplain Rev. Fr. Francis Eugene Fadul, Sthl. Dinner

and a zumba session will end the activities for Day 1.

Day 2, (October 21) starts with a message from the International Regent Sis. Lelis Pimentel and will feature talks by two resource speakers – Msgr. Leandro Castro, rector of St. Alphonsus Regional Seminary in Lucena City in the morning and Ms. Cory Quirino, TV host, author, health and wellness guru and beauty titleholder, in the afternoon. Most Rev. Emilio Marquez, DD, BSE, JCL, STD, bishop of the Diocese of Lucena will celebrate Mass to end the afternoon session.

Dinner and Fellowship Night follow featuring dance presentations by regions in Luzon - Regions I to VIII – except the host region. The best presentations will be awarded prizes. The evening's motif is Maria Clara, Circa 1880.

A Healing Mass by Rev. Fr. Jose "Joey" Faller of the famous Kamay ni Hesus Healing Church the following morning (October 22, Sunday) will bring the Luzon Area Conference to a close.

Delegates will then have a tour of picturesque Laguna and its environs.

DMI sisters in Luzon are encouraged to register early for the conference to enjoy 'early bird' conference fee discounts – P2,600 up to July 31 and P2,800 from August 1 to Sept. 15. Pre-registration is a requirement. No walk-in registration will be entertained.

SEE YOU IN LUCBAN, SISTERS!

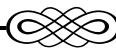


From the Diocese of Ilagan – Isabela (Region I)

UPDATES FROM STO. NINO DE PRAGA CIRCLE

By Sis. Mila Azarcon, Circle Secretary

STO. NINO DE PRAGA CIRCLE SPONSORS FEEDING PROGRAM. The Sto. Nino de Praga Circle of Cordon, Isabela sponsored recently a Feeding Program for pre-schoolers of Malapat Day Care Center numbering 46 children. The circle members who undertook the activity were led by Circle Regent Sis. Flora Mariano and Sisters Luz Fernandez and Mila Azarcon.



SMI CIRCLETTE ORGANIZED IN CORDON, ISABELA. A new SMI circlette had been organized in Cordon, Isabela. The formation of the Sto. Nino de Praga Circlette was initiated by the DMI sisters of Sto. Nino de Praga Circle. Sis. Luz Fernandez is the SMI coordinator. Region I Representative Sis. Remedios Agosto has been extending her full support to the activities of both the Sto. Nino de Praga DMI Circle and SMI Circlette.



BLESSED QUEEN AND MOTHER CIRCLE RECEIVES APPRECIATION AWARD FROM SPED SCHOOL

*By Sis. Esther Calimlim,
Circle Vice-Regent*

*T*he Blessed Queen and Mother Circle of Holy Family Parish in Sta. Barbara, Pangasinan extended assistance to SPED students of the Banaoang Central School. The SPED Class consisted of 18 special children – 8 intellectually challenged, one visually impaired, one hearing impaired, one with autism, 6 with ADHA and one cerebral palsied.

The assistance came in the form of instructional materials and cash which the circle, headed by Regent Sis. Lucita Jose, was able to raise.

The project started with a visit by the Circle's Pro-Life Committee headed by Sis. Myrna Delin, Past Regent Sis. Sylvia Manlongat and Sis. Gertrudes Fernandez to the SPED Class. The group observed how SPED teacher Ms. Marilyn Montemayor teaches her class mostly through individual interaction with help from the parents. Observing the class for four hours, they saw how the teacher was able to teach the blind, the mute and the autistic children using improvised instructional materials. They noted that the materials she used were quite limited.

The circle then decided to raise funds to provide the



DMI sisters of the Blessed Queen and Mother Circle after receiving the Certificate of Appreciation award from Ms. Mildred Cayabyab, school principal.

instructional materials the SPED students need. The donation to SPED was turned over to the school during the Recognition Program of the SPED children on March 22, 2017. The DMI sisters attended the Closing Program during which School Principal Ms. Mildred Cayabyab awarded a Certificate of Appreciation to the Circle. SPED Teacher Marilyn profusely thanked the DMI sisters and requested for their continuing support for the SPED children.

MIRACULOUS MEDAL CIRCLE ADOPTS A SCHOLAR



The circle's APFV Committee visited Marian's family at their home.

*T*he Miraculous Medal Circle of Dagupan City has adopted a young scholar, Marian Villacorta, a Grade 1

pupil of Bolosan Elementary School. Marian is a daughter of a detainee at the Dagupan BJMP. The assistance comes in the form of P500 monthly allowance starting School Year 2017-18. The circle has pledged to extend financial assistance to Marian until her Senior High School.

A project of the circle for Assistance to Prisoners' Families & their Victims (APFV), the scholar's performance such as academic grades, attitudes, study habits and great potentials to pursue higher educational levels will be monitored through annual certifications from the school principal. The circle will also provide counseling and catechism to Marian and her mother. The mother will also be encouraged to attend livelihood training seminars conducted in their community to enable her to earn income for the family. The father has been detained at the Dagupan City Jail since September, 2016.

From the Diocese of Malolos (Region IV)

DIOCESE OF MALOLOS CHARTERS TWO NEW CIRCLES

*By Sis. Ma. Theresa G. Curia,
International Secretary and Region IV RR*

*T*wo new circles have just been organized in the Diocese of Malolos comprising Region IV.

The **Our Lady of Consolacion and Cincture Circle** received its charter on October 23, 2016 with 28 charter members. Its home parish is the St. James the Apostle Parish in Poblacion, Paombong, Bulacan. The formation of the circle was initiated by the Rosa Mystica Circle.

The installation of the circle's charter officers followed the Long Conferral Ceremony for the charter members conducted by then Diocesan Regent Sis. Thess Curia and Vicarial Regent Sis. Teresita Labilles. The circle's charter officers are: Sisters Apolonia Mislang – regent, Irene de la Cruz – vice-regent, Rowena Ramos – financial secretary, Marilyn Rubiano – treasurer, Elena Marcos – recording secretary, Cecilia Capulong – scribe, Melita Bundoc – chancellor, Minerva Cruz – custodian, Eugenia Pascual, Emerlinda Domingo and Felipa Manlapig – trustees, Glenda Rose Lopez – monitor, Violeta Castro – banner bearer, Ofelia Tanghal and Virgie Pasco – guides, Amor Lobrino and Ma. Cherry Tenorio – guards and Paulina Bulaong – organist.

Msgr. Epitacio Castro is the circle's chaplain.

The **Our Lady of Consolacion & Cincture Circle** derived its name from the devotion to the Blessed Mother which started with a vision of Sta. Monica, mother of St. Augustine, during which she received a black leather belt from Mother Mary, assuring her that everyone who wears the belt in her honor will be taken under her special protection. The icon depicts the Blessed Mother wearing a cord representing the belt as she carries the Child Jesus.

The **Mary Queen of Angels Circle** of Holy Angels Parish in San Jose, Plaridel, Bulacan was formally organized on Jan. 22, 2017 with the Holy Mary Circle as its mother circle.

The new circle has 30 charter members and is headed by Sis. Araceli Tullao as charter regent. Installed with her were: Sisters Cecilia Evangelista – vice-regent, Jesusa Condecido – financial secretary, Daisy Quebada – treasurer, Margareth Herrera – recording secretary, Edith Fabian – scribe, Karen Roque – chancellor, Benedicta Lopez – custodian,



The charter officers and members of the Our Lady of Consolacion & Cincture Circle with Sis. Theresa Curia and Sis. Teresita Labilles who conducted the Long Conferral and installation rites. Shown with them are members of the Knights of Columbus led by KC District Deputy Bro. Leandro Flores and Grand Knight Bro. Richard Mislang, husband of Circle Regent Sis. Apolonia Mislang.

Benedicta Mariano, Carol de Jesus and Leonioda Santos – trustees, Rita Ruedas – monitor, Angelita Lopez – banner bearer, Imelda Bartolome and Sherry de la Cruz – guides

and Cirila Vitug and Sofia Ignacio – guards.

Rev. Fr. Rico Trinidad, pastor of Holy Angels Parish. is the circle's chaplain.



The charter officers and members of the Mary Queen of Angels Circle with their chaplain, Fr. Rico Trinidad (seated at center) and Sisters Thess Curia, Region IV RR, Aida de la Cruz, diocesan regent and Josie de la Torre, vicarial regent.

DMIs RUN ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH DAY CARE SCHOOL

The Queen of Flowers Circle resumes operation of the St. Martin of Tours Parish Day Care School in Bocaue, Bulacan starting School Year 2017-18. The school is recognized by the Dept. of Education. It adheres to the K-12 format with a two-track pre-elementary program – nursery and kindergarten – in preparation for Grade 1.

Formerly known as the DMI Day Care Center, another group took over the school's operation for a few years. It became a parish day care center. In 2016,

Msgr. Albert Suatengco, DMI chaplain of the Diocese of Malolos, requested the Queen of Flowers Circle to handle the school again beginning this school year.

The school had 46 enrollees in 2015 which swelled to 104 pupils this school year, an increase of 126%. Four classes of two-hour sessions each are held daily with a DMI principal and teacher – Sis. Melissa Mendoza and a teacher-aide. - **From Sis. Aida de la Cruz, Diocesan Regent, Diocese of Malolos.**



The pupils of St. Martin of Tours Day Care School with DMI Diocesan Chaplain Msgr. Albert Suatengco and DMI sisters of the Queen of Flowers Circle.

From the Diocese of Parañaque (Region V)

SYMPOSIUM ON THE CHALLENGES OF SOCIAL MEDIA HELD

*By Sis. Rosalina Farol,
Scribe, Risen Christ Circle*



Initial meeting held by the Risen Christ Circle with Ms. Che Che Lazaro (second from left) inviting her as Media Symposium speaker. With her are, from left: Sisters Sally Estrada, Linda Chincuanco, Mila Villanueva, Sonia Manlapig and Juliet Cruz.

The Risen Christ Circle of Moonwalk Village, Parañaque City sponsored a media symposium on the challenges of social media entitled “New Media . . . New Culture” last April 8, 2017. Speaker during the symposium was Ms. Che-Che Lazaro, an acclaimed broadcast journalist who for many years was producer and host of “The Probe Team” aired over GMA Channel 7. She is the founding president of Probe Productions, Inc. as well as editor-

at-large of the online news website Rappler.

The circle’s Morality in Media Committee headed by Sis. Sonia Manlapig, past international chairperson for Morality in Media, spearheaded the activity. DMI sisters coming from the host circle and from other circles in the Diocese of Parañaque attended the symposium held at the Knights of Columbus Clubhouse in Merville Subd., Parañaque City.

Circle Regent Sis. Lelita Guzman gave the opening remarks and Sis. Linda Chincuanco, a long-time friend of the speaker, introduced Ms. Lazaro.

The speaker discussed the challenges of social media. She pointed out that we have to be careful what we post online, since articles, photos and actions recorded on You Tube, for example, will stay online forever. The effects are long-lasting and non-retractable.

EASTER AT MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH PARISH

The Mary Mother of the Church Circle of BF Resort Village, Las Pinas City figured very actively in the celebration of Easter in the parish sponsoring various events on Easter Sunday, April 16, 2017. The Squirettes of Mary took part in the traditional Salubong as angels rendering songs and dancing during the Easter procession. Later in the morning, they treated children of the parish to an Easter Egg Hunt with prizes given to the kids.



Squirettes of Mary as angels during the “Salubong”



Participants in the Easter Egg Hunt and their sponsors.



Ms. Che Che Lazaro (2nd from right) receives a bouquet of flowers after her talk. With her are, from left: Sisters Linda Chincuanco, Sonia Manlapig and Lelita Guzman of Risen Christ Circle, VIR-Luzon Sis. Ruby Macario and Parañaque Diocesan Regent Sis. Juliet Cruz.

She then clarified what we mean by “media”. We normally think of media as TV, radio and newspapers, but media also includes posters, comics, letters that you send and receive, phones and the internet. Media is a venue for communication.

Ms. Lazaro said that television and radio stations are traditional media. There are over 600 radio stations in the country, yet the majority of people only listen to a few of these. The major TV stations in the Philippines are ABS-CBN, GMA 7 and Channel 5. People get addicted to TV and radio; but they are “idiot boxes”, since you cannot talk or argue with them.

The “New Media” is simply old media that’s been retrofitted, for example, digital newspapers on cell phones. A subset of the new media is Social Media which is interactive. You can talk back. You can post live shots and stream content.

She cited some statistics to stress how Social Media has taken center stage. The Philippine population as of the last count was 101 million. Of these, 47 million are internet users. Of our population, 49% live in cities and 38% rely on social media for their news. In 2011, the Philippines had been named the Social Media Capital of the world. We are addicted to our phones. People used to spend an average of 35 hours a week watching TV. As of 2017, that has gone down to 21 hours, due to a shift to Facebook, computers, smart phones and tablets.

People talk about newspapers dying. Magazines are going digital. We rely on TV which sources material from radio, movies and theater. TV has a sense of immediacy, even if news is a repeat of earlier news info.

Ms. Lazaro mentioned some good points of social media. These are:

1. It democratizes access. It is available to the general public, all ages, any sex, poor or rich. There is live seamless contact across countries through Skype, Viber, FaceTime. We have so many countrymen abroad.
2. It is helpful in emergencies such as natural disasters and terrorist attacks. The information is immediate and live. People can provide news updates. Facebook Safety Check and Google Finder help families find each other in emergency situations. It also helps in gathering support and funds.

The bad points:

1. There are no guards. Social media has changed the way we communicate. Now everybody is a communicator..Everybody has his own version of the truth. Facebook provides anonymity. You can create a fake profile and post fake information.
2. Identity theft and credit card theft. This can happen when you click on links on purportedly valid e-mails from providers, e.g., Amazon, Yahoo, etc.
3. Phishing – this is when someone uses your identity to post information in your name.
4. Fake News – This is a kind of propaganda to promote sales of various items, or to spread false information. These are articles that set out to deceive. Fake news is like gossip; there are a few facts but the rest of it is speculative. Fake news supposedly comes from a “legitimate” web source.

How then do we detect what is fake and what is real? Ms. Lazaro gave a few tips:

1. Be skeptical. Question the information. Is this the first time you’re hearing about this piece of news? If so, it could be fake.
2. Look closely at the url (universal resource locator) which is the web address. It should end in .com., .org, net, ph.
3. Investigate the source. Is it reliable? If the website is unknown to you, click on “About Us”, which normally appears on the top part of the page. Anonymous sources are not reliable.
4. Watch for formatting and inspect the dates. Wrong grammar is a red flag.
5. Consider the photos used. Is it a joke?

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From the Diocese of Imus (Region V)

STO. NINO DE MOLINO CIRCLE TEACHES BASIC CATECHISM, PRAYERS TO CHILDREN

By Sis. Inday Ramos, Regent, Diocese of Imus

In line with this year's theme of Communion with Communities, the Sto. Nino de Molino Circle, in cooperation with the Pastoral Council of Meadowville Subd. in Bacoor, Cavite headed by Ms. Connie Servidad and Sis. Jocelyn Fria conducted basic catechism classes and Holy Rosary prayers to indigent children ages 4 to 14 years old.

When the classes started last May 10, 2017, nobody among the children can recite the Holy Rosary prayers and some did not even know how to hold the rosary beads. The DMI sisters and Squirettes taught them the basics. They also taught the children the life story of Jesus through the mysteries, some even becoming teary-eyed as they listened to the suffering and crucifixion of the Lord. The Ten Commandments and the seven sacraments were also part of their catechism lesson. At the end of the program, many of the children can already pray the rosary.

The classes were held with Sisters Lydia Limcolioc, Virgie Inigo, Jo Fria, Gilda Serneo Siony Merhan, Tess



The DMI sisters of Sto. Nino de Molino Circle with the children in the catechism class.

Guerrero and Inday Ramos composing the catechetical team.

The Graduation Ceremony was held last June 3, and children who were able to memorize the prayers, scored high in the written exams and with perfect attendance received medals donated by Sis. Cora Zabala.. School supplies from the Parish Pastoral Council were also given to them.

Parish Priest Fr. Reuel Castaneda thanked and congratulated the Sto. Nino de Molino Circle for another successful project.

CORRECTION

The article titled "DMI Septuagenarians' Day Outing" on page 13 of the January-March 2017 issue of the DMI Newsette was written by SIS. PRECY DE LOS REYES of Our Lady Queen of Peace Circle, Queen's Row, Bacoor, Cavite.



The septuagenarian sisters of Our Lady Queen of Peace Circle.

From the Diocese of San Pablo (Region VI)

"PRO-LIFE IN THE LIGHT OF THE FATIMA MESSAGES"

- A REGION VI DIOCESAN SEMINAR

*By Sis. Fortunata Aquino,
Regional Correspondent*

The Diocesan Pro-Life Committee of Region VI, Diocese of San Pablo in collaboration with the Pagmamahal sa Kapwa Foundation, Inc. (PSKFI) conducted a seminar on "Pro-Life in the Light of the Fatima Messages" on April 29, 2017 at the Angela de Lucia de Rosas Chapel in Mayondon, Los Banos, Laguna.

The guest speaker was Bro. Vincent Aranas, custodian of the Missionary Pilgrim Image of Our Lady of Fatima and board member, Rosary for Life Philippines. Diocesan Regent Sis. Loreta Santos led the DMI delegation from the different vicariates of the Diocese. The members of the PSKFI and the Block Rosary Group of Mayondon also attended the activity. The talk highlighted the messages of Our Lady in Fatima which redounded to the reparation of sins and conversion of sinners.

The seminar coincided with the formal turn-over of the image of the Immaculate Heart of Our Lady of Fatima to the Angela de Lucia de Rosas Chapel/PSKFI,

with Sis. Norma Eusebio, DMI Diocesan Pro-Life coordinator as custodian. The sacred image is one of the five images from Portugal which were given to the Philippines by the Apostolate of Our Lady of Fatima. This also delegated the responsibility to introduce the blessed image to the different parishes in Laguna in coordination with the DMII Diocese of San Pablo. A Certificate of Custodianship was also awarded during the turn-over ceremony.

According to Bro. Vincent, introducing the Blessed Mother is a "grass-root level" apostolate. The ultimate aim is to teach the members of the family how to pray the Holy Rosary together. A prayer guide "The Pilgrim Virgin's Scripture-Based Home Visitation Program" will be used during the home visits to the different parishes in Laguna. The Jubilee Prayer of Consecration (see back page) will also be recited. Our inspiration in this apostolate is the message of Our Lady "My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge and the way that will lead you to God."



Seminar speaker Bro. Vincent speaks before DMIs of the Diocese of San Pablo and members of PSKFI and the Mayondon Block Rosary Group.



The Certificate of Custodianship of the image of the Immaculate Heart of Our Lady of Fatima to Sis. Norma Eusebio by Bro. Vincent in the presence of Fr. Rico Villareal, Diocesan Regent Sis. Loreta Santos and Newsette Correspondent Sis. Fortunata Aquino.

From the Archdiocese of Zamboanga & Prelature of Isabela de Basilan

PILGRIM IMAGE OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA VISITS ZAMBOANGA

*By Sis. Pinky Saavedra, Diocesan Regent,
Archdiocese of Zamboanga*

In celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the Fatima Apparitions, the World Apostolate of Fatima of the Philippines has been bestowed its own pilgrim image of Our Lady of Fatima from Fatima, Portugal. The image visited Zamboanga from March 31 to April 3, 2017 and was welcomed with a Holy Mass on the first day at the Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Manicahan, Zamboanga City. A prayer vigil spearheaded by the DMI Diocesan officers followed afterwards, participated by various religious organizations in the parish.



The pilgrim image of Our Lady of Fatima stands on the altar. . . as prayer vigils are held by the DMIs of the Archdiocese of Zamboanga.

On April 1, the image was transported to the Metropolitan Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception where the prayer vigils continued during which the different circles in the Archdiocese took turns in conducting the prayers.

A send-off Mass was celebrated on the last day of Our Lady of Fatima's visit. The visit helped enhance faith and promote deeper devotion to Our Lady as the centennial anniversary of her apparitions in Fatima is being celebrated.

“DIA DE MUJERES” HELD TO CELEBRATE WOMEN’S MONTH

*By Sis. Ellenor Velasco,
Diocesan Scribe*

The DMI sisters of the Archdiocese of Zamboanga celebrated Women's Day on March 8, 2017 by participating in the “Dia de Mujeres” held at the KCC Carpark at 6:30 a.m. The theme was “We Make Change Work for Women”.

Twelve women shared their experiences in implementing change in their workplaces to show that women can do what men do, thus serving as inspiration to those who attended the activity. The event ended with a zumba session.



The DMI sisters gather at the KCC Carpark for the “Dia de Mujeres.”

ZAMBO SQUIRETTES

Hold Summer Sportsfest

By Sis. Ellen Velasco, Diocesan Scribe

Last May 14, 2017, the Squirettes of Mary of the Archdiocese of Zamboanga had their SMI Sportsfest held at the ICES Gymnasium. This yearly activity is held to develop leadership skills and camaradeie among the Squirettes.

The Mother of Mercy Circlette hosted the Sportfest with the guidance of the DMI Mother of Mercy Circle. Nine circlettes participated in the event represented by 129 Squirettes.

The Nuestra Sra. del Pilar Circlete emerged as the 2017 Sportsfest Over-all Champion.

Close in the heels of their Sportsfest, they also attended the SMI 16th Biennial Convention in Cebu City on May 20-22 with their respective Chairpersons for Youth Welfare and SMI Lady Counselors.

A new SMI circlette, the St. Therese Circlette was also organized in May, 2017 at Mampang Parish.



The DMI Mother of Mercy Circle and SMI Mother of Mercy Circlette of Divine Mercy Parish, hosts of the sportsfest.



The Squirettes at play during the Sportsfest.



Sportsfest Over-all Champion, the Nuestra Senora del Pilar Circlette.

Symposium on the Challenges... from page 19

If we become more vigilant, more thoughtful, then we can prevent bad news from entering our homes. We should be aware of “news” sites that are known to be fake news sites. We should share posts responsibly. Ms. Lazaro recommends correcting a friend who posts incorrect information, instead of automatically deleting him or her from your contacts.

The talk ended with an open forum. Among the questions asked were how to prevent cyber bullying. Young kids have committed suicide due to cyber

bullying. Many attempts have been done by schools to warn students. This is an ongoing problem. It was recommended to engage “bashers” to try and influence them positively. However, she said, “Engage with class, not with crass.”

Sis. Sonia Manlapig, in her closing remarks, thanked Ms. Lazaro for a very enlightening media symposium and likewise thanked Diocesan Regent Sis. Juliet Cruz for inviting DMI sisters from the other circles in the Diocese of Paranaque to attend the event.

JUBILEE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

To the Pilgrim Image of Our Lady of Fatima



Hail, Mother of the Lord,
Virgin Mary, Queen of the Rosary of Fatima!
Blessed among all women,
you are the image of the Church dressed in
the Paschal light,
you are the honour of our people,
you are the triumph over the mark of evil.

Prophecy of the merciful Love of the Father,
Teacher of the Annunciation of the Good
News of the Son,
Sign of the burning Fire of the Holy Spirit,
teach us, in this valley of joys and sorrows,
the eternal truths that the Father reveals to
the little ones.

Show us the strength of your mantle of pro-
tection
in your Immaculate Heart,
be the refuge of sinners
and the way that leads to God.

In unity with my brethren,
In Faith, Hope and Love,
I surrender myself to you.
In unity with my brethren, through you, I
consecrate myself to God,
O Virgin of the Rosary of Fatima.
And thus surrounded by the Light that comes
from your hands,
I will give Glory to the Lord for ever and ever.
Amen.