

DMI NEWSETTE

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SPECIAL 40TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE ISSUE

Daughters of Mary Immaculate International Turns 40

*Culminating Activity of
the 21st DMII Biennial Convention in Baguio City*





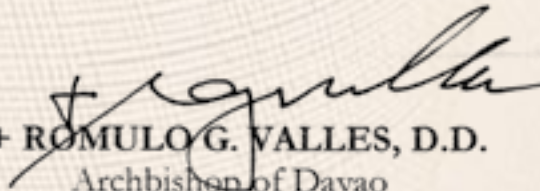
MESSAGE

My warm greetings to the members, staff, and officers of the **Daughters of Mary Immaculate International** on your 21st Biennial Convention and 40th Founding Anniversary on 18-20 May 2018!

I celebrate with all of you as you thank God for the wonders He has done for you over the years, even as I am inspired by your theme, "Living Mary's Love, Compassion, Care Through DMII's Presence and Mission... 40 Years and Counting!", which highlights your affection and devotion to the blessed Virgin Mary, our Mother.

As you gather on this your 21st Biennial Convention, at the same time your 40th Foundation Anniversary, I enjoin you, on this Year of the Clergy and Consecrated Persons (2018) in the Catholic Church here in the Philippines, to be actively involved in the evangelizing mission of the Church, and together let us share in the life and work of our respective families and communities by proclaiming the Good News, Jesus Himself, in this complex and changing world.

God bless you all!


+ ROMULO G. VALLES, D.D.
Archbishop of Davao
CBCP President

Message from the International Chaplain



My dearest Daughters of Mary Immaculate,

There is reason to rejoice as the Daughters of Mary Immaculate International (DMII) reaches its fortieth year of existence. It means that God has favored this organization with His grace and blessings. It is only appropriate, therefore, to give thanks and praise to the Lord for His goodness to us.

Every DMI on this occasion needs to go down on her knees and express her gratitude to God for calling her to be part of this organization. It is God's gift of love to her and a veritable source of meaning of her life.

Second, every DMI must realize that her identity is real – that she is a daughter of Mary, the Immaculate Virgin and Mother of Jesus. Mary's life was focused on Jesus and His mission. She believed in Jesus more than anyone else. She followed Jesus and did every teaching that He preached. She was full of grace because of her total faithfulness to Jesus. As a daughter of Mary, a DMI has to be faithful to the example of Mary at any time in any occasion anywhere.

Thirdly, every DMI needs to share God's blessings to all people through the sustained growth of the DMII's Mission Thrusts. Count the number of people we serve. That will indicate how passionate we are in our mission. Again, it is good to remember that it is not our mission. It is God's and we are only His hands.

Beloved daughters, 40 years is but a milestone in a life that must continue to surge forward, stronger and more meaningful with Jesus at the head and Mary at our side.

To one and all, CONGRATULATIONS and MABUHAY! God bless you!

Sincerely in our Lord,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "F. Jeronimo Ma. J. Cruz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

REV. FR. JERONIMO MA. J. CRUZ
DMII International Chaplain

From the International Regent



Dear Daughters of Mary Immaculate,

I was an unbelieving and hesitant International Regent but was strengthened by the inspiring song of Mary, “My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior, for He has looked with favor on His lowly servant.”

In the course of my two-year term as the leader of this organization, I have seen with my own eyes how our missions as Daughters of Mary Immaculate have become relevant to our present situation in these pressing and changing times.

You have made my term as International Regent very meaningful and fruitful. My service for others has lent new meaning in my life. You have taught me service beyond self.

Thank you, my dear DMI sisters, for being living models before my eyes how daunting tasks become attainable because of strong faith in the Lord and our Mother Mary.

Words cannot express my happiness at the embodiment of friendship, unity, humility, charity, and sanctity in you.

Every day, throughout our 40 years of existence, we in the Daughters of Mary Immaculate live Mary’s love, compassion and care.

Ours is a love that binds. Our fervent devotion to Our Blessed Mother has made us, her daughters, united.

Let us celebrate our 40th founding anniversary with fervor and prayers. Let our 2000 Hail Marys resound throughout the country and other parts of the world, and strengthen more and more our faith, love and devotion.

May our 21st Biennial Convention be a venue for cultivating new friendships and strengthening and renewing old bonds, all in the spirit of love.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Rosalinda C. Pimentel', written in a cursive style.

SIS. ROSALINDA C. PIMENTEL
International Regent



Celebrating a Milestone

It was thus far the largest gathering of the Daughters of Mary Immaculate International.

The 21st DMII Biennial Convention held at the CAP-John Hay Trade & Cultural Center in Baguio City last May 18 to 20, 2018 gathered some 2,000 delegates from all over the country.

It was a milestone event for the organization as it celebrated its 40th (Ruby) Anniversary, the culmination of a year-long program of activities for the event.

The convention opened on the afternoon of May 18. The delegates started arriving in the morning and the lobby

was a beehive of activities as delegates lined up to register and secure their convention kits and renew friendship with sisters they hadn't seen for quite some time.

While the registration was going on, the DMII International Officers and Board gathered at the Conference Room for their 2nd Quarter Board members meeting. As the term of the incumbent Board will expire on December 31, 2018, the incoming Board members were welcomed to the meeting. Dropping in during the meeting was Past CBCP President Bishop Nereo Odchimar, DD, currently the apostolic administrator of the Diocese of Tandag.

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The CAP Convention Hall is readied for the 2,000 DMI delegates.



The registration of convention delegates



The DMI International Board in session



Bishop Nereo Odchimar and Fr. Jerome Cruz with the International Officers & Board

The Opening Ceremonies

The marching of the ceremonial guides at the center aisle of the convention hall signaled the start of the opening ceremonies - the enthronement and consecration of the image of the Blessed Virgin Mary. International Chaplain Fr. Jerome Cruz and International Regent Sis. Rosalinda “Lelies” Pimentel guided the andas moving the image to the altar on one side of the stage. Candles and flowers were offered by the past and present International Board members as well as the convention hosts.

Sisters from the Diocese of Malolos served as animators while the delegates sang the DMI Hymn.

International Regent Sis Lelies formally opened the session following the official welcome by Vicarial Regent Sis. Marlin Abratique of the Diocese of Baguio, the convention host.

The Kalinga Folkloric Troupe, a group of cultural dancers from the Baguio City National High School, performed a welcome dance featuring the various tribal dances in the upland areas of Northern Luzon.



Part of the DMI historical exhibit at the convention hall lobby

A Concelebrated Mass with Bishop Odchimar as main celebrant followed. Co-celebrants were Fr. Jerome Cruz and Fr. Reynaldo Naresma.

The delegates welcomed Ilocos Norte Congressman Rogelio Farinas, House majority floor leader, who arrived with Surigao del Sur Congressman Johnny Pimentel after the Mass.

An award of appreciation was given to Congressman Farinas for authoring a bill making December 8, feast of the Immaculate Conception, as a national holiday. It is now known as R.A. 10966.



The ceremonial guides prepare for the opening ceremony.



The candle and flower bearers



Fr. Jerome Cruz and Sis. Lelies Pimentel accompany the image of the Blessed Mother on her andas to the altar at one side of the stage.



The Parade of Colors



PARADE OF CIRCLES



REGION I



REGION II



REGION III



REGION IV



REGION V





PARADE OF CIRCLES



REGION VI



REGION VII



REGION VIII



REGION IX



REGION X



REGION XI



REGION XII



REGION XIII



REGION XIV





Convention delegates fill the convention hall including the balcony.

Sisters Lorie Manalansan of the Diocese of Kalookan and Rose Enriquez of the Diocese of Novaliches, masters of ceremonies

Concelebrated Mass with Bishop Nereo Odchimar, Fr. Jerome Cruz and Fr. Reynaldo Naresma

Past International Regents and DMI Board as offerors

Rep. Rogelio Farinas receives an award of appreciation from IR Sis. Lelies and Fr. Jerome in the presence of Past IRs and Rep. Johnny Pimentel.

Bishop Victor Bendico, keynote speaker, receives a token of appreciation from Fr. Jerome, Sis. Lelies and Sis. Ruby Macario.

The Keynote Speech

Most Rev. Victor B. Bendico, bishop of the Diocese of Baguio, was the keynote speaker on the convention theme “Living Mary’s Love, Compassion and Care through DMII’s Presence and Mission . . . 40 Years and Counting”.

Bishop Bendico was introduced by Sis. Lorie Manalansan of the Diocese of Kalookan. Prior to his designation as Bishop of Baguio, he served as apostolic vicar and rector of the Immaculate Conception Metropolitan Cathedral in Roxas City.

The bishop congratulated the DMII for celebrating a significant milestone – its 40th Founding Anniversary. He said that 1978, the year the Daughters of Isabella was renamed by the late Jaime Cardinal Sin as the Daughters of Mary Immaculate was equally significant to the Catholic Church as it was the Year of the Three

Popes – Pope Paul VI, Pope John Paul I and Pope John Paul II when the College of Cardinals convened three times to elect the Vicar of Christ. Pope Paul VI and Pope John Paul I passed away in the same year. On Oct. 16, 1978, Cardinal Karol Wojtyla of Poland got elected, the first non-Italian pope who took the name Pope John Paul II. Now a saint, St. John Paul was one of the longest-reigning popes in the history of the Catholic Church.

Bishop Bendico said that Cardinal Sin’s move was an auspicious one when the DMI was mandated with its mission thrusts in response to various societal issues and concerns that up till now are relevant.

As the Year of the Clergy and Consecrated Persons is celebrated this year, Bishop Bendico called on the DMIs as servant-leaders to keep faith with Mary’s Magnificat, serving God and country with unceasing perseverance and patience.

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Fellowship Night

Excitement built up as the evening approached and the delegates went back to their hotels to prepare for Fellowship Night. The motif of the night was throwback and delegates came in attires fashionable during the 40's to the 90's.

After dinner, the program started with an opening dance by the Diocese of Baguio. Awards were then given to the Past International Regents and International Chaplain and International Regent in recognition for their invaluable contribution to the growth and progress

that the organization has attained through 40 years of service to God and country. (See separate pictorial on Tribute to Past International Regents on page 15.)

Special awards were also given to delegates 80 years old and above for their loyalty in serving the DMII for many years. Diocese of Imus from Region V presented the closing dance.

Then came the much awaited contest on Regional Presentations, the piece d' resistance during every DMI Fellowship Night, The contest was won by Region VII – first place, Region III, second place and Region IV – third place. (See separate pictorial on Regional Dance Presentations on page 16.)



The Fellowship Night



Fr. Jerome and the past IRs during Fellowship Night. From left: Sisters Perla Arguelles and Lelies, Fr. Jerome and Sisters Lyding Ramirez and Myrna Zapanta.



The past IRs and International Board perform a surprise dance number.

Day 2 (May 19) – Session Proper

The program for Day 2 was quite heavy consisting of talks by invited guest speakers, reports of the International Mission Chairpersons, the plenary session and the election of the 2019-2020 International Officers and Board..

Dr. Leonarda Aguinalde, Ph.D, vice-president for Administration of the University of the Cordilleras, was the day's first guest speaker. She

was a consistent scholar and student leader during her schooldays. She said that her name Leonarda stands for “baby lion”.

Speaking on “Women’s Role in Today’s Society”, Dr. Leonarde coined an intriguing acronym for her talk – MURDER – A Systems Approach to Serving God Like Mama Mary.

Her advocacy calls for POSITIVIZING every facet of one’s life, meaning “stop complaining!”



Morning session guest speaker, Dr. Leonarda Aguinalde of the University of the Cordilleras

MURDER stands for the following:

- M** – Monitor your actions everyday. A simple act of caring creates an endless stream of kindness. “Pay forward. When you don’t give up, you can never fail.”
- U** – Understand people and situations. Have compassion.
- R** – Resolve, to sacrifice. Character is the mother of action; gratefulness is the mother of all virtues.
- D** – Digest. See facts as they are; think and learn to accept them.
- E** – Expand – Care about yourself, your family, community and country.
- R** – Review – Self-examination gives one the chance to reflect on how one is living her life. “An unexamined life is not worth living.”

Dr. Aguinalde said that being like Mama Mary is a contact sport, meaning immersion in the DMI missions. Her parting words were: “Life is uncertain. Enjoy every minute of the day as if it were your last. Be free to choose and be consistent.” She ended posing this question: “Who is writing your script?”

DMI Mission Reports

The reports of the International Chairpersons for the Five Missions took the rest of the morning session.

For Pro-Life, Sis. Cora Afuang reported that most circles launched and carried out pro-life projects and activities in compliance with the prescribed program from National. She also called for continued vigilance against the anti-life and anti-family bills now being debated in Congress as well as for care and protection of the environment.

Sis. Milde Tong for Upliftment of Women Workers batted for woman power in changing the order of society, because, quoting from British novelist, playwright and writer William Golding, she said that “women are foolish to pretend they are equal to men, they are far superior and always have been . . . she multiplies and enlarges what is given to her.”

Recognizing the great potential of women to be agents of change, Sis. Milde suggested ways to empower them – through self-awareness, education and information, gaining experience, and formation which the Church and various sectors of the community are able to provide. She thanked the DMI circles all over the country for being at the forefront in implementing the programs prescribed by the National Mission Chair.

Morality in Media Chair Sis. Edna May Landicho suggested “taming the beast of technology, especially among the youth” by offering several tips such as “going back to basics” and utilizing social media as well as other media outlets effectively and for the common good.

The report of Sis. Luz Binoya for Assistance to Prisoners’ Families & their Victims centered on

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Mission Chairperson Reports: Sis Cora Afuang for Pro-Life, Sis. Milde Tong for Upliftment of Women Workers, Sis. Edna May Landicho for Morality in Media, Sis. Luz Binoya for Assistance to Prisoners’ Families & their Victims and Sis. Cathy Pineda for Youth Welfare

The DMII 21st Biennial Convention... from page 11

scholarships given to children of prisoners and victims by many circles and encouraged more DMIs to sponsor the education of more children. She cited Region VII as having the most number of scholars.

Sis. Cathy Pineda of Youth Welfare called for the formation of more SMI circlettes, the continuous training of young Squirettes to become future DMIs through youth camps, area conferences and seminars such as personality and spiritual development. She announced the forthcoming Visayas Area Conference to be held in Tigbauan, Iloilo on May 26-27, 2018 and called on SMI Lady Counselors in the Visayas to send delegates to the conference.

Providing lunch to 2,000 delegates could be a yeoman's job but the Convention Working Committee did it: Packed lunches were provided at the West Wing of the convention hall while the KC Band of Brothers played beautiful music that set some eyes in tears as the delegates once again heard their favorite and well-loved songs. Jamming with the band was Sis. Millet Jaurigue, past regent of Our Lady of Atonement Circle of Baguio, who dished out songs like a pro.

The afternoon session's first speaker was Fr. Victor Munar, pastor of St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Baguio who told his audience to keep the Filipino character of compassion. Love, he said, is doing ordinary things in an extraordinary way. These virtues are first learned in the home. Cellphones destroy family life. "Give your heart to the family; be more aware of the benefits and pitfalls of mass media."



Bro. Jun Banaag, O.P., a Dominican lay brother who hosts the long-running counseling show on DZMM was the next speaker. His program, "Dr. Love" is a CMMA Hall of Famer as the best counseling program on radio. His topic was "Gender, Age, and Generation Issues", a very frank discussion of the realities and woes of married life culled from his years and years of counseling experience.

"It is a diverse world we are living in now," he said. "When diversity leads to division, a great problem ensues. One loses his spiritual equilibrium and new norms present themselves."

Bro. Jun, a Marian devotee, traced the characteristics of different generations contributing to the diversities now present in our society:

Silent Generation- Those born and grew up in the years 1925 to 1945 worked hard, were quiet and believed that children are not to be heard.

Baby Boomers – Those who were born and grew up between 1946 and 1964. They are more demonstrative and less quiet.

Gen X, Y and Z – They are active and involved. They join rallies and demonstrations. They started acquiring new work ethics.

Millennials – They are gender-sensitive, giving birth to the LGBT community.

At present, the long-existing accepted norms of behavior are being disregarded, labeling such disregard as **alternative lifestyle**. Perversion and killing the unborn have become **personal choice**. Divorce will start the destruction of the family.



"The Filipino people are waiting for the Mother Church to take a stand against these current issues and for social justice." In ending, he called on the DMIs to stand up and protect the family.

The plenary session consisted of reports of accomplishments by the present DMII International Officers and Board, among which, as reported by Sis. Lelies Pimentel, are the acquisition and renovation of the new Mary's House in Lopez Village

Afternoon session guest speakers Fr. Victor Munar and Bro. Jun Banaag



The plenary session which IR Sis. Lelies presides.

in Parañaque City, the rules and regulations governing implementation of the DMI Calamity Fund, the issuance of ID cards to DMI members with accident insurance cover, and the formation of additional committees to further improve operations. These are Membership & Recruitment, Finance, Pilgrimage, Calamity, and the latest, a Committee on International Affairs to develop and organize DMI circles abroad. Sis. Juliet Cruz, diocesan regent of the Diocese of Parañaque, was designated as its chairperson.

The minutes of the 2017 general membership meeting held on May 13, 2017 in Antipolo City was read by International Secretary Sis. Theresa Curia which the body approved. International Treasurer Sis. Elvie Arambulo reported the organization's financial

operations while International Advocate Sis. Myrna Trinidad read the Board resolutions which the body later ratified.

Past International Regent Sis. Myrna Zapanta headed the Election Committee composed of Past IRs. Heading the list of elected 2019-2020 officers is IVR-Luzon and Region V Representative Sis. Ruby Macario. Fr. Jerome led the incoming International Officers and Board in a prayer and later blessed them. (See separate story on page 19.)

The Star Circle Awards were given after dinner. Recipients of the awards were 18 Gold Star and 27 Silver Star awardees. (See list on page 20.)

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The Election Committee headed by Sis. Myrna Zapanta conducts the election of 2019-2020 DMII officers.



The Star Circle awards

Day 3 (May 20) – Convention Closing

A concelebrated Mass opened Day 3, the last day of the convention. Main mass celebrant was Most Rev. Jose Elmer Mangalinao, DD, auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Lingayen-Dagupan. Fr. Jerome and Fr. Jupiter Morales were his co-celebrants. In his homily, Bishop Mangalinao, a charismatic priest, had a lively interaction with the DMIs as he proclaimed that life is a gift that must be used according to God's will. Like Mary, DMIs must always be available to God's purpose.

After the Mass, the delegates voted for Iloilo as venue of the 22nd Biennial Convention in 2020.

Sis. Ruby Macario, in her closing remarks, thanked the delegates for their very active participation and the

hard-working Convention Working Committee who labored long and hard to make the event the success that it was.

While the image of the Blessed Mother was being brought back to the end of the hall during the recessional, delegates waved ruby-colored ribbons to bid her good-bye; some even shedding tears as she passed by.

A milestone DMII event had just ended. But a new beginning is set to unfold: preparations for the 22nd Biennial Convention will soon start with the Visayas Area being given the torch as convention host . . . and the DMI sisters all over the country looking forward to meeting new-found friends and sisters once again. In the meantime, they will continue pursuing work in the Five Missions to make their parish communities a better place and a Christ-centered one through Mama Mary.



Bishop Jose Elmer Mangalinao, DD, Sunday Mass celebrant with Fr. Jerome and Fr. Jupiter Morales



Convention closing remarks by IVR-Luzon Sis. Ruby Macario



Delegates bid good-bye to Mama Mary during the recessional.

DMII HONORS PAST INTERNATIONAL REGENTS



Plaques of appreciation to be awarded to the Past International Regents.

Part of the culminating activity of the 40th Anniversary of the DMII was the tribute given to past International Regents during Fellowship Night on May 18 for their invaluable service of leading the organization during their respective terms. Present to receive their awards were Sisters Amy Veloso, Beling Panganiban, Myrna Zapanta, Perla Arguelles, Jean Velarde, Lyding Ramirez, Mila Villanueva and Pureza Guzman. International Chaplain Fr. Jerome Cruz and IR Sis. Lelies Pimentel were also given awards. The honorees were serenaded by Sis. Millet Jaurigue, past Regent of Our Lady of Atonement Circle of Baguio.



Sis. Amy Veloso (at center) receives her award from Sisters Remy Agosto, Region I RR and Virgie Terrado, Region II RR.



Sis. Myrna Zapanta (2nd from left) with presentors Sis. Thess Curia, Region IV RR and Alma Cagampang of Region III and Sis. Perla Arguelles (2nd from right) with Sisters Elvie Arambulo, Region VI RR and Ruby Macario, IVR-Luzon.



Sis. Lyding Ramirez with presentors Sisters Laura Cespon, Region XIII RR and Tess Miranda of Region XII



Sis. Jean Velarde with Sis. Ruby. Seated at left are Sisters Perla Arguelles and Beling Panganiban. At the back are Sisters Elvie Arambulo and Fely Dollentas of Region VII.



Sis. Mila Villanueva (at center) with Sisters Laura Cespon and Angie Baes, Region XIV RR



Sis. Pureza Guzman receives her award from Sisters Cora Afuang, Edna May Landicho, and Luz Binoya, International Mission Chairpersons.



International Regent Sis. Lelies receives her award from Sisters Milde Tong, International Mission chair, Biennah Villanueva, SMI Coordinator for Luzon and Cathy Pineda of Youth Welfare.



Fr. Jerome Cruz receives his award from Sisters Sally Estrada, DMI Newsette editor, Annie Ty, SMI Coordinator for Mindanao and Myrna Trinidad, International Advocate.



Sis. Millet Jaurigue serenades the honorees.



The ceremonial candle blowing of the anniversary cake by the past International Regents

FELLOWSHIP NIGHT

A Night of Music and Dance



*Region VII,
1st prize winner*



*Region III,
second prize*



*Region IV,
third prize*



Region II



Region VI



Region IX



Region X



Region XI



Region XII



Region XIII



Region XIV



*Dance Exhibition
by Region V's
Diocese of Imus*



*Dance Exhibition
by Region IX*



The contest Board of Judges at work

2019-2020 DMII OFFICERS ELECTED

The election of the 2019-2020 DMII International Officers was held on May 19, 2018 with Past IR Sis. Myrna Zapanta , chair of the Election Committee, laying the ground rules for the conduct of the election. Composing the 2019-2020 International Officers and Board of Trustees are the following:

Sis. Ruby Macario	- International Regent
Sis. Milde Tong	- Int'l Vice-Regent-Luzon and Region V Representative
Sis. Yolly Dagandan	- Int'l Vice-Regent – Visayas and Region XI Representative
Sis. Tess Miranda	- Int'l Vice-Regent-Mindanao and Region XII Representative
Sis. Marlin Abratique	- Int'l Secretary & Region I Representative
Sis. Isabel Ticzon	- Int'l Treasurer and Region VI Representative
Sis. Hilaria Hipolito	- Region II Representative
Sis. Joann Dizon	- Region III Representative
Sis. Aida de la Cruz	- Region IV Representative
Sis. Fely Dollentas	- Region VII Representative
Sis. Zeny Sto. Tomas	- Region VIII Representative
Sis. Emma Victoria	- Region IX Representative
Sis. Asuncion Naraga	- Region X Representative
Sis. Luz Binoya	- Region XIII Representative
Sis. Nemie Gurdriel	- Region XIV Representative



*The newly-elected International Officers and Board of Trustees with IR
Sis. Lelies Pimentel and Fr. Jerome Cruz*

STAR CIRCLE AWARDS GIVEN TO OUTSTANDING DMII CIRCLES



A bountiful harvest of DMI circles was specially recognized during the 21st Biennial Convention held in Baguio City last May 18 to 20, 2018 for their outstanding achievements and exemplary performance during the year 2016-2017. Eighteen circles from all over the country received the Gold Star Circle Award and 27 circles received the Silver Star Circle Award. To all of them, CONGRATULATIONS!

GOLD Star Circle Awardees

QUEEN OF ANGELS CIRCLE

Diocese of Iba (Olongapo-Zambales)
Region III

STO. NINO DE MOLINO CIRCLE

Diocese of Imus
Region V

OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL CIRCLE

Archdiocese of Davao
Region XIII

ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS CIRCLE

Diocese of Antipolo
Region V

RISEN CHRIST CIRCLE

Diocese of Parañaque
Region V

OUR LADY OF PURIFICATION CIRCLE

Archdiocese of Zamboanga
Region XIV

MEDALLA MILAGROSA CIRCLE

Diocese of Cubao
Region V

OUR LADY OF THE LILIES CIRCLE

Diocese of Parañaque
Region V

SAN JOSE DE NAVOTAS CIRCLE

Diocese of Kalookan
Region V

SAGRADO CORAZON CIRCLE

Diocese of Cubao
Region V

STA. LUCIA CIRCLE

Diocese of Pasig
Region V

ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA CIRCLE

Archdiocese of Zamboanga
Region XIV

REGINA MUNDI CIRCLE

Diocese of Cubao
Region V

SAN SEBASTIAN CIRCLE

Diocese of San Jose (Mindoro Occ.)
Region VII

MATER DEI CIRCLE

Diocese of Novaliches
Region V

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE CIRCLE

Diocese of Imus
Region V

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CIRCLE

Diocese of Tandag (Surigao del Sur)
Region XII

ST. JOSEPH CIRCLE

Archdiocese of Zamboanga
Region XIV

STAR CIRCLE AWARDS GIVEN TO OUTSTANDING DMII CIRCLES

SILVER Star Circle Awardees

MORNING STAR CIRCLE

Diocese of Iba – Zambales
Region III

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CIRCLE

Archdiocese of San Fernando - Pampanga
Region III

ST. RAPHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CIRCLE

Diocese of Tarlac
Region III

QUEEN OF FLOWERS CIRCLE

Diocese of Malolos
Region IV

SAN JOSE ANG MANGGAGAWA CIRCLE

Diocese of Malolos
Region IV

ROSA MYSTICA CIRCLE

Diocese of Malolos
Region IV

HOLY MARY CIRCLE

Diocese of Malolos
Region IV

TOWER OF IVORY CIRCLE

Archdiocese of Palo
Region XI

MORNING STAR CIRCLE

Diocese of Malaybalay – Bukidnon
Region XII

SAGRADA FAMILIA CIRCLE

Diocese of Malaybalay – Bukidnon
Region XII

QUEEN OF DIVINE GRACE CIRCLE

Diocese of Butuan
Region XII

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CIRCLE

Archdiocese of Davao
Region XIII

ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE CIRCLE

Archdiocese of Davao
Region XIII

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CIRCLE

Diocese of South Cotabato
Region XIII

ST. GABRIEL OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS CIRCLE

Diocese of Antipolo
Region V

SAGRADA FAMILIA CIRCLE

Diocese of Cubao
Region V

NUESTRA SENORA DE NIEVA CIRCLE

Diocese of Kalookan
Region V

MOTHER OF DIVINE GRACE CIRCLE

Diocese of Kalookan
Region V

MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH CIRCLE

Diocese of Parañaque
Region V

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF KARANGALAN CIRCLE

Diocese of Pasig
Region V

STO. NINO DE KALIBO CIRCLE

Diocese of Kalibo
Region IX

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CIRCLE

Diocese of Iligan
Region XIV

OUR LADY OF FATIMA CIRCLE

Diocese of Iligan
Region XIV

OUR LADY OF FATIMA – PUTIK CIRCLE

Archdiocese of Zamboanga
Region XIV

OUR LADY OF PEACE & GOOD VOYAGE CIRCLE

Archdiocese of Zamboanga
Region XIV

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CIRCLE

Archdiocese of Zamboanga
Region XIV

SAN ISIDRO LABRADOR CIRCLE

Archdiocese of Zamboanga
Region XIV



THE HARD-WORKING

21st Biennial Convention Working Committee

**FLASH
BACK**
2016

It was on April 24, 2016 during the DMI Biennial Convention in Davao when then Region V Regional Representative and International Vice Regent for Luzon, Sis. Cora Afuang, announced the region's bid to host the 2018 DMI Biennial Convention. Majority of the delegates present voted to have Baguio City as the 2018 venue.

During the International Board Meeting on January 24, 2017, the Board approved the preliminary plans for the 2018 Biennial Convention and set the date on May 18-20, 2018. From then on, it was all systems go.



The 2018 Biennial Convention and 40th Founding Anniversary Celebration was a success. Over 1,960 attendees were there at the CAP Convention Center of Camp John Hay. On hindsight, this was because of tedious planning and a group of people who made a challenging task possible – our organizing committee.

In an article by Yuanyuan “YY” Zhou of the University of California, there are 5 reasons to say THANK YOU to event organizers.

Reason 1: They have to take care of many (really, MANY) things

Our organizers made sure that EVERY thing – big or small – was taken care of and in keeping with the 40th anniversary (ruby red being the color motif) and the convention theme: the speakers, the band, the choir, free-flowing coffee, water dispenser, red button pins and red ID laces, red convention bags, red pouches, red stampitas, programme/invitation, red rosary bracelets, red scarves, history walls for the lobby, exhibit of relics of religious and consecrated persons, tarpaulins for the canopy and the stage backdrop (which was THAT huge), the food, the limited Garden Wing dining table, chairs and space, the limited chairs

inside the convention center, the chair number-tags, the name plates, the awards, the plaques, the flowers, the candles, the mass paraphernalia, the carroza, Our Lady's image, gifts, the marshals' sashes and signages, the registration tables, the ambulance and medical kits, the coffee table book/souvenir program, the rest rooms, the projectors, the videos, the Powerpoint presentations, the flags, the dance music CDs and USBs, the script, the candies and cookies for the kits, the budget, and the most challenging of all – crowd control - and many, many more.

Reason 2: They didn't get much sleep before and during the event

There were two ocular visits to Baguio by the Region V team (not to mention one cancellation due to very bad weather) with call times as early as 3:00 a.m., to make it to Baguio by mid-morning, and the meetings with the Region I team till late in the evening.

The 2,000 convention bags, 2,000 rosary bracelets, 2,000 pouches, and 2,000 scarves in 21 balikbayan boxes were transported via Dangwa backloaded flower van midnight of May 16 and reached the convention center on May 17, where an assembly line was waiting to put all the items in 2,000 convention bags.

Reason 3: They have been stressed out for the past 6 months

The souvenir program was not just the regular souvenir program. It was an ambitious attempt to trace the 40-year journey of DMI and put in print highlights in its history in a hard-bound coffee table book. It took more than 6 months of research, especially coming from Newsette issues dating back from 1980 till 2017 and various sources – past officers and people who have been there in Antipolo 40 years ago, among others.

Reason 4: Many of them are just volunteers

The team was not your regular professional event planner. Most of them did not have experience in organizing big events. But they had one thing in common – the willingness to serve and be of use, in whatever way they can.

Reason 5: Your smile is their biggest reward

“After so much effort and so many sleepless nights, all they want to see is a smile on your face; and all they want to hear is your confirmation that you enjoyed the event.”

And here they are: members of the Organizing Committee:

Sis. Rosalinda Pimentel, International Regent

Host Region: Region V (**Sis. Ruby Macario**, Regional Representative)

Assisted by: Region I (**Sis. Remedios Agosto**, Regional Representative)

Program

Ceremonials

Singer

Food

Physical Arrangement

Documentation/Publication/

Souvenir Program/Coffeetable Book

Reception & Ushering

together with Sgt. at Arms

Finance & Registration

Awards & Prizes

Liturgy

Choir/Entertainment

Kit/Souvenirs

Manor Hotel Accommodation

First Aid

Exhibit/Convention Kit Transport

Graphic Arts / Videographer

Audio/Visual-in-charge

Emcees

Sis. Ruby Macario

Diocese of Cubao (**Sis. Biannah Villanueva**, **Sis. Beth Bongon**)

Sis. Millet Jaurigue

Diocese of Manila (**Sis. Lilia Mendoza**)

Diocese of Kalookan (**Sis. Cathy Pineda**,

Sis. Sylvia San Pedro, **Sis. Monic Bularan**)

Sis. Ruby Macario, **Sis. Cora Afuang**

Diocese of Novaliches (**Sis. Edna May Landicho**)

Diocese of Imus (**Sis. Inday Ramos**)

Sis. Ruby Macario, **Sis. Lydia Ordonez**, **Sis. Josie Halog**
with Diocese of Antipolo (**Sis. Ellen Malto**) at Registration

Sis. Ruby Macario, **Sis. Lydia Ordonez**

Diocese of Pasig (**Sis. Lina Reyes**),

Diocese of Parañaque (**Sis. Juliet Cruz**, **Sis. Sol Eugenio**)

Diocese of Baguio (**Sis. Marlyn Abratique**)

Diocese of Baguio, **Sis. Lydia Ordonez**, **Sis. Ruby Macario**

Sis. Ruby Macario, **Sis. Lydia Ordonez**, **Sis. Josie Halog**

Diocese of Baguio/ CAP Convention Center

Mr. Jesse Nell

Mr. Carlo Santos

Mr. Richard Oclares

Sis. Lorie Manalansan, **Sis. Rose Enriquez**



MOA FOR ACCIDENT INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR DMI MEMBERS INKED

A Memorandum of Agreement was signed on May 8, 2018 at Conti's Restaurant – Trinoma, Q. C. between the Daughters of Mary Immaculate International and Phil. British Assurance Company for a group accident insurance

coverage for all DMI members to be provided by the latter.

Each member is covered with P50,000 accident insurance and provided an identification card for an annual premium of P50.00.

The MOA was signed by IR Sis. Lelies Pimentel for the DMII and Sis. Rosario Cuyegkeng, president of Phil. British, with MACE Insurance Agency, a wholly-owned company of the Knights of Columbus Fraternal Association of the Phils., as agent.



Present during the MOA signing are, from left, seated: Bro. Joseph Teodoro, MACE Insurance Agency president; Sis. Thess Curia, DMI Int'l Secretary; Sis. Rosario Cuyegkeng, Phil. British Assurance president; IR Sis. Lelies Pimentel and Sis. Ruby Macario, IVR-Luzon. Standing, from left: Sis. Rachele Flores, Phil. British account executive, Bro. Basil Occeno MACE Ins. Agency manager, Sis. Tess Miranda Region XII RR, Sis. Cora Afuang, Pro-Life Chairperson, Sis. Sally Estrada, DMI Newsette editor, and Sis. Cathy Pineda, International Chairperson for Youth Welfare.



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Sis. Rosalinda C. Pimentel	- International Regent
Sis. Ruby P. Macario	- Vice-Int'l Regent - Luzon
Sis. Gloria C. Caminero	- Vice-Int'l Regent - Visayas
Sis. Angela L. Baes	- Vice-Int'l Regent - Mindanao
Sis. Ma. Theresa G. Curia	- International Secretary
Sis. Elvira S. Arambulo	- International Treasurer

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

DMI Newsette Editorial Board

Sis. Salvacion T. Estrada - Editor

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