



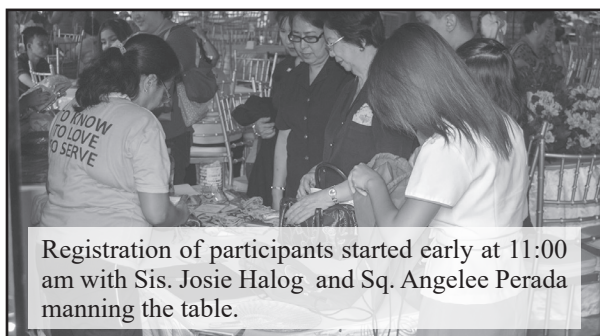
Squirettes of Mary Immaculate

SMI Luzon and Visayas Area Conferences

TWIN - FÊTE 2016

2nd Luzon Conference

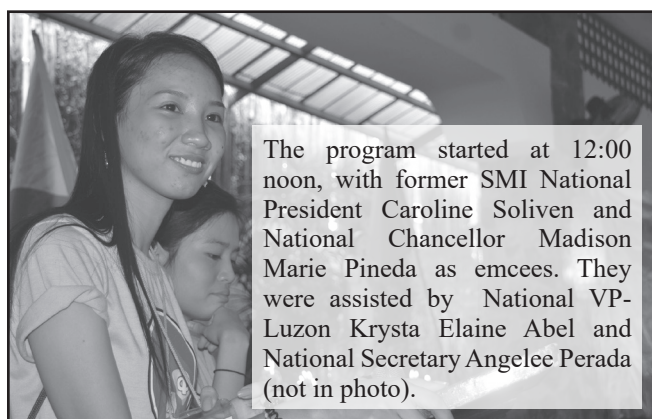
(The Eucharist and Family *(in the Jubilee Year of Mercy)*)



Registration of participants started early at 11:00 am with Sis. Josie Halog and Sq. Angelee Perada manning the table.



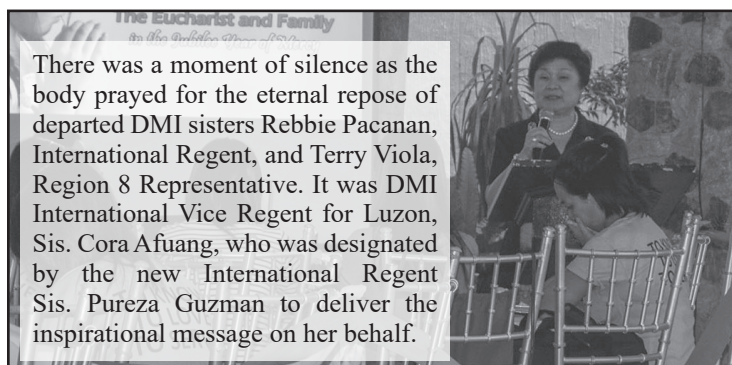
After the opening Enthronement and Consecration of the image of Our Mama Mary, the different circlette-participants were presented.



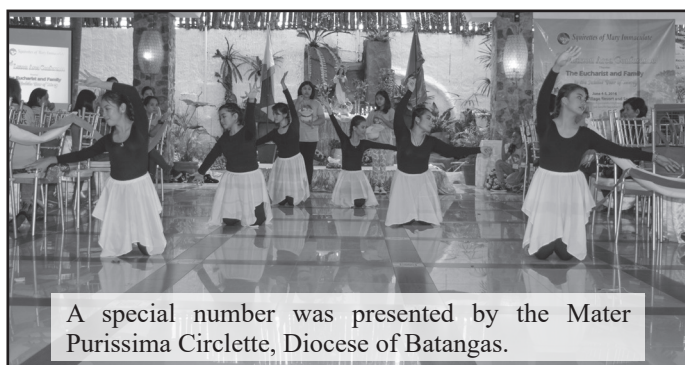
The program started at 12:00 noon, with former SMI National President Caroline Soliven and National Chancellor Madison Marie Pineda as emcees. They were assisted by National VP-Luzon Krysta Elaine Abel and National Secretary Angelee Perada (not in photo).



SMI's National President, Elaisa Marie Honculada, who came all the way from Mindanao, welcomed the delegates.



There was a moment of silence as the body prayed for the eternal repose of departed DMI sisters Rebbie Pacanan, International Regent, and Terry Viola, Region 8 Representative. It was DMI International Vice Regent for Luzon, Sis. Cora Afuang, who was designated by the new International Regent Sis. Pureza Guzman to deliver the inspirational message on her behalf.



A special number was presented by the Mater Purissima Circlette, Diocese of Batangas.

HOST REGIONS

Region 5 – Regional Representative: Sis. Cora Afuang
Luzon Area – SMI Luzon Coordinator: Sis. Ruby Macario

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Program, Budget and Finance	Sis. Cathy Pineda
	Sis. Ruby Macario
Logistics and Physical Arrangement	Sis. Sylvia San Pedro
	Sis. Cathy Pineda
Registration	Sis. Josie Halog
	Sq. Angelee Perada
Marshaling and Security	Sq. Krysta Elaine Abel
Ceremonials	Sq. Madison Marie Pineda
	Sis. Biannah Villanueva
Worship	Sis. Sis. Lina Reyes
Special Project	Sq. Krysta Elaine Abel
	Sq. Caroline Soliven
	Sis. Inday Ramos
	Sis. Sosing Racho

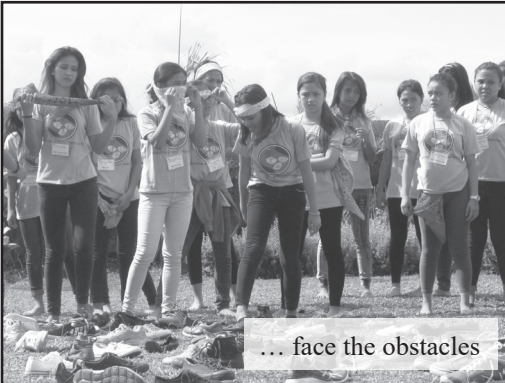
The SMIs were divided into 10 groups and, led by Mr. Jojie Juanerio (in striped shirt) from the San Jose Academy in Navotas, had their outdoor teambuilding activities.



Present and former SMI officers, helped by SMIs from the Dioceses of Cubao and Navotas, acted as Marshals.



For the Squirettes, it was time to rise above the challenges...



... face the obstacles



... search for the missing link



... and embrace the treasure before them



While the SMIs did their outdoor event, the DMIs led by incoming International Regent Sis. Lelis Pimentel had their zumba session Inside the conference hall.



The afternoon program was highlighted by a Eucharistic celebration led by DMI International Chaplain Rev. Fr. Jerome Cruz. With him in this photo (L-R): Sis. Lelis Pimentel, Sq. Elaisa Honculada, DMI Youth Welfare/SMI Chairperson Sis. Cathy Pineda, DMI office secretary Josie Halog, and SMI Luzon Coordinator Sis. Ruby Macario.



Delegates expressed their joy after the Mass and danced to their alert song, "Pray About Everything" before preparing for dinner.



During the evening fellowship, the different groups gave their presentations revolving around the conference theme, participated in contests like "bring me" and "which commercial is this" – with a twist, and danced the night away. Best in Costume was awarded to the Immaculate Concepcion Circlette of Karangalan (in photo) and a Certificate of Appreciation was handed to delegates from Mater Immaculata Circlette, who came all the way from Isabela.



Special guests dropped in at dinnertime to say hello: Sis. Juliet Cruz, DMI Chairperson for Upliftment of Women Workers (standing, right), Sis. Susan Honculada (seated, far left) from the Diocese of Butuan and mother of SMI President Elaisa, and Ms. Yen Ocampo, Writer for CBCP News, K of C News, The Cross (seated, far right), who spoke on Catholic Journalism the following day.

Judges for the evening group presentation were Sis. Susan Honculada, Ms. Yen Ocampo, and Incoming DMI International Regent, Sis. Lelis Pimentel (second from left, seated).



The morning after was highlighted by praise activities for the Lord at the garden of Bali Village Resort.



After the morning talk on Catholic journalism, the announcement of winners (the first prize going to the Violet team), the Recessional, and the Retirement of the Flags, all 183 participants posed for a souvenir shot. Kudos to the Squirettes and the Organizing Committee (inset).

2nd Visayas Conference

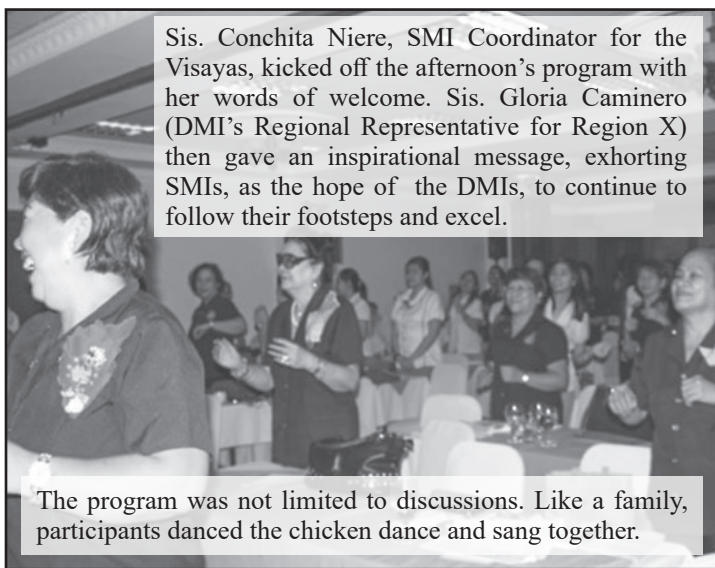
The Eucharist as the Center of the Youth's Aspirations in the Year of Mercy (Flowers in the Month of the Beautiful Mother)

By: Karla Marie Frances P. Niere

"To give worthy praise to the Lord's mercy, we united ourselves with our Immaculate Mother, for then our hymn would be more pleasing to Him, because she was chosen from among men and angels. Through her, as through a pure crystal, His mercy was passed onto us. Through her, man became pleasing to God; through her, streams of Grace flowed down upon us."

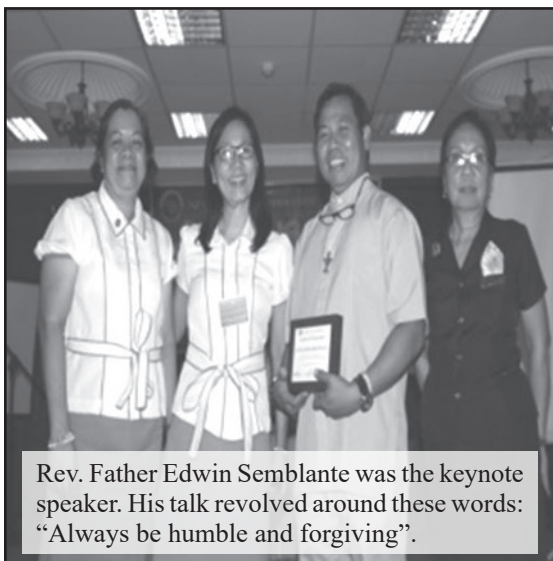


The 2nd SMI Visayas Area Conference began with the enthronement of our Blessed Virgin Mary, the parade of Colors and roll call of Circlettes.



Sis. Conchita Niere, SMI Coordinator for the Visayas, kicked off the afternoon's program with her words of welcome. Sis. Gloria Caminero (DMI's Regional Representative for Region X) then gave an inspirational message, exhorting SMIs, as the hope of the DMIs, to continue to follow their footsteps and excel.

The program was not limited to discussions. Like a family, participants danced the chicken dance and sang together.



Rev. Father Edwin Semblante was the keynote speaker. His talk revolved around these words: "Always be humble and forgiving".

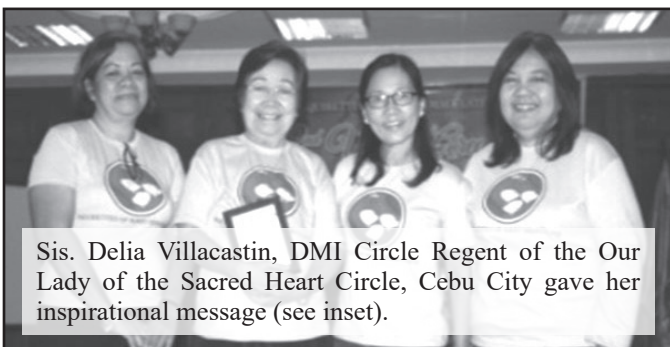
Sis. Catalina Pineda, National Chairperson for SMI, gave her report on the SMI. She mentioned about the revised maximum age of SMI Membership to 25 years old and the SMI national presidency being rotated among the 3 areas of the Philippines, namely Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao. She also mentioned about her project to enhance the SMI Handbook of Information. For easy referencing and to better aid DMIs and Lady Counselors in their SMI form requirements, samples of the forms are all collated in the said revised Handbook. The SMI March and SMI Prayer will also be included in the proposed handbook.





Sis. Asuncion Naraga (Diocesan Regent of Tagbilaran, Bohol) introduced the Mass President, Rev. Fr. Jun Agravante, who actually loved to sing. SMIs and DMIs teamed up and made sure that he would sing before leaving the venue. He gamely sang "I Must Have Done Something Good" from the Sound of Music where he played Capt. Von Trapp.

As the night commenced, everyone gathered around to showcase each circle's talent. Amazing voices and beautiful dance moves were heard and seen. There was so much laughter, making the fellowship even unforgettable. As the DMIs rested for the night, SMIs went swimming and did their bonding activities. Despite their lack of sleep, the SMIs woke up early and gathered along the beachfront for their early morning prayers and activities.



Sis. Delia Villacastin, DMI Circle Regent of the Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Circle, Cebu City gave her inspirational message (see inset).

Remarkable thoughts from Sis. Delia Villacastin:

New Year's Resolutions: The Pope Francis List

1. Don't gossip
2. Finish your meals
3. Make time for others
4. Choose 'more humble' purchase
5. Meet the poor 'in the flesh'
6. Stop judging others
7. Befriend those who disagree
8. Make commitments, such as marriage
9. Make it a habit 'to ask the Lord'
10. Be happy

ABCs for Teenagers

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| A. Always be active | O. Be Opinionated always |
| B. Begin with the end in mind | P. Be Polite |
| C. Be Consistent | Q. Question yourself always |
| D. Don't judge others | R. Be Responsible |
| E. Enlighten your thoughts | S. Seek opportunities |
| F. Follow your dreams | T. Teach yourself |
| G. Gather some friends | U. Understand others |
| H. Help yourself | V. Always apply the 12 universal Values |
| I. Be Inspired | W. Walk towards your dream |
| J. Judge your work not others | X. Exhale bad habits |
| K. Keep secrets | Y. Develop a Young mind |
| L. Love yourself | Z. Zero in your target and go for it |
| M. Make Memories | |
| N. Never give up | |

ABCs in Honor of Mother

- | | |
|---|--|
| A. Appreciate the sacrifices of your mother | M. Make your mother happy |
| B. Bless as a sign of respect | N. Never talk back to your mother |
| C. Create things that your mother will be proud of | O. Open your heart to your mother |
| D. Don't judge your mother without knowing the reasons | P. Prioritize your mother |
| E. Encourage yourself to be a better person | Q. Respond Quickly |
| F. Forgive her compassionately | R. Respect your mother |
| G. Give the needs of your mother | S. Share your achievements to your mother |
| H. Help in the household chores | T. Take good care of your mother |
| I. I will teach my brother to follow the commands of our mother | U. Understand the feelings of your mother |
| J. Just love your mother | V. Value your mother |
| K. Keep in touch with your mother | W. Work hard for your mother |
| L. Love her unconditionally | X. Exert effort in everything you do for your mother |
| | Y. Obey your mother |
| | Z. Put your mother in the dark zone |



Sis. Ruby Macario, SMI Luzon Coordinator, then gave the closing remarks, giving a historical journey of SMI - who the Past SMI Chairpersons were, how the SMI uniform evolved, and places SMIs have been to.



All finally gathered around and took pictures of one another and hugged each other goodbye, hoping to see each other someday and create more memories once again.

Plant a thought, harvest a **FEELING**. Plant a feeling, harvest an **ACTION**.
Plant an action, harvest a **HABIT** Plant a habit, harvest a **CHARACTER**.
Plant a character, harvest a **DESTINY**.