



BRAINSTORMING Capitulars meet by group (technically termed “commission”) in order to discuss pertinent matters concerning the entire Province of St. Ezekiel Moreno. Photo shows the members of the Commission on Vocation and Youth in a serious discussion.

Commission Phase Meetings Kick Off

CEBU CITY—Fray Julius Marcos situated the whole day activity with his reflection on healing during the holy mass. He narrated some stories of people including his mother who shared with him about the graces of healing that they received from God through the intercession of Saint Ezekiel Moreno.

As he developed his homily, Fray Marcos was able to tackle on the redemptive value of suffering as part and parcel of human life that Jesus Christ Himself embraced. He concluded his homily by saying that “we must be ready to accept suffering and pain especially in our religious life as our act of solidarity with the passion of Jesus and the plight of our suffering brothers and sisters.” In conclusion, he posed three reminders to the delegates: “First, we have to deny ourselves and become self-sacrificing like Jesus. Second, we try our very best to carry our crosses everyday with joy. Third, we follow Jesus towards the cross with love.”

The Proceedings of the Day

The morning sessions opened with a prayer at 8:30AM. The messages to the Chapter were read by Fray René Paglinawan. Discussions on yesterday’s deliberations were continued. Fray Jose Emil Almayo, chairman of the Commission on Communications-Recoletos, made his report making use of strategic management’s 7S Framework:

namely, Shared Vision, Structure (General and Provincial), Systems, Strategy, Style, Staff, and Skills. Questions and clarifications were raised regarding the works of the Commission that received generous applause from the delegates.

Fray Rommel Rubia, the head of the Commission on History, Culture and Heritage-Recoletos, presented the compliance of the Commission in looking into the ordinances of the previous Chapter. He treated the completion of the Mausoleum project of the Province, the publication of the different OAR materials and books for devotion, the reintroduction of the devotion to Our Lady of Health, the Preparation of the Celebration of the 4th centenary of the arrival of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in the Philippines, the ongoing cataloguing of the archival materials, and the documentation of the belongings of the dead religious. He proposed that the members of the Commission during the succeeding quadrennium come up with a manual of

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THE COMMISSIONS IN A NUTSHELL

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| SPIRITUALITY AND FORMATION Fray Ian Anthony Espartero Fray Lauro Larlar Fray Bernabe Dosdos Fray Rommel Rubia Fray Amado Emmanuel Bolilia | VOCATION AND YOUTH Fray Don Besana Fray Joseph Dexter Palagtiosa Fray Alden Alipin Fray Kenneth Joseph Onda |
| MINISTERIAL AND MISSION APOSTOLATE Fray Edgar Tubio Fray Russell Lapidez Fray Corvin Maturan Fray Arnel Diaz Fray Enrico Peter Silab | GOVERNANCE, FINANCE AND COMMUNICATION Fray Miguel Miró Miró Fray Dionisio Selma Fray René Paglinawan Fray Henry Santiago Fray Jose Emil Almayo |
| EDUCATION Fray Julius Marcos Fray Nemesio Tolentin Fray Christopher Maspara Fray Charlito Orobia | SOCIAL ACTION Fray Jaazeal Estelou Jakosalem Fray Leander Barrot Fray Edcel Celiz Fray Raymund Alcedo |

JOY IN SUFFERING AND SACRIFICE

The gospel of this day was about Jesus’ announcement of the great suffering that he was to endure and Jesus’ invitation to his disciples to take up their crosses as well.

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LIST OF MESSAGES RECEIVED

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SOURCE AND SUMMIT Fray Julius Marcos celebrates the Eucharist, the source and summit of Christian life.

Joy in Suffering and Sacrifice

CEBU CITY— Fray Julius Marcos, the outgoing Vicar of the Province of St. Ezekiel Moreno, was the main celebrant and homilist on the third day of the 7th Provincial Chapter. The gospel of this day was about Jesus’ announcement of the great suffering that he was to endure and Jesus’ invitation to his disciples to take up their crosses as well. His homily, then, revolved on Jesus’ choice to suffer and related it with his own experience of suffering when his mother got sick of cancer.

He began his homily by saying that nobody wants to hear stressful news or wants to live a stressful life. This is probably the reason why the disciples, upon hearing that Jesus would suffer and if his disciples wished to follow him would also have to suffer, got upset. It was even more upsetting because at this time Jesus was performing so many great and wonderful things such as healing the sick, calming the storm, exorcising demons, etc. Added to that, Jesus never mentioned about this in the past.

Hence, Fray Marcos continued, it was

difficult for the disciples to understand why he had to suffer, be rejected and killed since he was a man who did so much good. He did not merit death nor suffering. He could have even stopped all the suffering from happening but he chose to suffer and die in the cross, in the most humiliating way. He allowed the sufferings to happen to him.

Jesus allowed the sufferings to happen to him because he knew that at the end of the painful road, the Heavenly Father is glorified and man is saved, reflected Fray Marcos. He added that Christ’s joy rests in the glory

of the Heavenly Father and the salvation of man. This self-sacrificing love of God was the reason why Jesus would wake up every morning and face the increasing sufferings he had to face each day.

Fray Marcos concluded his homily by telling the capitulars of the need to remind oneself of these three things: to deny oneself in order to be self-sacrificing like Jesus, to carry one’s crosses with the joy of being with Jesus, and to follow Jesus in carrying the cross with love for him since he sacrificed so much out of his love for us.

LIST OF MESSAGES RECEIVED FOR THE 7TH PROVINCIAL CHAPTER

- Worship Ministry-Our Lady of Consolation Parish, Mira Nila Homes, Quezon City
- Recoletos de Taiwan
- Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, Urbiztondo, Pangasinan
- Collegio Sant’ Ildefonso, Via
- Sistina, Rome
- Fr. Francisco Javier Tello, OAR, Secretary General
- Province of Our Lady of Consolation
- Augustinian Recollect Contemplative Nuns, Bacolod City, Negros Occidental
- Saint Ezekiel Moreno Community, Madrid, Spain
- St. Ezekiel Moreno Novitiate-Recoletos, Antipolo City, Rizal
- Augustinian Recollect Sisters, Milpitas, California
- Colegio de Sta Rita, San Carlos City, Negros Occidental
- Congregation of Augustinian Recollect Sisters
- Immaculate Conception College, Balayan, Batangas
- St. Nicholas of Tolentino Parish, Kaohsiung, Taiwan
- Most Rev. Reynaldo G. Evangelista, DD, Bishop of Imus

