



“THE BODY OF CHRIST.” Capitulars start their day by partaking of the Eucharist, the body of Christ, before gathering as a body to discuss pertinent matters in their respective commissions.

Commission Phase Continues

CEBU CITY—Fray Amado Emmanuel Bolilia continued the reflection on the meaning of Lent during the holy mass. He said that “Lent is a season of pilgrimage and an ascent to the mountain of Easter.”

He challenged the delegates “to give up the things that are not helpful to spiritual life, namely, addictions, attachments, evil inclinations and other disordered desires, affections and directions.” He presented the life of some Augustinian Recollects who set good examples of living out a life of penance, namely, Saint Magdalene of Nagasaki, the OAR priest-martyrs of Japan and their religious brother collaborators: Lorenzo Kaida Hachizo, Mancio Yukimoto Ichizaemon and Pedro Zawaguchi Kuhioe. Fray Bolilia concluded his homily with a prayer to God through the intercession of the martyrs of the Order to grant the religious of the Province the commitment towards self-giving and surrender to God even until the point of martyrdom.

Deliberations on the Commissions’ Concern

The opening prayer was said at 8:30AM with the singing of the Chapter theme song, “Sharing our Vision.” The messages and prayers from various groups were read before the start of the formal sessions. Subsequently after the preliminary reminders to the delegates, the interview with Fray Miguel Miró Miró, Prior General, was played on the screen that laid down his concerns for the Province of Saint Ezekiel Moreno.

As the Commission phase continued, several matters of interest pertinent to the points mentioned during the reports and the

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Season of Lent, Season of Giving up



Fray Bolilia sharing his reflection with his brothers. (Story on page 2)

LIST OF MESSAGES RECEIVED FOR THE 7TH PROVINCIAL CHAPTER

- Leo Jaboni
- Fr. Demetrio Peñascoza
- Ms. Monica Lo, St. Nicholas Parish, Kaohsiung, Taiwan
- Augustinian Recollect Sisters, Milpitas, California
- St. Paul of Chartres Sisters-Philippines
- Association of Major Religious Superiors in the Philippines
- The Sisters of Mary
- Sisters of the Holy Face of Jesus
- Capuchin Tertiary Sisters of the Holy Family
- Mrs. Rita Apuya, Our Lady of Consolation Parish
- Fr. Jose Antonio P. Abad, Blessed Diego Luis de San Vitores Church, Tumon, Guam
- Mary’s Altar Guild, OLCP, Quezon City
- St. Rita Dormitory Community
- St. Ezekiel Moreno Provincial Curia Community
- Br. Edwin Ruiz, SARF National President

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discussions were treated so that they would be considered sufficiently in the formulation of Chapter of ordinances. Concerns from the Secretariat of Spirituality, Formation and Vocation Ministry, Ministerial and Mission Apostolate and Educational Apostolate were completely deliberated in the morning. The Midday prayer was said at 11:45AM.

The sessions resumed at 3:00PM. Fray Lauro Larlar opened the afternoon sessions with the prayer taken from the intercessory

prayers of the 7th Provincial Chapter. The minutes of February 15, 2018 proceedings were tackled until all the necessary corrections and modifications were made. The Commissions on Governance, Culture, Finance and Social Action were given points for their consideration in their preparation of ordinances.

After all the major concerns were dealt with, the meaning of the logo of the 7th provincial chapter was presented which

consisted of the following elements: book and heart, cross, rising sun with four rays, and number seven (7).

The afternoon sessions were concluded at 5:18PM. In the evening, each Commission was instructed to articulate the suggested priority topics into proposals for the group plenum next Monday. The delegates took their rest at 10:00PM.



Capitulars (grouped according to their respective commissions) spending extra time in the evening for their discussions. Clockwise from top-left: Commissions on Education, Ministerial & Mission, Spirituality & Formation, and Governance, Finance & Communication.

Season of Lent, Season of Giving up

CEBU CITY—On the fifth day of the ongoing Provincial Chapter, Fray Amado Emmanuel Bolilia, OAR, presided the celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

In commemoration of the heroic martyrdom of St. Magdalena of Nagasaki and the Japanese Martyrs, Fray Bolilia shared his reflection on the season of Lent as a moment of giving up.

Lent, the forty-day pilgrimage towards the mountain of Easter, is a season of prayer, charity, sacrifice, suffering, discipline,

mortification, and reconciliation. Fray Bolilia said that one of the disciplines of Lent is fasting which we practice not as deprivation of the senses, but as means of sanctifying oneself through sacrifice and perfect charity. Through fasting, we reflect on the things that we need to give up.

Fray Bolilia also gave emphasis on the need to give up the things that hinder us to move forward in our journey toward Easter. “We give up addictions, attachments, evil inclinations, and many disordered desires so that we can be in solidarity with others,” Fray Bolilia shared.

He then continued by sharing a litany of advices: “If we give up our personal interests, we give value to fraternal life in common;

give up one’s talkativeness to listen and pray more; let go of our biases to trust better; leave our timidity or fear, and be open for dialogue; give up our being unpredictable to become approachable.”

Fray Emmanuel Bolilia ended his homily with a prayer of thanks to God for giving the Order the holy martyrs of Japan: St. Magdalena of Nagasaki, Blessed Vicente de San Antonio and Francisco de Jesus, Japanese Brothers Lorenzo Kaida Hachizo, Mancio Yukimoto Ichizaemon, and Pedro Zawaguchi Kuhioe. Through their martyrdom, they showed us the way on how to give up oneself for God’s glory and sanctification of the Province, the Order, and the Church.