



PROVINCE OF ST. EZEKIEL MORENO Chapter CHRONICLE

February 22, 2018

Vol. 7, No. 11



RE-ELECTED Fray Dionisio Selma is re-elected as Prior Provincial for the next four years (2018-2022). Together with him in the photo are the Prior General, Fray Miguel Miró Miró, and the rest of the capitulars.

Fray Selma is Re-elected Prior Provincial

CEBU CITY—The 7th Provincial Chapter has spoken today, re-electing Fray Dionisio Selma as the Prior Provincial of the Province of St. Ezekiel Moreno.

Thirty-six hours earlier, the results of the canvassing for the Prior Provincial was published and Fray Selma led the ternary with a wide margin of confidence from among the 146 voting religious of the Province. Tailing behind him were Frays Leander Barrot and Lauro Larlar.

During the final phase of the election held inside the Chapter Hall at 10:30 A.M. today, the 27 Capitulars have picked out from among the three “a Prior Provincial who will lead us towards renewal, unity, and charity,” as their prayer goes.

With just the first round of election, the scrutiny of the votes done through secret ballot disclosed immediately that the absolute majority was already obtained. Fray Selma got 22 votes while Frays Barrot and Larlar garnered 3 and 2 votes, respectively.

In his brief speech of acceptance inside the hall, Fray Selma expressed his unworthiness for the office, but in the spirit of service and availability for the

Province and the Order, he is placing all his trust in God’s mercy.

Towards noon, the rite of “toma de posesión” took place at the chapel. Fray Miguel Miró, prior general and president of the Chapter, confirmed the newly-elected “major superior” of this youngest of the four provinces of the Order. He handed over to Fray Selma what the latter turned over to him earlier inside the Chapter hall—the seal of the Province.

As the seal reminds him to exercise authority with prudence and wisdom, the whole event acquired an even more profound nuance as this milestone is linked to the liturgical celebration of the day, feast of the Chair of St. Peter.

Fray Selma, or “Father Diony” to many, will lead the Province for four years, from 2018 to 2022.

Congratulations and God bless you, Father Prior Provincial!

Thank you, ARCORES and USJ-R



In coordination with ARCORES-Filipinas, the outreach office (Infecop) of the University of San Jose-Recoletos gave out the other day 500 relief food packs to families affected by typhoon ‘Basyang’. More power!

Service with Love is our Business

CEBU CITY—“Watch those entrusted to your care!” Thus said Fray Enrico Peter Silab, Mass presider and homilist, when he posed the challenge to the delegates this morning before they elected the Prior Provincial for the next quadrennium.

Fray Silab reiterated that any assignment of authority is a call to service. To highlight his points, he told the story of “a woman who brought a beautiful and carved porcelain pitcher, who one day, made the pitcher her most cherished possession. However, somebody broke the pitcher into pieces. Instead of getting angry at the one who broke it, she instead patiently glued them until she finally put the pieces together. As she worked over the pitcher, she thought about how God labored over broken members of the community. She reflected that God restored them and made them beautiful and whole again.”

Fray Silab equated the story of the woman to the experience of the religious

community. He said that everybody in the religious community is like a pitcher—fragile, imperfect and broken. But each one is restored to health by God because of His overflowing love, mercy and goodness. In order to evoke active response among the delegates, he posed these three questions: “How generous are we in giving our service to those entrusted to our care?” “How do we use our authority?” “What it is inside our heart as we open our hearts to God?”

Alongside the celebration of the feast of the Chair of Peter and the schedule for the election of the new Prior Provincial, the example of Peter who followed the path of discipleship was remembered. “In Jesus,” Fray Silab pointed out, “came the explanation

of authority as service and not as a privileged position to dominate.”

For the Augustinian Recollects, Fray Silab mentioned that service could be translated to the return to the heart. While it was emphasized that one ought to get in-touch with his heart, it must be cautioned that because of the bad influences that one received from his environment, the purity of the heart of the person would be contaminated. The heart then must be patterned after the heart of God.

Fray Silab concluded his homily with a prayer of Saint Augustine, and left a motto for everybody to remember throughout the day, saying: Service with love is our business!



SECOND TERM Fray Dionisio Selma's re-election as Prior Provincial is confirmed by the Prior General, Fray Miguel Miró Miró.