



AMQAH Philippines: Recollection of Mary

QUEZON CITY, Philippines – On October 6, 2018, the Association of Mary Queen of All Hearts (AMQAH) conducted a Recollection held at its National Center (Montfort Center of Spirituality) with the theme *A Recollection of Mary: St. Francis on Mary and his love of creation*. Reverend Father Albert Poblete, a Capuchin priest from the Order of Friars Minor (OFM) was the main speaker on the said recollection. Fr. Albert cited that the Blessed Virgin Mary was Mother, Advocate and Queen for St. Francis; we are all sea voyagers guided by Mary, the “theotokos - God-bearer, the Star of the Sea; we should be like her in mothering, listening to Christ, acting on His word, the virgin made church. He added that with Mary opening her arms and embracing us, we too must open our arms and embrace ‘that we ourselves are dust of the earth’ (cf. Gen 2:7). Therefore, our very bodies are made up of the Earth’s elements - air, water and soil. Unless we acknowledge the violence present in our hearts brought about by sin, only then we free ourselves from the symptoms of sickness evident in soil, in the water, in the air and in all forms of life.

Fr. Albert concluded that St. Francis' appeal for our spirituality is to bring the whole human family together and move toward a new, joyful and peaceful lifestyle of educating for the covenant between humanity and the environment, between the sacramental signs and rest, the Trinity and relationship between creatures, the Queen of all creation.

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