



A Quadripartite Jubilee Celebration

ROME – The Montfort missionaries in the Generalate had a quadripartite jubilee celebration on 9th December 2023. Fr. Balaswamy KATA, SMM, the General Bursar celebrated his 25th anniversary of religious life in the Company of Mary while Fr. Luigi GRITTI, SMM, the Procurator General and the Contact Person for the Protection of Minors and Vulnerable Persons celebrated his 60th birthday. Fr. Yoseph Putra Dwi Darma WATUN, SMM, the Superior General, also celebrated his 25th priestly anniversary.

Meanwhile, Fr. Pier Luigi NAVA, SMM from the Province of Italy, who currently works at the Vatican as Under-Secretary of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated life and Societies of Apostolic Life celebrated as well his 50th anniversary of religious life in the Company of Mary.

The Eucharistic celebration presided over by Fr. NAVA took place at the chapel of the General house. In addition, all members of the community actively participated with liturgical songs and animation of the Mass. Deacon Antonio BETTONI, SMM was also present.

In his speech during lunch, Fr. Bala expressed his gratitude to God for the gift of the religious vocation in the Company of Mary.

“Today, I am very happy to thank God for having called me to this Montfortian religious life in which 25 years are passed and lived. I see the hand of God and the accompaniment of the Blessed Virgin Mary, our heavenly Mother during these 25 years. There have been many joyful and proud occasions for what and how much I did and lived as a religious in the Company of Mary. My entry into this Company of Mary was Providence of God, thanks to my cousin priest, who was a student in a school run by the Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel, the principal of which showed the way to the Company of Mary.” He extended by thanking the General house community members, confreres at Saint Louis-Marie de Montfort parish, Fr. Nava, and the members of the General house community of the Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel.

Among those present during this special occasion were three Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel. Bro. John KALLARACKAL, SG, the Superior General of the Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel, Bro. Jean Marie Vianny THIOR, SG, the General Secretary and Superior of the Generalate community, and Bro. Michael MATHEW, SG, the General Bursar, graced the celebration with gifts presented to the jubilant confreres.

All confreres from the Monte Mario parish known as *San Luigi di Montfort* were also present during the aperitif followed by lunch.

Happy anniversary to you, our beloved confreres!

Montfort Communications