



Montfortians in West Kalimantan Region hold Annual Retreat

INDONESIA – The Montfortians in West Kalimantan Region, Indonesia held a group retreat on September 19-21, 2023 at the Montfort Menyurai Mission House. It was attended by priests and Montfortian brothers and it was guided by Father Lodo, SMM. The retreat started with the celebration of the Holy Mass at the Montfort Menyurai Mission House Chapel.

Father Lodo, SMM presented reflections on the theme of Incarnation, the Path to the Integration of our Human Identity and Spiritual Identity. In the first session, the participants were invited to think about their identity as a Montfortian. This reflection is related to the call of the General Chapter 2023 that the transformation of Montfortian identity is to become missionaries on the path of the Incarnation of Wisdom. This identity is also related to the call to introduce Self-dedication to Jesus, the Wisdom Incarnate through the Blessed Virgin Mary, to live out the promises of baptism.

Identity as a Montfortian cannot be separated from the personal identity of every Montfortian which has been formed since childhood in the family and community. So, in the next session, Father Lodo invited the participants to look at this personal development and how it influences the development of the Montfortian identity and vocation as a Montfortian.

Moreover, in the third session, participants were invited to imagine how Jesus received children. By seeing Jesus' acceptance of these children, it is necessary to have an attitude of self-conveyance and humility as Montfortians so that they can carry out the Montfortian mission.

In the fourth session, the retreat participants took part in groups to share their respective life experiences related to personal identity, Montfortian identity, and their relationship to their mission as Montfortian.

In conclusion, the retreat ended on September 21, 2023 with a joint Eucharistic celebration and in the evening, a joint recreation event was also held that was full of friendship and brotherhood. On the next day after breakfast, the participants got ready to return to their respective communities. But before they went home, they still had the time to chat and joke together.

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Indonesia*