



Perpetual Vows of Bro. Sintus, SMM and Bro. Aran, SMM

MALANG, Indonesia – On August 15, 2021, it became a blessed day for the Montfortians in the Province of Indonesia because, as it coincided with the Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary to Heaven, Bro. Sintus, SMM and Bro. Aran, SMM, who had attended the consecration ceremony the day before, made their perpetual vows.

The Mass for the profession of their perpetual vows was held at 16:30 at the Montfort Seminary Chapel "House of Wisdom" in Malang. This Mass was also attended by the representatives of the families of the two brothers, as well as several donors who were in Malang City. Considering this current pandemic, the Mass was broadcasted online so that all the families of the two brothers, the confreres from the Indonesian Province and the faithful could take part in the Eucharistic Celebration wherever they are.

The Holy Mass was presided by Fr. Antonius Tensi, SMM. In his homily, Father Anton quoted the opinion of Karl Rahner who said that Christians in the future must become mystics. According to him, if it is related to religious vows, it will reveal the fact that the important thing is not the vows themselves but the reasons behind the decision to make them. It can be applied in pastoral works also. The important thing in pastoral works is not the type or model of pastoral, but the reasons that encourage us to do it. In short, it is not the 'what' that is important but the 'why'. Furthermore, he emphasized that the reasons for making vows and our work must come from the intimate experiences with Christ or mystical experiences. Because with intimacy, we will experience the process of Christification, so that we can live and work no longer as ourselves, but as "another Christ". Like what St. Paul said, it is no longer we who live, but Christ who lives in us. At the end of his homily, Fr. Anton also advised us to return to our inner life, the *Liberos* life, free where the Spirit blows. He also did not forget to invite all those present to truly imitate Mother Mary. And for the two brothers who made their perpetual vows, he advised and hoped that they would become clergy who are true spiritual people.

Gratitude for making the perpetual vows is even more abundant because, at the same time, Fr. Anton, SMM and Fr. Herman, SMM celebrated their 25 years of religious life in the Company of Mary. Therefore, after taking the vows of the two brothers, Fr. Anton renewed also his vows that he had made 25 years ago. At the end of the Mass, Brother Sintus invited everyone who attended the Eucharistic Celebration to thank God for His abundant grace. He believes that God is always present to guide and accompany them through the people around them. The awareness of the presence of God will help them, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to answer "Yes" until they make their perpetual vows in the Company of Mary.

After the Eucharistic Celebration, all those present were invited to a simple reception that was prepared by the brothers and sisters in Montfort Seminary. This simple reception took place in the courtyard of unit number two where the brothers showed their various creativity to entertain all the attendees.

Bro. Sisko Rondidan, SMM