



The Celebration of the Feast of the Santo Niño

MAKATI, Philippines – On January 21, 2018, Feast of Santo Niño (Holy Child Jesus), the parishioners of Santa Teresita Parish, West Rembo, Makati City were gathered at the covered court for the Sinulog Festival. It as an act of thanksgiving in a form of a dance in honor to the Child Jesus and in commemoration of the birth of Catholicism in the Philippines in 1521, where the image of Santo Niño first arrived in the country.

At around 1:00 PM, the celebration started with an opening prayer led by Fr. Angelo Pusikit, SMM, assistant parish priest of Santa Teresita Parish followed by the procession with street dancing. The procession was participated by the Montfort Fathers, the parish community, seminarians and devotees of Santo Niño. After the procession, the Sinulog Dance Festival began partaken by different Parish Organizations: the Catechetical Ministry, the Parish Renewal Experience (PREX) Group, Youth/Music Ministry, and the CFC-Handmaids Group. The celebration ended with a Eucharistic celebration presided by Fr. Richard Magararu, SMM, Parish Priest with his concelebrants, Fr. Federick Yumang, SMM, Fr. Rene Bustillo, SMM, and Fr. Wordy, SMM. During the homily, Fr. Richard reminded the devotees by saying, “the Feast of Señor Santo Niño invites

us to have a heart and an attitude of a child, a childlike character, not a childish one, in which the nature of Santo Niño who is humble, trustful, and innocent." He also added that, "adults should be like children; easy to forgive and dependent to the Lord's protection and blessings in their lives."

The winners of the Dance Festival were announced before the final blessing. The people with their statues of Santo Niño were blessed too. It was indeed a blessed experience for all and a joyful celebration which deepens the devotion of the faithful to the Santo Niño.

Viva Pit Señor!

-Bro. Harold Anthony T. Montoya, SMM

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