



Montfortians attend First AMQAH and TTJers Renewal in Two Years

CEBU CITY, Philippines - On the afternoon of March 25, 2022, around 60 Association of Mary Queen of All Hearts (AMQAH) members and Totus Tuus Journeyers (TTJers), together with the Daughters of Wisdom (DW), were eager to attend the Renewal of Consecration to Jesus Christ, the Incarnate Wisdom through the Hands of Mary at Montfort Mission House in Minglanilla, Cebu. It was the first one in two years since the pandemic began. In addition to that, this was also the annual gathering of all members of AMQAH and the TTJers. On the same day, in St. Peter's Basilica, Pope Francis also consecrated Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, entrusting the two nations, who are in the middle of a cruel and senseless war, to Mary's help and protection.

The celebration started around 4:45 in the afternoon through the Act of Commitment where the AMQAH members renewed their commitment to God for their active participation in the activities of Montfort Missionaries. The attendees then sealed their vow by signing their names in the Act of Commitment. The Holy Mass was presided by Fr. Paul Arnel LUCERO, SMM. During the Mass, after the Holy Communion, AMQAH members and TTJers solemnly recited the Act of Consecration to Jesus Christ, the Incarnate Wisdom, through the Blessed Virgin Mary, according to the teachings of St. Louis-Marie de Montfort. After the Eucharistic Celebration, a celebratory dinner was served by the Mission House Cebu wherein AMQAH and TTJers were pleased to partake in the meal together.

In his homily, Fr. Arnel highlighted three points that was taken from the Annunciation narrative in the Gospel of Luke (Luke 1:26-38). With Mary's example, he reminded the AMQAH members and TTJers: first, to be ready when God calls them for a mission; second, to put their faith and trust in God; third, to live their lives as humble servants of the Lord. Furthermore, the verse 38, "*Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord*", perfectly captured the essence of the celebration. Just like Mary who accepted the call of God through the Angel Gabriel, the Montfortians who attended also answered His call by gracing the solemn event and by strengthening their vow to live the values taught to them by Mary and Jesus Christ. AMQAH members and TTJers come from different walks of life but they are united with their common desire to live a life rooted in the values and advocacies of Mary, Jesus Christ, and St. Louis-Marie de Montfort.

Indeed, the celebration on March 25 was memorable. It might not be the Renewal with the biggest number of attendees, but it felt different, and it was special. It was evident in the eyes of the participants just how happy they were to be among sons and daughters of Christ. This is a silver lining after being in quarantine for two years wherein everyone is giving more value to the people in their lives, something that was taken for granted prior to the pandemic.

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