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Hymns and Prayers for Mary: A Virtual Marian Concert

QUEZON CITY, Philippines - In line with the celebration of the Month of the Most Holy Rosary and the Continental Mission Year of Asia and Oceania, the Montfort Missionaries Philippine Delegation staged a virtual Marian Concert entitled: *Mga Himig at Panalangin Para Kay Maria* (Hymns and Prayers for Mary) on October 30-31, 2022 via Zoom.

The virtual concert was a collaborative project of the SMM Philippine Delegation Communities and the Legion of Mary-Senatus of the Northern Philippines. The core group who organized the said concert was headed by Fr. Sherwin Y. NUNEZ, SMM together with Fr. Federick B. YUMANG, SMM, Fr. Santiago E. CASING, SMM, Fr. Benjie NOTARTE, SMM, and Sis. Jackielou FOSTER, AMQAH who was our graphic designer, videographer and technical team moderator during the virtual concert. The ticket costs P150 and the coordinators of the different communities were assigned to help in the distribution of the tickets to those who wish to join the virtual concert and support the mission and formation programs of the Montfort Missionaries.

The virtual concert was a series of Marian hymns, prayers and meditations of the writings of St. Louis-Marie de Montfort that tells us about the necessity of our devotion to Mary and the Rosary which was narrated by Fr. Federick B. YUMANG, SMM, the National Director of the Association of Mary, Queen of All Hearts. The hymns to the Blessed Virgin Mary were rendered by the members of the Philippine Delegation, the Association of Mary Queen of all Hearts who performed the Marian compositions of our Filipino Montfortians entitled: Sa Pamamagitan Mo (Through You), Ang Lahat ng Akin ay Iyo (All that I have is Yours), Mary Queen of all Hearts by our lay associates

Jackie Foster and Gelly Fernandez with her children Carlo and Luisa, other traditional Marian Hymns of the Philippines by Santa Teresita Parish Chorale, the Himig Kabataan Choir of the Cebu Mission Community, the community of the Chaplaincy of St. Louis-Marie Grignon de Montfort in Dagupan City, Pangasinan, our Filipino Community in the Generalate in Rome and a special performance of Ms. Raki Vega-Siu, a Filipina singer and a Marian devotee from Cebu who is now a resident performer of Hong Kong Disneyland.

Fr. Luiz Augusto STEFANI, SMM, the Superior General of the Montfort Missionaries gave the welcome remarks during the concert, preceded by the opening hymn: Rise and Shine, the theme song of the Continental Mission Year of Asia and Oceania. Towards the end of the concert, Fr. Sherwin Y. NUNEZ, SMM, the vicar superior and Fr. Norwyn V. BAYDO, SMM, the delegation superior thanked the participants who have supported the virtual Marian Concert, the organizers and technical team, and the performers. The concert was attended not only from the Philippines but also abroad, through the efforts of our confreres and lay associates and partners who have generously shared their commitment for the virtual concert.

There was a special viewing via zoom for the Filipino community in Rome with Fr. Benjie NOTARTE, SMM and a pay-per-view held at the Montfort Center of Spirituality for the Scout Madriñan community and also there is a separate schedule for the community of Our Lady of Perpetual Succor College in Marikina with Fr. Sherwin Y. NUNEZ, SMM, the school chaplain and the Campus Ministry Office.

Indeed, it was a grace-filled event, glorifying Wisdom, through Mary, in the spirit of St. Louis-Marie de Montfort with his words: "Glory to Jesus in Mary, Glory to Mary in Jesus, Glory to God Alone!

Fr. Federick YUMANG, SMM