

Montfortian Philippine Delegation Welcomes New Postulants in their New Formation House

The Philippine Delegation of the Montfort Missionaries today (July 21, 2013) welcomed four young professionals into their formation program as postulants. It was done during the celebration of the Holy Eucharist at the new Postulants Formation House in E. Apostol St., Lower Calajoan, Minglanilla, Cebu. It was presided over by the Delegation Superior, Rev. Fr. Paul Arnel Lucero, SMM with Fr. Norwyn Baydo, SMM, Fr. Ariel Aquino, SMM and Fr. Francisco Tacio, SMM as concelebrants. The four new postulants are: Bro. Mat A. Labandero from Naga, Cebu; Bro. Nelvie Angelo T. Dugang from Tungkil, Minglanilla, Cebu; Bro. Armel R. Collantes from Subangdaku, Mandaue City, Cebu; and Bro. Emil R. Dabandan from Cainta, Rizal. It was attended by the Totus Tuus Journey participants from the different batches, lay collaborators, families and relatives of the postulants and the regular Sunday Mass goers of the community. The homily of Fr. Paul Arnel has motivated the postulants and the rest of the assembly as he gave the acronym of P.O.S.T.U.L.A.N.C.Y which stands for: Prayer, Openness, Simplicity, Trust in the Divine Providence, Unwavering Resolve, Letting Go, Availability, Nourishing the vocation, Constancy and Yearning for God. All of these are the qualities a postulant has to develop and put into practice in their journey.

Each postulant received a cross necklace and later faced the assembly, bowed before them, the loud applause filled the whole Chapel. The then liturgy continued with normal flow of the Eucharistic Celebration. Right after the Eucharistic celebration, food (many of which were brought by the TTJers) was served and everyone shared heartily and joyously.

The new postulants will be spending this year of their vocational journey to their ongoing-discernment, openness to formation and enhance their human skills and

physical fitness in order to deepen the understanding of their vocation to the Montfortian religious life. They will be accompanied by their Postulant Master, Rev. Fr. Norwyn Baydo, SMM, to be assisted by Rev. Fr. Francisco Tacio, SMM and Bro. Federick Yumang.

May these young men through the intercession of the Blessed Mother and St. Louis Marie de Montfort tread the path of fulfilling God's loving plan in their lives. May they be the future good laborers in the Lord's vast vineyard. AMEN!

"Glory to Jesus in Mary!" (St. Louis Marie de Montfort, True Devotion 265)

-Armel R. Collantes
Postulant