



Ordination of Fr. Hironimus Edison, SMM in Ruteng Diocese, Indonesia

RUTENG, Indonesia - We received abundant blessings again as a big family of the SMM Province of Indonesia this October. Deacon Hironimus Edison, SMM, 7 deacons of the Diocese of Ruteng and 1 deacon of the CICM congregation were ordained priests on October 14, 2021. The 9 deacons were ordained by Mgr. Sincerely Cyprian at the Cathedral of the Diocese of Ruteng. Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, the thing to be grateful for is that the Ruteng Diocese is still getting a harvest with the ordination of 9 new priests who happen to be local sons who all come from Ruteng Diocese. We should also be grateful that the Diocese of Ruteng is one of the fertile dioceses for priestly and religious vocations. Without exception for the extended family of the SMM Province of Indonesia, especially with the ordination of Fr. Hironimus Edison, SMM, this has added the strength of the ranks of the Indonesian Province SMM clergy who came from Flores Island, NTT.

Fr. Edison, also known as Fr. Hiro, is the only one from his batch to be ordained a Montfortian priest. His 7 colleagues left the formation house one by one since the beginning of their novitiate at the Ruteng SMM Novitiate. So, it was only Fr. Hiro who finished his master's thesis until the ordination to the diaconate and the priesthood.

Of course, Fr. Hiro's ability to endure until he finally received the grace of the priesthood was never easy. Therefore, the motto for his ordination with the following Biblical words: "Apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5). He reflected on his calling that only in Jesus, a servant would be strong and be able to work. Certainly, it will be a motto that will continue to strengthen him on his later journeys as an ordained minister of the Church.

Fr. Hiro's ordination was a special moment because, on that day, two Indonesian priests also celebrated their 25 years of religious life as Montfortians, namely Fr. Antonius Tensi, SMM,

the Provincial of SMM Indonesia and Fr. Herman Nupa, SMM. The 25-year thanksgiving celebration of the religious life of these two priests was combined with the First Mass of Father Hiro. It was celebrated at the SMM Novitiate convent in Ruteng on October 15, 2021, a day after Fr. Hiro's ordination. This celebration was enlivened by a choir from the Brothers and Postulants with the novices. The families of the jubilants also attended the event. In addition, several members of the Santo Montfort Relatives (KSM) of the Ruteng Region were also present, not to mention the neighbors of the novitiate house, employees, acquaintances and donors. This celebration of brotherhood became even more complete with the continuation of the reception eating together in the dining room, singing and dancing together.

Fr. Nikodemus Herniawan, SMM