



Priestly Ordination in Indonesia

RUTENG, Indonesia - November 19, 2024 – Hello confreres, we are sharing with you our news about the ordination of SMM priests recently. The new priests are Fathers Aran, Ferdi, Candra, Fandi, Alvian, and Embit. The motto they chose is “ABIDE WITH US, LORD” (Luke 24:29). The ordination of our confreres was held at the parish church of St. Michael Kumba. Of course we should thank the parish priest of St. Michael Kumba and the assistant priests, members of the pastoral council and the parish finance council of the Kumba parish, the ordination committee, and everyone involved in making the ordination celebration a success.

The deacons arrived at the novitiate community on Saturday, November 16, 2024, at 06.30 WITA. Meanwhile, the parents and families of the deacons arrived on November 17, 2024.

The ordination took place on Tuesday, November 19, 2024. We are all grateful to God for the ordination celebration. The presence of the priests and the religious, and the laity added to the joy of the six priests. The celebration began at the Ruteng diocese palace at 08.15. The procession was accompanied by a patrol group and was greeted with a traditional reception in the courtyard of the St. Michael Kumba Parish Church.

This great celebration was presided by Bishop Siprianus HORMAT, Pr. This event was a joyous occasion for the new priests, their families, those who supported them, especially the Montfortians. Their self-giving is a blessing for the Montfortian. In his homily, the bishop said that the presence of these new priests was a new legacy in the Montfortian Society of Mary, who would be servants of God wherever they were sent.

Highlighting the vocation discernment process moulded with the intimate relationship with God and also Mother Mary, the bishop began his homily with the statement “*All true children*

of God and the elect have God as their Father and Mary as their mother, and whoever does not have Mary as their mother does not have God as their Father (BS 30)." In line with the motto they chose, the bishop said that their priestly journey looks like the story of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. This means that in the priestly journey there is a tragic drama that must be faced, there are challenges that must be faced together with Christ. Until finally, they enter into togetherness with God through the Eucharist which makes their hearts burn. At that moment, they see that behind the challenges that hit and roar there is hope.

Before ending the Eucharistic celebration, the reading and signing of the jurisdiction was carried out, and continued with a speech from Fr. Anton as the provincial of the SMM province of Indonesia. Fr. Anton also read the letter of placement of the new priests.

Although it rained a few moments before the Eucharistic celebration ended and that our energy was drained because of many activities were involved in, our hearts remained steadfast, strong and happy to support our brothers and sisters, and the new priests..

Congratulations to you our confreres, the new priests!

*Bro. Heri, SMM
Novice*