



DMI NEWSETTE

vol. XLIII no. 3

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DAUGHTERS OF MARY IMMACULATE INTERNATIONAL

July - September 2025

23RD DMII BIENNIAL CONVENTION HELD IN BAGUIO CITY

*By Sis. Sally Estrada,
Editor, DMI Newsette*



Undaunted by the uneven terrain and the landslides and floodings caused by tropical storms earlier, some 2,000 DMI sisters, mostly seniors in their 60's, 70's and 80's converged in the hilly side of Baguio City where the Newtown Convention Center and Newtown Plaza Hotel are located for their 23rd Biennial Convention last August 16, 2025.

It will be recalled that registration for the convention closed earlier than the April 30, 2025 deadline, on March 31, as the 1,500 maximum that can be seated at the convention hall was quickly filled. But clamor from more DMI sisters to be accommodated led

to the Convention Organizing Committee's decision to open a satellite hall at the Center's ground floor for 500 more delegates who will watch the program proceedings at the main hall through a giant LED wall.

The convention opened with the traditional enthronement and consecration of the Blessed Mother's image. Leading the ceremony were International Chaplain Fr. Jerome Curz and International Regent Sis. Annie Ty with past International Regents and DMII International Officers and Board taking part in the processional. Then came the Parade of Colors and

turn to page 4

HOPE: A FIRM CONVICTION THAT GOD'S TRUTH WILL PREVAIL



Dear Daughters of Mary,

As we journey through this third quarter of the year, the Jubilee reminds us that we are Pilgrims of Hope. But hope is not blind optimism. It is a firm conviction that God's truth will prevail, even amid trials and turmoil.

Truth in Times of Deception

Our Blessed Mother lived in full fidelity to God's truth. Today, we see how urgently truth is needed in our country. Daily, we hear of corruption, dishonesty, and misuse of public trust. The Catholic Bishops' Conference has long reminded us: "Every peso stolen from the nation's coffers is a peso stolen from the poor." As Daughters of Mary, we are called to be women who live by the truth of Christ—speaking it, defending it, and refusing to be complicit in falsehood.

Transparency in the Midst of Distrust

Mary's life was marked by simplicity and transparency. She had nothing to hide—her heart was open to God, her intentions pure. How different from what we often witness today: leaders hiding behind lies, officials evading accountability, and institutions clouded by secrecy. In our own DMII circles and families, let us model another way—transparent relationships, honest dealings, and service without hidden agendas. In a time when people have lost trust in those who lead, may you, the Daughters of Mary, become trustworthy lights in your communities.

Accountability for the Common Good

Mary embraced her mission with full responsibility—from Bethlehem to Calvary. Accountability today is a word we desperately need. In our nation, many evade responsibility, passing the blame or covering up failures. But Christian discipleship demands the opposite: that we own our actions, stand by our commitments, and remain accountable to God and to one another. For you, dear Daughters, accountability also means caring for your mission in DMII circles—ensuring your service is marked with integrity, fairness, and compassion.

A Christian Response to Our Times

The developments we are seeing in the country are not just political or social issues; they are moral challenges. As Marian women, you are called to respond with courage. Where there is corruption, let us witness to honesty. Where there is secrecy, let us show transparency. Where there is evasion of responsibility, let us live accountability. This is our Christian way of living—our Marian way of shining Christ's light into the darkness of society.

Closing

Dear sisters, our times are indeed challenging, but they are also graced. The Jubilee Year invites us to renew our lives and our mission. With Mary as our model and companion, let us walk together as true Pilgrims of Hope, embodying truth, transparency, and accountability—so that we may help heal our wounded land and bring light to a nation longing for renewal. May the Blessed Virgin, our Mother Immaculate, intercede for us and guide us always in the path of her Son.

Sincerely in our Lord,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jeronimo J. Cruz". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Rev. Fr. JERONIMO MA. J. CRUZ

DMII International Chaplain

OUR SHARED COMMITMENT: TO BE WOMEN OF FAITH IN ACTION



Dear Sisters in Christ,

Warm greetings of peace, joy, and love in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and through the maternal intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary!

The 3rd Quarter Issue of our *Newsette* brings us a wonderful opportunity to look back with grateful hearts and celebrate the success of our **23rd DMII Biennial Convention**, held in the cool and beautiful city of Baguio last August 16, 2025. Truly, it was more than an event—it was a **pilgrimage of faith, unity, and mission**, a living testimony to the grace that flows when the Daughters of Mary Immaculate gather as one family under the mantle of our Blessed Mother.

The Convention's success stands as a shining example of what we can achieve when our hearts are united in prayer, dedication, and purpose. From the inspiring talks and meaningful liturgies to the joyful encounters and renewed friendships, every moment reflected the spirit of Mary — humble, faithful, and ever ready to say “yes” to God's will.

Our theme “DMIIs: PILGRIMS OF HOPE IN THE JUBILEE YEAR” reminds us that success is not measured merely by the grandeur of the event, but by the transformation it brings within us. The 23rd Biennial Convention rekindled our shared commitment to be women of faith in action — *servants of hope, builders of peace, and bearers of love* in our communities.

As we share this “success story,” may we also carry forward the lessons, inspirations, and blessings that the Convention has sown in our hearts. Let us continue to strengthen our bonds as sisters in mission, always guided by Mary's example and empowered by the Holy Spirit to live out our DMI motto: “*To serve God by serving others.*”

With renewed zeal and grateful hearts, let us continue our journey as faithful Daughters of Mary Immaculate — ever ready to serve, to love, and to bring Christ's light wherever we go.

Congratulations to all who made the 23rd Biennial Convention a resounding success! May the Blessed Mother continue to guide and protect our DMII family in all our endeavors.

With my warmest regards and prayers,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Annie O. Ty'.

SIS ANNIE O. TY
INTERNATIONAL REGENT

23rd DMII Biennial... from page 1

its attendant rites and the Parade of Circles with the Regional Representatives and their diocesan regents representing the dioceses in the 14 DMI regions in the country. They carried their respective banners

Region V headed by RR Sis. Lorie Manalansan sent the most number of delegates numbering 343 followed by Region XII RR Sis. Susan Honculada with 335 and IVR-Luzon and Region III RR Sis. Merinnisa Ligaya with 230 delegates.

IR Sis. Annie Ty declared the official opening of the convention with her welcome and inspirational message that set the tone for the day-long program.

Fr. Jerome, in his message to the delegates said that the DMIs are on a pilgrimage and the convention is an opportunity to get to know sisters from the other regions. The DMII is not just an organization but a family where everyone is important. He then posed the following questions for reflection:

First, do we make each sister feel valued? Do we value each other's gifts? "Hope doesn't disappoint. Anchor hope in the love of God," he said. He then asked "Are you a tourist or a pilgrim? Pilgrimage is a destination towards God."

Second,, in the DMI journey, are we able to help carry the cross of our other sisters? The DMI Missions reflect our love of God and of our other sisters. Media



IVR-Mindanao Sis. Punky Saavedra and IVR-Luzon Sis. Merinnisa "Nene" Ligaya with bouquets of flowers for the Blessed Mother's altar.



International Chaplain Fr. Jerome Cruz and International Regent Sis. Annie Ty carry Mama Mary's image to the altar by the stage.



The Parade of Colors follows the enthronement ceremony.



Regional Representatives and Diocesan Regents carry their banners representing their respective delegations.



The DMII International Officers with the SMI National Officers.



Program hosts Sis. Lorie Manalansan and Sis. Shirley Corvera

must promote only the truth. Our unity is a gift of the Holy Spirit.

Fr. Jerome's final message: (1) Walk in prayer. (2) Walk in solidarity, hold each other's hand. And (3) Walk in joy.

Rev. Fr. Richard Lagos, parish priest and rector of the Shrine of the Holy Face of Jesus in Nampicuan, Nueva Ecija and director of the Hope Foundation, a Renewal Center for Addiction, was the first guest speaker who spoke on the convention theme "DMII: Pilgrims of Hope in the Jubilee Year". He was introduced by Sis. Shirley Corvera, Morality in Media International Chairperson who co-hosted the day-long program.

Fr. Lagos cited three movements in our faith journey: (1) Seeing, (2) Listening and (3) Walking the Marian pathway.

SEEING

Seeing the signs of hope in everyday holiness in homes, workplaces and parishes. Countless acts of faithfulness often go unnoticed but are deeply powerful: mothers and grandmothers keeping the family anchored in prayer; catechists who, despite their personal challenges, go to great lengths to teach the faith; youth leaders who find creative ways to keep young people engaged with the Church. These ordinary yet extraordinary acts of fidelity are seeds of hope quietly taking roots in the soil of daily life.

Eucharistic Renewal also takes place in many dioceses and parishes. The hunger for the Eucharist is evidenced by the presence of Adoration Chapels in parish churches, the increasing number of daily

mass-goers and more people seeking the Sacrament of Reconciliation for healing that only God's mercy can give. In the Eucharist, believers find both the source and summit of Christian hope, a living encounter with the Risen Lord that strengthens pilgrims in their journey.

Lay Initiatives in Mercy, Catechesis and Outreach. Among the initiatives are providing services and support especially for the marginalized that can transform communities showing that the Holy Spirit empowers all the baptized to share in Christ's Mission.

LISTENING

Listening is an act of charity. Pope Benedict XVI said that the deepest crisis of our time is that people live as though God does not matter (amnesia of God). In such an environment, people are tempted to rely on human techniques and strategies. It is encountering and meeting the Living Christ (anamnesia) in the Word of God proclaimed and prayed, in the Sacraments of the Eucharist and Reconciliation and in the presence of God especially in our poor and suffering brothers and sisters. Only this encounter can anchor our hope in something deeper than circumstances.

Beyond personal struggles, there are systems and structural realities that "crucify" hope – persistent poverty, human trafficking that treats people as commodities that robs them of their dignity and opportunity, corruption that undermines public trust and fairness and ecological neglect that damages the very creation that God entrusts to our care, threatening our children and the future generations.

Fr. Lagos cited several signs that wound hope – **fatigue and fragmentation** brought about by economic pressures that lead to emotional exhaustion, broken relationships and others, **digital overload** that contributes to anxiety instead of fostering deep meaningful conversation, and **reduced attention span**.

The antidote to despair is not escapism – via entertainment, distractions and superficial pleasures – but **genuine communion**. This means being truly present to Jesus in prayer and being present to one another in life-giving relationships. It is in this space of authentic encounter and communion that hope is born, nurtured and shared.

WALKING THE MARIAN PATHWAY

Mary is the icon of hope. She is the perfect guide in DMIs' journey of hope. There are five key moments in her life where hope takes flesh and walks among us:

***Annunciation** - Hope begins in listening and trusting even when the future is uncertain.

***Visitation** - True hope is always in motion. (when Mary hastened to visit her pregnant cousin Elizabeth.)

Wedding Feast at Cana - Mary's sensitivity for the needs of others.

Calvary - Mary stood firm at the foot of the Cross, not losing hope when all seems lost.

Pentecost - Mary prayed hope into a fearful community,

Hope looks at God's promises and says, "It will be fulfilled."

The charism of the DMI is uniquely suited to "midwife" hope, hoping to bring to birth the life of grace on families, parishes and the wider world.

Award-winning and seasoned broadcast journalist Ms. Bernadette Sembrano-Aguinaldo was the next guest speaker. She was introduced by program co-host Sis. Lorie Manalansan, International Secretary and Region

Convention Speakers



IR Sis. Annie Ty officially opens the convention and welcomes the delegates.



Fr. Jerome Cruz with his opening statement



Inspirational speaker Fr. Richard Lagos . . .



. . . receives tokens of appreciation from Sisters Shirley, Annie, Lorie, Nene and Sq. Mary Joy Ancheta.



Ms. Bernadette Sembrano-Aguinaldo and Rev. Fr. Robert Reyes, the Running Priest

V RR. Her topic was “Reflecting on Mama Mary in the Modern World”.

Named Bernadette by her mother after St. Bernadette Soubirous, the visionary in Lourdes, she came to know Mama Mary early in her childhood.

The tragic loss of her baby she named Mary Olivia gave her new realizations – that we have to take care of ourselves despite our various roles which lead us to focus more on others – our families, our staff in the office, our colleagues at work, etc. She stressed the need for work-life balance. For her part, her Bantay Bata advocacies and her many other involvements outside of her being a broadcast journalist sometimes take a toll on her well-being..

Like Mary, she said that we can be strong physically and spiritually, an example being her visit to cousin Elizabeth, travelling many miles despite carrying Jesus in her womb.

During these trying times, we hear a lot of brokenness and stressful news – families getting separated both physically (in the case of OFWs) and due to breakdown of communication within the family. There is a great need for us to care for others – by our reaching out, our presence and getting involved.

During the pandemic, Ms. Aguinaldo had time to reach out to her neighbors and eventually create a “safe haven” (new term for comfort zone) for them.

The Half-Mary Marathon (a 21-kilometer run) she joined and was able to complete gave her the chance to meet and care for others. She said, “The smiles matter over the miles.”

We can all do it being Mama Mary’s daughters, because we have the strength we need, like she did with her contemplative prayers and faith. And like her focusing on our mission, to go to the same destination - heaven although via different routes. She ended her talk saying “May our race be full of grace.”

Rev. Fr. Robert Reyes was the third guest speaker. Introduced by Sis. Lorie Manalansan (they were bffs during high school), Fr. Robert lauded how the DMII has grown in numbers compared to its male counterpart, the Knights of Columbus. Jokingly, he said it’s because women give birth, although he noted that most DMIs are past their child-bearing age.

Known as the “Running Priest”, he introduced the DMI sisters to the Tutuban Prayer. Citing the signages on the crossroads, “Stop, Look and Listen”, he said that they are great reminders in life.

Stop. Many people choose to ignore it. In the absence of authority, they would choose to take a chance with danger, even when it is imminent.

Look. We need to look deeply at and inside ourselves.

turn to page 8



A regional yell by Region I delegates



The election of the 2026-27 International Officers supervised by Past International Regents

Listen. Listen to the beatings of our hearts and what our conscience tells us.

Many Catholics are baptized but not evangelized. Many pray very little or not at all even among our lawmakers and church leaders.

To Stop, Look and Listen, Fr. Robert added two more – Learn and Lead. On the Synodality that the late Pope Francis began, he actualized the Tutuban Prayer for the Church to stop and take stock of what's going on. Where there is wealth, Catholicism decreases. Where the Church reaches out to the poor, she grows.

Many are born and baptized as Catholics but there is a crying need for them to be **evangelized**. In an evangelized society, no one would steal, no one would lie, no one will kill. Fr. Robert cited some Filipinos who did heroic acts. They (Toto Magallanes, Dion Angelo de la Rosa and OFW Wilma Aiza) died doing good in our chaotic environment. He also cited Carlo Acutis, a digital evangelizer, and Giorgio Masati, young Italians aged 15 and 21 years, respectively who were canonized as saints recently. He quoted St. Carlo Acutis who said, “We were born originals but many of us will die photocopies.”

He then asked his audience: Are you originals or photocopies? Photocopies refuse to fight evil, refuse

to stop, look and listen. While many participate in the Catholic rites, they become indifferent to the problems of the Church and society.

As for himself, Fr. Robert's running is his form of evangelization, going all over the country, at 50 kilometers a day with his mantra: “The streets are my pulpit, the trees are my altar and the universe is my church.” Just like the apostles who began the church as missionaries, whose church was the streets, not buildings and other properties, just like St. Paul who did not have a structure to come home to, immersing his life in the lives of others.

“Don't let your life pass you by,” he said, “and not only your own life but also of your community, your parish, your BECs and your country.”

Fr. Robert's final message to the DMIs: “Be exceptional, be different and not photocopies. Start a program of becoming spiritual heroes of your community, of your country.” His acronym for DMI: **D**eeply involved **M**issionaries and **I**mitators of Jesus and Mary.

During the lunchbreak, a video presentation of the DMI Missions in action was shown.

The afternoon session started with the presentation of plaques of recognition to 19 Gold Star Circle awardees and 27 Silver Star Circle awardees. (Please see page 18)



The newly-elected International Officers. From left: Int'l Treasurer Sis. Catherine Francisco, Int'l Secretary Sis. Chodee Amoranto, IVR-Luzon Sis Juliet Cruz, Int'l Regent Sis. Merinnisa Ligaya, IVR-Visayas Sis. Thelma Lim and IVR-Mindanao Sis. Susan Honculada

for the list of the 2025 Star Circle awardees.) This was followed by the presentation of awards to circles with the Best Mission Practices, three for each of the missions for Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao. (Please see story on page 20.)

The last part of the day's program was the election of the 2026-27 International Officers from the incoming DMII Board of Trustees composed of the 14 Regional Representatives. The election was supervised by the past International Regents present – Sisters Myrna Zapanta, Jean Velarde, Lydia Ramirez, Mila Villanueva, Pureza Guzman, Lelies Pimentel, Ruby Macario and Sionee Naraga. International Vice-Regent for Luzon and Region III Representative Sis. Merinnisa Ligaya was elected as 2026-27 International Regent. (Please see separate story on page 17.)

VIR for Luzon Sis. Nene Ligaya delivered the closing remarks followed by the closing prayer led by IVR-Mindanao Sis. Pinky Saavedra.

A Eucharistic celebration by Bishop Rafael Cruz of the Diocese of Baguio and Fr. Jerome brought the 23rd Biennial Convention to a fitting close. Bishop Cruz's

homily dwelt on the status of women, beginning with their low status in the past and their eventual emergence to becoming empowered. He cited the role of the Blessed Mother in Church history and the declaration of four dogmas to honor her – her Immaculate Conception, the Annunciation (virgin birth), as the Mother of God and her Assumption to heaven. Bishop Cruz called on the DMIs, as Mary's daughters, to be guided by her virtues and her examples.

Baguio City Mayor Benjamin Magalong who was not able to come in the morning because of his busy schedule took time out to welcome the delegates to his city after the recessional. He was awarded a plaque of appreciation for gracing the event.

Dinner and a short break followed, for the delegates to prepare for their much-awaited Fellowship Night. The photos of the gala affair appear in the pictorial on page 12.

(Note: Our special thanks to Sis. Lorie Manalansan for her invaluable assistance in documenting part of the convention program proceedings.- The Editors)



Closing remarks by IVR-Luzon Sis. Nene Ligaya



Closing prayer led by IVR-Mindanao Sis. Pinky Saavedra



The Eucharistic celebration by Bishop Rafael Cruz and Fr. Jerome



The recessional



Mayor Benjamin Magalong belatedly welcomes the delegates to Baguio City.

Presentation of Awards

Star Circle Awards



Sis. Annie and Fr. Jerome present the Gold Star Circle Awards to Region V RR Sis. Lorie Manalansan. Region V had the most number of Gold Circle awardees.

Best Mission Practices Awards



Pro-Life Luzon - Queen of Flowers Circle, Region IV



Pro-Life Visayas - St. Anne Circle, Region IX



Pro-Life Mindanao - St. Joseph Circle, Region XIV



Morality in Media Luzon - Holy Child Circle, Region VII



Morality in Media Visayas - Sto. Niño de Kalibo Circle, Region IX



Morality in Media Mindanao - Archdiocese of Zamboanga/San Isidro de Labrador Circle, Region XIV



Upliftment of Women Workers Luzon - St. Paul of the Cross Circle, Region V



Upliftment of Women Workers Visayas - Virgin Most Powerful Circle, Region XI



Upliftment of Women Workers Mindanao - Queen of Divine Grace Circle, Region XII



Assistance to Prisoners' Families & their Victims Luzon - Diocese of Cubao, Region V



Assistance to Prisoners' Families & their Victims Mindanao - Morning Star Circle, Region XII



SMI Luzon - St. Paul of the Cross Circlette, Region V



SMI Visayas - Virgin Most Powerful Circlette, Region XI



SMI Mindanao - Mother of Perpetual Help Circlette, Region XIV

THE GALA NIGHT

Theme: DMIs Around the World



The program hosts, Squirettes Elaisa Marie Honculada and Venus Mahal Soriano



The contest Board of Judges with IR Sis. Annie Ty, Laurel Contreras, Bernadette Valeriano and JM Bulaong

Regional Dance Contest



Region III – Argentina, 1st place



Region IX – Brazil, 2nd place



Region II – India, 3rd place



Region I - Spain



Region IV – Korea



Region V – Africa



Region VI – USA



Region VII – China



Region VIII – New Zealand



Region X – Venezuela



Region XI – Dubai



Region XII – Mexico



Region XIII – Indonesia



Region XIV – Thailand



Ms. DMII 2025 candidates, from left: Region XIV – Sis. Sigrid Lou Bongo, Region XIII – Sis. Rulina Imbong, Region XII – Sis. Myrna Jaranilla, Region X – Sis. Ednelita Cristina de Gracia, Region IX – Sis. Faith Norico Nonato, Region VI – Sis. Marilyn Go, Region VII – Sis. Vicky Uy, Region V – Sis. Jesusa Abagat, Region IV – Sis. Gay Melene Paitim, Region III- Sis. Ruby Santiago and Region II – Sis. Leofella Aquinde



The newly-crowned Ms. DMII '25, Sis. Gay Melene Paitim (at center) with Past IR Sis. Lelies Pimentel, Ms. DMI 2023 Sis. Marilyn San Diego. PIR Sis. Ruby Macario and IR Sis. Annie Ty.



Ms. DMII 2025 and her court, from left: Ms. Humility – Region XIV, Ms. Unity – Region XII, Ms. DMII '23, Ms. DMII'25, IR Sis. Annie, Ms. Friendship – Region III and Ms. Charity – Region V

DMII National Pilgrimage 2025 in Baguio City

*By Sis. Biannah Elena C. Villanueva
Int'l Chairperson for Formation
and Pilgrimage 2024-2025*

It was a chilly early morning of August 17, 2025, when more than two hundred members of Daughters of Mary Immaculate from various regions and circles gathered on the grounds of Newtown Plaza Hotel in Baguio City to take part on a pilgrimage to five chosen Holy Door churches in the city.

All twenty-one vans, each carrying 11 DMI sisters, would be visiting five churches of Holy Doors in the city. The pilgrims were filled with anticipation and excitement, even amidst the chilly Baguio weather. The pilgrimage promises another opportunity for learning, spiritual enlightenment and most of all, camaraderie and DMI sisterhood. The accompanying photos record their day-long activities.



***Take off; National Pilgrimage 2025
Baguio City***

The pilgrimage started in the Church of St. Vincent Ferrer in Campo Filipino on Naguilian Road. The pilgrims attended Sunday mass, offered short prayers, and solemn meditation. It was a beautiful experience to start off the

Pilgrimage.



St. Vincent Ferrer Church

Then, they headed out to San Jose the Husband of Mary Church in Población, La Trinidad, Benguet. After some prayers, group pictures, and orientation about the church.



they had sumptuous lunch at the Church Social Hall.



San Jose the Husband of Mary Parish

The third church was the St. John Bosco in Trancoville, Benguet. The pilgrims had a great time exploring the church and saying short prayers.

turn to page 16



St. John Bosco Parish

The fourth church was the Immaculate Concepcion in Aurora Hill, Benguet where the pilgrims also had their prayer petitions and a moment of solemn meditation.



Immaculate Concepcion Parish, Baguio City

The last church was the Holy Family Church in Bakakeng Road within the city and just a short distance from Newtown Plaza Hotel. From the surrounding pine trees to the sunken architectural layout of the church, the pilgrims had a great time in prayers and camaraderie, a fitting way to end the pilgrimage.



Holy Family Church

Heading back to the hotel, the pilgrims brought with them the lasting remembrance of the prayers and devotion to the Holy Mother through the five (5) Holy Door churches they had visited.

DMII RECEIVES RECOGNITION AWARD FROM PRO-LIFE PHILS.

The Daughters of Mary Immaculate International received an Award of Recognition from the ProLife Philippines Foundation, Inc. on September 27, 2025 for its continuing effort and advocacy upholding and defending the culture of life and in supporting the Foundation's programs and mission to establish a Pro-God, Pro-Life and Pro-Family Filipino nation.

On hand to receive the award were Past International Regent Sis. Ruby Macario, Past ProLife President Sis. Cora Afuang and Past ProLife Chairman Rita Dayrit.



2026-27 INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS ELECTED

The election of the 2026-27 DMII International Officers was held last August 16, 2025 with the Past International Regents overseeing the conduct of the

election. Composing the incoming International Officers and Board of Trustees are the following:



The 2026-27 International Officers and Board of Trustees with the Past International Regents and Fr. Jerome Cruz

Sis. Merinnisa O. Ligaya	- International Regent
Sis. Juliet V. Cruz	- International Vice-Regent (IVR) for Luzon & Region V Representative (RR)
Sis. Thelma P. Lim	- IVR for Visayas & Region XI RR
Sis. Susan I. Honculada	- IVR for Mindanao & Region XII RR
Sis. Teodorica S. Amoranto	- International Secretary & Region VI RR
Sis. Catherine H. Francisco	- International Treasurer & Region IV RR
Sis. Aura Eunice S. Santos	- International Advocate

Regional Representatives:

Sis. Leticia O. Gano	- Region I
Sis. Marilou B. Guerrero	- Region II
Sis. Leonora P. Guzman	- Region III
Sis. Ma. Adeline A. Lee	- Region VII
Sis. Corazon B. Bo	- Region VIII
Sis. Majella A. Verdejo	- Region IX
Sis. Isidrita C. Lim	- Region X
Sis. Elizabeth A. Dipaling	- Region XIII
Sis. Ida E. Talictic	- Region XIV

SHINING BRIGHT FOR MARY WITH THE STAR CIRCLE AWARDS

*By Sis. Evelyn Alcantara,
Int'l Chairperson for Youth Welfare/SMI*

One of the most anticipated highlights of DMII's Biennial Conventions is the recognition given to outstanding circles through the Star Circle Awards.

The Star Circle Awards, given in two categories – the Gold Star and the Silver Star – recognize not only the accomplishments of a circle but also its being able to carry out its mission and purpose as mandated by the CBCP and the DMII by-laws. Then, too, the award mirrors the DMI virtues - unity, friendship, charity, humility and sanctity – with the Blessed Mother as model and guide. It also recognizes the DMIs' service to the parish church and the community for the glory of God.

More than titles and recognition, the accomplishments of the Star Circle awardees are a living testimony that when women gather in Mary's name, they become powerful instruments of God's love. Truly, the light of Mary shines even brighter through the lives and works of her daughters.

For the 2025 Star Circle Awards given during the 23rd Biennial Convention in Baguio City, 17 circles received the Gold Star Awards and 27 circles, the Silver Star. They are as follows:

GOLD STAR CIRCLE AWARDEES

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CIRCLE, Diocese of Iba, Region III

OUR LADY OF FATIMA CIRCLE, Diocese of Iba, Region III

QUEEN OF ANGELS CIRCLE, Diocese of Iba, Region III

STO. NINO DE MEYCAUAYAN CIRCLE, Diocese of Malolos, Region IV

ROSA MYSTICA CIRCLE, Diocese of Malolos, Region IV

OUR LADY OF CONSOLATION & CINCTURE CIRCLE, Diocese of Malolos, Region IV

ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS CIRCLE, Diocese of Antipolo, Region V

STO. NINO DE MOLINO CIRCLE, Diocese of Imus, Region V

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE CIRCLE, Diocese of Imus, Region V

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF KARANGALAN CIRCLE, Diocese of Pasig, Region V

RISEN CHRIST CIRCLE, Diocese of Paranaque, Region V

TOWER OF IVORY CIRCLE, Archdiocese of Palo, Region XI

QUEEN OF DIVINE GRACE CIRCLE, Diocese of Butuan, Region XII

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CIRCLE, Diocese of Butuan, Region XII

MORNING STAR CIRCLE, Archdiocese of Zamboanga, Region XIV

OUR LADY OF PURIFICATION CIRCLE, Archdiocese of Zamboanga, Region XIV

ST. JOSEPH SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY CIRCLE, Archdiocese of Zamboanga, Region XIV

SILVER STAR CIRCLE AWARDEES

MORNING STAR CIRCLE, Diocese of Iba, Region III

MYSTICAL ROSA CIRCLE, Diocese of Iba, Region III

ST. COLUMBAN CIRCLE, Diocese of Iba, Region III

IMMACULATE HEART CIRCLE, Archdiocese of San Fernando (Pampanga), Region III

QUEEN OF FLOWERS CIRCLE, Diocese of Malolos, Region IV

STA. CLARA CIRCLE, Diocese of Malolos, Region IV

NATIVITY OF OUR LADY CIRCLE, Diocese of Antipolo, Region V

OUR LADY OF THE ABANDONED CIRCLE, Diocese of Antipolo, Region V

SAGRADA FAMILIA CIRCLE, Diocese of Cubao, Region V

OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP CIRCLE, Diocese of Imus, Region V

QUEEN OF ALL HEARTS CIRCLE, Diocese of Pasig, Region V

SAN JOSE DE NAVOTAS CIRCLE, Diocese of Kalookan, Region V

MOTHER OF LIFE CIRCLE, Diocese of San Pablo, Region VI

SAN LORENZO RUIZ CIRCLE, Diocese of San Pablo, Region VI

SAN AGUSTIN CIRCLE, Diocese of San Pablo, Region VI

SAN ANTONIO DE PADUA CIRCLE, Diocese of San Pablo, Region VI

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CIRCLE, Diocese of San Pablo,, Region VI

THERESIAN CIRCLE, Diocese of San Pablo, Region VI

OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL CIRCLE, Diocese of San Pablo, Region VI

SAN SEBASTIAN CIRCLE, Apostolic Vicariate of San Jose, Occ. Mindoro, Region VII

VIRGIN MOST POWERFUL CIRCLE. Archdiocese of Palo, Region XI

QUEEN OF PEACE CIRCLE, Diocese of Butuan, Region XII

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CIRCLE, Diocese of Tandag, Region XII

OUR LADY OF THE MOST HOLY ROSARY OF MANAOAG CIRCLE, Archdiocese of Zamboanga, Region XIV

SAN ANTONIO MA. CLARET CIRCLE, Archdiocese of Zamboanga, Region XIV

OUR LADY OF PEACE AND GOOD VOYAGE CIRCLE, Archdiocese of Zamboanga, Region XIV

OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP CIRCLE, Archdiocese of Zamboanga, Region XIV

BEST MISSION PRACTICES CITED

During the 23rd Biennial Convention in Baguio City last August 16, 2025, fifteen mission projects (one for each of the 5 DMI Missions in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao) were specially cited and earned a Best Mission Practice award for their implementing circle. They are as follows:

PRO-LIFE (Sis. Angie Baes, International Chairperson)

LUZON – QUEEN OF FLOWERS CIRCLE, Vicariate of St. Martin of Tours, Diocese of Malolos, Region IV

The Circle revived and handled the newly-named St. Martin of Tours Parish Day Care School (SMTPDCCS),

Responding to the request of the Parish Priest to share their time, talent and treasure by handling the revival of a Day Care Center after its closure for some years, the DMI sisters worked together in unity, friendship and charity and with great devotion and dedication to the Blessed Mother. This Pro-Life brought about the revival of the SMTPDCCI that has now admitted more enrollees, among them many indigent student beneficiaries.

VISAYAS – ST. ANNE CIRCLE, Diocese of San Carlos – Region IX

A Gift-giving and Feeding Program has helped the Circle's Pro-Life initiatives of providing tangible resources and emotional support for the less fortunate families in Barangays Paraiso and Fabrica.

During the activity, a Thanksgiving and Concelebrated Mass was held at the Holy Family Chaplaincy Court attended by the beneficiaries, some barangay officials and visitors. The feeding and gift-giving program was held after the Mass. Serving of nutritious foods and giving of gifts provided by the St. Anne Circle made a positive impact both on the beneficiaries, the DMI sisters and all those who witnessed the event, making them appreciate the acts of

charity, love and concern that the DMII and the Church have shown.

MINDANAO – ST JOSEPH CIRCLE, Archdiocese of Zamboanga & Prelature of Isabela de Basilan – Region XIV

“Operation Tuli with Medical Assistance” is the circle’s legacy of service since 1994 with the objective of ensuring safe and hygienic circumcision services to young boys of underserved communities. Circumcision is not only a medical need but also follows the precepts of the Catholic Church.

This activity is undertaken by the DMII in collaboration with volunteer doctors, nurses and other partner organizations/associations. Through the program, post-operative care, follow-up check-up and free medicines provided by one of its partners, Pharmacists Association are made available to the community annually.

MORALITY IN MEDIA (Sis. Shirley Corvera, International Chairperson)

LUZON – HOLY CHILD CIRCLE, Apostolic Vicariate of Calapan, Oriental Mindoro, Region VII

An Oratorical Contest with the theme “The Influence of Mass Media in Shaping Societal Morality” was conducted by the Circle on February 2, 2024 with 12 contestants from eight schools and colleges. The contest served as a platform for students, not only to enhance their public speaking skills but also to voice their opinion, cultivate empathy and promote a more conscious and ethical society, equipping them with tools to influence their peers positively and advocate for moral integrity in media.

VISAYAS – MARY MEDIATRIX OF ALL GRACES CIRCLE, Sts. Peter and Paul Parish, Paranas, Samar, Diocese of Calbayog, Region XI

The Circle embarked on a tie-up project with the Parish Pastoral Council to impart catechism and

to enhance media awareness so as to fully understand the effects of media on families and communities. Catechism was given to school children, parents and parishioners with the help of volunteer catechists, PPC, DMI members and the Parish Priest in February, 2024. The catechism of children and lecture on How Media Affect the Social Dynamics paved the way for their spiritual readiness to receive the First Communion which adheres to the objective: values formation.

MINDANAO – ARCHDIOCESE OF ZAMBOANGA & PRELATURE OF ISABELA DE BASILAN LED BY SAN ISIDRO LABRADOR CIRCLE OF TALON-TALON – Region XIV

Circles in the Archdiocese led by the San Isidro Labrador Circle promoted Morality in Media through radio programs aired every Sunday over Station DXXX RPN Zamboanga and news publication of DMII-related activities in the local daily newspaper, Zamboanga Today. The radio program, started in June 2023, is alternately hosted by the 30 circles in the Archdiocese with discussion of topics assigned to them.

The simultaneous use of both radio and newspaper helps increase the public's awareness of the organization's plans, programs and mission thrusts. They continue to serve as channels of Morality in Media. The interesting topics leave a great impact on the lives of the community. The weekly radio program has been successful and effective through the cooperation and the resourcefulness of the participating circles and the flexibility and resilience of the hosts.

UPLIFTMENT OF WOMEN WORKERS (Sis. Tess Labilles, International Chairperson)

LUZON – ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS CIRCLE, Diocese of Antipolo, Region V

The Circle's Sewing and Upcycling Project started with a donation of sewing machines – three high-speed and two manual sewing machines – that became an investment in livelihood and sustainability, gaining stable employment for three members that ensures a source of income for their families. Additionally, the parish now has easy access to custom-made chasubles and other clerical garments for the priests of the diocese, using local craftsmanship at a reduced cost.

Beyond meeting religious needs, the initiative

has also embraced sustainability. By upcycling local scraps into aprons and tote bags the project minimizes waste while creating additional income streams. This innovative approach not only supports livelihoods but also promotes environmental consciousness in the community. Through this project, both economic empowerment and sustainability go hand in hand, proving that small initiatives can lead to lasting impact.

VISAYAS – VIRGIN MOST POWERFUL CIRCLE, Diocese of Calbayog, Region XI

Cooperatives for Livelihood. Since January, 2023, the Virgin Most Powerful Circle, Diocese of Calbayog, Region XI has been actively assisting in the formation of cooperative groups for livelihood by providing training and orientation sessions culminating in the registration in December, 2024 of two livelihood cooperatives under DOLE with the support of the DSWD and the barangay council.

The Aslum Women Merchandise Cooperative focuses on managing sari-sari stores and rice dealerships, thus empowering women entrepreneurs. The second coop, the Aslum Vendors Association supports food vendors by providing structured opportunities for sustainable income. These cooperatives mark a significant milestone in fostering economic independence and community development.

MINDANAO – QUEEN OF DIVINE GRACE CIRCLE, Diocese of Butuan, Region XII

Supporting Mamanwa women weavers. The Circle extended support to the Maraiging Mamanwa Farmers Skilled Workers Association (MAMAFASWAS) in Jabonga, Agusan del Norte, recognizing their efforts in assisting women weavers in acquiring school materials for children in the community. The circle's UWW team distributed food packs, rice and financial aid to each woman beneficiary. In addition, they helped purchase 1,500 woven buri bags as convention kits distributed to delegates during the 22nd DMII Biennial Convention in Butuan City in September, 2023. The DMI sisters exerted extra efforts to transport the bags from the remote location of the weavers. The MAMAFASWAS expressed heartfelt gratitude for the DMI sisters' initiatives that strengthen their goal of empowering women to become self-reliant, skilled and productive members of society. The project was also cited and featured by the DTI Agusan del Norte Negosyo Center Jabonga on their official FB page.

turn to page 22

**ASSISTANCE TO PRISONERS' FAMILIES
& THEIR VICTIMS** (Sis. Milde Tong, International
Chairperson)

**LUZON – DMII DIOCESE OF CUBAO,
Region V**

The support and generosity of circles in the Diocese in assisting the families of persons deprived of liberty (PDLs), the compassion and commitment to provide educational assistance and support to PDLs' children bring them hope, dignity and opportunity especially to those in dire need.

**MINDANAO – MORNING STAR CIRCLE,
Diocese of Malaybalay, Region XII**

For the Morning Star Circle's unwavering support and generosity in assisting PDL's families, especially in providing educational assistance and support that bring hope, dignity and opportunities to PDLs' children in need.

YOUTH WELFARE/SMI (Sis. Evelyn
Alcantara, International Chairperson)

**LUZON – ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS
CIRCLETTE, Diocese of Antipolo, Region V**

The Bible and Story Telling "The Creation, Noah's Ark, David and Goliath and Ang Batang si Moses" brought the Word of God to life, planting seeds of truth, hope and faith to the hearts of many. The Squirettes shared their God-given gift of sharing His message with clarity and passion.

**VISAYAS – VIRGIN MOST POWERFUL
CIRCLETTE, Archdiocese of Palo, Region XI**

The selfless services and boundless compassion shown to the residents of St. Francis Home for the Aged uplift hearts through their care, smiles and presence, bringing comfort to the lonely and reflecting the love of Christ through their every act.

**MINDANAO – OUR MOTHER OF
PERPETUAL HELP CIRCLETTE, Archdiocese
of Zamboanga & Prelature of Isabela de Basilan,
Region XIV**

The inspiring story telling "Kristo Aral" brings the word of God to life and plants seeds of truth, hope and faith in the hearts of many, using their God-given gift to share His message with clarity, passion and love.



From the Archdiocese of Lingayen-Dagupan – Region II

MIRACULOUS MEDAL CIRCLE SHARES FRUITS OF THE LAND

By Sis. Aileen Santos, Circle Regent

Leviticus 25:12 reminds us that the Jubilee Year is a holy time to trust in God's providence rather than in our own labor. The fruits of the land, growing freely, are signs of His generous love and care for His people. By sharing these blessings to others, we live the true spirit of the Jubilee: gratitude, simplicity and love for neighbor.

The Miraculous Medal Circle of Dagupan City observes the Jubilee Year by sharing the fruits of the land with the community. The recent sharing of blessings came from the land of Sis. Rhoda Mendoza.



OUR LADY OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CIRCLE VISITS JUBILEE PILGRIM CHURCHES

By Sis. Fe Aquinde, Circle Regent

Six Pilgrim Churches were visited by the Our Lady of Immaculate Conception Circle, Diocese of Urdaneta last August 30, 2025. Spearheaded by Rev. Fr. Christopher Sison, pastor of the Our Lady of Immaculate Conception Parish, the pilgrimage was a parish-wide activity.



Fr. Christopher Sison addresses the pilgrims before the start of the pilgrimage.

The pilgrim churches visited were the St. Patrick Ireland Parish in Tayug, Pangasinan, Sto. Nino Parish in Binalonan, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish in Sison, Our Lady of Immaculate Conception Cathedral in Urdaneta, St. Anthony Abbot Parish in Villasis and Our

Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Diaz, Villasis.

The pilgrimage was the circle's participation in the observance of Jubilee Year, for the DMI sisters to understand the true meaning as well as to reflect more deeply on their faith.



The Our Lady of Immaculate Conception Circle sisters who joined the Pilgrimage.

—oOo—

PINEAPPLE VINEGAR-MAKING: A UWW PROJECT

The Upliftment of Women Workers (UWW) Committee of the Our Lady of Immaculate Conception Circle held a demonstration on pineapple vinegar-making on September 2, 2025 in Bgy, Diaz, Umingan, Pangasinan.

Umingan Mayor Chris Evert Tadeo-Leynes was the circle's guest of honor who watched the vinegar making process. She gave her full support to the project as a means of livelihood and promised to help by providing funds for the raw materials needed for the project.

Headed by UWW Committee Chairperson Sis.

Nora Badua, the group is composed of Vice-Chairperson Sis. Rachel Dasig and Sisters Lolita Salazar and Cecilia Arroccena, members.



Demo participants watch the pineapple vinegar making process.

DIALOGUE OF LIFE TOUCHES HEARTS IN BGY. TULAT

*By Sis. Evelyn Nocum,
San Jose Circle Scribe*

The unpredictable weather notwithstanding, the DMI sisters of San Jose Circle were among the groups of pastoral workers from the Cathedral in San Jose City, Nueva Ecija during the Dialogue of Life held in Zone 5, Barangay Tulat. The activity was headed by Fr. Cayetano Nido, Jr. and Fr. Anthony Paul Bicomong. Parish lay ministers also joined the activity.

The Dialogue started with an orientation by the priests, explaining the objectives of the visit and setting the spiritual tone of the day. Prior coordination had already been conducted by the DKPC to ensure the presence and participation of local residents.

During the orientation, the participants were grouped into small circles, each facilitated by designated leaders, some of whom were DMI sisters. The session began with casual check-ins, fostering a warm and reflective environment. Facilitators then revisited the day's Gospel reading earlier proclaimed by the priest, guiding the group reflection and individual sharing.

Though brief, the individual sharings were heartfelt and inspiring. Time was managed well to allow space for a general group sharing bringing participants together in deeper reflection.

After the small-group sessions, the mission extended to house-to-house visits during which the priests blessed the families and offered prayers for the sick and those in need. Rosaries, Prayer to St. Joseph and St. Joseph *stampitas* were also given to family members. While the blessing and prayers were going on inside the house, some of the participants stayed outside to pray *Our Father*, *Hail Mary* and *Glory Be* until the priest emerges from the house.

In whatever weather, the Dialogue of Life is an act of faith that knows no boundaries. It is not just preached inside the church but lived and shared house to house and heart to heart.



Participants in the Dialogue of Life during the orientation conducted by Frs. Caye Nido and Paul Bicomong.



A priest blesses and prays for the family during one of their house visits.

DIOCESE OF IBA'S 1ST SEMESTER '25 PRO-LIFE REPORT

By Sis. Nida Flores, Vicarial Regent

***Walk for Life on March 15, 2025.** Two vicariates in the Diocese – the Vicariates of San Jose and San Sebastian – held a Walk for Life with DMI sisters from 15 circles joining the activity. The Walk started with a Holy Mass celebrated by Rev. Fr. Roque Villanueva at the Diocesan Shrine and Parish of St. Columban.



***Queen of Angels Circle Maternal Health Care Project.** Sixteen pregnant women in the community received medical services for expectant mothers last June 7, 2025. The services provided were free obstetric ultrasound and a lecture on the benefits of breastfeeding. Dr. Lamberto Castillo, district deputy of the Knights of Columbus Council 3722 sponsored the project.



***St. Columban Circle's Family Day.** The Family Day was held on March 16, 2025 aimed at strengthening family bonds and providing the family members the chance to reconnect and to refocus.



***Spiritual Adoption Program for Unborn Babies.** The St. Columban Circle sisters signed the spiritual adoption of an unborn baby at the Anne Raquel Resort. They will pray for the adopted unborn baby daily for nine months. The prayers started on March 16 and will end on December 16, 2025.



Photo



NEWS

DIOCESE OF MALOLOS BAGS ONCE AGAIN MS. DMII TITLE

During the recently-concluded 23rd DMII Biennial Convention in Baguio City, SIS. GAY MELENE PAITIM of the Vicariate of Sta. Maria, Diocese of Malolos was crowned Ms. DMI 2025, succeeding Sis. Marylin P. San Diego, Ms. DMI 2023 also of Region IV. She is shown in photo at center with (from left) Past IR Sis. Lelies Pimentel, Sis. Marilyn San Diego, and Past IR Sis. Ruby Macario and IR Sis. Annie Ty. - *Sis. Nemie Finalla, Region IV Newsette Correspondent*



—oOo—

From the Diocese of Antipolo – Region V

ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS CIRCLE CELEBRATES GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

*By Sis. Cora Afuang, Past IVR-Luzon
and Pro-Life Int'l Chairperson*

August 15, 2025 was a red letter day for the members of St. Paul of the Cross Circle, SSS Village in Marikina City, Diocese of Antipolo. It was the 50th Founding Anniversary of the circle! Since it was a milestone event, and all members agreed to have a grand celebration, preparations for the celebration started one year ahead – with planning and fund-raising to ensure a successful event worth remembering.

It was practically a month-long celebration with the major activities divided into 3 main groups. The first activity was on August 3, 2025 - the 1st Sunday of August and the regular meeting day of the circle. After the regular mass and fraternal breakfast, the 30 past regents of the circle were honored for the contributions they have given to the circle. They were each given a plaque of appreciation and a small image of Mama Mary. The relatives of past regents who passed away

were invited to receive the plaques and token. It was a nostalgic event especially for the kins of the past regents who were no longer around as they recalled their mothers dressed in the DMI uniform leaving early on a first Sunday of the month to attend meetings and/or outreach activities.

On August 15, 2025 - the actual anniversary date, members who were all dressed to the nines in their long gowns, beautifully coiffed and made up, trooped to Novotel in Araneta City for the formal event – dinner plus the presentations and awards. There were two dance presentations – a Cotillon de Honor and a Rigodon de Honor. As expected, the participants spent days and weeks practicing and their efforts paid off! Another feature of the evening was the announcement of the DMI of the Year and DMI of the Night awarded to Sis. Badette Matos and Sis. Grace Guevara, respectively.

The event was well attended with six priests (Bishop Ruperto Santos, the Bishop of Antipolo was supposed to be the Guest Speaker but fell ill a few days before the event so his speech was read by Fr. Vic Flores, our circle's chaplain), some government officials of Marikina plus the spouses of some members. It was too bad not one of the DMI International Officers invited was able to attend due to conflict with the Biennial Convention in Baguio City. Instead, they sent their video greetings.

The third part of the golden celebration happened on August 30, 2025. A community outreach project was conducted at Barangay Tumana, where a big number of less privileged citizens of Marikina can be found. Starting off with a Holy Mass officiated by Fr. Vic Flores, Jr., the four DMI mission thrusts - Prolife, Morality in Media, Upliftment of Women Workers, Assistance to Prisoners Families and their Victims, plus the Squirettes of Mary Immaculate joined forces to reach out to the less privileged members of the community. There were medical and dental activities, a demonstration of rug making, a drawing session and bible instructions for the kids. There were activities for both the young and adult attendees during the day. Some tokens were also given away to the participants numbering 300 aside from merienda fare.

Realizing that this momentous event needs to be given special attention, a Souvenir Magazine was printed to reflect on the past and celebrate memories of the circle's 50 years of existence.

All in all, the 50th Founding Anniversary of St. Paul of the Cross was an event worth the time, effort and resources spent by the circle and the members alike. Kudos to the Anniversary Committee led by Sis. Alma Luces. Aside from the celebration being a milestone worth remembering by the members and their friends, it was also a joyful occasion to proclaim to the world that the DMI's motto of Unity, Friendship, Charity and Sanctity are always at the core of their endeavors. With utmost humility, we say "To God be the Glory".



The Cotillion de Honor dancers



The circle's past regents were honored with plaques and tokens of appreciation.



Rug-Making demonstration at Bgy. Tumana



The Rigodon de Honor participants



Medical-Dental Mission

ST. MARY MAGDALENE CIRCLE

13TH CIRCLE IN THE DIOCESE OF IMUS

By Sis. Inday Ramos, Diocesan Regent

The St. Mary Magdalene Circle of Amadeo, Cavite became the 13th Circle created in the Diocese of Imus.

Through the initiative of Sto. Niño de Molino Circle Regent Sis. Marie Catherine P. Longcob, under the leadership of Imus Diocesan Regent Sis Inday Ramos, St. Mary Magdalene Circle was created and members were installed last August 30, 2025.

The process started by contacting Fr. Pons Diente Jr., former Assistant Parish Priest of Sto Niño de Molino Parish last June 4, 2025, followed by a courtesy call on Fr. Allan Valero, Parish Priest of St. Mary Magdalene Parish, Amadeo, Cavite. After three meetings, 23 interested ladies were gathered, to serve God through Mama Mary and the missions of the DMII.

The circle is headed by its Regent, Sis Marissa A. Cabrera.



The officers and members of the St. Mary Magdalene Circle.

—oOo—

SMI DIOCESE OF IMUS HOLDS ANNUAL PALARONG PINOY

*By Sis. Malou Medel, SMI Lady Counselor,
Our Lady Queen of Peace Circle*

May 24, 2025 was a day of energy, enthusiasm and excitement for Squirettes of Mary Immaculate of the Diocese of Imus, when they held their unique sportsfest at Springville Executive Covered Court, Molino, City of Bacoor, Cavite. The event was hosted by Our Mother of Perpetual Help Circle. The SMIs played all-time favorite games, such as Patintero, Chinese-Garter, Hula Hoop, Pass-the-Message, and Banana Relay, hence, the event was aptly named Palarong Pinoy. Initiated by Diocesan Regent Sis. Emelie “Inday” Ramos, the

event has become an annual activity since 2019.

This year’s Over-All Championship Award was bagged by Our Lady Queen of Peace Circlette. Sto. Nino de Molino Circlette and Our Mother of Perpetual Help Circlette won second and third places, respectively. A separate Cheering Competition was also held won by Our Lady of Penafrancia Circlette (first), Our Lady Queen of Peace Circlette (second), and Our Mother of Perpetual Help Circlette (third). Other participating

circlettes were the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Inay Maria ng Magnificat Circlettes.

The main objective of this event is for Squirettes to pause from the digital world and enjoy sweat-releasing games and cheering dances, not to mention development of the values of teamwork, sportsmanship,

and friendship. “Be happy, healthy and holy” were the words of wisdom from Diocesan Spiritual Director Fr. Jeofrey Zacarias who came to grace the occasion and whose presence touched the hearts and inspired all throughout the day.



Participants in the Palarong Pinoy



The Squirettes enjoy the games.

OUR LADY OF PENAFRANCIA CIRCLE ORGANIZES SMI CIRCLETTE

By Sis. Gina Parfan, Circle Scribe

Close in the heels of organizing and chartering the Our Lady of Penafrancia Circle, a Squirettes of Mary Immaculate circlette had also been organized last May 6, 2025 with the investiture of its members at the Parokya ni San Agustin in Mabuhay City. The circlette officers were then installed after the investiture ceremony by OLP Circle Vice-Regent Sis. Editha Danzalan and SMI Lady Counselor Sis. Sarah Lanugan.

The circlette’s officers are Sq. Angel Baloran - president; Sq. Clarissa Tud – Vice-President; Sq. Xyrel Lobo – Secretary; Sq. Beatrice Cuchapan – Treasurer; Sq. Faith Canata – Chancellor; and Sq. Chloe Lozano and Sofia Casaquite – Marshalls.

Present to lend support were Diocesan Regent Sis. Inday Ramos, newly-elected Vicarial Regent of Sto. Nino Vicariate . Sis. Teresita Guerrero and SMI Lady Counselor Sis. Jo Fria.

A Mass in celebration and thanksgiving was presided by Rev. Fr. Geoffrey Zacarias, DMII Diocesan Spiritual Director and parish priest.



The members of the Our Lady of Penafrancia SMI Circlette.

Our Lady Queen of Peace Circle Answers the Call: Nurturing Future Priests

By: Sis. Daisa Narag, Circle Scribe

Last July 12, 2025 during the Saturday Devotion Mass of Our Lady Queen of Peace Circle to their Parochial Patroness, Our Lady Queen of Peace, Rev. Fr. Antonio P. Perez, Jr, parish priest,. expressed concern over the declining number of priests versus the increasing number of members of the Catholic community in the Diocese. He then appealed to the faithful to extend their support to diocesan seminarians particularly in meeting their financial needs.

The response from the Our Lady Queen of Peace Circle, Diocese of Imus, headed by its Regent Sis. Althy Maapoy was overwhelming. There was an overflowing show of generosity among the members, which enabled them to get committed benefactors who pledged to give a regular monthly amount of PhP 50/100/500 and 1,000 respectively which will be collected every monthly Circle meeting.

Out of the 100 active Circle members, 62 immediately committed, raising a total of P7,750 in that

single meeting that followed. Since then, the number of committed benefactors has grown to 67 increasing the pledged monthly collection to P10,000.

Rev. Fr Perez. gratefully endorsed the Circle's decision to become a regular benefactor of the Seminary to Rev. Fr. Raffy Parcon, Spiritual Director of the Tahanan ng Mabuting Pastol, the Theology Seminary of the Diocese of Imus in Tagaytay City. Circle representatives headed by Regent Sis. Althy met with Fr. Parcon last August 22, 2025 and personally handed the check of Php15,550 to cover the pledges for July and August. The Circle will deposit the succeeding pledges to the Seminary's Bank Account every first week of the month.

This collective effort stands as a concrete expression of faith and support of the DMII for future shepherds of the Church.



The DMI sisters with Fr. Raffy Parcon.

DIOCESE OF CUBAO CREATES A NEW DMI CIRCLE

By Sis. Adelaida Ayson, Past Diocesan Regent

Rev. Fr. Arlo Bernardo Yap, parish priest of Sto. Niño de Violago Quasi Parish at E. Rodriguez St., Brgy Kalusugan QC, wanted to have a Daughters of Mary Immaculate organization in his parish. He relayed this to one of his parishioners, Sis Lydia Agitan, past regent of Regina Mundi Circle of the Diocese of Cubao, who introduced us to Fr. Arlo. After discussions and exchange of notes, Sis. Biennah Villanueva gave him more information on the DMI. In a few days, the launching of the DMI was held last March 2, 2025 during their 6:00 pm Mass.

After his homily, the DMI was introduced to the parishioners present during the Mass and the DMIs together with the eight new members were called in front and Fr. Arlo gave his blessings.

After the Mass, snacks were served to everyone including Past International Regent Sis. Ruby Macario who was able to join the occasion.

Finally, on September 28, 2025, the new DMI members, now numbering 25, had their Long Conferral and Installation of Officers. The MOTHER OF KUYA STO. NIÑO CIRCLE is the 12th DMI CIRCLE of the Diocese of Cubao.



The officers and members of the Mother of Kuya Sto. Nino Circle with Fr. Arlo Yap.

oOo

From the Diocese of Kalookan



SAN JOSE DE NAVOTAS CIRCLE REACHES OUT TO FLOOD VICTIMS

By Sis. Cielo Macapagal

One hundred thirty families were recipients of rice packs from the San Jose de Navotas Circle headed by Circle Regent Sis. Lucie Bacones last August 3, 2025. The DMI sisters distributed their rice donation at the San Jose de Navotas Parish Action Center assisted by the Squirrellets of Mary Immaculate. The flood victims experienced severe flooding caused by the collapse of the river wall in Barangay San Jose worsened by high tide. The flooding disrupted their daily lives as they were not able to pursue their livelihood activities



MOTHER OF DIVINE GRACE CIRCLE HOSTS MIM PROJECT “SERBISYO CARAVAN”

By Sis. Jessie Abagat, Vicarial Regent

A Morality in Media diocesan project called “*Serbisyo Caravan*” was hosted by the Mother of Divine Grace Circle recently.

The Integrated Bar of the Philippines through its member-lawyers in Caloocan headed by Atty. Ma. Teresa Ocampo tackled various issues such as the laws on Violence Against Women and Children, Cyber Crime, Safe Spaces Act, Anti-Scam and Sexual Harassment. One-on-one legal consultations were also held. Atty. Ocampo is the daughter of Past Regent Sis. Tess Ocampo.

Participants in the activity were DMIs and SMIs from the various circles and circlettes in the Diocese as well as some parishioners.



MDGC's Serbisyo Caravan



MOTHER OF DIVINE GRACE CIRCLE STARTS DIOCESAN LIVELIHOOD PROJECTS

By Sis. Jessie Abagat, Vicarial Regent

Various livelihood projects were started by the Mother of Divine Grace Circle of the Sacred Heart Parish, Malabon City for the circles in the Diocese of Kalookan.

Demonstrations were held for the Fermentation of Fruits and Vegetables, How to make Compost and How to Make Coco Jam, Pickled Mango and Salted Egg.

The speaker was DMII member and a retiree of the Department of Agriculture, Sis. Carmina Roxas. After the event, she distributed various plant seeds for all, among them Rev. Fr. Adrian Magnait, parish priest of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish.



Resource speaker Sis. Carmina Roxas and the participants in the livelihood demonstrations.

RISEN CHRIST CIRCLE PROVIDES DENTAL HEALTH CARE FOR PDLs' CHILDREN

The Risen Christ Circle of Moonwalk Village, Paranaque City has been supporting the families of PDLs in the Holy Eucharist Parish offering them hope and opportunities to rebuild their lives. The Assistance Program encompasses various forms addressing their specific needs.

Healthcare, including oral health, remains a priority especially for children. Last May 18, 2025, free dental services were provided to the PDLs' families. The dental services provided were Oral Prophylaxis (scaling and polishing), Topical Fluoride Application and tooth extraction. They were also given basic oral health care education.

The activity was accomplished through the Parish's Commission on Services for Human Promotion (COSHP) spearheaded by the Risen Christ Circle's APFV Committee headed by Sis. Edna Alvarez. Volunteers, Dr. Nicole Eunice Alvarez, a dentist, among them provided their services for free.

Aside from this, children of PDLs will continuously be provided with educational materials and monthly allowances for their school needs. This initiative not only ensures that children can continue their schooling but also alleviates the financial burdens that hinder their chance to pursue their dreams.



Risen Christ Circle's APFV Team with PDLs' families - during the Holy Eucharist Parish Medical-Dental Mission



Volunteer dentist, Dr. Nicole Alvarez treats a dental patient.

REBUILDING LIVES: HOUSING ASSISTANCE FOR A PDL'S FAMILY

*By Sis. Edna R. Alvarez, Chairperson,
Risen Christ Circle's APFV Committee*

The family of Lyka Rose Mari, one of the beneficiaries of the Assistance to Prisoners' Families & their Victims (APFV) Committee of Risen Christ Circle, Holy Eucharist Parish, Moonwalk Village, Paranaque City, was one of the most affected by the floods brought by tropical storms recently. The family's house located in a flood-stricken area in Sitio Haise was reduced to rubble due to persistent flooding leaving the family without shelter.

The Circle's APFV Team, recognizing the challenges that Lyka's family endures, sprang into action providing assistance by way of a donation of construction materials - plywood, roofing materials, steel bars and other basic construction needs – as well as laborers to rebuild the family's home. However, while the construction materials are already available, actual construction was stalled because

of obstructions on the pathway leading to the site. A densely populated area, collapsed structures blocked the hallways and access route that needed to be cleared first. The family in the meantime lives with relatives while the construction materials are kept in the house of a concerned neighbor.

Lyka Rose Mari is the wife of a PDL detained at BJMP Paranaque since October, 2024 due to charges of alleged rape. Lyka who works as a cleaner at a call center in BGC is left with three children, one in high school and two in elementary grades.

The family needs logistic support. Clearing of the debris on the pathway leading to their collapsed house is ongoing and construction starts as soon as the clearing is done.



Sis. Edna Alvarez, APFV chairperson and the construction team during the delivery of housing materials.



Lyka Rose Mari amid the debris obstructing the pathway leading to their house.



CRASH COURSE ON HILOT/MASSAGE: OUR LADY OF THE LILIES CIRCLE'S UWW MISSION PROJECT

By Sis. Vita Zaldivia, Vicarial Regent

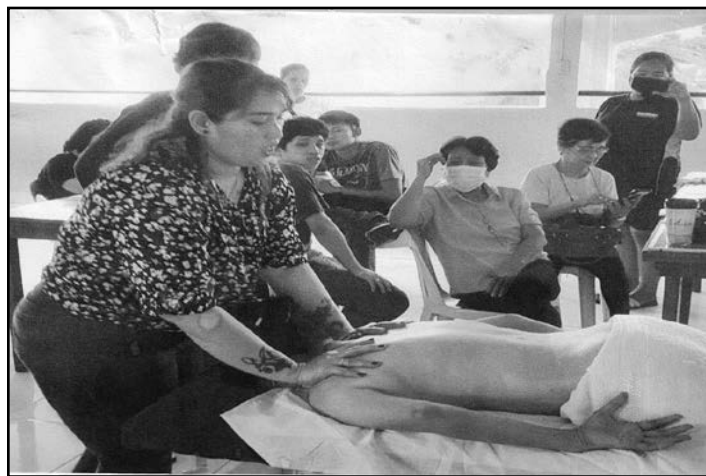
The Our Lady of the Lilies Circle, Mary Cause of Our Joy Parish in Soldiers Hill. Muntinlupa City spearheaded a joint project with the Muntinlupa Technological Institute (MCTI-TESDA) for a Crash Course on *Hilot/Massage*, a livelihood skills training

of 60 members of families from the depressed areas surrounding the parish last April 26, 2025. Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Rustico Cruz fully supported the activity.

Vicarial Regent Sis. Vita Zaldivia gave an

introductory message at the start of the training session. MCTI provided the trainers and other circles in the Vicariate of Our Lady of the Abandoned – Our Lady of the Assumption Circle of San Roque Parish and Our Lady of Mercy and Compassion Circle of Inang Awa Parish, NBP Muntinlupa – assisted during the activity through their Upliftment of Women Workers Committees.

The outreach project aimed to make lives better for the beneficiary-families by teaching them livelihood skills that can provide them income-generating activities.



The DMII sisters with the training participants



From the Diocese of Pasig – Region V

QUEEN OF ALL HEARTS CIRCLE'S PRO-LIFE OUTREACH IN NAMPICUAN, N. E.

*By Sis. Mary Ann M. Bihag,
Vicarial Regent*

The Queen of All Hearts Circle of the Diocese of Pasig, together with the Our Lady of Guadalupe SMI Circlette held a Pro-Life Outreach Project at the Holy Face of Jesus Parish in Nampicuan, Nueva Ecija last September 7, 2025 in collaboration with the Holy Face Circle of Nampicuan headed by Regent Sis. Olivia Flores Avendano.

Rev. Fr. Richard Lagos, pastor of the Holy Face of Jesus Parish graced the event during which 100 children received gift packs of biscuits, hygiene kits and rosaries donated by the DMI sisters. The children gratefully received the gifts with bright smiles on their faces.

The activity was not only an opportunity to provide basic needs but also to remind each child that he is loved, valued and protected. The atmosphere was filled with joy, laughter and the gentle presence of our Blessed Mother whose love we aim to mirror through our DMI Missions.



Pro-Life Mission (Queen of all Hearts Circle)

Becoming Digital Missionaries: How to Use Your Feed to Spread Hope

By: Sis. Maria Caroline B. Soliven-Elarcosa

In the spirit of modern evangelization, an initiated regional webinar entitled “Becoming Missionaries of Hope” gathered participants from various dioceses to explore how digital tools can serve as platforms for spreading faith, hope, and compassion. Organized via Zoom and facilitated by the Diocese of Pasig, the session opened with reminders on webinar etiquette, such as renaming oneself by placing the diocese before the participant’s name for easier identification, using the chat box for questions or comments, and maintaining professionalism by staying focused and avoiding multitasking. These simple yet crucial guidelines established an atmosphere of attentiveness and reverence, aligning with the broader mission of intentional digital presence.

The session formally began with an opening prayer, followed by the DMII prayer and hymn, grounding the gathering in shared faith. Sister Maria Caroline Soliven-Elarcosa introduced the webinar’s theme-leveraging technology to bring hope and transformation in the digital space. Emphasizing that faith-based presence online should not be passive, the session encouraged all participants to reflect on their role as active and intentional digital missionaries. Sister Lorie led a meaningful discussion on the role of social media in modern communication, particularly highlighting its impact on older generations adapting to rapid digital changes. She noted how social media has evolved from being an alternative news source into a platform for personal sharing and, at times, shallow content. Drawing from Pope Francis’s message for World Communications Day, she reminded participants of the importance of promoting gentleness, hope, and truth in digital engagements. While social media can spread toxicity, it can equally become a powerful tool for positive Christian witness if used mindfully.

A core segment of the webinar featured Ron Mark Elarcosa, who shared valuable insights on using social

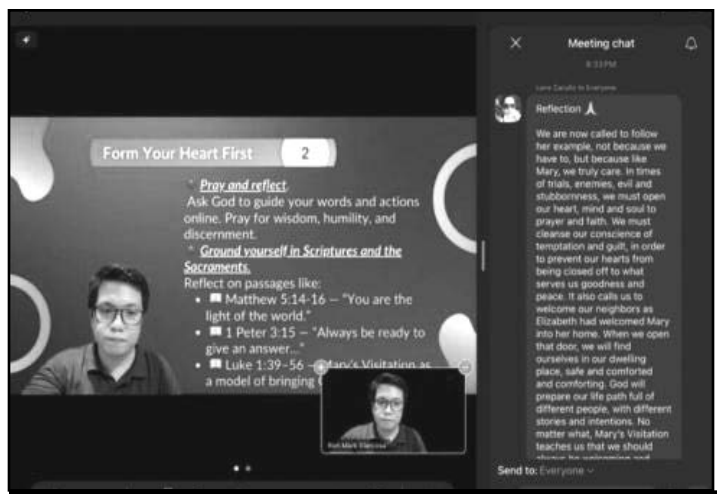
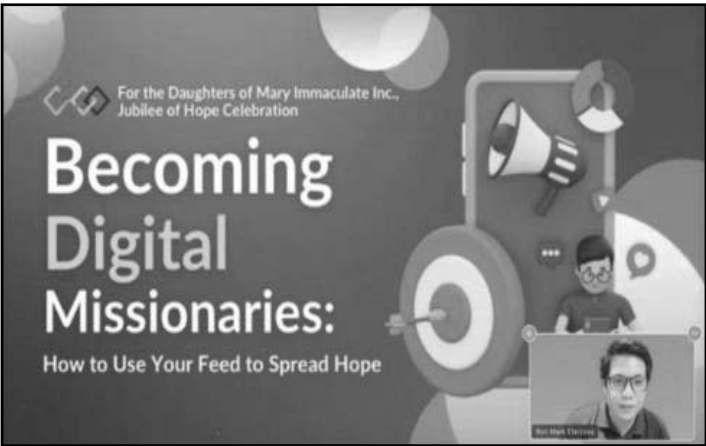
media platforms for evangelization. He emphasized that Catholics are already digital missionaries by virtue of their online presence, but to be effective, they must be intentional in their communication, rooted in faith, and open to learning digital strategies. Ron highlighted the rapidly changing digital landscape and encouraged participants to continually grow in both skill and spirituality. He also provided practical insights into Filipino digital behavior, noting that the average Filipino spends about 8.52 hours online daily, with significant time dedicated to social media and video content. Understanding this high engagement offers a unique opportunity for evangelization through culturally resonant and visually compelling faith content.

To illustrate how digital evangelization can take form, Ron and some participants shared actual examples, such as posts about Marian activities and devotionals. These anecdotes highlighted that evangelizing online does not always require formal preaching, it can simply mean sharing hope-filled stories, creating engaging content, or being present for others in digital spaces. The session moved further into theological reflection as Ron discussed the journey of Mary to visit Elizabeth, focusing on her willingness, humility, and joyful obedience. He drew parallels between Mary’s act of sharing the Good News and the mission of a digital disciple. Prompt, committed, and grounded in love.

Ron and Sister Lane concluded the session with a reflection on the heart of digital evangelization: being intentional. They emphasized that every post, comment, or message online could be an act of faith. Like Mary, digital missionaries are called to carry Christ wherever they go even through the screens of their devices. Participants were urged to form their hearts through prayer and reflection, so that their online presence becomes a true extension of their Christian calling. To give concrete tools for action, Ron presented

world, missionary work continues – one post, one comment, one heart at a time.

The webinar concluded with a call to action. Participants were invited to commit to one month of intentional digital hope-sharing and to consider initiating a digital discipleship movement within their respective units or dioceses. The event ended with the awarding of certificates of recognition to the speakers and contributors, followed by a unifying group prayer and commemorative photo session. Far from a one-time event, the webinar sparked a growing movement: a reminder that in today's interconnected



“GRACE BEHIND LOCKED DOORS” IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CIRCLE- KARANGALAN CIRCLE’S APFV PROJECT

By Sis. Cora Soliven, Past Regent

The Immaculate Conception – Karangalan Circle and the Knights of Columbus Council No. 12549, Diocese of Pasig have started a regular custodial visit to Prisoners Deprived of Liberty (PDLs) as one of their Corporal Works of Mercy.

The visit starts with a Holy Mass, the latest presided by Immaculate Conception-Karangalan Parish Priest Fr. Marrk Emman Sese. The inmates listened with reverence and devotion to the Word of God, finding comfort in the message of forgiveness and renewal. The Eucharist strengthens their spirit in the thought that God’s mercy knows no walls or chains.

The DMIs and the K of C brother knights also shared words of encouragement, simple tokens of care and the gift of their presence, the last making the most impact. Material assistance came in the form of bottled water and bread.

On the part of the visitors, they feel transformed reaching out to those in the margins as Jesus had said, “I was in prison and you visited me.” (Matthew 25:36)

They are also reminded of humility, compassion and the call to be instruments of God’s mercy.



Celebration of the Holy Eucharist during each visit

DIOCESAN SEMINAR-WORKSHOP ON THE BASICS OF GOOGLE DRIVE

*By Sis. Ivylou Flores,
Region VI Newsette Correspondent*

Over a hundred DMI sisters from circles in the Diocese of San Pablo gathered at the ERDB Filberto S. Pollisco Hall of UPLos Banos last July 20, 2025 for a seminar-workshop on report preparation using Google Drive.

SMI National Vice-President for Luzon Sq. Mara-Ella Tayag of the St. Polycarp Circlette led the group of Squirettes who facilitated during the workshop aimed at equipping participants with practical skills in report-writing and streamlined digital submission methods using Google Drive

Region VI Regional Representative Sis. Norma Eusebio welcomed the participants and congratulated them for their commitment to embrace digital tools and for braving the rains to attend the workshop.

The facilitators covered the basics of Google Drive including its interface, key terminologies and similarities to offline reporting. The Squirettes also walked participants through the report flow and demonstrated how to upload, download and edit documents using Google Drive. Many of the sisters brought their own laptops and mobile phones, showing them to follow along in real time during the hands-on exercises.

The hands-on exercises, including real-time editing and file sharing allowed the participants to actively apply what they learned. Breakout sessions, peer reviews and live demonstrations fostered an engaging and supportive learning environment. They were also guided step-by-step in uploading, organizing and securely sharing documents with emphasis placed on collaborative features and best practices in file management.

At the end of the workshop, the participants expressed their appreciation for the seminar's practical approach and the opportunity to connect with fellow DMIs. Several also noted that the skills they have acquired would be very useful for their circle- and vicariate-level tasks.

Looking ahead, the success of the workshop has sparked interest in future workshops focusing on digital tools, leadership development and community engagement. A possible follow-up session may be upcoming to cover multimedia documentation and other online collaborative platforms.



Seminar participants in a group picture



Seminar –workshop in session: Squirette Mara-Ella Tayag discusses DMII report flow.

ST. PAUL THE 1ST HERMIT CIRCLE'S MASS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND CATECHETICAL MISSIONS MARK OPENING OF SY 2025-26

Students of two elementary schools in San Pablo City, San Anton Elementary School and San Pablo Central School, attended Masses of the Holy Spirit sponsored by the St. Paul the First Hermit Circle as part of its mission to uphold and promote spiritual awareness among the youth.

The first Mass was held at San Anton Elementary School last July 21, 2025 with Fr. Reynald Atienza as celebrant. The Eucharistic celebration was attended by Grades 4,5 and 6 students with their teachers and catechists.

The covered court of San Pablo Central School was the venue of the second Mass presided by Msgr. Jerry Bitoon, HP and attended by Grades 5 and 6 students and their catechists. DMI sisters from the circle were also present to show support for the Church's catechetical work in schools.

These liturgical celebrations mark the formal beginning of religion classes for the school year and serve as reminder of the importance of

inviting the Holy Spirit to be at the center of teaching and learning. The DMIs' presence in both events reflects their strong commitment to supporting catechists and deepening the spiritual lives of the students.

Some DMI sisters of the circle have also been assigned to handle catechesis for Grades 2 and 3 students of Dapdapan Elementary School every Tuesday. Through their presence in these activities, the circle actualizes their mission of evangelization, education and service, thus ensuring that young learners receive early and fundamental instruction in the Catholic faith.



Mass for students of San Pablo Central School.

—oOo—

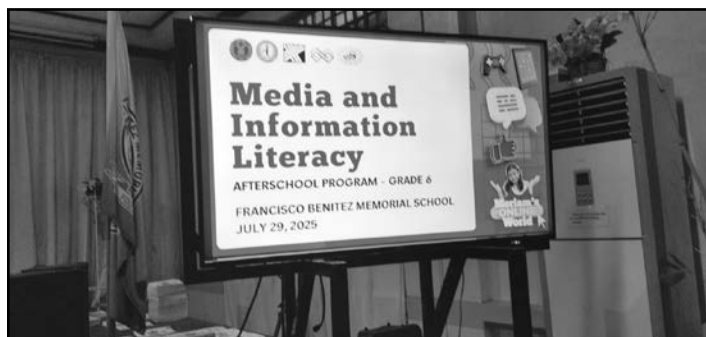
THERESIAN CIRCLE EMPOWERS THE YOUTH THROUGH MEDIA AND INFORMATION LITERACY

By Sis. IvyLou Flores

The Theresian Circle of Los Banos, Laguna conducted a Media and Information Literacy Seminar last July 29, 2025 in collaboration with Friends of Los Banos and Children of Bay at the Francisco Benitez Memorial School in Pagsanjan, Laguna.

The after-school activity aimed to educate the students on the responsible use and understanding of media and information in today's digital world.

DMII sisters from the Our Lady of Salvation Circle, San Sebastian Circle and Sts. Peter and Paul Circle joined the students



SAN LORENZO RUIZ CIRCLE TURNS ELEVEN

By Sis. Helen G. Cocson, Circle Trustee

The 11th anniversary of the San Lorenzo Ruiz Circle of San Pedro City, Laguna was a testament to our faith, sisterhood and commitment to walking together in our spiritual journey. With the theme “Pilgrims of Hope with Mama Mary”, the celebration was a heartfelt tribute to our mission as members of the DMII.

The festivities began with a motorcade marked by blue and white balloons and a vibrant banner that set the tone for the day. The motorcade around the community turned heads sending the message of peace, hope and devotion to our Blessed Mother.

Highlight of the celebration was a Holy Mass presided by Rev. Fr. Frederick Yapana and a fellowship afterwards marked by happy reminiscences and laughter while sharing a sumptuous meal. The warm sense of community was not just a tradition but a shared expression of genuine love and devotion that our

Blessed Mother inspires.

Birthday celebrators, led by Sis. Sonia Ardiente who turned 80 years old on July 4 were also honored. Fr. Ricky reminded us in his spiritual message that every birthday is a grace from God and a reminder that our journey continues with purpose and mission.

Dr. Rio Santiago, an invited guest speaker gave an uplifting talk on values formation from the perspective of a Marian pilgrim that inspired us to live out hope, faith, love and unity in our daily lives. She also shared her personal experiences as a Marian devotee and her deep insights into the virtues of Mama Mary.

As the celebration came to an end, we came away filled with cherished memories and renewed inspiration and a vow to continue our journey as faithful servants of God united as one family together with Mama Mary who leads us to her Son Jesus.



San Lorenzo Ruiz Circle's DMIs and SMIs



—oOo—

Continuation of Theresian Circle Empowers...

and teachers of the school during the activity to show support for the project.

Through engaging video materials and interactive discussions, participants were introduced to the importance of critical thinking, digital responsibility and media awareness.

This collaborative effort reflects the growing commitment of local organizations and communities to promoting literacy that goes beyond traditional academics, equipping young people with the skills to navigate the modern information landscape with discernment and purpose.



HOLY CROSS CIRCLE CONDUCTS SCHOOL MEDIA SYMPOSIUM

*By Sis. Agnes Arada,
Region VII Representative*

The Holy Cross Circle of Bauan, Batangas hosted a symposium at the Bauan Technical High School aimed at promoting moral awareness and mental well-being among the youth. The event was attended by 100 student leaders, including Grades 10, 11 and 12 class officers and Student Council officers.

Resource person was Rev. Adrian G. Caraos, a parish Deacon of the Immaculate Conception Parish in Mataas na Kahoy, Batangas, who shared insightful discussions on topics that resonate deeply with the youth today, focusing on the influence of media, morality and mental health:

1. Media and Social Comparison – addressing issues of cyberbullying and the phenomenon of FOMO (Fear of Missing Out)
2. Morality and Psychological Distress – exploring the impact of the cyberworld on moral values and mental health
3. Mental Health and Addiction – discussing challenges related to gambling, substance abuse and other community concerns.

The event was in close coordination with Ms. Dulce Abante, Principal IV of Bauan Technical High School. Through this symposium, the Holy Cross Circle reaffirmed its commitment to fostering moral uprightness, mental resilience and responsible media use among Filipino youth, aligning with its broader mission to nurture morally upright and socially responsible individuals.



The students listen intently to the speaker.



A group photo of symposium participants

Marian SMI Circlette Distributes Food Packs

Squirettes of Mary Immaculate Marian Circlette, Archdiocesan Shrine of St. John the Baptist, Lian, Batangas

Food Packs were given to 7 family-beneficiaries composed of elderly people, and those with disabilities.

Headed by DMIs: Sis. Rose Alberto and Kakai Pastor and SMIs: Sis. Mariel Yase, Johan Andaya, Princess Thea Panesa, Nica Balinton, Kathlyn Jabagat and Vhea Lagos



—oOo—

From the Diocese of San Carlos – Region IX

DIOCESAN SMIs CELEBRATE 6TH ANNIVERSARY

*By Sis. Rosalinda Desales,
Region IX Representative*

The 6th Anniversary of the Squirettes of Mary Immaculate of the Diocese of San Carlos was held last August 30, 2025 at the C-Chen Beach Resort, Bgy. Old Sagay, Sagay City, Negros Occ. Event host was the St. Anne Circlette of Sto. Rosario Parish, Bgy. Paraiso, Sagay City.

The event was attended by 60 SMIs from the five circlettes of the Diocese – Sacred Heart of Jesus, Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, St. Anne, Our Lady of Peace and Our Lady of Lourdes Circlettes – and 27 Tita DMIs.

Program hosts were Sq. Abby Angelique Melocoton and Sq. Louiela Moreno. Speakers during the event were SMI Diocesan Vice-President Sq. Noriene Pearl Aquino and Region IX Representative Sis. Rose Desales who shared their experiences being

a Squirette and a DMII sister, respectively and their faith journey. Sis. Rose Dalaquit echoed the key points

turn to page 44



The enthronement ceremony

Diocesan SMIs Celebrate... from page 43

in International Chaplain Fr. Jerome Cruz's message during the DMII 23rd Biennial Convention in Baguio City.

A Eucharistic celebration was presided by Rev. Fr. Alwem Jimenez, DMII diocesan spiritual director.

Awards of recognition were given to Squirettes for academic excellence. A Search for Miss SMI Diocesan 2025 was won by Squirette Jay Lyn Nabrique of Sacred Heart of Jesus Circlette. The circlette also placed first in the dance contest.

The 6th Diocesan Anniversary celebration was a memorable occasion for the attendees, a time to honor

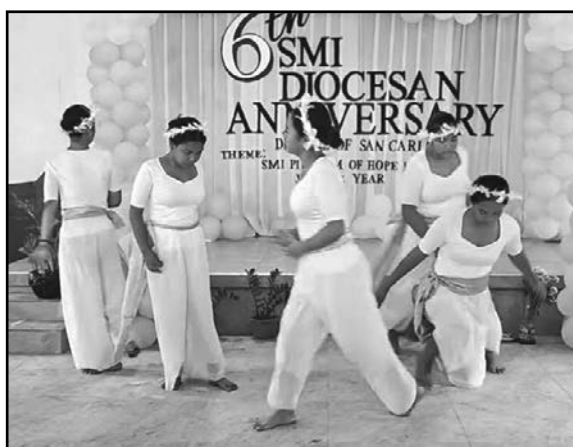
the past, celebrate the present and prepare for a future full of hope and promise.



A group photo of event participants



The Parade of Circlettes



A dance presentation

—oOo—

From the Diocese of Tagbilaran – Region X

MANANITA SERENADE ON MAMA MARY'S BIRTHDAY

*By Sis. Armi Maria Sajonia, Regent,
St. Peter the Apostle Circle*

The St. Peter the Apostle Circle of Loboc, Bohol, Diocese of Tagbilaran offered a mananita serenade to the Blessed Virgin Mary to honor her on her birthday last September 8, 2025 together with the Knights of Columbus.

The activity was not only a tribute to the Blessed Mother but also a celebration of the Christian family as a domestic church. Couples serving together is a living testimony of unity, love and faith that inspires the wider community to walk the same path of service.



DMII ARCHDIOCESE OF CEBU RECEIVES “JUBILEE OF HOPE” AWARD

By Sis. Conchita Niere, Diocesan Regent

The DMII Archdiocese of Cebu was recipient of the Jubilee of Hope Award last June 23, 2025. Diocesan Regent Sis. Conchita Niere of the Archdiocese of Cebu received the award from Archbishop Jose Palma at the Cebu Metropolitan Cathedral.

The DMII delegation to the event included Sisters Eve Bolarde, alternate Cebu DR, Imelda Cacha, diocesan treasurer, Evangeline Quinanola, SMI coordinator and Sisters Joyce Bahina and Ednelita Cristina de Gracia from Toledo City.



—oOo—

From the Diocese of Malaybalay – Region XII

Photo



2026-27 DIOCESAN OFFICERS ELECTED

A new set of officers of the DMII Diocese of Malaybalay was elected last June 25, 2025 during the 2nd Quarter Diocesan Officers' Meeting held at the Farmers' Training Center in CMU Musuan, Bukidnon. Elected were Sis. Grace Canosa of Manolo Fortich, Bukidnon as diocesan regent, and Sisters Concepcion Gumaling (Manolo Fortich), Generosa Almedilla (Valencia) Lourdes Bodegas (Musuan), Abella Manatad (Maramag), Orenzia Sanchez (Pangantucan), Therese Rosal (Wao-Lanao) and Jacquelin Doletin (Wao-Cotabato) as vicarial regents. Starting January 1, 2026, they will replace Sisters Edith Joromat as diocesan regent and Teofanisa Andamon, Adelita Ortega, Ofelia Hernandez, Nerissa Estores and Annie Yao as vicarial regents. Sisters Salvacion Dedicatoria and Ma. Zenia Caga-anan of Malaybalay and Kison, respectively will stay on to serve the rest of their term. – *Sis. Sol Simbulan*



The new Diocesan Regent and Vicarial Regents of the Diocese of Malaybalay

DIPOLOG'S 39TH DIOCESAN CONVENTION HELD

By Sis. Marilyn de Asis,
Region XIV Newsette Correspondent

Close to 300 DMI sisters from circles in the Diocese of Dipolog attended the 39th Diocesan Convention held at the Dapitan City Cultural & Sports Center last July 12, 2025. The convention theme was “DMIs: Jubilee of Hope in the Jubilee Year”. Spearheading the event was Region XIV Alternate Representative Sis. Thalma Soronda.

The day's program started with the DMII traditional opening ceremonies, the Parade of Colors and a living rosary led by the regents of the participating circles.

Sis. Sophia Ermodo, regent of the Queen of Immaculate Conception Circle of Dapitan City officially welcomed the convention delegates.

Sis. Pinky Saavedra, International Vice-Regent for Mindanao and Region XIV Representative was the guest speaker. Sis. Angie Baes, International Chairperson for Pro-Life also talked about the Pro-Life Mission.

A Holy Mass was celebrated by Bishop Supero Caermare, DD of the Diocese of Dipolog with Msgr. Atilano Tabaranza, V.F. and Fr. Glen Jumawid as concelebrants.

After lunch, a meeting by regional officers from the four dioceses of Region XIV and a business meeting of circle regents in the Diocese of Dipolog took place.

Culminating the day's activity was a fellowship program

featuring a dance contest among the participating circles and a Search for Ms. DMI as a fund-raiser. The winners of the dance contest were Sindangan Circle, 1st place, Dipolog Cathedral Circle, 1st runner-up and Labason Circle, 2nd runner-up. The Ms. DMI title was won by Liloy Circle with Sindangan Circle and Sicayab Circle as first and second runner-up, respectively.



Sis. Angie Baes



Sis. Pinky Saavedra



Sis. Thalma Soronda



Region XIV officers who attended the Dipolog Diocesan Convention – from left: Zamboanga Diocesan Regent Sis. Ma. Bella Tandoc, Sis. Marlyn de Asis, IVR-Mindanao Sis. Pinky Saavedra and Pro-life Int'l Chairperson Sis. Angie Baes.

UPDATES FROM THE QUEEN OF THE HOLY ROSARY CATHEDRAL CIRCLE

*By Sis. Jolaine Columnas,
Diocesan SMI Lady Counselor*

Various activities for the DMI Missions had been undertaken jointly by the Queen of the Holy Rosary Cathedral DMI Circle and SMI Circlette. They are as follows:

Monthly Feeding Program. Some 40 to 50 less fortunate individuals are beneficiaries of the circle's Feeding Program every first Sunday of the month. The activity gives the DMIs a springboard for promoting the objectives of the other DMI Missions such as Morality in Media, Upliftment of Women Workers, etc.



Marian Pilgrimage on Mama Mary's Birthday. To honor the Blessed Mother on her birthday, DMIs and SMIs gathered last September 8, 2025 at the residence of Sis. Evelyn Elagor where they prayed the Rosary, sang Marian songs, and held a short catechesis on being "digital disciples" in today's media-driven society. During the activity, the participants renewed their commitment to mirror the Blessed Mother's virtues.



Monthly Sabatina. Held every first Saturday of the month, the Sabatina is a Marian devotion aimed at strengthening the DMIs' commitment to Mama Mary's message of peace, penance and purity. It consists of a Eucharistic celebration, recitation of the Holy Rosary and meditation.



SMIs' Collage Making Project. The Squirettes' "Purpose of Life"-themed collage making activity held recently showcased their creativity and faith through art. The project encouraged the young girls to explore and express their understanding of life's true purpose through visual story-telling. Recycled magazines, printed photos, scripture verses and symbolic images served as their art materials.



ST. JOSEPH CIRCLE CONDUCTS ACTIVITIES FOR PRO-LIFE AND UWW MISSIONS

The St. Joseph Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary Circle, Archdiocese of Zamboanga conducted a forum on Cervical Cancer Screening and Awareness last July 26, 2025 at the St. Joseph Parish Conference Hall in Zamboanga City.

Dr. May Gay Gonzales was the resource speaker. The forum was attended by 44 DMI sisters from circles in the Archdiocese.

Sis. Grace Gonzales, chairperson of the circle's Upliftment of Women Workers Committee (UWW) spearheaded the project.

On May 25, 2025, 54 young boys were beneficiaries of the St. Joseph Circle's "Operation Tuli" that the circle's Pro-Life Committee headed by Sis. Edwina Cabato sponsored. Circle Regent Sis. Leilani Ramirez-Yeo lent her full support to the activity.

The circle thanked the 12 surgeons and OR nurses of the Zamboanga Doctors Hospital who volunteered their services for the successful project.



Dr. May Gay Gonzales, UWW forum speaker



Volunteer surgeons and OR nurses give their free services during the "Operation Tuli".



Daughters of Mary Immaculate International

Lot 23-A, Block 6, Lopez Ave., Lopez Village, Parañaque City

Tel. No. 8810-9530

Website: www.dmiinternational.org

Executive Officers

Sis. Annie O. Ty	- International Regent
Sis. Merinnisa O. Ligaya	- Vice-Int'l Regent - Luzon
Sis. Norevic H. Laroa	- Vice-Int'l Regent - Visayas
Sis. Ma. Pinky B. Saavedra	- Vice-Int'l Regent - Mindanao
Sis. Ma. Loreto S. Manalansan	- International Secretary
Sis. Norma B. Eusebio	- International Treasurer

Rev. Fr. Jerome Ma. J. Cruz
International Chaplain

DMI Newsette Editorial Board

Editors Sis. Salvacion T. Estrada
Sis. Ruby P. Macario

Contributors

Sis. Evelyn R. Alcantara	Sis. Elizabeth A. Dipaling
Sis. Agnes R. Arada	Sis. Leticia O. Gano
Sis. Angela L. Baes	Sis. Susan I. Honculada
Sis. Corazon B. Bo	Sis. Teresita D. Labilles
Sis. Virginia S. Cabero	Sis. Thelma P. Lim
Sis. Shirley L. Corvera	Sis. Marilyn P. San Diego
Sis. Rosalinda L. Desales	Sis. Ma. Clotilde R. Tong