

INFORMATION BULLETIN No. 4

August 27, 2015

NEW PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT FORMED

With the election of the four Provincial Councilors yesterday afternoon—August 26—the SSP Philippine-Macau Province has a new Provincial Government. Headed by the Provincial Superior Fr. Jose Aripio, the Government will begin its four-year mandate when it will officially be installed by the Superior General Fr. Valdir Jose De Castro in the presence of the members of the Pauline Family tomorrow evening, which also marks the close of the 7th Provincial Chapter.

The third day of the Chapter began with a concelebrated Mass with Fr. Angelo Paolo Asprer as main celebrant and Fr. Ramil Tapang as homilist. Fr. Ramil tied his reflection to the theme of the Chapter: “I do everything for the sake of the Gospel” and drew the challenge from the three “S”. The first is *Sarili* (Self). We give our total selves to our vocation and mission. The second is *Sakripisyo* (Sacrifice). Our sacrifices test and prove our faith in God. And the third is *Saya* (Joy). Joy comes from our encounter with Christ and our service to the Gospel.

The Capitulars had been divided into three groups to discuss three areas of Pauline Life—Group A: Apostolate and Administration, Group B: Vocation Promotion and Formation, and Group C: Community and Spirituality. These began their work early. The day started officially with the approval of Information Bulletin No. 2 prepared by Fr. Gil Alinsangan. Fr. Gil noted that with the elections of the Provincial Councilors scheduled in the afternoon of the following day—August 26—report would be disseminated as soon as the Councilors are elected. The reporting of the “Acts/Minutes” of the second day was transferred to the later hour of the day.

The groups then returned to their work, examining the “lights and shadows” in the life and apostolate of the Province. After merienda break, the reporters of the different groups presented the fruits of the discussion: Fr. Cris Cellan for Group A, Fr. Norman Peña for Group B, and Fr. Gil Alinsangan for Group C.

In view of the elections of the Provincial Councilors in the afternoon, the Superior General offered some criteria for the selection of the Provincial Councilor: he is a humble person, a team player, gifted with intelligence and wisdom, and ready to “do everything” for the Province.

At 2:30 PM, the session began with the presentation of the Minutes of the second day—August 26—prepared by Fr. Khris Llacer. The report comprises 15 numbers, covering the reports on the communities, the report of the General Coordinator of Vocation Promotion and Formation, and

of the General Director of the Apostolate. After some comments and correction, the Minutes were approved.

With the singing of *Veni Creator Spiritus*, the Capitulars settled down to the elections of Provincial Councilors. Fr. Cris Cellan read the articles of the Constitutions and the Directory and the Manual of Authority that pertain to the elections.

First to be elected Provincial Councilor is Fr. Joseph Javillo. Fr. Javillo, 57 years, is the current the Local Superior of the Makati Community and serves as Moderator of the Chapter. Next to be elected is Fr. Cris Robert Cellan. Fr. Cellan, 42 years old, is the current Director General of the Apostolate. He is the Secretary of the Chapter.

After a short break, the Capitulars proceeded to elect the two other Councilors. The third to be elected is Fr. Norman Melchor Pena, Jr., 49 years old. He had recently rejoined the Philippine Province after a long missionary stint in Australia and the General House in Rome. The fourth Councilor is Fr. Rollin Flores, 53 years old, the current Parish Priest of our Lady of Sorrows Parish in Pasay City. As he was not a Capitular, the Provincial Superior called him and he consented to his election.

The Capitulars next approved the Flash News of the elections (Information Bulletin No. 3) prepared by the Information Officer that was immediately communicated to the Pauline communities.

The day adjourned earlier than scheduled for photos and congratulations, and the necessary break before the Capitulars focus on the Provincial Programming.

FR. GIL A. ALINSANGAN, SSP
Information Officer