

# GOLDEN JUBILEE ON MAY 1, 2014



(L-R) Sr. Barbara Batac, OSB, Mo. Irene Dabalus, OSB, Mo. Adelaida Ygrubay, OSB, Sr. Lydia Villegas, OSB, Sr. Fidelis Jardiel, OSB, (Seated) Sr. Catherine Sanchez, OSB

Dear Mother Adelaida, Sr. Lydia, Sr. Angelica, Sr. Imelda, Sr. Pia, Sr. Pauline, Sr. Fely, Sr. Shirley, Sr. Jonep, Sr. Virginia, Sr. Mary Paul and Junior sisters, Sr. Patricia, Sr. Asuncion, Sr. Mary Samuelle, and all dear Sisters of the Priory House, dear Superiors and Sisters present from the Stations, including our foreign guest sisters and students,

Thank you very much for a grace-filled and joy-laden Golden Jubilee celebration which you prepared for us on May first. What was originally planned as a simple Eucharist and renewal of vows with only some intimate family members and friends present, became a solemn feast and with a populous attendance in a chapel filled to capacity. Rev. Fr. Tarcisio Narciso, abbot emeritus, officiated with elegant Benedictine simplicity and gave us a deeply moving homily on the riches of a jubilee. Sisters, family members, alumnae, oblates, and benefactors were all on hand to celebrate with us.

The altar was decorated with all the golden hues which Sr. Catherine wished for. The ceremonies were scaled down to a minimum to suit us septuagenarians and our rickety bones. The vows and "Suscipe" were recited and sang in place minus the bowing and altar climbing, except for Sr. Barbara who went up the sanctuary with youthful steps to offer our profession cards. The liturgical songs rang out of full hearts and voices from the sisters' choir at Sr. Pia's lively conducting. And Sr. Catherine lasted it out with joyful equanimity.

Finally, Sr. Fidelis "declaimed" our thanksgiving message with feeling.

In spite of the heat, the guests enjoyed the sumptuous dinner which followed. Everyone took time for congratulations and photo taking galore, some of which are already posted in the Facebook. There were the gifts, too, from all parts of the islands which graced our table in the statio hallway.

What more could one ask for? A lovely surprise with all the details in place to make our jubilarians' hearts glad in the Lord and in all of you for your show of love and appreciation!

May the Lord who is in our midst then and now reward you generously. May he keep you safe and happy as past jubilarians and as those awaiting their own special jubilees in the very near or far future.

Gratefully yours,  
Sr. Fidelis, Sr. Catherine,  
Sr. Irene and Sr. Barbara