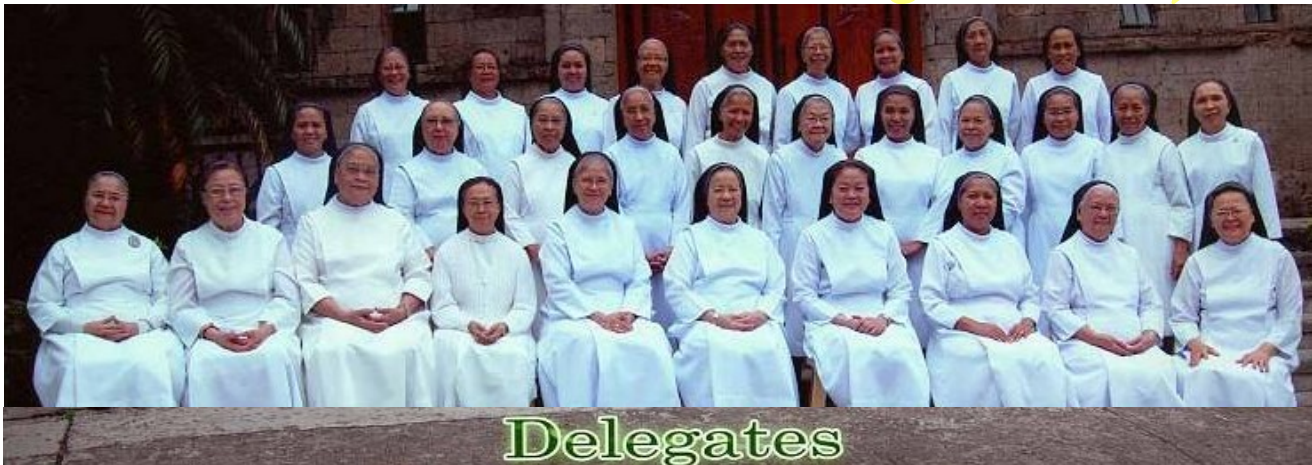


MANILA PRIORY NEWSLETTER

St. Scholastica's Priory
2560 Leon Guinto Street
Malate, Manila, Philippines

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20th Manila Priory Chapter



Seated from left to right: Sr. Josefina Nepomuceno, OSB, Sr. Mary John Mananzan, OSB, Sr. Angelica Leviste, OSB, Mo. Irene Dabalus, OSB, Mo. Adelaida Ygrubay, OSB - Prioress, Sr. Lydia Villegas, OSB - Sub-Prioress, Sr. Mary Thomas Prado, OSB, Sr. Ana Maria Raca, OSB, Sr. Mary Jerome Pineda, OSB, Sr. Pia Lansang, OSB; *Second Row from left to right:* Sr. Constance Tecson, OSB, Sr. Mary Bellarmine Bernas, OSB, Sr. Leonor Barrion, OSB, Sr. Ma. Teresita Lafuente, OSB, Sr. Mary Vincent Feliciano, OSB, Sr. Baptista Busmente, OSB, Sr. Odilia Bulayungan, OSB, Sr. Cecille Ido, OSB, Sr. Vida Mones, OSB, Sr. Miriam Noemi Francisco, OSB, Sr. Rosalina Fajardo, OSB; *Third Row from left to right:* Sr. Pauline Triviño, OSB, Sr. Ma. Luisa Villanueva, OSB, Sr. Michaela Manalang, OSB, Sr. Ma. Ezechiel Fernandez, OSB, Sr. Eloisa David, OSB, Sr. Celine Saplala, OSB, Sr. Mary Frances Dizon, OSB, Sr. Rebecca Manalang, OSB, Sr. Mary Paul Baul, OSB

Still exhilarated - like the rest of the Catholic world- with news of newly elected Pope Francis, and hope-filled with the election of a new prioress, thirty (30) delegates and nine observers trooped to St. Scholastica's Center of Spirituality, Tagaytay for the 20th Manila Priory Chapter from April 2 – 12, 2013. This, following the 12th General Chapter in Rome in September-October 2012, and coincided with the Synod of Bishops which opened the Year of Faith.

The chapter opened with the celebration of the Eucharist presided by Rev. Fr. Tarcisius Ma. Narciso, OSB, Abbot Emeritus of Our Lady of Montserrat, Manila. In the afternoon reports from the Prioress, the Procurator and the Superiors were delivered. Reports from the Task forces continued the following day.

This is the first chapter under the leadership of Mo. Adelaida Ygrubay, OSB, who was elected Prioress in January, 2013. In her report, Mo. Adelaida acknowledged and expressed her gratitude for the work of former Prioresses, Mo. Mary John Mananzan, OSB and her immediate predecessor, Mo. Lumen Gloria Dungca, OSB.

Setting the tone for the Business Chapter, Sr. Angelica Leviste, OSB gave an input on Pope Benedict XVI's Apostolic letter *Porta Fidei* (Door of Faith), the blueprint for *new evangelization* in The Year of Faith. With "virtual technology", Sr. Angelica

informed the delegates that she *invited* a guest speaker to help deepen the topic at hand. A video clip of then Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle's talk during the 50th International Eucharistic Congress in Canada in 2012 was shown. She also showed clips on the Taize community as an example of evangelization in non-traditional forms. In response to a serious and urgent crisis of faith within the church, Sr. Angelica stressed the importance of the call to be evangelizers anew. The delegates were then given time for the reflection questions which would serve as impetus as they tackle the issues and proposals in this year's chapter.

The Sisters also took time to watch the musical "King and I" at Resorts World Manila, which served as a refreshing break in-between those busy working days.

The Opening and Closing liturgies were lovingly prepared by Sr. Pia Lansang, OSB.

All were grateful for the hospitality of Mo. Irene Dabalus, OSB and Sr. Benita Reyes, OSB and the ready service of all the staff of St. Scholastica's Center of Spirituality which helped make the days of the chapter fruitful and grace-filled.

As the chapter came to an end, the delegates went home full of hope and enthusiasm for the tasks ahead believing that wherever we are, life will continue to flow and that the Good News will continue to be shared.

By: Sr. Angeline Arceo, OSB