



Perbayre Sparks

June 2014



St. Francis Home goes fundraising



For a 120-millionNT\$ construction project like that of St. Francis Home, intensive fundraising campaign is a must. Thus, last May 3, 2014 a local elementary school and other local institutions in Toucheng held a food fair in support of the project. Almost 120 groups participated in the event as they sell their local products to almost 4 thousand visitors. A series of activities like music and dance made the event livelier. It was however the presence of a group of big bikers that caught the attention of everyone as they paraded around the school ground riding with them

the elderly, local government leaders, a Daughter of Charity and the executive director of Beunen Foundation, Fr. D. Labitag.

The enormous support of local people for St. Francis Home reflects how the institution and its missionaries have been touching the hearts of people for almost 40 years.

Ongoing Formation goes inclusive

The yearly exclusive-for-confreres ongoing formation broke its tradition by including parish lay leaders in their activities. 19 confreres and 18 lay leaders gathered together last May 5-8, 2014 at Beatitude Mountain Retreat Center, Kaohsiung to learn new ideas and skills.

Fr. Loftus spent an afternoon session introducing the basics of systemic change while the rest of the sessions were spent learning parish management led by 2 Jesuit priests. However, most of them realized that they got more than they expected because lay leaders and confreres pray, play, share, prepare and learn together – and that makes a lot of difference.



A novice on the block



Fr. Li Qiu-Wen, a native of Xin Jiang Province, China entered the internal seminary last May 8, 2014 during the closing Eucharistic celebration for ongoing formation at the grotto of Zhen Fu Shan (Beatitude Mountain) Retreat Center, Kaohsiung. Fr. Li spontaneously shared to confreres and lay leaders his life's journey, feelings and thoughts on why he chose to enter the Congregation of the Mission. Some were touched by his simplicity and by the celebration for it was their first time to witness such an event.

Fr. J. Wang celebrates 30th as priest

The former Provincial Visitor, Fr. John Wang celebrated his 30th Sacerdotal Anniversary with his parishioners and confreres last June 4, 2014 in a simple yet intimate Eucharistic celebration and banquet in Kaoshiung. Although it was a weekday, yet there were almost 130 parishioners who attended the event to show their appreciation for his gift of priestly vocation. Fr. Wang is one of the only two local vocations from Taiwan in CM – a rare gift indeed. May you have more years of service in the vineyard of the Lord, Fr. John!



A new missionary arrives



Fr. Rindo Karippai, a confreere from Southern Province of India arrived last June 3, 2014 in Taipei to start his mission with Chinese Province. The Provincial Visitor formally welcomed him to the Province during the Eucharistic celebration in honor of Fr. Fang's 90th birthday last June 28, 2014.

He will live in Kaohsiung to take basic Mandarin language courses in preparation for his works. In his almost 9 years of priesthood, Fr. Rindo spent 2 years in the minor seminary as procurator and 3 years as parish priest and another 3 years as rector of the minor seminary. Welcome Fr. Rindo!

Fr. Fang turns 90

Confreeres and parishioners in Taipei celebrated with Fr. Francis Fang as he reached a milestone of his life with his 90th birthday last June 28, 2014. Fr. Fang celebrated the Eucharist with almost 170 parishioners and friends who gathered for the occasion and each received a printed book of the compilation of his hand-brush writing of Book of Psalms. Immediately after the Eucharist, a banquet was served in his honor as parishioners greeted him with songs and wishes.

Fr. Fang is presently living in a retirement home and is under the care of Taipei House. Confreeres find time to visit him at least once a month. Although advance in age, his health and spirit is still strong. Wishing you good health and longer life, Fr. Fang!



Dawu Parish celebrates 60th

Dawu Parish celebrated with pride the 60th anniversary of the arrival of its 1st missionaries in the area last June 28, 2014 in Daniao Chapel. The Bethlehemite Fathers (Swiss Fathers) who were expelled from China during the communist takeover started the mission in the area in 1954.

To commemorate the gift of faith that people in the area received, parishioners made a life-size statues of Sts. Peter and Paul as well as a 7-foot statue of its 1st missionary. 13 priests and 2 bishops and about 500 parishioners attended the celebration.

Being a territory of aboriginal people, lively songs and dances matching with colorful native dresses made the whole celebration a real feast for everyone.



BIRTHDAYS

July 6: Fr. Yohanes Murjiyono(1971)
July 15: Fr. Aloysius Budijanto (1965)
July 20: Fr. Francis Fang (1925)
July 27: Fr. Thomas Gao (1979)
July 28: Fr. Paul Pham (1966)
August 16: Fr. Joseph Loftus (1958)
August 21: Fr. Charles Pan (1959)
Fr. Kusno Bintoro (1967)

ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES

July 8: Fr. Francis Guo (1956)
July 27: Fr. Kusno Bintoro (1996)

FEAST AND MEMORIAL

August 30: Blessed Ghebre Michael