



OATH TAKING The President of the 7th Provincial Chapter, Fray Miguel Miró Miró, leads Fray Jaazeal Estelou Jakosalem, Fray Kenneth Onda, and Fray Enrico Peter Silab in their oath of secrecy as the tellers of the Chapter.

7th Provincial Chapter Formally Opened

CEBU CITY—As tropical depression ‘Basyang’ was passing through the Visayan islands, Fray Miguel Miró Miró, OAR, Prior General, opened the second day with a mass after the praying of the Lauds and the morning meditation.

In his homily, he reminded the delegates that the Chapter is a time of grace, discernment, and communion. He situated his sharing on the preparation for the 500th Anniversary of the Arrival of Christianity in the Philippines with gratitude for the past, passion for living the present and renewed hope in looking to the future. He posed the following questions to the delegates for reflection: “Jesus gives us the light to discern what the Lord asks of us. What is He asking from us the Augustinian Recollects? What is He asking from us the Province of St. Ezekiel Moreno? What do our brothers and our people need?”

Opening of the Chapter

After the Mass, the delegates convened at the session hall for the Address of the

Prior General. He focused on the following themes: Creators of Communion, Process of Restructuring and Revitalization, Sense of Order, Temptation of Survival, Discerning the Will of God and the Life and Mission Project of the Province. He ended his exhortation with a prayer coming from the works of Saint Augustine: “All my hope is in your great mercy. Give us Lord what you command and command what you will.” With the invocation for the intercession of St. Ezekiel Moreno and the Mother of Consolation, Fray Miró requested the delegates to discern the will of the Lord with humility and wisdom. This was followed by the Prior General’s declaration of the 7th Provincial Chapter open and the delegates’ singing of the *Veni*,

Creator Spiritus.

The *Ordo Capituli* was read and the officials of the Chapter were designated. The

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THE CHAPTER OFFICERS

PRESIDENT Fray Miguel Miró Miró	Fray Cristopher Maspara Fray Arnel Diaz
MODERATORS Fray Lauro Larlar Fray René Paglinawan	IN-CHARGE OF PREPARING THE LITURGY Fray Rommel Rubia Fray Amado Emmanuel Bolilia Fray Raymund Alcedo Fray Don Besana
SECRETARY Fray Jose Enril Almayo	COMMUNICATION TEAM Fray Jose Enril Almayo Fray Lauro Larlar Fray Ian Anthony Espartero Members of the Chapter Secretariat
COUNCILOR Fray Dionisio Selma	IN-CHARGE OF SENDING AND REPLYING MESSAGES FOR THE CHAPTER Fray Julius Marcos Fray Don Besana
TELLERS OF THE CHAPTER Fray Jaazeal Estelou Jakosalem Fray Kenneth Onda Fray Enrico Peter Silab	IN-CHARGE OF PREPARING THE CHAPTER MESSAGE Fray René Paglinawan Fray Leander Barrot

MEET THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT

Do you know that he has already attended four Provincial Chapters of the Province of St. Ezekiel Moreno? The first time was in 1999 during the First Provincial Chapter of the newly created Province of St. Ezekiel Moreno. It should be noted that the Province of St. Ezekiel Moreno was once a Vicariate. (page 2)



PRIOR GENERAL PREACHES

As the 7th Provincial Chapter begins officially today, the Prior General reminded the capitulars not to follow the ways of the Pharisees and Herodians who search for a god who will satisfy their own desire. This is a false religiosity that hardens the heart and hinders them to encounter God. (page 2)

Meet the Chapter President

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The roles of the Chapter President, as stated in the Ordo Capituli, are as follows:

1. To preside over, direct and coordinate every act of the Chapter.
2. To carry out in accordance with the Constitutions what is established in the ordo capituli for elections and voting.
3. To confirm and proclaim those elected in the chapter. If any of those elected are not confirmed, a new round of voting is immediately done (Const. 396 [394]);
4. To propose to the assembly, before the announcement of the topics and with the advice of the Council of the Chapter, the formation of study commissions that he deems necessary;
5. To propose to the assembly, before the announcement of the topics and with the advice of the Council of the Chapter, the vocals who will prepare the Message of the Chapter;
6. To maintain the unity of direction of the chapter.

His office as president expires with the end of the Full Council (cf. Const. 396).



Top: Fr. Miguel Miró Miró presiding over the Chapter meeting.

Bottom: The Chapter President together with the Chapter Council.

Prior General Preaches

CEBU CITY— Fray Miguel Miró, OAR, Prior General, celebrated the votive mass today in honor of St. Augustine.

Delivering his homily in Spanish, Fray Miguel stressed on the invitation of Christ to listen to His Word and to discern the will of the Father. The celebration of the 500th anniversary of the arrival of Christianity in the Philippine soil, according to Fray Miró, is a reason for us to thank God for His abundant blessings bestowed upon us. It is also an invitation to live the present with passion and look to the future filled with renewed hope.

As disciples of Christ, the capitulars should have an attitude of a servant who will ignite a light in the darkness of confusion and lead others to conversion.

Being reminded of who we really are as Augustinian Recollects and members of the Province of St. Ezekiel Moreno, Fray Miró further reiterated the need to avoid comfort and convenience. He said, “The key to comfort

does not hold; nor that of success nor that of riches; nor that of a corporate mentality to gain money; and does not justify our practices with the excuse ‘it has always been done this way.’” As “creators of communion,” our Life and Mission Project should talk about human and spiritual growth, of service, of the poor, of permanent formation, and of working in teams. And this is possible if we will have a conversion of the heart, he added.

Ending his homily with the message from the letter of St. James in the First Reading, the Prior General encouraged the capitulars not to be afraid. In this endeavor to serve God and His Church through our lives as Augustinian Recollects, we should not be afraid because Jesus is with us.



Fray Miguel Miró Miró delivering his homily to his brother Recollects.

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tellers for the Chapter were Frays Enrico Silab, Jaazeal Jakosalem, and Kenneth Joseph Onda. Fray Lauro Larlar was elected as the first moderator and Fray René Paglinawan, the second moderator. Fray Jose Ernil Almayo was elected Secretary of the Chapter and Fray Dionisio Selma, Chapter Councillor.

Those who were tasked to take charge in the preparation of the Chapter message were: Frays René Paglinawan, Leander Barrot, Cristopher Maspara and Arnel Diaz.

The Committee assigned to organize the Liturgy were: Frays Rommel Rubia, Amado Emmanuel Bolilia, Raymund Alcedo and Don Besana.

The Communication Team was composed of Frays Jose Ernil Almayo,

Lauro Larlar, Ian Anthony Espartero and the members of the Chapter Secretariat, namely, Frays Reynaldo Jaranilla, Joel Villaruel, Jerik Troy Siozon, Robin Ross Plata and Jessriel Marcha.

Those who were assigned to send and reply to messages for the Chapter were Frays Julius Marcos and Don Besana.

Fray Edgar Tubio was named the bell-ringer.

Reporting of the Secretariats and Commissions

Fray Lauro Larlar proposed that the mode of reporting of the Prior Provincial and the different Secretariats and Commissions be done section by section with interpolations in each item. However,

the delegates unanimously accepted the proposal of the Provincial Council which was to abide by the usual sequence of the reporting, namely, the Prior Provincial to be followed by the Secretariat Presidents and the Commission Heads. In every end of the report, discussions, suggestions and reactions were done.

The reports of the Prior Provincial, the President of the Secretariat of Spirituality and the President of the Secretariat of Formation and Vocation Ministry were completed on the second day.

After the afternoon session, the delegates followed the regular schedule of free time, praying of the vespers and complines, dinner and recreation.



(Clockwise from top left) Fray Edgar Tubio reminding the capitulars to take a break. Fray Jaazeal Estelou Jakosalem and Fray Enrico Peter Silab collecting and revealing the votes. Fray Lauro Larlar and Fray René Paglinawan sitting beside the Prior General as the First and Second Moderators, respectively.