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UNIVERSITY OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL-RECOLETOS

PR UPDATES



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CONGRATULATIONS

FRAY WALTHRODE CONDE, OAR

**ON THE 60TH JUBILEE OF YOUR
SIMPLE PROFESSION**

UNO-R OPENS INSET 2020

The university opened its In-Service Training Program (INSET) 2020 last July 1, 2020, at the university gymnasium. The opening ceremony was started with a community Mass led by the Father President and concelebrating Priests. In his homily, he stressed three evils of today's world which the devil could have a subtle entry in our lives and these are violence, nakedness, and schizophrenia. However, with Christ in our lives, all these could be overcome.

Fr. President gave the welcome address while Human Resource Development Office Associate Director, Dr. Carmenda Leonoras gave the house rules for INSET 2020. The first talk of the INSET was on St. Augustine and the Augustinian Pedagogy by Fr. Besana and the 2ns session was a talk about Tatak Rekoletto by Mr. Lino Sumbillo.

LEGASPI TALKS ABOUT MARKETING IN THE NEW NORMAL

Carlos Eduardo Legaspi, Jr, PhD, UNO-R Director for External Affairs, talked about "Marketing in the New Normal" last July 3 at the university Gymnasium as part of the INSET 2020. Legaspi Tackled the topic on Knowing one's product, customer and how to market the university in the new normal.

NEGROS OCC AND BACOLOD STILL UNDER MGCQ

President Rodrigo Duterte extended the Modified General Community Quarantine (MGCQ) status of the Province and Bacolod City until July 15, 2020, as per recommendation of the National Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID). With the announcement of the President, Governor Eugenio Lacson signed executive Order #20-28 while Bacolod City Mayor Evelio Leonardia issues Executive Order #45 s. 2020 extending MGCQ in the province and the city. As of July 4, Bacolod registers 52 COVID positive patients while the province has 109 COVID Positive patients.

FILIPINO AND PE COURSES NOW UNDER CAS

The School Board has approved the recommendation that Filipino and Physical Education classes starting school year 2020-2021 will be under the supervision of the General Education Courses (GEC) of the College of Arts and Sciences. Fray Jose Alden Alipin, OAR, Fr. VP-Academic, issued memo #029 s. 2019-2020 or otherwise known as the "Transfer of General Education Courses (Filipino and Physical Education).

UCDO HOLDS FORUM ON LAUDATO SI'

The UNO-Recoletos Community Development Office (UCDO) conducted a conversation on Laudato Si' last June 30, 2020 at the Little Theater. This activity is in line with the celebration of the Philippine Environment Month 2020 with the theme "Protect Nature, Sustain our Future". The program started with the usual opening formalities and was followed by opening remarks led by Ms. Maribel M. Gonzales, UCDO Director. She stressed that the objectives of the forum are to increase the awareness of the participants on the causes of climate change and to introduce various methods of mitigating its effects on our environment and our lives through environmental actions. Also, Mr. Elmeer

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Meeynard D. Calimpos, UCDO Staff shared his insights about the climate crisis, its impacts on the lives of the people, and the ten simple ways to fight this global threat. Afterward, UCDO coordinators from different colleges and departments have raised their ideas and innovative solutions during the open forum and plenary harvesting. Also, Mr. Ernill Orbecido, UCDO coordinator from the Management Information System (MIS) enlightened the participants about his idea on how to calculate an individual's carbon footprint through an online application. He emphasized that the purpose of this CO2 Calculator is for the people to estimate their footprint from home energy, transportation, and waste. Fr. Cristituto A. Palomar, OAR, Vice President for Religious Affairs wrapped up the forum by stressing the importance of beautification and urban gardening as the university is shifting into new normal. He also encouraged the coordinators to minimize the use of plastics during activities and other- related events. He stressed that the community must "walk the talk" as the real program has just begun. After the program, everyone moved to the Green Heart area for a symbolic act of love for the environment. Among the participating coordinators are from the PQA, HRMDO, CAHMS, RDO, CAS, CoEd, Property, Clinic, MIS, CCJE, ICTD, CoEng, IS- N-10, CBA, and RESOURCE-Handumanan. The master of ceremony was Ms. Kaye Eunice Lamera, Research Staff. *(Mr. Elmeer Meeynard D. Calimpos)*

UCDO CONDUCTS QUARAN-CLEAN

The UNO-Recoletos Community Development Office (UCDO) has always been an advocate in securing a cleaner and healthier ecology under its **environmental thrust**. Last July 4, 2020, at 8:00 AM-9:00 AM, UCDO in partnership with the UNO-R Supreme Student Government (UNORSSGO) and Recoletos Social Outreach Center (RESOURCE-Handumanan) initiated a simultaneous household clean-up activity and backyard gardening dubbed as "QUARAN- CLEAN" in line with the celebration of the Philippine Environment Month (June) and National Disaster Resilience Month 2020 (July). The activity aims to uplift the spirit of Bayanihan among UNORians and to celebrate love for Mother Earth through a simultaneous act of environmental stewardship with family and friends. Also, this is to utilize social media platforms such as Facebook to raise awareness on the importance of Laudato Si' in promoting a healthful and balanced ecology. Alongside with it, UCDO, being the lead role of the activity adopted an area in front of the Integrated School (IS) building to be cultivated and developed as a green space for the employees of the university. Among the planted root crops are Malabar Spinach or Alugbati, Sweet Potato, and Moringa or Malunggay. The UNO-R based team that joined the said activity was represented by the UCDO, Campus Ministry Office, Property Office, Student Catholic Action of the Philippines (SCAP), Recollect Augustinian Youth (RAY), FYVM, and UNO-R students. After an hour of urban gardening, Fr. Jose Teodulfo A. Jadulco, OAR led the closing prayer for the sustainability of the project. On the other hand, the Bayanihan at home initiative was supported by various UNORians as everyone who joined the QUARAN-CLEAN had posted their environmental actions through Facebook. UCDO will also be posting these photos on its official Facebook page: University Community Development Office. Further, the office would also like to extend its gratitude to all who became a part of this activity for the love of the environment. *(Mr. Elmeer Meeynard D. Calimpos)*

RFC CORISTAS RENEWVOWS AMIDST PANDEMIC

Mira-Nila Homes QUEZON CITY—"The renewal of your religious consecration tonight, dear brothers appears irrational to many people who cannot understand the vowed a life that you have personally embraced in your lives," said Fray Ian Anthony R. Espartero, OAR, Vicar of the Province of St. Ezekiel Moreno, to the ten simply professed friars who renewed their vows last June 25, 2020 at St. Thomas of Villanova Chapel, Recoletos Formation Center. After almost two weeks of no communal activities, except the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, due to on-doing community quarantine, the community was gathered for the Rite of the Renewal of Vows which took place after the community Rosary and Vespers. Fray Espartero, OAR was delegated by the Prior Provincial to accept the vows of the brothers and with him as witnesses were Fray Lauro V. Larlar, OAR, Seminary Rector and Fray Kenneth Joseph L. Onda, OAR, Master of the professed. Fray Espartero, OAR explained that evangelical counsels can only be appreciated if they are seen in their transcendental value: "Religious life does not make sense unless God is the first point of reference in our life and apostolate. Unless God and His kingdom are our primary and immediate concerns, we cannot prosper in our religious life." The Simply Professed religious who renewed their vows are the following: Fray Neil Robert M. Alilain, OAR; Fray Helfrid D. Palmis, OAR; Fray Jose Enrico V. Gallego, OAR; Fray Rey Jay Y. Quevedo, OAR; Fray Renz Calix C. Soriano, OAR; Fray Jhoben M. Rodriguez, OAR; Fray Ricky John A. Austria, OAR; Fray Ivan C. Cuison, OAR; Fray Jhyryx Vincent F. Gamulo, OAR; and Fray James Eroid P. Gatinao, OAR. The

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Vicar of the Province challenged the 10 newly renewed friars: “We draw our existence and relevance in the radical witness of our vowed lives. It is the ability to encourage others like the critical yeast during this trying time. We are called in the church to become the agents and prime movers its transformation and renewal, discovering the cutting edges and welcoming new possibilities. We are to inspire and to keep the fire of the Gospel burning brightly in the hearts of men and women with care, commitment and love.” (*Fray Jhoben Rodriguez, OAR*•June 29, 2020/www.recoletosfilipinas.org)



FIVE FRIARS PROFESS SIMPLE VOWS AMIDST COVID PANDEMIC

Antipolo City, RIZAL—The Coronavirus (CoVid-19) pandemic is forcing cities and nations into border lockdowns and citizens into isolation. And yet it could not stop the Prior Provincial, Fray Dionisio Q. Selma, OAR, from welcoming into the Order of Augustinian Recollects five young men who made their simple profession of vows at St. Ezekiel Moreno Novitiate-Recoletos (SEMoNoRe) in this city last June 27, 2020.

“Your profession of vows is unique, it will be remembered in history because the backdrop is the pandemic we are experiencing right now,” Fray Selma said in his homily.

Those who professed their simple vows were Fray Mark Joseph Quirante, OAR (Quezon City); Fray Joseph Neil Baygan, OAR (Jagna, Bohol); Fray James Esplanada, OAR (Cainta, Rizal); Fray Judd Galinato, OAR (Guindulman, Bohol); and Fray Mc Airel Capinpin, OAR (Brooke’s Point, Palawan).

Fray Baygan delivers his thanksgiving message in behalf of his batchmates. Because of the pandemic, the solemn rites were done without the family members, relatives, and benefactors of the five friars. And yet it was streamed live on the official Facebook page of the Province. In a message of gratitude just before the mass ended, Fray Baygan addressed his loved ones and those of his batchmates’ who might be watching online. “The current pandemic costs us to distance from one another, which prevented you to be here. Yes, you may not be here with us right now, but you are still with us. We are present to one another through social media, but above all, in the Spirit of the Lord, the agent of our communion,” he said.

Renunciation of material properties

Night before the Rite of Simple Profession of Vows, the candidates renounced their familial inheritance through a simple rite presided by the Prior of the Community, Fray Paulino Dacanay, OAR. This was in accordance with the provision of the OAR Constitutions no. 219 which states, “Before making his profession, and with effect for the period of time in which he is to be bound by simple vows, the novice must hand over the administration of his belongings to a person of his own free choice.” Fray Dacanay also emphasized the essence of this renunciation as a dependence on God’s providence. “Have faith and confidence in God. Be assured and confident enough that God is always there even in the most difficult situation,” Fray Dacanay exhorted the candidates.

The religious as spiritual therapists

In his homily, the Prior Provincial talked about the relevance of religious life in today’s highly secularized society. “There is sickness in the world, and the religious are called to be spiritual therapists,” he said. Fray Selma enumerated excessive materialism, sexual liberation and the false concept of sexuality, and the false concept of freedom as symptoms of the world’s illness. The three vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, he added, are what counter-remedy such maladies. Fray Selma: “There is sickness in the world, and the religious are called to be spiritual

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therapists.” “Material wealth, sexuality, and freedom are all good and they are not to be despised, but we profess our vows because we know that there is a higher good than all these: the Lord himself, his kingdom,” Fray Selma said. He added that the religious vocation is a gift inasmuch as not everybody can receive it. Unlike God’s Commandments which are obligatory, the profession of the evangelical counsels, he continued, is voluntary. “By our vows, we are trying in our lives to irradiate the light and the person of Christ, telling the people who would see us that the life beyond, the eschatological life, can already be lived in this world,” he said. He encouraged the young friars not to be afraid because it was the Lord who called them despite their weaknesses and imperfections. “God does not call us because we are good, but because of His love. He calls us because he is entrusting us with the mission of continuing his saving works,” he said. The religious, he added, is not exempt from life’s crises. And so when crises hits them later on, The Provincial advised them to always go back to their vocation story, to the moment when they experienced a “particular, special, personal encounter with Jesus” which prompted them to offer themselves to the Lord in the religious life. Indispensable in the perseverance in religious life, he said, is cultivating an intimate relationship with the Lord in prayer life, and having a “personal, continuous, and consistent conversion”. “Yes, we feel unworthy and sinful just like Augustine our father. But the Lord would say, ‘I am calling you, this is not your work, you are just my representative’,” he said. (Bro. Ioannes Arong•June 30, 2020SIMPLE PROFESSED /www. Recoletosfilipinas.org)

Schedule of Activities

July 2	Death Anniversary of Fray Delfin Castillo, OAR (2014), Former UNO-R Fr. Treasurer.
July 4	Death Anniversary of Bishop Antonio Y. Fortich, 3rd Biahop of Bacolod
July 5	Death Anniversary of Fray Loreto Dacanay, OAR (2016), former UNO-R Property Administrator
July 5	59th anniversary of Simple profession of Fray Emilio Larlar, OAR, former Prior of Recoletos de Bacolod and REED Director 39th anniversary of Simple Profession of Fray Dioisio Selma, OAR, Prior Provincial of the OAR Province of St. Ezekiel Moreno
July 9	60th anniversary of the Simple Profession of Fray Walthrode Conde, OAR
July 14	46th anniversary of the Presbyteral Ordination of Fray Dionisio Cachero, OAR, former UNO-R President.
July 15	47th anniversary of Presbyteral Ordination of Fray Hernando Coja, OAR, former Fr. Treasurer of UNO-R
July 16	FEAST OF OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL 42ND Anniversary of Presbyteral Ordination of Fr. Enrico Silab, OAR, former VP-Admin of UNO-R.
July 18	55th anniversary of Prebyteral Ordination of Fray Emilio Larlar, OAR
July 19	56th anniversary of Presbyteral Ordination of Fray Walthrode Conde, OAR