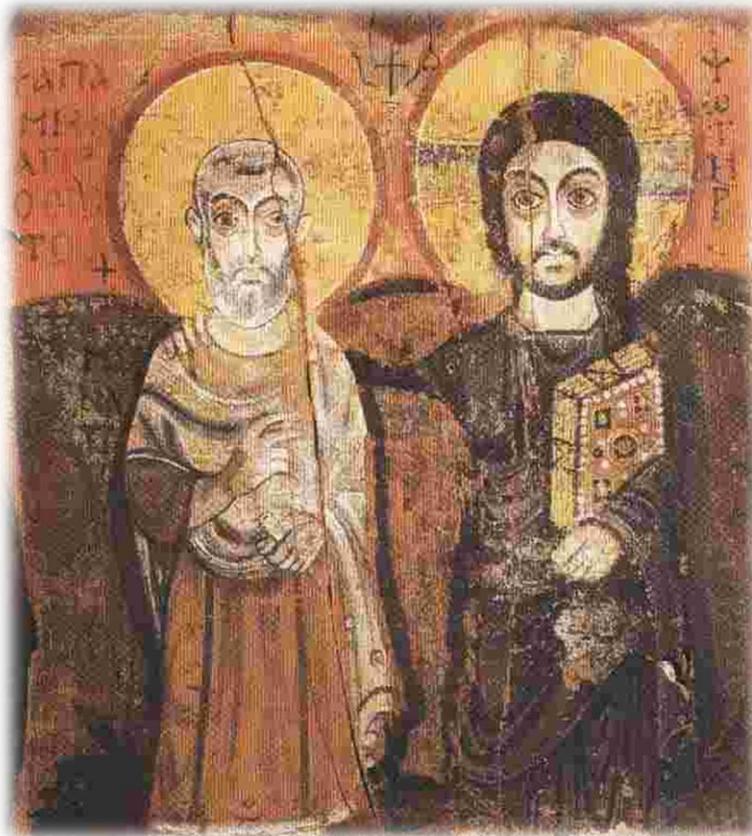




CCM - MESSENGER

Newsletter of the Apostolic Prefecture of Mongolia

2013_04 / No 12



"Follow me in a holy life"

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Christmas 2013-New year 2014

***Come Lord and open for us
the gates of your Kingdom.***

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

It is again the time of the year to greet and wish you with the blessings of the Christmas/New Year seasons. May Christ's lasting peace and joy be in your hearts!

With this message comes my sincere gratitude for journeying with me in the past year through your prayers and loving support. No need to say that we fared well even in the midst of "spiritual tsunamis" that came our way.

To start with, the year 2013 rolled on with much anxiety in our hearts when my office started to process the renewal of our visas. From April to June most of us became illegal residents since the Immigration and Labor Offices refused to renew our visas, as our number exceeded the number of Quota imposed by the said offices, this year, which is 75/25...meaning: for every 25 foreign missionaries, we have to employ 75 local workers. Sixteen of our missionaries have no right to be here according to the stipulation of the Mongolian law on immigration/labor...or we lack around 60 Mongolian workers in the roster of our employees. Through connections, however, we pulled through and were given a year of visa. The problem still persists and we'll see what happens by April 2014, when the time of renewing our residence visas comes again.

A more happy news, however, came when our seminarian, Enkhee, arrived in Mongolia for a break together with 9 of his classmates at the Daejeon Seminary in Korea. They came for their exposure to mission work last July. After the month-long exposure program, Enkhee stayed for another month for vacation and to stay with his family. While having this opportunity, he was very much involved in our parishes/sub-stations in animating our people with his sharing and reflections. We are now praying hard and looking forward to his diaconate next year which will be followed by his priestly ordination after a year and a half. Most probably and God willing, we'll have the first Mongolian priest in 2016.

Another good tidings that I can share is the opening of our Orbit School, which we have been constructing in the last years. It was opened for enrolment last summer and the school year for Kindergarten started on September 2. Around 85 children (3-5 yrs. old) were admitted and another 60 kids are on a waiting list. There is indeed a need for schools in Mongolia. I am happy with this development although a balance of US\$200,000 to pay off construction bills still gives me headaches.

In between, as we celebrated the 21st anniversary of the Church's presence in Mongolia last July; I also celebrated my 10th Year anniversary as bishop on August 29, the beheading of St. John the Baptist. My trips to the Southern Hemisphere (Australia) in September and my weekend preaching in 2 parishes in Seoul, Korea in October gave me much satisfaction and joy to be able to talk about our mission. Hopefully these might also give relief to the financial burden that still besets the Prefecture.



For all these, however, I am glad and grateful that the Lord has not abandoned us. He keeps bestowing his providence and never tires in accompanying us in all our endeavors. Thank you for your determination, dedication, and steadfast commitment in your various ministries. I can't recount the many wonderful activities that you did in your own places of work. Suffice it to say that you are all a bundle of blessing/gifts to the Catholic Church Mission in Mongolia. This is a great reason to celebrate the birthday of Jesus, our Lord and Savior.

A BLESSED CHRISTMAS and A GRACE-FILLED NEW YEAR TO YOU!

+Msgr. Wens S. Padilla, CICM
Apostolic Prefect/Bishop

For me Christmas has always been about this:
Contemplating the visit of God to his people.
Pope Francis

Announcements

- On December 29 all parishes will celebrate together the *Patron Feast of our Church in Mongolia, the Feast of the Holy Family* in the Sts. Peter and Paul Cathedral at 10:30am. On this occasion the **PASTORAL PLAN** for the years 2014-2016 will be handed over to the parishes, congregations and organizations.

This three years Pastoral Plan will be divided into two stages:

2 years of formation with the objective “*Let us strengthen our faith*” (2014-2015) and on year of mission “*Called to be sent*” (2016).

The *first two years* of the pastoral plan will not be focused on specific themes as we used to have in the past years but on the preparation or consolidation of pastoral formation programs which hopefully will give a common base and a point of reference to our pastoral engagements over the next years.

The *third year* of our pastoral plan, following the consolidated pastoral actions of the two previous years will be dedicated to reflect on the fundamental task of our Church of announcing the Gospel in the changing society of Mongolia. Our missionary activities may be organized better in collaboration and networking in order to make our Church more credible and visible in our society.

- Our *Bishop Wenceslao Padilla* will be in the Philippines from January 15 to February 14 for a time of rest and vacation.

- *Fr. Paul Won, FDP*, left at the end of November our Mission and went back to Korea. He has been working in St. Sophia parish (Bayankhoshuu) for almost two years. Thank you!



- Aside from the diary with the ongoing activities in our Prefecture, we want to present some *interesting and specific experiences*. In this Newsletter we present the experience “*Come and see*” organized monthly in Darkhan by our Salesian Fathers and Sisters and an activity of the MC Sisters Dari Ekh. You are invited to send your experiences and contributions.



EXPERIENCES * EXPERIENCES * EXPERIENCES * EXPERIENCES

Come and See!

What is “come and see”? It is a monthly youth encounter in which some young people aged 14 and above stay overnight in the Salesian community and discern their vocation for priestly or religious life. It provides a way to know the charisms of the various congregations. The “Come and see” program was initiated one year ago by SDB and FMA in Darkhan. Around 10 to 11 young people are attending the program.



This year the vocational meetings started in October 10-11 and Fr. Paul gave the opening session introducing the religious and priestly vocation. Then everyone joined for usual games in the oratory, followed by Rosary and then the ‘Good night talk’, which was also given by Fr. Paul Leung. Sr. Hanako conducted a meaningful adoration service after supper and gave the third session the following morning on the same topic “priestly and religious vocation.”

On November 9-10 again “Come & See group” gathered together. The opening session was taken by Fr. Paul and Sr. Hanako. The “Good night talk” which included all the youth of the Darkhan Parish, was given by Bro. Mario, SDB from Italy, and 50 years missionary in Korea, Africa and China. It was a wonderful sharing of missionary life experience. Br Andrew, SDB, took two sessions. In the first session, he shared his own vocation story. In the second session his emphasized on the uniqueness of the brotherhood vocation. It was appreciated by all the participants. Heartfelt thanks to Bro. Andrew and Bro. Mario!



Fr. Anthony Kishore, SDB

EXPERIENCES * EXPERIENCES * EXPERIENCES * EXPERIENCES

MC Sisters Dari Ekh

The higher authority of the government office approached us for help of an old man of 82 years and his retarded son of around 30 years. The father has been thrown out of the ger and is rejected (together with his son) by his two normal sons.

We bought a ger for them and furnished it fully for they had nothing with them except the clothes they wore.

We settled them in Honhor and visit them every week to see their needs of food, clothing, coal/wood and other necessities. Especially we help them also with all the paper work with different offices.

May God bless them and may they experience through our work of love, that there is a God who loves them.



Diary of the Prefecture

Diary of the Prefecture

September

September 1:

SPC Zuunmod:

For the new school year we welcomed 11 new children in the first grade.



September 2:

MC Yarmag:

We started our “after school homework” program, which is attended by more or less 87 children.



September 3:

MC Darkhan:

In honor of our Mother Teresa’s feast day, we invited 175 families, gave a short talk about our Mother’s life and distributed food stuff.

September 5:

MC Darkhan:

Today we celebrated Mother Teresa’s feast day also in our parish. The children performed a dance during mass at the entrance and after communion. After mass everybody received food.



MC Yarmag:

We celebrated Mother's feast day with the Holy Eucharist with our Yarmag faithful and shared with them a simple meal after mass. To the kids we showed the movie of our "Mother's legacy".

September 6:

MC Dari Ekh:

On the Feast day of our Mother we had mass with our people and after a small talk on the life of Mother Teresa was given by Mongolian baptized lay. After we had dry ration distribution in our house as well as in Ikh Naran. Everybody got a big piece of cake, light drinks and went home happy.

FMA Orbit:

Through Caritas Taiwan our Bishop Wenceslao Padilla received around 200 tables and chairs for the elementary school in Orbit from the American school in Taiwan. We are very grateful for this donation. Especially when we will start the elementary school – hopefully next September – they will be a precious gift.



September 9:

MC Darkhan:

We started our school activities named "Day care Center" in the location of the old parish of Darkhan. 97 children are coming to do their homework in two sections – some in the morning, some in the afternoon. We have also two teachers, who are helping us. After homework and meal they have free time in which the children are invited to do some handicraft activities with the sisters.



SPC Elementary school:

Our 5th grade students began with lessons in our new sand treatment room.



September 9-16:

MC-Sisters:

Due to the visa problem in this year some sisters haven't been able to go out of the country for their annual retreat– so the Regional Superior Sr. Leon M.C. organized the retreat in Mongolia with Fr. Lawrence Kettle, a Capuchin priest from Korea.

September 13:



MC Darkhan:

Outing with our garbage people.

September 13 – 15:

CJ Sisters:

We made a 'history trip' with our dormitory girls for 3 days. We were able to visit famous historical sites like Erdenzuu monastery, Uigarin har balgas, Kharkhorin museum and Turtle rock. On this trip we could learn more of the history of Mongolia and feel the wisdom of our ancestors. We spent a good time of relax at the beautiful lake Ogii nuur on our way home.



September 19:

INBO Sisters:

We prepared a birthday party for the first time for our school students since our library started. We will have this party every month.



September 20:



SPC Elementary school and kindergarten:

All of us, elementary school and kindergarten children, went for a picnic in the children park. We had a fantastic time.

September 21 and 28:

CJ Sisters:



We went for a picnic with the young people of our Mary Ward Youth Center on Sep 21. We played many games and It was a fun and enjoyable experience for the young people. Also with the “New Generation & Future” NGO members we went for a picnic.

September 25:

SPC Bayankhoshuu:

We visited the National History Museum with the 5 years old children to learn about the Mongolian history.



September 27:



SPC Bayankhoshuu:

Because it became already cold, we harvested earlier our potatoes, cabbages and other vegetables.

October



October 1:

INBO Sisters:

Dejon Diocese seminarians visited our school and talked with the students.

October 1-4:

CICM:

Yearly retreat of CICM Fathers and Brothers in Darkhan City under the guidance of Fr. Ferdinand B.

October 4:

SPC Zuunmod:

We went for a picnic to Terelj by bus with lunch boxes and some snacks. We have been singing songs and playing interesting games with friends and teachers on the bus and we admired the landscape on the way. It was a wonderful day and all of us have been very happy.



October 5:

CJ Sisters:

Our Sports Festival on Oct 5 was a time where our young people could enjoy fellowship through basketball and volleyball competition. The winner team received a gift and medals.



SPC Elementary school:

We finished with the setup of the equipment in our playground.

October 6:

SPP Parish:

Mass for the 17th anniversary of the death of Ernest Lontsi, father of Fr. Herve.

October 7:

MC – Sisters:

“Thanksgiving day for decree of praise” (official recognition of the Congregation)

In gratitude all the MC Sisters are having a full day of adoration, which is open for everybody. Mongolian faithful, inmates, coworkers and children are joining in turns the adoration. This tradition was started by Mother Teresa.

October 12:

SPP Parish:

The Marian Day, wished by the Pope, was celebrated with an Eve Day of prayer starting from a morning mass in Dari Ekh’s outstation with Rosary and concluded in the night under the topic “With Mary during the night”. The whole night there was Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary until midnight.



October 13:

SPP Parish:

Special recitation of the Rosary for the consecration of the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary as presided by Pope Francis. The prayer was led inside the surrounding of the basement with 100 candles. The devotion lasted the whole day.

October 17-21:

SDB:



Visit of our provincial Fr. Joseph Tran Hoa Hung and our general councilor for the mission, Fr. Vaclav Klement

... they came, visited and served ...

October 19-19:

SDB Darkhan: Visit of the Mission Councilor of SDB

FR. Klement Vaclav, the Councilor for the Mission, and Fr. Joseph, our provincial, visited Don Bosco Darkhan from October 18-19. They celebrated mass with and for the faithful of the parish. Through their inspiring homilies and various talks they encouraged the faithful to remain firm in their



catholic faith and carry the seed of faith to other Mongolians. Fr. Klement gave also conferences to us SDBs, working in Mongolia.

Both of them also made a short visit to FMA and MC Sisters who collaborate whole heartedly in the parish work.

October 24:

Don Bosco School – UB:

On the 24th of every month – commemoration of Mary Help of Christians – the baptized students and teachers of our school come together for prayer.



SPC Bayankhoshuu:

Dentists came to our kindergarten and our children had their dental checkups and treatments. With their parents we practiced dental hygiene.

October 25:

CICM:

Gathering in the French Embassy with the French speaking CICMs around the French Minister of Foreign Affairs M. Laurent Fabius.

October 26:

Don Bosco Caring Center:

Birthday party for our children every month.



October 27:

MAP Darkhan:

The month of the Holy Rosary was well observed by the parish. Throughout the month the parishioners honored Mama Mary through various religious activities like rosary procession etc. On October 27, with the help of Ms. Michelle, the parish organized a mega Marian Quiz competition. There were around 20 participants from various age groups (age12-45). It was really a remarkable day for the parishioners.

This was an opportunity to learn something about Mary and it has strengthened their faith and devotion to Mary.



November

November 4-5:

SPC Elementary school:

We opened a beautiful store in our school and sold several articles which we got from Korea at a very low price. It was so interesting and exciting.

November 5:

SPC Bayankhoshuu:

We watched the movie “The life of Chingis” with our children.

November 8:

INBO Sisters:

We went with our teacher to Sainshand to visit some nomadic families. We met nine of them and provided them with daily necessities and vitamins.



SPC Elementary school:

We delivered in poor houses coal we bought with the money that we received from the main office of life-sharing campaign.

November 9:

SPP Parish:

Foundation of Altar servers group among the children of expatriate in Mongolia to serve the English mass.

November 10:

SPP Parish:

Visitation of our Cathedral by Mons. Julien Kibore, Secretary of the Nuncio in Seoul accompanied by Fr. Gerard Hammond, Maryknoll Missionary in South Korea.

MC Yarmag:

We started our Bible sharing going from house to house among the Yarmag faithful every Sunday afternoon. Especially we want to reach those, who don't come to Church anymore.

November 15:

SPP Parish:

Visitation of Fr. Hervé, CICM, and Sr Regina, SPC, to Nazareth, the newly created SPP Cathedral's outpost. We distributed 10 sacks of potatoes complying Bishop's incentive to provide both, material and spiritual assistance.

November 16 and 23:



CJ Sisters:

The "New Generation & Future" NGO members held a conference on "My Future Plan" in the Mary Ward Youth Center.

There was an exposure of newspapers and Future Notebooks on the first floor, on the second floor lectures were given of the members. Students of 10 schools have been participating in this event. They showed a lot of interest in The "New Generation & Future" NGO activities.



November 17-24:



CICM:

Fr. Herve Kuafa Lonsi traveled to Japan for the Provincial Government Meeting.

November 18:

INBO Sisters:

We visited my teacher's house and one of our students who has a mental problem.



November 20:



INBO Sisters:

Some people who are working in Shin Han Bank in Korea visited our school. They prepared many things, like toys, and brought many gifts for our students.

FMA Orbit:

With joy we received finally the certificate for our kindergarten for the next four years up to 2017.



November 22-23:

CJ Sisters:

We organized a youth training for two days for their young leaders of Mary Ward Youth Center and CCM library with the theme: "Mary Ward, the founder of the congregation of Jesus".



November 24:

SDB Darkhan: "Solemnity of Christ the King"



It was a significant day for our Darkhan parish. Around 200 faithful gathered together to celebrate the solemnity of Christ the King and the feast of St. Cecilia.

The very Solemn Mass was presided by Fr. Andrew Tin, SDB, our delegate superior. Then a small snack was

provided by Fr. Paul Leung. Thereafter the long awaited concert began which lasted for two hours. The participants of various age groups came up on the stage with colorful dance, music, song, skit play etc. It was indeed a jubilant atmosphere in the parish.



Birthday celebration for Fr. Andrew Tin:



October 24 was also an occasion for the parishioners to honor Fr. Andy their former pastor. His birthday was anticipated as it is on October 29. A big birthday party was hosted by the rector and the staff of our parish, which ended with party games, giving of Birthday gifts and then the echo of the birthday song.

November 27:

VCC Center:

The children of VCC are organized and divided in families and gender groups. On this day, in order to strengthen the bounds within the family groups, the boys and girls from 6 to 18 years could compete. At the end fraternity was the only winner. Tear were shared, the joy from the prizes equally shared.



VCC children –
theatric
presentation

November 28:

CICM:

CICM Foundation Day celebrated with a Mass presided by our Bishop Wenceslao Padilla and a shared supper for all the participants after. This day we remembered also the 25 anniversary of profeession of Fr. Pierrot Kasemuana.



November 30:



CCM:

As it is already a good tradition, also this year Fr. Phil Mares, Maryknoll missionary in Korea, came to guide us in our Advent recollection and was available for a whole week for confession and spiritual guidance. All missionaries, but especially the Korean ones, enjoy his talk and his presence among us and his availability for our mission. Thank you Fr. Phil!

CJ Sisters:



Two priests and a sister of the Korean Catholic Scouts visited our Mongolian Catholic Scouts. Our Mongolian Catholic Scout members prepared traditional cultural performances. We had the opportunity to catch a glimpse of Mongolia through various program items including traditional Mongolian food, cultural experiences, dance performances and songs.

Don Bosco School – UB:



Competition on Mongolian culture and tradition for our students



Unique moment in our community – three Salesian brothers together: Br. Mario, Br. Andrew, Br. Francis



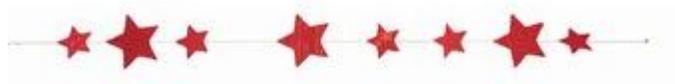
Visit and work of Br. Mario, Salesian from Italy and missionary in China-Korea from November 2-13



Every day traditional 'Good morning-talk' for our students and teachers



Thanksgiving Day in occasion of the Birthday and Feast day of our rector Fr. Andrew Tin.



*Merry Christmas
and a blessed year 2014!*

Birthdays

December: 3 Sr. Lucia Cho Miok, CJ
25 Ms. Justyna Homa, lay missionary
26 Sr. Sophia Oh Whayoung, SPC
27 Sr. Maria Esperanza Becerra Medina, MDC
31 Fr. Daniele Giolitti, IMC

January: 1 Fr. Matthieu Ndjeok Golime, CICM
15 Sr. Veronica Jeon Young Eun, CJ
17 Sr. Marjorie Rose Buston, ICM
20 Fr. Norbertus Lee, FDP
Sr. Bona Oh Eun-Kyoung, SPC
25 Sr. Hanako Kojima, FMA
30 Fr. Pierre Palussiere, FDP

February: 5 Br. Andrew Tran Phoung
6 Sr. Agnes Lee Keon Sook, CJ
9 Sr. Rose Mita Nongmin Marcela, MC
14 Br. John Baptist Quang Trung Vu, SDB
20 Fr. James Li Renfang, CICM
Sr. Lukarda Choi Ik Soon, INBO
23 Sr. Furaha Lergi Mponzi, MDC
28 Sr. Chrysostom Choi Mihi, MC



Calendar of December '13 - February

Calendar of December '13 - February '14

December **8** **Immaculate Conception**
 25 **THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**
 29 **Holy Family – Patron of the Church in Mongolia**

January **1** **Mary, Mother of God**
 5 **Epiphany of the Lord**
 12 **Baptism of the Lord**
 23 Birthday of Mary Ward / Feast of CJ Sisters
 24 St. Francis of Sales / patron of SDB and FMA
 25 St. Paul's conversion / Feast of SPC Sisters
 29 Foundation day of IMC and MDC
 31 **Tsagaan sar**
 St. John Bosco / founder of SDB and FMA

February **2** **Presentation of the Lord**
 16 Blessed Joseph Allamano / founder of IMC and MDC

The next CCM-Newsletter will come out in March 2014. You are invited to send your contributions until February 28, 2014. Thank you very much!

