

## The Holy Father's Intention for the Month of September & October 2023



### **September (For People Living in the Margins)**

*We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.*

### **October (For the Synod)**

*We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.*

### **BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS**

To all our generous benefactors, mission and prayer partners who are celebrating their gift of life in these months of September and October, rest assured that you will be remembered in our prayers, especially in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist.



CONGREGATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

# Eukaristiya

SENTRO NG BUHAY

VOL. 29, NO. 5 SEPTEMBER TO OCTOBER 2023

The Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament invites you to participate in the formation of our seminarians and the on-going formation of our religious.

Any donation will be deeply appreciated and acknowledged. We pray daily for the intentions of our benefactors during Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament & weekly Mass every Thursday.

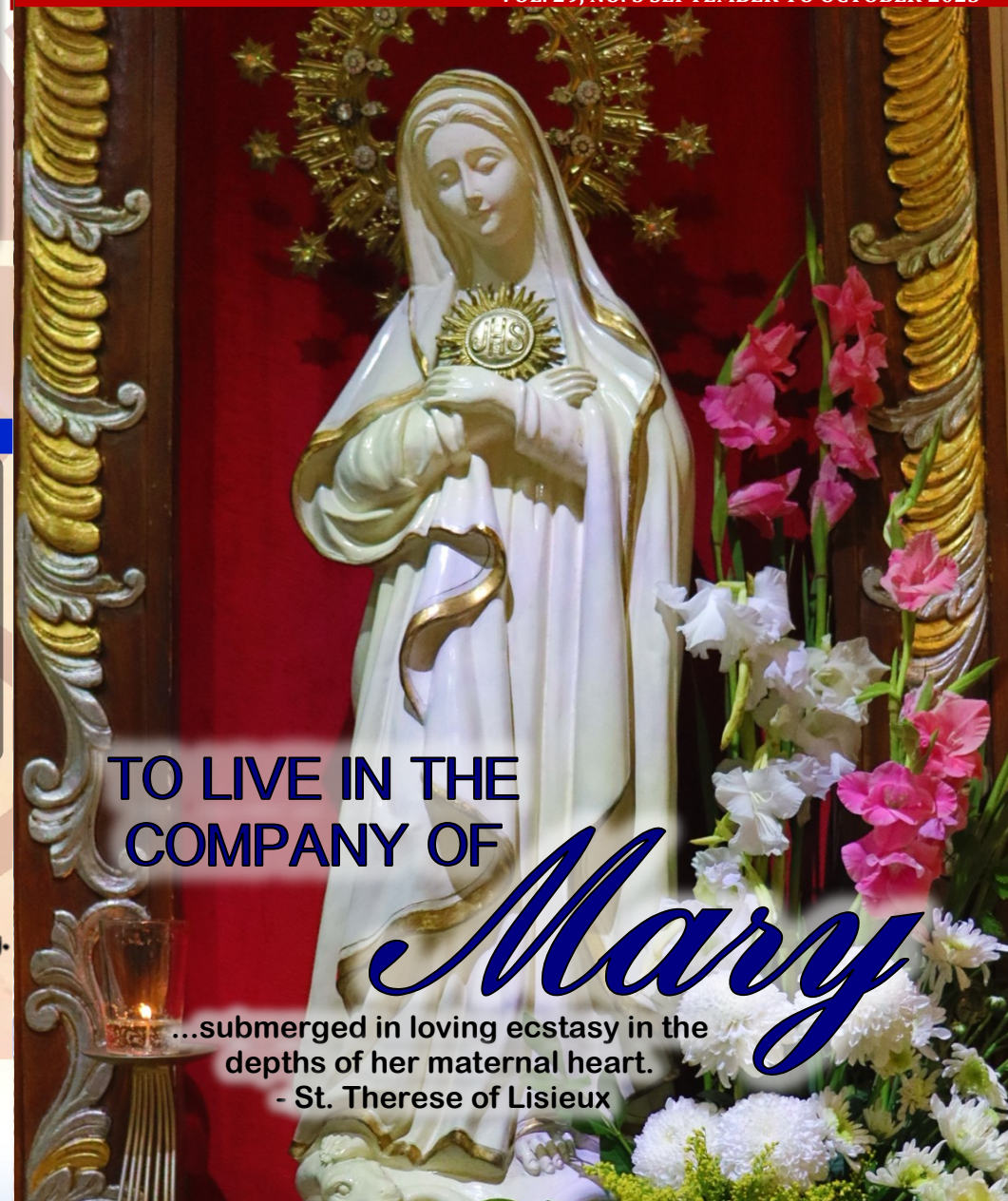
### **PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR INTENTIONS AND PRAYERS:**

**Prayer in honor of St. Peter Julian Eymard**  
Gracious God of our ancestors, you led Peter Julian Eymard, like Jacob in times past, on a journey of faith.

Under the guidance of your gentle Spirit, Peter Julian discovered the gift of love in the Eucharist which your son Jesus offered for the hungers of humanity. Grant that we may celebrate this mystery worthily, adore it profoundly, and proclaim it prophetically for your greater glory.  
**Amen.**

**St. Peter Julian Eymard said:**  
Happy is the soul that knows how to find Jesus in the Eucharist, and the Eucharist in all things.

  
**ST. PETER JULIAN EYMARD**  
Apostle of the Eucharist



**TO LIVE IN THE COMPANY OF**

*Mary*

...submerged in loving ecstasy in the depths of her maternal heart.  
- St. Therese of Lisieux



From the SMP - PDO Office

Peace to one and all!

Months of September and October are observed with special prayer intentions for vocation to religious and priestly life as well as devotion to the Blessed Mother through the Holy Rosary. Religious vocation and the Marian piety (devotion) are remarkably inseparable in terms of their fruits and inspirations.

A lot of life testimonies we hear from our seminarians, priests, and brothers draw significant inspirations from their meditation and prayer of the Holy Rosary. I appeal to your kindness to join us in offering prayers through the Holy Rosary every day especially this month of October for the perseverance of all those under religious and priestly formation, and for the protection of all religious brothers and sisters, priests, and bishops.

In this issue, allow me to express my sincere appreciation and prayerful gratitude to all of you who are constantly extending financial aid for our seminarians through the SOS (Support Our Seminarians). May you inspire more hearts out there in order to help us increase our resources as the needs of our formation houses also continue to increase. Let us not underestimate the small yet generously given supports, because they make the big difference between sharing and not sharing at all.

We are not for the amount you are giving, but rather for the love you put on your giving. The little reward we can assure you in offering to God your support for our seminarians is the constant inclusion of your intentions in our daily Eucharistic celebrations and communal prayers.

We cannot thank you enough especially since SOS has been continually knocking through your kindness until now. Nothing can ever go unnoticed from God's detail of knowledge how much you have been faithfully supporting the needs of our seminarians. In Christ our Bread of Life, I remain

Gratefully yours,

FR. MARC BRYAN R. ADONA, SSS

\*To all those who wish to send their financial assistance for the "Support Our Seminarians"

Project or S.O.S through bank, you can deposit your donations to BPI Account No. 4061-001951 under the name of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament. Thank you very much!



## Saturday Devotion for Vocations: EFC's Active Response

by

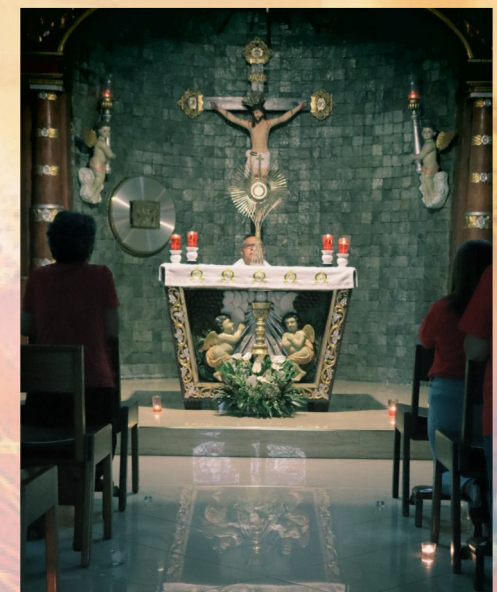
Br. Jubert Daniel Alberto, SSS

With the Church facing the ongoing crisis of dwindling number of vocations to the priesthood and religious life, the Eymard Formation Center (EFC) community is resolute in aiding the Church address this increasingly escalating predicament. And the EFC's response? No better way than through prayer, adoration and devotions that are aimed at asking the Lord to pour out into his Church many holy vocations, while also taking care of those who are already in the formation, ongoing formation, and active ministry.

EFC has devoted its Saturday adoration and prayers to this endeavor, opting to alternately observe the animated Holy Hour for Vocations and recite the Holy Rosary for Vocations for all Saturday nights throughout this school year.

Adhering to the rite espoused by the Episcopal Commission on Vocations, under the auspices of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP), the EFC community is also praying for the leaders of the Church, consecrated persons, married couples, individuals who have committed themselves to a life of single blessedness, and all those who are discerning their call to holiness.

As inspired by the Virgin Mary's response to a life of service to her Son, our Lord Jesus Christ and St. Peter Julian Eymard's Eucharistic inspiration, the EFC community joins the Church in praying and asking the Lord's grace for the people of God "to become like the bread of the Eucharist, which is broken for the life of the world."



## KUYA Center: An Apostolate of Love and Bond

by  
*Br. Marlon A. Pascual, SSS*

In June of this year, we started with our apostolate in KUYA Center, a transient home that supports children to a much-needed change from a life on the streets, while also strengthening the capacity of their families. Together with Br. Andrei Mikael Lirazan, SSS, we provide catechesis for the young children as one of our main activities, while also ensuring that we bond and play with them as their older brothers.

The KUYA Center, founded in 1991 by the Luzon Association of Religious Brothers (LARB), pivots its mission on the call of the Gospel to love all children and to express this maxim through restoration of the children's dignity, self-worth and esteem through various healing programs.

With this, we also ensure that we teach them those school lessons that they do not understand, similar to a tutorial program.

The heart and center of Christian love is the family and home. This is what our apostolate in KUYA Center also brings to us. Being with the children, our hearts are filled with joy and wonder, as we watch them learn, be very cheerful, stay active in our classes, while keeping their childlike innocence. Their smiles are like rays of sunshine that melt away our burdens, fatigue, and stress from the entire week, making our Saturday apostolate something we eagerly await with hearts full of joy.

Moreover, our interactions with the children in KUYA Center allow us to also learn from them. Their simplicity, honesty, love, and acceptance prove that the Kingdom of Heaven is with them, as Jesus said in Matthew 19:14, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."



## EXPLORING THE CALL: Have You Felt That Slightest Desire?

by  
*Br. Joshua S. Cerdeña, SSS*



Seven years ago, I joined the Blessed Sacrament Vocation Club (BSVC), where active members invited me to attend various gatherings. These included the 3rd Sunday Mass and fellowship; church visits in the metropolis and nearby regions; putting up vocation posters on bulletin boards; retreats and recollections. However, the most memorable part was sharing meals with my fellow journeyers. These were not just meals... they were moments where we shared our stories of successes, challenges, hopes, dreams, and what kind of life we aspire to lead.

One particular trip to Isabela stands out. It was not just about enjoying the scenery but also engaging in a question and answer (Q&A) session with fellow discerners and our vocation director. This interaction helped me find answers to my questions and encouraged me to consider pursuing the priesthood, especially in the religious life. Being part of

the vocation club truly provided a glimpse into the essence of community life. It was a brotherhood that journeyed together towards a common purpose.

Fast forward to the present, I am now a religious assigned as one of the scholastic animators of the BSVC. We recently celebrated BSVC's 45th anniversary last July 16 at the Sta. Cruz Parish. The celebration centered around the Holy Eucharist presided by Fr. Victor Clemence Posadas, SSS and joined by other religious priests and seminarians. After the Mass, an engaging program began, hosted by the club's active members, where attendees enjoyed talent presentations while sharing meals and stories of one's journey. This event evoked a sense of nostalgia as we browsed through photo albums showcasing the former batches. Some members had entered the congregation, while others joined different institutes. Some chose married life and a few remained single. The humble goal of the vocation club has always been to help individuals discover their vocation in life.

*Kapatid*, if you have ever felt even the slightest desire to serve the Lord in a profound way, I encourage you to consider joining the vocation club. It can be a wonderful support system to help you discern your path in life. Please remember, in your own quest to find your vocation, you are not alone in this journey!

We give thanks to God for the two great occasions in our lives – perpetual profession and diaconal ordination. Making a final commitment in any congregation is a memorable moment in the life of each religious. In the same way, we, Reverends Emmanuel Byaruhanga, SSS; Fred Bugembe, SSS; and Duoming Pei, SSS, are very happy for making our perpetual profession in the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament on the 15th day of August 2023 at the Archdiocesan Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament, Santa Cruz Church, Manila.

Perpetual profession of vows is very meaningful because through it, we confirm and express our readiness to live the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity and obedience. By the richness of the ministries in the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, we are serving God and his Church.



On the 19th of August 2023, the Most Rev. Leopoldo C. Jaucian, SVD, DD, the Bishop of the Diocese of Bangued, Abra, ordained us to the order of *diakonia*, which translates as service. As deacons, we are conscious of the call to walk in the footsteps of Christ the servant.

Most importantly, we are going to continue practicing every discipline that we learned during our seminary formation. Aware that with perpetual profession our formation as young religious has just begun.

*We now dedicate ourselves to profound listening – listening to the voice of the Eucharistic Lord in our daily prayer of adoration; listening to Jesus speaking to us through our superiors at all levels; listening to Jesus reminding us as brothers with whom we stay in the community; and listening to Christian community.*

Our vocation to religious life calls us to be humble listeners and perpetual learners. May God give us all the grace we need to do our duties.

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to all those who supported and continue to support our formation. May God bless you all abundantly.



# Perpetual Profession & Diaconal Ordination:

## A Commitment to Service

by  
Br. Rev. Emmanuel Byaruhanga, SSS