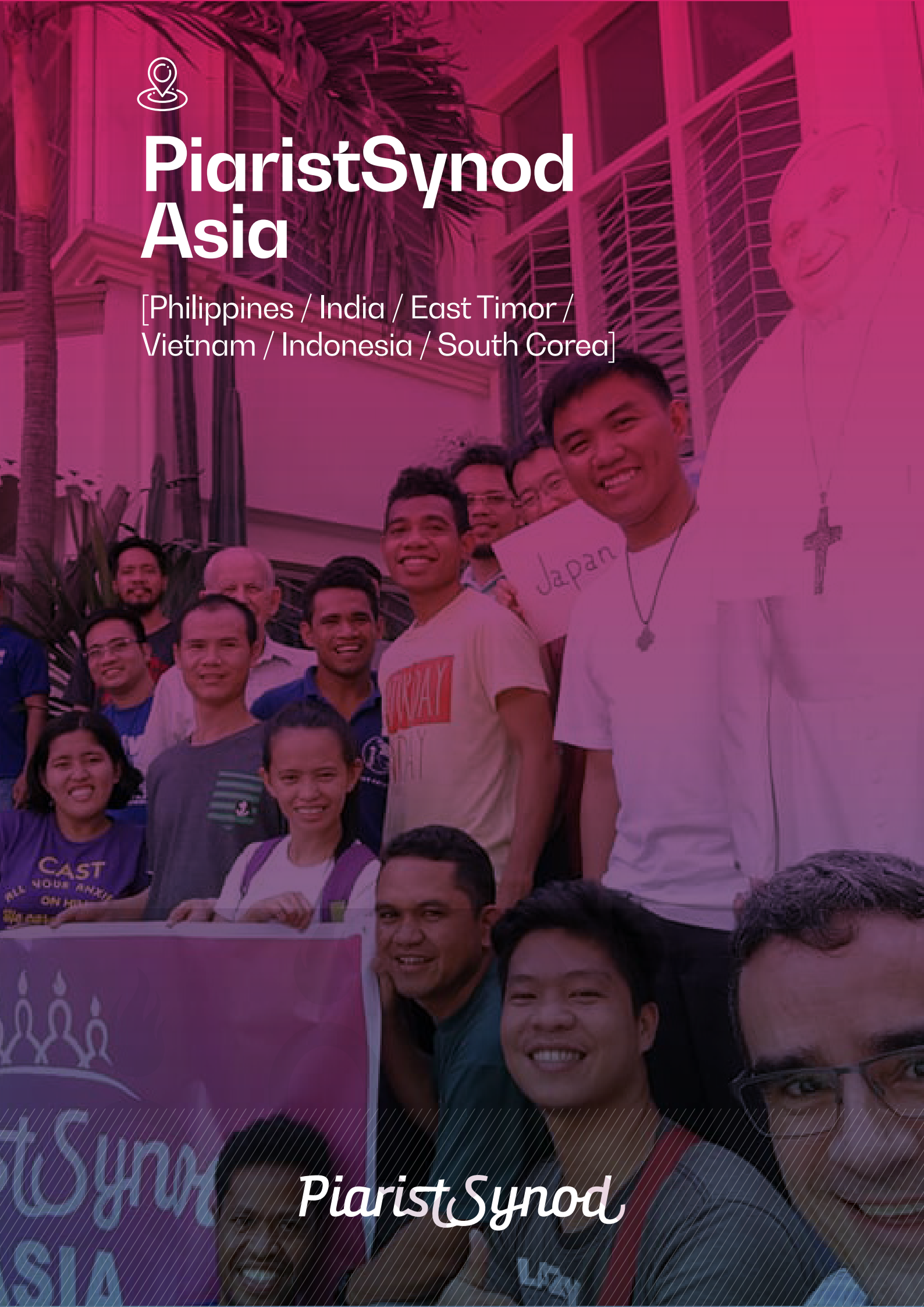




PiaristSynod Asia

[Philippines / India / East Timor /
Vietnam / Indonesia / South Korea]



PiaristSynod



ASIA
Manila (Phi)

PROGRAM

30 JULY 2018

MORNING SESSIONS

9:30 Arrival of Participants
Registration Br. John Michael
Dion, Sch.P
10:11-12:00 Opening Prayer Fr. Allan
Jay Gavino, Sch.P

Preparatory Talk Fr. Allan Jay Gavino,
Sch.P

Topic: Past Synods' Theme of Encyc-
licals

Teleconference with Fr. Anil Amalose,
Sch.P

In India (Piarist Synod on Youth Coor-
dinator)

11:30 Health Break

12:30 Lunch

1:00-2:15 Siesta

AFTERNOON SESSIONS

2:15-4:25 Group Dynamics (*Sharing*)
Youth Representatives from Br.
Sandy, Br. Miguel

Holy Family Parish, Sr. Arlene & Sr.
Joyce

Novaliches, Quezon City

Juniors

Philippines/Korea Br. John Michael,
Sch.P

Br. Hermito, Sch.P

Br. William, Sch.P

Br. Aldrin Carlo, Sch.P

Br. Kim, Sch.P

Vietnam Br. Luu, Sch.P

Br. Suan, Sch.P

Br. Le, Sch.P

Br. Loi, Sch.P

Br. Phuoc, Sch.P

East Timor/Indonesia Br. Delio, Sch.P

Br. Francisco, Sch.P

Br. Abilio, Sch.P

Br. Ewa, Sch.P

4:00-4:25 Health Break

4:25-4:30 Closing Prayer Fr. Allan Jay
Gavino, Sch.P

4:30 Departure



31 JULY 2018

MORNING SESSIONS

- 8:45 Arrival of Participants
Registration Br. John Michael Dion, Sch.P
- 9:38-12:00 Opening Prayer Fr. Allan Jay Gavino, Sch.P
- Reading of Minutes Br. Aldrin Carlo Perez, Sch.P
- Sharing of Pastoral Experience Br. John Michael Dion, Sch.P
- Groupings Fr. Allan Jay Gavino, Sch.P
"Problem Solving Tree" Assisted by Fr. Roberto Dalusung, Sch.P
- 11:30 Health Break
- 12:00 Lunch
- 12:30-2:15 Siesta

AFTERNOON SESSIONS

- 2:15-3:10 Group Dynamics (*Sharing*)
Philippines/Korea Br. John Michael, Sch.P
- Br. Hermito, Sch.P
- Br. William, Sch.P
- Br. Aldrin, Sch.P
- Br. Kim, Sch.P
- Br. Sandy
- Vietnam Br. Luu, Sch.P
- Br. Suan, Sch.P
- Br. Le, Sch.P
- Br. Loi, Sch.P
- Br. Phuoc, Sch.P
- Br. Miguel & Sr. Joyce
- East Timor/Indonesia Br. Delio, Sch.P
- Br. Francisco, Sch.P
- Br. Abilio, Sch.P
- Br. Ewa, Sch.P
- Br. Pedro, Sch.P
- Sr. Arlene
- 3:00-3:15 Symbolic Prayer : "Crown of the Twelve Stars"
- 3:15-4:00 Personal Time
- 4:00-4:30 Media Conference with the Piarist Synod Europe
- 4:30-5:00 Picture Taking and Fellowship
- 5:00 Departure



30 July 2018

Present were: Rev. Fr. Josef Urban, Sch.P., *General Assistant for Asia*

Rev. Fr. Allan Jay Gavino, Sch.P., *Coordinator, Asian Piarist Synod on Youth*

Rev. Fr. Roberto Dalusung, Sch.P.

Rev. Fr. Jesus Lacarra, Sch.P.

Rev. Fr. Joel Zuniega, Sch.P.

Bro. Le Pham Van, Sch.P.

Bro. Soan Van Vu, Sch.P.

Bro. Hermito Espera Jr., Sch.P.

Bro. Loi Nguyen Huu, Sch.P.

Bro. Delio Victorino Ly, Sch.P.

Bro. Jae Yong Kim, Sch.P.

Bro. Aldrin Carlo Perez, Sch.P.

Bro. Phuoc Dang Ba, Sch.P.

Bro. Abilio Rente, Sch.P.

Bro. Ewaldus Kiik, Sch.P.

Bro. John Michael Dion, Sch.P.

Bro. Tran Luu Van, Sch.P.

Bro. William Lluvido, Sch.P.

Bro. Francisco Verdial, Sch.P.

Sandy Jules Tabanao

Miguel Bustamante

Arlene Villamor

Joyce Quilates

Absent were: None

Call to Order & Determination of Quorum

1 Each country (Philippines/Korea, Vietnam, Indonesia/East Timor) responded to the given questionnaire and had a designated representative per country who explained the answers in behalf of the group. Hence, the answers presented in this minute talked solely on the third part of the questionnaire "Vocational Youth Ministry." With regard to the previous questions, these were answered already and consolidated by the chairman himself.

2 The statements of Fr. Anil, Sch.P. written in this minute were taken from a phone recorder via media conference, (accessed 30 July 2018, 10:50 am).

As there has evidently been a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 10:11 am.

Chair's Privilege

The chair Rev. Fr. Allan Jay Gavino, Sch.P. greeted and welcomed everyone and began in explaining briefly the background of Synod and the themes that correspond to each Synod since 1965. Moreover, he also elucidated the reason why Piarists are having this kind of Synod on Youth that is "to speak to the Word of God through the youths as we go forward."

Agenda:

The meeting's agenda were the ff:

Morning

Presentation (reading) of the consolidated responses of Indian Vice-Province as regards to the given questionnaire.

Media conference with Rev. Fr. Anil, the Piarist Synod on Youth (India).

Afternoon

Sharing from the youths of the Holy Family Parish, Brgy. Gulod, Novaliches, Quezon City.

Responses of the Piarist Juniors regarding the discovery of their vocation and the needs to better know this vocation as they choose correctly.

Presentation of Answers¹

Media Conference with Fr. Anil, Piarist Synod on Youth Coordinator (India²)

Since the Vice-Province of India has no youths

from their schools, the Piarist Synod in the place was composed of seminarians from pre-noviciate, noviciate and juniorate communities. Once they received the news, Fr. Anil selected groups who would be the respondents and sent the materials to these communities to reflect and answer the questions regarding faith and vocation discernment. He asked the participants to make a slogan in their own vernacular language, had some games together (organized by Juniorate community), moments of prayer (Mass and adoration) to intercede for all the Piarist presences that were having their Synod and ended up with a festive celebration. In addition, he asked the assistance and cooperation of a Salesian priest. He said that this is something new because it talked about the challenges and the things that we can do for them (the youth). They had special T-shirts intended for this event and invited to see the pictures he sent to Fr. Allan. He added that in behalf of the Piarist India, they appreciated this activity so much.

Fr. Anil asked some questions but nobody desired to ask.

Fr. Allan Jay read the official summary of the report of the Piarist Synod in India.

Date: 17 June 2018

Venue: Aroor, Kerala

Number of Participants: 26 Piarist Brothers from three respective communities; Noviciate (3-novices novice master and administrator), Pre-Noviciate (8 brothers with pre-noviciate master), and Juniorate (13 Juniors along with the Junio Master).

Time Started: 8:00 am at the football field for the inaugural function officiated by Fr. Joy, Sch.P. in the absence of the Father Provincial and welcome address by Fr. Anil, Sch.P.

Synod Slogan: "Let Your Voice be Heard"

Chief Guest: Fr. Shiju, SDB presented the theme: "Youth, Faith and Vocational Discernment: The Challenges of the Youth Now in Connection to the Gospel"

Sharing from the Youths of the Holy Family Parish Representatives: Bro. Sandy, Bro. Miguel, Sr. Joyce, & Sr. Arlene

They read the consolidated answers of 30 youths from the Holy Family Parish ages 15-29. In addition to their answers, they shared some realities concerning the youth of today in particular to the youths in Novaliches, Quezon City.

The youths touch their hearts because of their stories.

Some are product of a broken family.

They live in depressed areas.

They don't believe in faith. They just participate in the programs of the Church to look for comfort i.e., girlfriend.

They do bad things because of unwanted circumstances.

Some use marijuana.

Peer-pressure and influence.

They are not being heard; lack of affection.

Hence, they see the positive changes to these young people when they become part of the Parish Youth Ministry (PYM).

Fr. Allan Jay allowed other participants to raise their questions. Some questions were as follows:

Bro. Loi: **How do you solve your problems?**

Bro. Sandy answered in a way that he found the fulfillment in all his emptiness in the Parish programs of the Piarist that make him stronger, worthy, and whole. He is always looking for his strengths, he added.

Fr. Allan Jay: **Why the youth have the fear of "not to finish schooling" where in fact, Piarist are working and pushing education?**

They said that there is no support from the family and some are undecided to what course will be taken.

Fr. Urban: **Is faith a factor to see a positive outlook in the future?**

Unified answer of "Yes."

Bro. Aldrin: **Do you really feel the presence of the Piarist in your lives as youths? If yes, in what way? If no, why?**

They responded by saying through inspiration, encouragements, good advises, and new activities.

Fr. Roberto: **What makes it different now from Diocesan to Piarist Religious?**

The Diocesan places their shoes in us while Piarist



In the social networks and on the Web page www.piaristsynod.org, you can see the mobilization that has been in all our Order and you can consult the elaborated documents. In the annexes section we collect some of the initiatives that have been developed in different places of the Order, as well as the development of the demarcational and continental meetings.

has no initiative.

Bro. John Michael: **What moved you decide to continue serving the Church despite all the challenges?**

They said that they are happy with and they love what they are doing; there is a feeling of contentment whenever they help others; challenges make them strong and productive; they are serving God not the priests; they inspire other youths.

Bro. Soan: **How to enhance the teaching of catechesis?**

They suggested being creative in making visuals and group dynamics.

Bro. John Michael affirmed that it must be student-centered rather than teacher-centered. The use of creative methods especially visuals like pictures help the children and youth to understand better because some are visual learners.

Fr. Urban: **Who do you think is the Church when you answer the questions?**

They referred to the Parish where they are belong.

Responses of the Piarist Juniors Regarding the Discovery of Their Vocation and the Needs to Better Know this Vocation

Questions:

What helps you in the discovery of your vocation?

What do you need or want to better know your vocation and choose correctly.

Philippines/South Korea:

Respondents: *Bro. John Michael, Bro. Hermito, Bro. William, Bro. Aldrin & Bro. Kim*

The brothers said that they discovered their vocation (Piarist in particular) through their teaching experiences, Summer Camps, Apostolate with the children and youth and involvement to Church's organizations.

Vietnam:

Respondents: *Bro. Luu, Bro. Soan, Bro. Le, Bro. Phuoc, & Bro. Loi*

The brothers believed that they discovered their vocation because of their respective families, encouragement of priests and friends, social work (with the leppers), and catechesis in the Parish.

Indonesia/East Timor:

Respondents: *Bro. Ewaldus, Bro. Delio, Bro. Francisco, & Bro. Abilio*

The brothers stated that they discovered their vocation by means of conversion (from Buddhism to Roman Catholic), talents i.e., playing musical instruments, encounter with the Piarist priests, seminarians and children.

Adjournment

There having no more matters to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm with a closing prayer lead by Fr. Allan Jay Gavino, Sch.P.

Prepared by:

BRO. ALDRIN CARLO PEREZ, SCH.P.

31 July 2018

Present were³: Rev. Fr. Josef Urban, Sch.P.,
General Assistant for Asia
Rev. Fr. Allan Jay Gavino, Sch.P., *Coordinator, Asian*
Piarist Synod on Youth

Rev. Fr. Roberto Dalusung, Sch.P.
Rev. Fr. Jesus Lacarra, Sch.P.
Rev. Fr. Joel Zuniega, Sch.P.
Bro. Le Pham Van, Sch.P.
Bro. Soan Van Vu, Sch.P.
Bro. Pedro Da Cruz, Sch.P.*
Bro. Hermito Espera Jr., Sch.P.
Bro. Loi Nguyen Huu, Sch.P.
Bro. Delio Victorino Ly, Sch.P.
Bro. Heribertus Ngalu, Sch.P.*
Bro. Jae Yong Kim, Sch.P.
Bro. Aldrin Carlo Perez, Sch.P.
Bro. Phuoc Dang Ba, Sch.P.
Bro. Abilio Rente, Sch.P.
Bro. Ewaldus Kiik, Sch.P.
Bro. Yulianus Nguru, Sch.P.*
Bro. John Michael Dion, Sch.P.
Bro. Tran Luu Van, Sch.P.
Bro. William Lluvido, Sch.P.
Bro. Francisco Verdial, Sch.P.
Sandy Jules Tabanao
Miguel Bustamante
Arlene Villamor
Joyce Quilates

Absent were: None

Call to Order & Determination of Quorum

As there has evidently been a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 9:38 am.

Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

There having no correction, Fr. Allan Jay, Sch.P. moved for the approval of the minutes of the previous meeting.

Chair's Privilege

The chair Rev. Fr. Allan Jay Gavino, Sch.P. greeted and welcomed everyone.

Agenda:

The meeting's agenda were the ff:

Morning

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The Pastoral Experience of Bro. John Michael Dion, Sch.P. at San Vicente Community, Saan Vicente, Camarines Norte, Philippines.

Short Documentary Film: "Greater Love"

Groupings: "Problem Solving Tree"

Afternoon

Group Sharing

Indonesia and East Timor

Vietnam

Philippines and South Korea

Media Conference with the Piarists Synod (Europe) in Salamanca, Spain.

Symbolic Prayer: Crown of the Twelve Stars

Picture Taking

Fellowship

Pastoral Experience of Bro. John Michael, Sch.P.

Bro. John Michael shared about his pastoral experience in San Vicente, Camarines Norte. He delimited it by focusing only to his immersion in the school and the Piarist community excluding the Parish. The input was divided into two: first is the sociology of the people; and the second is the problems he observed among the youths in our school.

With regard to the sociological background of the place, he said that the place is 6-8 hours drive from Manila to Daet and 20 minutes from Daet to San Vicente. It is a mountainous place. Moreover, the place belongs to a four-class economy where people's principal industry is to plant pineapples and coconut farming. He added that people are conservative and polite (kissing of hands and *pagmamano*). Hence, in relation to the history of the Parish, he mentioned that it was the Franciscans who established the church in 1771 and named it after St. Anthony of Padua. Later on, when the Dominicans came, they changed the patronage of the church and named it San Vicente Ferrer. Friday is a special day for the people in terms of religiosity. Their attendance in the Holy Mass is like Sunday for they believe that the candle of San Vicente is miraculous. In our case, the Piarists arrived in the place in 2005 up to present.

Furthermore, he talked about the common cause of problems among the youths of our school. One of those are the problems of relationships, identity,

³ Three participants were added on the second day of the Piarist Synod. Kindly refer to the attendance above with the mark (*).

broken families, poverty, and lack of guidance with which gave them the chance to re-study the programs of guidance office since the time of Fr. Jess, Sch.P. In regards to his observation to the Piarist community, he stated that they tend to stay in the convent. The religious priests have their priorities and that is our school, he justified. That is why some of the residences tried to compare priests from one another.

After the brief sharing, Fr. Urban, Sch.P. had some clarification regarding poverty asking if it connotes material poverty or others. Additionally, he asked if the observation of Bro. John Michael to the youths stating that they are hopeless is just his perception of them, their perception of themselves, or both. Bro. John Michael answered this “both” and added that it is one that needs to be created in the early stage of childhood.

Short Documentary Film: “Greater Love”

Fr. Allan Jay, Sch.P. presented the life of a Jesuit brother Richie Fernando in Cambodia which he found relevant to the Piarist Synod on Youth in Asia as Bro. Richie became a martyr while saving the lives of his students. Unfortunately, the group wasn’t able to finish the video because of some unidentified technical problems.

Groupings: “Problem Solving Tree”

The participants were divided into three groups: Indonesia and East Timor, Vietnam, and Philippines and South Korea.

Group 1 (Indonesia and East Timor)	Group 2 (Vietnam)	Group 3 (Philippines and South Korea)
Bro. Ewaldus, Sch.P.	Bro. Luu, Sch.P.	Bro. John Michael, Sch.P.
Bro. Pedro, Sch.P.	Bro. Soan, Sch.P.	Bro. Hermito, Sch.P.
Bro. Delio, Sch.P.	Bro. Le, Sch.P.	Bro. William, Sch.P.
Bro. Francisco, Sch.P.	Bro. Loi, Sch.P.	Bro. Aldrin, Sch.P.
Bro. Abilio, Sch.P.	Bro. Phuoc, Sch.P.	Bro. Kim, Sch.P.
Bro. John, Sch.P.	Bro. Miguel	Bro. Sandy
Bro. Heribertus, Sch.P.	Sr. Joyce	
Sr. Arlene		

Group Sharing

Fr. Allan Jay Gavino, Sch.P. facilitated the sharing and interaction.

Indonesia and East Timor

Bro. Ewaldus Niik, Sch.P. represented the group.

Vietnam

Bro. Tran Luu Van, Sch.P. explained their report.

Philippines and South Korea

Bro. John Michael Dion, Sch.P. discussed their presentation.

Note: Stated below the combined answers of the three groups.

The groupings answered the questions called “problem solving tree” relating to what feeds and sustains the faith of young people; actions or pastoral projects that have worked or are currently working; threats that block the faith-life of the youngsters; problems in the Church and the Piarists schools to proclaim

What feeds and sustains the faith of the youth?	Physiological	Safety	Love and Belongingness	Esteem
Actions and Pastoral Programs	Feeding Sports Outreach Medical mission	Financial Skills training Education i.e., catechesis Career guidance	Recollection Retreats Youth Camps Fellowship Youth programs i.e., Bible sharing	Cultural i.e., concerts Counselling Guidance Training i.e., leadership

faith; and the fruits in which faith give young people. Following the theory of the hierarchy of needs of Abraham Maslow which includes (1) Physiological needs⁴, (2) Safety needs⁵, (3) Love and Belongingness⁶, and (4) Esteem⁷, the participants drew out that these things feed and sustain the faith of young people. In doing so, they thought of actions and pastoral programs that benefited and would still benefit the youths such as the following:

Along with the exercise of this projects, it is inevitable not to encounter stumbling blocks like the negative effects of **technology, relationships** especially in the family as the cell of all relations, **bullying** which is very timely also in Piarist schools and other institutions, **pessimistic attitude** of most of the youths, the **pressure** that is given by friends, **poverty** which connotes material, moral, and spiritual supports, **scandals** on part of the Church, and **curiosity** to try things that are yet unknown to them. These in all many other factors influence and affect the youths to nurture and grow in their faith the Catholic Christians. With the help of the abovementioned projects for the youths, the groups believed that these will make them self-actualized and be Christ-like as they move forward in life. Through the process, they will become mature of their faith and later will bear fruit, having **sound mind and body, well-rounded individuals, God-loving, values and virtues oriented, and self-worth.**

Bro. John Michael, added that as they reach this end of the hierarchy of needs, they will go back again to the very basic in order to help others to feed and sustain their Catholic Faith.

Media Conference with the Piarist Synod on Youth (Europe)

The Piarist Synod (Asia) had a short conference with the Piarist Synod (Spain). It was initiated by the Piarist Europe – Salamanca, Spain spearheaded by the in charge in communications Fr. Santi Cassanova, Sch.P. Here in Asia, it was officiated by Fr. Allan Jay, Sch.P. – Quezon City, Philippines. The media conference ran for over 20 minutes just to share the ongoing Synod that was happening there in Spain.

Adjournment

There having no more matters to discuss. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm after praying the Crown of the Twelve Stars at the community chapel of the Juniorate house in New Manila, Philippines lead by Bro. Hermito Espera Jr., Sch.P. There was picture taking in front of the newly constructed grotto of the Virgin of the Pious Schools and simple fellowship followed afterwards.

Prepared by:

BRO. ALDRIN CARLO PEREZ, SCH.P.

4 It includes air, water, food, shelter, sleep, clothing, and reproduction.

5 It dwells on personal security, employment, resources, health, and property.

6 It tackles friendship, intimacy, family, and sense of connection.

7 It involves respect, self-esteem, status, recognition, strength, and freedom.

PIARIST SYNOD 9