



# BROTHERS FIC

CALLED TO BE GOOD AND TO DO GOOD



BROTHERS FIC / Vol.2 / No:8 / 2022

## Mary's Immaculate Conception



I am grateful to God for calling me into His service through the FIC community.

Bro. Peter Claver Kuuniabom

I was directed by God to keep flowing and not knowing where this flow was going to stop.

Bro. Yustinus Wahyu Bintarto

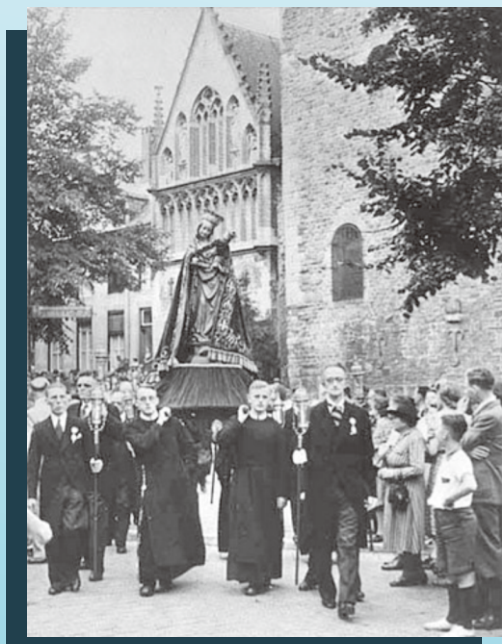
I can say that I am happy because I am loved by God.

Bro. Javier Solis Urbano



# FIC Constitutions

## Art.12



## Mary

Mary is the Patroness of our Congregation. We are happy to place our lives under her special protection.

We call ourselves Brothers of the Immaculate Conception (Fratres Immaculatae Conceptionis; F.I.C.).

Mary's life was completely consecrated to the service of her Son. She saw herself as a lowly handmaid, for whom God wrought his wonders.

In her Magnificat we taste her preference for the poor and needy, and the longing for justice and righteousness. She is the mother of all the faithful. Through all her doubts and uncertainties she remained faithful to her Son, even on to Calvary. That is why all generations call her blessed. She inspires us too: it is her example we wish to follow and we invoke her aid in our prayers.



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## Colophon

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# From The Editor

This is the 8th publication of Volume II of the Congregational magazine "Brothers FIC" reaching you. The theme of this issue is "Mary's Immaculate Conception," and the aim is to enable FIC brothers and their collaborators to deepen our knowledge of Mary, the Patroness of the FIC congregation, and especially on Mary's Immaculate Conception which is part of our name. This will also enable us share with readers our understanding of the dogma and how we try to give shape to the Immaculate Conception of Mary in our life. Our name is "Congregation of the Brothers of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary." We are happy to place our lives under her special protection. We believe that Mary's Immaculate Conception is the source of our joy, courage and trust.

Bro. Wensislaus indicates in his article that the founders of our congregation were very much devoted to the Immaculate Conception of Mary. As members of the FIC congregation we are very proud of the life and heritage of our founders (ref. articles 9 and 10 of our Constitutions). Referring to the historical documents of the congregation we can capture the essence of the spiritual life of our founder which is "trust in Divine Providence through the protection and prayers of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary". The FIC Founders expressed their faith, which is the emanation of their intimate relationship with Mother Mary when they said: "If we had known all this beforehand, we would perhaps never have started the thing". It must be said here and everywhere, without the special protection of the Holy and Immaculate Virgin Mother the Congregation would have been smothered at its birth." I am convinced that a human person is nothing by himself. Related to this, Rutten also expressed his own faith when he said: All the good things I was able to do was the work of "Providencia Dei" under the protection of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. My conviction that Mary helps me in all my works is infinite."

Beloved reader, you will be reading about some experiences and opinions of our fellow brothers regarding the theme stated above. Bro. Augustine, our General Superior, reflects on his beliefs regarding "Mary's Immaculate Conception our Patroness and Inspiration." Bro. Wensislaus Parut gives us an inspiring reflection on the theme. Bro. Joachim Naah also presents his personal knowledge on "Mary Immaculate Conception." A further enrichment by Fr. BS. Mardiatmaja SJ, is titled "Mary Immaculate Conception, source of Joy".

Dear reader, three brothers will provide their profiles as usual: Wahyu Bintarto from Indonesia, Peter Kuuniabom from Ghana, and Javier Solis Urbano from Chile. We believe that from their sharing, our young readers will be inspired and further discover the meaning of our life and mission. The rest are news from our provinces and Religious House Netherlands, news in pictures, an article from the Vatican and a personal devotion to Mary written by Bro. Raphael Besigrinee, a member of General Council.

During this Yuletide, allow me to wish you all "A Happy and Blessed Christmas!" May the king of peace bring true peace in the world and may He inflame our hearts to enable us discover Christ in one another. Thank you for your attention and support to the FIC Congregation.

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Merry  
Christmas



# Mary's Immaculate Conception

Bro. Augustine Kubdaar, General Superior

“**M**ary is our inspiration and patroness,” says Article 12 of the FIC Constitution. We are “Brothers of the Immaculate Conception” (Fratres Immaculatae Conceptionis; FIC). In her Magnificat, Mary favours the poor and defenseless and seeks justice for them. Jesus is God's most beautiful revelation given to the world through Mary (FIC Constitutions no. 75). All of God's children hope for Mary's help. As a Marian Congregation, we create a prominent place in our lives, communities and places of apostolate for Mary by meditating and praying the rosary, celebrating her feasts and striving to imitate her lifestyle (art. 75).

In the wisdom of our Congregation's 35th General Chapter (in 2018), there was a felt need to ask our leadership (through a resolution) to animate the Brothers and our cherished associates to understand more profoundly, the dogma of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. We believe that the attempt will affirm and enrich our spirituality. In response to this mandate, the General Council (GC) decided to dedicate the content of the 8th volume of our magazine to sharing/reflection on “The Immaculate Conception Mary.”

The dogma of the Immaculate Conception (proclaimed in 1854) is one of the four Marian dogmas in the Roman Catholic Church. The other three are the Virgin Mary as the Mother of God (proclaimed in 431 A.D by the Council of Ephesus), the perpetual virginity of Mary (announced in 649 A.D. by the Lateran Council) and the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (proclaimed as late as 1950 A.D.).

The evolution of the Immaculate Conception dogma involves six (6) phases: First, the early Church Fathers came to appreciate Mary's grace and sanctity. The Fathers provided a theological foundation for Mary's Perpetual Virginity in this era. The second phase is the Church's developing

recognition of Mary's entire grace and holiness, including her initial sinlessness. The second phase comprises of theological disputes with opposing ideas and discussions to explain the doctrine's meaning and relationship to sacred scriptures and other teachings. Third, the Catholic Church gradually accepts the idea after Scotus' defence. Scotus' arguments for the Immaculate Conception won over renowned Franciscan theologians, leading to Papal Bulls and Apostolic Constitutions favouring the dogma. Fourth phase: post-Scotus discussions between Franciscans and Dominicans. During this phase, numerous Papal decrees supported the doctrine's proponents. Pope Sixtus IV (1471-1484) sanctioned the feast of the Conception of the Blessed Virgin, and his successors Leo X (1515), Pius IV (1559-1565), and Sixtus V (1585-1590) continued to promote the feast. Modernity spans the early 17th to 18th centuries after the Renaissance. Saint John Eudes (1601-1680), Saint Louis Grignion de Monfort (1673-1716), and Saint Alphonsus Ligouri exemplified Marian's devotion in the contemporary time (1696-1787). The sixth phase began in the early 19th century when the Church prepared for Pope Pius IX's 1854 doctrinal proclamation. The Pope says, “We declare, pronounce, and define that the doctrine which holds that the most Blessed Virgin Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God and by the merits of Jesus Christ, Savior of the human race, preserved immune from all stain of original sin is a doctrine revealed by God and therefore to be believed firmly and constantly by all the faithful” ( Pope Pie IX, “Ineffabilis Deus-The Immaculate Conception,” 8 December 1854).

Christians, Catholics, and especially members of Marian Religious Congregations (such as ours) intimately relate to the significance of God's choice of a fellow human being (Mary) as the Mother of His Son. Preserved from original sin, Mary lived in holiness and fulfilment of God's will. This example inspires and animates us, too, in our vocation. We rely on her maternal intercession and help. And I take this opportunity to assure all our cherished readers our prayers and best wishes of Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year (2023).



# A Loving Invitation

Bro. Johan Muijtjens

**M**ary, the mother of Jesus, has always touched the hearts of many Christians. We have given her many titles to express our love and our admiration. One of these titles is Mary, the Immaculate Conception. Our Congregation at its foundation got the name: Brothers of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. That was in 1840, now already more than 180 years ago!

Around 1840, in the middle of the nineteenth century, that title of Mary was very popular. Mary was considered absolutely blameless, without any tendency to sin. She was destined to be the mother of Jesus, who was the perfect human person and the Son of God. To be a worthy mother of such a person she had to be absolutely blameless herself. That was the conviction of many faithful people. This conviction was summarized in two Latin words: Immaculate Conception. The word 'macula', means spot or stain, and 'im' is the negation of it. 'Conception' has to do with the very beginning as a human being. So together these words mean: from the very beginning of her life Mary was without spot or stain or any moral imperfection. That was not Mary's own merit but a gift of the tremendous goodness of God for her ! God has, one could say, prepared Mary, has given her wonderful qualities, so that she could be the mother of such a perfect child as Jesus was. Because of this grace she got the title of Immaculate Conception, the one who was thoroughly good and blameless.

When our Congregation was founded by Louis Rutten the bishop of his diocese proposed to call the new congregation after this very popular title of Mary, and so the official name of our Congregation became : Brothers of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. That was nice, of course, and Rutten fully agreed. He himself had a great devotion to Mary. Moreover, he



happened to be born on 8 December (1809), which was the feast of Mary Immaculate !

But that is not the whole story ! In fact it is only the beginning ! What we admire in Mary is that she is a very strong example of what God does in ALL human beings : God prepares ('equips') us for the unique vocation entrusted to each one of us. In Mary God shows in utter clarity how every human being is loved and helped to really respond to what God has in mind with you. God gives us the grace, the qualities, the gifts we need to be fruitful, fulfilled, happy persons. When we venerate Mary under that special title it is a constant reminder to all of us: You have received

and continue to receive the help and grace you need. Do you use these gifts, are you open and willing to really collaborate with God ? Or do you know better ? Do you make your own choices instead of being open to what life invites you to ? That is God's loving invitation ! We as Brothers FIC, as Brothers with Mary Immaculate as our Patron Saint, are constantly encouraged to be open to all the gifts each one of us - and we as a Congregation - receive from God to fulfil God's

dream with each one of us and with our dear Congregation. We may trust in God's help because in Mary and in many other persons in the Bible (e.g. Moses and the prophets) he has abundantly shown his grace and help to fulfil the vocation entrusted to them. So, why not in us ? What happened to Mary stimulates all of us to answer God's loving invitation - and to do this with courage, with trust and with happiness !

Do you use these gifts,  
are you open and willing  
to really collaborate with God ?  
Or do you know better ?  
Do you make your own choices  
instead of being open  
to what life invites you to ?  
That is God's loving invitation !



# The Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary

*History, Theology, and Its Spiritual Reflection in FIC Congregation*

Bro. Wensislaus Parut



**T**he Dogma of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary was promulgated by Pope Pius IX on December 8, 1854, with the *bulla inefabilis Deus*. One year later, on December 8, 1855, the FIC brothers celebrated the promulgation with great joy in Maastricht. This reflection on the momentum of the brothers' celebration refers to three important points: *first*, the background to the founding of the Congregation, *second*, the spirit of the founder's (Congregation's) devotion to the Immaculate Conception and *third*, the celebration of the promulgation of the Dogma in Maastricht with great joy.

*First*, the background to the founding of the Congregation: Mgr. Ludovicus Rutten founded the Congregation and could not be separated from the Catholic Church Movement at that time, especially in Maastricht. This movement was pioneered by a group of priests (ultramontanism) supported by the Pope and bishops to restore the Catholic Church. At that time the Catholic Church was facing a major crisis, namely, teachings that misled the faith, including secularism, socialism, rationalism, and naturalism (cf. Gregory XVI, Encyclical "*Mirari Vos Arbitramur*", August 15, 1832; Joos van Vugt, 1996). This crisis was caused by the French revolution, industrialization, and the Belgian war. Rutten was a priest in his day. He was educated at a seminary

that was run by the new spirit of the Catholic Church Movement facing a crisis of faith. So it was only natural that the seminary leader then advised Rutten to catechize the poor and neglected children in his hometown.

*Second*, the spirit of the founder's (congregation's) devotion to the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary: As members of the FIC congregation we are certainly very proud of the life (cf. The Constitutions, 9) and the heritage of our founders (cf. The Constitutions 10). Referring to the historical documents of the congregation we can capture the essence of the spiritual life of our founder which is "trust in Divine Providence through the protection and prayers of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary". The Founders expressed their faith, which is the emanation of their intimate relationship with Mother Mary when they said: "*If we had known all this beforehand, we would perhaps never have started the thing*". *It must be said here and everywhere, without the special protection of the Holy and Immaculate Virgin Mother the Congregation would have been smothered at its birth.*" I am convinced that a human person is nothing by himself. Related to this, Rutten also expressed his own faith when he said: *All the good things I was able to do were the work of "Providencia Dei" under the protection of The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. My conviction that Mary helps me in all my works is infinite.*"

*Third*, the celebration of the promulgation of the dogma in Maastricht on December 8, 1855, with great joy: This moment of celebration is a celebration of the victory of faith over modern arrogance. On December 8, 1854, Pastor Rutten and Mgr. Vrancken were present in St. Peter's square of the Vatican to witness firsthand the promulgation of the dogma by Pope Pius IX. Prior to the promulgation of the dogmas, Rutten also travelled to Rome on more than one occasion. This event shows us Rutten's faith and his



devotion to the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is very strong. The promulgation of the dogma shows that *Only Mary is immuned to original sin, and solely because of the merits of the Saviour*. Disobedience to the Church (modern arrogance) is part of the influence of original sin. The *bullae ineffabilis Deus* at the conclusion states: *"We have a firm hope that the Blessed Virgin Mary who crushes the head of the poisonous snake, and who saves nations and peoples from all kinds of calamities, ... will acquire the Catholic Church the ability to conquer evil, to break all things-sophistry, ... God reigns over the earth, and we will enjoy peace, quiet, and total freedom"*.

The Dogma of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is God's grace given to human beings, so that humans are always aware that only God can save them. God shows man their original calling to "be(come) in the image and likeness of God" (Gen 1:26; cf. Rom 8:28-29). Through her "fiat", the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary opened herself to the grace of God, and then the Word of God became human in her "Immaculate womb". Related to this question, Karl Rahner stated:

*"Immaculate Conception* is God who has never broken his promise and has never regretted creating human beings in His image and likeness and wants them to be able to respond to His gifts. Mary is a Masterpiece in responding to God's offer of salvation and grace".

The brothers are the Church, the community of the redeemed, mediators of salvation, professing, living, and proclaiming the faith (bringing the youth towards Christ). By celebrating the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we are always aware of living according to the spirit of our Founders particularly: *an intense concern for spiritual and religious needs; a great concern for contemporary and culturally integrated transfer of faith (The Const. 10 & 18), and to have a special concern for the poor and destitute, for the underprivileged and disabled, for socially weak and forgotten groups, for those who experience little love (The constitutions, 17). Mother Mary inspires us, and we wish to follow her example and invoke her aid in our prayers (The Constitutions 12 & 75).*



## GENERAL COUNCIL

# Ghana-Malawi Formators' Meeting

Bro. Raphael Besigrinee

The formators' meeting of Ghana-Malawi was held in St. Louis community from 7 – 15 September 2022 under the theme **“Formation for consecrated life”**. Fifteen brothers were in attendance, including the provincial superiors, formators and vocation promoters of the two provinces. The rest were the General Council members and Bro. Johan Muijtjens who came as facilitator. The purpose of the meeting was to enable formators renew and invigorate the FIC spirit among themselves, facilitate exchange of ideas and experiences, and thirdly enable formators review the core curriculum designed in 2016.

The General Superior who opened the meeting has the following to say: “Formation is a process of 'drawing out' the riches and resources that lie within a person. It is a process of self-transformation in depth through spiritual exercises. As formators and leaders we need to be exemplary; we need to demonstrate that we have become the main protagonists of our own formation. We need to demonstrate that we are not only pushing ideas down the “throats” of young brothers and formees, but that over the years, we have become what we believe; we have become who God called us to be; and that we are indeed what we teach.”

It was also the hope of the General Superior that “our formation program and process would bring our formees closer to God; to the values of the church; and to the spirit and charism of our Founders; and also that our formation curriculum when renewed would become more open to the signs of the times; to the challenges coming from society and culture; and to new tasks of evangelization in today's world.”

The content of the meeting included a detailed presentation on the theme given by Fr. Peter Laast, CSSp, leadership of our founders, cultural



sensitivity, basic skills in counseling and spiritual direction. Religious life is at a threshold due to new developments and changes in society. Formators therefore need to equip themselves with new ministerial skills in order to handle the challenges of this time. In view of this, the following subjects are critical and formed part of the content: clinical assessment of candidates, care for the environment and positive use of social media.

Updating the curriculum of our formation program was one of the main tasks of the meeting, hence participants found time during the week to discuss in groups and agree on the content of the curriculum. Participants felt supported through sharing with one another their experiences in formation work, which they agree needs a collaborative effort.

Since formation also has a communal dimension, the community is the chief place of the formation of candidates. Therefore there is need to strengthen our fraternal communion in our formation houses. It is a global phenomenon that vocations are declining so formators were also encouraged to use social media to promote vocations. Participants also had the opportunity



for informal and fraternal interactions. In this way we strengthened our fraternity and became more motivated in our given responsibilities.

Before the **General Superior** officially closed the meeting he said "being a leader and/or formator is a special calling; it is a gift from God and for those for whom we have accepted the responsibility to form and lead. Therefore, let us be reminded that

the relevance of our call depends on the quality of our service".

As announced in the IGC of last August, a similar meeting for the formators of Indonesia province will take place in Bandungan from July 6 -13, 2023. Once again, let us keep this event in our prayers.

## Report Congregational Conference 2022

Bro. Raphael Besigrinee

**A** Congregational Conference (or ConCon) is the "business meeting" between the General Council and the Provincial Superiors. The Congregational Statute of FIC enjoins the General Council to meet regularly, if possible every year, with the Provincial Superiors in order to evaluate our life, and work out policies for the running of the congregation. This year's ConCon took place in Ghana.

The official opening of the Congregational Conference 2022 (ConCon 2022) was done in the context of a Eucharistic celebration on 18 September 2022 in St. Louis community chapel. The participants of this international conference consisted of the General Council members, the provincial superiors and the General treasurer, who doubled as the recording secretary. The General superior, in his official opening address, lamented our inability to meet as leaders of the congregation in the past two years. This setback was due to reasons best known to all of us: the effects of covid-19 pandemic. He said our inability to meet physically for the past two years has created a deep "hunger" and "thirst" for such a Congregational gathering. He expressed gratitude to God for the possibility to meet at last here in Ghana.

Touching on the significance of the theme of the conference, namely "*Prayer as a source of our Community Living and Apostolate*," he said there is an inseparable bond between the spiritual and

the apostolic dimensions of our vocation, and quoted Pope Paul VI as the source of our motivation: "The greatest temptation for brothers is that we become so caught up in our apostolic work that we lose contact with the energizing vision; the driving force that animates those works." PRAYER is and should be the soul of our apostolate. Over-emphasis on apostolate to the neglect of prayer carries with it the danger of turning religious life into a career rather than a vocation. Our good works should be nothing but an overflow from our inner life."

In view of the relevance of such a gathering we began the conference with a day recollection around the theme. In the days that followed, we focused our deliberations on Provincial Council reports, General Council report, composition of the 2024 General Chapter, financial matters and the resolutions of the General as well as Provincial chapters 2018. Of the 23 resolutions approved by the 2018 General Chapter, nine have been fully implemented by the General Council. The rest are at various stages of implementation. During the conference, the GC also held separate meetings with each of the Provincial Superiors on issues pertaining to their provinces.

Throughout the conference we remained committed to our source of unity expressed in our morning prayers and the Eucharistic



celebrations. Our spirit of brotherhood also found expression in our informal interactions and during meals and recreation. Most brothers acknowledged that the possibility of meeting again as brothers is in itself a blessing and a source of joy.

In fulfilment of resolution 28B of the General Chapter 2018, Bro. Johan Muijtjens was invited to give a presentation on **“Conversion to our Earth”**. Drawing inspiration from Laudato Si, he made a passionate appeal to all brothers through our leaders, to “Listen to the voice of creation”, an appeal which is not different from the Pope's own to humanity through Laudato Si, namely developing ways to reverse climate **change** which is the biggest and most pertinent threat to humanity. The conference called on all brothers to engage in environmental education among our students and practice environmental stewardship in our places of apostolate as our contribution towards caring for our common home.

It is characteristic of our Congregational Conferences to make one of the weekends a relaxing one. This one was not different. Participants had the opportunity to visit Royal Cosy Hills in the Upper West Region, a 4-star luxury safari resort located on the Jirapa-

Babile road. Such an outing to a different environment was necessary to help participants relax and refresh themselves in readiness for the following week.

The two-week encounter came to a conclusion with the adoption of a number of resolutions or action points to chart the course of our future. In his concluding address, the General Superior, Bro. Augustine Kubdaar assented to the success and fruitfulness of the conference since we had seriously discussed and arrived at relevant conclusions. He appealed to the superiors of the congregation to exercise authority as service to the vocational growth of both the individuals and communities. He said as leaders, we should ask God at all times for the grace to be true servant leaders like Jesus Christ and our Founders Msgr. Louis Rutten and Bro. Bernardus Hoecken.

To enable the leaders share the fruits of the conference with the brothers in Ghana, an open day was organized on the final day, 15 September in St. Louis community. About 30 brothers from nearby communities attended. It also provided a unique forum for each Provincial Superior and Superior of the RHN, to brief the brothers of Ghana province on the latest developments in their provinces/RHN. We concluded the open day with the Eucharist at 17.00 PM followed by dinner.





# Provincial Day/Family Feast Celebration, Ghana.

Bro. Prosper Ganye

Ghana FIC province joined the rest of the FIC provinces to celebrate 182 years of existence of our beloved congregation. In a spirit of thanksgiving, the brothers marked the day (21 November 2022) jointly with the annual family feast in a simple yet inspirational way. The day which was also the feast of the Presentation of Mary, was celebrated with the theme *“Renewing Our Brotherly Solidarity in the Face of the Current Economic Challenges.”* It was a daylong encounter characterized by series of events that culminated in a Eucharistic Celebration in the evening.

In celebrating the feast of our patroness, the brothers also paid tribute to our beloved founders, Msgr. Louis Rutten and Br. Bernardus Hoecken, who placed their newly founded community under the protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Our founder also trusted and relied on the protection and prayers of the “Immaculate Conception of Mary” at the beginning of the Congregation. The day was also set aside to honour two of our brothers who marked distinguished milestones in their religious life, namely Bros. Methodius Kuusoru and Fabian Bezel who celebrated Rubi and Silver Jubilees respectively of their religious professions.

As a family feast, the day began with a prayer service in the ISTC Chapel, conducted by the liturgy committee on the above theme. They employed a lot of creativity in the manner they conducted the prayer service, re-evoking (among the brothers) a feeling of our connection with Mgr. Rutten and Bro. Bernardus our founders. From this, brothers were reminded of the need to keep alive the ideals they stood for by building on their legacy.

After the prayer service, the brothers remained seated in the ISTC Chapel for the family meeting to begin. Among other things, brothers discussed matters relating to some decisions of the ConCon 2022, and other issues that are central to the daily life of the brothers in the province. The Provincial Council also seized the opportunity to keep brothers posted on general happenings in the province.



After hours of fraternal deliberations, brothers went for lunch, observed a few minutes of siesta and converged at the volley ball pitch for games/sports. The Sports Committee divided the brothers into two groups according to the geographical zones under which they live: the Sothern Zone locked horns with the Northern Zone in a thrilling volleyball game. Brothers had the opportunity to display their skills in volley ball. It was fun!

In the evening, we climaxed the day with a Eucharistic Celebration in which we thanked God for all the favours and blessings He bestowed on us in the year under review, and implored His unfailing mercies for the following year. The Eucharistic Celebration was presided over by Very Rev. Fr. Pamphilio Tengan- Dean of Wa Deanery. From the Chapel we proceeded to the forecourts of ISTC to crown the day with recreation and merrymaking. Deserving brothers were presented with gifts for their outstanding contributions to the province.

As part of the recreation, brothers were treated to a high-quality local music and dance by a bawa group, who put up an electrifying performance. Some brothers could not help but join in the dance. In summary, the day was well marked as we remembered particularly our brother jubilarians for their perseverance in the service of God and humanity.

## MALAWI

# Silver Jubilee Celebration of Bro. Lawrence Sitima

Bro. Gasper Kalisto

**“** *We have recognized for ourselves, and put our faith in, the love God has for us. God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him” (Cf 1 John 4:16).* These are the words that Bro. Lawrence Sitima marveled at and shared with the congregation that gathered at St. Patrick's Secondary School, on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2022, at the celebration of his Silver Jubilee of religious profession. This day, we had a multi-purpose celebration. The Brothers FIC in Malawi Province celebrated sixty-two (62) years of their existence in Malawi; the Foundation Day of the Congregation; and also the Golden Jubilee of Maryview School for the Deaf.

The occasion started with a Eucharistic celebration which was led by Archbishop Thomas Luke Msusa SMM of Blantyre Archdiocese. In attendance were Priests, Religious Brothers and Sisters from various congregations, representatives from the institutions run by the Brothers FIC and scores of the laity from across Blantyre Archdiocese.

During the event, the history of the Brothers FIC in Malawi and Maryview School for the Deaf were read to the congregants. It was quite touching to hear Bro. Sitima, during his speech, sharing the story of his journey from childhood till the time he was called to join the Brothers FIC. He expressed gratitude to her late mother who did a large part in encouraging and supporting him to work hard in life, mostly in his studies. He feels he has accomplished a lot through the advices and support rendered by her. In his life as a brother, he has valued prayer as a weapon to accomplish what God has been calling him for: to serve Him. He relied on God's guidance, and committed himself to community life as a brother, while following the footsteps of the founders of the FIC Congregation. All these experiences have shaped his life and have now made it possible for him to celebrate this day which he now considers a gift of being servant to all.

In his speech, Archbishop Thomas Luke Msusa thanked the Brothers FIC in Malawi for their apostolic endeavours, in uplifting the poor and the educational standards in Blantyre Archdiocese through their institutions. He congratulated Bro. Sitima for clocking twenty-five years in religious life.



He urged all religious present, also the Brothers FIC, to recall the zeal that the missionaries had in evangelizing and opening institutions in remote areas. Archbishop Msusa expressed his worry in the fading of the zeal that the missionaries brought to Malawi. He called on all the Religious to come out of their comfort zones and consider extending their missionary activities to the remotest areas that still need good health facilities, schools and new parishes. He called for unity as Christians, to be willing to work together to end the problems that we are facing as a church and country.

During the occasion, Bro. Lawrence Sitima renewed his religious vows together with all finally professed brothers of Malawi Province. Bro. Sitima made his first profession on 21<sup>st</sup> November 1997, and his perpetual vows on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2006. His life in the congregation has been quite motivating to the young brothers owing to commitment to his apostolates and the service he is rendering as Provincial Superior of Malawi. We wish him all the best as he continues celebrating the gift of life while embracing the values of the congregation and the church.

The events of the day brought motivation to the youth in attendance in the hope that they will also respond to God's call. The services rendered by other fellow brothers should guide us, young brothers, to learn of God's love towards the fulfilment of the spirit of our founders. This event should guide us and fill us with the spirit of Jesus. It is also hoped that all FIC Brothers will be inspired by the virtues of Bro. Bernardus, namely humility, godliness, prudence, gentleness, zeal and trust, as we celebrate our Founders Day.



## Meeting of The Brothers In Charge of Garden and Livestock

Bro. Michael Sidharta

**R**esolution 28B of the General Chapter 2018 encourages all FIC provinces and communities to develop educational programs aim at fostering the awareness and care of the environment in the spirit of the encyclical *Laudato Si'* of Pope Francis. The ConCon 2022 further requests our provinces of remain committed to promoting awareness of individual brothers and communities in caring for the environment and at the same time, taking concrete steps to implement the resolution.

In line with this resolution, Indonesia province has organized a gathering for all brothers who are in charge of gardening and livestock in the province. From Saturday 5th to Sunday 6th November, 2022, these brothers met in St. Josef Community, Candi-Semarang. The meeting was organized by the Asset Management Advisory Commission (KPPA) of Indonesia Province to enable brothers discern and share ideas on concrete ways to improve their efforts in environmental management.

Brothers from various communities in Java and Yogyakarta also attended the meeting. The management of Budi Mulya Semarang Foundation (YBMS) was also invited. It was expected that the meeting would inspire the management of YBMS in designing and mentoring programs for our communities and the society at large. The participants were invited to reflect on the values and concerns expressed in *Laudato Si'*, the document of Pope Francis. Bro. Michael Sidharta Susila facilitated the meeting.

One of the things called for in the *Laudato Si* document is an appeal to treat every creature in the world as a subject worthy of respect and dignity. This may change the mindset of human beings thinking of using fellow creatures as objects only for their (human) benefit. With such a fundamental mindset, spontaneous awareness will emerge and will help us take care of nature and the environment.

Participants gained knowledge on how to carefully plan and prepare for projects regarding gardening and livestock keeping. Heribertus Sumardjo was the group leader during the discussion on this topic. The significance of gardening and animal rearing/breeding was also discussed in detail. Gardening is a way of improving the environment we live in through the addition of plants, flowers, fruits, and vegetables. Organic gardening improves the air and the soil quality. Growing our own food is a way of beautifying our space; and, instead of taking something away from the natural world, we are adding something green and beautiful. Participants recognized that good parcels of land are available for gardening and livestock grazing in the province. If the administration of these projects is proactive, the outcome will benefit our congregation.

It was also deemed essential to help young people learn about ecoenzym, and this was the topic on Sunday morning. The discussion was led by Sr. Agata Titi BKK and Mrs Esti Anggoro of Semarang's Bongsari Parish. Mrs Esti Anggoro is an ecoenzym activist and a member of the Save Nature Movement. The two presenters helped the participants to understand in depth what ecoenzymes are, their benefits, and how they are made in full. Ecoenzyme movement has been around for quite some time. The subject is excellent for natural environmental management. It can also be utilized to improve human health. Some groups are already benefiting enormously from the application of ecoenzym. The interaction made the brothers realize that there are numerous ways to express gratitude to God for human existence.

Furthermore, using appropriate methods and means for these projects can easily be done on a modest scale. Of course, the most crucial advantage is for the brothers in question. It could be feasible for such activities to generate revenue for the congregation. Hopefully, the brothers will be inspired to use their ingenuity to exploit our gardens and yards, beginning with modest available means within the vicinity.

## CHILE

# 182 Years of Rutten and Bernard's Dream

Bro. Eko Wijayanto

The FIC congregation is 182 years old this year (2022). In celebrating this anniversary, the Chile Province organised an FIC Spiritual Journey recollection. The exercise took place on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> November 2022 in San Antonio Community, Talca. Some of our (lay) co-workers and a number of brothers joined us in this recollection. The Spiritual Journey group started in 2008. Every year we organise two or three meetings, both online and offline. The FIC on-going formation team and the Spiritual Journey groups usually organise the annual FIC retreat, which is usually held for a week during the summer holidays.

The theme of the Spiritual Journey recollection was **BEING DISCIPLES OF JESUS IN FIC SPIRITUALITY**. Bros. Diego, Eko and Patricio prepared it in the form of prayer, personal reflection, sharing, group dynamics and interactive PowerPoint. There was an atmosphere of joy, kinship, openness, and closeness to each other during the recollection. With great commitment, we continue our journey together, to welcome the year 2023 with more joy, and give our best self in the service of God according to our apostolic duties and spiritual life.

On Monday, 21 November 2022 from 19:30 to 22:30 hrs., we celebrated the FIC Foundation Day in a simple manner at San Luis Talca Community. We organised the celebration in the form of a prayer prepared by Bro. Eko. Based on the Gospel of *Mark* (6, 7-13): *HEAL and RELEASE*, we reflected on the following two questions:

**What was Jesus real intention in sending his disciples to continue his evangelistic work?**  
**What is the point in the mission of the**



(L-R) Bros, Diego, Patricio, Yohanes Krismanto, Ge van Vugt, and Javier.



Brothers and teachers on their reflection day, deepening the spirit of our Founders.

## apostles that is most important to us TODAY? Why?

The event ended with a light supper and conversation about the day's activities in all FIC schools, as well as the latest news around the world lately.

It is a tradition in the Province of Chile that during the third week of November each year, we organise the FIC day celebration. Each school organises activities for students, colleagues and parents to celebrate the presence and work of the FIC Brothers in the world in general, and Chile in particular.

Help us to be open to the needs of the world through God's eyes,  
 we look to a future with a taste of resurrection, ready to follow  
 Christ's example who came among us  
 "to give his life and to give it abundantly"  
 (Jn 10:10).



## Foundation Day Celebration, The Netherlands

Bro. Wim Luiten



*The painting of Msgr. Louis Rutten*

On the 21<sup>st</sup> of November the Religious House of the Netherlands, just like the FIC provinces, celebrated the 182<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the foundation of the FIC Congregation. The celebration began with a prayer service in the chapel of De Beyart, and was attended by brothers, associated members, co-workers and friends of FIC. All brothers and guests were invited to the brothers' large hall for lunch after the celebration. Here we bring you a message that was delivered by the Superior of the Religious House, Bro. Wim Luiten, on the restored portrait of our founder Msgr. Ludovicus Rutten during the celebration:

A few years ago, the 160-year-old string with which the portrait of our founder was hung on the wall broke and the painting fell to the floor and got seriously damaged. After much discussion on how to get it repaired, we finally decided to have both the portrait and the frame restored. There was a hole in the canvas just below the Founder's eye; there were clearly visible scratches and stains on the surface, and the old varnish had turned yellow. It is the only personal portrait of our Founder from his heritage, a gift he got when he received the honorary title of monsignor in 1861. It is therefore a precious heritage which we believe is a reminder of a Pastor who meant so much to our Congregation and the city of Maastricht as well. After its restoration by experts, the portrait now looks beautiful and fresh again. With this we demonstrate our respect and

honour to our founder and continue to remember him with affection.

With the restoration of our founder's portrait, a beautiful connection has also been established between us and our founders, and also among the brothers of the congregation. The painting is also seen as a sign of commitment and devotion to our mission as brothers FIC: a mission that started with our co-founder brother Bernardus Hoecken and has further been shaped by all our brothers over the past 182 years.

We are grateful to all our confreres who have gone before us, and those who are still fully committed to the ideals for which our Congregation was founded in 1840. Thankfully, the FIC mission remains alive outside the borders of the Netherlands in our provinces of Indonesia, Chile, Malawi and Ghana. The mission of the FIC brothers is far from over. Fortunately, young people continue to answer the call of God and are willing to contribute to the beauty of this mission. Even though our mission is no more active here in the Netherlands, we remain committed to our ideals in the care and attention the brothers have for each other, and where possible also for others. Together we try to give shape to the tasks of the Religious House of the Netherlands as affectionate as possible. We are grateful for that and ask the Lord to stay close to us in the coming years that we may remain close to each other as we grow older together.



*Brothers, associated members and friends in the chapel of de Beyart celebrating our Foundation day, 21<sup>st</sup> November 2022.*



Three brothers who made their first profession on the 6<sup>th</sup> September 2022, Wa-Ghana.



Brothers, Sisters, associated members, and friends of FIC in the Chapel of de Beyart during our deepening on Mary.



Bro. Frans Dwiayatno (very right) and Bro. Yusuf Kuncoro (very left) with four candidates in Ainaro, Timor Leste.



Brothers in Malawi Province at the FIC cemetery during the commemoration of the deceased brothers at Mzedi, Malawi. (2 November 2022)



Bros. Diego, Javier, Patricio, Yohanes Krismanto, and Ge van Vught. (Chile Province)



Bros. Augustine and Theo during their canonical visit to Zebilla, together with fellow brothers, teachers, staff and students of Saint Mary's Junior High School.



# My Life Journey as an FIC Brother

Bro. Peter Claver Kuuniabom

## My Family life

I come from Bu, a suburb of Nandom in the Upper West Region of Ghana. Bu is a Christian (Catholic) dominated Community. We were born twins (males) in the family of nine siblings to Mr. Simon Kuuniabom and Aurelia Siman Depulla both of blessed memory. Among the nine siblings, five are girls and four are boys. The names given to us (the twins) during baptism were Paul and Peter Claver Kuuniabom. My parents originally were not Christians, but both of them sought permission from their parents those days to join the Catholic Church and they were eventually given the opportunity. So they went through Catechism at the early stage of their life. When they came together as husband and wife, they became very committed Catholics. My father in particular would make sure that all his children (including those from the extended family) pray together especially in the evening. Every morning at dawn he would wake up all his children to pray before starting the day's work. He later became one of the Church elders in the Local Community for a very long time because of his serious commitment and zeal in Church activities. My Christian faith actually grew very strong through the example of my father and one of my uncles, Mr. Ruphino Besigrinee (elder brother of Br. Raphael Besigrinee), who was Catechist at the time and a great model of the Catholic faith for the Local Community. The entire family became a strong believing community through these two personalities, and eventually my twin brother Paul succeeded my uncle, Ruphino Besigrinee, as Catechist of the Local Church in the Community till date.

## My Education

My educational life was marked by intermittent interruptions with shepherding and farming. During my elementary education in Bu Roman Catholic Primary school I was a Cow boy at same time, following cattle and sheep combined during the weekends and sometimes week days. Completing my elementary education in 1980, I developed much interest in being a shepherd



rather than going to school, even though my performance in school was very good and I was very capable of exceling. So I continued as a shepherd until I went to Continuation Middle School in Puffien, a suburb of Nandom, in 1981.

After completing Middle School four years later, I joined my parents as a peasant farmer and occasionally followed the cattle and sheep. This continued till 1988 when I gained admission into Nandom Vocational School (NVS) now St. John's Technical Institute. While in NVS I pursued the Four Year Basic Building and Carpentry Construction and obtained the National Craftsmanship Certificate (NCC), under the headship of Bro. Michael Lugnaah. It was a great turning point for me, because by then I could carry out some practical building and carpentry works to earn some money to support my education. I continued after the four year programme to do the City & Guilds Intermediate in Block Laying and Concreting, for two years in the same school. It was an exciting moment for me when I completed NVS finally in 1993, because I became a contractor and I could build and roof a house. After doing practical work for a year, I proceeded to St. Paul's Technical School in Kukurantumi in

the Eastern Region of Ghana to pursue a Two-year Advanced Course in Block Laying and Concreting and completed in 1996.

### My Vocation Story

My vocation journey started from my Christian family life, a family that actually took prayer as a tool to begin life. Motivated by the staunch Christian lifestyles of my father and uncle, I started thinking about Religious life when I was in NVS. But it was Brs. Alexis Bele-ire and Peter Saatuo who actually endeared me to the FIC way of life. Particularly for Bro. Alexis who was so dedicated in helping us (students) on the road between Bu and Puffien anytime he was passing by in his blue single cabin pickup either to Nandom or Hamily. Bro. Peter Saatuo taught us Religion in the Middle school, and I was so attracted to his dressing and his Electric two exhausts Yamaha 125 motor bike. While in NVS, I was also touched by the lifestyle of Bro. Maarten Bouw who was teaching us Religious studies, as well as the very simple lifestyle of Bro. Michael Lugnaah the then Principal of NVS.

My admiration for the brothers started taking on flesh when I gathered courage and applied to the then Aspirants coordinator of the FIC in the person of Bro. Aloysius Porekuu. A few weeks later I got the reply enlisting me as an Aspirant in the FIC Congregation in 1993. After attending two Contact days, I was asked to apply and start initial formation, but I opted to further my education in St. Paul's Technical School in Kukurantumi in 1994. While schooling there, I got financial support from Brs. Albert Ketelaars and Maarten Bouw, then Provincial Superior and Bursar of Ghana Province. Bro. Albert actually got to know the poor background of my family and he opted to support me with some of my school fees.

Eventually I completed the school in June 1996, and after attending the last Contact Days in August, I was asked to apply for initial formation. I applied and was initiated together with my mates on 15<sup>th</sup> October, 1996 to begin the Pre-novitiate program. It was such an exciting day that I will never forget in my religious life. My joy was short-lived when I started experiencing turbulence/challenges during formation, but by



*A group of picture of the management and staff of ISTC during the canonical visit of Bro. Augustine Kubdaar.*

my strong faith and determination, I held on to my initial motivation of moving on to live a simple lifestyle empowered by our Founders.

### Apostolic Experiences

Tumu was my first community, and from there I was transferred to Tamale, Sunyani, Damongo and now St. Louis in Wa. Motivated by our Founders' profound example of commitment, I have always tried to incorporate this in community, which is indispensable and a concrete setting of our consecration and mission. Making myself completely available for my community and apostolate wherever I find myself, as article 80 of our Constitutions clearly expressed, is a binding principle in living my Religious life. The knowledge, skills and expertise acquired from my tertiary education in the Polytechnic and University placed me in a more versatile position in my apostolic assignments. As a teacher from the beginning, I enjoyed the teaching profession very much. My soul desire as a teacher and also a Parish youth Coordinator was to bring transformation in the lives of the youth. Currently as Manager of In-Service Training Centre Ltd (a Hospitality Centre where accommodation, restaurant, bar and conference facilities and services are rendered to the general public), I have tried over the years to keep the place running, notwithstanding the challenges. The knowledge acquired in the Management and Administration Programme at the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA), made me proactive and





*Bro. Augustine explaining something to a board member of ISTC.*



*Bro. Peter Kuuniabom together with the Bishop of Wa, fellow brothers and co-workers of ISTC, Wa-Ghana.*

innovative in my approach to issues within the community and apostolic activities. As the only Religious working with lay people at ISTC, I try by deeds and words to instill the Gospel values in people of varied religious backgrounds. In conclusion, I am grateful to God for calling me into His service through the FIC community. Following the example of our Founders, Mgr. Louis Rutten and Bro. Bernardus, I am motivated in my own time and circumstances to put into practice some of their ideals that will help bring social change in the lives of the poor around me.

As a brother I also try to follow the example of Mary, the Patroness of our congregation, because she is a perfect example of religious life.

As consecrated people, I believe we are called to imitate the life of Mary who was from a simple background yet was called by God to fulfill a very extraordinary role; that of becoming the mother of Jesus Christ.

(Bro. Peter Claver Kuuniabom is the manager of In-Service Training Centre, Wa, Ghana)



# Flowing Water – My Journey As A Brother

Bro. Yustinus Wahyu Bintarto

I was born to Mr. Albertus Marsono and Mrs. Fransiska Xaveria Suratilah. My parents are from Kulon Progo, Yogyakarta. I studied at State Primary School in Jatiroto, Kanisius Junior High School and Sanjaya Senior High School in Nanggulan. I was educated as a candidate for the brothers FIC after graduating from high school in 1994.

My fascination with the brothers FIC began when Br. Herman Yosep Sagiman Seno Susilo came to my school and introduced the brothers FIC to us. Br. Herman, who was living in Boro Community at the time, held a vocation promotion rally. When I heard the brothers were going to have a recollection in Boro Community, I decided to take part. There, I met several other young men. The brothers in Boro Community introduced us to the brothers' Congregation and their apostolate. At the end of the activity, the brothers also invited us to join the second recollection in Semarang.

Taking into account the experience of the recollection in Boro Community, I finally decided to attend the second recollection in Semarang with two of my friends. There, I met other young people. Apparently, the recollection was organized by several congregations. The FIC Brother who attended the recollection was Heribertus Iriyanto Mulyono. After participating in the recollection activities, I became more interested in getting to know the FIC brothers. I took part in the entrance test to become FIC brother at the Van Lith Senior High School in Muntilan.

## Like Running Water

As the youngest high school graduate, I participated in the orientation activities smoothly. The courage to complete the orientation period is a form of learning to be responsible; responsible for my own decisions without being forced by others to become FIC brother. I remained the same during the postulancy and novitiate periods. Of course, the process of adapting to the environment and my friends and various teachers



was also a positive experience. I went through a lot of growth among my group mates during this period.

The thing that kept me motivated through the postulancy and novitiate is the role of my group mates. Through them, I became more mature; mature in thinking and patient in attitude. In addition to this I was strengthened in carrying out tasks. My personality has also developed a lot. This is where I feel grateful to have colleagues who helped me grow in my formation.

Not all of my colleagues continued their vocational journey. One by one my colleagues reduced in number and chose other ways of life. I felt sad when they left their initial formation, one after the other. Nevertheless, I still wanted to continue my journey. They offered support in my growth, but I felt living this life was my choice; that it did not depend on the decisions of others. I likened my call to a stream of water. In the book of Sirach, it is written "I only flow like a ditch from a river, and like a drain to the great garden (24:30).

Like small sewer water that flows and goes with the current, I let myself flow with various processes and stages within the congregation. A congregation is a "botanical park" that contains fields of rice, gardens, ponds, rivers, etc, that



require the presence of water. It appeared I was directed by God to keep flowing and not knowing where this flow was going to stop. I believed that it was the Lord Jesus who was supporting me. "Whosoever believeth in me, as the Scriptures call it: Out of his heart shall flow streams of living water" (John 7:38).

After the period of initial formation, I was accepted to make my first vows in 1997. My first assignment as a junior brother was to be an administrative worker at Pangudi Luhur Primary School, in South Jakarta. I carried out this task from 1997 to 1999. Then, I was given the assignment to continue my studies in Yogyakarta. I majored in Bahasa Indonesia Education at Sanata Dharma University and live in Kidul Loji Community, Yogyakarta. When I was a full time student I was full of creativity and enthusiasm. Living with other students in the Kidul Loji Community added a lot of insight. My brothers and I have several agendas such as visits to the brothers' families, religious joint activities of various congregations, development as juniors in the community, and various other mentoring activities. Living in the community was for me a stimulus for continuing my journey as a brother. I was like running water that has just passed through a winding but gentle path. The challenge occurred when the river was winding, but I lived it with hope because of the support of my brothers in the community.

### Finding Gratitude

In 2022, Bros. Simon Andrus and Br. Anton Hardianto my group mates, and I celebrated 25 years of religious life. Humanly, the 25-year journey as a brother flowed like water. I didn't feel that I was going to get that far. On the occasion of the "triduum" and the Medior Course at the Khalwat Roncalli House, Salatiga, I was led to discover the meaning of my journey. Thus, 25 years of living as Brother is not limited to meaningless running water along the river, but water that can irrigate various plants along the river. Some of my experiences are interpreted as gratitude, such as learning to live as a brother, being responsible in my duties, and bearing witness as a member of the Church.



*Bro. Wahyu with his group mates  
(L-R) Bros. Simon Andrus, Antonius Hardiyanto  
and Wahyu Bintarto.*

First, I learned to live as a brother. Then I learned to live with other brothers who are not related to me by blood. In this way, I am confirmed by the FIC Constitution article 36 (Brothers of One Another), which states "we call one another 'brother' and try to live up to this word in our community life". Encounters with my fellow brothers in several communities provided me with a variety of social wealth, for example, living together, working together, and obeying various rules in the community. In addition to cultivating social attitudes, I also gained the wealth of understanding other people's personalities with all the advantages and disadvantages of being a human being. Here, I realized that the uniqueness

of individuals was God's intention that my brothers and I are meant to complement one another. It was this idea that led me to the realization that human beings cannot live alone.

Secondly, I learned to be responsible for tasks. The task given by the congregation, especially in the province, I interpret as a form of learning to be responsible. The concept of learning makes me feel like being among other colleagues. I learned to be self-knowing and humble. I was aware that the task was given to me because I was a brother. Personally I appreciated the presence of my colleagues in each school and institution. They had longer task experiences in that school compared to me, so I learned a lot of responsibilities such as, time sharing, management, attention, and various types of official reporting. Inside tasks such as those in the provincial secretariat and outside tasks like those in schools still have consequences and responsibilities. If I have any difficulties, there is usually some help given. This is where I experienced a lot of support. "... the community supports and inspires the individual brothers in their ministry; not only by means of faithful communal discernment, but also by practical assistance and interest, by empathy and understanding, and by special attention to brothers who experience problems in their work." (FIC Constitution article 32).

Thirdly, I learned to be a witness of the Church. The awareness that I am a member of the Church becomes the basis for interpreting my life. The FIC Constitution article 27 states: "the personal tasks of each of us should be seen in the light of our corporate apostolic mission in the Church." I strive to do this by engaging in activities of the local parish. It is not easy to take part in church activities when apostolic activities are already consuming a lot of my time. However, I was challenged to think of family members who also have responsibilities in the church. They too have to divide their time between the two.

I am truly grateful to God for my calling which has entered its 25th year. I can remember the level of happiness of my family members at the celebration. Till now, I remain a joyful brother especially as I was entrusted with some duties of



*Bro. Wahyu (far right) with his fellow brothers in Sedayu community.*

the Provincial Council. Also being able to live in several communities together with fellow brothers is a source of joy. However I know the struggles of my life are not over. Reaching the 25th year of my religious life, I still have to prepare myself to walk the path forward. "Strenuously, step by step, by trial and error, we attempt to achieve this. Thus we try to grow in love, faithfully, and hopefully. In this way we shall experience the joy of our union with Christ, with our fellow brothers, and with many others" (FIC Constitution article 99).



*Bro. Wahyu during in a meeting, with Bros. Agustinus Giwal S, and Yohanes Purwanto*



# Have Fire In Your Heart To Light Another Fire

Bro. Javier Solis Urbano

## My family as a source of inspiration

**M**y vocation story is very much influenced by my family history. I was born in a family in which the gospel values were strongly practiced. My mother always demonstrated faith in God. Through her we experienced a loving God, a merciful God and we always live trusting in God's providence. We are a large family: six males and one female. I currently have sixteen nephews and nieces and eight grandnephews/nieces. My family has always tried to live out true brotherhood, unity, solidarity and service to others as an expression of God's love.

## The community sends us to do apostolate

My formation as an FIC brother was very much influenced by the Dutch and Spanish brothers who had strong faith in God. They were men who loved their neighbours, especially the poorest and neediest. I was always told that service to humanity is the same as loving others. (1Cor. 13).

I had the opportunity to live in communities with large number of brothers and each one of them left behind a teaching that I still hold in my heart. I learned that community life and unity of feeling are very high values in life. Currently, we are an international FIC Province with brother Gé from The Netherlands, Diego and Lucio from Spain, Eko and Kris from Indonesia and Marcelo, Patricio and I myself from Chile. Each one of us is an example of vocation and dedication to the others as an expression of God's love, and love for the Congregation. I receive a lot of affection, unconditional support and care from all of them, and additionally, they pray for me and my apostolic tasks.

## Ongoing formation

In Religious life, we provide services to the church and one thing that enhances this is ongoing formation which helps me to serve



*Bro. Javier Solis explaining something to a second year novice from Malawi. With him are bros. Remy Nyukorong and Lucio Torres*

better. All these years as a brother, I have had the opportunity to study and attend in-service training courses in the fields of education and psychology. This has made it possible for me to provide better services to others and contribute more to the FIC mission in Chile.

I have worked in different capacities as a teacher, school director and youth minister. I feel that the poor and needy have always been the ones who keep my faith alive and who lead me to God. In our prayer and community life we find strength, inspiration, and love to continue spreading the gospel of Jesus in our society and in the world at large.

## Apostolate is the place of encounter with the gospel of Jesus

I am currently working as executive director of FIC Educational Management Teams in which I am leading, inspiring, accompanying and supervising the processes of training, education, and teaching in the schools within the FIC Network. I feel happy to be able to collaborate and work with

the teams from our schools, and through this we expand the FIC mission to the poor and needy. We work together as one community in Christ Jesus, whose pedagogy enhances our tasks.

I feel very close to our founders Monsignor Louis Rutten and Bro. Bernardus Hoecken. They were men full of faith and love for God and they wanted to express their love through training, education and teaching of children. In the same way, I believe that our province is manifesting this concern, and wish to keep it alive together with our collaborators who share the same vocation with our founders. In this way they try to live out this loving service among children and young people in the Chilean society, especially those in need.

Along with this Apostolate as executive director of the FIC Network, I work as therapeutic psychologist with adolescents and young people. I also give workshops on socio-emotional skills to adolescents, youth, and adults. This mission fills my life with joy, hope

and faith in young people. In this apostolate I also see a very clear direction of our congregation to help and form young people to experience any project enlightened by the gospel of Jesus. We live in a very secular country in Chile, with disoriented youth marked by lack of love; however, I realize that they are anxious to meet people who are good and are doing good works. In a convulsed world full of difficulties and problems, we need people who love humanity and show their faith in a merciful God, and people who are close to others.

Finally, I can say that I am happy because I am loved by God. As a person who holds firmly to the gospel of Jesus Christ, I believe that we can spread the good news of Jesus in our times through training, education, and teaching. I believe that the poor and needy lead us to God and they cannot wait any longer. I also believe in our values as religious and that Mary our mother is with us all the days of our lives. I pray and wish that the Lord may fill our lives with His grace so that we can love all those we encounter in life.



*The family of Bro. Javier Solis Urbano*



*Brothers FIC in Chile Province and Bro. Valentinus Daru Setiaji in front of Saint Antonio Community.*





## Immaculata Conceptio (The Immaculate Conception of Mary)

Fr. B.S. Mardiatmadja SJ



**I**t has been a very long time since I served as altar boy in the Chapel of the Brothers of the Immaculate Conception, Yogyakarta in 1974. Since then, I have been serving very often there. I have always enjoyed the service. The joy has always been much more every feast-day of the immaculate conception. The brothers have always had a beautiful feast day, every 8<sup>th</sup> of December. Well, you know, I wanted to join the FIC congregation too, but later on, I went to the minor seminary and then joined the Society of Jesus. But the first job that they gave me was in the secretariat of a Marian Congregation: in the same spirituality as the FIC Brothers. Well, that was a great joy. Joyful experience is a certain moment, when our heart is touched by something, that makes nearly everything in us cling, or warmed by someone, who enters our heart through our deepest part, or a certain happening, that clings with a certain melody, that has never happened when we were touched by anybody else.

The first time I had the opportunity to go to Lourdes, I remember, I was very deeply touched. I remember the stories Bro. Simplicianus told me

about the meaning of “Onbevleete Ontvangen”. It is the beginning of the whole ecclesiological story that I teach the seminarians in Jakarta. Because, Mary has answered “Yes” to the angel Gabriel, so as to “enable the Son of God to be our anthropological Brother and afterwards our friend, even in the supernatural way” to save us (Lk 1:26-38). In the meantime, I was joyful too, when I studied theology, and found out that the Council Fathers of the Second Vatican have given the whole 8<sup>th</sup> part of Lumen Gentium to our Mother Mary, following the Fathers of the Ephesian Council.

In the meantime, I have written a book on Mary about her whole acceptance of the Spiritual Calling, to be the Mother of the Son and His Partner, to be on the Apostleship of the Merciful Father. Afterwards, I wrote a book on Joseph, whom Mary was betrothed. I remember how I have long meditated that it would have been very hard for him to 'say yes' to 'serve the Holy Family for saving us'. From the film “Mary the Mother of Jesus” I understand, that Joseph loved Mary very deeply as his wife. And then he was invited by God to love her as the mother of her Son and his Savior. Our Brother, Pope Francis, has invited us to deeply meditate on the whole situation. After the 'synodal letter' (October 2021) we can now understand in a deeper sense, how we have been inserted in the whole happening: walking together with Mary, Joseph and Jesus, to accept the Will of the Father, in inviting the Young Lady, to co-educate the Son to bring us to the Father. This has sounded deep in me, so that I am brought to the inner part of myself. Especially, the feelings that make me very close to Mother Mary is that she is deeply immaculate. It is also possible to think and feel her fondly as my Mother, when I know that she is very much united with Jesus, who calls me His dear friend (John 15:15).

Here we see a very deep relationship with the vocation of Brother Bernardus and friends at the beginning of the FIC Congregation. He had received also the vocation, like Mary and Joseph,

to make a communal discernment, to educate “the friends of Jesus”, namely young kids, to be “the sacrament of the love of God” (LG a.1). In order to be able to serve God that way, Mary and the Brothers of the FIC Congregation, have to make the love of God as the true love, and the only one that bind them together.

Then the Ephesus Council underlined the whole happening to mean that Mary, who is the Mother of Jesus Christ, is the Mother of God. That has paved the way for our conviction that Mary is also the Mother of the Church. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Our Lady told Saint Bernadette Soubirous that the Lord has put her into 'a very clean situation', without any sin. The theologians have understood, that a person, who has such a deep relationship with the Son of God, cannot be 'blemished by any sin'. There have been so many instances to show how our Lady is very near to every Christian heart, because of her being full of the Spirit. She helps us to be the Friends of Jesus the Messiah (John 15:15). He has personally given us the Holy Spirit, so that we can be full of the Spirit, to wait for His Second Coming (John 20:22). In this situation, it has not been easy to find many voices in the Church that ask for a document in the Second Vatican Council. But the Council Fathers have decided to see Mary as the Mother of Jesus, i.e. also our Mother in the Church. That was the reason why the 8<sup>th</sup> part of the Dogmatic Constitution *Lumen Gentium* was destined to be on Mary.

Until now, I have been many years teaching the Catholic Seminarians and also future Protestant Ministers. I see and hear so many positive signs, how so many people love Mary: especially as our Immaculate Mother. There are more and more Protestant Churches, who love Mary and pray to Mary. There are more and more people, who go to Lourdes, Fatima and Indonesian Marian Holy places. Let us continue to love our Holy Mother Mary, the Immaculate Mother because of the Immaculate Conception. You should have the same feeling like me, if you, 60 years ago have entered the Novitiate of the Society of Jesus, and have celebrated the feast of Mary as your first Mass (9<sup>th</sup> September 1962) in Girisonta, Ungaran, Indonesia. Some years afterwards, I was ordained priest on 8<sup>th</sup> December 1973: on the Feast-day of the FIC Brothers and when my

mother celebrated also her Patroness in Jogjakarta.

I have another important 'supporter' in my devotion to Mary in the person of Saint John Paul II, who has written a modern reflection on Mary's Immaculate Conception, when he wrote 'Redemptoris Mater' (1987). He has once again underlined that “Mary is full of grace” (part 1). That expression is even now very meaningful in relation to her Immaculate Conception: not because of her strength but because of the love of the Holy Spirit to realize the mission of the Father to the Son.

Let us pray that our personal lives and communal pastoral services be blessed because of the Love of Our Holy Mother. Let us also ask her to pray for us, that we may serve the Lord, as holy as she has served her Son. Let us ask the Holy Spirit to make us as joyful as the Mother of Jesus, to be unified with Him in the presence of the Father, like this Holy Mother.





## My Knowledge and Experience of Mary's Immaculate Conception

Bro. Joachim Naah



**M**ary is the Patroness of our Congregation. We are happy to place our lives under her special protection. Mary's life was completely consecrated to the service of her Son. (FIC Constitution Art. 12).

Mary was preserved immaculate, not only because the Lord cannot stand sin, but also because she was meant to be as a gift, a total self-giving to God. This explains her answer, "Behold I am the handmaid of the Lord, be it done unto me according to your word" (Lk. 1:38).

This woman, Isaiah foretold, was to be a virgin-almah. Virgin-almah is in Hebrew language. It is correct. It means young and unmarried: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son and his name shall be called Emmanuel" (Is. 7:14).

Matthew quotes to confirm Joseph's dream. "Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel" (Mt. 1:23-25). And in her conversation with the Angel, Mary asked how this could come about, since she was a virgin. She referred to herself as a virgin.

Mary's perpetual virginity is an accepted doctrine in the profession of our faith when we say the creed; "I believe in God, the Father Almighty ....".

It is also contained in the profession of our faith before baptism: "Do you believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God, who was born of the Virgin Mary.....?. This is the core of our faith manifested through the Immaculate Conception of Mary.

In St. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, the sacredness of virginity is extolled and the apostle proposes virginity, synonymous with chastity and celibacy, as a way of total self-dedication to the Lord (1Cor.7:32-34). When we take the vow of celibacy it is our desire to dedicate ourselves to God. God respects and accepts our pure, holy and total self-offering just as Mary did. The almighty wants us to do 'great' things, out of the ordinary and Mary is a perfect example for us to imitate.

It seems Mary hesitated or even became confused when she asked, "But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?" (Lk. 1:34). Could she have been asking, "should I go ahead and marry Joseph to whom I am engaged and through him have this descendant of David?" In our lives as religious, we are sometimes confused or not certain of some of our actions or inactions or even our choice of vocation. Like Mary, the angel's answer (Lk. 1:35) opens the eyes of our hearts to another dimension – a revelation we never thought of. This helps fulfill God's plan in our lives.

Mary's Immaculate Conception is contrary to the laws of nature, virginal conception and virgin-birth. When we go to faith in Scripture we accept that "nothing is impossible to God" (Lk. 1:38). We remember the cases of Sarah, wife of Abraham and Elizabeth, mother of John the Baptist who conceived after being well advanced in age (Gen. 17:17; Lk. 1:18). How about the conception and birth of Samson? (Jg. 13:7). In all these cases, the offsprings were persons dedicated to particular services of God. With God all things are possible indeed. In our lives as



*Bro. Joachim (middle) with his fellow brothers during canonical visit of Bros. Augustine and Theodorus to Damongo community. (2022)*

religious we are sometimes confronted with uncertainties and doubts and we can always remember that whatever God wills is possible. He did it with Mary.

Mary accepted the great things of God in her life. She not only said yes, but also gave her total self in consent; totality which embraces purity in body, liberty in heart and will, and poverty of spirit. By her words, "I am the handmaid of the Lord, let what you have said be done to me" (Lk. 1:38), we also should be ready to be used by God to accomplish His Will. Through the inspiration of Mary we also give ourselves completely to God with all the worldly temptations.

God loves purity of body, mind and spirit, and especially holiness as offered in virginity. He loved it in Mary. We try to make our bodies, minds and spirits pure after the example of Mary.

We learn from the Ever-Blessed Virginity of Mary not only a matter of physical integrity but most especially of spiritual transparency of will and of purity of soul. The Virginity of Mary points to a total self-offering to God and for us brothers we do this by faithfully keeping to our vows. This is what God loves of us: to offer the best of ourselves to Him as Brothers FIC. (Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God (Mt. 5:8).



## Pope Francis: The Immaculate Conception is 'One of The Wonders of The Story of Salvation'

Vatican City, Dec 8, 2020 / 06:20 am



**T**he Immaculate Conception is "one of the wonders of the story of salvation," Pope Francis said in his Angelus address. Speaking from a window overlooking St. Peter's Square Dec. 8, 2020, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, the pope encouraged Catholics to entrust themselves to Mary, seeking purity and holiness. He said: "The uncontaminated beauty of our Mother is incomparable, but at the same time it attracts us. Let us entrust ourselves to her and say 'no' to sin and 'yes' to Grace once and for all."

It is customary for the pope to lead the Angelus prayer not only on Sundays, but also on Marian

solemnities. In his address, the pope reflected on the meaning of the Immaculate Conception. "Today's liturgical feast celebrates one of the wonders of the story of salvation: the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary. Even she was saved by Christ, but in an extraordinary way, because God wanted that the mother of His Son not be touched by the misery of sin from the moment of her conception," he said. "And so, for the entire course of her earthly life, Mary was free from any stain of sin, she was 'full of grace' (Luke 1:28), as the angel called her. She was favored by a singular action of the Holy Spirit so as to always remain in perfect relationship with her Son, Jesus. Rather, she was Jesus's disciple:

His Mother and disciple. But there was no sin in her."

Citing the hymn that opens St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians, the pope said that we too are created by God for the "fullness of holiness" granted to Mary from the beginning. "And what Mary had from the beginning will be ours in the end, after we have passed through the purifying 'bath' of God's grace," he said. "What opens the gates of paradise to us is God's grace, received by us with faithfulness." Yet even the most innocent person is marked by original sin, he said, and therefore must engage in a lifelong struggle against its consequences. Lest we be discouraged, we should remember that the thief who was crucified beside Jesus "is the first person we are sure entered paradise," the pope noted.

He continued: "But be careful. It does not pay to be clever -- to continually postpone a serious evaluation of one's own life, taking advantage of the Lord's patience. He is patient. He waits for us, He is always ready to give us grace. We may be able to deceive people, but not God; He knows our hearts better than we ourselves do." "Let us take advantage of the present moment! This, yes, is the Christian sense of seizing the day. Not to enjoy life each passing moment -- no, this is the worldly sense. But to seize today, to say 'no' to evil and 'yes' to God, to open oneself to His grace."

The pope said that the "journey of conversion" begins with seeking God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We must then seek to repair the harm we have done to others. "And this, for us, is the path for becoming 'holy and immaculate,'" he explained.

After the Angelus, the Holy Father greeted pilgrims in the square below, which was wet following a rainy morning. He singled out an Italian group holding a banner proclaiming "L'Immacolata vincerà" ("The Immaculate will triumph"). The group, inspired by the spirituality of St. Maximilian Kolbe, has brought the banner to St. Peter's Square for the Angelus since the 1990s. "They are great, they are always here!" the pope commented.

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He continued: "As you know, this afternoon the traditional veneration of the Immaculate Conception in Piazza di Spagna will not take place, to avoid the risk of a crowd gathering, as disposed by the civil authorities, whom we need to obey." "But this does not keep us from offering our Mother the flowers that she enjoys the most: prayer, penance, a heart open to grace." The pope recalled that that morning he had made a private visit to the statue of the Immaculate Conception in Rome's Piazza di Spagna and then celebrated Mass at the Basilica of St. Mary Major. "I wish everyone a happy feast day. And, please do not forget to pray for me," he said.





# My Devotion to Mary Immaculate Conception

Bro. Raphael Besigrinee

Many Catholics go on pilgrimage to Mary's Shrines to deepen their faith as part of their devotion to Mary. Some undertake Novena prayers to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, or the Miraculous Medal. Some people place the statue of Mary in their rooms as their way of devotion to Mary, and many others simply pray the Rosary. Going on pilgrimage to Mary's holy places is still very popular among Catholics these days, and indeed I consider short visits to Mary's shrines very inspiring as well. My few visits to Chile and Indonesia show people's deep devotion to Mary through visiting shrines dedicated to Mary. I have visited a few myself, and felt truly inspired by humanity's devotion to Mary. However, the commonest practice that shows my devotion to Mary Immaculate Conception is through praying the Rosary.

I grew up as a child knowing already about Rosary prayers through my parents. I find a lot of meaning through Rosary prayers first of all because they remind me of Mary the Mother of Jesus and her role in salvation history. Even before Mary brought Jesus Christ into the world, she knew the value of obedience. She demonstrates that obedience to God supersedes attachment to our personal desires. Her response to God's invitation symbolizes the Christian attitude of being prepared to be used by God for His purposes, and our lives should be characterized by our readiness to be "the Lord's servant." Secondly, Rosary prayers remind me of Jesus Christ Himself whose teachings Mary was devoted to till the end. Although she is the mother of Jesus, Mary's obedience to her son is an example we should all emulate.

Mary's attitude clearly expresses her special focus on the poor who should be our main concern, as indicated in our constitutions (art. 10). In Mary's hymn of praise (Magnificat) she



clearly opts for the poor and lowly, and even identifies herself as a lowly one through whom God worked His wonders. This is what some people call "Theology from below", and which Theology turns its attention towards the poor, the underprivileged, the downtrodden, those society rejects, etc.

What is the significance of the Rosary prayers in my personal life? And how have the Rosary prayers strengthened my faith? I personally

admire Mary's justice system because it resonates with that of God who has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty handed (Luke 1:53). The Canticle of Mary is one that inspires hope in the poor and suffering; It gives us the consolation that our present suffering is only temporal, and that soon we shall find relief because God recognizes our predicaments. The prayer of Mary gives me the feeling that the present world order created by humans will soon end and that God will certainly overturn the judgments of the present world. It is a new world where God will raise the poor from the dust; lifts up the needy from their misery and give children to childless wives, etc.

Another way my faith is strengthened through the Rosary prayers is that it allows me to journey with Jesus in the New Testament from His birth to the cross. I do this through the twenty mysteries of the Rosary. Of course this is exactly what Mary did herself: being with Jesus from His birth (Nativity) to the cross (Crucifixion). In other words, praying the Rosary is synonymous with following Jesus in the scriptures (NT). All the twenty mysteries of the rosary have their basis in the New Testament. Reflecting on these mysteries in Rosary prayers is very significant for me. Fundamentally, I see Mary as the first to experience the New Testament, and even after the resurrection of Jesus, Mary was still with the disciples at the beginning of the Church in the upper room (Acts 1:14). So we cannot talk about the New Testament without the mention of Mary; after all she brought the NT into existence. No wonder that many Popes in the past held the recitation of the Rosary in high esteem. Pope Paul VI explained the doctrine of the Rosary by calling it a "Gospel prayer" centred on the mystery of the incarnation.

Pope John Paul II says the Rosary has an important place in Marian devotion. I therefore try

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to pray it every day. I even put the Rosary in my trousers' pocket anytime I go out. I treat it like a 'talisman', something that protects me. The intercessory role of Mary in our life is something we should have no doubts about. I believe that like the work of the Holy Spirit, Mary comes to our aid in the hours of our weakness; for when we do not know how to pray as we ought, *she* intercedes for us with inexpressible groaning (Rom:8:26). Pope John Paul II said when we mention "Holy Mary, Mother of God" in the Rosary prayers, we ask her by a unique privilege to "Pray for us sinners" and entrust ourselves to her at the present moment and at the hour of our death".

As brothers FIC our name bears (in part) the "Immaculate Conception of Mary", having a lot to





*Bro. Raphael Besigrinee on a visit to Mary Tritis Shrine  
in Paliyan, Gunung Kidul, Jogjakarta (2016)*

do with the dogma of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. The dogma says that Mary, from the moment of her conception, was freed (by God) from original sin, in view of her future task as the mother of Jesus. Mary played her role perfectly in the world; what about me? Praying the Rosary reminds me also of my task as a religious brother. Do I play my role well as a brother? In this question I see Mary's role as exemplary, and I therefore pray for her intercession in this regard.

In conclusion, Mary is considered "Mother of the Church". She exemplifies all the Christian qualities and virtues we need to cultivate. The

virtue associated closely with her is purity. But her faith, humility, obedience, love, patience and poverty also come readily to mind when I think about Mary. However, what is significant is that she comes to my aid in my weakness. She transmits my prayers to God, even when I am not able live up to my commitment. With this I feel secured and confident in God's love and care for me. These are the reasons for my devotion and reliance on her intercession in my prayers.





# BECOMING AN FIC BROTHER

We are a community of lay-religious men, who dedicate our lives to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. He continues to teach us to be children of God and brothers to all people. Since the foundation of our congregation in 1840 we have had a special interest in the education and formation of young people, especially in poor areas.

We experience this life choice to be both demanding and gratifying. Because of this deep experience we continue to attract young men to our community.

Every candidate brings in his own experiences, gifts and talents. However, it takes some time for a young man to determine if his choice for the Brothers FIC really is his life choice. Likewise, it takes some time for the congregation to determine if a candidate can be accepted as a brother. For it is in the interest of the candidate and the congregation that every individual brother can live a happy and fruitful life.

That is why every candidate must go through a period of formation.

## Content of the formation

Every candidate and young brother receives a theoretical and a practical introduction to our life and spirituality. The formation program clarifies how we can grow as human beings, as Christians and as brothers. The program is particularly aimed at the following:

- enriching the development of the candidate as a person;
- reflecting on essential questions concerning their future and their vocation;
- introducing them to the ideals and spirit of the founders of our congregation;
- creating an opportunity to both the congregation and the candidate to make a well-considered decision.

## Stages of the formation

1. Postulancy - Whoever feels a vocation to share the life of the brothers FIC can apply for the postulancy by contacting the formation-master or the provincial superior in his area. You find all the addresses at the side of this page. After a number of assessments you go through a preparatory period, called the postulancy. This period normally lasts about one year and gives both the candidate and the congregation the opportunity to get to know each other.
2. Noviciate - After this period, provided the candidate is admitted, the noviciate begins. This marks the start of the life in the congregation and normally takes two years.
3. Temporary profession - After the noviciate the candidate can bind himself by his temporary vows. He does so with the intention of binding himself for life in the future. However, it is a good thing to bind oneself only temporarily in the beginning.

In this period, which normally lasts six years, the young brother can develop his vocation and grow into the daily life of the congregation and its apostolate. The formation continues by integrating the three main dimensions of the life as a brother: to pray, work and live in a community. This period is officially concluded with the final profession.



09-13-2014

## Interested?

If you are interested in the details of our formation programs, you can contact the following persons:

### 1. Ghana

Bro. Aaron Nee-eru

Address: Brothers FIC, P. O.

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### 2. Indonesia

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### 3. The Netherlands

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### 4. Malawi

Bro. Moses Mgunda

Address: Brothers Maryview,

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### 5. Chile

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Perez

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FIC Brothers and management staff of Pangudi Luhur Kasih Credit Union.



FIC Brothers and Editors of "Bianglala" Pangudi Luhur Magazine.



Eucharistic celebration to close the academic year at Saint Mary School in Tumu.



Brothers FIC and members of FIC School Management (Chile)



FIC Brothers and our domestic workers in FIC Malawi Province.



Participants of Formators' meeting 2022, Wa-Ghana