



PHILIPPINE JESUIT PRISON SERVICE FOUNDATION, INC.

Rebuilding Lives. Rekindling Hope. Restoring Dignity.

31 July 2020

Dear friends of PJPS,

Peace.

Through the years, PJPS normally had a three-fold anniversary celebration: a recollection where an invited speaker would give some points for reflection and prayer, a Mass usually presided over by the Provincial Superior, and a shared meal which was also a venue for people to connect and share stories.

The year 2020, however, was different. Because of the disruption to the normal life brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic, people had to adjust and learn to adapt to a new normal. In the face of the threat of the virus, we in PJPS did adjust. But we did not just adjust. We were still able to celebrate our 26th Founding Anniversary. But we did not just celebrate. We had a series of celebrations, a series of recollections. In line with the times and in celebration of the anniversary, we held a Reco-Series.

On the first recollection, Saturday (July 11, 2020), for the theme Finding God in All Things, the speaker was Fr. Jose Hildy "Totet" Banaynal, S.J. who is based in Cambodia and Mass presider was Fr. Ro Atilano, SJ, who is in the Ateneo High School in Quezon City. The succeeding Saturday (July 18, 2020), we had Fr. Daniel Patrick "Danny" Huang, SJ who is based in Rome as speaker on the theme of Magis, and the Mass presider, Fr. Henry Ponce, SJ who is based in Lebanon. On the final Saturday (July 25, 2020), we had Fr. Manuel "Manoling" Francisco, SJ as speaker on the theme Amare Et Servire and Provincial Superior, Fr. Primitivo "Jun" Viray, Jr. SJ as Mass presider for the PJPS 26th Anniversary itself.

Before the start of the recollection and during the recollections and Masses, people had goosebumps. It was overwhelming and consoling to see that despite the virus forcing us to stay in our homes, people were still able to gather, albeit virtually, and pray as a community. No virus, no walls stopped us being united. The Reco-series was a beautiful and meaningful experience for those who had faith in our God. Although we were in different places, countries and time zones, we were one in faith. The prayerful event was an amazing and comforting encounter of people in love with God and which was made possible through the wonders of technology. We were not only able to see and hear each other despite the distance, but we were also able to connect with one another and with God. We were blessed!

Thank you to our recollection speakers and to the Mass presiders, to the technical team and to each of you who joined in our Recollection Series. Despite the limitations brought about by the virus, we did not cower in fear and be enslaved by worries. We were able to form a community in prayer. One in faith. United in love. Praising God. Thanks be to God for making the Reco-Series possible and for the gift of faith and prayer in the midst of uncertainties. Let us continue to pray for each other, for the prison community (especially the PDLs and their families) and for our country and the world. We do not know what the future has in store for us. But one thing is for sure, God is in control and He will be with us to guide and bless us.

Sincerely yours,

(signed)

Fr. Eli Rowdy Y. Lumbo, SJ

Executive Director

DONATE THROUGH



Philippine Jesuit Prison Service Foundation, Inc.
349-3-349-85204-8
Muntinlupa Branch

Kindly email to jesuitprisonservice@gmail.com the transfer form or receipt for proper acknowledgement and issuance of official receipt.

PJPS is a duly accredited institution by the Philippine Council for NGO Certification (PCNC). All donations are tax-deductible.

(02) 8-659-0513



/PJPSPH

www.pjps.org.ph