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## Final Vows of Br. Aikee Esmeli

I was able to attend the Profession of Perpetual Vows of Br. Lawrence Aikee Esmeli FSC at La Salle Green Hills on August 13, 2016. It was held in the St. Benilde Gym to accommodate the large number of guests expected. Despite the heavy rain, there was good turnout of Brothers, Family, and Friends. In that same event, eight Novices (seven from LEAD and one from Egypt) received the Robe, namely: Br. Lucas Ah Do nFSC, Patrick Aquino nFSC, Br. Justine Nge Bo nFSC, Br. Worawut Chinsee nFSC, Br. Luis Angelo Enriquez nFSC, Br. Augustine Nay Lin Oo nFSC, Br. Michael Vincent Roli Palidan, n FSC and Br. Fady Farid Khalil Mankaryous Salama nFSC.

Further, eight young men were formally accepted into the Postulancy, namely Henry, RJ Angeles, Mico de Leon, Jeanie Endaya, Kino Escolano, Conrad Martinez, Jed Tresmanio, and Ivan Umali.

In his response Br. Aikee shared:

*Thinking as well of committing the rest of my life to be a Brother, I have learned that fear does not help us achieve anything but faith makes us do great things. Special shout out to the postulants and the novices celebrating with me tonight. I wish to share that while there is a lot to be afraid of, we have so much more to believe in.*

*I attribute this courage to all of you - my students and their families - whether rich or poor, the teachers and staff whom I have worked with and were patient with me, the Brothers who have always been there for me and my family - whose hard work and love inspires me everyday to follow God and join Him in His work.*

*Tonight's celebration is for all of you. Thank you very much for all your support for the past decade since Postulancy. Kokoro kara, arigatou to iitai desu. (From my heart, thank you very much.)*

(Photo Credits: Br. Dennis Magbanua FSC)

## Orientation Day at The St. Joseph's Institution International (TropicanaCampus) Malaysia

Sunday 14 August 2016 was the Orientation Day for Parents and the students who have enrolled to join the St. Joseph's Institution International at Petaling Jaya North in the Damansara vicinity opening its brand new doors for the new academic year beginning 29th August.

At 10.00 am on that bright sunny day, a total of 420 students with their parents packed the Auditorium at the basement of the school till it was choc-a-bloc and then the Brother President, Br. Thomas Lavin FSC together with the Principal of the High School, Mr. Stuart Glascott and Ms. Eileen Quigley, the headmistress of the Elementary School greeted the audience warmly. After that, everyone was taken for a tour of the new school with an air of excitement as the children hastened to look for their future classrooms.

Later, a sumptuous high tea which was lunch for some was served in the Dining Hall for all to partake. Teachers and Parents mingled with each other in a true Lasallian family atmosphere that St. Joseph's Institution International aka SJIIIM takes pride in forming.

It is indeed off to a bright and blessed start in educating the children to be Lasallian and in the International kind of syllabus. God Bless SJIIIM and Ora Et Labora !! **(Br. Michael Kum FSC)**

(Photo Credits: Br. Danai Kingkan FSC)



## PARC 42 in Ho Chi Minh



The Meeting of PARC Visitors and Auxiliary Visitors with the Superior General and his Council took place in Ho Chi Minh City from August 15 - 17. This meeting culminates the Superior's pastoral visits to Asia and the Pacific. In the days leading to the meeting, the General Councillors visited different sectors in PARC to familiarize them with the reality in the region.

In the first day of the meeting the Conference attended the Habit Taking of three Postulants and the Profession of First Vows of four novices from Vietnam. The novices were personally accepted by the Superior General.

The meeting took up Vitality and Viability issues in the Districts of PARC.

Our thanks to Br. Peter Phat (Visitor) and Br. Andrew (Auxiliary Visitor) for the warm welcome and hospitality. (Photo Credits: Br. Rafael Matas FSC)

## Arts and Culture

Gia Long Palace (Vietnamese: Dinh Gia Long), now officially the Hồ Chí Minh City Museum (Vietnamese language: Bảo tàng Thành phố Hồ Chí Minh) is a historical site and museum in Hồ Chí Minh City (Saigon), Vietnam. The museum is situated at the corner of Lý Tự Trọng and Nam Kỳ Khởi Nghĩa streets, located on 2 hectares of land, near the Independence Palace.

The 2-floored palace building covers an area over 1700 m<sup>2</sup>, using classical Baroque architecture with European and Oriental influences. The flooring, staircases and halls were European-styled, while the roof was Oriental-inspired. Surrounding the palace is a trapezoid-shaped flower garden, with 4 pathways.

The front face of the roof is decorated with grotesques. Other exterior structural designs include symbolic chickens representing daytime and owls for nighttime and ring-enclosed white flowers. Many other motifs embossed on the roof is a combination of Greek mythological symbols, iconic plants and tropical animals such as lizards and birds flying or expanding its wings.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gia\\_Long\\_Palace](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gia_Long_Palace)



Fraternally,

Edmundo Fernandez FSC