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Dagupan TTJ Batch 1: 17 Dedicated Lay People consecrate themselves to Jesus through Mary

DAGUPAN CITY, PANGASINAN, Philippines - On the Feast of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, the consecration of the first batch of the Totus Tuus Journey took place in St. Louis-Marie Grignon de Montfort Parish in Dagupan City, Pangasinan. The event, amidst the restrictions of covid-19 and with all the preparations made, was participated by seventeen dedicated lay people who totally consecrated themselves to Jesus through Mary according to the teachings of St. Louis-Marie de Montfort. It was held last November 27, 2021, in St. Joseph's Chapel, Salisay, Dagupan City, Pangasinan.

The celebration started at 9:00 AM with the Holy Eucharist. The Rite of Consecration, which was witnessed by their respective families, relatives and friends, was presided by Rev. Fr. Federick Yumang, SMM, the National Director of the Association of Mary, Queen of All Hearts (AMQAH), together with Rev. Fr. Rene Bustillo, SMM, the parish priest of St. Louis-Marie Grignon de Montfort Parish.

In his sermon, Fr. Federick Yumang, SMM, stated, *"This is not just an ordinary day. It is unique and special because you are already for Jesus through Mary."* Indeed, as declared by the participants, the day of their consecration to Jesus through Mary was *"the happiest day in their lives."*

Marco Gamboa, one of the pioneering members of the Totus Tuus Journey (TTJ) remarked, *"For me, I feel so blessed and fulfilled despite some hardships that I am encountering. I feel renewed"*.

The celebration ended at 10:30 AM. Fr. Rene Bustillo, SMM, extended his warm congratulations to the seventeen lay participants on their successful consecration and said that their mission does not end there, but continue to draw everyone closer to Jesus through Mary. He also acknowledged the presence of Fr. Federick, who led their thirty-three-day preparation up until the day of their consecration. After the celebration, everyone shared a sumptuous meal.

"If, then, we establish solid devotion to our Blessed Lady, it is only to establish more perfectly devotion to Jesus Christ, and to provide an easy and secure means for finding Jesus Christ. If devotion to Our Lady removed us from Jesus Christ, we should have to reject it as an illusion of the devil; but so far from this being the case, devotion to Our Lady is, on the contrary, necessary for us—as I have already shown, and will show still further hereafter—as a means of finding Jesus Christ perfectly, of loving Him tenderly, of serving Him faithfully." -St. Louis-Marie Grignon de Montfort-

Jhay Albert Cuesta