

Celebrations abound....

Sisters Melchora T. Acabo and Zaraqosa R. Adlaon Profess Perpetual Vows



Sister Anne Marie Miller, (right) a member of the Institute of the Sisters of the Americas Leadership Team celebrates the final professions of Sisters Mel Acabo (center).and Zara Adlaon (left) from the Philippines.

Great joy filled Corpus Christi Church in Iligan City, Philippines, as Sisters Melchora Acabo and Zaragosa Adlaon professed perpetual vows on June 17. More than 30 Sisters of Mercy led the opening procession, as Melchora (Mel) and Zaragosa (Zara) followed with their parents, along with several priests and Bishop Jose Rapadas III, DD.

Family and friends of both sisters attended the profession, which was held in Visayan and English. Institute Leadership Team Member Sister Anne Marie Miller, CCASA Institute Minister Sister Julie Matthews and Director of Institute New Membership Sister Eileen Campbell were also present, and more than 500 people viewed the ceremony on YouTube and Facebook.

Mel and Zara entered the community in 2012 and professed temporary vows in 2016. Although the pandemic delayed their perpetual profession, the women found “more meaning and growth,” said Formation Minister Sister Aura Matalines. “They fearlessly accepted new assignments, as God assured them as he said to Jeremiah, ‘Do not be afraid for I am with you and will rescue you.’”

Aura continued: “Today here they are, Mel and Zara, a bit nervous but their whole being is full of gratitude and love as they profess their final commitment.”

As part of the profession rite, Anne Marie questioned the sisters’ intent to enter the bonds of perpetual profession. After Mel and Zara responded enthusiastically, “Yes, I do,” they signed their vows and received a resounding affirmation from all present.

Sisters Algen Mari B. Castañeto and Đào Thị Mộng Kiều Profess Temporary Vows



Sister Algen Mari B. Castañeto (left) and Đào Thị Mộng Kiều proclaim their temporary vows.

Sisters Algen Mari B. Castañeto and Đào Thị Mộng Kiều professed temporary vows at Mercy Regional House in Iligan City on June 16. Noting that their profession's theme came from Psalm 23:6, "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life," Institute Minister Sister Virgencita "Jenjen" Alegado stated, "Truly, it is their experience of God's abundance and the inspiration of Catherine McAuley that led them to say, 'Yes' to God's call through the Mercy community."

Rubielyn Lianza Enters as a Candidate

The Welcome Ritual of Mercy Candidate Rubielyn R. Lianza also took place on June 16. In emotional remarks, Rubielyn offered “heartfelt gratitude” for her calling to God, her formation minister Sister Jean Dy Delgado and the Philippines Mercy community.



Candidate Rubielyn R. Lianza shares her gratitude with the community.