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IMCA 2026

An Official Franciscan Publication of the
Inter - Obediential Mission Course in Asia (IMCA)
Vol. 006 I S. 2026



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dell'Ordine dei Frati Minori Conventuali

IMCA 2026: ONE MISSION, MANY VOICES
MISSION IN HARMONY

This cover page presents the spirit of IMCA 2026 – the Inter-Obediential Missionary Course in Asia, a journey of encounter, fraternity, dialogue, and missionary renewal. At the centre is the powerful emblem of a globe embraced by people of different colours and cultures, gathered around the Cross. It expresses the heart of the missionary vocation: though missionaries come from different countries, cultures, languages, congregations, and traditions, they are united in Christ and sent to serve one universal mission.

Surrounding the central emblem are the nineteen participants of IMCA 2026, represented by their individual faces. Each face tells a unique story of vocation, culture, experience, and missionary commitment. Yet, their circular arrangement around the common centre expresses equality, fraternity, communion, and unity. No participant stands alone; each is connected to the others and to the common mission of Christ. Together, the nineteen faces become a visible expression of "One Mission, Many Voices."

This is why your presence here is so important. Your generosity and enthusiasm are precious gifts, but mission also requires formation. This course prepares you spiritually, culturally, humanly, and pastorally to walk respectfully among the peoples and cultures you will serve.

Above all, you are preparing to be Franciscan missionaries. Our mission is to become brothers to all, especially to the poor and forgotten, living the joy of simplicity and proclaiming Christ first through the witness of our lives. Our greatest strength is not found in resources or institutions but in authentic fraternity.Seeing Friars Minor, Conventual Franciscans, Capuchins, and brothers from other Franciscan communities learning together is already a powerful proclamation of the Gospel. Our divided world longs to see people who can pray together, love one another, and serve side by side. Eight centuries after his passage through Sister Death, Saint Francis still inspires us to walk the path of peace. Open your hearts, study with dedication, pray deeply, and learn from one another. The world is waiting—not for your achievements, but to encounter through you the tenderness, mercy, and peace of Jesus Christ.

May the Lord bless your journey.





MESSAGE FROM BR MASSIMO FUSARELLI, OFM

Minister General

Dear brothers, may the Lord give you peace.

I'm happy to greet you today, gathered at the Holy Family Retreat House in Cebu City. I thank Brother Dennis Dayo and the team for inviting me to be with you, at least through these words. You come from many countries of Asia. You come from different branches of our Franciscan family. This is already a beautiful sign. Even before the course begins, the fact that you are together says something true. We all are brothers. The theme of your course speaks of pilgrims of hope. I would like to say a few simple words about this. A pilgrim is a person who walks. He walks slowly. He meets people on the road. He listens. He learns. And when he arrives, he is not the same person who started the journey. In these two months, I invite you to walk like this, also with each other. Let your brothers from other countries and other obediences change you a little. This is already mission. And what is hope? Hope is not the same as being optimistic. To be optimistic means to think that everything will go well. Hope is different. Hope says God is faithful, also when life is hard. God is faithful. Asia knows hard things. Your churches, your local churches, are often small. Sometimes you are from the center. You are far from the center of attention. Sometimes you have very little, and yet the gospel is alive in Asia in a fresh way. You are not at the margins. You are where the Holy Spirit is doing something new. This year, we remember 800 years from the death of Saint Francis. Francis died singing. He died blessing his brothers. He died in peace. This is what our life as friar minor wants to become. A life that at the end can sing. Not because life was easy, but because we gave it to God and to others. So in this week, I ask you three simple things. First, study with an open heart. Listen to the teachers, but listen also to one another. Second, listen to Asia. Listen to your peoples, your religions, the young, the poor, the families. Do not bring ready answers from outside. Let Asia teach you how to be a Franciscan in Asia today. Third, build brotherhood across the obediences. The world does not need our divisions. The world needs to see brothers who come from different traditions, sit at the same table, pray together and are sent together.Beautiful. I will pray for you during these two months. Please, pray also for me. I will be pilgrim the next weeks in Africa and this will be a very important time for me in my ministry. And please, pray for the whole Franciscan family. May Saint Francis and Saint Clare walk with you.

Pace e bene.



MESSAGE FROM BR ROBERTO GENUIN, OFM CAP

Minister General

Peace and all good, dear brothers.

With a heart full of gratitude to the Lord and great hope, I am happy to greet you at the beginning of this new Inter-Franciscan Missionary Course. As I think of you, I see this course as a sign of the future of our vocation and of the missionary heart of the Church.

You begin this journey during a special year of grace. In 2026, we celebrate the 800th anniversary of the passing of our Seraphic Father, Saint Francis of Assisi. This anniversary is not simply a remembrance of the past, but a celebration of a living legacy. Francis did not die in 1226; his spirit continues to live in all those who generously answer God's call with a joyful, "Here I am."

Saint Francis transformed the meaning of mission. At a time when encounters with other peoples were often marked by conflict and conquest, he proposed a different path—the way of minority, peace, fraternity, humble witness, and respectful dialogue. His encounter with the Sultan remains a lasting reminder that mission is not about imposing the truth but about offering the witness of a Gospel-shaped life.

This is why your presence here is so important. Your generosity and enthusiasm are precious gifts, but mission also requires formation. This course prepares you spiritually, culturally, humanly, and pastorally to walk respectfully among the peoples and cultures you will serve.

Above all, you are preparing to be Franciscan missionaries. Our mission is to become brothers to all, especially to the poor and forgotten, living the joy of simplicity and proclaiming Christ first through the witness of our lives. Our greatest strength is not found in resources or institutions but in authentic fraternity.Seeing Friars Minor, Conventual Franciscans, Capuchins, and brothers from other Franciscan communities learning together is already a powerful proclamation of the Gospel. Our divided world longs to see people who can pray together, love one another, and serve side by side. Eight centuries after his passage through Sister Death, Saint Francis still inspires us to walk the path of peace. Open your hearts, study with dedication, pray deeply, and learn from one another. The world is waiting—not for your achievements, but to encounter through you the tenderness, mercy, and peace of Jesus Christ.

May the Lord bless your journey.

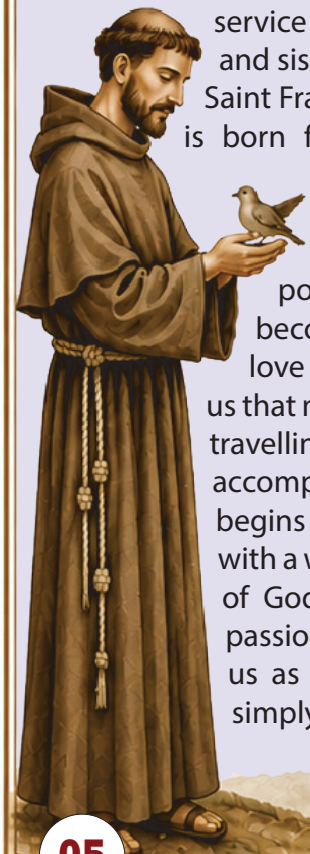


MESSAGE FROM CARLOS A. TROVARELLI, OFM CONV

Minister General

Dear Brothers,

We are truly living in a time of grace. As the Church celebrates the Jubilee Year under the theme Pilgrims of Hope, we also commemorate the 800th anniversary of the Transitus of Saint Francis of Assisi. This providential coincidence invites us to deepen our vocation and renew our missionary commitment. As we remember the final moments of the life of our Seraphic Father, we rediscover a man who remained faithful to the Gospel until his last breath, embracing Christ with joy and making his entire life a mission in the service of God and of all his brothers and sisters.



Saint Francis teaches us that mission is born from a personal encounter with Jesus Christ. Only those who have experienced the transforming power of God's love can become joyful witnesses of that love in the world. His life reminds us that mission is not first of all about travelling to distant places or accomplishing great works. Mission begins with conversion of heart, with a willingness to be instruments of God's peace, mercy, and compassion wherever we are sent.For us as Friars Minor, mission is not simply one ministry among many others.

It is the very heart of our Franciscan vocation. We are called to live the Gospel with simplicity, humility, and joy, bringing hope to those who are discouraged, peace where there is conflict, and fraternity where there is division. Every encounter becomes an opportunity to reveal the loving presence of Christ.

This calling is especially meaningful in Asia, a continent rich in peoples, cultures, languages, and religious traditions. Here we are invited not to dominate or impose, but to accompany, to listen with respect, to engage in sincere dialogue, and to walk humbly with others. Our Franciscan witness becomes credible when people encounter in us brothers who are close to everyone, especially the poor, the forgotten, and those who long for hope. I pray that this time of formation will deepen your love for Christ, strengthen your missionary zeal, and renew your commitment to our Franciscan charism. May these days help you grow not only in knowledge but also in fraternity, prayer, and service, so that together you may become authentic Pilgrims of Hope and joyful builders of peace and fraternity in the Church and throughout the world.

May Saint Francis of Assisi accompany you on this journey, and may the Holy Spirit guide and strengthen you each day.





MESSAGE FROM
BR FRANCISCO GÓMEZ VARGAS, OFM (COLUMBIA)

GENERAL SECRETARY FOR MISSIONS & EVANGELIZATION

Dear Missionaries of the Franciscan Family,

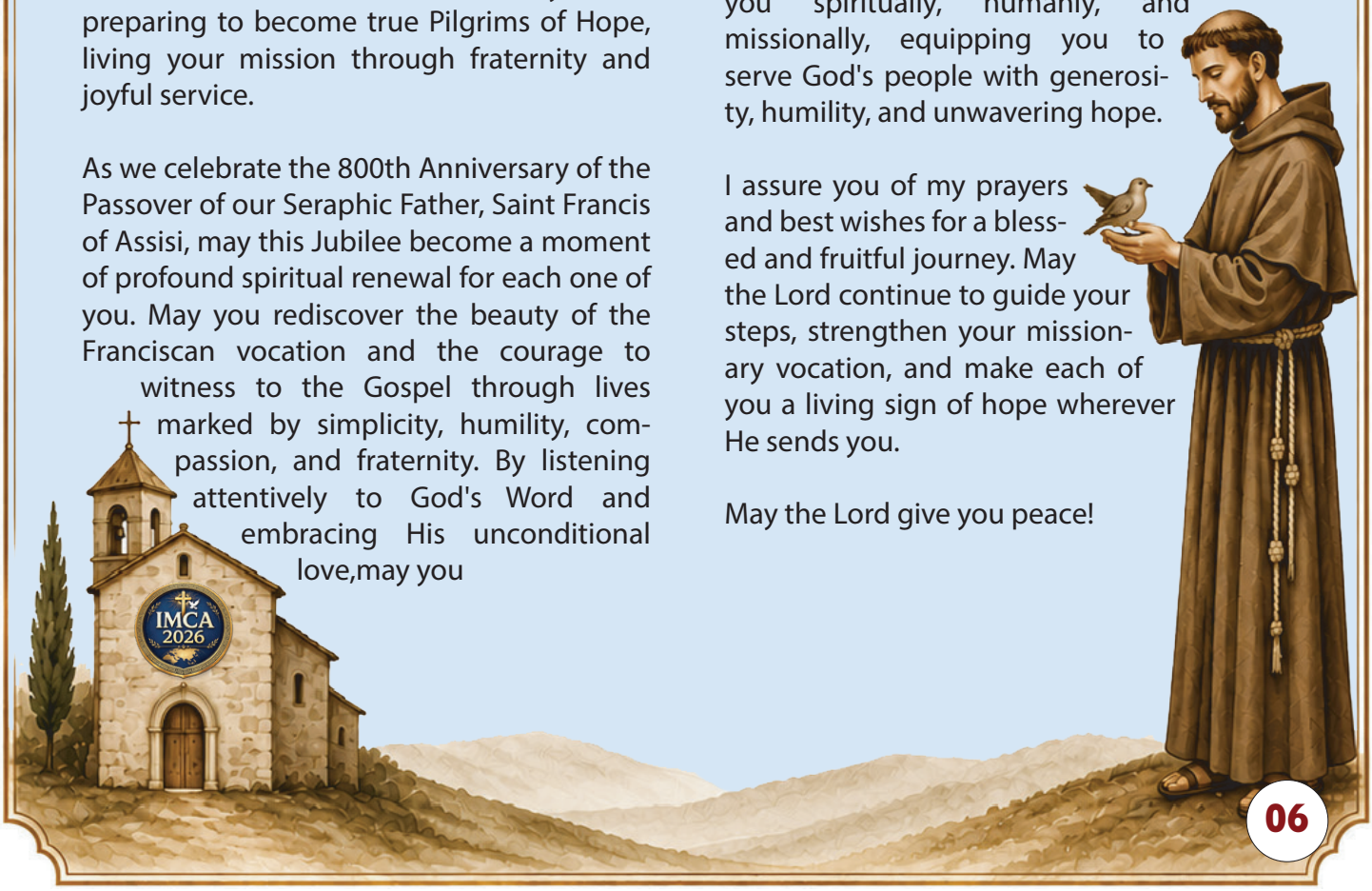
It is with great joy that I welcome you as you begin this IMCA, a privileged time of formation, discernment, and missionary renewal. This gathering is much more than a course; it is a grace-filled opportunity to deepen your relationship with Christ, strengthen your Franciscan identity, and renew your commitment to the mission entrusted to us by the Church. It is a source of hope to know that, inspired by the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the charism of Saint Francis of Assisi, you are preparing to become true Pilgrims of Hope, living your mission through fraternity and joyful service.

As we celebrate the 800th Anniversary of the Passover of our Seraphic Father, Saint Francis of Assisi, may this Jubilee become a moment of profound spiritual renewal for each one of you. May you rediscover the beauty of the Franciscan vocation and the courage to witness to the Gospel through lives marked by simplicity, humility, compassion, and fraternity. By listening attentively to God's Word and embracing His unconditional love,may you become instruments of peace and reconciliation in a world wounded by division, violence, injustice, and indifference.Following the example of Saint Francis, may you draw close to the poor, care for our common home, and joyfully proclaim the Father's love, the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and the renewing power of the Holy Spirit.

During these days of prayer, study, reflection, and shared experiences, I encourage you to learn from one another, appreciate the richness of your different cultures, and strengthen the bonds of fraternity that unite us as one Franciscan family. May this experience enrich you spiritually, humanly, and missionally, equipping you to serve God's people with generosity, humility, and unwavering hope.

I assure you of my prayers and best wishes for a blessed and fruitful journey. May the Lord continue to guide your steps, strengthen your missionary vocation, and make each of you a living sign of hope wherever He sends you.

May the Lord give you peace!



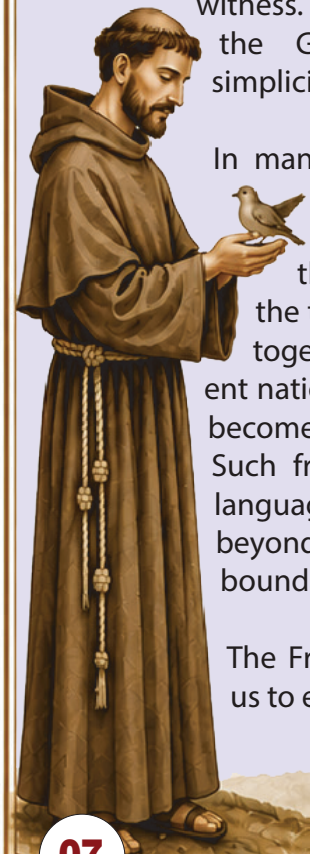


MESSAGE FROM
BR MARIOSVALDO FLORENTINO, OFMCAP (BRAZIL)

GENERAL SECRETARY FOR MISSIONARY EVANGELIZATION

Asia is a continent of extraordinary diversity—a cradle of ancient spiritual traditions, rapidly developing cities, and vast human peripheries. During the Inter-Franciscan Mission Course in Asia (IMCA), we were invited to reflect on a fundamental question: What does it mean to proclaim the Gospel in Asia according to the Franciscan spirit?

The course made one truth abundantly clear: the strength of the Franciscan mission does not lie in impressive structures or elaborate strategies, but in the authenticity of our witness. Mission begins with living the Gospel through fraternity, simplicity, and humble service.



In many parts of Asia, where Christians are a small minority, our first proclamation is not through words but through the testimony of our lives. Living together as brothers from different nations, cultures, and languages becomes a visible sign of the Gospel. Such fraternity speaks a universal language that is understood beyond religious and cultural boundaries.

The Franciscan vocation also calls us to embrace minority.

Following the example of Saint Francis, we are invited to walk alongside the poor and marginalized, not as those who possess all the answers, but as brothers willing to listen, learn, and share life. Genuine evangelization begins with respect, humility, and compassionate presence.

Asia's rich religious heritage—Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, and many other traditions—offers a unique opportunity for dialogue. Inspired by Saint Francis' encounter with the Sultan, the Franciscan missionary is called to build bridges of understanding, collaborate in promoting justice and peace, and recognize God's presence already at work in every culture.

The IMCA experience reaffirmed that the Franciscan charism remains profoundly relevant today. Whether serving in a bustling metropolis or a remote village, our mission is to radiate the love of Christ through lives of peace, fraternity, humility, and joyful hope, making the Gospel visible by the way we live.

May the Lord give you Peace!





MESSAGE FROM BR DARIUSZ ROBERT MAZUREK, OFM CONV (POLAND)

SECRETARY GENERAL FOR MISSION ANIMATION

MISSIONARY LIKE A MOBILE PHONE!

Dear Brothers,

The inter-Franciscan course for missionaries in Asia began on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity. On that day, we listened to the Gospel according to Saint John, which reminds us that God so loved the world that He sent His Son. This Word is especially providential for us, as it reveals Jesus Christ as the first and perfect Missionary — the One sent by the Father to make His love known to the world.

In Christ, we see the One who brings the Father's message, and it is the Holy Spirit who enables us to receive and understand this message. In this light, each of us participating in the course is invited to rediscover our missionary vocation: to be sent in order to proclaim the Good News of God's love.

We can use a simple image from our daily life. Every missionary is like a mobile phone — a tool for transmitting a message. However, we know well that if a phone is not charged, it cannot fulfill its purpose. That is why this course is also a time to "recharge our spiritual batteries," to renew within us God's grace and missionary zeal.

Just as a phone needs updates, we too need ongoing formation. The lectures and sessions we attend help us to "update" our missionary knowledge and sensitivity, so that we may better respond to the needs of the people and situations to which we are sent.

We are missionaries — those entrusted with carrying the Father's message to the world: that God has loved everyone in Jesus Christ. May this course help us to embrace this mission more fully.



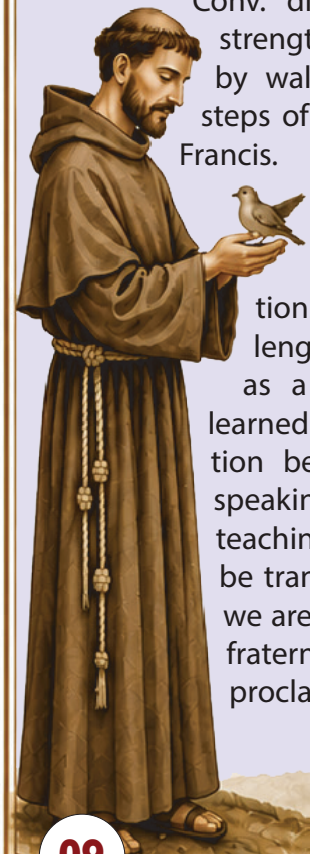


MESSAGE FROM BR DENNIS T. TAYO, OFM (PHILIPPINES)

GENERAL ANIMATOR FOR MISSIONS IMCA 2026

Beginning Again: Pilgrims of Hope in Asia
"Let us begin again, brothers, for up to now we have done little or nothing."
- St. Francis of Assisi

Accompanying the eight-week Inter-obediential Mission Course in Asia has been a profound grace. Under the theme, "Sent as Pilgrims of Hope in Asia: Living the Franciscan Jubilee in Mission and Fraternity," I witnessed far more than a formation program. I witnessed a pilgrimage of hearts, where brothers of the OFM, OFM Cap., and OFM Conv. discovered that fraternity is strengthened not by sameness but by walking together in the footsteps of Christ after the example of Francis.



Asia became both our classroom and our teacher. Its rich cultures, religious traditions, struggles, and hopes challenged us to rediscover mission as a ministry of presence. We learned that authentic evangelization begins with listening before speaking, accompanying before teaching, and allowing ourselves to be transformed by those to whom we are sent. In this shared journey, fraternity itself became our first proclamation of the Gospel.

This experience has taken on deeper meaning as the Church celebrates the Jubilee Year of Hope and the Franciscan Family commemorates the 800th Anniversary of the Transitus of St. Francis. His Transitus was not simply the end of a holy life, but the joyful fulfillment of one totally conformed to Christ. It continues to invite every Franciscan to journey from self to God, from division to communion, and from comfort to mission.

As these brothers return to their missions, my hope is that this journey will become a way of life. The most fitting way to celebrate the Transitus is not merely to remember Francis, but to imitate him. If, we dare to "begin again" each day, then our lives, too, will become a living transitus: a continual passage from self to God, from isolation to fraternity, from complacency to mission, and from merely proclaiming the Gospel to becoming the Gospel we proclaim.

May God give you peace!





MESSAGE FROM BR DANIEL D. BORROMEO, OFM (PHILIPPINES)

OFM ANIMATOR, IMCA 2026

Mission of Hope: Living the Franciscan Charism in Asia

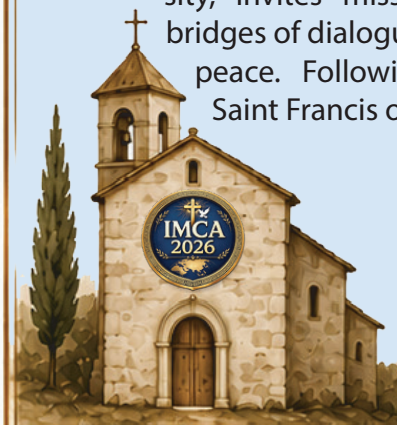
The 2026 Inter-Obediential Mission Course in Asia (IMCA), held in Cebu, Philippines, is a profound journey of faith, fraternity, and missionary formation, inspired by the Jubilee theme Spes Non Confundit (Romans 5:5): "Hope does not disappoint." More than a formation programme, it is a grace-filled encounter that brings together Friars Minor, Capuchins, and Conventual Franciscans to deepen inter-obediential collaboration while celebrating the richness of our shared Franciscan charism. United by one Gospel and one Franciscan spirit, we are renewed in our common mission of proclaiming Christ to the peoples of Asia.

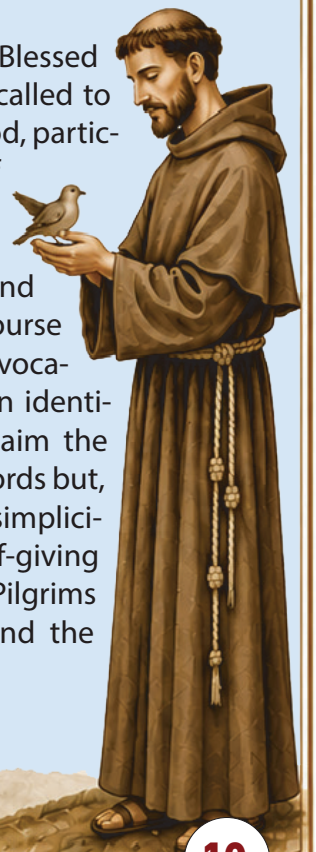
In today's rapidly changing world, mission is proclaimed not merely through words but, above all, through compassionate presence, humble service, joyful witness, and authentic fraternity.

Asia, with its rich cultural and religious diversity, invites missionaries to become bridges of dialogue, reconciliation, and peace. Following the example of Saint Francis of Assisi, we are called to become instruments of God's mercy, builders of fraternity, and bearers of hope among the poor, the marginalized, and all who long for meaning and healing.

As we journey together during this course, we manifest the living presence of Christ through lives rooted in prayer, mutual respect, attentive listening, and generous service. Every encounter becomes an opportunity to reveal God's unconditional love and to foster communion among peoples of different cultures and traditions. Saint Francis reminds us that our footsteps should leave the imprint of Christ's love wherever we go, inviting others to experience the joy of the Gospel.

Echoing the vision of the Blessed John Duns Scotus, we are called to become "co-lovers" with God, participating in His work of reconciliation and renewal through lives marked by compassion, humility, and fraternity. May this course strengthen our missionary vocation, deepen our Franciscan identity, and inspire us to proclaim the Gospel not only with our words but, above all, through lives of simplicity, joyful presence, and self-giving love, becoming authentic Pilgrims of Hope for the Church and the world.







MESSAGE FROM BR URIEL MA. SANTOS, OFM CONV (PHILIPPINES)

OFM CONV ANIMATOR, IMCA 2026

This is my second time in Cebu and my second opportunity to serve as an animator of the Inter-Obediential Mission Course in Asia (IMCA). Returning to this beautiful place fills my heart with gratitude, as it reminds me of the countless blessings, friendships, and missionary experiences that have shaped my Franciscan vocation. What once began as a simple invitation has now become a profound journey of faith, fraternity, and missionary renewal.

Being part of this missionary formation has been one of the greatest blessings of my life. I am deeply grateful to God for the privilege of accompanying brothers from the Friars Minor, Capuchins, and Conventual Franciscans, representing different countries, cultures, and languages across Asia. Although we come from diverse backgrounds, we are united by one Gospel, one Franciscan charism, and one mission—to proclaim Christ with simplicity, humility, and joy.



Throughout this course, I have discovered once again that mission begins not with grand plans or impressive achievements but with listening, welcoming, understanding, and walking together as brothers.

Every conversation, every prayer, every shared meal, every cultural exchange, and every moment of fraternity has become an opportunity to experience the living presence of Christ. These encounters have deepened my appreciation for the richness of our Franciscan family and reminded me that authentic evangelization begins with the witness of our lives.

Serving as an animator has enriched not only my missionary ministry but also my personal vocation as a Franciscan. It has challenged me to grow in patience, openness, humility, and generosity while inspiring me to become a more faithful servant of the Gospel. The friendships we have formed, the moments of reflection and prayer we have shared, and the missionary dreams we now carry together will remain treasured memories throughout my life.

With a heart full of thanksgiving, I entrust this journey to the Lord. May He continue to guide my steps and strengthen me to serve the Church with humility, joy, and unwavering hope. May the spirit of Saint Francis and Saint Clare inspire all of us to become true Pilgrims of Hope, radiating peace, fraternity, and the joy of the Gospel wherever we are sent.





MESSAGE FROM BR P. STEPHEN DSOUZA, OFM CAP (INDIA)

OFM CAP ANIMATOR, IMCA 2026

It was one of the greatest God's blessings of my life to serve as one of the animators of the Inter-Obediential Mission Course in Asia (IMCA) 2026. I am deeply grateful to the Lord for this unique opportunity to journey with missionaries from across Asia and to witness the beauty of our shared Franciscan vocation.

My sincere gratitude goes to Roberto Genuin, Minister General of the OFM Cap., Br Mariovaldo Florentino, Secretary for Missions and Evangelization of the OFM Cap., and to Br Dennis Tayo, OFM, the General Animator of IMCA 2026, for their trust and for entrusting me with this responsibility. I am equally thankful to Br Robin Victor D'Souza, Provincial Minister of Holy Trinity Province, Karnataka, India, for granting me permission to be part of the animation team and to serve the wider Franciscan family.

This Jubilee Year, as we commemorate the 800th anniversary of the Transitus of Saint Francis of Assisi, has made this experience even more meaningful. It has renewed my missionary zeal and reminded me that authentic mission begins with fraternity, humble service, and joyful witness. Walking together with brothers from different Franciscan Orders and cultures has strengthened my conviction that our diversity is a gift, and our unity is our greatest witness to the Gospel. Throughout this course, I had the privilege of accompanying missionaries from different countries, each bringing unique experiences, traditions, and pastoral insights. Our moments of prayer, reflection, study, dialogue, and cultural exchange became powerful reminders that the Franciscan charism transcends borders, languages, and cultures. Every encounter enriched my own vocation and deepened my appreciation for the beauty of intercultural fraternity.

Serving as an animator has also challenged me to grow in patience, openness, humility, and attentive listening. It reminded me that true leadership in the Franciscan tradition is rooted in service, encouraging others, and walking together as brothers. I return home with a heart full of gratitude, renewed hope, and a deeper commitment to missionary discipleship.

May the spirit of Saint Francis of Assisi continue to inspire all of us to become faithful instruments of peace, fraternity, and hope. May the Lord bless everyone who contributed to the success of IMCA 2026, and may our shared missionary journey continue to bear abundant fruit for the Church and the world.



WEEK 1
INTRODUCTION & ORIENTATION

Br Bruce Norman Paul Baclor, OFM Cap (PHILIPPINES)

"Go into all the world and proclaim the Gospel." (Mark 16:15)

As I begin the Inter-Obediential Missionary Course Asia (IMCA) 2026, I find myself reflecting deeply on God's invitation to leave behind what is familiar and embrace the wider horizon of mission. Jesus' command to "go into all the world and proclaim the Gospel" is not simply a missionary mandate; it is a personal invitation to entrust myself more fully to God's providence and become a living witness of His love wherever He sends me. It reminds me that mission begins with openness to God's will and the courage to step beyond my comfort zone. These first days of the course have been both inspiring and enriching. Listening to the presentations of brothers from the different Franciscan obediences and various mission territories has filled me with admiration and gratitude. Every brother carries a unique story of vocation, sacrifice, fraternity, and apostolic service. Although we come from different cultures, languages, and backgrounds, I recognize the same Franciscan spirit that unites us—a shared desire to follow Christ faithfully and make Him known through lives of simplicity, humility, and joyful service.

As I reflect on why I feel called to mission beyond my homeland, I realize that my missionary vocation is rooted in gratitude and love. I have experienced God's abundant blessings throughout my life, and I feel compelled to share that love with others. The Gospel challenges me to cross boundaries, encounter new peoples and cultures, and discover Christ already present in those I meet. Mission is not merely about travelling to distant places; it is about becoming available to God and allowing Him to work through me.

I entered this course hoping to understand missionary realities more deeply, strengthen my intercultural awareness, and grow in fraternity with brothers from across Asia and the Pacific. At the same time, I desire an inner transformation—a heart that listens more attentively, trusts more completely, and serves more generously. One question remains in my heart: Will I always be ready for the challenges and uncertainties that mission may bring? Yet my hope is greater than my fear. I firmly believe that the God who calls also gives the grace to persevere. Through prayer, fraternity, and ongoing formation, He continues to prepare us for the mission entrusted to us.

As we journey together in IMCA 2026, I pray that the Holy Spirit will guide and strengthen each one of us. May this experience become a true Pentecost, renewing our missionary zeal.







WEEK 1

VISIT TO NALUSUAN ISLAND

BR ABI CHEERAN, OFM CONV (INDIA)

"How good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell together in unity!" (Psalm 133:1)

Our journey to Nalusuan Island on Saturday was much more than a day of travel and recreation; it became a beautiful experience of fraternity, service, and God's abundant grace. We began our day by celebrating the Holy Eucharist, entrusting our journey into the loving hands of the Lord. Just as Jesus sent His disciples out together, we too set out as brothers united by a common purpose—to grow closer to one another, deepen our communion, and strengthen the bonds of our Franciscan family. Before our departure, we had organized ourselves into three groups: the Liturgy Group, the Documentation Group, and the Social and Preparatory Group.

Each group was entrusted with specific responsibilities, including preparing materials and carrying our belongings for the trip. What deeply impressed me was that, as we transferred everything from the shore to the boats, no one remained limited to his assigned task. Everyone willingly helped one another with joy and generosity. It was a living witness that true fraternity transcends roles and responsibilities, and that humble service unites hearts far more than any division can separate them.

The one-hour boat ride across the sea became a moment of quiet reflection. Watching the gentle waves reminded me that life itself is a journey guided by God's providence. Just as the boat carried us safely to our destination, God continually leads us through the uncertainties of life. We are never called to walk alone but to accompany one another, sharing both our burdens and our joys as brothers.

The games and recreational activities allowed us to know one another more deeply. Playing volleyball in the sea was more than simple entertainment; it reflected the Franciscan spirit of simplicity, joy, and fraternity. St. Francis of Assisi reminds us that genuine happiness is found not in possessions or achievements but in living as brothers, rejoicing in God's creation, and delighting in one another's presence.

This memorable journey helped us discover the unique gifts and goodness present in each brother. It reminded us that fraternity is built not only through prayer and ministry but also through shared experiences, mutual service, joyful laughter, and genuine friendship. As we reflect on our day at Nalusuan Island, we give thanks to God for drawing us closer to Him and to one another. May the memories of this journey continue to inspire us.



















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Inter-Obediential Mission Course in Asia






NALUSUAN





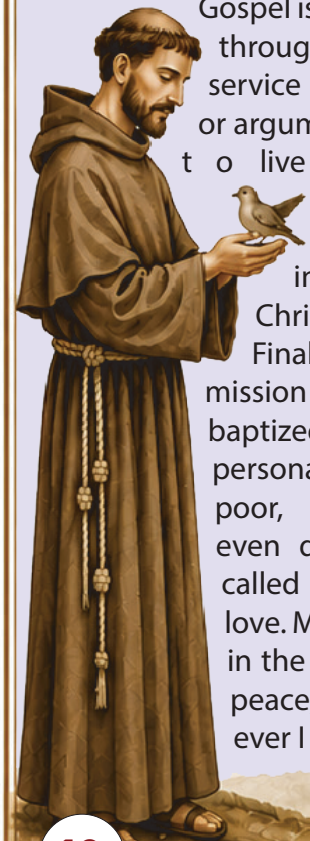
WEEK 2
BASICS OF MISSIOLOGY



Br Benedetto Benno,OFM Cap (INDONESIA)

After reflecting on the nature and mission of the Church, I realize that being a missionary is not simply about preaching with words but about witnessing to Christ through my entire life. The study of missiology has helped me understand that mission requires prayer, discernment, respect for cultures, and a deep love for the people I serve.

As a Franciscan missionary, I am inspired by St. Francis of Assisi, who chose humility, simplicity, and peace as the path of evangelization. His example reminds me that the Gospel is proclaimed most effectively through presence, fraternity, and service rather than through power or argument. Like Francis, I am called to live among people as a brother, especially among the poor and marginalized, reflecting the compassionate face of Christ.



Finally, I am reminded that mission is the responsibility of every baptized person. Whether through personal witness, service to the poor, interreligious dialogue, or even digital evangelization, I am called to be a living sign of God's love. May I continue to follow Christ in the spirit of St. Francis, bringing peace, hope, and fraternity wherever I am sent.

I must first allow the Gospel to transform my own "leprous places" — my fears, selfishness, and resistance to love.

The certainty of death is not a cause for fear but an invitation to live each day with greater purpose and love. Remembering that my life is temporary helps me focus on what truly matters: following Christ, serving others, and preparing my heart for the final encounter with the Father. Death, which St. Francis called "Sister Bodily Death," becomes not an end but a passage to eternal life.

St. Francis's Transitus shows that the greatest missionary sermon is not preached with words but with one's life. His simplicity, joy, peace, and trust in God even at the moment of death continue to inspire me. I am called to live in such a way that my entire life becomes a witness to the Gospel.

This Jubilee of the 800th Anniversary of the death of St. Francis invites me to renew my vocation: to live as a brother of peace, to love without delay, to embrace the poor and forgotten, and to walk each day toward God with confidence. Remembering death helps me live fully today, and living fully in Christ prepares me for eternal life.

"The missionary's task is to live every day as a gift of love, so that when the final hour comes, he may enter the Father's arms with joy and bring many others with him."

Pace e Bene!



WEEK 2
VISIT TO THE SACRED HEART CHILDREN'S HOME

Br Tijo Vellachalil, OFM Conv (INDIA)

The Feast of Saint Anthony of Padua was celebrated beautifully at the Order of Friars Minor Provincial House, and it became a deeply meaningful experience of faith, fraternity, and mission for me. The celebration itself reminded me that the saints continue to inspire us to live our lives rooted in humility, charity, and complete trust in God. Saint Anthony, known for his love for the poor and his powerful witness to the Gospel, once again invited us to reflect on what it means to become instruments of God's love in the world.

As part of this joyful occasion, we had the opportunity to visit the Sacred Heart Children's Home run by the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart in Cebu City. This visit became much more than a simple gathering; it turned into an encounter with Christ presents in the little ones. The sisters welcomed us with great warmth and love, treating us not as visitors, but as members of their own family. Their hospitality reflected the Gospel truth that authentic Christian love always creates communion.

Observing the life and service of the sisters there was deeply moving. They are carrying out a truly beautiful missionary vocation. The way they care for the children revealed the heart of true discipleship. They do not simply provide shelter and care, but they embrace these children as their own. In them, I could see the living example of Christ's words: "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Their mission reminded me that genuine service is not about doing great things for recognition, but about loving others with the tenderness of God.

The children themselves became silent teachers for us. They welcomed us with innocent joy and pure hearts. We spent time with them, sharing love, conversation, and presence. They danced with happiness, sang songs beautifully, prayed together with us, and allowed us to participate in their joy.

We tried to encourage them, but in many ways, they encouraged us even more. Their simplicity reminded me that the Kingdom of God truly belongs to those who possess childlike hearts.

We were also blessed by the wonderful hospitality they offered us. With all these experiences, I realized that the Christian vocation is not simply about prayer or ministry alone, but about becoming living witnesses of God's love through fraternity, service, and compassion. May this experience continue to inspire me to serve others.








ABOUT OUR MISSION AREA


OFM- OFMConv- OFMCap- TOR


OFM-OFMConv- OFMCap- TOR


FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF THE SACRED HEARTS
200 Years Death Anniversary
Servant Of God
Father Simpliciano of the Nativity, OFM
Founder of the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Hearts
JUBILEE YEAR OF
SAINT
FRANCIS
2026 Inter-Obediential Mission Course in Asia
Segretariati di Evangelizzazione e Missione


NO SMOKING




MAY WE ALWAYS BE TO
YOU
WHAT GOD WOULD HAVE


Visitors!










Segretariati di Evangelizzazione e Missione

LIFE IS A CALLING, NOT JUST A CHOICE

"You were not made to be famous, but to be faithful."
— God

THE WORLD OF THE PAST

Simple life.
We are grateful for what we have.

Strong community.
People knew one another, shared life, and helped each other.

Peaceful living.
Limited information, yet hearts were often more present and peaceful.

THE WORLD OF TODAY

Unlimited choices.
Countless lifestyles, endless trends, and instant access to everything.

Always connected.
Connected to thousands online, yet many still feel lonely.

Freedom of expression.
Social media gives everyone a voice—but it can also trap us in comparison, pride, and false identities.

The world has changed. Technology keeps advancing. Life is different.

Is the Franciscan vocation still relevant today?

THE VOICE OF THE WORLD

Enjoy life! Freedom means doing whatever you want. Chase success, popularity, followers, and personal happiness.

THE VOICE OF THE HEART

True freedom is not doing everything we desire. True freedom is choosing what is good, true, and life-giving—for ourselves and for others.

THE DIGITAL WORLD: A GIFT OR A CHALLENGE?

OPPORTUNITIES

- Share the Gospel with the world.
- Learn, grow, and build meaningful relationships.
- Inspire others with kindness and hope.

CHALLENGES

- Digital addiction.
- Constant comparison.
- Loss of silence and real human connection.
- Fake news and harmful content.

FAKE NEWS

A FRANCISCAN RESPONSE

- Use technology wisely.
- Create more than consume.
- Choose truth over popularity.
- Make time for prayer, silence, and authentic relationships.

THE FRANCISCAN MISSION OF THE FUTURE

Bring peace to a restless world.

Live simply in a culture of excess.

Care for creation as our common home.

Use digital media to proclaim the Gospel with humility and joy.

Build communities where everyone is welcomed, especially the poor, the forgotten, and those on the margins.

Be witnesses of hope—not merely influencers.

FINAL REFLECTION

The future does not need more famous people.
It needs more faithful people.
The Franciscan mission is not to escape the digital world, but to bring the light of Christ into it—with simplicity, fraternity, compassion, and hope.

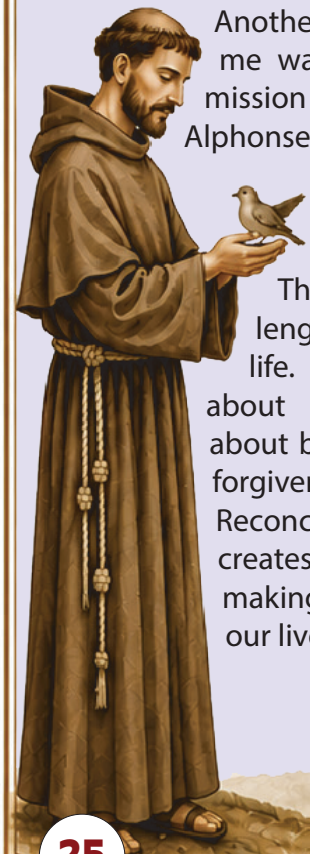
PAX ET BON



WEEK 3
EVANGELIZATION IN ASIA

Br James Jeric Quintas, OFM Cap
(SRILANKA)

The third week of IMCA 2026 was a grace-filled journey of learning and reflection. Through Fr. Alphonse's sessions on Ecclesia in Asia, I came to see mission from a deeper perspective. One sentence that remained in my heart was the words of St. John Paul II: "You are sent to the Holy Land, not the barren land." These words reminded me that no place or person is empty of God's presence. Every culture, every community, and every human heart is already touched by God. As missionaries, we are called to recognize His presence and joyfully share the Good News.



Another theme that deeply touched me was the connection between mission and reconciliation. Fr. Alphonse said, "Where there is no reconciliation, there is no relationship."

These simple words challenged me to examine my own life. Evangelization is not only about preaching Christ but also about becoming a bridge of peace, forgiveness, and unity.

Reconciliation opens hearts and creates genuine relationships, making the Gospel visible through our lives.

The image of the wounded healer also inspired me. God does not call perfect people to mission. Instead, He works through our weaknesses and woundedness to bring healing and hope to others. This encouraged me to trust more in God's grace than in my own strength.

These reflections became even more meaningful because they were lived in our IMCA community. For two months, brothers from the three branches of the Franciscan family and from five different nations have shared one community. We have prayed together, learned together, shared our cultures, and supported one another. Despite our different languages, traditions, and experiences, we have grown as brothers. This has shown me that fraternity itself is a powerful form of evangelization. Our unity in diversity is a living witness to the Gospel.

This week reminded me that mission begins with the way we live with one another. Before we preach with words, we are called to witness through fraternity, respect, reconciliation, and humble service. I thank God for this enriching week and pray that these lessons help me in my mission.





WEEK 3
VISIT TO ST CLARE MONASTERY, POOR CHILDREN & TOR COMMUNITY

Br Anthony Kai, OFM (VIETNAM)

After several days of classroom sessions on the missionary mission in Asia, enriched by the inspiring reflections of Fr. Alphonsus, the participants of IMCA 2026 embarked on their third exposure program on June 20. This journey transformed our classroom learning into lived experience, revealing the many faces of mission within the Church.

Our first destination was the Monastery of St. Clare. Behind its cloistered walls, we encountered the quiet strength of contemplative life. The sisters shared how their hidden vocation of constant prayer before the Blessed Sacrament sustains missionaries throughout the world. Their joyful witness reminded us that mission is not confined to distant lands; it is also carried forward through faithful intercession. Before leaving, we exchanged stories of our cultures and missionary experiences, and the sisters blessed us with the Prayer of St. Francis, strengthening us for our own missionary journey. We then visited a school serving underprivileged children. Their radiant smiles and hopeful songs spoke more eloquently than words. Despite their limited resources, they displayed remarkable joy, reminding us of Jesus' invitation to become like little children. Through IMCA 2026, we offered notebooks, pens, school bags, and other supplies—not merely as gifts, but as signs of hope, encouraging them to continue dreaming and learning.

Our final stop brought us to a TOR mission in the highlands. A sudden downpour and the rugged mountain path made the journey challenging, yet the warm welcome of the brothers revealed the true meaning of Franciscan mission. Living simply among economically disadvantaged communities, they embody the Gospel through presence, fraternity, and humble service.

Their witness gave concrete expression to the values we had been studying throughout the course. As we returned to Holy Family Retreat House, I reflected on the day's encounters. The themes of laity, family, and young people came alive before our eyes. Christ was present in the silent prayer of the Poor Clare sisters, in the joyful laughter of children, and in the dedicated service of the TOR brothers. This experience reminded me that the Gospel continues to flourish wherever love, hope, and selfless service are lived each day.






POOR CLARE MONASTERY
PARLOR




























2026 Inter-Obediential Mission Course in Asia
6000 Cebu City, Philippines




2026 Inter-Obediential Mission Course in Asia
6000 Cebu City, Philippines
"Sent as Pilgrims of Hope in Asia:
Living the Franciscan Jubilee in Mission and Fraternity."
May 30 to July 26, 2026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EAT
PRAY
INTER-OBEDIENTIAL MISSION COURSE IN ASIA
IMCA 2026


YAMAHA




2026 Inter-Obediential Mission Course in Asia

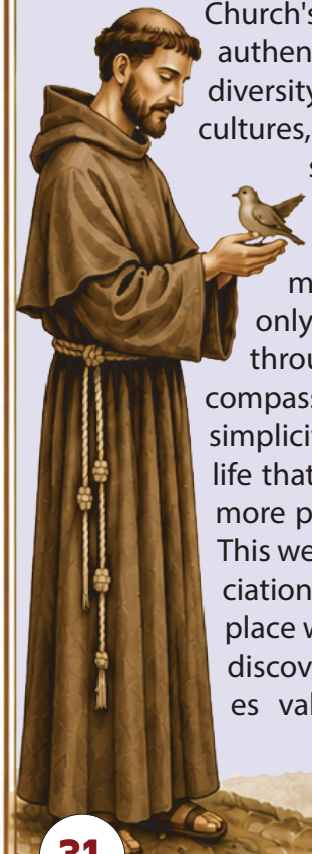


WEEK 4
MISSION & DIALOGUE

Br. Diego Viktorianus, OFM Cap
(INDONESIA)

The fourth week of the IMCA 2026 program became a deeply enriching and transformative experience that strengthened my understanding of the inseparable relationship between the Church's mission and dialogue. Throughout this formation, I realized more clearly that evangelization today is not limited to preaching or teaching. Rather, it is a vocation to build authentic relationships, listen with humility, respect the dignity of every human person, and journey together in the spirit of fraternity.

One of the most valuable lessons I received is that dialogue is not an alternative to the Church's mission but one of its most authentic expressions. In the rich diversity of Asia, where different cultures, religions, and traditions live side by side, dialogue becomes a living witness to the love of Christ. As missionaries, we are called not only to proclaim the Gospel through words but also through compassion, friendship, respect, simplicity, and generous service. A life that reflects Christ often speaks more powerfully than many words. This week also deepened my appreciation for culture as a privileged place where God's presence can be discovered. Every culture possesses values that prepare people's hearts to receive the Gospel.



Through inculturation, the Good News takes root within each culture while preserving its unique identity and richness. I learned that genuine evangelization always begins with respect, openness, and sincere appreciation for local traditions. People become more receptive to the Gospel when they first experience acceptance, understanding, and authentic Christian love.

Another important insight was the significance of interreligious dialogue. I came to understand that dialogue does not weaken Christian identity or replace the proclamation of Christ. Instead, it enriches the Church's mission by encouraging mutual respect, peaceful encounter, cooperation, and the common search for truth and justice. Through dialogue, Christians become credible witnesses who reveal God's love while honoring the dignity and beliefs of others.

I was also inspired to see diversity as God's gift rather than as a source of fear or division. Differences become opportunities for deeper conversion, spiritual growth, reconciliation, and fraternity.

This entire experience has strengthened both my theological understanding and my Capuchin vocation. It renewed my desire to become a brother who is open to dialogue, committed to building bridges among people, and dedicated to serving others with humility, simplicity, joy, and love. I sincerely pray that these lessons will become more than academic knowledge.





WEEK 4
VISIT TO MOSQUE & TEMPLE

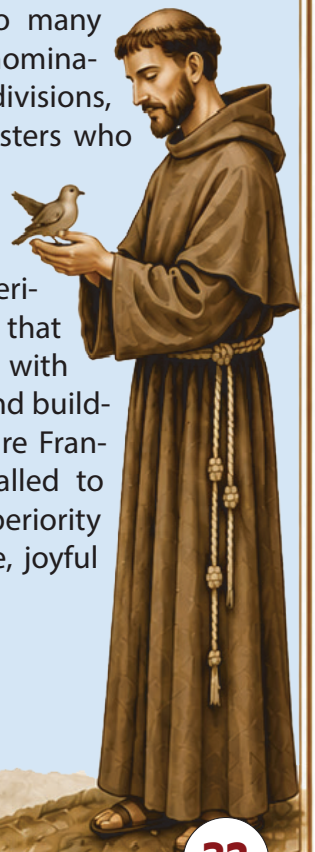
Br Peter Bui Duc Hoang, OFM (VIETNAM)

This week was a meaningful journey of encounter and dialogue. We visited a Taoist temple, where Mr. Jerry Lee introduced us to the Taoist way of life and its spiritual values. We also spent time serving in a Muslim community. We visited a Buddhist monastery, where we learned how Buddhist practice encourages people to seek enlightenment and become a light to others through compassion and wisdom. These encounters helped me appreciate the richness of different religious traditions and reminded me that every person sincerely searches for meaning, truth, and peace.

One lesson that deeply stayed with me was Bishop Barron's explanation of the Catholic Church as "the one true Church." At first, I struggled with this statement because it can easily sound as if Catholics are saying, "We are right, and everyone else is wrong." However, I came to understand that this is not what the Church teaches. Rather, the Catholic Church believes that she possesses the fullness of the truth and the fullness of the gifts Christ intended for His people. At the same time, the Church recognizes that truth, goodness, and holiness are also present in other Christian communities and in other religions. As taught by the Second Vatican Council, people who sincerely follow their conscience and seek God with a sincere heart can also receive God's saving grace.

This understanding changed the way I see dialogue. Genuine dialogue is not about proving others wrong or forcing them to become Catholic. Instead, it is about witnessing to the beauty of Christ with humility while respecting the dignity and beliefs of others. We share our faith because we have found something beautiful and life-giving, not because we condemn those who believe differently.

I also reflected on why Christians are divided. Although all Christians believe in Jesus Christ, history has brought disagreements over theology, Church authority, worship, culture, and leadership, leading to many different Churches and denominations. Yet, despite these divisions, we remain brothers and sisters who are called to continue seeking unity through truth, charity, and mutual respect. This week's experiences reminded me that mission in Asia begins with listening, understanding, and building relationships. As a future Franciscan missionary, I am called to proclaim Christ not with superiority but with humility, dialogue, joyful witness, and love.




MOSAIC























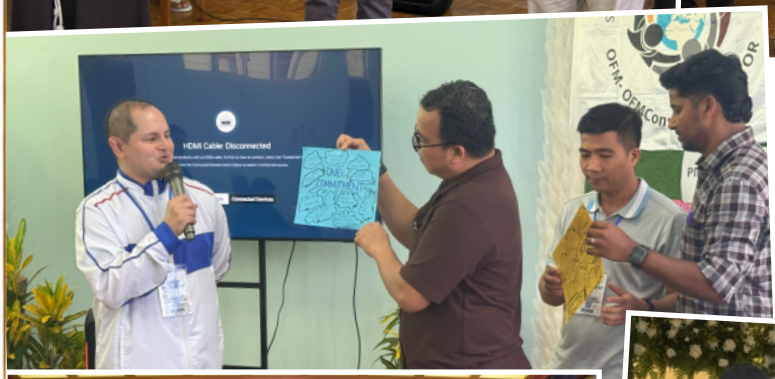







AGAPE

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Segretariato di Evangelizzazione e Missione
OFM- OFMCap- TOR

WEEK 5
MISSION & INCULTURATION



Br Jerrin Joby, OFM Cap
(INDIA)

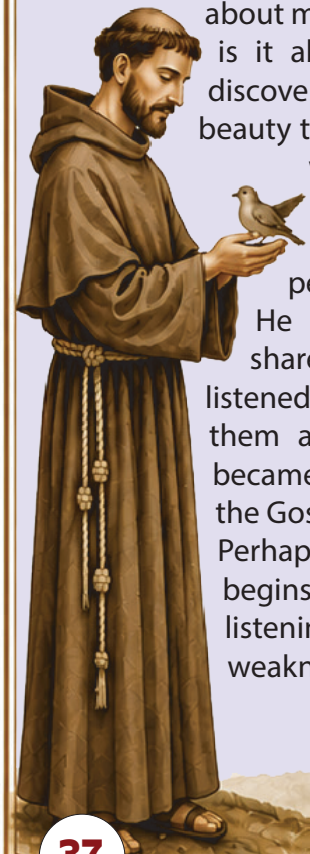
A garden is beautiful not because every flower looks the same, but because each one blooms in its own way. The jasmine spreads its fragrance, the sunflower follows the light, and the lily blossoms in quiet beauty. None competes with the other; together they reveal the wisdom of the gardener. Perhaps God's Kingdom is much like that garden, where diversity is not a problem to be solved but a gift to be cherished.

This simple image became a lens through which the meaning of mission appeared in a new light. It gently questioned a common understanding of evangelization. Is mission about making everyone the same, or is it about helping every person discover Christ without losing the beauty that God has already planted within them? The life of Jesus offers the answer. He never began by asking people to become different. He first entered their lives, shared their joys and sorrows, listened to their stories, and loved them as they were. His presence became the first proclamation of the Gospel.

Perhaps every missionary journey begins not with speaking but with listening. Listening is not a sign of weakness; hearts begin to open, and the Gospel finds a place to take root. Mission is no longer about standing above others but about walking beside them with humility and hope.

Every culture carries its own beauty and wisdom. The songs of a village, the reverence shown to elders, the quiet faith expressed in family prayers, and the simple celebrations of ordinary people all reveal a longing for God. The Gospel does not erase these treasures; it purifies, enriches, and gives them new life. Like a seed planted in different kinds of soil, it grows in different ways while remaining the same Gospel of Christ. The Church becomes truly alive when faith speaks to people through the language, symbols, and traditions that are close to their hearts.

In many Asian homes, the image of Mary occupies a simple but special place. People turn to her with confidence because they see in her the tenderness of a mother who understands their joys and struggles. She never sought recognition for herself but quietly pointed everyone to her Son. Her life reminds us that the greatest mission begins with listening to God. Before carrying Christ to others, Mary first welcomed Him into her own heart. Her silent "yes" continues to inspire every disciple to become a humble bearer of Christ in the world. The same spirit is beautifully reflected in the life of St. Francis of Assisi.







WEEK 5
MARIAN PILGRIMAGE

Br Anthony Nhan, OFM
(VIETNAM)

The healing of both body and soul through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a profound witness to the living faith of God's people. During this past week, as we reflected with Fr. Mark Anthony on mission and evangelization in Asia through the teachings of the FABC and the Bangkok Document, one theme deeply touched my heart: the unique role of Mary in the Church's mission across Asia.

Throughout Asia, Mary is honored in many cultural forms, yet every image reveals the same qualities of holiness, compassion, and maternal love. Fr. Mark introduced us to Marian devotions in India, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam, reminding us that despite cultural differences, Mary always leads her children to Christ.

Our pilgrimage strengthened this understanding. We heard the inspiring story of the Monks of the Servants, whose community began in a simple hut in 1996. Through steadfast faith and devotion to Mary, they persevered through many challenges. Today, their pilgrimage center welcomes nearly 20,000 pilgrims every weekend. Thousands of prayer intentions and the abandoned wheelchairs and walking canes left behind

Mary's Fiat is much more than her acceptance of God's invitation to become the Mother of the Savior; it is the very heart of Christian discipleship. It teaches us that authentic spiritual life begins with complete trust in God and a willingness to place His will above our own. Our pilgrimage made this reality even more tangible. We listened to the inspiring testimony of the Monks of the Servants, whose community began in a humble hut in 1996. Despite many struggles in community life and numerous challenges, they remained faithful to their vocation through unwavering trust in God and devotion to the Blessed Mother. stand as moving signs of the hope and healing that pilgrims attribute to Mary's loving intercession.

This experience reminded me of the Marian shrines in my homeland, especially La Vang and Măng Đen, where countless faithful gather in prayer. Though each shrine reflects its local culture, all proclaim the same message: Mary gathers her children, strengthens their faith, and invites them to live their own Fiat.

Mary's words, "Let it be done to me according to your word," remain the perfect model of discipleship. Her Fiat teaches me to trust God completely, surrender my own plans, and embrace His will with courage and love.





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MARIA
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WEEK 6
MISSION & ECONOMY



Br Dominic Dinh, OFM Conv (VIETNAM)

During IMCA 2026 – Week 6 (6th – 10th July, 2026), I reflected on the relationship between mission and economy through the inspiring sessions of Fr. Justino Sanchez Duran, OFM Cap. His presentations helped me realize that economy is not only about finances but also about living the Gospel faithfully in fraternity and mission.

My reflection begins with the words of Jesus: "What profit is there for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?" (Mk 8,36) and "Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor… then come, follow me." (Mk 10,21). These two passages remind me that true wealth is not found in possessions but in following Christ with freedom, generosity, and trust in God's Providence. One of the most meaningful lessons was learning about the Fraternal Minor-General Economy, which promotes sharing, solidarity, and responsible stewardship. A Franciscan economy is guided by 9 principles: transparency, participation, subsidiarity, austerity, solidarity, equity, centralization, co-responsibility, and Divine Providence. These principles teach me that all resources belong to God and should always serve the fraternity, the mission, and especially the poor.

Another powerful experience was watching the movie Miracle in Cell No. 7 (2019). The red backpack, though only a simple object, became a symbol of love, sacrifice, and hope It reminded me that even a small gift, when shared with love, can transform lives. Likewise, missionary is called to share not only material resources but also compassion, time, and hope.

Moreover, the Franciscan Fraternal Economy is firmly rooted in the examples of Jesus of Nazareth and Saint Francis of Assisi. Jesus showed me the way of humble service and total self-giving, while Saint Francis embraced evangelical poverty, simplicity, fraternity, and trust in Divine Providence. So that economy should always strengthen communion rather than personal ownership.

I was also inspired by the idea that stewardship is a Franciscan way of life. Stewardship is entirely about relationships - with God, with my brothers, with creation, and with the poor. I am not owner of what I possess; I am faithful caretaker of God's gifts, called to use them wisely for the common good. Finally, I understand why strategic planning, the General Treasury, and solidarity are essential for the life of the Order. Good planning allows my fraternity to become more sustainable, supports missionary projects, promotes human welfare, and ensures that no community is left behind.

WEEK 6
VISIT TO BAJAO COMMUNITY



Br Joseph Nho, OFM
(VIETNAM)

After a week of studying economics in community life and listening to our professor's inspiring reflections on transparency and wealth management in Franciscan life, we were given the opportunity to visit the Bajao community. That visit was far more than a field exposure or a practical learning experience. It became a sacred encounter that touched my heart and challenged my understanding of the Gospel and the Franciscan vocation.

As I stood before the makeshift homes built along the shoreline, I witnessed families struggling each day to survive. The sight of children growing up without security, proper sanitation, or hope for a better future moved me deeply. Their dreams were painfully simple: to have a decent roof over their heads and enough food to eat each day. Yet they continue to live surrounded by garbage and pollution. After every heavy rain or high tide, waste from the city is washed into their community. Their appeals for help often go unheard, leaving them forgotten and powerless. I could not hold back my tears.

As we left Bajao, those images remained in my mind. They reminded me of my own missionary work among children in the Central Highlands of Vietnam. Although those children also faced hardships, they had regular meals, cleaner surroundings, and greater opportunities than the children I had just met. This comparison led me to examine my own heart. Have I truly encountered Christ in the poorest of the poor? Am I living the Franciscan charism with the depth and authenticity to which I am called? This experience helped me understand that the Franciscan approach to economics extends far beyond transparency, accountability, or responsible management of resources. Material goods are never ends in themselves; they are gifts entrusted to us for the service of others, especially those who are poor, vulnerable, and forgotten. A genuinely Franciscan economy is rooted in human dignity, fraternity, solidarity, and compassionate love.

Saint Francis of Assisi left his brothers a timeless invitation: "And you must rejoice among the despised and scorned, among the poor and weak, the sick and lepers, and the beggars by the roadside." These words are not merely spiritual advice but a concrete path to following Christ in poverty and humility. I believe Saint Francis continues to plant in every Franciscan heart the seed of mercy and love for the poor. My visit to the Bajao community watered that seed within me. I pray that it will not remain a passing emotion but will grow into a lifelong commitment.


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New Orleans




Segretariati di Evangelizzazione e Missione
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PAGBANTAY
PAG-AYO SA PANTAN
SA KOMUNIDAD SA
SAMA-BAJAU SIDE A
Segretariati di Evangelizzazione e Missione
OFM - OFMConv - OFM Cap




ISKP















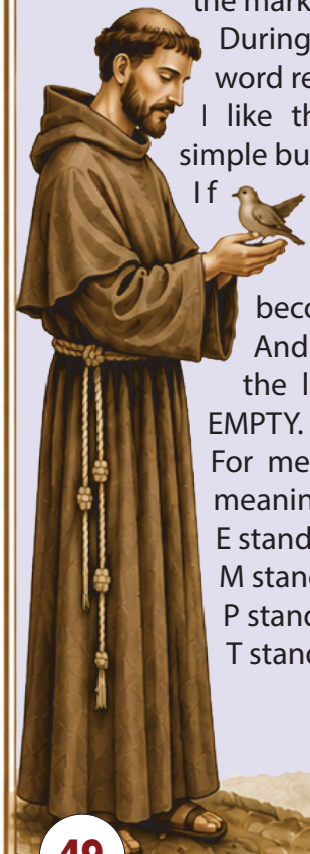




WEEK 7
MISSION & THE NEW AREOPAGUS IN ASIA

Br Peter Bao, OFM Conv
(VIETNAM)

We live in a world shaped by globalization, technology, and constant connectivity. Every day, we are surrounded by speed, efficiency, instant results, and an endless flow of information. Everything seems to happen with a click or a swipe. While these developments bring many opportunities, they also raise an important spiritual question: What is truly shaping my heart? As a Franciscan, I realize that the challenge is not to reject the modern world, but to discern whether my way of thinking, praying, relating, and serving is being formed by the Gospel or by the logic of the marketplace.



During this week's reflection, one word remained in my heart: EMPTY. I like this word because it has a simple but meaningful word game.

If I remove the letter P, it becomes EMTY.

If I remove E and Y, it becomes MT.

And finally, even if I remove all the letters, I still hear the word EMPTY.

For me, each letter has a spiritual meaning.

E stands for Ego.

M stands for Ministry.

P stands for Position.

T stands for Titles.

Y: YOURS reminds me of everything I still call "mine": my plans, my achievements, and my expectations. When I slowly let go of these things, I realize that my identity is not found in them, but in God.

This emptiness is not a life without meaning. It is not hopelessness or failure. Rather, it is the empty space that allows God to fill me with His own life. If my heart is already full—full of achievements, recognition, ambitions, knowledge, or even myself—there is little room left for Christ. Yet the Gospel invites me onto another path: not accumulation, but surrender; not self-promotion, but self-emptying. Perhaps this is what St. Paul means when he writes: "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind" (Rom 12:2). Transformation begins when I allow God to empty me of everything that prevents Him from becoming the center of my life.

Like St. Francis, who let go of everything to follow the poor and crucified Lord, we are invited to empty ourselves of whatever prevents us from loving freely. In a world that constantly tells us to possess more, perhaps our most prophetic witness is to make space for God. Only then can we become fully human in Christ and true instruments of peace, fraternity, and hope.



WEEK 7
VISIT TO STO. NIÑO MINOR BASILICA & PARIAN DROP IN CENTRE

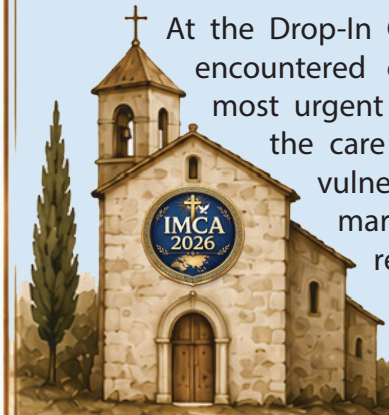
Br Josue Leo Gorgonio, OFM (PHILIPPINES)

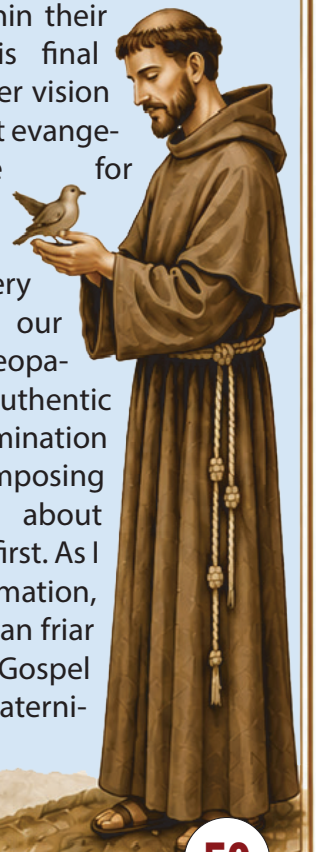
For the final exposure of our Preparatory Mission Course, we visited the Sto. Niño Minor Basilica of Cebu, the Drop-In Center for Children, and the Yap-Sandiego Ancestral House. Although I have visited the Sto. Niño Minor Basilica many times before, this visit touched me in a profoundly different way. More than historical or tourist destinations, these places became moments of grace that deepened my understanding of missionary life and invited me to reflect more personally on my vocation as a Franciscan friar.

Our visit to the Sto. Niño Minor Basilica reminded me that Cebu is the cradle of the Catholic faith in the Philippines. Standing in that sacred place, I felt the beauty of a faith that has endured through generations and shaped countless Filipinos, especially the Cebuanos and Visayan-speaking communities. It stirred in me a deeper gratitude for the spiritual heritage of our people, reminding me that mission begins with thanksgiving for the gift of faith already alive in those we are sent to serve.

At the Drop-In Center for Children, I encountered one of the Church's most urgent missionary concerns: the care of children who are vulnerable, neglected, and marginalized. Their stories reminded me that mission is not only about proclaiming God with words but also about making His love visible through compassion, presence, and concrete acts of mercy. I was reminded of the Franciscan call to draw close to the little ones and recognize Christ in those who suffer quietly.

Our visit to the Yap-Sandiego Ancestral House deepened my appreciation for the history and cultural heritage of the Filipino people. Filled with artifacts and antique treasures, the house reminded me that mission begins with listening to the story of a people. Before proclaiming the Gospel, I must first honor their history, traditions, and identity. I believe that before I preach Christ, I must first recognize that God is already present and at work among the people. Only then can the Gospel truly take root within their own culture. Indeed, this final exposure gave me a broader vision of mission. It taught me that evangelization requires a deep love for the faith, a compassionate heart for the vulnerable, and sincere respect for every culture. Reflecting on our theme, "Asia as the New Areopagus," I realized that authentic mission is not about domination but encounter; not about imposing but accompanying; not about speaking first but listening first. As I continue my missionary formation, I pray to become a Franciscan friar who proclaims the Gospel through humble service, fraternity, and authentic witness.





GOOD PROJECTS CHANGE BUILDINGS... BUT GOOD MANAGEMENT CHANGES LIVES!



1. A CLEAR PROPOSAL = A STRONG START!



A good proposal is like a roadmap!

Donors need to "diagnose" the project before they can give "medicine"! 😄

- ✔ Clear Problem
- ✔ Real Need
- ✔ Right Solution
- ✔ Realistic Budget
- ✔ Long-term Impact

REMEMBER: Data & numbers speak louder than a thousand words!

2. BOOKKEEPING = TRUST!



Record everything with honesty and accuracy!

- Income (Donations, Mass Intentions, Sales)
- Expenses (Food, Utilities, Salaries, Repairs)
- Net Income = Income - Expenses

Use the Double Entry System, it's more accurate & transparent!

DAILY JOURNAL (Example)

Date	Account	Description	Debit	Credit
10/05	Cash	Donation	1,000.00	-
10/05	Donation Income		-	1,000.00

Every transaction recorded TWICE: Where it comes from and where it goes!



FINANCIAL REPORTS

- Income & Expense Report
- Balance Sheet (Assets = Liabilities + Equity)
- Inventory Report
- Bank Statement
- Proof of Transactions



Clear reports bring peace to the heart and confidence to our donors!

3. FAIR WAGES, HAPPY WORKERS!



Pay a just wage, not just "pocket money"!

Thank you, Bro! Now I can support my family. 😊

A JUST WAGE IS:

- ✔ Enough for a decent life
- ✔ Respects human dignity
- ✔ Follows local laws
- ✔ Reflects God's love in action

A TRUE STORY 😳



I once visited a mission and found workers paid only $60 per month!

That's not a wage... that's not fair! Let's do better, Bro! 🙏

$60?!

They worked 10+ hours a day just to survive!

4. DOCUMENTS = PROTECTION!

Keep & organize:

- ✔ Receipts
- ✔ Bank Statements
- ✔ Contracts & Agreements
- ✔ Asset Inventory
- ✔ Financial Reports

Keep records for at least 5 years (or as required by law).



Good records today protect the mission tomorrow!

Transparency builds trust, and trust builds the Kingdom!

GOLDEN SUMMARY 🏆

1. Plan clearly
2. Record honestly
3. Report regularly
4. Pay justly
5. Manage wisely
6. Stay transparent

"Whoever is faithful in small things will be faithful in large ones." (Luke 16:10)



When we manage well, we honor God, serve people, and make our missions SUSTAINABLE and FULL OF HOPE! 🙏 ❤ 🌍



Good stewardship today... Greater mission tomorrow!

LET'S DO THIS! 💪 😄




461st FIESTA SEÑOR: IN SANTO NIÑO WE ARE ONE


Franciscan Missions, Inc.

















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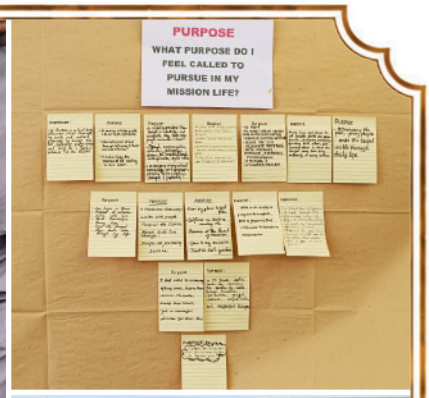
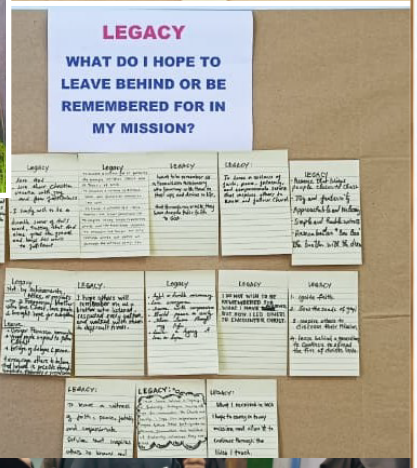

PURPOSE
WHAT PURPOSE DO I FEEL CALLED TO PURSUE IN MY MISSION LIFE?


LEGACY
WHAT DO I HOPE TO LEAVE BEHIND OR BE REMEMBERED FOR IN MY MISSION?



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Inter Obediential Mission Course in Asia









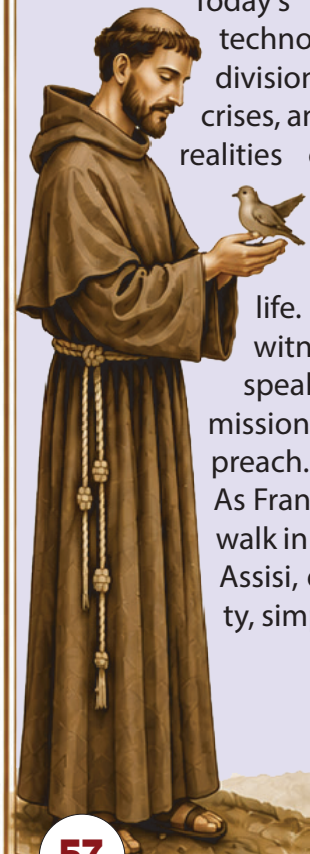


WEEK 8
INTEGRATION

Br Jomins Kuzhikanniyil, OFM Conv
(INDIA)

"The mission does not end with formation—it truly begins when we become living witnesses of the Gospel."

The journey of mission is never measured by the number of weeks we complete but by the depth of our response to God's call. Every formation experience prepares us to become instruments of Christ's love in a world longing for hope, peace, and fraternity. As we conclude this stage of our missionary formation in 2026, we recognize that we are not reaching an end but embracing a new beginning.



Today's world is marked by rapid technological growth, social divisions, migration, environmental crises, and spiritual emptiness. These realities challenge us to proclaim Christ not only through our words but through our authentic Franciscan way of life. People seek credible witnesses more than eloquent speakers. Therefore, our first mission is to become the Gospel we preach.

As Franciscan friars, we are called to walk in the footsteps of St. Francis of Assisi, embracing humility, fraternity, simplicity, and joyful service.

it is about making Christ visible through compassion, dialogue, justice, and care for every person and all creation.

Prayer remains the heart of every missionary. Before speaking about God, we must first listen to Him. In silence, the Lord shapes our hearts, The Eucharist continually reminds us that we are sent to become bread broken for others.

Asia and Oceania continue to offer immense opportunities for evangelization through encounter, intercultural dialogue, and respectful accompaniment. Our diversity of cultures, languages, and traditions is not a barrier but a gift that enriches the mission of the Church. Wherever we are sent, we are invited to build bridges of peace, inspire hope, and witness God's unconditional love.

As we continue our missionary vocation, we pray for the grace to remain humble lesser brothers, faithful to the Gospel and attentive to the cries of the poor, the forgotten, and those searching for meaning. May every encounter become an opportunity to reveal the merciful face of Christ. The mission continues—not because we are fully prepared, but because God walks before us. With faith, courage, and the Franciscan spirit, let us become joyful pilgrims of hope, bringing the light of Christ to every heart, every culture, and every corner of the world. "Lord, make our lives a living Gospel, so that everyone we meet may experience Your love, peace, and hope."



VOTE OF THANKS

Br Tijo Vellachalil, OFM Conv

Over the past two months, fifteen Franciscan friars from different countries across Asia have journeyed together through IMCA 2026.

Though we belong to the three branches of the Franciscan family OFM, OFM Cap, and OFM Conv. we discovered that our diversity of cultures, languages, and traditions became a source of enrichment, united by one Gospel and the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi.

Today, as this course concludes, we offer our deepest gratitude to Almighty God for His abundant blessings. Through prayer, study, fraternity, mission exposure, and shared experiences, He has renewed our missionary vocation and strengthened our commitment to proclaim Christ in Asia.

On behalf of all the participants, we sincerely thank our General Ministers Br. Massimo Fusarelli, OFM; Br. Carlos Alberto Trovarelli, OFM Conv.; and Br. Roberto Genuin, OFM Cap.

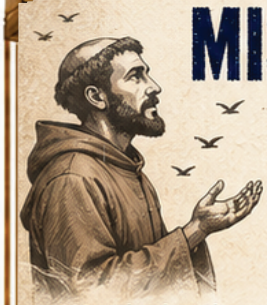
Together with the General Secretaries for Mission Br Framcisco OFM, Br Mariosvaldo OFM Cap, and Br Dariusz OFM Conv for making this formation possible.

Our heartfelt appreciation goes to our dedicated animators Br. Dennis, Br. Daniel, Br. Stephen and Br. Uriel, for your guidance, patience, friendship, and joyful witness.

We are equally grateful to all our resource speakers, field exposure partners, the Holy Family Retreat House community, and the OFM Province of St. Anthony of Padua for your generous hospitality and support.

Finally, to my dear brothers, thank you for your friendship, prayers, and fraternity. As St. Francis reminds us, "Let us begin again." May we return to our missions renewed in faith, united in fraternity, and filled with missionary zeal.





MISSION COMMITMENT STATEMENT

BRIDGE BATCH



We, the brothers of IMCA 2026 - OFM, OFM Cap., and OFM Conv. - proudly bearing the batch name BRIDGE: Brotherhood, Reconciliation, Inclusion, Dialogue, Gospel, and Encounter, stand united as missionaries sent to Asia. As brothers and pilgrims of hope, shaped like clay in the hands of the Potter, we commit ourselves to live the Franciscan Jubilee in mission and fraternity, embracing one mission, one fraternity, one legacy of love.

BROTHERHOOD

We commit to build a community of brothers who walk together in love, respect, and trust, witnessing fraternity in our Franciscan way of life.

RECONCILIATION

We commit to be instruments of peace, healing wounds and restoring relationships where there is division and brokenness.

INCLUSION

We commit to embrace every person, respecting diversity and welcoming all, especially the poor, the marginalized, and the forgotten.

DIALOGUE

We commit to listen with the heart, engage across cultures and faiths, and build bridges of understanding and collaboration.

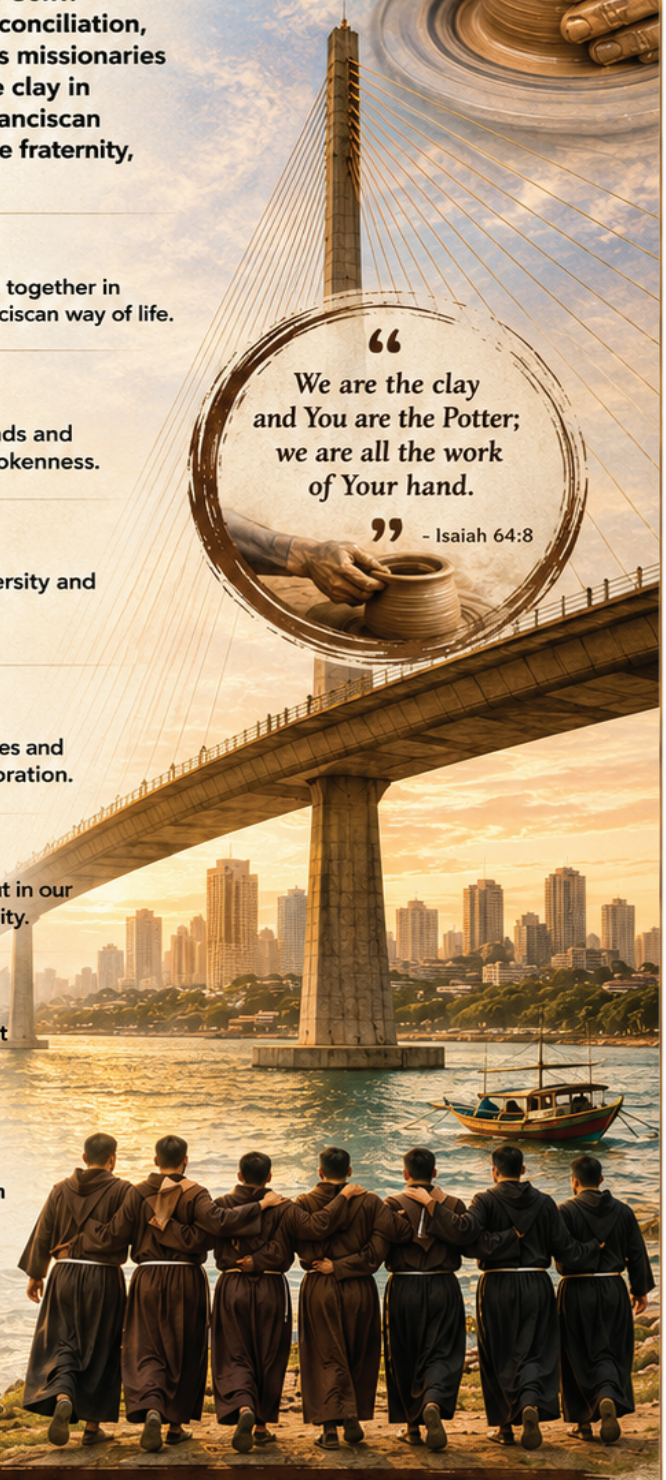
GOSPEL

We commit to witness the Gospel not only in words, but in our lives, letting Christ shine through our service and humility.

ENCOUNTER

We commit to create spaces of encounter where Christ is recognized in all.

> *"We are the clay and You are the Potter; we are all the work of Your hand."*
> - Isaiah 64:8



With hearts humbled by our weaknesses and pliable like raw clay, yet strengthened by the Potter's touch, we acknowledge our cracks—fear, language barriers, and attachment to comfort—but choose hope, surrendering ourselves to the Potter's hands for transformation through prayer, fraternity, and conversion.

Rooted in the Gospel and Franciscan values, we go forth as servant leaders to build peace, accompany the forgotten, empower the young, care for our common home, and become living bridges of hope.

ORMED BY THE POTTER. SHAPED AS BRIDGE. SENT AS BROTHERS. UNITED IN MISSION.



"So far we have done little or nothing. Let us begin." – St Francis of Assisi

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IMCA 2026

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