



After Four Years...

It has been now in the 5th year of re-establishment of La Salette in Myanmar. Myanmar La Salette is growing in community: numbering 12 priests, one perpetually professed brother, 2 philosophers and 2 college graduates preparing for TOEFL exams and two volunteers. And it has now ministering four parishes and a diocesan shrine in the Archdiocese of Mandalay. It is looking forward to opening Postulancy and Novitiate formation.

Myanmar District has a piece of land to build the community house permitted by the General and his Council. The construction of the building is on the way, soon to finish, having 12 rooms available for the members and for visitors as well. Since all won't be living in the house. This house is eventually meant to be a "Central House" of Myanmar-La Salettes. Beside this house, there is another small house which will be for multiple purpose, with a large room for conferences, meetings, and other agenda. There will be partitions of rooms which will be used as store-rooms, library, computer room and so on. This central house would be finished by February.

Community

Paleik Central House



New Year Celebration



Chanthagon



Games

New Road...

Rough roads are common in Myanmar. Mon Hla, the birthplace of Archbishop Charles Maung Bo, was blessed to have a new road, opened last December 18-17, 2009, which had been paved through the generosity of the benefactors. Archbishop Paul Graung, Archbishop Charles Maung Bo, and Bishop Justine Saw Minn Thite together with some priests from Yangon Archdiocese and Mandalay Archdiocese, two la Salette priests, many religious both men and women of different congregations graced the historical occasion. Present also were Buddhist monks of the surrounding places. On the evening of Dec 16, all the visitors were entertained with stage-show presentation after supper. The vigil mass was presided by Bishop Justine. Who himself is a Karen, because it was also Karen New Year Day.

The next day, Dec. 17, the mass for the opening of the road was at 7 AM. Archbishop Paul was the main presider and Archbishop Charles, the homilist. After the mass, the prayer service started with cutting the ribbon was led by both Catholic priests and Buddhist monks. The monks recited incantations first and the Catholic priests read the Scriptures and prayed. The head of the monks gave a speech of encouragement first; the Archbishop Charles. Both stressed unity, solidarity, and reconciling relationship that have been the backbone for the actualization of Myindwon-Mon Hla- road. After the prayer service, all drove on the new road to bless: Buddhist monks prayed incantations; the Catholic blessed it with holy water. The opening and blessing of it ended around 11 AM. After lunch, all except three bishops and Yangon clergy went home. Thanks be to God because the people living in Mon Hla and nearby places have easy access to the main road for any purpose or reason.



Catholics & Buddhists



A New Adoration Chapel blessed...

For the greater glory of God and for the perpetual adoration of Christ the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, a adoration chapel was donated by a parishioner of Myauk Khine under the leadership of Fr. Thomas Htan Shan Mong, Ms the parish priest and was blessed on December 12, 2009 by Msgr. Mg Ne and attended by priests and religious in solidarity with them in the opening ceremony. This is a way of strengthening and deepening the faith-life of the parishioners, who are living among the Buddhists, near the monastery. May they come closer to Jesus everyday!



Visiting the old Fold...

Fr. William Pho Way, MS spent his Christmas and New Year at the parish of Our Lady of La Salette, Than Dwe, that was founded by the American La Salette missionaries. Fr. William was able to meet the old parishioners and catechists who worked with the La Salettes. He helped celebrate the Christmas and New Year Masses through the invitation the parish priest, Fr. Michael Kyi Lwin, at the barrios.



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Sinbyu celebrates...

Through the feastday celebration, the faithful have the chance to meet each other and give moral supports. The parish of Sinbyu celebrated the feast of the Holy Family, on December 29– 30, 2009. Fr. Valentine San Tun, MS, the priest-in charge, with Fr. Fr. Robert Zaw Lwin, MS, newly assigned assistant, was able to bring a lot of people to the fiesta, more than expected. Sinbyu, with about 70 families, is located a bit far from the city proper, and is under the care of La Salette Missionaries since last May, 2009.

Though a short time of being assigned, Fr. Valentine led the villagers and planted banana trees for the support of the parish working together with parishioners. This banana's plantation is for the parish spiritual formation activities, education, health, social welfare and the less privileged parishioners. Fr. Robert will soon be in charge of that parish for Fr. Valentine is leaving for the mission in France.

Banana Project



Parish Priests



Mount View



Fiesta Day

