



# Children's Day

“Let the little Children come to me, and do not stop them” (Lk 18:16, NRSV). The Independence Day is the best day here in Myanmar to have celebrations, for it is a day of holiday as never changed and most people are free. To show and animate Children’s participation in the life of the Church, Children were invited to gather at Chanthagone in celebration of Holy Childhood Day. The Conference of Religious of Mandalay (CRMdy) took the responsibility for this big occasion. About 200 children with their caretakers, from 9 parishes of the Archdiocese of Mandalay, came to participate in it. The age limit was from 8 to 14 years old only. It was started at 8:15 A.M with Holy Mass. Fr. Robert Zaw Lwin, MS presided over the Eucharist and Fr. David Kyaw Zwa Latt, MS, president of CRMdy, gave the homily at the children’s Mass.

After the Mass, Children were gathered at the big social hall of the Shrine. Social games, and group competitions were made for the children. By each parish, children were grouped for games and contests. St. Joseph Sisters took in charge of the games. After lunch at 12:00 PM, at 1:00 PM, the song “Joy to the World” was contested for 3 places of honor. The group of St. Xavier parish (Mandalay) won the first place, St. Michael Parish (Than Win) got the second place while Holy Rosary parish (Chanthagone) got the 3rd place in singing contest.

After that, Christmas scene making contest also followed. Each parish prepared ahead and brought their costumes to present Nativity scene as creative as they could. After being ready, they were asked to pause for 10 to 15 minutes. The judges and people went around and viewed the scene. The Children presented so seriously and nicely that the people enjoyed it with so much fun. It was nice to see such presentations, with their talents and creativity, and foresee how they would contribute in building up the Church in the future.



Children Mass



1st Place in Singing

St. Xavier



2nd Place in Singing

St. Micheal



1st Place Shwe Bo



Christmas Scene



# Retreat, Ordination & Donation

The clergy of Mandalay had its annual retreat from January 11 to 15, 2011. Fr. Amar, SJ facilitated the retreat. He shared about true discipleship, true priesthood, and true ministry while also stressing the importance of taking care of oneself, balancing one's life like schedule and vacation, and having accountability. These factors, the facilitator stressed, indispensably contribute to the healthy lifestyle and faithfulness of any priest. "The faithful are faithful to us. Are we faithful to the faithful?" was the challenging and concluding question the facilitator posed to the clergy. It was such a holistic and healthy approach to the renewal of priestly spiritual life.

Some of MS fathers participated in the Annual Retreat of the Archdiocese of Mandalay. By this, they showed their fraternity and solidarity with them. The clergy and the archbishop really appreciated their presence.

On the 16th of January, 2011, the four brothers were ordained deacons at the Sacred Heart Cathedral of the Archdiocese of Mandalay by His Grace Bishop Paul Grawng. The clergy, the families, relatives and friends of the deacons graced the celebration. Right after the ordination, the annual program of distribution of donations by the faithful to the clergy and the religious who are doing mission in the archdiocese followed. The programme lasted until 12 noon. The donors served all the priests, religious sisters, and brothers lunch. The donors were praised and thanked for the event which foreshadows the self-sufficiency and self-sustenance of the local Church.



# Donation of The Faithful



*Jan 16, 2011*



# In Support of Priests & Mission



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# SILVER JUBILEE OF St. Thomas Seminary



Myanmar La Salette Missionaries has been helping in the formation of the diocesan seminarians, for the past 3 years at St. Thomas Intermediate Seminary and now at St. Aloysius Minor Seminary as spiritual directors. For the meantime, Fr. David Kyaw Kyaw, MS is helping out at St. Thomas Seminary. Probably MS fathers at St. Thomas Seminary.

**Fr. Thomas, MS lost his youngest sister.**

Sandar Win went bathing and drowned unfortunately in the river. She passed away on Jan 20, 2011 at her native place, Palewa. May she rest in peace!