



Missionary Benedictine Sisters  
ST. SCHOLASTICA'S PRIORY  
2560 LEON GUINTO ST., P.O. BOX 2734  
MALATE, MANILA, PHILIPPINES

COMMON LETTER NO. 198

PEACE AND JOY!

January 13, 2012

WITH GREAT JOY WE CONGRATULATE AND WELCOME

## OUR NEWLY ELECTED PPIORESS



## SR. LUMEN GLORIA DUNGCA, OSB

Sister Lumen Gloria Dungca, OSB is a product of Benedictine education. As the second daughter of Atty. Roberto Dungca and Gloria Espinosa, she spent her early studies at St. Scholastica's Academy in the City of San Fernando, Pampanga.

For her college studies Sr. Lumen graduated at St. Scholastica's College, Manila in 1972 with the degree of AB major in Sociology. She obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Sacred Theology at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome in 1988. She also took special courses on Catechetics and Guidance and Counseling.

In 1975 Sister Lumen responded to the call of God and entered our novitiate in Marikina. She made her first monastic profession in 1978 in Manila and committed herself for life in the service of God and his kingdom in 1982. From then on she was assigned as a young sister to Taal as a teacher and Guidance Counselor. In 1984 she was called to the foreign mission in Madrid, Spain. There she helped in the Integration of the Spanish Sisters to our congregation and also involved herself in the work in our Filipino Center called "Tipanan". After two years in Madrid she became one of the founders of the Filipino center in Barcelona called "Tuluyan". She did excellent work for the Filipino migrant workers especially in the youth apostolate. Through her witness of a life lived for God our congregation has now two perpetually professed Filipina Sisters who had contact with her in Barcelona as migrant workers.

In 1988 the Generalate called her to Rome for further studies at the Gregorian University until 1991. In 1990 she was sent to Nigeria for some months to help in the formation of young sisters in a Benedictine Monastery. After her graduation at the Gregorian University in Rome Sister Lumen returned to Manila and from this time on she held important positions as Vocation, Postulant Juniorate Directress and member of the Ongoing formation program of sisters.

She served in the retreat ministry, giving seminars and conferences. Aside from these ministries, Sister Lumen was Editor of the Priory Bulletin, Mission Facilitator, and Liaison to the Congregations's Newsletter. She was sent to Rome in 2008 for the intensive RB course .

From 2001 till 2009 she held the position of Sub-prioress for 9 years before she was called again to foreign mission in Buenos Aires, Argentina. She was appointed by the Generalate as Regional Superior of the place. She worked in Vocations Recruitment and Formation of Benedictine Oblates in Buenos Aires. On January 9, 2012 she was elected Prioress of the Manila Priory. She will be installed on April 20, 2012.

## THE 18<sup>TH</sup> MANILA PRIORY CHAPTER

On January 6-9, 2012, 145 Electors convened in our St. Scholastica's Center for Spirituality and after the reports of the Prioress, Procurator and Superiors, they proceeded to elect the next Prioress of the Manila Priory: Sr. Lumen Gloria Dungca, OSB.

After the election, 30 Chapter delegates proceeded with the business part of the Chapter. The different commissions worked on the proposals submitted by the Sisters from all over the Priory. The recommendations and resolutions are all included in the Priory Chapter Document entitled: CONTINUING CONVERSION IN JOY AND HOPE. It has a beautiful and inspiring Priory Chapter Message. Since you will receive this document, I will not append it to this letter. But I would like to share with you my Closing Remarks.



## TRANSFER LIST

	FROM	TO
1. Sr. Guadalupe Valdez, OSB	Mati	Legaspi
2. Sr. Rosalind Tanhueco, OSB	Legaspi	Mati
3. Sr. Edita Eslopoy, OSB	Catarman	Ormoc
4. Sr. Leticia Saraza, OSB	Legaspi	Priory House
5. Sr. Noella Montiel, OSB	Tacloban School	Manila
6. Sr. Mary Grace Macatuno, OSB	Priory House	Angeles
7. Sr. Catalina Dery, OSB	Bacolod	Tacloban School

## CLOSING REMARKS 18<sup>TH</sup> MANILA PRIORY CHAPTER

As we close our 18<sup>th</sup> Priory Chapter, we open a new page in our history as a Priory. We have elected a young and energetic Prioress in Mo. Lumen Gloria Dungca, OSB and so we look forward to a bright and promising future. Archbishop Luis Antonio Tagle, in his opening talk, has opened to us new horizons and has focused our attention on three areas where we can be of help in the Church in her service to humanity and in particular to our Philippine society, namely:

1. The purification and redemption of our Filipino culture
2. The search for the directions, areas and modes of the New Evangelization
3. The abiding concern and care for the Person

Our General Chapter has chosen as theme the second area: THE NEW EVANGELIZATION. We await the insights and recommendations of our General Chapter which we will endeavour to concretize in our specific situation.

We have begun in the last three years a priory wide renewal which our Sisters have welcomed and are asking us to continue. So there are challenges, opportunities and work waiting for us. These will provide the framework and substance of our life and mission for the coming years.

In this Chapter we have made recommendations and resolutions and a beautiful and inspiring Priory Chapter Message. May we fulfill these pledges in the spirit of our CONTINUING CONVERSION IN JOY AND HOPE.

In my report I have expressed my gratitude to the whole priory for their love and support for the past 8 years. Here, I wish to specify my gratitude to my close co-workers, my Subprioress Sr. Baptista Busmente and Sr. Lumen Gloria Dungca before her, and to all the Priory Councilors who have served with me these past 8 years. I also thank the Procurator for 8 years Sr. Ana Maria Raca, my secretary, Sr. Virginia Ferino and Sr. Therese Bulatao and Sr. Carmel Simpauc before her, and all the heads of the implementing bodies. They have truly made my task easy and my burden light.

I reiterate my plea for pardon and forgiveness for my sins of commission and omission affecting the priory, community or the individual person.

I offer the strength and energy of my remaining years (which I hope will still be full of sap still green) to the service of the priory in whatever capacity God chooses.

Finally, I want to pledge my wholehearted support, loyalty and obedience to our new prioress, Mother Lumen Gloria Dungca, OSB ---THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sr. Mary John Mananzan OSB". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and personal.

Sr. Mary John Mananzan, OSB  
Prioress