



Greetings from us gathered here in Davao for the 2nd Mission Promoters Workshop. We are grateful to Catherine Brabender and Maureen Dwan for the sharing of their vast wisdom and knowledge in putting together the program for these 14 days. We also appreciate the valuable presence of Hans Weenick, as consultant, who is also on our Congregation Advisory Board; together with Crescencia Sun the CLT Liaison for IMDO. Thank you both for taking time to be with us in these days. It was with sadness that we learnt that Carmel Terry, our Miseen Cara RNDM Mission Development Officer, was unable to be with us due to needing hip surgery. We are grateful for the wonderful work and support she gives us and thank her for the many powerpoints she had prepared and sent to Catherine, for sharing with us. We wish her God's healing and a speedy recovery. This workshop would not have been possible without the financial support of funding agencies, donors and benefactors. Thank you.

It was a joy for us to return to Davao and to be warmly welcomed by Stella, Lilly, Thao and the Balay Euphrasie staff. We are here from 13 Provinces, of which 5 are new to the mission promoter role, since we last gathered here in 2014. We know that Sheila Madden from Canada and Mary Rose Holderness from France are very much with us and support us with their prayers. Our sympathies to Ngan Ha from Kenya who is in Australia following the death of her Father, RIP. Annunciata has come in her place. We are happy to also welcome Smitha Thomas and Helen O'Sullivan, who will be taking over the work of IMDO. We have gathered to deepen our knowledge and understanding of the important role entrusted to us as mission promoters. This is a time of learning and sharing with each other as we endeavour to keep alive the spark of Euphrasie that has been taking place for 155 years wherever we are.



We started our session on Monday 11th April with a beautiful opening liturgy. In the days since we have been connected to you and all our different provinces through liturgy and presentations. This richness will continue over the next 10 days. We have been given practical guidelines to prepare a strategic plan and have done further work on our Province Child Protection Policies. Over the coming days we will work on funding applications or related planning for building plans/projects from our approved Congregation Mission Plan.

We remember and pray for our Sisters who gathered today in India Central to bless and open the new Euphrasie Home in Rajarhat for retired elderly sisters. We also join our prayers with our Sisters across the Congregation in wishing "**Shubo Nobo Borsho**" (Bengali New Year) to all Sisters in Bangladesh and Kolkata. Our prayers are also united for our Sisters gathered in St Rambert for their renewal time.

Blessings from all of us here in Davao

April 14, 2016