



Noticias desde la Curia

RELIGIOSAS MISIONERAS DE SANTO DOMINGO

NUMERO 2

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Pope's Prayer Intention for October 2026

For Mental Health Ministry

*Let us pray that mental health ministry
be established throughout the Church,
helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination
of persons with mental illnesses.*

Message of the Prioress General

May Our Lady of the Rosary help us renew our vocation
with joy, welcoming Christ into our hearts and allowing
ourselves to be transformed by Him.
Like Mary, let us bring Christ to others and share with joy
the fruits of our contemplation.

THE SECOND BATCH OF THE PRIORESSES' ENCOUNTER

The second batch of the **Prioresses' Encounter** will begin on **1 October 2026** at Casa Noviciado "Santo Domingo de Guzmán" in Hoengseong, Korea. It will bring together 28 Prioresses from different countries for a time of **prayer, reflection, formation, sharing, and communion.**

All participants are expected to arrive on October 1. The Encounter will continue until the middle of the month, giving the Prioresses an opportunity to journey together, share their experiences, and reflect on their ministry of leadership and service.

The participants are:



HERMANAS	Nacionalidad	ASIGNACIÓN
1. Sor Ma. Purificación Hotei	Japonesa	Universidad de Santa Catalina, Matsuyama, Japón
2. Sor Teresa Cuadrado	Española	Residencia Nuestra Nstra. de Fatima, Leon, España
3. Sor Domitila Fuertes	Española	Colegio Luz de la Colina, Okazaki, Japón
4. Sor Teresita Su	Tawanesa	Dominican International School, Kaohsiung, Taiwan
5. Sor M ^a Jesús Kojima	Japonesa	Colegio de Santa Catalina, Matsuyama, Japón
6. Sor Carmelina Nakamura	Japonesa	Casa de Tokyo, Tokyo, Japón
7. Sor Laura Carrera	Española	Villa Santo Domingo, El Escorial, Madrid
8. Sor Erlinda Genova	Filipina	Sta. Catalina Ladies' Residence, Manila
9. Sor Adela Sereno	Filipina	Dominican Child Dev't. Center, Ordot, Guam, USA
10. Sor Lorenza Sajul	Filipina	Dominican House of Prayer/Novitiate Tagaytay City
11. Sor Antonina Goda	Japonesa	Casa Provincial, Itami, Japón
12. Sor Carolyn Terencio	Filipina	Dominican College, San Juan City, Filipinas
13. Sor Monica Magsiano	Filipina	Dominican School Manila, Filipinas
14. Sor Lorna Alamares	Filipina	Dominican International School Taipei, Taiwan
15. Sor Eliza Santiago	Filipina	Casa Mision Santo Domingo, Sihanoukville, Camboya
16. Sor Salvacion Ibardolaza	Filipina	Casa Martin de Porres, Phnom Penh, Camboya
17. Sor Cecilia Kim	Coreana	Casa Sagrada Familia, Mapo-gu, Seul, Corea
18. Sor Teresa Oh	Coreana	Casa San Jose, Hoengsong, Gan., Corea
19. Sor Michaela Kang	Coreana	Casa "Santo Domingo de Guzman, Uijeongbu, Corea

20. Sor Ma Camino Fernandez	Española	Residencia “Sta. Rosa de Lima”, Valladolid, España
21. Sor Marisol Carrasco	Chilena	Colegio Santa Ines, San Vicente TT, Chile
22. Sor Johanna Masukagami	Japonesa	Hospital San Martin de Porres, Sakaide, Japón
23. Sor Gabriela Gwak	Coreana	Mision Santo Domingo y Juniorado, Seul, Corea
24. Sor Escolastica Mok	China	Convento de San Vicente ferrer, Taipei, Taiwan
25. Sor Analiza Malasa	Filipina	Pontificio Collegio Filipino, Roma, Italia
26. Sor Wilfreda Parcon	Filipina	St. Catherine’s College, Carcar City, Cebú, Filipinas
27. Sor Teresita Zhang	China	Casa Mision Nstra. Sra. Del Rosario, Lindong, China
28. Sor Goretti Nguyen	Vietnamita	Casa Formacion Mrtires de Vietnam, Go Vap, Vietnam

Following the first batch, this second group will continue their journey under the theme **“Called to Serve,”** creating a space to listen to one another, share the joys and challenges of leadership, and discern together how they are called to serve their sisters and communities with greater generosity and love.

These days will also be an opportunity to strengthen sisterhood and communion, learn from one another, and renew a leadership rooted in **prayer, discernment, and service.**

May this Encounter be a meaningful time of sisterhood, communion, and spiritual renewal, giving each participant new strength and inspiration for her mission. May the Lord accompany the Prioresses’ Encounter Team (Sor Mary Jeanet, Sor Aurora, Sor Silvia y Sor Marta) in their service and the Prioresses throughout these days, blessing their journey of encounter, discernment, and communion.

ANNUAL RETREAT AT CASA GENERALICIA

The community of Casa Generalicia is currently making its annual retreat, a special time of prayer, reflection, and spiritual renewal, with Fr. Raúl Gómez Sánchez, OP, Secretary General of the Order of Preachers, as the retreat preacher.



As the Sisters continue their retreat, may this time be a grace-filled opportunity for the community to deepen its relationship with the Lord and to renew its commitment to vocation, communion, and mission.



During the retreat, Fr. Raúl was invited to make a brief visit to the General Curia, where he was warmly welcomed and given a short tour. The visit offered him an opportunity to see and have a glimpse of the spaces where the General Administration carries out its service to the Congregation.





PROFESIÓN PERPETUA



On September 8, the Feast of the Nativity of the Virgin Mary, we experienced in the Province of San Luis Beltrán, in the Community of Ávila, the joyful celebration of the Perpetual Profession of Sister Ly Na from Vietnam and Sister Irene from Myanmar.

From early in the morning, the decorations highlighted what was essential and what was later proclaimed during the celebration: **“My soul glorifies the Lord,”** written beside the photograph of each of the two sisters who, as they themselves would say in their thanksgiving, were living **“a day that marks an important turning point in the journey of their consecrated life.”**

The Eucharist was presided over by Father Carlos Rodríguez Linera, a Dominican friar from the Convent of Santo Tomás, together with other friars, the priests of our parish, and several others.

Sister Ly Na and Sister Irene professed their vows into the hands of our Provincial Prioress, Sister M^a Dolores Requejo. She was accompanied by the Prioress of the Community, Sister Inés; Sister Corazón, the Directress of the International Juniorate, who had previously been their formator and who served as the ceremony coordinator; and Sister Elvira Díez, who accompanied them during these final months of preparation.

Everything was simple yet solemn and deeply familiar at the same time. The ceremony was marked by an atmosphere of **“emotion, joy, and fraternity.”** Several sisters from other communities attended, as well as Dominican friars from the Convent of Santo Tomás, members of CONFER, teachers, parents and students from the school, members of our parish, and friends, among them the Mayor of the city and a City Councillor.

In addition to the elements proper to this ceremony, which are well known to all, the two newly perpetually professed sisters brought forward the bread, symbolizing their offering to the Lord, so that He may make them **Bread of Life** for the brothers and sisters they encounter along their journey. They also brought the wine, that, like the grapes, they may know how to give everything of themselves in order to build the Lord’s Community of Love, for which He calls them to be forever **“Missionaries of Santo Domingo.”**

The religious celebration concluded with the thanksgiving of Sister Ly Na and Sister Irene, followed by a special blessing upon them. The fitting conclusion could be nothing other than a profound thanksgiving on our part—to God, to our two sisters, and to everyone, both present and absent—as expressed by the two sisters themselves in their words of gratitude.



MYANMAR

A New Chapter, A Deeper “Yes”

Sor Maria Bambina, O.P.

On September 14, during the Vespers of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, our community joyfully celebrated the entrance into the novitiate of four postulants: **Catherine AyeThiriWai, Maria Salimo, Rosalin MeMar, and Cecilia LingMyu.**

During the rite of entrance into the novitiate, they received the **Dominican cross and our Constitutions**, signs of their desire to enter more deeply into the richness of Dominican life, to know Jesus more intimately, and to follow Him with open and generous hearts.

Following Jesus is a journey we make day by day. It is a call that invites us to ongoing formation and to allow ourselves to be gradually transformed by His love. Thus, entering the novitiate is not simply a transition from one stage to another, but a privileged time of encountering the Lord, growing in the knowledge of His will, and shaping one’s life according to the Gospel.

These two years of novitiate will be a time of **prayer, reflection, study, community life, and discernment**. It will be a journey of discovering more deeply God’s presence in their lives, growing in friendship with Him, and learning to respond to His call each day with trust and generosity.

May they find in contemplating and embracing the Cross of Christ the strength to persevere on their journey and to renew their “Yes” to the Lord each day, even in moments of searching, struggle, or uncertainty. May Mary, our Mother, accompany them with her tender love and teach them to treasure and ponder in their hearts all that God is accomplishing in their lives.

We give thanks to God for the **gift of these four sisters to our Congregation**. With hope and joy, we welcome them into this new stage of their vocational journey and entrust their formation and growth to the guidance of the **Holy Spirit**.



May the Lord bless them, strengthen them, and lead them always on the path of fidelity. May the intercession of **Our Blessed Mother and our Holy Father Dominic** accompany them and help them grow in love for Christ, for the Church, and for the mission entrusted to them.



Juniorado Internacional

Valladolid, España

JOY AND HOPE IN THE INTERNATIONAL JUNIORATE



On 26 September, our International Juniorate community joyfully and gratefully celebrated a special moment: the welcome of Sr. Melandres Guillermo and Sr. Regina Millana, who are joining this stage of formation, and Sr. Rosa from Myanmar, who is taking on the mission of Formator of the International Juniorate.

The Prioress General, Sr. Mary Jeanet Pintacasi, O.P., officially announced Sister Rosa's new mission. Her appointment was subsequently confirmed through its reading by the Local Prioress, Sr. Ma. Camino Fernández, O.P., in the presence of the Provincial, Sr. Dolores Requejo, and the community.

During this significant moment, Sister Mary Jeanet reminded Sister Rosa that she is not alone in this mission. She has the prayers of everyone and a community that will accompany and support her in

this new responsibility. In a special way, she reminded her that she has the presence of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the great Teacher and companion on this new journey. At the same time, the Prioress General expressed her sincere gratitude to the former formator for the service she carried out and for her contribution to the International Juniorate. She gratefully acknowledged her availability and dedication in accompanying the junior sisters, as well as her commitment to this important space of formation within our Congregation.

We also joyfully welcomed Sr. Melandres and Sr. Regina from the Philippines, whose stories and vocations now become part of our shared history. Their arrival enriches our community through the diversity of their cultures, experiences, and gifts, and reminds us that God continues to call us to walk together in following Christ and in mission.

The International Juniorate is a space of formation, fraternity, and growth where our young sisters deepen their relationship with God, strengthen their vocation, and prepare themselves to serve the Church and their peoples with generosity and a missionary spirit.

May this new time be filled with grace, communion, and joy. May we, guided by Mary and following in the footsteps of Saint Dominic, walk together in search of the Truth, growing in holiness and becoming joyful preachers of God's mercy and love.



Nuevas Asignaciones

Sor Ly Na Nguyen a la Vietnam

**Sor Marcelina Zarzua a la Provincia de San Luis
Bertran – Portugal**

Nuevas Prioras

**Sor Amor Vigare – Comunidad de “Religious Missionaries of St.
Dominic” Corpus Christi, Texas**

**Sor Angela Lavador – Comunidad de “St. Dominic’s Convent”
Oxnard, California**

**Sor Corazón Moraza – Comunidad de Villa Santo Domingo”
El Escorial, Madrid, España**

**Sor Lucia Nguyen – Comunidad de San Valentin Berriochoa”
Ho Chi Mihn City, Vietnam**



Gozan de la presencia del Padre

Sor Luzviminda Barles (Filipinas)

Sor Ascension Manzananas Gajate (España)

Sor Cristina Arceo (Filipinas)

Sor Araceli Viera Reyero (España)

Madre de Sor Cleofe y Sor Carmela Oculam (Filipinas)

Hermano de Sor Soledad Oliva (Filipinas)

Cunado de Sor Antonina Ferrer (Filipinas)



Sor Luzviminda Barles, OP

25 de octubre 1955 – 11 de septiembre de 2026

70 años de edad

68 años de Vida Consagrada

Sr. Luzviminda was born on October 25, 1955, in Floridablanca, Pampanga, the second of ten children of Antonio and Maria Barles. She was baptized on December 5, 1955 at the Floridablanca Parish, and received the Sacrament of Confirmation on December 11, 1955, at the Metropolitan Cathedral Church of San Fernando, Pampanga.

She pursued her college education at Guagua National Colleges, where she completed her Bachelor of Science in Commerce, major in Banking and Finance. Her academic preparation would prove valuable in the years that followed, as she was entrusted with various responsibilities in the financial administration of the Institutions under the care of the Dominican Misioneras. Responding to God's call to consecrated life, she entered the postulancy on June 12, 1986. She received the religious habit on December 31, 1986, and was given the name Sr. Ma. Luzviminda de la Sagrada Familia Barles, OP. She made her First Profession on December 31, 1988, and later made her Perpetual Profession on December 31, 1993.

In 1990, Sr. Luz completed the Teachers' Training Program of the Institute of Catechetics of the Archdiocese of Manila, further preparing herself for the ministry of religious education. Her first assignment was as a Religion Teacher at Manila Cathedral School from 1989 to 1990. She then served as School Treasurer of the same institution from 1990 to 1991. From there, much of her religious life was devoted to the ministry of administration and financial stewardship. She served as treasurer at Sta. Catalina Ladies Residence in Sampaloc, San Felipe Neri Parochial School in Mandaluyong, St. Mary's Dominican School in San Manuel, Pangasinan, Aquinas School in San Juan, Dominican School, Sta. Rita Pampanga, Dominican College, Sta. Rosa, Laguna, Dominican School, Camalig, Albay and Our Lady of Manaoag College, Pangasinan. She also served as Assistant Treasurer at Espiritu Santo Parochial School in Tayuman.

Sr. Luz also served in other ministries. She spent a year at the Dominican House of Prayer, Tagaytay from 1994 to 1995, as Religion Teacher at Dominican Academy, Unisan, and as Canteen-in-charge at Dominican College, San Juan. Sr Luz was a Treasurer at Dominican College, Sta. Rosa when she suffered stroke in 2017, which significantly affected her ability to continue her active ministries. She was subsequently assigned to the Nursing Home, where she entered a new chapter of her consecrated life. The years that followed called her to a different kind of ministry—a ministry of prayer, patience, acceptance, and trust in God.

In 2024, she was diagnosed with a kidney problem, adding another burden to the physical challenges she had already endured. Through these years of declining health, she was cared for by her sisters in the community. Her life of suffering and dependence became a quiet witness to the same fidelity that had characterized her active years of service.

Her vocation reminds us that a religious life is not measured only by the positions one holds or the tasks one accomplishes. It is measured by the fidelity with which one responds to God's call. Sr. Luz lived this fidelity in different ways: through the integrity with which she handled the Congregation's resources, through her service in education and administration, and eventually through the patience and surrender with which she bore her declining health.

After thirty-seven years in religious life, Sr. Luz completed her earthly journey on September 11, 2026, at the age of 70. She returned to the God whom she had sought to serve faithfully throughout her life. We give thanks to God for the gift of her vocation and for the witness of integrity that she leaves to her religious family. May the Lord now welcome her into the fullness of eternal life.



Sor Ascension Manzananas Gajate, OP

29 de agosto 1935 – 18 de septiembre de 2026

91 años de edad

68 años de Vida Consagrada

Ascensión Manzananas was born on August 29, 1935, in Lumbreras, a town in the province of Salamanca. Ten days later, on September 8, she was baptized in the church of her native town, and the following day she received the sacrament of Confirmation. She was part of a large family in which Christian formation was at the heart of everything. One of her sisters also entered religious life.

On April 5, 1956, she began her novitiate in our house in Ávila. On October 8, 1958, she made her First Profession, and on the same date in 1961, she made her Perpetual Profession. In 1958, she received her first assignment at the San Pedro Mártir Convent of the Dominican Fathers in Alcobendas, where she helped with the care of the community, which also served as a residence for the young friars studying after completing their novitiate.

In 1965, she was assigned to the community in Rome, where she cared for the elderly women and pilgrims. For the last six years of her time there, until 1985, she served as Prioress of the community. Then the missionary winds carried her in another direction, and she began her mission in Chile, where she remained until 1999. During these fourteen years, she generously collaborated in the various apostolic activities of the community and carried out different responsibilities. She served as treasurer for a couple of years, during different periods, in San Vicente de Tagua Tagua, and spent the rest of her time as Prioress of the communities in Santiago and Chillán, serving in the latter for nine years.

In 1999, she moved to the community of Colegio Liverpool in the city of Porto, Portugal, where she served as Prioress. After six years, she took on the responsibility of administrator, a service she carried out until 2012. She then remained in that community until 2015, when the school was closed and the community moved to the house in Ávila, Spain.

Sister Ascensión was not someone who sought rest. She was a person deeply committed to her responsibilities and gave herself fully to them, without allowing work or difficulties to discourage her. She valued and lived her religious vocation wholeheartedly. She had a deep love for community and was devoted to serving the sisters, especially those whom she felt were most in need.

In the communities where she lived, she was known for her humility, simplicity of life, and generous spirit of service. She was faithful to prayer. She took an interest in everything related to the community and enjoyed life with a joyful spirit, participating in every community event.

During the last eleven years she spent in the community of Ávila, she continued tirelessly attending to the people who came to the house and welcoming them at the reception. But her greatest concern and deepest care was to be close to and help the sisters in the infirmary and those whom she saw to be in greater need within the community.

It did not matter if her care was not always received with gratitude; she continued to devote herself to whoever was near her and lacked something. Until her final days, she continued wanting to protect and care for others.

Then, in the early hours of September 18, the Lord came to meet her, calling her to rest from her labors and to share eternal happiness under the loving protection of God the Father.

May she rest in peace, our beloved Sister.



Sor Cristina Arceo, OP

25 de julio de 1967 – 22 de septiembre de 2026

59 años de edad

37 años de Vida Consagrada

Sr. Cristina was born on July 25, 1967 in San Miguel, Bulacan, to Pablo and Lolita Arceo. She was the second of five siblings. She was baptized on October 8, 1967 and was received the sacrament of Confirmation on August 4, 1982.

Her journey in religious life began when she was accepted as a postulant on November 7, 1986, at the young age of 19. She received the habit on May 30, 1987, and took the religious name Sor Ma. Cristina del Niño Jesus Arceo y Largoso, OP. She made her First Profession on May 30, 1989, and her Perpetual Profession on May 30, 1996.

Sr. Cristina pursued her studies with the same dedication that characterized her ministry. At the University of Santo Tomas, she earned her Bachelor of Secondary Education (BSEd), completed the Sisters Institute of Theological Formation (SITF), obtained a Master of Arts in Guidance Counseling, and later earned her Ph.D. in Educational Management. She also pursued Lengua y Cultura Española at the Universidad de Valladolid in Spain.

Sr. Cristina first served as a religion teacher at Dominican School, Manila, from 1989 to 1990. She later taught Values Education and Theology at Dominican College, San Juan; St. Catherine's College, Carcar, Cebu; and Manila Cathedral College, Tayuman.

Dominican School, Dagupan was her first assignment as Directress, from 2000 to 2004.

She went to Spain as a student from 2004 to 2005. When she returned to the Philippines, she was once again assigned to school administration, serving as Principal of Holy Rosary Academy, Lucena, Quezon. In 2006, she became Directress of Dominican School, Manila, a position she held until 2015.

She took a break from administration to focus on her graduate studies and stayed at Sta. Catalina Ladies' Residence from 2015 to 2016. In 2016, she returned to administration, serving as Vice President and Principal of Colegio de San Juan de Letran, Manaoag until 2021.

She was then transferred to lead Dominican School, Sta. Rita, in 2022 and served there until 2024, when she was sent to lead Dominican College, Sta. Rosa.

She was elected as a Councilor of the Philippine Province in 2012 and led the Pastoral Ministry of the Province for three years. She was again elected as a Councilor in 2021, this time leading the Educational Ministry as Superintendent of the CRMSD Schools. She held this office for two consecutive terms, until her death on September 22, 2026.

For 37 years of religious life, Sr. Cristina devoted herself wholeheartedly to the ministry of education. She inspired educational leaders in the various schools she led. To many of us, she was a mentor who gave us a good example of what Christ-like leadership should be.

Some sisters describe Sr. Cristina as reserved and quiet. She was not one to speak simply for the sake of speaking. She listened, observed, and reflected. But when she did speak, it was usually because there was something worth saying—or something that could lighten the atmosphere and lift the spirits of the group.

She was known for her wit and humor, so much so that she published a book of reflections on some funny anecdotes from the daily lives of the Sisters.

Despite her busy schedule, Sr. Cristina had her own little ways of making life beautiful. She would sometimes accent her habit with an *alampay* or shawl of different colors—not merely for style, but also to keep herself warm. She loved plants and took pleasure in making her surroundings beautiful. She also made several diamond paintings of the Madonna and Child. Lately, she had become especially fond of taking care of different animals, including an iguana.

Despite her illness, she continued to give everything she could in the service of the Congregation. Even when sickness made things difficult, she remained available to those who needed her. She still had many plans, but God had a different plan for her.

And so, today, we entrust Sr. Cristina back to the God whom she served faithfully. We may feel that her life was cut short, but we can also say that she lived the years given to her fully and generously.

We will miss her presence. We will miss her humor. But we believe that the God who called her to religious life, who guided her through her years of leadership, and who accompanied her in her weakness is now calling her home, saying “Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful. Come and share your Master's joy.”

May she rest in peace, our beloved Sister.