

From: MFC Home Office mfcinternalcommunications@gmail.com@14875D.clients.bmsend.com
Subject: MFC NEWSLETTER | SEPTEMBER 2025
Date: September 1, 2025 at 6:15 PM
To: xpadilla@missionaryfamiliesofchrist.org



MISSIONARY FAMILIES OF CHRIST NEWSLETTER | SEPTEMBER 2025

Defending Faith, Family and Life.

Message from the Servant General



Peace be with you, brothers and sisters!

I am writing this from Dipolog, where I am currently with the LAIKO Board for a weekend meeting with Bishop Mar Coarman, the Chairman of the CBCP Episcopal Commission on

meeting with Bishop ver Caermare, the Chairman of the CBCP Episcopal Commission on the Laity.

We recently came from a month-long mission, where there were many highlights (conferences, pilgrimage, meetings, etc) and one of them was the chance to meet Pope Leo XIV! Des and I were able to spend 45 seconds with him. We told him about our family, the 75th Anniversary of LAIKO, and about Missionary Families of Christ. We gave him a information packet of everything there is to know about our community (same packet which we also gave the Dicastery of Laity, Family and Life). It was exciting handing it over to him, and hearing him say: "Ah, yes!"

It was truly a blessing to represent all of you, and share MFC to Pope Leo XIV!

God bless you all, and I hope you enjoy reading the worldwide updates of MFC every month through this newsletter.

MFC Sections August Activities

August was a month overflowing with God's grace and blessings. Across our community, we experienced His faithfulness through the many activities and gatherings that bore much fruit. Let us pause to remember and give thanks for all He has done.



MFC KIDS

This August, MFC Kids was blessed with three grace-filled gatherings across the country. On **August 17**, the **NCR Zone Build Up Training** prepared 52 Heartchamps and Coordinators to better guide today's generation and bring MFC Kids into schools, parishes, and communities. On **August 24**, more than 230 participants joined the **Mindanao Island Kids Conference** in Davao City, a joyful reminder that no one is too young to know Christ. Finally, on **August 30–31**, the **Visayas Island Kids Conference** gathered young hearts and families at the Cebu City Sports Complex for a weekend of faith and fellowship.



MFC YOUTH

August was a month of renewed zeal and steadfast mission for MFC Youth across the

country. On **August 16–17**, MFC Youth Rizal held their **Area Core Retreat**, strengthening servant-leaders in faith and unity. On **August 24**, the **NCR Core Servants and Couple Coordinators** gathered for reflection and empowerment, drawing inspiration from David's warriors in 2 Samuel 23:8–12 and being reminded of the call to live with tenacity, faithfulness, and ownership. That same weekend, **MFC Campus Philippines** held its **Execomm Retreat**, fostering deeper commitment among young leaders.

Meanwhile, in Occidental Mindoro, the **Youth Camp (August 24–25)** became a living testament to God's faithfulness despite many challenges. Missionaries persevered through obstacles in travel and personal trials, yet the camp flourished—reviving a local unit and raising new servant-leaders. Their journey reminded us that mission is not about comfort but about carrying the cross with love, trusting that true greatness comes through sacrifice.

Throughout these gatherings, MFC Youth witnessed how God continues to move powerfully in the lives of young people, igniting their hearts to serve and ensuring that His mission of evangelization carries on with courage, resilience, and joy.





MFC SINGLES

The month of August was filled with encounters that brought young professionals closer to Christ through fellowship, prayer, mission, and service. On **August 16**, the **NCR South Area Tambayan** at *Veranda Dine and Chill, Severin* provided a night of fun and faith-sharing, with heartfelt reflections on trusting God's timing in seasons of waiting. That same weekend, the **NCR Central Covenant Recollection (August 16–17)** offered a grace-filled time of prayer, renewal, and recommitment to the covenant with the Lord.

On **August 23**, joy and camaraderie filled the **One Luzon Sportsfest**, where singles celebrated teamwork and community through friendly competition. Meanwhile, the **Crossworks program** continued to reach new workplaces: on **August 29**, employees of the Sugar Regulatory Administration engaged in a day of spiritual wellness, while on **August 29–30**, Crossworks partnered with **DOH Valenzuela** for a two-day

formation highlighting Joy at Work, Integrity, Professionalism, and the true meaning of vocation.

The month closed with the **NCR Committed Servants Weekend: Home (August 30–31)** at Our Lady of Antipolo, a powerful encounter with the Father's unfailing mercy and love, reminding all that no matter the journey, His embrace is always waiting.

Through these activities, MFC Singles continues to live out its mission of forming Christ-centered professionals who bring light into every season of life—whether in fellowship, covenant renewal, mission fields, or the workplace.



MFC HANDMAIDS

This August, the Handmaids of Missionary Families of Christ continued to be strengthened in faith and service through assemblies, pastoral visits, and evangelization efforts. On **August 9**, **MFC Handmaids Laguna** held its **Servant Leaders' Assembly** at Central Elementary School 2, Sta. Rosa, Laguna, with nearly 100 servant leaders in attendance. The event featured talks from Bro. Jojo Amir (MFC Laguna Section Head) and Sis. Iyam Salvanera (MFC Handmaids Core Member) on structure, goal-setting, and the Liturgical Bible Study Experience, equipping leaders for the second half of the year.

On **August 16**, the **MFC Handmaids NCR South Area** gathered at St. Padre Pio Church, Parañaque City, for a pastoral visit led by NCR Zone Handmaids Coordinator, Sis. Nona R. Cammayo. The assembly included a Live Life Pillar talk, *"It's Not YOU, It's STRESS,"* by LCSC FTW Abigail Mae Garcia, followed by a moving pray-over led by MFC Area Servant Bro. Roy Hirang.

On **August 23**, the **MFC NCR East Cainta Chapter** joyfully concluded its **Mega Christian Life Seminar** at Immaculate Conception Parish of Cainta, with 13 graduates composed of 2 Couples, 7 Handmaids, and 2 Singles. This was a powerful manifestation of the Lord's abundant grace as participants encountered Christ more deeply and embraced the call to live in faith, hope, and love. The event was made possible through the dedicated service of the Chapter Youth Coordinators Bro. Charlie & Sis. Len, Bro. Oli, Team Leader Bro. August & Sis. Dina Obregon, Assistant Team Servants Bro. Ren & Sis. Rheda Punzalan, Supervising Heads Bro. Vener & Sis. Mary Gayeta, Bro. Caloy & Sis. Nona Cammayo, and Sis. Maria Rivor (Handmaids Chapter Servant), along with the Handmaids service team, prayer warriors, speakers, sharers, music ministry, and tireless facilitators across all three sections.

With upcoming pastoral visits in **NCR East D2 (September 13)** and **NCR East D1 (September 26)**, the Handmaids continue to walk faithfully in mission—serving with strength, grace, and perseverance, anchored in Christ's love.





MFC SERVANTS

The mission continues for the MFC Servants, who remain steadfast in living out the call to *“Live Christ, Share Christ.”* Despite rain or shine, the section pressed on this August with a series of **Life in Christ Seminars** at the BJMP Antipolo City Jail: on **August 8** at the Female Dorm with 40 PDLs in attendance, followed by the **Male Dorm** sessions on **August 11** (50 PDLs) and **August 25** (40 PDLs). These encounters became powerful opportunities to bring Christ’s love and hope to those behind bars.

To further equip and strengthen the brethren, a **Teaching and Fellowship on Financial Stewardship** was held on **August 30** at Merced Bakeshop, EDSA, Quezon City, with Bro. Alex Dijamco as guest speaker. Looking ahead, the section prepares for its **Sportsfest** on **September 27**, a joyful occasion to foster unity and camaraderie among the Servants.

Onward march, fellow Servant Holy Warriors—continuing the mission with courage, perseverance, and unwavering faith!





MFC YOUNG COUPLES

Last **August 30–31, 2025**, the MFC Young Couples gathered in Indang, Cavite for their annual **Bond of Brothers (BOB)** and **Bond of Soul Sisters (BOSS)**, with over 50 couples in attendance. These parallel programs—one exclusively for men and the other for women—were designed to respond to the growing challenges of married life in today's fast-paced world. Through honest sharing and practical guidance, participants were encouraged to grow in personal wholeness, strengthen their faith, and embrace their role as a supportive and loving spouse. The weekend became a meaningful opportunity for couples to be renewed individually, so that together, they may continue to build strong, Christ-centered marriages.





ACT1V8 Training

The 5th ACT1V8 Training, anchored on the theme verse *“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth”* (Acts 1:8), was held last **August 1–14, 2025**. Eleven young missionaries from **MFC Youth Canada** were empowered by the Holy Spirit, renewed in zeal, and filled with passion to evangelize wherever God calls them.



Over two weeks, participants journeyed through retreats, training sessions, and immersion experiences that included serving in various **MFC sections, LCSC Missions, Restoration Village, and Mission Village**. Each activity was designed to

deepen their faith and equip them for mission.

They also took part in street evangelization at **Quezon City Memorial Circle**, sharing Christ with children, youth, professionals, and the elderly. These encounters became moments of mutual inspiration—touching lives and affirming God’s presence in every story.

The ACT1V8 experience was a powerful encounter with Jesus that set hearts ablaze, moving these missionaries to boldly say “yes” to God’s call. This activation of the Holy Spirit marks the beginning of a greater mission, as they go forth sent and set apart for His work.

Come, Holy Spirit, activate us!

MFC International Activities

MFC USA

National Conference 2025





From **July 21–27, 2025**, Missionary Families of Christ–USA gathered in Albany, New York, the state’s capital, for a week-long national conference attended by nearly **700 members**. The celebration was marked by faith, fellowship, and formation, bringing together every section of the community.

The first half of the week was dedicated to the **Youth and Campus** sections, followed by the **Kids, Singles, Handmaids, Servants, and Couples** in the latter days. In between, the community enjoyed its first-ever **Pickleball Fellowship Games**, where twelve doubles teams competed in friendly matches that added joy and camaraderie to the gathering.



The theme of the conference, *“Rejoice in hope. Endure in affliction. Persevere in prayer”* (Romans 12:12), resounded throughout all sessions and activities. Over the week, **23 speakers** shared powerful messages of hope, while the community was graced by the presence of **three bishops**:

- **Most Rev. Edward B. Scharfenberger**, Bishop of Albany, who presided over Saturday Mass;
- **Most Rev. Efren V. Esmilla**, Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia, who presided over Friday Mass; and
- **Most Rev. Emmanuel K. Rozario**, Bishop of Barishal, Bangladesh, who gave a keynote talk.

In addition, several priests—longtime friends and partners of MFC-USA in evangelization—joined the event, including Fr. Nestor Watin (Archdiocese of New York), Fr. Shenan Boquet (President of Human Life International), Fr. John Gordon (Archdiocese of Newark), and Fr. Jet Garcia (Diocese of Dallas), who even placed third in the pickleball games.

The conference was also enriched by talks from key leaders: **Bembet Salazar**, newly appointed Country Servant of MFC-USA, opened the adult conference; **Frank Padilla**, MFC Founder, delivered the third talk; **Xavy Padilla**, Servant General, shared his “12 Action Points” for the mission; **Ed Yamba**, Continent Coordinator for the Americas, spoke about evangelization in the region; and **Fr. Juancho Pilongo**, Country Servant of MFC Aruba, opened the adult sessions. Missionaries **Narcing and Lorie Eguia** and **Kobe Sornito** also gave heartfelt testimonies from the *No One in Need Mission*.



- *“Serving with the youth and seeing the Lord work through them was the highlight.”* – Connie L., MFC Singles
- *“It was fun! I met new friends and the facilitators were amazing.”* – Eiril B., MFC Kids

The conference became a true celebration of hope, unity, and mission—reminding all members that, as one community, MFC-USA is called to persevere in prayer, endure in trials, and rejoice always in the Lord.

MFC HANDMAIDS INTERNATIONAL

Austria





The mission of the Handmaids continues to flourish across the globe. In **Austria**, the community gathered twice at the MFC Center in Vienna—on **August 19** for a teaching on “*Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World*” with Sis. Marie Relucio (20–25 attendees), and on **August 21** for a program appreciation session on “*Tahanan*” with Sis. Grace Oconer (25–30 attendees), with hopes of bringing this life-situation program to Europe.

Prague





In **Prague, Czech Republic**, six Handmaids served as choir at the Church of Our Lady Victorious and Infant Jesus of Prague on **August 24**, followed by fellowship and a short teaching.

Thailand



In **Thailand**, MFC conducted a **Christian Life Seminar** from June 29 to August 3 at Assumption University in Bangkok, forming 11 new graduates from diverse backgrounds. The section now looks forward to the **Handmaids Enrichment Retreat (HER 1)** in Bangkok and Pattaya on **August 30–31**, with 20 expected participants.

Singapore



On **August 24, 2025**, four sisters graduated from the **Christian Life Seminar** facilitated by the MFC Singapore Handmaids. These new members are fruits of the LCSC initiative “*A Day for Martha*,” a monthly formation held every 4th Sunday to serve sisters who only have Sundays as their day off from work.

Canada



Meanwhile in **Canada**, over 100 sisters joined the **2025 Handmaids Congress** on **August 9–10** at Don Valley Hotel, Toronto. With the theme “*Lumina: Women of Hope*,” the gathering became two spirit-filled days of fellowship, sharing, and joyful sisterhood, including 10 Handmaids from Seattle who joined the celebration.

MFC HONGKONG



This August, the mission in Hong Kong was alive with faith-filled gatherings. On **August 16–17**, **MFC Youth Hong Kong** held a **Youth Camp**, strengthening young people in their journey with Christ. A week later, on **August 24**, the **MFC Singles Hong Kong Conference** brought together young professionals for a blessed day of fellowship and formation, encouraging everyone to “*Always Hope*” in all circumstances.

circumstances.

MFC EUROPE 30th Anniversary and Family Pilgrimage



Missionary Families of Christ (MFC) Europe joyfully celebrated its **30th Anniversary** last **August 7–10, 2025**, in **Fátima, Portugal**—a sacred place where Mama Mary appeared to the three shepherd children, calling the world to conversion and the prayer of the Holy Rosary. The four-day gathering served as a conference for all sections of MFC and became a powerful time of renewal, thanksgiving, and celebration of God’s enduring faithfulness.

The conference featured inspiring talks from **Fr. Jojo Buenafe, Sis. Grace Oconer, and Bro. Frank Padilla**, alongside separate formation tracks for the Handmaids, Young Couples, Singles, Youth, and Kids. Over **650 delegates** from across Europe came together, a true testament to how the Lord has blessed and expanded the mission over the past three decades. With one voice, MFC Europe proclaimed: *“Hope Abounds!”*—looking forward with grateful hearts and renewed trust in God’s plans for the years ahead.

Following the conference, many participants joined a **family pilgrimage** to holy sites in Portugal and Spain, including **Bom Jesus do Monte, Santiago de Compostela, Garabandal, Burgos Cathedral**, and more. This pilgrimage deepened the call to return to God, honor the True Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, and live out a life of conversion, mission, and perseverance.

Families on Mission





Every mission is a blessed opportunity to bring our families closer to Christ—and MFC continues to provide these opportunities to its members. This past August, several missionary families were sent to serve across Europe, witnessing to the truth that the call to evangelize is for the whole family.

Bro. DR and Sis. Dianne Arellano, with their 3-year-old son Lucho, went on mission to **Germany and Sweden**. **Bro. RJ and Sis. Kat Moriones**, together with their 4-year-old daughter Isabel and 11-month-old baby Juan, visited brethren in **Switzerland, Slovenia, and Austria**, giving formations, joining households, and sharing Christ through the **LCSC mission**. Meanwhile, **Bro. Mac and Sis. Trenzy**, with their children Macy and Zach, are also serving in Europe and will continue their mission for another month.

We thank God for the gift of families who respond to His call with generosity. Despite the challenges of traveling and serving with young children, His grace and provision remain abundant. Truly, we live out our identity as **Missionary Families of Christ**.

Fulltime Pastoral Worker Sharing



My decision to become a full-time missionary was not a single moment, but a gradual unfolding of a call I could no longer ignore. For six years, I, **JC Arevalo**, current MFC Kids National Section Coordinator, had the profound privilege of giving talks at retreats and recollections to many young people who were searching for purpose and the true meaning of love through the Live Pure Pillar of Live Christ, Share Christ. I became a direct witness to the Holy Spirit's power, seeing firsthand how a spoken testimony could turn lives around 180 degrees.

In witnessing these transformations, my own heart was being transformed. I realized that speaking about God's love was a gift, but living it out in total surrender was my true calling. The Lord was patiently inviting me from the sidelines to the center of His will, asking me to trust Him not just with my words, but with my entire life. I chose to become a missionary because my "yes" became the only authentic response to the overwhelming grace I had seen Him pour out on others.

That single "yes" became the gateway through which God poured out His blessings upon my own life. This mission has been the summit of my existence, a journey that has taken me all over the Philippines, where I have been embraced by our MFC community and different partners of LCSC, witnessing their incredible faith. But the Lord's faithfulness did not end there. It was on this path that He guided me to court the woman who would become my wife. It is in this community where I met **Jammie**, a beautiful and passionate sister I served with as a mission volunteer during my MFC Youth days. Even amidst the very human fear of how I would provide for a family as a missionary, God assured me that He was in control. In a tremendous leap of faith, we married, and He has provided abundantly at every turn. His ultimate blessing of grace is our cheerful son, **Enzo**, a miracle who will turn one year old this September.

In the fullness of this mission, the Lord is my provider and my compass. That is why I declare, with faith in God, that I will continue to trust in His beautiful and perfect plan—not just for my life, but for my wife and for our son, Enzo. The same God who called me, who guided me to my wife, and who blessed us with our child, is the God who holds our future.

We walk forward not in fear of uncertainty, but in the absolute certainty of His faithfulness. Our family's mission is to be a living testament that when you surrender your life to Him, He will take care of you. We are proof that God writes a story far more magnificent than we could ever imagine. This is just the beginning, and we say "yes" to all that is yet to come as He leads me and my family to be a Missionary Family of Christ.

SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES

A promotional poster for a 'Teaching Night' event. The background is a photograph of a man in a dark sweater and trousers standing on a stage, seen from behind with his right arm raised. The audience is visible in the foreground, some with their hands raised. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.


MFC – NCR Seniors

Teaching Night

Praise & Worship
Bro. Jepoy Meneses

September 9, 2025
7:00 PM – 9:30 PM
St. Francis of Assisi Parish,
Mandaluyong City





ANNUAL SENIORS RETREAT (ASR)

Seek

A RETREAT ON THE
STORY OF ZACCHEUS

September 20–21, 2025
Saint James Retreat House, Tagaytay

Turn your tithes into triumphs. Tithe now!

[View this email in your browser](#)

You are receiving this email because of your relationship with Missionary Families of Christ. Please [reconfirm](#) your interest in receiving emails from us. If you do not wish to receive any more emails, you can [unsubscribe here](#).

Visit our Social Media Pages



Facebook



Twitter



Instagram

This message was sent to xpadilla@missionaryfamiliesofchrist.org by
mfcinternalcommunications@gmail.com@14875D.clients.bmsend.com

Apartelle 12 Starmall Complex EDSA cor. Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong, Metro Manila 1552, Philippines

 [Unsubscribe](#) | [Manage Subscription](#)