



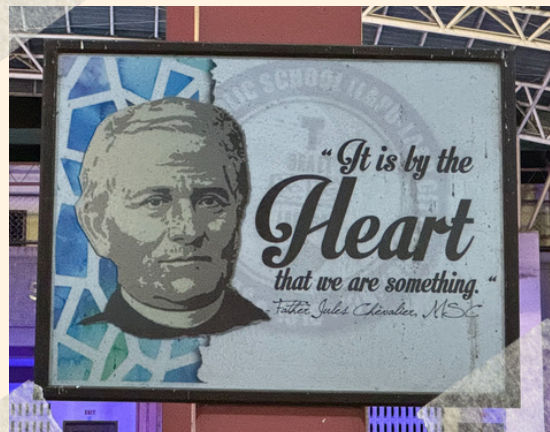
Assembly Reflection

FOURTH INTERNATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE LAITY OF THE CHEVALIER FAMILY

**Cebu, Philippines
21-29 January 2024**



Memories





Program Highlights



DAY 1

Opening Ceremony and Welcome Eucharist

DAY 2

Parish Pilgrimages and Welcome Dinner

DAY 3

'One in Heart in Caring For Our Common Home'

Keynote: Fr Ritchie Gomez

DAY 4

'Spirituality of the Heart: A Remedy For the Ills of the World'

Keynote: Boni Dano

Region Sharing: Narita Perrotta (Australia)

Voting for General Secretary: Alison McKenzie (Australia) reelected

DAY 5

Pilgrimage to Basilica Minore del Santa Nino de Cebu

DAY 6

'Spirituality of the Heart in Laudato Si, Laudate Deum, and Fratelli Tutti'

Keynote: Fr Hans Kwakman

Workshop: Aidan Johnson (Australia)

Concert

DAY 7

'We Are One, But We Are Diverse'

Keynote: Alison McKenzie (Australia)

Liturgy (Oceania, led by Australia): Contemplative Prayer, Morning Prayer, and Eucharist (with homily by Clare Johnson)

DAY 8

'Our Call To Mission'

Keynote: Rita Cleuren

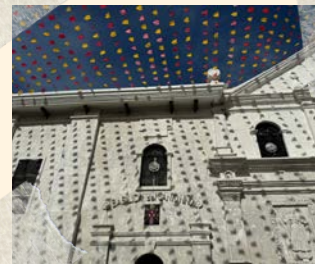
Voting on Guiding Principles and Organisational Directions

DAY 9

Closing Eucharist and Thank You



Memories





Delegate Reflection

NARITA PERROTTA



From the moment we hopped on the bus transfer, the warm hospitality of the Filipino Chevalier Family was instantly sensed. My gratitude goes to the entire Filipino hosting team, who all went above and beyond to ensure each one of us was welcomed, truly welcomed, into their local family. Their love was immediately felt and appreciated!

Interacting with and getting to know members of the Lay Chevalier Family from all over our planet was an enriching experience, as was learning of the many varied ministries reflecting the love of Jesus happening in all corners of the world. It was evident that hearts were bonded and companionships formed throughout the entire Assembly; we are one but diverse.

The heartfelt support and encouragement by all the religious present was profoundly empowering and a testimony to their overwhelming desire to journey alongside the laity in their communities.

Being in the presence of the pioneers of the Lay Chevalier Family, who have worked tirelessly and tenaciously to keep the heart flame burning alive within our worldwide lay community, was a humbling experience I will cherish forever.

I look forward to working with the Laity of the Chevalier Family Australia to plan and implement strategies the Australian representatives have created at the Assembly, to build our local Lay Chevalier Family, and to assist our brothers and sisters in communities less privileged than our own.



Memories





Delegate Reflection

LEE TOLL



What a privilege and joy to have attended the Fourth International Assembly in the Philippines!

As I looked around the room and saw 140 people from every corner of the globe, all united in one heart and spirit as we tried to address the challenge of caring for our planet, my heart soared with pride and gratitude at having the opportunity of being a part of this amazing Chevalier Family!

And I just pictured dear Jules smiling down on us all, so proud that his dream of Ametur was coming to fruition.

Such an experience was due in no small part to the organisation and hard work done by the International Council and the Philippines Assembly Organising Committee. I will forever be grateful to them, and indeed to all the participants, for providing me with such an enriching and life-changing experience!

My heart is filled with a firm resolve to do my very best to preserve and care for God's gift of Creation, our beautiful home and planet, and love for its inhabitants.



Memories





Delegate Reflection

AIDAN JOHNSON



The International Assembly was an excellent opportunity to see the extent to which the Chevalier Family really is an international family. I enjoyed meeting people from all around the world and celebrating our diversity.

The Assembly gave us a lot to think about and called us as a council and individuals to make concrete commitments to act for the environment and to build our Chevalier Family.

The sense of international connectedness is something I knew of, but I had never really experienced it quite like this.

Having the Tri-Generalates present was also a highlight. Hearing their insights and seeing the authentic support that they give to the lay movement was empowering.



Memories





Delegate Reflection

CLARE JOHNSON



Nothing could have prepared me for the whirlwind of the International Assembly! From start to finish, we were welcomed by the local communities and embraced by the international Chevalier family, both lay and religious. Joy and excitement were ever-present. Together, we laughed, sang, and danced. We shared our experiences and learned from one another. The love that surrounded us all needed no translation. We were family, and we had come home!

The Assembly program was structured to take us from our local context to a global view and on a pilgrimage from the heart and out into the world. We were inspired, formed, and nourished for our mission to be 'One in Heart' and 'Caring for Our Common Home'. We worked together in our diversity of languages, cultures, life stages, and lived experiences to bring Jules Chevalier's vision of the Laity of the Chevalier Family to reality in theological and practical ways. We made personal and national commitments as lay Chevalier Family members.

I have taken back more special memories and treasures of the heart than I can count. I have been gifted with friendships and connections across the world that enrich my perspectives on life and help me live more deeply Spirituality of the Heart.

My heart is overflowing! What a life-changing experience!



Memories





Delegate Reflection

THERESE POULTON



My reflection on the Assembly took me to the word that Pope Francis has introduced: “Synodality”, which means “walking together.” I feel, and I experienced during our time in Cebu, that we, members of the Chevalier Family throughout the world, are very much on a shared journey together.

As members of the Assembly returning to our home countries, we know we have been sent on a mission. We will begin implementing the theme and outlining proposals in our groups, parishes, and everyday life, especially the words in the statement approved during the Assembly. We will live out the International Assembly Commitment Prayer.



Memories





Commitment Prayer

FOURTH INTERNATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE LAITY OF THE CHEVALIER FAMILY



We pledge to commit ourselves to the national and international Lay Movement of the Chevalier Family, who go the way of the heart, together with the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart and the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart.

Inspired by the love of Jesus' Heart and by the charism of Father Chevalier, we feel called to be God's Heart in the world. We want to do this through prayer and reflection, study and conversation, shared activities, and a heart for vulnerable people in our society and for our earth, which is threatened in many ways. We want to get involved where we live and work or where people's needs appeal to us.

We promise to support each other in this and ask Mary, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, to assist us so that we may walk the way of the heart with Her.



Memories



AMETOUR



