

December 2004

# jesuits

in East Asia and Oceania



**Fr Kolvenbach SJ at Colegio de Sao Jose, Dili  
with teachers and students**

**Editor**

Jeremy Clarke SJ

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*Jesuits in East Asia and Oceania*

is published two times a year by

Jesuit Publications

300 Victoria Street

Richmond, VIC 3121 Australia

ACN 004 238 948

in association with the

Jesuit Conference of East Asia

PO Box 1264,

Quezon City, Philippines

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To order copies of *Jesuits in East Asia and Oceania* contact:

Jesuit Publications

PO Box 553,

Richmond, VIC 3121 Australia

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Responsibility for editorial content is accepted by The Publisher, Jesuit Publications, 300 Victoria Street, Richmond, VIC 3121 Australia.

**Cover**

Fr General at Colegio de Sao Jose, Dili, July 2004. Photo by Fr Mark Raper SJ.

## From the Editor

by Jeremy Clarke SJ

**W**hen a young man decides to join the Society of Jesus, no matter his country and no matter his age or life experience, he first undertakes a series of conversations or interviews. If as a result of these interviews, this desire to join the Jesuits seems to be God given and worth testing in a formal environment, he is admitted to the Society as a novice. During the two year novitiate he undergoes various experiences and encounters many documents. One such document, which will be one of the first he will read and pray over, is called *'The First and General Examen'* which should be proposed to all who ask for admission into the Society of Jesus.

Near the beginning of this document is a statement that defines the very soul of the Society. 'The end of this Society is to devote itself with God's grace not only to the salvation and perfection of the members' own souls, but also with that same grace to labour strenuously in giving aid toward the salvation and perfection of the souls of their neighbours.'

Around the East Asia and Oceania Assistancy this year, many young men have come forward from all walks of life to offer to serve in the Society. In this edition we introduce them to you. We ask that you keep these men, their families and all their novice directors in your prayers. The great diversity of our Assistancy is evident from the various stories told in these pages, and in order to portray something of the gift that is this diversity, we have kept the contributions mostly as they have been submitted. I am sure you'll find it interesting and inspiring reading.

This edition of *Jesuits in East Asia and Oceania* is also my last one as editor, as I continue with doctoral studies, researching the history of the Catholic communities in mainland China. Whilst I certainly cannot claim any perfection in the editions that I have produced these last few years I can nevertheless attest to these being works of strenuous labour! One of the delightful challenges of editing a magazine that tries to tell the stories of Jesuits living in lands from Burma through to Chuuk has been procuring these stories, and obtaining photographs to accompany them. I have been grateful for the many well intentioned promises of copy from busy Jesuits around the Assistancy. I also would have been more grateful if I had then received such copy of course!

One time, the challenge of getting copy from our previous president was so great that I ended up having to write the president's page myself. Zulo then maintained ever after that everywhere he went, Jesuits said it was one of the more interesting pieces he had done! At any rate it has been a privilege being entrusted with this task of holding our lives dear and telling of them to our brothers around the world and to all people who are interested in what we do. Thank you.

Finally, someone else who knows full well the challenge of procuring copy and images from busy Jesuits is Fr PJ Joseph SJ, the communications delegate for the South Asia Assistancy. He has solved this in part by coordinating a team to develop and launch the South Asia Assistancy website. Now that indeed is strenuous labour.

# Desiring to serve—our novices

Stories compiled by Sacha Bermudez-Goldman SJ assisted by novices from the region

## Korea



***Kang Eon-deok, Benedict***

was born in 1977 in Seoul. Prior to joining the Society he studied literature at college and completed his two year military service in the land forces. He also laboured as a construction worker for six months before beginning the novitiate.

***Ko Dong-kyun, Stephanus***

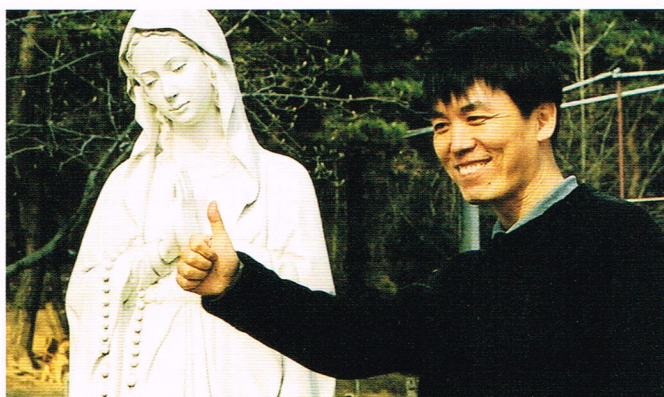
was born in Daejeon in Chungnam in 1978. He studied philosophy at college before completing his military service in the navy and then joined the Society.

***Kim Ki-hyun, Benedict***

was born in 1966 in Seoul. He completed a degree in international relations and then worked as a stockbroker and fund manager for ten years before entering the Society.

***Park Su-yun Igwan***

comes from Suanbo, Chungbuk, and was born in 1979. He studied electrical engineering before joining the Society. His military service was with the land forces.



Above: Korean novices at their novitiate in Suwon.

Left: Korean novice master Fr Sin Won-sik SJ, John.

## Korea



### *Seo Yang-won, Augustine*

was born in Seoul in 1973. As well as completing his military service with the land forces, he studied public administration and worked in an office for four years before becoming a novice.



### *Han Min, Thomas*

was born in 1977 and his native place is Kimcheon, Kyeongbuk. His military service was completed with the land forces. At college he studied mass communications and worked in an office for a year prior to joining the Society.



### *Pham Dinh Cu, Joseph*

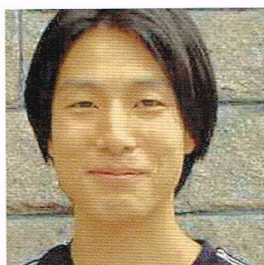
was born in Dong Nai, in 1979, and wishes to be a missionary in the future. Dong Nai is a province that runs alongside Ho Chi Minh City. His parents are Mr Pham Xuan An and Mrs Tran Thi Tien and he has four siblings. Prior to joining the Society he completed a bachelor of arts majoring in economics. His favourite sport is table tennis.



### *Phan Duc Dinh, John the Baptist*

was born in 1984 in the central province of Binh Dinh. He is the eldest of six children to Mr Phan Van That and Mrs Nguyen Thi Tanh. During his two year candidacy he made great progress in English. He wishes to make use of English as a way of gaining greater knowledge about God and the Society of Jesus. His hobbies are playing table tennis and soccer.

## Vietnam



### *Cho Sung-jae, Josef*

hales from Dangjin, Chungnam and was born in 1981. He studied German language and literature at college and completed his military service with the marines.



### *Nguyen Xuan Anh, Peter*

was born in 1983 in the northern province of Ha Tinh, and his hobbies include playing soccer and reading books. His parents are Mr Nguyen Van Due and Mrs Nguyen Thi Minh and he has four siblings. During his candidacy he studied English so that he could serve God and God's people better in the future.



### *Tran Van Dien, Joseph*

was born in the northern province of Ninh Binh in 1982. He is the third of Mr Tran Van An and Mrs Nguyen Thi Tinh's six children. He likes playing soccer and reading and wishes to be a missionary in the future.



### *Luong Tri Dung, Joseph Raphael*

comes from Ho Chi Minh City, and was born in 1981. He is the youngest child of Mr Luong Viet Phuong and Mrs Vu Thi Huong. He has four older brothers and one older sister. He obtained a bachelor in educational psychology from HCMC University of Education. He likes reading and jogging and his dream is to become an effective apostle of the poor.



***Nguyen Hoang Dung, Anthony***

from Lam Dong province, was born in 1979. He is the first of four children to his parents Mr Nguyen Cong Hoan and Mrs Nguyen Thi Nhung. He has achieved a college diploma in electrical industry from HCMC University of Technology. He displays great interest in soccer and desires to follow Christ and bear witness to His love in the world.



***Nguyen Thanh Hung, Francis Xavier***

was born in 1984 in the southern province of Kien Giang, is the sixth of seven children of Mr Nguyen Hong Van and Mrs Tran Thi Hang. During his candidacy, he enjoyed the prayer life and apostolic activities, studying English and playing soccer. He dreams of gaining a better knowledge of Jesus, so that he can fruitfully introduce Him to other people.



***Bui Vu Quang, Joseph***

was born in 1980 in Rach Gia, Kien Giang province. The eldest of four children of Mr Bui Vu Cau and Mrs Vu Huyen. He graduated from Kien Giang College of Education with a diploma of mathematics and physics and taught junior high school students for several years before joining the Jesuit House of Candidacy. He is devoted to playing soccer and wishes to become a scripture scholar.



***Dao Kim Son, Peter***

comes from the southern province of Kien Giang and was born in 1979. He is the second of Mr Dao Van Lam and Mrs Dinh Thi De's seven children. He obtained a bachelor of arts in agricultural economics from HCMC University of Economics. He likes to play table tennis and likes swimming and jogging. He desires to serve the poor, especially in the countryside.



***Tran Tien Hoang, Paul***

is the younger of the two children of Mr Tran Tien Dung and Mrs Luong Thi Noi, of Nha Trang City of Khanh Hoa central province, and was born in 1982. He is a graduate of HCMC University of Natural Sciences, holding a college diploma in information technology. His favourite sport is soccer and he wishes to share his life with the poor.



***Nguyen Thanh Nha, Joseph***

from the southern city of Can Tho, is the fourth child of Mr Nguyen Tu Ban and Mrs Nguyen Thi Yen Do and was born in 1982. Altogether he has five siblings. He loves table tennis, drama, soccer and English. He loves Jesuit life even more, or perhaps better to say, he wishes to embrace all these things in the novitiate.



***Nguyen Quang, Thomas***

of Buon Ma Thuot City of Dac-Lac highland province was born in 1981. He is the second of three children of Mr Nguyen Danh and Mrs Do Thi Hoa. He achieved a bachelor of science in information technology from HCMC University of Foreign Language and Information Technology. He is a little worried about English, but will strive to master it. He wishes to become a real Jesuit.



***Le Dinh Vinh Toan, Paul***

was born in 1982 in the highland province of Kontum and is the second of four children of his parents Mr Le Dinh Thai and Mrs Trinh Thi Kim Nga. During his candidacy, he learned English at the Vietnam-US Society. His name was very often on the Dean's honours list. He likes to play soccer and his dream is to become a man of God and a man for others.

## Indonesia



### *Alexander Asept Wicaksono*

20, like several others comes from Mertoyudan Minor Seminary and was born at Semarang.

### *Mateus Lesnanto*

24, was born in Magelang, central Java, and worked in school administration before joining the Society.

### *Antonius Yudi Anggoro*

19, is from Garum Minor Seminary, east Java. He was born at Purworejo, central Java.



### *Vincentius Ernest Justin*

23, is from Surabaya, east Java. He graduated from Gajah Mada University in psychology, and was a private teacher of piano for children before beginning the novitiate.

### *Simon Andriyan Permono*

20, was born at Semarang, central Java and is a graduate of Mertoyudan Minor Seminary.

### *Antonius Sutriyanto*

24. After high school he worked for four years and then joined Mertoyudan Minor Seminary. He was born at Wates, Yogyakarta.

### *Lukas*

is 19-years-old and is from Jakarta Minor Seminary.

### *Antonius Dhimas Hardjuna*

19, graduated from Mertoyudan Minor Seminary, and is a native of Wonosobo, central Java.

### *Simon Arief Herdian Putra Tama*

19, and is from Yogyakarta. He too attended Mertoyudan Minor Seminary.

Above and below:  
Group photos of the Indonesian novices, photo supplied by the Indonesian novitiate.

### *Paulus Budi Harsanto*

32, from Yogyakarta graduated from Atma Jaya University (Law), and worked as a manager in a garment business. Before this, he worked for three years at the Jesuit Social Apostolate at Yogya as a volunteer.

### *Rikhardus Sani Wibowo*

19, a graduate of Mertoyudan Minor Seminary, is from Wonosobo, central Java.

### *Benediktus Albert Chaerul*

42, has worked for ten years as a medical doctor. He is from Jakarta.

### *Agustinus Wahyu Dwi Anggoro*

19, is from the Mertoyudan Minor Seminary. He comes from Wates, Yogyakarta.

### *Ignatius Aditya Maharddhika*

19, is another from Mertoyudan Minor Seminary. He was born at Yogyakarta.

## Japan



### *Jun'ichi Akiyoshi*

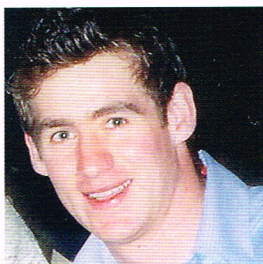
was born in 1972, and entered the Society in March 2003. He comes from a non-Catholic family. While he was studying philosophy at Yamaguchi University he became acquainted with a Jesuit priest and began to take Bible and Catechism classes at the student centre run by that Jesuit. Jun'ichi was subsequently baptized and began to think about religious life. After he obtained a masters degree in philosophy and worked for two years he joined the Society.



### *Nobuchika Muraoka*

was born in 1975, and entered the Society in March 2003. He comes from a non-Catholic family. While he was learning German in Germany he became interested in Christianity through his friend, a German priest, and was baptized. Later in Japan, Nobuchika graduated law at Shuumei University. He then worked for three years at a mechanical tool manufacturing company before joining the Society.

## Australia



**Philip Moller** 25, was born in Port Elizabeth, South Africa, and since 1988 has lived in Adelaide where he attended Saint Ignatius Collège. He studied arts (international studies) and law at the University of Adelaide, and practised as a solicitor in Banking, Finance and Insolvency at Kelly & Co, prior to joining the Jesuits. Interests include music (particularly jazz piano), cricket and rugby union, politics and current affairs, skiing and classic cars.



**Nunzio Di Benedetto** is 25-years old. Before entering the Society, he studied a bachelor of science with a psychology major. He worked various casual jobs whilst studying and was employed as a disability carer for the Department of Human Services immediately before entering the Society. Nunzio participated in a volunteer program in Nepal and travelled both in Nepal and India. His interests include bushwalking and yoga.

## Singapore-Malaysia, East Timor, Micronesia



L-R standing: Joel, Side, Diego, John Paul, Leslie, Gustavo, Jimmy, Prabath, Isau.

L-R sitting: Almanzo, Matthew, Sebastian, Calisto, Nuno, Juzito, Paolo, Isaias.

### **Isau Saldanha Borges**

I am 20 and from Dili, East Timor. I graduated from St Joseph's College. I like to play guitar, sing and listen to music. During my free time, I prefer to read newspapers especially world news and sport. By the way, I'm a simple man who wants to be in a relationship with everyone I meet. And I also have a motto 'one step at a time'.

### **Calisto Seco Colo**

I was born 5 April, 1982 in Oe-Cusse district, East Timor. I am the third son of four brothers. I graduated from a junior college specialising in agriculture. Soon after graduation, I attended the Society of Jesus pre-novitiate program. My hobbies are singing, playing volleyball, badminton and football. And yes, I enjoy horsing around with friends. For therapeutic purposes, I do a little bit of gardening. If I may add, one minute of laughter can dispel hours of sorrow.

### **John Paul Lobo Mascarenhas**

I'm 21, and I also graduated from St Joseph's College. I like to play basketball, study and listen to music. Besides these things my interests lie in the area of agriculture and gardening and playing all sorts of music.

### **Leslie Joseph Bingkasan**

I am the eldest of four from a village in Sabah, the eastern part of Malaysia. I attended university studying microbiology. During my student days, I was active in the Catholic Students Society. Before joining the Society, I worked for the *Herald*, a Catholic Weekly of Peninsular Malaysia for almost two years. I was a member of the Malay Language Apostolate of the Kuala Lumpur Archdiocese and was involved in the Charismatic Prayer group at St Anthony's, Kuala Lumpur, the parish which I attended.

### **Joel Lukan**

I hail from Yap, Federated States of Micronesia. I'm 23-years-old. I like to play basketball, chew betelnut and jog around the neighbourhood.

### **Dionisio De Jesus Lopez**

I am 22 from the district of Viqueque, East Timor. Before coming to the novitiate, I attended St Joseph's College with an eye on joining the Society. I like to play football, make friends with all people and listen to music.

### **Gustavo Soares**

I'm 19-years-old from East Timor. I finished my studies at the St Joseph's College, run by the Jesuits in East Timor. My hobbies are playing soccer, table tennis and badminton. For leisure, I like to read newspapers especially the sport section and listen to rock and hip hop music. My deepest desire in life is to become a Jesuit and I am quite sure of that. My experiences have shown that God is calling me to labour with him.

### **Isaias Abilio Caldas**

I am 19-years-old. I graduated from St Joseph's College. I like to play basketball, table tennis, badminton and read. I prefer to read psychology books rather than any other books. I like to work with the youth, poor and marginalised, but preferably with young adolescents.

# Philippines



**Fernando V. Abing** was born on 30 May 1973. Andy, as he is fondly called, hales from the central part of the Philippine archipelago, Tagbilaran City, in the island province of Bohol, known for its world famous Chocolate Hills. He graduated a bachelor of science in computer engineering in 1995 from the University of San Carlos in Cebu City. Immediately after graduation he worked as a system engineer at Systems Standards Inc., an IBM computers specialised firm. His field of expertise is on the IBM AS/400 mid-range computers. After four years of work, he entered the Society's Philippine Province on 30 May 2000. But later on he decided to discern further outside of the novitiate. While he was out, he felt a gripping conviction that he could serve God better as a Jesuit. Besides, this is his and, hopefully God's desire for him. Thus, in May 2003 he returned to the Sacred Heart Novitiate.



**Guillrey Anthony M. Andal** is known to his friends by his nickname Ernald: from his parents names Erlinda and Reynaldo. He was born on 5 March 1976 in Quezon City, Philippines. Sixteen years of his student life was spent in the Ateneo de Manila University. He graduated with a bachelor of arts majoring in management economics in 1998. It was in this Jesuit University where he was actively involved in various socio-spiritual organisations like the Ateneo Catechetical Instruction League and Enablado ( a socially oriented theatre group). After graduation, he worked for the Bank of the Philippine Islands as part of its Consumer Banking Group line management, in charge of retail banking operations. During his five year stay in the country's leading Universal bank, he was assigned to three different branches of varying deposit levels and clientele. On 5 November 2002 he entered Arvisu House, the Jesuit pre-novitiate in Quezon City, where he finally decided to enter the Sacred Heart Novitiate on 30 May 2003.



**Eric Anthony S. Escandor** is a second year novice of the Society of Jesus. He was born on 15 May 1983 in Iligan City, which is in Mindanao. At 21, he is the youngest member of the Philippine Province. He graduated from Xavier University, in Cagayan de Oro City, with a bachelor of arts majoring in international studies. He entered 30 May 2003, two months after graduating from college. Before entering, he spent almost three years discerning his vocation in Haggerty House Jesuit pre-novitiate, Xavier University.



**Efren Jong' Junio Oledan** was born 8 June 1980 in Iligan City, in the province of Lanao del Norte. He entered a college diocesan seminary after his second year in college. He joined a religious congregation after finishing his bachelor's degree in philosophy. From many choices, he selected the Society of Jesus. In May 2003, he entered Arvisu pre-novitiate House to clarify his vocation to the Jesuit life in discernment. Two semesters later, he resolved to apply to the Society and was accepted in March 2004.



**Chrysostom B. Exaltacion** is a 28-year-old novice, born 5 June 1976 in Cebu City, Philippines. Chrys earned his bachelor of science in electronics and communications engineering from Cebu Institute of Technology in March 1997 and passed the ECE Licensure Examination in April 1997. He worked as a full time telecom engineer at Bayan Telecommunications Inc. Philippines for five and a half years. He also worked as a part-time instructor at AMA Computer College (1998), Immaculada Concepcion University (2000), and Ateneo de Davao University (2000). One of his passions is teaching. He taught Algebra and Trigonometry, Advanced Engineering Math, Data Communications, and other engineering subjects in the aforementioned schools. His great interests are in physics and astronomy. He entered the Society of Jesus on 30 May 2003.





**Ambrosio F. Flores**

from Cebu, the central island in the Philippines. At 31, Bros, as he is called by friends, is a second year novice. He holds a professional license in Chemical Engineering. Prior to his entry to the Society, he worked as quality assurance manager and quality systems assessor in East Asia for Procter and Gamble, Philippines. After a five year stint with P&G, he went into volunteer work for a Charismatic group as its national administrator and pastoral worker for its various branches nationwide.



**Ronnie Angelo Duño**

30, comes from San Juan, Apalit, Pampanga. He has a bachelor of science in chemistry from Central Luzon State University and a diploma in science teaching, chemistry major, from the University of the Philippines–Open University. Prior to joining the Jesuits, he was an instructor at Tarlac State University for seven years.



**Erik John J. Gerilla**

is 27-years-old, and was born on 9 October 1977 and comes from Davao City, Southern Mindanao. He graduated from Ateneo de Davao University with a bachelor of science in accountancy. After college he worked as Assistant Accounting Manager of Royal Mandaya Hotel in Davao City. Right after passing the CPA Board Exam, he joined his former alma mater, as an accounting instructor in the college unit. A couple of years after that, he made a radical career shift by doing full-time campus ministry for the same school. He entered the Society of Jesus on 30 May 2003.



**Joseph Emmanuel A. Liwanag (Joel)**

was born in Manila on 13 December 1980. He graduated Ateneo de Manila University with a bachelor's degree in communications technology management in March 2002. Although he has not been exposed to a formal work setting, his active involvement in a number of student organisations provided him with experiences to hone his organisational, management, and leadership skills. After becoming president of AIESEC in Ateneo de Manila University, he moved on to work for AIESEC Philippines Foundation, Inc. While he was working for this organisation, he decided to enter the Arvisu House Jesuit pre-novitiate in November 2002. Six months later, Joel entered the Sacred Heart Novitiate 30 May 2003.



**Ruben B. Orbeta Jr.**

was born 17 May 1980, is a novice from Cebu City, Philippines. He finished a bachelor's degree in psychology and pursued a master's degree in guidance, though he didn't finish it due to his entrance to the Sacred Heart Novitiate. He last worked at a university in Cebu City that caters mainly to poor and working students as a guidance counsellor. A goal of his in joining religious life is to continue his legacy of service to humanity more effectively and more lovingly as a Jesuit himself.



**Arnel T. Ong**

was born on 31 October 1978 in Davao City, Philippines. He is fondly called Atong. He graduated Ateneo de Davao University with a bachelor of science majoring in management accounting. He formerly worked for the China Banking Corporation for four years. He entered the Society this year.



**Gabriel Gonzalez Pestaño**

or 'Gabe' as he is known at the Sacred Heart Novitiate, is a 35-year-old second year novice who desires to become a Jesuit Brother. He was born and raised in Manila. He graduated from the Ateneo de Manila High School. After studying two years of college (management engineering) he immigrated to Canada where he managed several family businesses: two Chevron gas stations and a Filipino grocery store. Gabe enlisted in the Canadian Armed Forces Primary Reserve and had his general military and trades training at the Royal Canadian Artillery Battle School at Shiloh, Manitoba. He is an expert in information technology. His speciality is networking, pc troubleshooting, system and web administration, development and programming. Gabe's passion is sports! He loves to play football, basketball, and chess.



**Neupito J. Saicon Jr.**

graduated from one of the universities run by the Society in Mindanao, Xavier University-Ateneo de Cagayan, with a bachelor of science in information management. He 25-years-old and a second year novice of the Philippine Province. Before he entered, he was a teacher at Lourdes College in Cagayan de Oro City for three years. Teaching computer and accounting subjects to high school and college students. He entered Haggerty House, one of the four pre-novitiate houses run by the Province in 2002 and entered the novitiate the following year.



**Wilber Tobe**

is fondly called various nicknames by friends, but he grew up being called Bhong. He was born 16 October 1980 and is from Tadian, Mt. Province. He has a bachelor's degree in philosophy from St Louis University in Baguio City. Before entering Arvisu House Jesuit pre-novitiate, he was a college seminarian of the CICM.



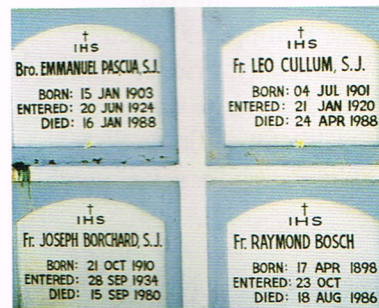
**Honorato Cruz Salazar, III**

or 'Atoy' to his friends, is a 30-year-old second year novice. He is the youngest of four, and grew up in his home city, Manila. He had his elementary and high school education at the Ateneo de Manila University. He studied a bachelor of science in biology as a pre-med course at the University of the Philippines, Manila (1992-1996). He went on to finish his medical studies at the University of the East Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center, Manila (1996-2000). He successfully passed the Physician's Licensure Examination in August 2001 and was hoping to continue in obstetrics and gynaecology. However, he heard a different call. As part of the human race, he enjoys reading fiction and the classics of literature, watching movies, dining out with friends, snorkelling, and travelling. He is also into singing, being part of a music ministry, Hanagad, since his high school days, was recently invited to join the Himig Heswita, a music ministry composed of Jesuits, Cenacle sisters and lay friends. He entered the novitiate on 31 May 2003.



**Rico J. Adapon**

was born 6 October 1976 in Palahanan II, San Juan, Batangas. He is the tenth child of Mr. Bonifacio-Perez Adapon and Mrs. Vicenta-Jaen Adapon. He belongs to a middle income family. Both of his parents are living in Batangas as farmers with an ample land to till. He graduated from the Polytechnic University of the Philippines with a bachelor of science in industrial psychology in April 1997. He was a recipient of a scholarship grant from the Ateneo Social Service Centre by the late Fr Paul G Brunner, SJ. Before entering religious life, he worked as a Senior Global Business Agent of Mail and More Inc., -an affiliate of Federal Express Philippines. He decided to apply as novice of the Society of Jesus after a year of discernment in Arvisu House pre-novitiate last 30 May 2004.





**Rogelio I. Delmonte Jr.**

is 23-years-old, and has the nickname Junjun. He comes from Cabanglasan, Bukidnon. His place used to be one of the mission districts of the Jesuits in the Philippines. He was born when a Jesuit missionary, Fr Ferruccio Leoni, SJ came to his place and built a church near his residence way back in 1981. He graduated from college in a Diocesan Seminary taking up bachelor of arts with a major in theology and a philosophy minor. After five years of college seminary formation, he entered the Jesuit pre-novitiate in Haggerty House within Xavier University's main campus, Cagayan de Oro City. He worked for a semester as assistant Campus Minister in Xavier University High School and another semester teaching Religion subjects to elementary pupils at Kong Hua School, Cagayan de Oro City. The following year, he entered the Sacred Heart Novitiate, Novaliches, Quezon City, Philippines.



**Alvin D. Laput**

born 11 April 1974 in Butuan City, in the province of Agusan del Norte, He is the ninth child of Engr. and Mrs Ireneo N. Laput. In 1996 he graduated with a bachelor of science in civil engineering from Mindanao State University, and passed the Licensure Examination for Civil Engineering. Alvin worked for a few private construction firms, but primarily for the government in the Department of Public Works and Highways. He was involved with Ang Lingkod ng Panginoon (The servants of the Lord), a group for young adults for more than two years, before joining the pre-novitiate community in Metro, Manila.



**Jose Cyrus N. Lobrigas**

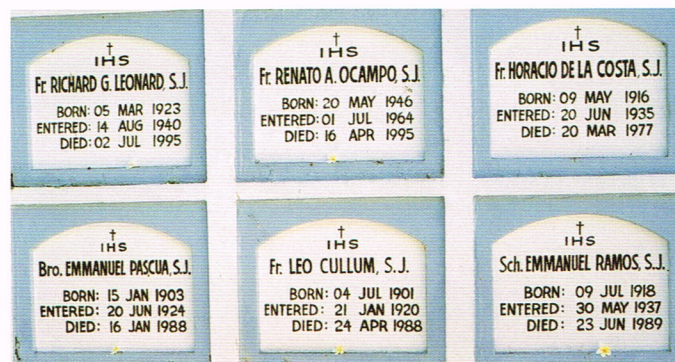
was born 18 April 1973 in Tagbilaran city. He came from the Visayas region, in the province of Bohol, in the town of Maribojoc, in Barrangay Aliguay. He finished bachelor of science in industrial technology major in architectural drafting. Prior to joining the Jesuit pre-novitiate he worked as a draftsman for four years in an American-British furniture company in Cebu city. He entered Sedeño House, the Jesuit pre-novitiate in June 2003. During the pre-novitiate program he volunteered to work in the Apostleship of the Sea (AOS) with Fr Roland Doriol, SJ the chaplain of AOS, Cebu Chapter. He worked with him in the Campus Ministry Department in a Maritime University. He also helped Fr Roland Doriol, SJ to supervise the construction of their new building.



**Mark Peter Ledesma Lopez**

was born 2 June 1976. He graduated with a bachelor of science in management engineering from Ateneo de Manila University. Mark was the Executive Director of the Jesuit Volunteers Philippines (JVP) Foundation, Inc. until his entry to the novitiate in May 2004. Prior to this, he worked for various non-profit organisations; the UNDP, the Philippine Development Assistance Program, and Venture for Fund Raising. Other than his experience in organisational and program management, he had direct development experience with various grass root groups—providing capability and livelihood development assistance to fishermen, farmers, and indigenous peoples—and international exposure—managing a seven country research project on resource mobilisation. Since college, Mark has been involved with Hangad (a choral in the Jesuit Music Ministry) in different roles: in recordings and concerts, song writing, copywriter and production. His interests include music, travel, art films, bonsai culture, and photography.

Headstones at the Sacred Heart Novitiate





***Ivan Jacob Agaloos Pesigan***

was born 27 October 1982, in Caloocan, Philippines. He grew up in Meycauayan, Bulacan and spent his elementary school days there. At the age of 11, he entered the Archdiocesan High School Seminary of the Archdiocese of Lipa (St Francis de Sales Minor Seminary). After finishing high school, he pursued his priestly formation at the Archdiocesan College Seminary of the same Archdiocese (St Francis de Sales Major Seminary). After much discernment and searching for God's true call, he decided to leave the Archdiocese to apply to the Society of Jesus. In April 2003, one month after his college graduation, he was accepted to the pre-novitiate. He was asked to go to Davao City to teach at the Ateneo de Davao University High School at the same time continue his discernment and formation at Daigler House Jesuit pre-novitiate in the same city. After a year, he was accepted to the novitiate. In May 2004 he entered the Sacred Heart Novitiate.



***Henry C. Ponce***

is a portrait artist who comes from Cebu City, Philippines. He was born on 15 July 1974. He graduated in 1996 with a bachelor of science in civil engineering at the University of San Carlos –Technological Center. It was also in this University where he was actively involved in organisations like the Catholic Charismatic Carolinians and the campus ministry. After graduation, he worked for a construction company for three months. Later he transferred to Tsuneishi Technical Services (Phils.), Inc. (TTSP—a Japanese shipbuilding company) and worked as a design engineer for almost seven years. He was also a very active member of the Sacred Heart Charismatic Community and the Local Evangelisation Ministry of the Archdiocese of Cebu. On 7 June 2003 he entered Sedeño House, the Jesuit pre-novitiate in Cebu City, where after much discernment, he decided to enter the Sacred Heart Novitiate in May 2004.



***Charles Ken Rosales Realuyo***

was born on 9 August 1979, in the province of Bicol, Naga City. He is also known as 'I.B'—incubator baby. He was born two months premature, and the remaining time was spent in a incubator, from which he got his initials. He grew up moving from place to place, due to his father's unpredictable work assignments. He lived in Surabaya, Indonesia for four years; his longest residence before finally settling in Manila. He spent his high school in Surabaya International School. After which he moved to Manila to take up a double major degree—international studies (American) and marketing management, De LaSalle University. He later dropped his international studies because of his commitment to the university's athletics varsity, through which he maintained a scholarship. After earning the degree in marketing management, he had a chance to work in Du Pont, Philippines, as a marketing trainee and logistic officer. At the age of 24 he applied to the Jesuit pre-novitiate program. The discernment program helped the transition from lay to novitiate life.



***Benigno S. Ybañez Jr.***

is also called Junjun. He is one of the 13 men who entered the Sacred Heart Novitiate, at Novaliches, Quezon City, in May this year. He is from Maragusan, Compostela Valley (formerly part of Davao del Norte), Philippines. Junjun has a bachelor of science in computer science. Prior to his computer studies, he spent four years in a religious seminary studying philosophy. After working for five years as a computer instructor, his desire of serving the Lord through priesthood brought him to spending a year of his life as a pre-novice at Daigler House, the Jesuit pre-novitiate in Davao City, for a more focused discernment. In his pre-novitiate days, he worked at the high school unit of the Ateneo University in Davao as a computer instructor. Junjun is about to be 31-years-old on 13 December this year.