

Dear Brothers,

I hope you manage to stay cool in this hot and humid weather.

Attached please find an update from me.

Find also the retreat schedule in the attachment.

God bless you.

Brad

Aug. 4, 2022

UPDATE:

"Ten Days for Peace": August 6 – 15



The "Ten Days for Peace" is the annual period of prayer held by the Church in Japan from August 6 to 15, to remember the victims of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. This was established by the Japanese Bishops in 1982, following Pope John Paul II's "Appeal for Peace at Hiroshima" (25 February 1981) during his Apostolic Journey to Japan, in which he emphasized that *"remembering the past is engaging for the future"*. During his visit to the Country in November 2019, Pope Francis further added that the possession of nuclear weapons is also immoral, and for peace to flourish, all people need to lay down the weapons of war.

Today, Russia's invasion of Ukraine, North Korea's nuclear program, the territorial disputes in the South China Sea and the threat of nuclear war etc. have made people live in constant fear. Also, the present pandemic, the recent economic and political crisis in Sri Lanka and the growing political instability in Myanmar have made life very insecure and fragile. As a result, people continue to struggle for their survival. In this background, we enter the "Ten Days for Peace".

In his Easter message, Pope Francis said, "Every war brings in its wake consequences that affect the entire human family: from grief and mourning to the drama of refugees, and to the economic and food crisis." He then concluded his message with this call: "Brothers and sisters, may we be won over by the peace of Christ! Peace is possible; peace is a duty; peace is everyone's primary responsibility!"

During the Ten Days of Prayer for Peace, let us think and reflect about our responsibilities to peace, and try to raise our voices and take action to create a just society.

Renewal of Vows:

Our scholastics - Justin, Paul, Peter & Sabino will renew their vows this month.

Paul, Peter & Sabino (Manila) on **August 15**

Justin (Suwon) on **August 22**

Please remember to pray for them.

Annual Retreat: Sept. 5 – 8

Theme: "Growing with the Culture of Synodality into God's Reign"

Preacher: Fr. Maria Arul Raja A, SJ (conference via zoom)

Please see that on Sept. 5th you arrive in Kochi before 2 PM because as we have been already informed by Bro. Yagi, there will be a 2nd gathering in preparation for our 75 years of arrival in Japan in the afternoon.

- Accommodation & lunch on Sept. 5th:

Please inform Fr. Ken-ichi (kensuke0157@hotmail.com) before **August 20th** so that we can order for lunch and reserve rooms at a nearby hotel/lodge.

- Prayers:

For better participation, our retreat master suggests that we have a Collective Initial Prayer (5 minutes) at the beginning of the 1st conference in the morning, and a Collective Concluding Prayer at the end of the 2nd conference in the afternoon.

These 5-minute prayers could have the following components:

- (1) a brief reading from the Spiritual Resources of the OMI
- (2) a simple bullet of reflection,
- (3) a silent moment, and
- (4) a single verse of a popular song on Mother Mary

Collective Initial & Concluding Prayers in District –

Day 1: Sept. 6 – Kochi district

Day 2: Sept. 7 – Fukuoka district

Day 3: Sept 8 – Honshu-Tokushima district

District Superiors, please see that you prepare these prayers with the help of your district members. Also, as mentioned in the attached retreat schedule, the liturgy during the retreat will be conducted in districts.

Prayer request:

Jude has tested positive for Covid-19 and is in isolation for 10 days. I had a chat with him this morning and he did not sound good. Please remember to pray for him and also for some of his parishioners who have also contracted the virus.



Thank you.

Brad Rozairo

2022 OBLATE DELEGATION RETREAT SCHEDULE

Retreat Master: Fr. Maria Arul Raja A, SJ

SEPT. 5 (MON): Arrival in Kochi

SEPT. 6 (TUE) ~ 7 (WED)

08:00 AM	Breakfast
09:30	Morning prayer & Eucharist
10:30	Conference 1
11:30	Personal prayer & reflection
12:00 PM	Lunch
15:00	Coffee break
15:30	Conference 2
17:00	Eucharistic adoration
18:00	Supper
20:00	Social hour

SEPT. 8 (THU)

08:00 AM	Breakfast
09:30	Morning prayer & Eucharist
10:30	Conference - (last talk)
11:30	Business meeting
12:00 PM	Lunch

LITURGY: MORNING PRAYER & EUCHARIST

SEPT. 6: HONSHU-TOKUSHIMA DISTRICT

SEPT. 7: FUKUOKA DISTRICT

SEPT. 8: KOCHI DISTRICT