



# A N C I E N T STRAIGHT FAITH

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## Philippine Antiochian Vicar back from Clergy Symposium in Sydney, Australia



*Metropolitan Archbishop Paul Saliba with the Philippine Vicar in October 2008 during the ordination of 7 Deacons and Chrismation (Confirmation) of 442 new Orthodox Christians in Bagong Nayon 2, Antipolo City.*

### New Sub-Deacon installed

Another addition to the Orthodox clergy under the Antiochian Archdiocese Manila vicariate was formally installed by the Vicar General and Auxiliary

to the Metropolitan Archbishop, the Very Reverend Archpriest Pascualito D. Monsanto, at the church of Theotokos last March 21, 2009  
Chris Vianzon of

The Vicar of the Antiochian Orthodox Catholic Church in the Philippines, Manila Vicariate, the Very Reverend Archpriest Pascualito D. Monsanto, arrived in Manila last May 11, 2009 from his trip to Australia. He attended a 10-day yearly Symposium of the Antiochian Clergy belonging to the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of Australia, New Zealand and the Philippines. *p. 5*

Orani, Bataan, a former novice Cartussian monk from England is now a sub-deacon of the Antiochian Orthodox Church and will be assigned...

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## **EDITORIAL**

### **Patience and perseverance-virtues to strengthen our newly ordained priests**

The Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church is new in the Philippines and so are the members of the clergy. The first ordination of the Manila Vicariate was in May 22, 2008 followed in September last year with 13 priests, 10 deacons and 3 sub-deacons ordained by His Eminence Metropolitan Archbishop Paul Saliba, Primate of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of Australia, New Zealand and the Philippines.

Along with the ordination was the formal establishment of eight parishes and seven missions under the Manila Vicariate. Incidentally, seven parishes were also established in the second Antiochian Vicariate in Davao City.

The Vicariate had also established its Chancery (Office) beside the church of the Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Pangarap Village, Calookan City. In recent communications, we've learned that most of our parishes are active under the leadership of dependable parish priests and supported by equally energetic laity. However, some of our ordained priests are still unable to fully take off yet and despite their efforts, have failed to establish their own parishes until now. Understandable is the lack of resources, particularly the necessary funds considering that our church is still in its infancy stage in this country. But of course we give due credit to some who were able to create their own parishes with whatever available materials and resources they were able to produce and also continue to increase their membership. Indeed, if our desire to serve God Almighty is so great, then there is no reason why we can't do so with a little patience and perseverance to keep us going. With His help and those of kindhearted individuals in our ancient faith, We can finally accomplish our mission in the Philippines, that of expanding the true church established on earth by our Beloved Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ Himself.

**Christ is in our midst! He was and will always be.**