

SPC SPIRITUAL RENEWAL
Welcome Message – June 16, 2014

“And early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus arose and went out and departed to a lonely place, and was praying there” ([Mark 1:35](#)). You, the participants of the June 16 to July 26, 2014 Renewal Program, are following the lead of Jesus our Master, as you take leave from your busy life to embark on a spiritual journey into God’s time, place, and presence. Likewise, we the members of the Provincial Administration, are spending three days of prayer and reflection in St. Paul Center for Renewal at the start of our new ministry as spiritual leaders and animators of our Congregation in the Philippines in the next five years. Let us therefore accompany one another with our prayers. United in prayer and spirit, we will experience the strength of our fraternal communion in Christ.

We, the members of the Provincial Administration, convey our loving and warm welcome to all participants of this forty-day Renewal Program. It is with deep regret that we are not physically present during this Welcome and Opening Liturgy. We assure you, however, that we are with you in prayer and spirit as you embark on this very important spiritual renewal program.

You have left your community and workplace, excited and enthusiastic to spend 40 days in prayer, reflection, soul-searching, and renewal of fraternal friendship with the Sisters in your entrance batch. By entering into this renewal program, you are in effect returning to the sources, represented primarily by the Sacred Scriptures, which are the embodiment of the person of Jesus Christ, whom you are seeking. This renewal program is likewise revisiting the charism and spirituality of our founders, and therefore, of our beloved Congregation.

May you profit very much from the renewal program, which has been created for the purpose of providing guidance for your on-going formation within the context of our SPC spirituality: some updating in theology, Scripture, meaning-making, visioning, and other related areas. May your body and spirit be recharged and refreshed by the beauty of nature around you and the warm atmosphere of love, friendship, and mutual affection among you. May the renewal program help you sort out your life, revitalize your generosity and initial response to God’s call, and help you see the direction to where God is leading you. May it bring renewed fire to your spiritual life.

We thank the Lord for the gift and blessing that you have been to the Church and our beloved Congregation. You do all of us proud because you have offered yourselves generously to the Congregation, which has grown because of you.

SPC Renewalists: **ALIVE IN THE WORD AND LIGHT OF THE WORLD.** May GOD make your lives an instrument of His glory, like a brilliant fire, to lighten up the world around you, and may you make God’s words your own that will make others feel and experience His presence and action in their lives. May God fill your life with His life and love! The Council and I keep all of you in our hearts. Have a grace- and joy-filled renewal!