

## A Grace-Filled Day of Our First Profession

On 17 June 2025, we, fifteen newly professed Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Apparition, celebrated one of the most sacred and joyful moments of our journey — our First Profession of Vows. With grateful hearts, we gathered at Holy Cross Parish, where Rev. Father Roger S. Posita led the solemn Eucharistic celebration. The church, beautifully decorated with flowers, was filled with peace and the joyful presence of our sisters, friends, and parish community.

Our chosen motto for this special day was:

**“Let all that you do be done in love” (1 Corinthians 16:14).**

This Scripture inspired our preparation and guided us as we offered our lives to God in love and wholehearted service.

One of the most moving moments was the profession of vows. One by one, Sister M.R., our formator, gently called our names. With voices filled with faith and devotion, we professed our vows of chastity, poverty, and obedience before God and the Church. It was a sacred act of surrender, joy, and deep commitment.

Sister May Rose Joseph, Delegation Head of the Myanmar-Philippine Province, officially received our vows. Her presence and warm encouragement gave even greater meaning to the celebration, as she welcomed us more fully into the life and mission of the Congregation.

After the vows, each of us received a Cross; a simple yet powerful symbol of our consecration. As we held it close to our hearts, we were reminded of Christ’s love and the mission now entrusted to us.

In a heartfelt expression of gratitude, we lifted our voices in song, praying the *Magnificat* together; Mary’s hymn of praise to God. It was a beautiful moment of unity, echoing our deep thanksgiving for the great things the Lord has done in our lives.

Another meaningful part of the celebration was the offering of personal symbols. Each sister placed her symbol before the altar; a unique sign of her journey, hopes, and offering to God. These simple yet profound gestures reflected our desire to follow Christ faithfully in the spirit of our foundress, Saint Emilie de Vialar.

Though some of our sisters, family members, and loved ones couldn’t be with us in person, we felt their prayerful support and love. Many joined us via live stream, uniting us in spirit and celebration.

After the Mass, the joy continued at the Formation House, where we shared a fraternal meal with our sisters, friends, and guests. The room was alive with songs of congratulations, warm conversations, and joyful laughter. A special moment was when we, the newly professed, gathered to cut a beautifully decorated cake; a sweet symbol of our new beginning in religious life.

This day remains an unforgettable grace; a celebration of love, joy, and surrender. With hearts full of gratitude, we thank God for His enduring faithfulness. Entrusting our lives to Him, we pray for the grace to remain faithful to our calling, always guided by our motto:

**“Let all that you do be done in love.”**