



PROVINCE OF ST. EZEKIEL MORENO

Chapter Chronicle

May 17, 2025

Pre-Chapter Issue



St. Ezekiel Province Gears Up for 9th Provincial Chapter

It's now all systems go!

Amid the atmosphere of rejoicing within the universal Church following the recent election of Pope Leo XIV, the members of the St. Ezekiel Moreno Province turn their prayerful attention toward the Talavera House of Prayer in Cebu City where the much-anticipated 9th Provincial Chapter will begin on May 19, Monday.

The Province's Silver Legacy

This 9th Provincial Chapter marks a pivotal moment in the life of the Province, which has recently celebrated its silver founding jubilee (1998–2024). The milestone has rekindled reflection on the Province's mission and growth. As the Church, the Order, and the Province face evolving pastoral challenges, the Chapter offers a crucial opportunity for capitulars to evaluate present realities, discern new paths, and craft decisions that will responsibly shape the years ahead.

Though the future remains uncertain, the experience of the past 25 years—combined with the present moment—points to the Divine Providence at work with and through the brothers spread mainly in five countries/territories: the Philippines, Sierra Leone, Indonesia, Saipan, and Vietnam. The Chapter becomes not just a time for “special” governance, but also for spiritual renewal and recommitment to the mission entrusted to the Province and its constituents.

TWG Finalizes Preparations

On May 13, 2025, the day after the Philippine national and local elections, the seven-member Chapter Secretariat—also known as the Technical Working Group (TWG)—gathered at the Chapter venue to finalize the preparations. The team includes Frays Leander Barrot, Reynaldo Jaranilla, Robin Ross Plata, Julius James Tinapao, Chrislean Rey Pamilaga, and Ma'am Brenda Saliendra, a Sister-General of the Order. Fray Jose Ernil Almayo, the incumbent Provincial Secretary, leads the group.

Tasked with overseeing logistical and technical arrangements, the TWG is responsible for setting up the venue, securing necessary equipment and materials, and facilitating a “less paper” proceedings in line with the Province's sustainability efforts. Their work also encompasses the demands of documentation: from recording, transcription, and translation to editing and layout design; from photography and videography to post-Chapter publication—ensuring a seamless and well-documented event of the triennium.

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✚ Moving Forward in Faith

With the TWG laying the groundwork, the Province now eagerly awaits the formal opening of the Chapter. Trusting in the unfailing intercession of St. Augustine, our Father, St. Ezekiel Moreno, our Patron, and the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Province prays for the guidance of the Holy Spirit upon the 28 Capitulars—that they may lead the Province “onward in gratitude, fidelity, and hope.”

1 The Current Capitulars arranged by age, and their local community, designation, and birthday.

CAPITULARS	COMMUNITY	DESIGNATION	BIRTHDAY	AGE
Samson S. Silloriquenz	Urbiztondo	Parish Priest	June 28, 1954	70
René F. Paglinawan	Generalate	General Archivist	Sept. 8, 1956	68
Dionisio Q. Selma	Antipolo	former Prior Provincial	Oct. 26, 1959	65
Bernard C. Amparado	Provincialate	reelected Prior Provincial	Feb. 4, 1962	63
Raul M. Buhay	Balamban	School Director	June 1, 1962	62
Eduardo S. Celiz Jr.	Cebu	University President	August 4, 1964	60
Miguel Angel D. Hernández	Generalate	Prior General	Jan. 19, 1965	60
Leander V. Barrot	Cebu	2 nd Provincial Councilor	Aug. 22, 1965	59
Paulino H. Dacanay	Inagawan	Parish Priest	June 22, 1966	58
Anthony A. Morillo	Talisay	3 rd Provincial Councilor	Sept. 15, 1970	54
Joel A. Alve	Bacolod	University President	Sept. 19, 1970	54
Nelson S. Plohimon	Saipan	Prior	June 16, 1971	53
Jose Ernil F. Almayo	Provincialate	Provincial Secretary	July 25, 1971	53
Jose Alden B. Alipin	Cebu	VP-Academics	Dec. 31, 1971	53
Jonathan V. Jamero	Kamalo	Religious Brother	April 23, 1972	52
Bob T. Cabanag	Baguio	Master of Aspirants-Post.	April 24, 1973	51
Arnel F. Diaz	Manila	Basic Education Director	Oct. 18, 1973	51
Edgar P. Tubio	Manila	Parish Priest	Oct. 22, 1974	50
Gideon Antolin U. Lagrimas	Cavite	LVP/RAY In-charge	Aug. 1, 1975	49
Joseph Dexter D. Palagtiosa	Cavite	Chancellor	Jan. 18, 1977	47
Russell C. Lapidez	Ledo	Prior	June 1, 1977	47
Rafael B. Pecson	Manila	4 th Provincial Councilor	April 24, 1978	46
Ian Anthony R. Espartero	Miranila	Prior	Jan. 8, 1980	44
Arian Josef M. Ocheda	Antipolo	Master of Prenovices	July 24, 1981	43
Kenneth Joseph L. Onda	Miranila	Vicar of the Province	July 17, 1982	42
James C. Castelo	Miranila	Master of the Professed	Feb. 5, 1984	40
Hector C. Gonzales	Manila	Parochial Vicar	April 29, 1986	38
Kenneth S. Caligdong	Kamabai	Mission Head – S. Leone	Dec. 4, 1990	34
Mean Age				52.36

✓ Observations:

- This number of capitulars (i.e., 28) equals that of the 2022 chapter. This is an increase of one to the 27 total number of capitulars in 2018 touted then as “so far the highest number ... in all Provincial Chapters of St. Ezekiel Moreno Province.”
- The capitulars' average age is 52.36, which is the highest among the previous chapters: 51.85 in the 2022 chapter, 50.33 in the 2018 chapter, and 49.00 in the 2015 chapter. Speaking of the Province's senescence and the reality of aging...
- Recoletos de Manila has the most number of attendance: four (4) friars.
- Following the streamlined guidelines for the election of the Prior Provincial, the (re)election of Fray Bernard Amparado even before the start of the chapter is unprecedented.

TRIVIA: THE NUMERICAL SIDE VIEW (AND OTHER VIEWS) RELATED TO THE 9TH PROVINCIAL CHAPTER

No doubt, 2025 is such a historic year. A Jubilee year declared by the pope who died on the same year. And in which year another pope, “a son of St. Augustine” and the fourth in non-Italian succession, got elected to continue the Petrine ministry.

Although we are almost halfway through 2025, we, in the Province of St. Ezekiel Moreno, can still feel the breeze of the silver anniversary of our First Provincial Chapter held on November 1999. Which means, November 2024 marked not just the culmination of the 25th founding anniversary celebration of the Province but also the 25th anniversary of the Province's first provincial chapter which took place in Talavera House of Prayer (Cebu City).

As we bask in the overflowing blessings of these milestones, we would like to take a look at the preparations being made in view of the 9th Provincial Chapter which will start on Monday, May 19, also here in Talavera.

Here is a “side view,” with some added views, on the numerical aspects of the said chapter.



2 The Capitulars arranged by date of simple profession, and their Province of origin

CAPITULARS	PROVINCE OF ORIGIN	SIMPLE PROFESSION	SEQ
Samson S. Silloriquez	Iloilo	June 19, 1977	28
René F. Paglinawan	Negros Occidental	June 19, 1977	27
Dionisio Q. Selma	Cebu	July 5, 1981	26
Bernard C. Amparado	Cebu	June 11, 1983	25
Raul M. Buhay	Surigao del Sur	June 10, 1984	24
Miguel Angel D. Hernández	Madrid (Spain)	June 24, 1984	23
Eduardo S. Celiz Jr.	Iloilo	May 24, 1986	22
Leander V. Barrot	Leyte	April 25, 1987	21
Paulino H. Dacanay	La Union	April 30, 1988	20
Anthony A. Morillo	Biliran	April 25, 1992	19
Joel A. Alve	Leyte	April 30, 1993	18
Jose Ernil F. Almayo	South Cotabato	April 30, 1993	17
Jose Alden B. Alipin	Cebu	April 27, 1996	16
Arnel F. Diaz	Metro Manila	April 27, 1996	15
Edgar P. Tubio	Bohol	April 27, 1996	14
Joseph Dexter D. Palagtiosa	Negros Occidental	April 30, 2000	13
Jonathan V. Jamero	South Cotabato	April 28, 2001	12
Gideon Antolin U. Lagrimas	Northern Samar	April 28, 2001	11
Russell C. Lapidez	South Cotabato	April 28, 2001	10
Ian Anthony R. Espartero	Negros Oriental	April 27, 2002	9
Bob T. Cabanag	Cebu	April 24, 2004	8
Arian Josef M. Ocheda	Antique	April 24, 2004	7
Kenneth Joseph L. Onda	Palawan	April 30, 2005	6
James C. Castelo	Albay	May 12, 2007	5
Hector C. Gonzales	Quezon Province	May 2, 2009	4
Nelson S. Plohimon	Negros Occidental	April 30, 2011	3
Rafael B. Pecson	Sulu	April 30, 2011	2
Kenneth S. Caligdong	Palawan	April 27, 2013	1



The official logo and motto of the 9th Provincial Chapter



Observations

01

Frays Silloriquez and Caligdong are the oldest and the youngest, respectively, both in age and in simple profession. If the traditional practice were to be followed, they (together with Fray Jamero, the lone Religious Brother) are destined to become tellers of the Chapter.

02

Six (6) or 21.4% had their theological formation in Marcilla (Spain); the rest (22, or 78.6%), at RFC/RST in Mira Nila.

03

More than half (16, or 57%) of the number of capitulars come from the Visayas.

04

The sequence (SEQ) from 1 to 28 is the basis for the capitulars' seating arrangement at the Chapter hall.

3 Number of Provincial Chapters attended by the current capitulars

CURRENT CAPITULARS	PROVINCIAL CHAPTERS – ST. EZEKIEL MORENO PROVINCE									TOTAL CHAPTERS ATTENDED
	1 st 1999	2 nd 2003	3 rd 2006	4 th 2009	5 th 2012	6 th 2015	7 th 2018	8 th 2022	9 th 2025	
Alipin	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	*	2
Almayo	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	*	*	5
Alve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	1
Amparado	*	*	*	-	*	*	-	*	*	7
Barrot	-	*	*	*	*	*	*	-	*	7
Buhay	-	*	-	*	*	*	-	-	*	5
Cabanag	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	1
Caligdong	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	1
Castelo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	2
Celiz,Jr.	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	*	2
Dacanay	*	*	*	*	-	-	-	*	*	6
Diaz	-	-	-	*	*	*	*	-	*	5
Espartero	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	3
Gonzales	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	1
Hernández	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	2
Jamero	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	1
Lagrimas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	1
Lapidez	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	3
Morillo	-	-	-	*	*	*	-	*	*	5
Ocheda	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	1
Onda	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	3
Paglinawan	-	-	*	*	*	-	*	*	*	6
Palagtiosa	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	*	2
Pecson	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	2
Plohimon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	1
Selma	*	-	*	-	*	*	*	*	*	7
Silloriquéz	*	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	3
Tubio	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	*	*	5
No. of capitulars	4	5	5	6	9	8	11	13	28	-



OAR's Prior General, Fray Miguel Angel Hernández, will act as Chapter President of the 9th Provincial Chapter

Observations



Of the 28 present capitulars:

- four (4) had attended the very first provincial chapter, in November 1999;
- nobody got a perfect attendance as a capitular in all nine (9) provincial chapters. The most number of chapters attended was seven (7), and only three (3) or 11 % of the current capitulars were then present.
- eight (8) or 29% are first-timers as capitulars.
- only one (1) is a non-Filipino – the current Prior General who, for the second time, presides the provincial chapter. Although this is obvious since, from the start of our Province, the Prior General has always been a non-Filipino, we simply note that there were times when non-Filipinos representing our mission in Sierra Leone participated in a provincial chapter, to wit: Jose Luis Garayoa in 2009 and Joseph Shonibare in 2012.

Collated data on the number of provincial chapters attended:

No. of Provincial Chapters attended	
9	-
8	-
7	(3) Amparado, Barrot, Selma
6	(2) Dacanay, Paglinawan
5	(5) Almayo, Buhay, Diaz, Morillo, Tubio
4	-
3	(4) Espartero, Lapidez, Onda, Silloriquéz
2	(6) Alipin, Castelo, Celiz, Hernandez, Palagtiosa, Pecson
1	(8) Alve, Cabanag, Caligdong, Gonzales, Jamero, Lagrimas, Ocheda, Plohimon