Filipino Champions

Concert kicks off ‘House of Prayer Project’
Visiting nun helps raise funds for Verbum Dei apostolate center

BY GEORGE AND MELISSA WANG, TESS LEE
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O echoed the opening song of Sr. Maeve Louise Heaney of the Verbum Dei Missionaries during the fundraising concert For You, For Them: A Night of Inspiration and Music on January 31 at the Albertus Magnus Auditorium at the University of Sto. Tomas.

Sr. Maeve was visiting us here in the Philippines for the first time to perform in our fund-raising concert for a new apostolate center in Paig, Metro Manila. The event was attended by over 200 people. She shared with us her opening song, “For You, For Them,” which is a composition that reflects her life as a missionary. She began her ministry in the Philippines in 1997, and has now found her way to Metro Manila, Taguig, Cebu, and Cagayan de Oro.

To sustain and support this growth, Verbum Dei recognized the need for a permanent apostolate center where youth, singles, married couples, and married couples in prayer, theological formation, spiritual direction according to their needs, time for prayer, and time for prayer as well. They also participate in prayer, mission, and spirituality, following their hearts towards becoming “missionary disciples for the world and the Church.”

Sr. Maeve joins the musically gifted members of Verbum Dei in the Philippines

The desire to fully grasp the role of music in the expression and transmission of faith drives her research at AGU, as well. “I am on a quest to understand how the power of music can be used in our faith life, in helping us express our faith and enrich our lives. God gave us the gift of music—it is one of the ways we can be joyfully, celebrate, and develop. This need to understand and exercise this power is so very important.”

In the Philippines, her experiences of music and her presence as a member of the community, Sr. Lee expressed her experience of the concert in the following way: “I always hear people say ‘I never saw a concert that was so beautiful and inspiring.’ Sr. Lee is a precious heart who understands people’s love through music.”

Through our songs, they find hope and peace. Thank you, Sr. Maeve, for sharing your gift of music with us. May God bless you and your work.”