

Golden Jubilee of Patung village [Maejaem parish]

21-22 January 2010

We know that our missionaries took up the mission after M.E.P. So Patung is one place which took up by our Betharram Fathers. In the beginning Fr. Fognini started this village with Fr. Seguinotte. You can find the history of Patung parish through Betharram mission in Thailand.

Now the parish this area run by Redemptorist Fathers. So they took this opportunity to celebrate 50 years started the village here and the center parish this area. On 21st January the villagers started welcome the peoples from different villages and different parish in Chiangmai diocese. Patung villagers prepared the tradition shows, the custom and the life style of Karen tribe and the livelihood. Each house prepared one tradition especially the life style of peoples in Patung village. Till 18.00 pm. The time for dinner, the peoples from different places more than 1000 had their dinner. After that we started the mass presided by the superior general of Redemptorist priest. On that night crowded but they look very pious and faithful to Eucharist celebration. It took about one and a half hour. All were full of joy and happy to come for this golden Jubilee.

After the mass, the inauguration started by welcome bishop Vira to open cultural program that night. There were many shows and telling the history about the beginning of the village established by Betharram Fathers and they were Fr. Fognini and Fr. Seguinotte. Then continue by the different shows, different villages so it finished on midnight.

On 22nd January morning, the peoples had their breakfast after that started by the procession. Our bishop, priest and all peoples gathering at the top of the village, the announcer has given the story of St. Patrick because this church name is St. Patrick church. The procession led by the cross, priests, bishop and all the peoples. It was nice to see the procession because it was a long procession. There were not enough place in St. Patrick church. So they conducted the mass front of the church. There were about 1000 peoples participated in this mass and about twenty priest.

During the homily, our bishop pay his gratitude to our Betharram missionaries and has given thank to God for his beautiful plan this place peoples in this parish. Bishop has encouraged us to carry on this faith from generation to generation. At the end of the mass bishop has given the certificate paper for the persons who were accompanied Fr. Fognini and helped him the beginning mission this area. The atmosphere as fraternity and as the same family. It nice to see this event because very rare to see the situation like this. However all full of the grace of God and gone home with joy, faith and happiness in their hearts. So let us pray for their faith, may they faithful to God and spread this good news to their children and the peoples around them. God bless you all.

Fr. Mongkhon scj