



**THE VIETNAMESE EUCHARISTIC YOUTH MOVEMENT IN THE USA
ACADEMY HEADQUARTERS**

MEMORANDUM

California, October 1st 2014

To: Chaplains, Chaplain Assistants, Youth-Leader Trainers, and Youth-Leaders of all ranks

SUBJ: CLARIFICATION ON THE CLAPPING OF HANDS DURING THE EUCHARISTIC FIRE

Cordial greetings of peace in the name of Jesus in the Eucharist, Our Lady La Vang, and the Vietnamese Martyrs, to all members of the Vietnamese Eucharistic Youth Movement in the United States.

Over the past several years, numerous Youth-Leader training camps permitted the clapping of hands during the Eucharistic Fire, while at the same time, there were also training camps where the clapping of hands were not permitted. This inconsistency generated much inquiries and concerns, and has led to multiple requests for clarification from the Academy Headquarters.

During the Academy Headquarters meeting on the 7th of August, 2014, at the camp site of Sinai XXI and XXII, Calimesa, California, members of the Academy Headquarters were consulted regarding the origin of the discrepancy. The following explanation was provided:

Right from the early days of Youth-Leader training camps, the clapping of hands to increase team spirit and to praise teams and individuals' performances in the reenactment of the Bible was permitted and encouraged. In the following years, several training camps were held within church grounds or seminary campuses where loud noises were not permitted during night hours. Consequently, Camp Masters and Director Committees of these training camps recommended training camp participants to rub their hands instead of clapping to praise following each Bible reenactment.

Based on a the decision from the Academy Headquarters meeting, as its Director, I hereby clarify **that the clapping of hands following the reenactment of the Bible is beneficial and encouraged during the Eucharistic Fire.** For all servant leaders, Youth-Leader Trainers Level II & III and Camp Masters/Assistant Camp Masters of future training camps, please be familiarized with this memorandum, and execute as outlined for uniformity during all Eucharistic Fires.

Thank you to all Chaplains, Chaplain Assistants, Youth-Leader Trainers, and Youth-Leaders for your continued support and companionship along with the Academy Headquarters as we strive to achieve our mission of bringing Jesus in the Eucharist to the youths. May Christ Jesus guide and journey with each and every one of us as we glorify His Name and bring love and unity to the youth of today. Please continue to pray for the work of the Academy Headquarters. May the intercession of our Lady La Vang and the Vietnamese Martyrs, bless you and your family with abundance health and unyielding faith.

In the Heart of Christ,

Francis Vu Anh Tran, SCJ

Rev. Francis Xavier Trần Anh Vũ, SCJ
Director, Academy Headquarters, VEYM