

Fr Nicandro Lim
St Brigid's Catholic Parish, Collie

I am Rev Nicandro Lim, the new priest in St Brigid's Catholic Parish. I was born and raised in Manila Philippines on the **22nd of June 1977**. My father's name is Mr Nicandro Lim, Sr. and my mother's name is Mrs Azucena Lim. I belong to a big family of 12 siblings and I am in the middle, the 5th child from the eldest. After finishing my Year 6 studies in Manila, I decided to enter the Seminary to start my training as a priest. I first entered Our Lady of Guadalupe Minor Seminary for my high school studies. Then afterwards, I entered San Carlos Major Seminary in Manila Philippines and took up *AB Classical Philosophy* for my college degree. After Philosophy, I did *Systematic Theology* for my Master's Degree at San Carlos Seminary Graduate School of Theology. Satisfying the seminary requirements and expectations, I was ordained deacon on the **25th of November 2005** at the Cathedral Parish of the Immaculate Conception, Philippines and after 10 months, I was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Pasig on the **29th of September 2006** at the Archdiocesan Shrine of St Anne, my home parish.

After a year of being Parish Priest in the Philippines, I decided to do a missionary work in another country. Fortunately, a priest introduced me to Bishop Gerard Holohan in 2007, and he explained to me the situation of the Australian Church and the need of Bunbury Diocese for ordained ministers. After a prayerful discernment, I decided to choose Australia as my mission destination. I arrived in Perth on May of 2008. With my knowledge on Liturgy or the Church's worship and rituals, the bishop asked me to be his Master of Ceremonies, someone who organises and assists him in diocesan liturgical celebrations. My first job then was to prepare the liturgy and the ministers involved for the consecration of our new Cathedral. It was a big task but with God's help, I managed to provide what was needed for the success of this Diocesan event. And since I have been in the diocese for almost 10 years now, I have been nominated by my brother priests to serve as a member of the Bishop's Council of Priests just like Fr Jaybee.

I have been into different parishes in Bunbury Diocese. My first posting was in *St Patrick's Cathedral Parish* as an assistant parish priest for a year and 8 months. I was then transferred to *The Immaculate Conception Parish* at Dardanup as the priest-in-charge for 3 years. After which, I was sent to *St Joseph's Catholic Parish*, Busselton for 5 years. Aside from my diocesan pastoral placement, I recently joined the Royal Australian Navy as a Reserve Chaplain. I was appointed Officer on the 26th of April 2017 in Defence Force Recruitment Centre, Perth. I finished my Reserve Entry Initial Officer's Training Course last October 2017. I am hopeful that I will be posted as a reservist chaplain at **HMAS Stirling**, Rockingham, WA.

Now that I am assigned at St Brigid's Catholic Parish, my hope is to share my faith with all the parish families living in Collie. I hope to journey with you **in the coming years** and to build relationships with all those who are searching for God's guidance and love. I am journeying and searching myself and it will be wonderful as a community, both in the parish and school, we journey together to discover God's love and the path He is leading us. With the intercession of St Brigid, I pray that we will all grow together in our faith life and personal relationship with Jesus who invites us and calls us to be ministers to one another. Thank you very much for the warm welcome when Fr Jaybee introduced me to this community as your new priest and may God bless you with His peace always.