

Missionary Catechists of St. Therese (MCST Sisters) **Filipino Singing Nuns from Tayabas** **(Quezon Province)**

FORT WASHINGTON, MARYLAND, Nov. 10 (PinoyGlobal) - Filipino Nuns from *Missionary Catechists of St. Therese (MCST Sisters)* from Tayabas, Quezon Province in the Philippines, have been the pride and joy of Filipino communities in the Metropolitan Washington area since 1991. Assisting the badly needed parish churches and schools, the nuns have been providing the much needed Catholic teachings by filling in tasks assigned by various pastors of the Archdioceses of Washington, Maryland and Virginia areas. The nuns serve as teachers, administrative assistants, nurse or nurse's aide, or other various assignments for Catholic schools, hospitals, military establishments, prisons, or where ever the nuns' services are badly needed, mostly on *pro bono* basis.

"These Filipino nuns are heaven's sent. They

are the best assistants to have around schools- in the classrooms or campuses," explained one of the Catholic pastors who requested anonymity to shy away from publicity. "We pray and wish we can have more Filipino nuns and priests to assist our parish churches and schools."

The Filipino nuns from the *Missionary Catechists of St. Therese* from Tayabas, Quezon Province in the Philippines are always a welcome group for Filipino community's functions: wedding, baptism, funeral, etc. "Aside from their spiritual guidance, they are great choir singers or musicians," explained Claudio "Jun" Pedery, Filipino community leader residing in the Fort Washington-Oxon Hill area where most of the Filipino nuns reside. "They are just terrific to have around in any of the Filipino community's functions. They are our pride and joy." #



Singing Nuns from Tayabas, Quezon's Missionary Catechists of St. Therese

Providing "professional" choir singing backup at a recent Filipino wedding were nuns from *MCST*. From left: Sister Edna Merle with the Archdiocese for the U.S. Military Service; Sister Michael Angela Rivera visiting from Tayabas, Quezon, playing the piano; Sister Edna Vasquez, St. Columba Church

and School; Sister Helen Sumander, St. Columba Church and School, and also serving for the Archdiocese for the U.S. Military Service, and has been in the U.S. for nine years; and Sister Leilana Dumaliang, St. Ignatius Church and School.

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