

Adults finding their paths in the dance of life

Colin Lauw

Finding the way, seeking spiritual reflection through the dance of their lives was what a team of 25 young adults and couples from the Choice community in Singapore was hoping to achieve at the Choice Asia Conference (CAC).

In line with this year's conference theme "Dancing with the Light", the bishops, priests and the participants had sought to find God's lighthouse in today's noisy world. The conference was held from August 14-18, in Miaoli, central Taiwan.

As people in Asia become more technology-centred, it has become more imperative that the voices of the young people be heard. They thirst for authentic relationships, better communication, healing of families, and to be brought back to true life in Christ.

The conference, which is held every three years, provides an opportunity for participants



Choice Taiwan leadership team putting on a drum performance at the conference.

to rally and energise each other, as well as to review the mission; share challenges and solutions and plan for future outreach.

At the event, the different communities presented the situations and challenges that they faced back home. For the dioceses in Malaysia, Indonesia

and Singapore, for instance, they are facing a decline in the number of participants in recent years. For newer communities like Sri Lanka, China and Fiji, there is a demand for programmes like Choice Weekend.

Serene Goh, a participant from Singapore, called it an

experience that she would never forget. She shared, "It was a reminder of the love and warmth that World Youth Day gave and more! So glad to be a part of this great big family!"

Father Benjamin Anthonisamy, Spiritual Director of Choice Singapore, also noted

that "it is the need of the time, to get young people back to faith, back to family bonding."

Altogether, 250 participants from 10 Asian countries and communities, including the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Singapore, China and Hong Kong participated in the conference which provided a platform for these Catholics of different languages and backgrounds to come together to share in the "one, true story" that God is love.

Choice

Choice in Asia is currently running in 42 cities across 10 countries and communities. Since the early 1980s, Choice has been helping single young adults aged 18 to 40 to review what is important in their lives and to reflect on their relationships with the significant people in their lives.

For more information about Choice weekends in Singapore, visit www.choice.org.sg. □

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