

My dear Little Flower,

It was Jesuit Fr. Arrupe who once said about the Philippines: *the treasures of the Filipino people are God's gift of joy through Faith and Music.*

As a response to this gift of God, Prof. Mark Carpio, the choirmaster of the world-renowned a capella chorus, *The Philippines Madrigal Singers*, said: *"The dream is for us to be doing more for the country and the world through music"*. The Madz (as they are fondly called by fellow musicians) are a treasure of the Filipino people. They are currently on their own pilgrimage through song celebrating their 60 years of artistic excellence and journey.

The Madz is composed of a selection of young musicians studying in the Conservatory of Music at the University of the Philippines. And marking their 60 years of friendship, the Madz (with the help of a span of many generations of choir members) would like to fulfill a dream of building a **Choral Art and Music Performance Center** in the Philippines, where musicians from all walks of life, and from different backgrounds, would come together to *learn from one another and to find an "artistic sanctuary"*. This would benefit many young Filipinos who are aspiring to pursue and express their faith and their joy through the gift of arts. And this is *why* they are visiting with us this month of May: to share their joy and to fulfill a dream.

Join the parish in welcoming our friends *on May 19 at 7PM* in music to celebrate the gift of friendship, song, and faith.

Your parish priest,
Fr JC Merino

<https://vimeo.com/littleflowermedia/madzjourney>