



# The Missionary Minute



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On May 16, three  
seminarians will be  
graduating with  
their BA degrees;  
and on May 24,  
five Divine Word  
Missionaries will  
be ordained to the  
priesthood.  
Please keep them  
in your prayers.

## Two years in Ecuador

By Seminarian Jaroslaw Dabroski, SVD

A few months ago, I returned from Ecuador where I spent almost two years doing my *Cross-Cultural Training Program (CTP)*. This program allows a student to spend time in a foreign country or a place inhabited by people of a culture different from the student's culture. Ecuador, the place of my CTP experience, is one of the smallest among Latin American countries. Located in the Northwestern part of South America, it is a home to some 14 million people. Rich in its cultural and ethnic diversity as well as abundant natural resources, Ecuador struggles with many socio-economic problems. In 1999, the country suffered a severe financial crisis. Due to hyperinflation and the change of the national currency from *sucre* to *dollar* the following year, many people lost their jobs and significant amounts of money. Nonetheless, the country strives to improve the conditions of its citizens by implementing many social and economic reforms.



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## Currently in Taiwan

By Seminarian Hoang Chuong, SVD

The Overseas Training Program (OTP), also known as the Cross-Cultural Training Program (CTP), is a pastoral training program for young members of the community who are in formation. A member in temporary vows has the opportunity to live in and experience a culture that is different than his own. The experience is meant to give him a deeper understanding of his missionary calling and to strengthen his faith.

When I had the chance to participate in the OTP, I decided on Taiwan. Taiwan has become my temporary home where I live and work with the members of the Divine Word China Province. When my classmates asked me why I had chosen Taiwan, I gave three reasons for my decision.



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