



PHOTO RELEASE

LA PCG JOINS CAVITEÑOS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA IN THE CELEBRATION OF THE ROSARIO (SALINAS) FIESTA

Los Angeles, 23 October 2018 - The Philippine Consulate General in Los Angeles joined Caviteños in Southern California in celebrating the *40th Annual Fiesta of the Nuestra Senora Virgen del Rosario Reina de Caracol* held at the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Auditorium in Buena Park, California on 13 October 2018.



Left photo: The float of the Virgin Mary is swayed to the music while it is being paraded around the venue. Right photo: Consul Oreta delivers her remarks.

The Festival is organized annually by the Rosario (Salinas) Association of Greater Los Angeles to celebrate the feast day of their Patron Saint, the Queen of the Most Holy Rosary. The festivities commenced with the Holy Rosary Prayer and Mass officiated by Fr. Owen De Souza.

The highlight of the event was the ritual dance-procession called *caracol* or prayer performed through dancing with the image of the Virgin Mary placed on a float or *andas*, which is carried on the shoulders of male devotees. The float was swayed to the music as it was being paraded around the venue.

Consul Rea G. Oreta and Cultural Officer Ms. Maria Dolores Sales graced the occasion. In her remarks during the program, Consul Oreta commended the Association led by its president, Mr. Alfredo Alonzo, for continuing its tradition of showcasing this unique expression of Filipino Marian devotion in their second home in the United States. An estimated 700 devotees attended the event. END.