

## YOSHITA MEJARES RAMIREZ



I am Yoshita Mejares Ramirez, an independent Grade 11 student of the Sisters of Mary Girlstown. I was born on May 5, 2003, in San Pedro Gil, Lying-In, San Andres, Bukid, Manila. This year I'm going to celebrate my 21<sup>st</sup> birthday with my dormmates, protégé, sisters, classmates, and teachers. My parents are Antonio Bo Ramirez and Marcelina Robusora Mejares. My siblings are so chaotic. I have my half-brother on my father's side, and I have my real brother. His name is Yoshiki Mejares Ramirez, G8 student. But last 2022, I've noticed that I am 4th in rank (no. of daughters or sons) based on my birth certificate. When we had our vacation, I asked my father about this, but he didn't answer. Then, I asked my stepmom, she told me that I still have 2 older brothers, who are living in Bohol. There's a lot of questions in my mind that I need to answer. That's why I asked a lot to my stepmom, aunties, and uncles. Upon asking them, I discovered that my mother wanted me to be aborted when I was still in her womb (6 months). When my aunt is chitchatting to other neighbors of ours in Manila, they have told my aunt Ana that they saw my mom buying abortion pills in Quiapo, Manila. At that time, my father was not around because he needed to work abroad. Because of that, my auntie needed to take care of my mom until I was born. She became my mom. I started to know Sisters of Mary last 2018. One of the employees of Southville school and a friend of my stepsister informed us about a school that is free in all aspects - as in free in tuition fee, boarding house, and food. But I need to stay inside for about 5 and a half years. My decision is not in favor of my dad's decision. I don't want to enter Sisters of Mary.

Last June 2018, my father approached one of the sisters here in SOM if we could take the entrance exam, but she told my father that the total number of Grade 7 that they need is already complete. I waited for a year to take the entrance exam still here in SOM.

In December 2018, they informed us that the number of new Grade 7 (34<sup>th</sup> batch) is already complete because I am the only one from Las Piñas. They told me that I needed to stop for the sake of my brother. But when I was in the church on January 3, 2019, my mom called me and informed me that I'll be taking an entrance exam in SOM. After a month, I received a letter that I passed the exam. My family was so happy but not me. Because I don't want to leave them.

Upon living in the Sisters of Mary, the characteristics were developed. I became the president of our batch, our section, helping sister, awarded as best in leadership and many more. Taking a lot of responsibility is so difficult but when it strikes my heart, I'll do anything.

About my career or ambition, I want to become a teacher in Social Science. I want to study politics briefly. Why? Because I want to become the president of the Philippines. I am not telling this to everyone because they will laugh at me but it's okay. I chose to be a teacher because nobody taught me when I was a child, and I am well inspired by my teachers here in the Sisters of Mary.