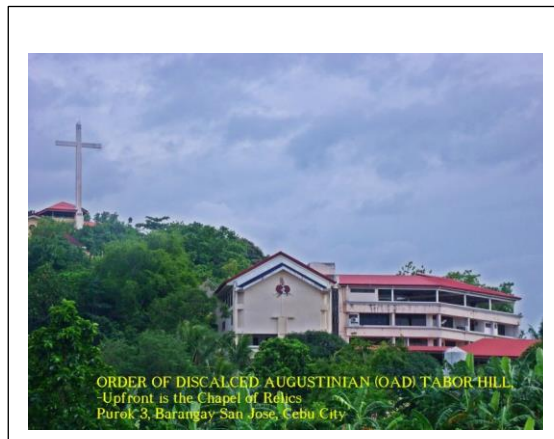


## **RELIGIOUS TOURISM:**

The religious tourism at OAD Tabor Hills was one of the attractions that kept the barangay alive especially during the Lenten Season. People from different far away places come by droves to pay their yearly penitence by way of via cruces in Tabor Hill, Purok 3, San Jose. The place post itself as the new alternative site to the old famous Celestial Garden of Banawa Hills, Cebu City. The people coming in with their families, officemates and friends find distinct peace and spiritual abode at the place in desire of God's encounter, the reason why people never stop coming over and over again every Lenten Season. The set-up added spiritual meaning to the occasion as the faithful start it with the sacrifice, by gradually climbing up the hill while completing the 14 stations of the cross and upon reaching the top and end of the stations which strategically located at the plateau of the hill, they would feel the cold breeze of the wind, the fresh air and the scenic panoramic view of the surroundings and the cities of mandaua, lapu-lapu and cebu. As always heavenly glory comes at every end of trials and sufferings in this world. New added attraction was the setting up of the Chapel of the Relics, wherein relics of hundred of Saints were reverently stored and displayed at the chapel. One can noticeably feel the holy atmosphere of the place. The holy devotion of Sta. Rita also gives an added reason for a thousand of people from different places to keep coming back to Tabor Hills.



Another potential religious tourism in the barangay is the setting foot of Coredemptrix Shrine run by the Franciscan Friars of Immaculate at the other hill of Purok 4. It is regarded as the only one of its kind in the entire Philippines and it is now fast becoming known to everyone. These religious tourisms in the barangay somehow added livelihood to the people residing nearby, as the drivers of the motorbike for hire or habal-habal and ambulant or road side vendors will have the peak of their industries when visitors start coming in for the Lenten Season or on some other special occasions.

The presence of the above two leading religious tourist attractions of Barangay San Jose together with the other religious communities setting foot at the area have combined to create a holy atmosphere of the entire Barangay San Jose, added by its naturally peaceful and quiet environment, not a few visitors describe the place as the "Little Jerusalem". The other religious communities present in Barangay San Jose are as follows:

1. Franciscan Sisters Pro Infante Et Familia (FSPIF) Sisters
2. Daughters of St. Camillus Sisters
3. Living the Gospel Communities (LGC) Sisters
4. Hospitaller Sisters
5. Adoration of the Holy Face of Jesus Sisters
6. Oblate Sisters of St. Augustine
7. Franciscan Sisters - Cebu Hope Center
8. Franciscan Sisters - Bonita Homes for Girls