



SIMBAHAY

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF ST. JOHN BOSCO PARISH CHURCH, MAKATI CITY, PHILIPPINES

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 11

NOVEMBER 2012



NOVEMBER 1

The Feast of All Saints and saints

By Fr. Chris Kennedy, SDB

The liturgical calendar of November begins with the celebration of the *Solemnity of All Saints*. It is a feast that applies not only to all canonized Saints, but to all the souls that are in heavenly glory. As the book *Saints in the Liturgy* says, "Every person in heaven is a saint because each one has reached the perfection of charity. In their own simple ways they loved God in life and He loves them in eternity."

We have mentioned before the impact Mama Margaret had on the life of Don Bosco from the time he was a boy until her death in the Oratory on 25 November 1856. Teresio Bosco says, "*The Salesian Congregation was cradled on the knees of Mama Margaret...*" Her sanctity and heroism of virtue were made up of "rags to patch, hay and wheat to harvest, and busying herself among pots and pans. In those humble chores, her fortitude was in never getting tired. Her trust in divine Providence never flagged. She taught the Faith, showed common sense and motherly sweetness by peeling potatoes and cooking *polenta*" (Teresio Bosco, *Don Bosco*). Today Mama Margaret's process towards canonization has been introduced. One day she will be a Saint with a capital 'S' while we honour her in her small 's' status – small but not insignificant!

Sanctity couldn't be any simpler than that. This is what the feast of All Saints is about. It is about those, whom we have known in life, who have lived the Gospel in simple ways. We all have the wonderful stories of the good example of our parents to inspire us. We have neighbors and friends whose lives, though ordinary, had something special about them. They worked hard, prayed often and cared in ways that were heroic to a degree. They did not talk about sanctity; they lived it.

This reminds me of a poem which I read years ago, "*Joe's No Saint*." Though written in the Irish context of a laborer in the 1940's,

it has some wonderful lines that help us to see that sanctity is really doing the ordinary things well. The poem begins:

*Joe's no saint,
And I ought to know
For I work at the bench alongside Joe.*

As the poem goes on we learn that Joe goes to daily Mass at a time when it meant going without breakfast and having to try to get a bite before work began.

*For it's not every eight-o'clock man can say
He goes to the altar every day.*

But Joe leaves a legacy of goodness behind. The poet goes on:

*When my time comes and they lay me out
I won't have much praying to boast about.
So when Saint Peter rattles his keys
And says, "What's your record, if you please?"
I'll answer "When I was down below
I worked at a bench alongside Joe."*

It might be a good exercise for us in this month of November to make a list of the people who have gone before us and have left a taste of goodness behind them. (Maybe those who have worked beside us, too!) They are still inspiring us to a kind of holiness that is not competitive, but a holiness so ordinary that we have to look back to see it in action. That is what the feast of All Saints is about. It wants us to get in touch with the saints we know and knew. They were close to us in life. They want us to be close to them in death!

Such was also the legacy left by the mother of Don Bosco, Mama Margaret, to all those who knew her, or who were in some way touched by her holiness in her commitment to doing the simple, daily tasks with a lot of love! Today we too can start our journey to holiness in simple ways.



ST. JOHN BOSCO PARISH CHURCH MAKATI

A. Arnaiz Avenue
Makati City, Philippines
Tel. (+632) 894-5932 to 34
sjbmakati@gmail.com
www.sjbmakati.com

EDITORIAL BOARD

Fr. Ting Miciano, SDB
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SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Monday to Friday:

6:30am • 7:30am • 12:15pm • 6:00pm

Holy Hour every Thursday after the
6:00 pm Mass

Saturday:

6:30am • 7:30am
6:00pm (Anticipated Mass)

Sunday:

6:00am • 7:15am • 8:30am • 10:00am*
11:15am • 12:30pm • 4:00pm • 5:30pm
7:00pm • 8:30pm

*with sign language interpreters

Confessions are available during all
the Masses

Adoration Chapel - open daily from
7:00am to 8:00pm

PARISH OFFICE & RELIGIOUS STORE HOURS

Monday to Friday (except Thursday)
8:00am - 11:30am • 12:30pm - 6:00pm

Thursday:
8:00am - 11:30am • 12:30pm - 4:00pm

Saturday:
8:00am - 12:00pm • 1:00pm - 5:00pm



WE ARE FULL OF HOPE

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PARISH PRIEST

Nothing has caught the world's attention these past days more than the death and devastation in the Eastern United States caused by a super destructive storm they called "Sandy". Along with our attention come our prayers and concern for the thousands adversely affected by this calamity. There were many deaths reported and millions of dollars worth of damaged caused. The restoration of basic utilities and reconstruction of destroyed structures will reach billions of dollars more. Events like these and similar ones should highlight not only the solidarity of men and women worldwide but should also cause us to reflect on our own mortality and our dependence on God.

We have just begun the month of November when we traditionally remember our departed loved ones. From the Christian perspective, man's death and vulnerability can be a powerful "lens" through which we can view and understand life. Death is one way of looking at life! Even if all of us will end with our own deaths, it could be the beginning of life for some. As Don Bosco used to tell his boys, *"If you want to live a good life, think about your death"*.

There is a place in Lithuania which was ravaged by the Nazi occupation during World War II. Like in many other places in Europe at that time, it was the Jewish people and their race that suffered the cruelest and most inhuman savagery in the Nazi death camps. Entire towns and villages were wiped out by

herding the Jewish inhabitants to the gas chambers. In one such Lithuanian village, where all the people were killed, the present local authorities built a memorial for all those who perished in 1943. Do you know how they designed this memorial for the dead? They constructed a house-turned-museum and literally filled it up to the roof with the pictures of those people when they were alive! Family photos, solo snapshots, portraits of old people, married couples, youth and babies, all sorts of pictures of the living were a testament for the dead! I was fascinated by this documentary I watched in the History Channel. Then the motivation of the creators of this museum was revealed – they wanted to preserve for posterity the memory of the dead, not through tombstones or burial grounds, but by showing pictures of living people! I was even more intrigued by their conclusion: these pictures reveal the presence of an absence, but at the same time the absence of their presence!

In like manner, our departed beloved dead are no longer with us but we never cease to be connected to them, in memories, sentiments and prayers. Their absence reveals their constant presence to us and a time like November reminds us of the presence of their absence. We are full of genuine hope though because we, either living or dead, believe in a God who died but who rose again from the dead and will never die again.

— **Fr. Ting Miciano, SDB**

UPDATES ON THE GRADUAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF THE ROMAN MISSAL

"LORD, I AM NOT WORTHY THAT YOU SHOULD ENTER UNDER MY ROOF.."

The Latin text refers to the gospel story of the Centurion asking Jesus to heal his servant (Mt 8:8, Lk 7:6) The centurion, being a Gentile, felt himself "not worthy" to have Jesus come to his home. Jesus admired the man's faith and humility and cured his servant from afar. By replacing "to receive you" with **"that you should enter under my roof"**, the new translation repeats this sentiment of "UNWORTHINESS" on our part as we are about to receive Holy Communion. By putting the words of the centurion in our mouths, the Church is inviting us to imitate his humility. And by replacing "I shall be healed" with **"my SOUL shall be healed"**, the Church makes it clear



that we are asking for spiritual healing which will only come from receiving Christ in the Eucharist.

DOOR OF FAITH NOW WIDE OPEN

Together with the Universal Church, we embark on a 13-month journey to **Know, Celebrate, Live and Share** the precious gift of our Faith.

In his apostolic letter, *Porta Fidei* (Door of Faith), Pope Benedict declared the Year of Faith (YOF) which opened on October 11, 2012 – the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council and the 20th anniversary of one of the Council's greatest fruits, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* – and will end on 24 November 2013, *The Solemnity of Christ the King*.

In turn, on 3 November 2012, Cardinal-designate, Luis Antonio Tagle, led in the festive launching of the YOF in the Archdiocese of Manila with a Eucharistic Celebration in San Fernando de Dilao Parish Church, Paco Manila.

In an earlier pastoral letter dated 4 October 2012, the Cardinal-designate echoed the Papal invitation to spend this blessed year "to study again the Second Vatican Council and the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (CCC) that is its fruit in order to rediscover the vitality of the faith we have inherited".

The Archdiocese of Manila, through its Pastoral Secretariat under Bishop Broderick Pabillo, has outlined a series of activities for the

YOF which, among others, include conferences, recollections and an extensive list of topics to be discussed each month throughout the Archdiocese.

Beginning this issue, our Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Ting Miciano, SDB, provides Simbahay readers the first of a monthly series of brief catechetical notes based on the CCC, which notes are aligned with the Archdiocese's topic for the month. These overviews will be fleshed out in monthly Wednesday Talks after the 6:00PM Mass.

Just for this month, there will be two YOF Wednesday Talks: "What is Faith" on 14 November and "I Believe in God, the Father" on 28 November. **ALL ARE INVITED.**

With the YOF providentially coinciding with SJB's 35th (Jade) Anniversary, aside from the Wednesday Talks, a variety of other Faith-enriching activities are in the works, including Parish recollections and pilgrimages, the revival of Parish-based bible study sessions and street Masses, the intensification of community outreach activities and many more.

The door of Faith is wide open, let us enter eagerly and partake freely of the treasures found within. After this blessing-charged Year, how can one remain a passive, lukewarm, nominal Catholic? Let us deepen our Faith and more important, let us deepen our relationship with the Source of our Faith.

YEAR OF FAITH CATECHESSES – FIRST OF A SERIES

By Fr. Ting Miciano, SDB

October 2012 – WHAT IS FAITH?
(CCC 144-184)

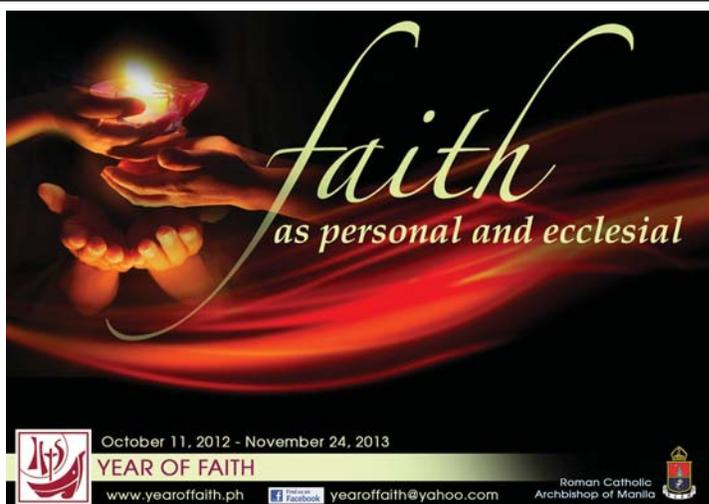
In simple words, *faith* is to submit (read as: to listen, to obey) freely to the Word that has been heard, because its truth is guaranteed by God, who is Truth itself.

By definition, *faith* is **a personal adherence of man to God who reveals Himself**. It involves an assent of the intellect and the will to the self-revelation God has made through his words and deeds.

The basic movement of faith is God's call to man through His Word and man's response (to hear and adhere).

Faith is also a supernatural gift from God, which means that man cannot go to God by himself or through his own efforts. In order to believe, man needs the interior help of the Holy Spirit.

Believing is an ecclesial act. The Church's Faith precedes, engenders, supports and nourishes our faith. The Church is the Mother of all believers. "No one can have God as Father who does not have the Church as Mother." (St. Cyprian)



Faith is necessary for salvation. Jesus himself said: "He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned." (Mk 16:16)

I BELIEVE IN GOD, THE FATHER

(CCC 185 – 280)

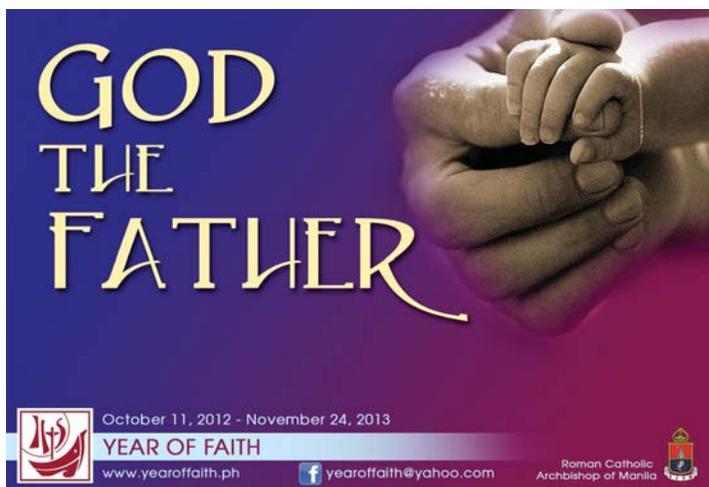
All that we believe in as Catholics are contained in a synthesis or "professions of faith" called the **creeds**. The two most special creeds of the Catholic Church are **The Apostles' Creed** (the summary of the 12 apostles' faith and the baptismal symbol of the Roman Church) and **The Nicene Creed** (the longer and more detailed profession of Faith that is accepted by the Eastern and Western Churches).

Our profession of Faith begins with **God the Father**, for the Father is the first divine Person of the Most Holy Trinity.

We believe in One God, because our God is unique, only one God. We profess that God is one in nature, substance and essence.

Jesus revealed to us that God is a "Father", inasmuch as He is the First and Last, the beginning and the end. He is the Creator of the world, for everything comes from Him. He is Almighty, for all power originates from Him and through Him, sustains everything.

From the Father, proceeds the Son, the second Person of the Most Holy Trinity, and from the Father and the Son, come the Holy Spirit, the Third Person of the Trinity.



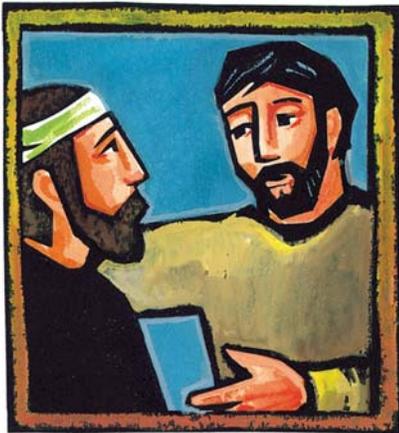
Every Catholic is baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, i.e., we are immersed in the **Mystery of the Trinity**, the central mystery of the Christian faith and life.

SUNDAY MASS REFLECTIONS

Simbahay features the Sunday Mass Readings' themes from Fr. Sal Putzu's "Exploring God's Word".

These themes are part of a systematic approach to study and have a good knowledge of the Biblical passages which will be used in the coming Sunday Masses and to relate these readings to our lives.

Listen to Fr. Salvatore Putzu, SDB (General Manager and Editor, Word and Life) at *Bisperas sa Veritas* 846 AM, 5pm Saturday.



31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

November 4, 2012 Readings

*Dt 6:2-9 – Moses exhorts the people to keep God's commandments as a sign of their grateful love for Him.

*Heb 7:23-28 – Christ is the eternal High Priest who intercedes for all.

*Mk 12:28b-34a – Jesus states that the two most important commandments are to love God and neighbor.

Theme: THE TWO-RAIL TRACK TO ETERNAL LIFE

Our religious and moral life should be characterized by the twin love for God and neighbor. The two are inseparable and complementary, like a rail-road track which has two rails. Though the "first" (basic) commandment is that we love God with all our heart, our soul, our mind and our strength, our "love life" is incomplete if we fail to make our neighbor part of it. Such is the teaching of the Ten Commandments which spell out the demands of this two-pronged love.

Jesus confirmed, deepened and sharpened the demands of these Commandments with his teaching and example of love unto death for the Father and for all human beings. The early Christian communities were characterized by their love for God and for one another. Such is the challenge addressed to us, too, in a world tainted by practical atheism, dismembered by so many forms

of man's inhumanity to man, and polluted by spurious forms of love.

32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

November 11, 2012 Readings

*1 Kgs 17:10-16 – The generous hospitality offered to Elijah by the widow of Zarephath and how the Lord rewarded it

*Heb 9:24-28 – Christ has gained forgiveness for all through his self-offering on Calvary.

*Mk 12:38-44 – Jesus condemns the greed of the scribes and praises the generosity of a poor widow.

Theme: THE PRECIOUSNESS OF THE CRUMBS

The generosity of a person is not measured by the amount one gives, but by the disposition which prompts the giving. Generosity is in the heart, rather than in the purse. That is why there are people who give plenty without being very generous, while others give relatively little, but are very generous because sometimes they give even part of what they would need for themselves.

There are many ways of being rich, just as there are many ways of being poor, for material wealth and money are not the only factors that determine what a person has and can offer. But the highest form of richness is that of the heart – that loving



disposition toward others which, like an inexhaustible fount, gives its very best without asking for anything in return. Such is the spiritual richness which makes "great" even people who are apparently of little account. Their "bank deposit" will never be affected by any economic crisis because it is 100% insured with the bank of God.

33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

November 18, 2012 Readings

*Dn 12:1-3 – A prophetic vision of the end of time when all will rise from death

*Heb 10:11-14.18 – Christ has redeemed mankind with His sacrificial death, once and for all.

*Mk 13:24-32 – Jesus foretells the end of Jerusalem and of the world and warns his disciples to stand ready.

Theme: END OF THE WORLD: PREPARING FOR THE BEST

The "Day of the Lord," as foretold by different prophets, was to be not only a time of unprecedented upheaval, suffering and retribution for all nations but also a day of liberation for those who had remained faithful to the Lord.



In this dramatic description of the end of Jerusalem and of the world, Jesus introduces a new character: the "Son of Man," who comes in glory on the clouds of heaven as judge of all. The "Day of the Lord" becomes the "Day of the Son of Man" for the simple reason that he, "THE SON OF MAN," is THE LORD JESUS.

His return in glory is the basis of the undying hope of all believers because it confirms that our history has a direction and a purpose. When the Lord comes, justice and goodness will prevail for ever. This tells us that what we do in this life will determine our future. Our life will be judged in the light of the values that the Son of Man taught us at His first coming in the humility of the Incarnation.

SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING (B)

Last Sunday of the Liturgical Year November 25, 2012 Readings

*Dn 7:13-14 – A prophetic vision of the glorification of "the Son of Man"

*Rv 1:5-8 – The risen Christ is the first-born from the dead and the King of kings.

*Jn 18:33b-37 – Jesus proclaims that His kingship is not a temporal one.

Theme: KING AND CITIZENS OF THE MOST PERFECT KINGDOM

The Solemnity of Christ the King aptly concludes the liturgical year by focusing on Jesus Christ, the Judge and King of the universe. The prayers, the liturgical readings, and the preface of today remind us of the unique features of His Kingdom which reflect so closely the characteristics of His person and His mission. Jesus is



indeed an eternal and universal King. He is King of truth and life, holiness and grace, justice, love, and peace. He is all that we need to have the best aspirations of our lives fully satisfied.

Members of His Kingdom by grace, we have the duty to live by these same values and promote them in our society. We are to treasure TRUTH and LIFE, make HOLINESS the highest aspiration of our existence, and cooperate with GRACE in joyful freedom. We are authentic members of Christ's Kingdom if we practise JUSTICE in dealing with our neighbor, if LOVE becomes our banner and lifestyle, and we become promoters of the PEACE that is the fruit of all these virtues.

APPLAUSE

By *Loulette Zaragoza-Banson*

We all love applause. This is so evident in all these talent contests on TV. People with various talents join contests like *Talentadong Pinoy*, *X-Factor* etc. to showcase a wide array of gifts. Who is to tell who is the most talented of them all? In the final analysis, it is what the judges say or sometimes, who the viewers cast their text votes for. A good voice and great acting talent are very visible in media. That is all well and good. But the question is how about unsung heroes who are not visible all the time? How about the hidden heroes: the fishermen and the farmers and our helpers who wake up at the break of dawn to do their back-breaking work to support their families so we can have fragrant steamed rice on our tables and know what the simple tasty *galunggong* is all about.

How many of us would rather live that life instead of joining a contest where you can win millions of pesos and have everyone applauding and praising you. In the greater

scheme of things, what matters most? A brilliant career with many admirers or a life totally committed to God. A life lived in prayer and poverty where no one can see how you take every pain silently and lovingly for the Lord is not a life that appeals to all. Yet, does it matter much to God how well we sing or is it how much we love. What would matter then?

Being a saint is not perfection. Being a saint is wholeness. Wholeness is union with God. How much we love and how much God has accepted this love and used it for good. That is what matters most. Perhaps the next time we look for affirmation or gratitude for the things we do, let us stop and do a reality check. We can be the most bemedalled soldier in the army but if we do not do it for love, nor for God, we are less of a hero than our *yaya* (caregiver) who never got married so she could lovingly attend to our every need. I would not be surprised if someday, this *yaya* joins all the great saints in Heaven singing praises to God. After all, it is not the applause of men we must seek but that of our loving God, along with His grace and embrace.

NOVEMBER 2012 CALENDAR

01 Thu	Solemnity of All Saints
02 Fri	Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed
03 Sat	St. Martin de Porres
04 Sun	31st Sunday in Ordinary Time
09 Fri	Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
10 Sat	St. Leo the Great Mass Wedding, 9 AM
11 Sun	32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
12 Mon	St. Josaphat
14 Wed	YOF Catechism - What is Faith?
15 Thu	St. Albert the Great
17 Sat	St. Elizabeth of Hungary
18 Sun	33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
21 Wed	Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
22 Thu	St. Cecilia
23 Fri	St. Columban
24 Sat	St. Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions Procession in Honor of Christ the King
25 Sun	Solemnity of Christ the King Last Sunday of the Liturgical Year Pondo ng Pinoy Sunday
28 Wed	YOF Catechism - I Believe in God the Father
30 Fri	St. Andrew the Apostle

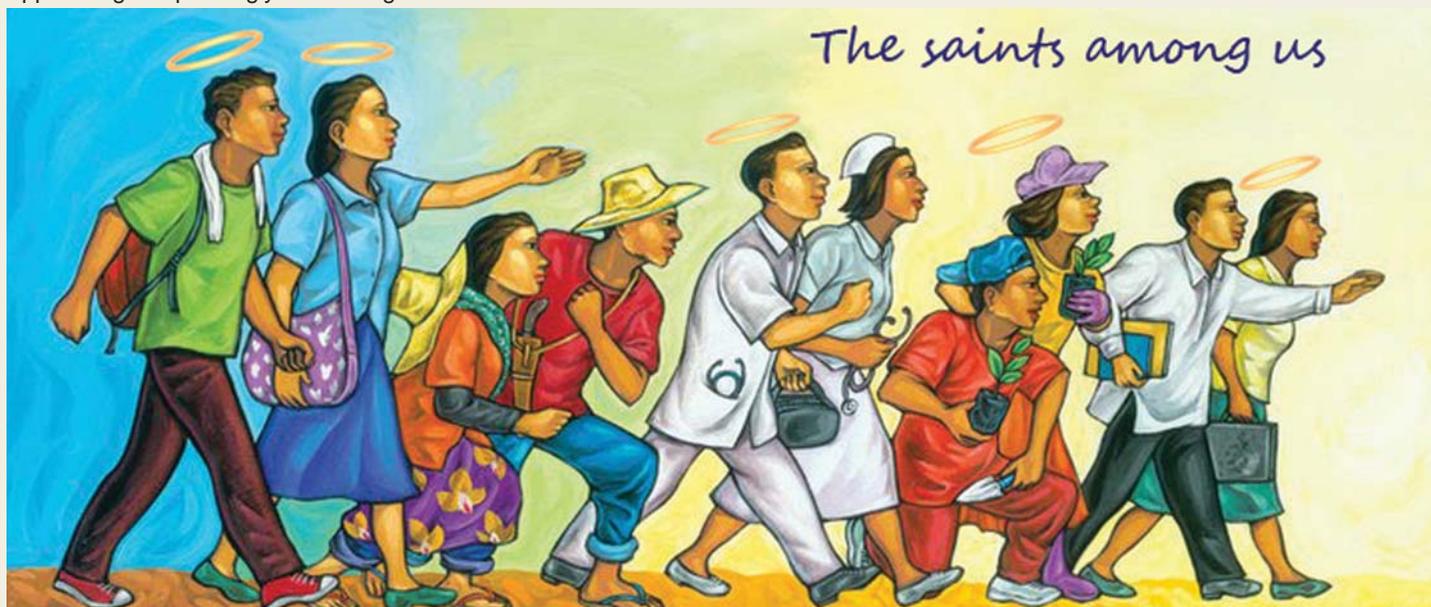
Sick Visitation – Thursdays 9AM

Holy Hour – Thursdays 6:30PM

Medical & Dental – Sundays 2:00PM

Street Mass – Saturdays 7:30PM

Visit our website for the complete Nov. 2012 Calendar
<http://sjbmakati.com/parish-events.html>



VIVA SAN PEDRO CALUNGSOD!

By Mia Logica, Aya Ga, Fina Panay, Mary Grace Gueriba and Bien-Bien Contreras

Right after the Awarding of the Marian Sports Fest winners, with hundreds of young parishioners present, the YM events in honor of the second Filipino Saint, Pedro Calungsod, began with a procession around the Parish Gymnasium. Leading the procession with the YM “flag” (a crucifix) was Harry, a migrant youth from the Ampon ni Don Bosco Foundation. Like honor guards flanking “Pedro”, young men carried and waved in choreographed unison, palm fronds – symbols of martyrdom.

Following the waving palms, a squad of “Ampons” and Jr. Catechists dressed up as *Chamorros*¹ escorted the replica of the “official image” of San Pedro Calungsod. Fr. Diego Luis de San Vitores, SJ, played by Nikko Encela, another “Ampon”, followed behind. The short procession ended with the statue positioned onstage, facing the assembly.

Then one of the *Chamorros*, probably the murderous *Matapang*² and certainly their best dancer, started demonstrating dance moves. With very little encouragement, the youthful crowd soon joined him in an exuberant mob dance, quite aptly to the tune “Youth Serving Youth”, in honor of the young Visayan catechist missionary. One can easily imagine, the 17-year old San Pedro, dancing happily along.

By the time the dancing stopped, the brief canonization rites at the Vatican had already ended – it was official, we had another *Santo!* Fr. Dennis asked everyone to kneel and pray in gratitude for the gift of San Pedro Calungsod.

A few minutes and another short procession later, this time from the gym to the Parish Church, the Youth Mass began with Parish Priest, Fr. Ting, as presider and Youth Ministry Salesian-in-charge, Fr. Dennis as homilist.

After communion, the assembly warmly applauded the danced dramatization of the martyrdom of San Pedro Calungsod. One

of the performance's lasting images is that of the martyred catechist, arms outstretched like the Castrillo crucifix overhead, whirling slowly into the depths of an imaginary sea. Later, as San Pedro held the YM flag, a banner was unfurled with the words, “*Sa Buhay na Binuwis, si Kristo ay Kawangis*”. Through the centuries, the sacrifices of His martyrs have been reflections of Christ's own salvific death. As Fr. Dennis declared in his homily, “We have one purpose in life: all are just means to know, to love and to follow Jesus.”

May our celebration in honor of the canonization of San Pedro Calungsod transform us, so that, like him, we may become true Christians in our minds, in our hearts and in our lives.

Mabuhay San Pedro Calungsod, Katekistang Layko, Martir, Pilipino!

¹ *Chamorros* – natives of the Marianas Islands where Pedro and Fr. Diego were martyred.

² *Matapang* – Baptized Chamorro who denounced the faith, murdered Pedro and Fr. Diego in a fit of rage



Fr. Dennis leads the Thanksgiving Prayer for the gift of San Pedro Calungsod



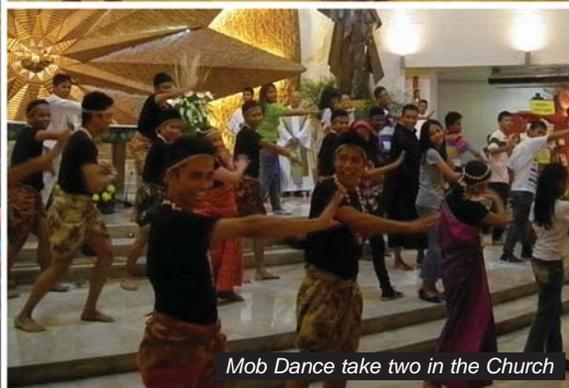
Filipiniana dancers at the start of the Mass



GMA News cameraman shoots San Pedro and Fr. Diego leading the procession to the Church



San Pedro carrying the YM flag



Mob Dance take two in the Church



Mob Dancing to the tune of “Youth Serving Youth”



Chamorros atp.



NOVEMBER 2: REMEMBERING THE POOR SOULS

With excerpts from the National Catholic Register's, "How to Help the Holy Souls in Purgatory" by Joseph Pronechen

Every year, during the first two days of November, throngs of Filipinos honor their dearly departed with a visit to the cemeteries. All over the country, memorial parks and campo santos "come alive" with people lighting candles and offering flowers, prayers, or even food. Others set up food stalls or tents for overnight vigils, while "neighbors" and families hold their annual reunions in a nationwide "fiesta of the dead and the living".

Weeks before, many had included among the Mass intentions for November the repose of the souls of generations of their deceased family members and friends named in meticulously prepared lists – ensuring, that no one is left out, most especially, the poor souls in purgatory.

Why do Catholics offer Masses and prayers for the poor souls in purgatory?

The most famous biblical basis for these prayers comes from the Old Testament, "Thus he made atonement for the dead that they might be absolved from their sin." (2 Macabees 12:46).

In an EWTN interview, Susan Tassone, best-selling author and passionate leader of the "purgatory movement in the US", speaks of the souls in purgatory and how we can help them.

Why are they called poor, holy souls?

They're called poor because their poverty is the loss of the sight of God . . .; they can't help themselves. They rely totally on us. It is our privilege and obligation to help them.

They are holy souls because they can no longer sin. They know they are saved; and heaven is awaiting them.

Nothing is done alone. The Church Militant (the living Christians) reaches out to the Church Suffering (the souls in purgatory) and joins them to the Church Triumphant (Saints and saints in heaven).

What is the best devotion to help them?

The most powerful means to relieve or release a soul from purgatory is through the **Holy Sacrifice of the Mass**. "From the beginning, the Church has honored the memory of the dead and offered prayers in suffrage for them, above all the Eucharistic sacrifice, so that, thus purified, they may attain the beatific vision of God." (CCC 1032)

Next to Mass, the most powerful way to help the souls is the **Rosary**, the most powerful Marian prayer on earth.

When we pray for the souls, we get them out sooner from purgatory . . . shortening this horrible suffering of being without God.

They then show us their gratitude in the same proportion to their joy.

How can we avoid purgatory?

So avoid sin. Pray the Rosary. Go to monthly confession. Accept trials. Forgive. The more you pray on earth – constant, fervent prayer throughout life – the closer you will be to getting out of purgatory if you go there.

Do you have other advice?

Remember the children. Teach them the meaning of All Souls' Day. Take them to the cemeteries. Teach them to sprinkle holy water on the graves. Plant the seed of reverence for the dead, and, in due time, this will assure us of their aid.

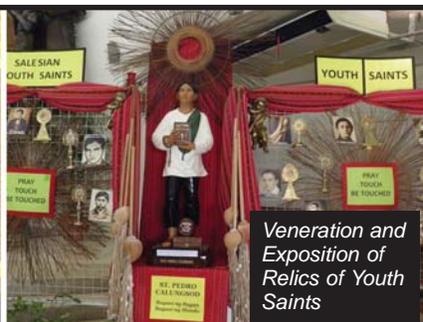
We need to learn from purgatory, avoid purgatory, empty purgatory.

St. Gertrude the Great, a 13th Century Benedictine nun and mystic created the prayer below, which, by tradition, is believed to release 1,000 souls with each devout recitation.

Eternal Father, I offer You the most precious blood of thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal church, for those in my own home and in my family. AMEN.



San Pedro - Kawangis ni Kristo



Veneration and Exposition of Relics of Youth Saints



Ang Kuya Pedro ko



The Cast with Parish Priest, Fr. Ting

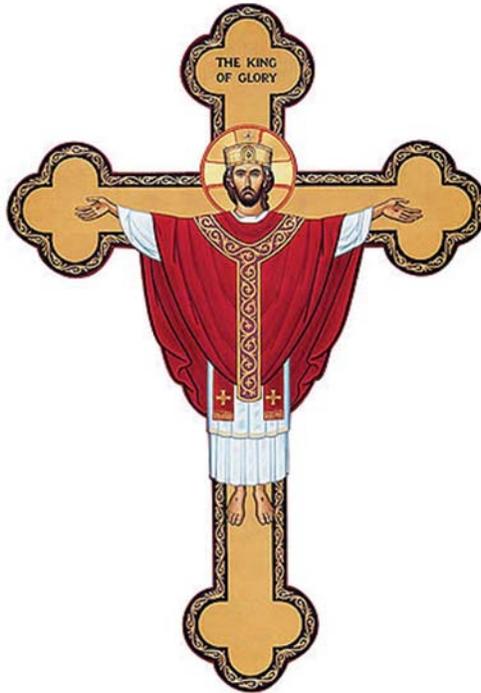
25 NOVEMBER 2012 – FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

By Errol Palaci

Like a bridge that links two islands, the Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King connects two liturgical years in the Church's calendar. It is celebrated on the last Sunday in Ordinary Time and precedes the season of Advent on the following Sunday. This year, the first Sunday of **Advent**, the first day of the new liturgical year falls on **2 December**.

But the importance of the Feast is not so much its function of linking liturgical years and seasons, but the message that it conveys. The Feast was instituted in 1925 by Pope Pius XI at the time that secularism was on the rise, which led to the growth of dictatorships in many nations. It was an era when people doubted the existence of Christ and there was a tendency to rely on people – to give hope and to make the future better for them. It was therefore a time that called for a re-focus on a triumphant Christ, who is the Ruler over all the earth. However, Christ's "rule" was different from that of earthly kings and heads of states. The rule of Christ was not of the oppressive kind but one that conveyed the Bible's message of being a "servant first" and "a slave of all".

Secularism is a phenomenon that not only



describes the period of 1920's. Much of our time today may be called strongly secular. The Feast of Christ the King is always timely as a reminder for us to trust in the risen and triumphant Christ, who has authority over all things. When frustration and despair creep into our lives, we know that there is hope and our Hope is with us in the person of a Messiah.

The Church has five liturgical seasons namely Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter and Ordinary time.

It has three liturgical years or cycles (A, B, C). Liturgical years begin on the first Sunday of Advent, a week after the feast of Christ the King which is on the last Sunday in Ordinary time.

Liturgy includes everything in the Eucharistic Celebrations or Masses. It specifies the color of the priest's vestments, church decorations, rites, movements, prayers, and responses. It includes the readings and the homilies.

To ensure that Church faithful may benefit from the treasures of the entire Bible, every liturgical year, different sets of readings are taken from the Old and New Testament, especially the Gospels.

WHAT'S COOKING AT DIVINE LIVELIHOOD

By Rescy Bhagwani

UBE JAM (Halaya)

FINALLY, high quality **halayang UBE** is now available right here in our Parish! No need to go to Tagaytay or Baguio just to get this prized Pinoy favorite *panghimagas* (dessert). Delicately made from only pure *ube* (purple yam) and the highest quality ingredients. It is truly a labor of love and is now available at the introductory price of only P65 (200 gr.) and P130 (400 gr.).

Creamy LAING

The most popular Bicolano dish, **LAING**, is

made of gabi leaves, shrimps and dried fish, cooked in lavish amounts of coconut cream. This is a perfect ready-to-heat veggie treat to match any dried protein dish for a perfectly balanced meal. It is now available in either regular or spicy flavor at P50 for a 200 gr. pack.

Flavored POLVORON

Rice Crispies and Peanut flavored **POLVORON** have recently been added to the DL products. They come in gift packs of 24 pcs. at P100. A similar pack of the healthier *malunggay* version sells at P140.

Gift Wrapping Services

Aside from concocting divinely tasting yummys, for a minimal fee, Divine Livelihood (DL) also offers gift-wrapping services for all occasions. With recycled cartons for packaging and colorful magazine pages as wrapping, DL gift-wrapped presents convey the message that the giver cares for both the recipient and the environment.

Especially for this coming Christmas Season, DL gift wrapping rates start at P10, complete with ribbon and tag with the message, "Each time you buy our products (or use our services), you help a mother nurture a child".





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September 2012 Pondo ng Pinoy Collections

Php 15,520.00

The last Sunday of the
month is Pondo ng
Pinoy Sunday. Bring
your coin-filled bottles
and offer them during
the Mass.



Merry Christmas!

With Christmas less than two months away, many of us have started making lists, shopping for and wrapping Christmas presents, planning, buying, setting up decorations, planning events and special menus for Christmas parties, noche buena and media noche.

If you are selling Christmas products or providing services for the holidays and wish to offer these to SJB parishioners, you may advertise for free in one of the Parish Bulletin Boards and the Parish Website (sjbmakati.com) until 7 December 2012.

Just submit your one-page (8.5" x 11") advertisements to the Parish office or email these to sjbmakati@gmail.com and we shall merrily post these for you!

Offer good while bulletin board space is available!

You may also advertise in Simbahay, the Parish newsletter, please visit sjbmakati.com for the rates.

NEWS BRIEFS



ARCHBISHOP TAGLE ELEVATED TO CARDINAL, FILIPINOS CELEBRATE

In the November 2011 issue, Simbahay welcomed the new Archbishop of Manila, His Excellency, Most Rev. Luis Antonio Tagle. Today, a year later, Simbahay joyfully relays the good news that on 24 November 2012, Pope Benedict XVI will elevate Archbishop Tagle to the College of Cardinals. At 55, he becomes the world's 2nd youngest cardinal. His Eminence Cardinal (-designate) Tagle, who was appointed by the Pope to serve as vice-president of the Commission on the Message for the recently concluded Synod of Bishops on the New Evangelization in Rome, is "considered one of the brightest theological minds among the Asian bishops and also one of their best communicators."

Cardinals are senior ecclesiastical officials, who attend the meetings of the Sacred College, run archdioceses, are sought for counsel by the Holy Father, and most important, choose the Pope's successor from among their ranks.

DBYC BAGS YM SPORTSFEST TWIN CHAMPIONSHIPS

By Mia Logica

The Don Bosco Youth Center (DBYC) won back to back championships for both Girls' Basketball and Boys' Volleyball during the recently concluded Marian Sports Fest of the Youth Ministry. Legion of Mary got first place while Jr. Catechists placed second for Girls' Basketball. In turn, Jr. Catechists finished first and Ampon ni Don Bosco second in Boys' Volleyball.

The awarding ceremonies last 21 October was a much-awaited recognition day for the young sportsmen and sportswomen. Youth from the different Parish organizations gathered to cheer for their respective teams, who joined the sports fest in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary from September to October 2012 at the Parish Gym. Mary Grace Gueriba led in the three o'clock prayer at the commencement of the awarding ceremonies, which was graced by Fr. Chris, Fr. Ting and Fr. Dennis.

"Remember, God does not pay us for results, but for effort." - Don Bosco



MUSIC MINISTRY HOLDS 7TH MUSIC WORKSHOP RECITAL

By Aya Ga

The Music Ministry of St. John Bosco Parish held its 7th season recital last 14 October 2012, in the Parish Building's AVR to showcase the talents of participants enrolled in violin, piano, guitar, voice and rondalla workshops.

The affair began with Mr. Gaylord Villa, Music Ministry Head, leading in the SJB 35th anniversary prayer. The recital definitely highlighted each performer's skill and perseverance. Since September, these recitalists have been attending music

classes every Sunday in the Parish Building to hone their God-given skills.

Truly, the spirit of generosity lies in the hearts of these musically inclined students as they willingly shared their talents to honor God, and entertain visitors and their families.

SJB PARISH LAUNCHES THE YEAR OF FAITH

By Mon Angeles

The Year of Faith, which was opened by His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI on 11 October 2012, was formally launched in the Parish last 24 October by our Parish Priest, Fr. Ting Miciano. The Parish launch was attended by the various Parish Ministries and Organizations, as well as some parishioners.

Fr. Ting provided a brief background on the Year of Faith, its significance and why the Holy Father saw the need to declare it. Briefly, it will be a year for Catholics worldwide to know, celebrate, live and transmit the Catholic Faith, and thus deepen and strengthen their relationship with the Lord.

He also discussed the planned activities that the Parish will undertake to coincide with the year-long activities laid out by the Archdiocese of Manila. The Year of Faith will close on 23 November 2013, the Feast of Christ the King.



SJB CATECHISTS HONOR THE BVM WITH A LIVING ROSARY



Young girl praying intently during the living rosary organized by SJB Catechists last 28 Oct. 2012.

