



# SIMBAHAY

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

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 10

DECEMBER 2011



## *Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception*

by Rescy S. Bhagwani

### The Dogma

*We declare, pronounce and define that the doctrine which holds that the Blessed Virgin Mary, at the first instant of her conception, by a singular privilege and grace of the Omnipotent God, in virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Savior of mankind, was preserved immaculate from all stain of original sin, has been revealed by God, and therefore should firmly and constantly be believed by all the faithful.*

– Pope Pius IX, *Ineffabilis Deus*, December 8, 1854

In grade school Religion class, I learned that the Immaculate Conception means that Mama Mary was conceived without the stain of original sin. She had to be exempted because it does not make sense for Jesus, our Saviour, who is God, to inherit original sin. I accepted this dogma without any question.

But many decades later, as my love for our Lord and for Mama Mary grew, I have acquired a very personal insight on the dogma of the Immaculate Conception.

Mama Mary, whose role in the salvation of mankind was revealed by God immediately after the fall of man through disobedience in the Garden of Eden, was chosen from among all the women through all times. She must REALLY be special! Pure of heart! For how could God, in his infinite wisdom, choose someone unclean to bear His Son! Would we drink from a dirty glass? Or put a delicate baby in a filthy cradle straight from a dumpsite?

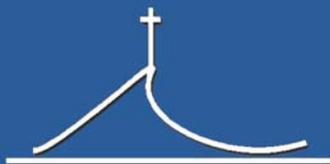
### Personal Significance

A mother wants only the best for her children. And Mama Mary wants us all to join her and her Son in Heaven. But we are stubborn. We are weak. Just look around us and see how God's laws are constantly being defied with rampant vices, living-in, abortion and disregard for nature. I believe that when Mama appeared in Lourdes and said: "I am the Immaculate Conception", it was a constant reminder for us to remain faithful to God. Her messages are always appeals for our personal renewal and our prayers for the conversion of the world.

We celebrate Church feasts for the purpose of leading us closer to God. For me, the feast of the Immaculate Conception is a call for all of us to be unstained by sin. As her Son said, "*Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect*" (Matthew 5:48).

We may cringe at the thought that we are all called to perfection. To be pure and unstained by sin? "*That's just for saints! We are but human and are expected to fail.*" No! We are called to follow Jesus, to reflect the image of God. We are called to constantly fight off our tendency to sin while conforming to the norms of this world.

As we celebrate the feast of the Immaculate Conception, beyond our devotion to our Blessed Mother, we must really strive to be like Her, ever obedient to God, selflessly loving, humble, modest and pure. If we want to get to heaven, we must strive to be like our Mother, IMMACULATE.



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## THANK YOU IS MY GIFT TO ALL

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PARISH PRIEST

The happiest moments are usually unexpected...a present, a visit, rainfall in summer, forgiveness, success. The nature of true happiness is that it can never be contrived or faked, that it is essentially a non-human achievement but rather a fruit of the action of God. True happiness must have something of God in it that touches man at his very core. True happiness is always a gift...from God.

The happiness that many of us felt during the successful TIN1G Concert last October 21 is part of heaven's gift to our Parish. I must confess that I was the least optimistic of its outcome, knowing the sheer complexity of the event as against my lack of formal vocal training and concert exposure. The attitude I brought to it and my actual performance that night could make or break the expectation and outcome of the event. In short, confidence was not running on my side the whole time. But as a famous U.S. President once said, "*the buck stops with me*", and I had to carry this project through.

Despite all these, what made me continue? Humbly speaking, what I lacked in confidence, I received from all the people who supported and worked for the Concert. The organizing committee headed by Diva and Maris were unwavering in their confidence in my ability.

The technical expertise of Verna and her events team gave me assurance of a truly professional run. Joining me with their astounding voices and harmony were the four chorales headed by Vince, Karen, Gaylord and the other conductors; it was like standing with your back against a solid wall. The artistic direction of Aiko was masterful, and so were the performances of the musicians and dancers. Even the ads, posters and souvenir program by Frances, Welly, Shela, Lynn and Vi created an exciting atmosphere and primed a receptive audience. The support and dedication of Rescy, Elit, Marinette and Lito were inspiration. With all these people and many other silent contributors who encouraged me and gave me confidence, I was determined to give my best.

"*Man proposes, God disposes*". All preparations were done, the Concert repertoire was performed...all hearts and efforts were given... But after the last applause faded and the last lights dimmed, the success and happy outcome could have only come from Him. All are happy... because of God's gift to us. And for that, my genuine and profound gratitude to Him and to all who made TIN1G a success!

— Fr. Ting Miciano, SDB

## 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

**Confessions** are held 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

## ADVENT: WATCHING AND WAITING

### by Dominicanis

Advent is upon us. It is a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Birth of Jesus on Christmas. It begins a new liturgical year. This year, Advent began on November 27, the 1st Sunday of Advent.

These are four Sundays of Advent, four weeks of preparation, of watching, of waiting... and not just ordinary waiting. This is the time when we are called to slow down to quiet watchfulness, and to prepare for the arrival of Someone greater than ourselves.

Advent is not the time when we prepare for Christmas but the time when Christ prepares us for Christmas. It is the season when we are asked to find time to be quiet and reflective amidst all the parties, cooking, shopping, junkets and Christmas decorating. Advent Recollections, beautiful Mass readings and homilies which are specially prepared for this season help us to slow down, to prepare, watching and waiting in quiet anticipation for the God who came once and is coming again.

Father God, continue to foster in us your spirit of watchfulness and patient waiting, that when Your Son comes, we may really know and feel what celebrating truly is. Amen.

## OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

*Condensed from the original article by  
Luchie F. Reyes-Cuerva*

*Our Lady of Guadalupe was declared Patroness of the Philippine Islands by his holiness, Pope Pius XI, on July 16, 1935. Her feast is celebrated every year on December 12.*

We believe that the apparition of Our Lady in Guadalupe, Mexico, is the greatest because unlike those in Lourdes, France, Fatima in Portugal and Beauraing in Belgium, when our Lady appeared in 1531 to a poor Mexican Indian named Juan Diego, she left her portrait on a piece of cloth so that all of us can see her face to this day.

Why do we want to see the face of our Blessed Mother?

It was Pope Benedict XVI who gave the answer when he explained that the features of Jesus Christ are visible in the face of the Virgin Mary, more than in any other creature. Like a child who desires to see his mother's face, people go to Marian apparition sites hoping to see the face of the Blessed Mother.

Our Lady appeared to Juan Diego in Tepeyac Hill, then the site of a temple of the Aztecs (an ancient civilization in today's Mexico) who honored their gods with human sacrifice. She instructed him to ask Bishop Zumarraga (the first Bishop of Mexico) to

build a Church on the hill where she appeared.

When the incredulous Bishop demanded from Juan Diego a sign that the apparition he purportedly saw was indeed the Mother of God, Our Lady of Guadalupe gave the bishop not just one but two signs from heaven: Castilian roses which did not grow in Mexico at the time, but which upon the orders of the Blessed Mother, he found and gathered until the roses filled his *tilma* (the cloak of Mexican Indians) and more incredibly, the Blessed Mother's image appearing on the same *tilma* at the very instant Bishop Zumarraga beheld the blooms and believed.

Within two weeks of the miracle, the Mexican Indians completed an adobe chapel on Tepeyac Hill to enshrine the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Juan Diego's *tilma*. And within just 15 years, nine million Mexican Indians were baptized.

Today, the *tilma* still hangs above the altar of the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico. It is now 480 years old but does not show any signs of aging or decay; its colors are as brilliant as ever.

When Mary appeared to Juan Diego in Guadalupe, she was the Woman clothed with the sun with the moon under her feet, as foretold in the book of Revelation. Mary who symbolizes the Catholic Church is the



only Mother whom Satan cannot overwhelm. In fact, she will overwhelm Satan, crushing his head.

Let us be her true children. And, like true children, let us remember her true face and the loving words she spoke 480 years ago at Guadalupe to Juan Diego and to all of us:

*"Do not be afraid...of any illness or accident or pain. Am I not here who is your Mother? Are you not under my shadow and protection? Is there anything else that you need?"*

## INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR PWDs — DECEMBER 3, 2011

Every year, since the United Nations proclaimed 1981 as the International Year for Disabled Persons, December 3 has been celebrated as the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (PWD) to promote awareness of disability issues as well as the rights of PWDs to participate fully in the political, social, economic and cultural life of their communities.

It is heartening to discover that within our Parish, several development and livelihood programs for PWDs are available throughout the year, through the support of the Archdiocese of Manila Ministry on Persons with Disabilities (AMO PWD), an SJB Parish Ministry, a cooperative for the blind, a special school, and a barangay working with an NGO.

### SICK ELDERLY AND DIFFERENTLY ABLED MINISTRY (SEDA)

SJB Parish's SEDA Ministry was established in 2007 by then Parish Priest, Fr. Manny Domingo, SDB in support of the initiatives of the Archdiocese of Manila to enable "Full participation of persons with disabilities in the life of the Church."

According to SEDA head, Ms. Annie Angeles, the ministry provide the following services:

- transporting disabled members to and from the SJB Parish Church for the 10:00 AM Sunday Masses
- organizing weekly sick visitations every Thursday morning
- assigning Eucharistic Ministers to bring Communion to sick, homebound parishioners every Sunday
- conducting weekly Catechism, monthly formations and annual recollections for its members
- conducting a census of all PWD's in the Parish

In addition, SEDA has three certified sign language interpreters who serve during the 10:00AM Masses and in special Parish event: Ms. Marde Palma, Ms. Tina Rodriguez and Atty. Josie Magbanua

This year, on December 4, SJB Parish Makati hosts the Parish PWD Day for the Archdiocese of Manila. The line-up of activities include film showing, talks on autism (Pinoytism) and diabetes, gift-giving and talent shows.

*(See more articles on PWDs on page 7)*



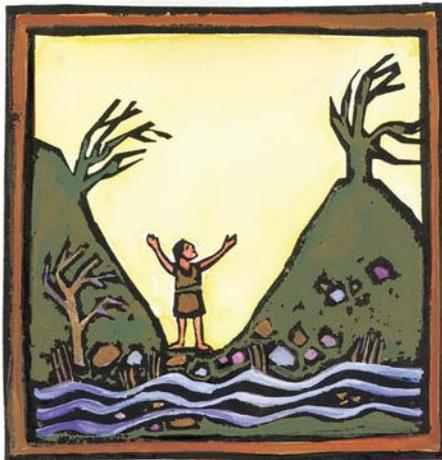
## SUNDAY MASS REFLECTIONS

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.

Visit [www.sjbmakati.com](http://www.sjbmakati.com) for more detailed excerpts of the study notes for each week.

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



### 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)

December 4, 2011 Readings

\*Is 40:1-5.9-11 – God Himself will come to set His people free.

\*2 Pt 3:8-14 – We must await the fulfillment of the Lord's promise with a purified heart.

\*Mk 1:1-8 – John proclaims the imminent coming of the Messiah.

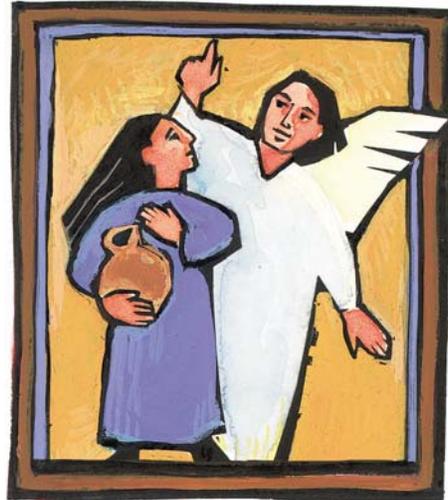
**Theme: A VITAL MESSAGE FOR ALL THE PEOPLE**

Whenever people of faith experience the bites of suffering, they raise their voices to God asking Him to "show His kindness and grant His salvation." Such was the attitude and prayer of Israel, especially in the long period of the Exile. But for this wonder to happen, *they too had to do their share* – i.e., they had to "make straight in the desert a highway for their Lord" (Is 40:3). They had to undergo *repentance and conversion*.

This same invitation/exhortation was addressed by *John the Baptist* to the entire people of Israel when the time came for God to visit them and set them free.

*This call of the "fiery prophet" spans*

*the centuries and reaches us today, as urgent as ever. We, too, need God and His forgiveness. We, too, yearn to see the light of His loving countenance. He does come to us, but we also have to go back to Him.*



### THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

December 8, 2011 Readings

\*Gn 3:9-15.20 – The Lord asks Adam and Eve to account for their disobedience, and foretells the defeat of Satan.

\*Eph 1:3-6.11-12 – Prayer of praise and thanks for the blessings showered by God on all the faithful

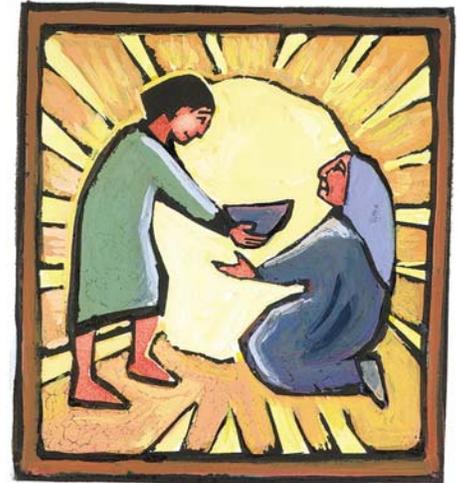
\*Lk 1:26-38 – The message of the angel Gabriel to Mary and her prompt availability to cooperate with God

**Theme: THE DEEP MEANING OF MARY'S IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

The Immaculate Conception of Mary marked a decisive moment in the realization of God's plan of salvation. By being conceived free of the disastrous consequences of original sin, she who was to be the Mother of the Messiah was the only one to enjoy in full and in advance the liberating and sanctifying power of her Son's work of redemption.

That is why the Holy Spirit was able to accomplish in her the wonder of the virginal conception of God's Son and of a life fully devoted to God's service without the least flaw or backsliding.

Mary Immaculate is the most beautiful example of how we should live the advent/coming of the Lord in our lives: i.e., with humility, prayer, availability, and readiness to do what God wants. Only by following her example shall we be able to experience in ourselves the wonders of His life-giving presence.



### 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)

December 11, 2011 Readings

\*Is 61:1-2.10-11 – A description of the mission of the Messiah

\*1 Thes 5:16-24 – Attitudes which should characterize our lives while we await the Second Coming of the Lord

\*Jn 1:6-8.19-28 – The mission of John the Baptist: to prepare the hearts of people to welcome the Messiah

**Theme: HOW TO PREPARE OURSELVES TO WELCOME THE LORD**

The mission of John the Baptist was to prepare the people to welcome the Messiah and to witness to him once he had arrived. He accomplished that mission in all humility and consistency. He knew he was not the "destination" but a simple "signpost." He knew that the destination was Christ the Messiah, and he proclaimed that to everybody in all honesty, insisting that it was to him that they should go.

John's voice spans the centuries. His message is as relevant today as it was two thousand years ago. He tells us that Jesus is, indeed, the Messiah and Savior we should seek and love. We should follow John's example for his mission is also ours.

We too are expected to lead people to Jesus, the "destination" of all hearts, and witness to him. Like John, we too should tell everybody, both through words and deeds, that Jesus is "the reason for the season" – the one in whom alone every human being can find what he/she longs for.

### 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)

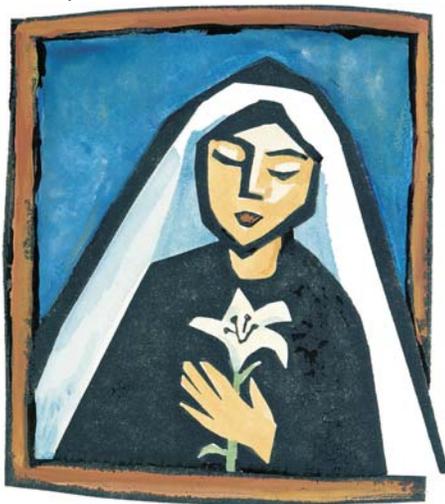
December 18, 2011 Readings

\*2 Sm 7:1-5.8b-12.14.16 – God promises David that his dynasty shall endure for ever.

\*Rom 16:25-27 – In Jesus Christ the mystery of God's plan has been

revealed to all.

\*Lk 1:26-38 – Mary readily accepts to cooperate in the realization of God's plan of salvation.



**Theme: OPENING OUR HEARTS TO GOD IN IMITATION OF MARY**

The history of salvation is, to a great extent, the history of God's faithfulness to His promises. The basic promise is the one He made to Abraham that in his descent all nations of the earth would find blessing. (See Gn 22:18.) With the passing of time this general promise became more precise as it developed into the conviction that the bearer of this "blessing" – "the Messiah" – would be a descendant of King David.

God remained faithful to His promises, in spite of the many instances of man's unfaithfulness and lack of cooperation. The beginning of the fulfillment of His great promise is presented in today's Gospel in the episode of the Annunciation in which God solicits the cooperation of Mary, the young Virgin of Nazareth.

This is a most glorious moment in the history of mankind because the unshakable faithfulness of God is reciprocated by the steady and generous faithfulness of Mary Most Holy. Hence, the stage is set for the Incarnation of God's eternal Son, the Savior of all human beings.

### SOLEMNITY OF CHRISTMAS

December 25, 2011 Readings

#### MIDNIGHT MASS

\*Is 9:1-6 – The coming of the Messiah will bring light and freedom to all men.

\*Ti 2:11-14 – Our response to the self-offering of God to us in Jesus Christ

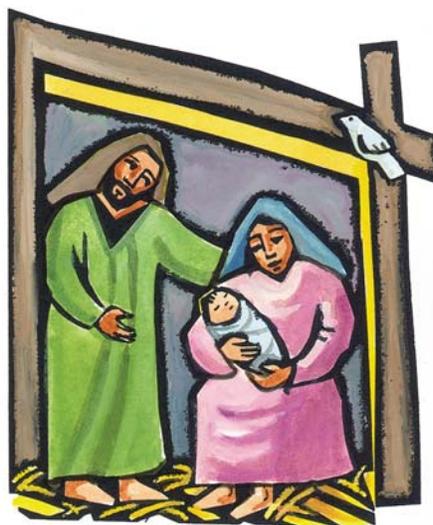
\*Lk 2:1-14 – The Savior is born at Bethlehem and the shepherds are the first to receive the good news.

**Theme: JESUS, OUR SOURCE OF LIGHT, JOY, AND PEACE**

We instinctively abhor darkness. We are afraid of the physical darkness which does not allow us to see what is around us. We are also afraid of the intellectual darkness of ignorance, the emotional darkness of betrayal and disappointment, and the darkness of suffering without hope. Unfortunately, not many equally abhor and reject the darkness of sin because the devil has managed to hide its ugliness with the alluring glitter of pleasure. But all those who fall into the trap of choosing it, soon discover that there is no greater darkness than the darkness of sin.

In his love for us, **God's Son came** to unmask the deception of the devil by filling our lives with the splendor of his presence, and even by **making us "children of the light."**

Christmas, "the feast of light," should remind us of this great privilege offered us by the coming of our Lord. It should also spur us to become as many "genuine lights" in this world still mesmerized by the deceptive glitter of so many forms of sin.



#### MASS DURING THE DAY

\*Is 52:7-10 – The Messiah is a source of joy and consolation for all.

\*Heb 1:1-6 – The Incarnate Son of God is the revelation of the glory of the Father.

\*Jn 1:1-5.9-14 – The eternal Word of God becomes a frail human being.

#### Theme: JESUS, THE GOD-WITH-US

The Incarnation and Birth of God's Son is not just a very important event which made the difference in the lives of all those who came in contact with him. It is actually the beginning of the "**Jesus Event**" which has changed in a decisive manner the course of human history.

With the Incarnation, God's Son has become a member of the human family, a brother to every human being. Nothing can

### DECEMBER 2011 CALENDAR

02 Fri	First Friday/Vigil Adoration
03 Sat	St. Francis Xavier / First Communion (Pio) 9:30AM
04 Sun	<b>2nd Sunday of Advent/ SEDA Ministry Day – Pinoytism (Autism Awareness Seminar)</b>
08 Thu	<b>Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception</b> – Schedule of Masses: 6:30, 7:30, 9:00AM, 12:15, 4:00, 6:00 & 7:30PM Death Anniversary of Fr. Godfrey Roozen, SDB
11 Sun	<b>3rd Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)</b>
14 Wed	St. John of the Cross / <b>Parish Advent Recollection 7PM</b>
15 Thu	Start of Anticipated Simbang Gabi – 8PM
16 Fri	Start of Misa de Gallo 4:30 AM / SLV 5 AM / Simbang Gabi 8PM Deadline submission Christmas Composition & Art Competition
17 Sat	Youth Ministry Night
18 Sun	<b>4th Sunday of Advent</b> Christmas Cantata / Awarding of winners Christmas Composition & Art Competition
24 Sat	<b>Christmas Vigil Mass 10 PM / 10 PM (SLV)</b> (no anticipated Sunday Mass)
25 Sun	<b>SOLEMNITY OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST – Christmas Day</b> Masses as of Sunday except no 6AM and 8:30 PM Sunday Mass
26 Mon	St. Stephen, Martyr
27 Tue	St. John, the Apostle and Evangelist
28 Wed	Feast of the Holy Innocents
31 Sat	<b>New Year Vigil Mass 10 PM / 10 PM (SLV)</b> (no anticipated Sunday Mass)

**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 Dec 2011 Calendar  
<http://sjbmakati.com/parish-activities.html>

change such a new relationship. In fact, that historical event has not been a "momentary visit" to be remembered nostalgically on occasions like Christmas, but a **lasting event**, whose consequences affect positively each human person at all times and in all places. **Christ is the "Immanuel," "God-with-us" for ever.** This gives a special dignity to what we are and what we do. This is the essence of what we celebrate at Christmas.

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## INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR PWDs — DECEMBER 3, 2011

(continued from page 3)



**BALIKATAN MULTI-PURPOSE COOPERATIVE FOR THE BLIND (BALIKATAN)**

In 1998, Fr. Gerry Battad, SDB and Sr. Fidelis Abad Santos, MMS instituted BALIKATAN which to this day, provides credit and livelihood opportunities for the blind.

The Balikatan Massage Clinic beside the Parish Gym is manned by 30 blind staff who provide Shiatsu and/or Swedish massage as well as Reflexology sessions daily from 10:30AM to 8:00PM. Home Service may be arranged by calling them at 8431081.

Every Sunday, between masses, 10 Balikatan Rondalla musicians take turns in playing lively music for mass-goers who, in turn, appreciatively tip the musicians.



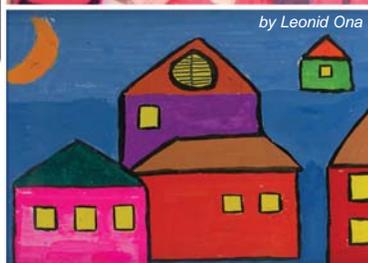
### HENERAL PIO DEL PILAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MAKATI SPECIAL EDUCATION SPED CENTER

Housed in a new, well-equipped, five-storey building donated by the city government, the Makati SPED Center in Barangay Pio del Pilar caters to the special developmental needs of 182 enrollees. The Center's SPED Coordinator, Ms. Salvacion Calabucal, identified eight disability/development to which each of their students belong: children with autism, mental retardation, or Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (ADHD) the hearing and visually impaired, those transitioning to technical vocation courses as well as gifted children who are fast learners and highly intelligent.

Ten SPED teachers and a therapist manage the academic, socialization and behavioural requirements of the Center. In turn, SJB Parish volunteers provide religious and values education to the children and parenting seminars for their parents.



by Anthony, 30 years old with Autism and epilepsy



by Leonid Ona



by Oscar Rodriguez with Down Syndrome

### BARANGAY SAN LORENZO PWD & Co. BSL PerDisCo

Organized in 2006 by concerned parents and Barangay officials, BSL PerDisCo aims to "promote the rights and interests of PWDs to allow them to participate in society to their fullest potential".

According to Ms. Tess Hernandez, BSL PerDisCo president, aside from facilitating its members' availment of benefits from the city, barangay and national governments, BSL PerDisCo organizes a variety of activities and events for its 34 PWD members and their families: seminars, skills and livelihood workshops, theatre outings, sports and summer activities and educational trips (lakbay-aral). For its annual

fund raising, BSL PerDisCo holds the "Anything Goes" community garage sale and bazaar, proceeds of which go to its PWD members and its outreach programs.

As part of these outreach programs, BSL PerDisCo donates needed equipment to SPED Centers in public schools in Makati, most recently to the Heneral Pio Del Pilar and Nemesio Yabut schools as well as cash donations to typhoon victims. BSL PerDisCo also invites to its activities former BSL PerDisCo members from Urban Botanical who used to belong to Barangay San Lorenzo before the recent barangay rezoning.

### A SPECIAL SCHOOL AT PIO DEL PILAR

by Leira B. Pagaspas

When people ask me about Joshwa's school, I proudly say that he goes to Hen. Pio Del Pilar Elementary School Main - SPED Building on Santuico St, Makati. This is a Special Education Class at a local public school. Most often, people ask why I send him there, somewhat implying that I am being a cheapskate. But I proudly tell them that this not a typical public school and I am so glad we found it!

Joshwa's school is different. There are at most 6 kids in his class, and they all have autism. They are grouped according to their disability, and are taught academics according to their skill level. Joshwa who is 10 years old, is now doing 2<sup>nd</sup> grade academics. I am so proud that he is doing so well. Of course, this is not without any struggle. Just like any other child, Joshwa prefers not do his drills and just play with his toys, so we really have to instil discipline in him.

During last year's Christmas party at the



SPED, some of the kids performed song and dance numbers. It made me cry because I really hoped that someday I'll see my son sing or dance on stage too.

I am so thankful to Joshwa's school for being our valuable partner in moulding our son. My son loves going to school. Finally he is blending in and showing everyone that he can do it. Indeed, we are truly blessed!

## NEWS BRIEFS

by Frances Solinap, Chester Hans Tolentino and Beth Chai



SJBP Legion of Mary organizes Parish Rosary Rally, the culminating activity for the Month of the Rosary – October 29, 2011



### CHRIST THE KING PROCESSION NOVEMBER 19, 2011

The traditional Christ the King procession was held last November 19, 2011 right after the 6:00 p.m. anticipated mass. Fr. Ting Miciano, SDB led the hour-long procession in the streets of Barangay Pio del Pilar. Around two hundred composed of members of the different parish groups and lay faithful joined the procession. It was heart-warming to see everyone praying the Holy Rosary together while giving honor to the King of all kings.



### DISCERNMENT SEMINAR NOVEMBER 13, 2011

The Family and Life Ministry held a one-day Discernment Seminar featuring Rev Fr. Armand Robleza, SDB as speaker on November 13 at the Roozen Hall. Fr. Armand discussed guidelines on making crucial decisions.



### PAG-IBIG 38 – MASS WEDDING – NOVEMBER 5, 2011

To commemorate their 42<sup>nd</sup> anniversary, the Rotary Club of Makati West sponsored a Mass Wedding last November 5, 2011 at the St. John Bosco Parish Makati. Dubbed as “Pag-Ibig 38”, a total of 38 couples were chosen to take part in this celebration. SJBP Rector, Fr. Richard Varela, SDB presided

over the Mass and administered the rite of marriage to these couples. Rotary President Mr. Mon Guerrero and his wife, Ianne, led the list of Principal Sponsors.

Reception for the newlyweds together with their two guests followed right after the Mass at the Parish Gym.



### PASKUHAN SA BUSKO – PRE CHRISTMAS BAZAAR NOVEMBER 13 AND 20, 2011

For two Sundays in November, the SJBP Parish Gym was transformed into a busy Christmas Bazaar with over 70 stalls selling



everything from Christmas decor, lanterns, icons, clothes, accessories, organic products and food, lots of food.

Rev. Fr. Arthur “Tuy” Hizon, SDB, our Parish Administrator, planned and organized the entire event, complete with free showing of the Pacquiao-Marquez fight and varied musical performances to the delight of the early Christmas shoppers.

### SJBP CONDUCTS PATNUBAY SA KALUSUGAN PROJECT NOVEMBER 27, 2011

St. John Bosco Parish Makati through its Health and Sanitation Ministry conducted a community health project entitled “Patubay sa ating Kalusugan” last November 27 at the Don Bosco Youth Center Covered Court. This project is held twice a year, on the first and the last quarter. The medical check-up package which costs just PHP220 includes important tests such as ECG, Total Cholesterol, CBC, Uric Acid, and Urinalysis. Dr. Sylvia Bueser, head of Health and Sanitation Ministry in cooperation with the Sto. Domingo Diagnostic and Medical Center Corp. spearheaded the said activity. Patubay sa Ating Kalusugan project targeted to service at least 100 patients.

### ADVENT RECOLLECTION ANNOUNCEMENT DECEMBER 14, 2011

Rev. Fr. Francis Gustilo, SDB, EAO Formation Team Head, Don Bosco Center of Studies will give this year’s Advent Recollection talk on “Starting the Advent of the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Filipino Christianity”. All are invited to this recollection which will be held in the SJBP Parish Church on December 14, Wednesday, at 7:00PM.

To see SIMBAHAY in color, visit our website at [www.sjbmakati.com](http://www.sjbmakati.com)