

News  
Bulletin  
of the

# Humanitas

Federation of Filipino-Chinese Catholic Women's Organizations

菲華天主教婦女聯合會



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# Evangelization

## Editorial

Hi everybody! This is your 2nd issue of the Humanitas for the year 2014. Enjoy. We are now ready to accept articles/write ups for the 3rd issue which, hopefully, we can put out towards the end of December or early January 2015. We request that for proper acknowledgement, please include the name of the author/writer of each article. Mailing address again is:

Our new e-mail address is: [humanitas\\_2014@yahoo.com](mailto:humanitas_2014@yahoo.com)  
Our Website: [www.ffccwo.org](http://www.ffccwo.org)

Please note that all e-mailed articles must be, and only be, in MICROSOFT WORD FILE, not, repeat not, SCANNED/PICTURE FILE.

You may also mail your articles to this address:  
**Mrs. Lydia Y. Ching, Golden Village Subdivision**  
Turquoise Street, Carmen, Cagayan de Oro City, 9000 Mis. Or.

**Note:** During the 17th national convention of the Sharing God's Love raffle. Ozamis chapter donated their winning prize back to the Sharing God's Love fund.

### We would like to thank the following sponsors:



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Queen of Peace Parish, Bacolod Chapter



## 60 Years of Evangelization of the Filipino-Chinese Community in Bacolod

It is a magnificent story of God's loving providence for His people. It began as a small seed planted 60 years ago, like the mustard seed in the Gospel, a vision of one man—Bishop Manuel Yap, D.D, Bacolod bishop at that time. His deep concern for the Filipino-Chinese in his diocese moved him to appeal for priests to come and serve in this particular community. This, he believed, would not only bring to these Filipino-Chinese the gift of faith, but would also pave the way for their smooth transition into mainstream society. Such an accomplishment would truly be a great triumph in the task of evangelization.

And so they came, young and newly-ordained priests from Mainland China to answer the call of the good bishop. Through the years many came, but left soon after to continue their studies, or were assigned to other missions. Two priests, Fr. Joseph Wang and Fr. Peter Tsang, responded to the appeal of the Bacolod Bishop and established a Filipino-Chinese Catholic Mission. Soon they also had to leave.

On May 5, 1955, Fr. John B. Liu arrived in Bacolod to take their place and was later followed by Fr. John Su in 1957. Since then the two priests stayed in Bacolod for good. Their sacrifices and dedication bore numerous blessings and greatly spurred the growth and development of the diocese, especially in the Filipino-Chinese Catholic ministry. Through their untiring efforts the tiny seed that was the Filipino-Chinese Catholic Community, blossomed into one, robust spiritual organization, now known as the Bacolod Chinese Catholic Association. This association was formally inaugurated by Bishop Yap on May 9, 1957. The center of their apostolic activities is a modest two-story building built on a lot donated by Mr. Alfredo Montelibano, Sr. The ground floor is where you find the chapel, while the second floor serves as quarters for priests—until recently, when the original structure was renovated into a library through the generosity of the Chiu Ping family. It was rededicated by His Eminence Luis Antonio Cardinal Tagle D.D. on July 12, 2014.

Over the years, St. John's Institute has carved a good name for itself in the field of Catholic education, and is considered one of the most awarded institutions because of its excellent academic performance.

In the year 1960, St. Mary's Association was formed. To this day, members of the said association continue to serve and support the projects and activities of the parish. Eventually, the Filipino-Chinese Community of Bacolod felt the need for a permanent and lasting home. Thus, a church dedicated to Mary, Queen of Peace, was built. On May 9, 1966 the new church building, an architectural landmark, was consecrated and blessed by Bishop Yap.

This year on July 12, 2014, the Mary, Queen of Peace Parish and St. John's Institute celebrated the 60th anniversary of the missionary apostolate. Our parish priest, Rev. Fr. Peterson O. Tieng, scheduled a triduum mass which started on July 9, 2014, and set up the following activities:

July 9, 2014, 5:30 pm	Mass & Confirmation of SJI Grade 7 students
6:30pm	Officiating Priest: His Eminence Gaudencio Cardinal Rosales D.D. Conference with Mrs. Teresita Ang See Topic: "Tsinoy Beliefs and Traditions: Impact and Influences in Philippine Society"
July 10, 2014: 5:30 pm	Holy Mass Officiated by: His Excellency, Bishop Leopoldo Jaucian, SVD, D.D.
6:30pm	Conference with Msgr. Louie Galbines Topic: "The Contribution and Challenges of the Tsinoy's in the church of Bacolod"
July 11, 2014: 5:30 pm	Holy Mass by His Excellency, Bishop Vicente Navarra, D.D.
6:30 pm	Conference with Fr. Aristotle Dy, SJ Topic: "Catholics and Chinese: Fusion or Confusion"
July 12, 2014:	His Eminence, Luis Antonio Cardinal Tagle, D.D is set to do the following:
10:40 am	Blessing of the newly renovated library of the school
11:00 am	Thanksgiving Mass
3:30 pm	Talk on the topic: "The Role and the Challenge of New Evangelization Among Tsinoy's"

Our special thanks to all priests and speakers for sharing their valuable time and talent with us on this momentous occasion. Our heartfelt thanks and deep appreciation to His Eminence Luis Antonio Cardinal Tagle, D.D. for gracing this occasion and offering the thanksgiving mass.

As the community celebrated the milestone of its 60th anniversary, we look back and thank the Lord for all that He has done for us. The journey continues with more vigor and enthusiasm, our efforts undiminished, and fully confident in the loving providence so eloquently expressed by the Heavenly Father throughout all these years.

-Rosita Uybito

# Update OF THE BALAY SA KABOS APOSTOLATE IN BOHOL



The month of September 2014 has brought multiple blessings to our Balay sa Kabos Apostolate in Bohol. First and foremost, our applica to become a foundation was approved by the Securities and Exchange Commission of the Philippines last September 17, 2014. This was very significant because we have long wanted to strengthen the credibility and stability of our housing apostolate for the poorest of the poor, which is now carrying the name of Balay sa Kabos Foundation, Inc. The foundation has a board of directors composed of 5 members, who are all God-fearing and of good moral standing, namely: Marieta T. Sy, Maria Theresa T. Salas (both are businesswomen), Antonio V. Ranque (a civil engineer), Victorino G. Galiguer (a barangay captain), and myself (a priest, who is the chairman of the board). A highly qualified president in the name of Rico J. Tadena (an architect) is directing the work and services of the foundation.

Moreover, September 2014 brings the number of our volunteer-carpenters to over a hundred. This is significant because it clearly shows that our apostolate has gained strong sympathy of the ordinary working class of society. Take note that our apostolate is purely voluntary by nature; our carpenters do not receive any monetary compensation from the foundation. This is made more meaningful because many, if not all of them, are from poor families. The fact that they continue to help build houses, and that they are increasing in number, means that they

have learned to love and to find meaning in serving the poorest among them.

Finally, last September 20, 2014 we were able to build the 70th house for the poorest of the poor. Who could have thought that we can come this far? Definitely, marvelous things happen because of God's inspiration and blessing. He is the One who continues to send laborers to gather bountiful harvests. And it is also God who inspires kindhearted benefactors to keep supporting the foundation.

We remain grateful to the Federation of Filipino Chinese Catholic Women's Organization (FFCCWO) whose ongoing significant donations have greatly strengthened our capacity to serve. Whereas before we can only build one house every month, now we can build two houses every Saturday for the poorest of God's children. Indeed, this world can be a much better place to live if we keep the Bayanihan Spirit burning in our hearts. All for the greater glory and honor of God!

*(For those who wish to help the building of houses for the poorest of the poor, kindly write a check payable to BALAY SA KABOS FOUNDATION, INC. and mail it to: Msgr. Alberto S. Uy, Saint Michael Parish Church, 6308 Jagna, Bohol, Philippines).*

*-Msgr. Albert S. Uy, Jagna, Bohol*

## Flores de Mayo 2014

*"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." – Matthew 19:14*

Every month of May, the San Lorenzo Ruiz Filipino-Chinese Catholic Community of Cagayan de Oro City celebrates the significance of Mama Mary in our spiritual journey as Catholic Christians. As part of the community's evangelization projects, this in particular is headed by Lydia Tantiogsa, a bunch of tots come to St. Patrick's House each day of the month of May, basically, to know more about Mama Mary and her role in our salvation history, to learn how to say the Rosary, to listen to catechism, and to learn other prayers and songs for Jesus and Mama Mary.

This year's Flores de Mayo was attended by a swarm of sweethearts who never fail to make the elderly priests living in St. Patrick's House smile each time they hear the chorus of their daily Rosary. Bro. Aidan Zaballero of the LMI, together with Tessie Salcedo and Chimchim Contreras, facilitated this year's catechism and other activities for the children. The month-long event was concluded with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist at the SLRFCCC Church. In the culmination, the children came to mass dressed in lovely Filipiniana attire. Five of them received their first Holy Communion on that day, something that surely made Jesus and Mama Mary smiling from ear to ear.

*-Chimchim Contreras, FCCS*



## Holy Week 2014

Our faith as Catholic Christians is strengthened in the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ and justified in His Resurrection. In San Lorenzo Ruiz Filipino-Chinese Catholic Community of Cagayan de Oro, we renew our commitments as Catholic Christians by reliving the Passion of Jesus and celebrating His Resurrection through community prayers and participating in the solemn activities all throughout the Holy Week.

This year, it was a solemn celebration participated by a growing number of community members, most especially from the FCCY. The Adult's Choir this year contributed to the more meaningful commemoration with their moving songs appropriate for each day's activity. The Christian singing group, Where's the Sheep, also graced the community activities. Their heart-moving Christian hymns accompanied the FCCY in their turn for the Easter vigil.

*-Chimchim Contreras, FCCS*



## “Year of the laity: Called to be saints, sent forth as heroes”

Every July our community goes for a pilgrimage to the Carmelite Monastery in Malaybalay, Bukidnon. This is our way of showing our gratitude to the Carmelite sisters who have been storming the heavens with prayers on our behalf since the community started.

This annual pilgrimage used to be a one-day family outing, celebrating mass at the Carmelite monastery in Bukidnon. But in coping with the need to grow spiritually as a community, Fr. Gil Escalante, our community’s spiritual director, has decided to invite a speaker each year. So instead of simply visiting the Carmelite sisters in Bukidnon on a Sunday and hearing mass with them, it has been turned into an overnight weekend pilgrimage with invited speakers. The talk usually starts on a Friday night at the Formation Center in Cagayan de Oro and completed at the monastery in Bukidnon on a Saturday night. And the pilgrimage is finally concluded by the celebration of the Holy Eucharist on a Sunday. A community fellowship of festive lunch at Impasug-ong on our way back home to Cagayan de Oro is prepared as we believe that a happy tummy makes a happy soul!

This year, our invited speaker was Nikolai Stefan Capucion. Since Fr Gil wanted to reach out to the younger ones in the community, Where’s the Sheep Praise and Friends was invited to give youthful vibrancy in the entire pilgrimage. July 11-13, 2014 Pilgrimage was successfully attended by 57 young ones from the FCCY and 18 from the FCCS, not to mention the presence of the ever-supportive adults and parents.



### Mary Mediatrix Ladies Circle – Cotabato Chapter



The merry month of May has been a busy month for the Mary Mediatrix Ladies Circle. There was the traditional Flores de Mayo. Catechism classes were conducted to about 80 children to prepare them for their first Holy Communion, and the older ones, for confirmation. These kids came from different parts of the city. The Ladies Circle provided daily snacks, and on culmination day, the children received gifts of school supplies and cash from some generous MMLC ladies. On this day also, May 26, after a nine day novena, we celebrated the annual fiesta of Our Lady Queen of Peace. A procession was held around the parish. Another happy event that took place on this day was the blessing of the new social hall of the Mary Mediatrix Ladies Circle. So it was actually a triple celebration! Abundant food was served to the parishioners.

On June 1, 2014 his Eminence Orlando Cardinal Quevedo officiated mass and inducted the new set of officers of the MMLC. Most of the members are young and full of enthusiasm, raring to work for the Lord, and well-being of the association.

MMLC Officers 2014 – 2016	
President	Juliet Y. Tsang
Vice-President	Prescilla O. Padlan
Secretary	Joyce T. Pascual
Sub-Secretary	Norma T. Lim
Treasurer	Jalen T. Jao
Sub-Treasurers	Janette C. Co Leticia A. Garsuta
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PRO	Deanna C. Malunes
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IPP Celia C. Te	PP Devorah G. Ta-Abing
PP Belinda Y. Dulay	PP Elizabeth T. Tan
PP Mildred L. Lim	PP Lolita L. Uy
PP Garland S. Lu	PP Jeanette L. Yu
Perpetual Board of Directors	
Estrella H. Uy	
Conchita A. Tan	
Raquel J. Lu	
Spiritual Adviser	
Rev. Fr. Charlie D. Celeste	



July 6, 2014, the first Sunday of the month was a day of mixed emotions for the parishioners: it was a time to bid a poignant farewell to a much loved priest who has been with the parish for quite some time, Fr. Tomy Pueyo, and a warm welcome for the new parish priest, Fr. Charlie D. Celeste, also an expert in Canon Laws. They were serenaded with beautiful songs as our way of saying goodbye to one, and hello to the other. May they continue to be good shepherds of the Lord.

-Deanna C. Malunes

### Davao Sacred Heart Ladies Circle-Davao Chapter

## Every Drop Counts

To commemorate the World Blood Donation Day which falls on June 14 every year, the Davao Sacred Heart Ladies Circle, in partnership with the Philippine National Red Cross and the Parish Social Action Ministry, held a bloodletting activity on June 15, 2014 at hall 1 of the Sacred Heart Parish. For its part, the ladies circle provided lunch packs for the doctors and staff of the PNRC as well as for the blood donors. A ladies circle member, sis Juana Tan of JEWEL EGGS, also supplied eggs for the blood donors.

This day is a very special day worthy of celebration. We appreciate the compassionate gesture of the blood donors who wholeheartedly volunteered to give their blood so that others who need it might live. We can never thank you enough. Nevertheless, thank you again.

-Sylvia Uy, Secretary





## Happy 45th Parochial Fiesta

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, under the leadership of our beloved and dynamic Monsignor Paul Cuison, celebrated its fiesta from June 18 to 27, with the theme: "Hamiling Kasingkasing ni Hesus, Sukaranan sa Pagtuo ug Kabalaan Niining Tuig sa Layko."

The parish had undergone some renovations since Monsignor took over. An elevator was installed for the senior parishioners and people with disabilities (PWDs); modern and wider comfort rooms were built and a courtyard for the grotto of the Blessed Virgin, complete with a structure for votive candles was constructed. All these amenities were formally opened and blessed by the good Monsignor.

A pre-fiesta event was held at the Stella Maris Academy, at 6:00 in the evening. An invitation to spend, "An Evening with the Singing Priests," participated by some members of the Davao clergy was extended to all. All proceeds from this concert will be used for more renovations and other projects of the parish.

On June 26, the eve of the fiesta, at 7:00 pm, different GKKs and members of other religious organizations gathered at the Sacred Heart parochial grounds for a colorful procession highlighted by some participants dressed in saint costumes. The finale was, of course, the grand parochial fiesta dinner. It was a delightful evening of good food, great company, laughter and lots of pleasantries.

On June 27, Friday, the Davao Ladies Circle, Stella Maris Academy High School, FCCY and PPC (Parish Parochial Council) co-sponsored the 9:30 am fiesta mass. Masses were held continuously throughout the day of the fiesta. Congratulations to all for the success of this great parochial fiesta.

-Sylvia Uy, Secretary



The four Jesuit priests at the Santa Maria parish are ... from left, Fr. Robbie Sian, S.J., Fr. Ruben Orbeta Jr, S.J., Fr. Manny Uy, LMRS, and Fr. Joseph Haw, S.

## "Fresh from the oven"

During his visit to Iloilo in June 22, Fr. Manny commented that Santa Maria Parish is often the place for "fresh from the oven" priests, who oftentimes are full of new ideas and zeal in bringing change to the world.

To take the place of Fr. Robbie Sian, S.J. who will be going abroad for further studies, is Rev. Fr. Ruben Orbeta Jr., S.J. It is interesting to note that both priests have previous careers before joining the priesthood—Fr. Robbie was a pediatrician, while Fr. Ruben was a bank Career Planning Assistant. God indeed has His ways. To Fr. Robbie, thank you for those meaningful 5 years that you have shepherded us. Welcome, Fr. Orbeta, JR to our parish.

In one of our monthly meetings, we discussed how we can be evangelizers. First, we ourselves need to be evangelized before evangelizing others—this is a prerequisite, because we simply cannot give what we do not have. Looking hard now, we know that evangelization means helping people discover their faith through a spiritual journey of formation and transformation. As evangelizers it is our mission to bring Christ to all and to share the good news of salvation. We must be witnesses of Christ, so that others may also be joyous witnesses and become evangelizers themselves.

-Lanie Uy

## Mary Immaculate Parish Women's Ass. (MIPWA), Dumaguete Chapter



Last January 5, 2014, MIPWA ladies cast their votes for a new set of officers for 2014-2016. Given a vote of confidence are the following:

MIPWA officers for 2014-2016	
President	Belinda S. King
Vice President	Valentina S. Sy
Secretary	Marie Christine Jeanne L. Ong
Asst. Secretary	Margie G. Sy
Treasurer	Maria Isabelle U. Flores
Asst. Treasurer	Bevelyn G. Sy
P.R.O	Marilou V. Kho

Board of Directors	
Sonia Y. Chua	Euperia Que
Natividad B. Kwan	Emma Linda O. Hui
Evangeline H. Kho	Lorna D. Liu
Evelyn Jane E. Timonan	Aileen C. Romano
Ex-Officio	Rosalinda W. Sy
Spiritual Advisers	Rev. Fr. Joseph Xinshe L. Feng, LRMS
	Rev. Fr. Thadeu Enrique N. Balongag

On April 20, 2014, Easter Sunday, Fr. Joseph Feng, LRMS inducted the new set of officers, and, at the same time new members also took their oath of membership.

A sumptuous lunch followed, and since it coincided with the anniversary celebration of our MIC Kids Choir, we really had a fun filled day complete with parlor games, and more.

-Belinda S. King



## Santa Maria Parish Bloodletting Drive

On June 29, 2014, Sunday, after the Feast of the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Parish held a bloodletting activity where some members, including some family members of the (CWA) donated blood. This activity reminds us that Jesus too, shed blood for mankind to atone for our sins, thus giving us hope for eternal life. When we give blood, we too give hope to those who desperately need it.

-Lanie Uy



### A Tribute to a Dear Celebrant, Juanita Onglatco

Our beloved sister, Juanita Onglatco, recently turned 87. A thanksgiving mass was celebrated in the early morning, after which a breakfast buffet prepared by the Iloilo CWA, was laid on the table for everybody.

When evening came, her children, grandchildren, guests from here and abroad, members of different church organizations, former students and close friends, all gathered at the Days Hotel to give Juanita a surprise dinner party. This is our tribute to a dear friend:

“As a person, you are generous; as an educator, you have earned the respect of your peers and your students. As a

Christian, your spiritual devotion to Jesus as shown in your constant and punctual presence in all church activities, no matter the inconveniences and difficulties, is unquestionable.

You have not lost the poise and elegance even at this point in your life; you still look radiant in your terno and matching accessories—a fashionista through and through, that’s what you are.

Most of all, you are a true and sincere friend. We are so blessed that you are a part of our organization. We wish you the best.”

-Lanie Uy

### Bohol Convention from the eyes of a Legazpi chapter delegate—host of 2016 18th FFCCWO National Convention

Fifteen members of the Daughters of St. Jude, together with Rev. Fr. Joseph Salando, composed the Legazpi delegation to the 17th FFCCWO National Convention hosted by the Tagbilaran chapter in Bohol from March 7-10, 2014.

The 7.2 magnitude earthquake that struck Bohol on October 15, 2013, followed by flash floods brought about by super typhoon Yolanda devastated a big part of the province. Old, magnificent churches were not spared. Many lay in ruins, pushing the Tagbilaran chapter into a dilemma whether or not to go on with the hosting of the convention. In the end, with the grace of God, they decided to go for it, hosting the convention as scheduled: March 7—10, 2014.

The delegation from Tacloban who suffered the most from Yolanda’s wrath, received an outpouring of love and sympathy from members of the organization. Donations in form of cash, computer sets and construction materials from Sharing God’s Love Fund were given to them to help in their rehabilitation projects.

After listening to the 3 speakers we acquired new insights and a better understanding on how we can be evangelizers in our daily life. This being the year of the laity, our spiritual director and adviser, bishop of Abra in Bangued, Leopoldo Jaucian, SVD,DD, reminded us to visit the sick and the elderly and to continue working for charity.

A new set of officers for the next two years, 2014-2016, was elected into office. Luisa Ng of Bacolod is the new FFCCWO president. Our very own Rosemary Dy Oliván of Naga has been elected as member of the board of directors.

Among the highlights in the convention was the bidding for the next venue of the 18th FFCCWO National Convention. Legazpi, one of the bidders, made a strong and convincing appeal by showing a video

presentation highlighting the various tourist attractions of Legazpi and a personal invitation from their bishop, Joel Z. Baylon, DD, to come to Legazpi, a City of Fun and Adventure! Also, in 2016 the Parish of St. Jude will be celebrating its 50th year. It would be a fantastic and timely occasion for the FFCCWO members to come to Legazpi and celebrate this momentous event with them. Legazpi clinched the bid.

Before saying goodbye to Bohol, president Rosing treated us to a half day city tour. Our trip back home took a lot of unexpected detours—from Tagbilaran to Cebu, then to Manila, and finally, home to Legazpi. All the waiting and the worries were compensated by the very hospitable and accommodating host, Mrs. Dativa Ong of Tagbilaran, who saw to it that we were comfortable and properly fed. We are also grateful to Mr. John Dy who provided us for free two vans which took us to the Mactan airport. Thank you all!

Finally it was home, sweet home. See you all in Legazpi!

-Josephine Laecin Lee Legazpi



### Sacred Heart Novena at Valencia Hills

June 22, 2014 is the feast day of Corpus Christi. Our Valencia Hills Catholic Community is truly blessed because this morning, at Sunday mass, we attended the 5th day of our novena to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus to whom our community is consecrated. His Eminence, Bishop Leopoldo Jaucian, spiritual adviser of the FFCCWO, came all the way from Abra to celebrate the Holy Eucharist with us.

Bishop Jaucian’s homily, as always, touched our hearts. He mentioned that the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ in the mass should bring to mind three things: thanksgiving, sacrifice and hope. We are thankful that the Father gave us His Son,

Jesus Christ, to suffer and die for us on the cross, that we may have hope for eternal life. He continues to nourish us with His Body and Blood in the Holy Eucharist.

The overall theme of the novena was: “The year of the Laity—Live Christ, Share Christ.” Bishop Jaucian also spoke on the topic of being a discerning and responsible voter. He emphasized that, as lay electorate, we should be responsible, vigilant and vote only for candidates who have a heart for the poor and the under privileged.

After breaking bread with the Lord in the Holy Eucharist, we were off to Café Romulo for a hearty lunch. Sister Mely, who is an expert on good food, ordered nothing but the best. All of us present, namely, Evelyn Peplow, Irene Jose. Mely Ong, myself and Bishop Jaucian with companion had our tummies filled to the brim.

-Judy Lim



St. Peter the Apostle Ladies Circle New Set of Officers 2014—2016	
President:	Shirley Cheng
1st Vice-President:	Linda Lao
2nd Vice President:	Marietta Yuching
Secretary:	Emely Chua
Asst. Secretary:	Elnora Onghay
Treasurer:	Aurora Sy
Asst. Treasurer:	Tessie Jao
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Delegates to the 17th FFCCWO National Convention in Tagbilaran, Bohol



Side trip to Eskaya Beach Resort & Spa in Panglao, Bohol



Holy Thursday Crism Mass

FFCCWO Opening Ceremony with Emely Chua, Nanie Chuacaedo, Msgr. Noly Que and Fr. Manny



**Visit of Bishop Joseph Cai Beng Rui, Bishop of Xiamen, China**



**B**ishop Joseph Cai Beng Rui, bishop of Xiamen, China, together with Fr. Joseph Zhao Yun Cheng and the coordinator of the Parish Pastoral Council, Mr. Peter Wang, arrived on the evening of July 6, 2014, to visit friends who had generously contributed to an earlier renovation of an old Xiamen church in 2009. These friends were from the FFCCWO (Federation of Filipino-Chinese Catholic Women's Organization), the MFCPLA (Manila Filipino-Catholic Parishes Laity Association) and the Alumnae Association of the Immaculate Conception Academy.

After a courtesy visit to the Archbishop of Manila, His Eminence Luis Antonio G. Cardinal Tagle on Tuesday (July 8), we invited the 3 priests to a concelebrated mass at the Chapel of Eucharist Lord at SM Megamall with Bishop Leopoldo Jaucian as the main celebrant, Msgr. Bong Lo as the homilist. Lunch followed at Lugang Café. FFCCWO members from the St. Jude Parish, St. Peter Parish, MTQ (Mary the Queen) Parish, FFCCWO representatives, and Mrs. Felicidad Sy, the wife of Mr. Henry Sy were all present.

Bishop Joseph expressed thanks for finally meeting the generous friends from across the South China Sea, this being his first visit to the Philippines. He took the opportunity to announce that the Xiamen city



Naga Chapter

**Viva la Virgen! Viva El Divino Rostro! Viva!**

**T**he month of September is usually a busy time for all Bicolanos, specially the Nagueños. We start with "Harubay" on Sept 3, with a city wide motorcade participated by different religious organizations, and civic clubs province wide.

"Harubay," is to announce the start of the festivities in honor of the "Divino Rostro" and Our Lady of Peñafrancia, our "Ina." The theme for this Peñafrancia fiesta is LAITY: Sent Forth with INA to Witness to Christ's Gospel and Strengthen Communities of Faith.

September 12 is the feast day of El Divino Rostro. It is also the day when we have our "Traslacion" procession, wherein our Mother's image is transferred from her Shrine to the Naga Metropolitan Cathedral. This is always scheduled on the second Friday of the month of September, and being participated by all sectors of the community throughout the Bicol region.

The most awaited date for the Nagueños is September 20, which is the feast day of Our Lady of Peñafrancia. This is the day of our Fluvial Procession, wherein our "Ina" is brought home to her Basilica, via the Naga river. This is culminated with a candlelight procession and a concelebrated mass headed by our Archbishop, together with the bishops from the other provinces.



Sept 17, OLFA members distributed fiesta gift packs to the communities in Barangay Balatas. We thank the Lord for this opportunity to share something with our less fortunate brothers and sisters during these festivities.

This coincided with the visit of Bishop Pol to Naga. We were privileged that the Bishop was able to celebrate the 7th day novena to Our Lady of Peñafrancia and the 4th day novena to St. Padre Pio of Pietrelchina,

Our dinner was culminated with the traditional mooncake festival game among the members. The good Bishop got two very appropriate gifts. What is that? It's a secret.

-Rose Olivan



September 23, feast day of St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina



Our Lady of Fatima Church, under our Chaplain, Rev. Fr. Mariano Claren Canafe, Jr. L.R.M.S. was gifted with a five foot tall image of Padre Pio, donated by our member Rosario Lo, Jr.

After this, OLFA members will now be busy preparing for the October 4 to 12 novenary masses to Our Lady of Fatima on October 13. We are scheduled to once again, go around the different barangays to do some evangelization. A film showing of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima to the three shepherd children (Jacinta, Francisco and Lucia) in Fatima followed by a short catechesis on Our Lady is our practice, then some questions and answers to the children, then some snacks is served.

-Rose Oliván

## Tacloban Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish Fiesta after the typhoon Yolanda

The world knows the devastation caused by the super typhoon Yolanda when it struck the Philippines, specifically in the city of Tacloban where I live. The Sacred Heart Parish where I go to attend mass and pray was not spared—religious images, chandeliers, benches were all washed out by this horrendous typhoon leaving behind mounds of thick mud and debris when the water subsided. Dead bodies littered the streets, thousands were injured, thousands more were rendered homeless. The whole of Tacloban was in total ruins. The situation brought despair to all. Our parish priest, Fr. Yeng Tabada, the sisters, felt helpless upon seeing the great destruction that swept not just the city but the neighboring towns and municipalities as well. To those of little faith, they questioned God why this calamity, and why Tacloban.

And yet the whole world responded. Help came in many forms: monetary donations, food, water, medical supplies, temporary living shelters, tents and much more. Never was the spirit of brotherhood, love and kindness more manifested than during this very difficult time. God has not forsaken us.

Members of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Women's Association (SHJWA), though personally affected by this disaster— their businesses lost, houses destroyed, did not feel abandoned and left to suffer this disaster alone. Relatives,



friends, and even people they haven't met before rushed to offer help and sympathy. Even warm hugs did a lot to ease the pain. Needless to say, generous support from members of the Federation of Filipino Chinese Catholic Women's Organization (FFCCWO), specially our past presidents, Madam Juana Go and Madam Mely Tieng truly warmed the hearts and gave them strength.

Aside from the government one of the earliest charitable organizations

that generously helped the victims was the Tzu Chi Foundation. They gave emergency aid such as Cash for Work Programs, filters that provided clean drinking water, temporary classrooms and rebuilt churches regardless of any religious denomination.

Last June 8, 2014, seven months after the onslaught of super typhoon Yolanda, the Sacred Heart Parish celebrated its annual fiesta. The newly renovated church gave everyone

a reason to celebrate. Smiles shone on everyone's faces, and, once again, hope springs eternal. Archbishop John Du celebrated mass and gave a very inspiring homily. A Plaque of Appreciation was given to the president of the Tzu Chi Foundation, Mr. Alfred Li, to express the city's gratitude for the Foundation's support.

To complete the festivities the officers and members of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Women's Association (SHJWA) distributed 200 pieces of packed lunch to the indigents during the fiesta. This occasion provided us an opportunity to mingle and share Yolanda experiences with the common folks.

Sharing God's Love, the charity arm of the FFCCWO, distributed school supply kits to 250 youth and children of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish on May 31, 2014. Another 200 school bags complete with school supplies were given to the children of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Abucay, Tacloban on June 1, 2014.

Typhoon Yolanda taught us many lessons: that God's love is immeasurable. He watches over us especially in times of danger. We only need to trust Him, as we humbly pray for deliverance. God works in mysterious ways. We only need to wait and pray and never lose hope.

-Dr. Anita Lee Salazar, SHJWA



## Reminiscing the Memories: A tribute to the founding couple of the Filipino-Chinese Catholic Community of Tuguegarao



In the year 2000 our Community, the Filipino-Chinese Catholic Community of Tuguegarao, had its beginning. But how it came to be is attributed to my grandparents, Antonio and Clotilde Co, a loving couple with good hearts. In their desire to unite all Filipino Chinese into one Catholic Christian community, their gatherings and events always included Filipino Chinese families. Realizing the importance of gaining the trust and respect of these Filipino-Chinese families, my grandparents saw to it that they were always ready to help in their material and spiritual needs, extending help even to the larger community of the people of Tuguegarao. Most of all they were passionate about preaching the Word of God. Thus it was not surprising that the Filipino-Chinese Catholic Community slowly grew into one, united, strong and

tight community, one that has stood the test of time—now celebrating its 14th year!

Let me tell you about my grandfather, the founder of the Filipino-Chinese Catholic Community of Tuguegarao. He was a funny person, fond of telling corny jokes. Whenever he and my mom got into some petty quarrels, they always ended up cuddling each other, just like sweet couples we see on television. Undoubtedly, my grandpa was a loving person. He taught me a lot of life lessons: to love and not to hate, to be selfless instead of selfish, to be humble, prayerful, charitable and morally upright. He loved to tell me stories from the Old Testament. Having been a mathematics teacher, he used to give me pointers in math. And he was always willing to lend an ear to all my stories and experiences in school.

Even though my grandparents are no longer around to guide us, yet I believe that they have never really left us. Their spirit continues to live with us, and in the community that they have loved so much.

-Frances Co, 4th grandchild of Tony and Clotilde Co





## San Nicolas de Tolentino Ladies Circle

**April 26, 2014 5:15 pm** FFCCWO Ladies Circle of the San Nicolas Chapter sponsored the novena for the Divine Mercy.

**May 4, 2014**, after the first Sunday mass at 8:00 am, members of the ladies circle together with their spouses had a breakfast meeting at the Gateway Hotel. Mr. Mat Catral, their invited speaker, talked about the virtue of Faith. The whole month of May during the Flores de Mayo, the FFCCWO ladies sponsored the 4pm May 10 mass and rosary held at the Cathedral. Snacks were served to all present.

**June 22, 2014** Our yearly outreach activity day. The FFCCWO ladies visited prisoners of the province of Surigao de Norte and served snacks to 160 prisoners. At times we also serve them lunch or dinner, or provide them with their basic needs such as laundry/toilet soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, towels and more.

**July 6, 2014** In accordance with our monthly schedule, we attended first Sunday mass at 8:00 am at the Cathedral, then proceeded to the Mega Grande with some of the spouses for the breakfast meeting. Brunch was sponsored by our past president, Judy Lim. Mr. Mat Catral continued with the 2nd part of his talk, this time on the topic of Intercession. After his talk a pray over session followed. Finally, we prayed the rosary in honor of Our Lady Queen of China.

FFCCWO Corazon Tan who now spends most of her time in Cebu, chose to celebrate her 62nd birthday on July 15, 2014 at the Gateway Hotel. It was a night well spent, reminiscing old memories, bonding with friends, relatives and with the other FFCCWO ladies.

-Virgie Cordero

## National Prayer for the Papal Visit

God of mercy and compassion, we come to you in our need and lift up to you our nation as we prepare for the apostolic visit of Pope Francis.

**Together we say after every invocation: BLESS YOUR CHURCH, LORD.**

Leader: That we may be faithful to the Pope, the Vicar of Christ on earth. *(Response)*

Leader: That we may be compassionate with the poor and the needy. *(Response)*

Leader: That we may be merciful with the weak and the lost. *(Response)*

Leader: That we may humbly confess our sins and return to God. *(Response)*

Leader: That we may frequently and devoutly receive Holy Communion. *(Response)*

Let us pray:

God, our Father, we are all your children. Make us a nation of mercy and compassion eager to meet Pope Francis. Make us a nation of holiness and heroism through Christ our Lord, Amen.

*Note: You may include this in your daily mass after the Prayers of the Faithful.*

## How to Pick Your Patron Saint

### Celebrating Saint's Feast Days

**C**elebrating special feast days helps bring the liturgical life of the church into the life of the family and helps build and strengthen the domestic church. It is a way to make the celebrations of the Church, and the communion of saints a vibrant living thing for our children.

The communion of saints is an invaluable resource to us, a source of intercession, help and inspiration. Every struggle we face is shared by a saint. Every trial we encounter has been fought and won before by one of our brothers or sisters in Christ. Each saint has a unique story, some particular strength that they can bring to your family. Celebrating name days marks in some special way the feast day of the saint whose name is used as a baptismal or confirmation name. Canon law specifies that each baptismal name should contain a saint's name. The custom of choosing a confirmation name is not as common as it seems to have been 20 or 30 years ago. In its place, you could choose a patron for whom you feel a special affinity.

**M**embers of the Catholic church choose a patron saint for many different reasons, the primary reason being for their Confirmation. Confirmation is the ceremony of initiation into the church which means it is the ceremony that makes a young adult, baptized as an infant, an adult in the eyes of the Catholic church. Other reasons for choosing a patron saint include, being diagnosed with a disease, or facing other difficult obstacles in your life. Patron saints are believed to be powerful, bridge the gap between the believer and God, and are therefore widely-used in prayer. With such an important decision to make, you may be asking yourself, "How do I pick my patron saint?" Here are some things to consider.

### 1. Give It Some Serious Thought

Choosing a patron saint is a big deal and the decision of which one to choose should be taken seriously. You should decide what the saint will represent to you. Patron saints represent everything from specific geographic areas to diseases, occupations, and specific problems. If you're not familiar with what the saints represent, research is definitely in order. There are more than 10,000 saints recognized by the church and hundreds of them are patron saints.

### 2. Choose Based on Your Name•

Many Catholics prefer to choose a saint that has the same name. Today, with so many canonized saints recognized by the church, the possibility is good that those with a common name can find a saint with the same name. This saint can have the same first or middle name, and by doing research, you can find out what your saint represents. Check to see if the the saint lived an especially interesting or meaningful life that touches you in some way. If not, you'll have to dig a little deeper.

### 3. Choose Based on the Roman Calendar•

The Roman calendar has a list of the feast days of every canonized saint. A popular method of choosing a patron saint is to check the calendar and choose the saint whose feast day corresponds with your birthday, the death of a loved one, or other important life event. Every saint has a feast day and there is at least one saint listed for every day of the year. The term "feast day" doesn't mean feasting is involved. It is simply a day to honor your saint with prayer and by reading scripture.

### 4. Things to Take into Consideration•

If you've narrowed down your choices, while reading about the different saints, ask yourself why you are drawn to some more than others. It may be that you want to emulate the lifestyle of a particular saint or it may be someone who you want to "have your back" in a time of crisis or spiritual weakness. Perhaps you prefer a female saint over a male saint. Choosing a patron saint to pray on your behalf isn't a decision you should make lightly and talking to a member of your church, especially one familiar with the saints, may be a huge help to you if you remain undecided.

### 5. Your Saint and Confirmation

The saint you choose will always be with you. Your saint will intercede for you in Heaven and having one for your Confirmation and beyond is similar to having a relative who you look up to and whom you would like to emulate. Your saint will become like extended family to you and will pray to God on your behalf any time you ask. Of course, you can pray to whichever saint you like after your Confirmation, but the saint you choose will always be yours. This is why it's so important to make an informed, meaningful decision.

Choosing a saint isn't a difficult process but it can be time consuming and confusing. Research is the key to choosing a patron saint that is best suited for you and you should understand that there is no right or wrong saint. Find one whose life speaks to you or who otherwise touches you in some way. Prayer may also be helpful when seeking guidance.



# Mass Etiquette



**1. Fast before Mass.** It is Church law that one fasts for at least 1 hour before receiving Holy Communion. Water and medicine can be consumed, of course. The purpose is to help us prepare to receive Jesus in the Eucharist.



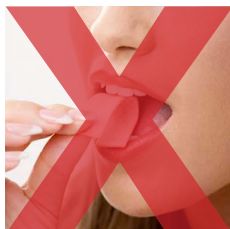
**3. Men take your hats off.** It is impolite to wear a hat into a church for a man. While this is a cultural norm, it is one that we ought to follow closely. Just as we take off hats for the Pledge of Allegiance, we do so in church too; as a sign of respect.



**5. Cross yourself with Holy Water on entering and leaving the church.** This is a reminder of our Baptism, which made us members of Christ's Church. Just try to remain mindful of what is happening when you do so and don't do it without saying a prayer.



**2. No Food and Drink in Church.** The exceptions would be a drink for small children, water for the priest or choir (if discreet) and water for those who are ill. Bringing a snack into church is not appropriate, because we want to set the church apart as a place of prayer and reflection.



**4. Don't chew gum in church.** It breaks your fast, it's distracting, it is consider impolite in a formal setting, and it doesn't help us pray better. Can you imagine the Pope popping gum in during Mass?



**6. Dress modestly and appropriately.** Wear your Sunday Best. As Catholics we believe that God comes down to meet us at every Mass. So, why would we not dress up?



**7. Show up at least a few minutes early.** If for some reason you can't be on time, then try to sit in the back so you don't disturb others. Getting to Mass early allows you to pray and prepare yourself better for Mass.

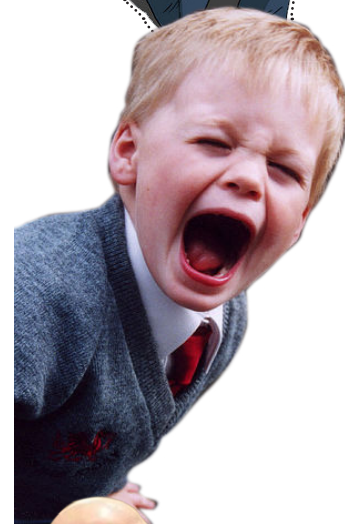
**8. Cell phones should never be used in Mass for calls or texting.** The exceptions are emergencies (big ones, not everyday ones) and if you do use one, please walk out of church to do so. Also, if you are using the phone for readings or prayers, this is appropriate, but try to be discreet.



**9. Don't sit on the edge of the pew if you sit down before others.** Rather, sit in the middle so others don't have to climb over you. Furthermore - Gentlemen offer their seats to a any lady (elderly, disabled, etc) who must stand. Some churches, like ours, get packed. We live in Texas (Howdy!). In Texas men don't sit when a woman is standing.



**10. When we enter and leave Church, genuflect toward the Tabernacle.** Christ is present for our sake. By allowing our right knee to hit the floor, we acknowledge He is our Lord and God. If someone is physically unable to genuflect, then a bow is sufficient. During Mass, if you pass in front of the altar or tabernacle, bow reverently.



**12. Take loud children to the back.** Every parent knows that sometimes the baby is going to have a bad day. Don't make everyone else's day bad as well. Sit on the end of a pew, if you can, and take the kid to the back quickly. Don't wait too long before you make a move. There is no reason to be embarrassed about having to quiet your child in the back of the church. It is worse to allow them to disturb Mass continually.



**14. No bulletin reading during Mass.** Imagine if you invited a guest to your house and before dinner (or during) they decided to read a magazine instead of talking to you. That is what is happening in God's house when you read the bulletin.



**16. Bow before receiving Holy Communion.** If it is God, then show your respect with a bow of the head. This is an ancient practice that has continued until this day.



**18. Do not leave early.** We should stay to the end of the recession and the hymn that accompanies it, if there is one. While there are certainly exceptions to this guideline, most who leave early don't need to and ought not to.

**20. Leave quietly.** We encourage you to visit with others, but once you are outside of the main sanctuary of the church so you won't disturb others who want to stay and pray. So, please leave quietly and then have then visit afterward.

**11. Please be quiet while in church.** Once you enter the sanctuary - it is not the time or place to visit with those around you. If you must talk do so as quietly and briefly as possible. Remember that your conversation might be disturbing someone who is in prayer, which is much more important. Sssshhhhhhh.



## Mass Offerings

**13. Prepare your offering before Mass.** Christ tells us not to let your left hand know what your right hand is doing when you make your offering. Keeping the basket while you get your wallet out can sometimes become quite a scene.



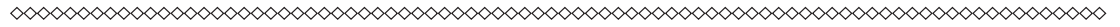
**15. Respect Boundaries others may have.** You might want to hold hands to pray, they may not. They might be sick and not want to shake during the sign of peace. These are all OK. Do not make any unnecessary judgment because they worship differently.



**17. Do not receive from the chalice if you are sick.** This is an act of charity and it is not necessary to receive in order to receive the entirety of Jesus' body, blood, soul, and divinity.



**19. Pray after Mass, if you feel called to do so.** It is a good custom, though not required, to offer a prayer of thanksgiving after Mass is over.



**Nimfa Ong Tiu**

December 5, 1932 - May 17, 2014

## **Super Mom with Great Faith and Love**

**F**our years ago, my mom was diagnosed with liver cancer and was given six months to live—that's what the doctors said. But God, in His loving mercy, did a miracle. After undergoing total hip replacement surgery for a slipping accident, mom was able to walk again to live for another four years.

During those four years mom never questioned the Lord why she has suffered so much; neither did she sink into depression. Instead she chose to live life to the fullest, filled with great expectations as each day comes, never complaining, nor showing discomfort. She even found joy in sharing her life with people suffering from cancer, giving them comfort and assurance that there's more to life than moping over this dreaded disease. Mom was surrounded by family, relatives and friends, and their love and moral support gave meaning to her life. This positive attitude, courage and fortitude shone through because of her strong faith and love for God.

Finally, on May 17, 2014 my mom joined our Creator, leaving behind a legacy not so much of material wealth, but more, a legacy rich in spiritual truths and gems that will forever guide us, her children, in our journey through life. She died in peace, because she has lived a life full of love, peace and kindness. We thank God for giving us the best mother ever. Rest in peace, mom.

*-Helen Tiu, Daughter*

## **Prayer for a Deceased Person**

Almighty Father, eternal God, hear our prayers for Your son/daughter (Name) whom You have called from this life to Yourself. Grant him/her light, happiness, and peace. Let him/her pass in safety through the gates of death, and live forever with all Your saints in the light You promised to Abraham and to all his descendants in faith. Guard him/her from all harm and on that great day of resurrection and reward raise him/her up with all Your saints. Pardon his/her sins and give him/her eternal life in Your kingdom. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

## **Prayer to Saint Michael**

St. Michael the Archangel,  
Defend us in the day of battle;  
Be our safeguard against  
The wickedness and snares of the devil.  
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray.  
O prince of the heavenly host,  
By the power of God cast into hell,  
Satan and all the other evil spirits,  
Who prowl through the world  
Seeking the ruin of souls. Amen

## **Prayer to our Guardian Angel**

Angel of god,  
My guardian dear,  
To whom his love commits me here,  
Ever this day,  
Be at my side,  
To light and guard,  
To rule and guide. Amen.