

Kapatiran



BROTHERHOOD OF CHRISTIAN BUSINESSMEN AND PROFESSIONALS

Vol. V, No. 1

PHILIPPINES

JUNE-JULY 1991

IN THIS ISSUE

THAT YOU BEAR MUCH FRUIT	2
MY FAVORITE TIME OF YEAR	7
HANDOG SA INA	8
LIFE BEYOND THE ENTRY POINT	10,11
IS JESUS REAL?	12
NO TIME TO PRAY	13
SIGNS OF DRUG ABUSE	15
STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN	17
CLAY IN THE POTTER'S HAND	19
CRASH!	24

Regular Sections:

Back To Basics	12,13
Breakfast Schedules	7
Business	16
Church	2
Editorial	23
Features	8,15,24
Letters and Comments	22
Lighter Moments	14
News	1,3,4,5,6,7,9,21
Opinion	10,11
Reflections	17
Sharings	9,14,18,19,20

BCBP 11TH ANNIVERSARY SET FOR AUG. 3

The Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals will observe its 11th year of dynamic existence on August 3, 1991, with an all day business conference, Holy Mass, evening dinner and program. All chapters and outreaches are expected to attend and participate in the different activities.

The lead chapter in charge of the celebration is Las Pinas. Las Pinas chapter head Manny Banigan has designated Kyt Mier as the lead coordinator for the affair.

Initially, it is envisioned that the business conference will address itself to how

a BCBP businessman or professional can make Christ felt in the marketplace in the areas of wages and productivity. Program details and venue are still being finalized.

In coordination with Las Pinas chapter the annual souvenir publication this year will be handled by the KAPATIRAN editorial staff who will put out a magazine-type supplement to the regular KAPATIRAN issue. Companies wishing to advertise in this special issue should contact either Kyt Mier of Las Pinas chapter or Nancy Catan of the KAPATIRAN early to reserve space.

SOCIAL ACTION HEAD APPOINTED

Arturo T. Orlina, formerly Mission Head of Quezon City chapter and a member of the BCBP since 1980, has been appointed to head the BCBP-wide Social Action Ministry. This new ministry will be the Brotherhood outreach among

the less fortunate to increase their employable skills or to help them set up meaningful livelihood projects of their own.

The initial social action program *cont. on page 9*



Throughout the Brotherhood, Christian Life Programs are on-going. Most chapters have scheduled two or three CLPs for 1991. Above is a Makati CLP evening. For more pictures and news on CLPs, see pages 3, 6 and 21.

POPE JOHN PAUL II

THAT YOU BEAR MUCH FRUIT

The fundamental objective of the formation of the lay faithful is an ever-clearer discovery of one's vocation and the ever-greater willingness to live it so as to fulfill one's mission.

God calls me and sends me forth as a laborer in his vineyard. He calls me and sends me forth to work for the coming of his Kingdom in history. This personal vocation and mission defines the dignity and the responsibility of each member of the lay faithful and makes up the focal point of the whole work of formation, whose purpose is the joyous and grateful recognition of this dignity and the faithful and generous living-out of this responsibility.

To be able to discover the actual will of the Lord in our lives always involves the following: a receptive listening to the Word of God and the Church, fervent and constant prayer, recourse to a wise and loving spiritual guide, and a faithful discernment of the gifts and talents given by God, as well as the diverse social and historic situations in which one lives.

It is not a question of simply knowing what God wants from each of us in the various situations of life. The individual must do what God wants, as we are reminded in the words that Mary, the Mother of Jesus, addressed to the servants at Cana: "Do whatever he tells you" (Jn 2:5). However, to act in fidelity to God's will requires a capability for acting and the developing of that capability. We can rest assured that this is possible through the free and responsible collaboration of each of us with the grace of the Lord which is never lacking. Saint

Leo the Great says: "The one who confers the dignity will give the strength!"

In discovering and living their proper vocation and mission, the lay faithful must be formed according to the union which exists from their being members of the Church and citizens of human society.

There cannot be two parallel lives in their existence: on the one hand, the so-called "spiritual" life, with its values and demands; and on the other hand, the so-called "secular" life, that is, life in a family, at work, in social relationships, in the responsibilities of public life and in culture.

The branch, grafted to the vine which is Christ, bears its fruit in every sphere of existence and activity. In fact, every area of the lay faithful's lives, as different as they

are, enters into the plan of God, who desires that these very areas be the "places in time" where

the love of Christ is revealed and realized for both the glory of the Father and service of others. Every activity, every situation, every precise responsibility - as, for example, skill and solidarity in work, love and dedication in the family and the education of children, service to society and public life and the promotion of truth in the area of culture - are the occasions ordained by Providence for a "continuous exercise of faith, hope and charity".

- Pope John Paul II, *Christifideles Laici* on the Vocation and the Mission of the Lay Faithful in the Church and in the World, nos. 58, 59 (excerpts).

THE BISHOPS' MOVES

+ **MEXICO: Bishops Against Pollution.** Mexican Catholic bishops released a document on ecology and declared that pollution levels in the country are "alarming and devastating." The bishops support current government initiatives to protect the environment.

+ **SOUTH AFRICA: Calling for Peace.** Catholic bishops of South Africa made an appeal for peace at the end of their yearly general assembly last January 27. In their statement the bishops blamed the present state of interracial violence to both "the militant liberation movements which have exasperated their ideology and strategy" and the "state apparatus which justifies indiscriminate use of violence." The bishops insist that "everyone involved in the country renewal process must work for peace and democracy."

+ **BRUNEI: Catholic Missionaries Told to Leave.** Two Catholic priests and a religious sister have been denied visa extensions by the Brunei government and told to leave the sultanate. Fr. Peter Chiang has served Catholics in Brunei for the past seven years and Mill Hill Father Joseph McClorey for over 30 years. Both were expelled by the authorities. Sr. Celestine of St. Angela's convent and a native of Malaysia has also been told to leave. The move leaves only one priest, Fr. Cornelius Sim, to look after the three Catholic parishes existing in the sultanate.

+ **INDIA: Political Vitality.** The last decade of the century is likely to witness a growing spirit of political action among Christians. Last year Christian Revival Oriented Services (CROSS), a political action group, was launched. And recently two more Christian-inspired parties were set up: the All India Christian Party in New Delhi, and the National Democratic Front, in Calcutta. "It is time Christians, Muslims and other minority groups joined to face challenges and work for national integrity and harmony," said Arun Biswas, president of the Christian Democratic Party, another group launched way back in 1971.

From World Mission Magazine, March and April 1991 issues.

Therefore, I have maintained that a faith that does not affect a person's culture is a faith "not fully embraced, not entirely thought out, not faithfully lived."

CLP NEWS

Las Pinas CLP 18 Begins June

Las Pinas chapter governance has slated June 1 as the first day of the chapter's Christian Life Program No. 18. Jimmy Porciuncula has been designated course leader, assisted by Milo and Jojo Panlilio. Totoy Tirona is head servant. Romy and Nel Oller will lead the intercessory group.

The list of discussion group and assistant discussion leaders is still being firmed up and will be announced soon. The chapter has chosen the Alabang Country Club as venue for its CLP.

Although the chapter's scope of recruitment technically consists of the Las Pinas, Paranaque and Cavite areas, other BCBP chapters are invited to bring in their guests to the CLP, particularly those living within Las Pinas' recruitment area.

PALAWAN CLP 3 COMPLETED

The last weekend of April were truly red-letter days for the Palawan outreach. Saturday, April 27, marked the CLP No. 3's Baptism in the Holy Spirit for its 34 participants. Sunday, April 28, was Commitment Day, when Outreach Coordinator Fuji Rodriguez and wife Chit welcomed the new Spirit-filled outreach members.

Palawan CLP course leader Mike Rodriguez was ably assisted by Las Pinas CLP coordinator Romy Oller. Romy and wife Nel were accompanied in the baptism and commitment ceremonies by Mon (who assisted the Palawan music ministry) and Hilda Liniao, teaching ministry head Joey Estagle, mission team head Rem Gopez, and Las Pinas chapter head Manny and Haydz Banigan.

Three weekends of Culture Talks are slated for the new CLP graduates. The first talks were held on May 25.

The completion of CLP #3 enables the Palawan Outreach to evolve a new unit which will be headed by Mike and Aleli Rodriguez. The original unit will remain under the stewardship of Fuji and Chit Rodriguez.

To ensure continuity of formation of its unit leaders, the Palawan outreach follows the Las Pinas chapter's practice of incorporating unit leaders in action groups. In this case, Mike and Aleli are now with an action group under Fuji's unit, while Fuji and Chit belong to an action group under Mike's unit.

Please see pages 6 and 21 for more CLP news.



CLP participants of CLP #17, Makati chapter, intently discuss repentance and faith, the topic for the evening. The Makati CLP is held every Wednesday evening at Lay Force. Baptism in the Holy Spirit is scheduled June 12 and Commitment Night on July 3.



CLP #16, Greenbills chapter, participants kneel in prayer after receiving Holy Communion during the mass preceding the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. Venue is Lay Force.



The Greenbills music ministry preparing for a night of songs and worship just before the Baptism prayers begin.

Las Pinas Chapter

DISCERNMENT CAPPED BY FIRE RALLY

The communal discernment exercise begun last April 11 culminated in a recommitment program on May 18. Led by Las Pinas' teaching ministry head Joey Estagle, all chapter members recommitted to God through the BCBP during meaningful ceremonies capped by a F.I.R.E. rally. F.I.R.E. means faith, intercession, repentance and evangelism, the four important steps to being a practicing Christian.

The chapter had embarked on the month-long communal discernment to be able to better lay down its directions for the rest of 1991 and 1992. Led by chapter head Manny Banigan and facilitated

by the leadership training service group with Mijl Mendoza, coordinator, under the mission service team of Rem Gopez, the discernment process started with a workshop among the unit heads and action group leaders on Thursday, April 11.

Manny Banigan synthesized the workshop results by observing that the success of all chapter activities depends greatly on the personal commitment of members. In turn, the chapter leadership's capability to nurture members' commitment depends on how well they understand, and how committed they themselves are to the BCBP vision and mission.

CHAPTER SERVICE ASSIGNMENTS

June	Quezon City
July	Makati

11th ANNIVERSARY
Las Pinas and Alabang

August	Alabang
September	Greenhills
October	Las Pinas

CEBU - BCBP'S NEWEST CHAPTER

MILESTONES

- **Men's Breakfast**
 - Launching - Feb. 29, 1988 (Monday) in Club Filipino
 - Change to Friday - July 1, 1988
 - Change to Saturday - March 3, 1990
- **Commissioning & Empowerment - July 14, 1988 Thursday**
- **Ladies Luncheon**
 - Launching - Sept. 10, 1988 - Club Filipino
 - Relaunching - Jun 17, 1989
 - Change to breakfast - Feb. 21, 1991
- **Christian Life Programs**
 - No. 1 - Oct. 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, Nov. 4, 5, 1988
 - No. 2 - Apr. 8, 15, 22, 29, May 5 and 6, 1989
 - 3 - Sep. 22, 23, 29, 30, Oct. 7, 14, 20, 27 and 28, 1989
 - 4 - May 25, 26, Jun 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16, 22 and 23, 1990
 - 5 - Nov. 7, 9, 10, 17, 24, Dec. 1 and 8, 1990
- **1st Prayer Assembly - Jan 19, 1989 Thursday at St. Therese Church - Multi-purpose Hall**
- **1st Sunday Mass Fellowship - May 7, 1989**
- **Sports - Family (Mini-Olympics) Day**
 - 1st - Jun 4, 1989 in USP Gym/Grounds
 - 2nd - Oct 28, 1990 in USP Gym/Grounds
- **BCMR**
 - No. 1 - Jan 26-28, 1990 Holy Family Retreat House
 - 2 - Sep 21-23, 1990 Holy Family Retreat House
- **Youth/Student Formation**
 - Summer Weekend - Mar 30-April 1, 1990
 - CYA Crossroad No. 1 - Oct 26-28, 1990
 - CYA Crossroad No. 2 - Feb 1-3, 1991
- **Culture Talks**
 - 1st - Dec. 1988 - Mar 1989
- **Cagayan de Oro Outreach**
 - Men's breakfast launching - Jan 12, 1991
 - CLP No. 1 - Jan 11, 12, 19, 26, Feb 2, 9 and 10, 1991

1991 PROGRAMS

- **Men's Breakfast - every Saturday**
- **Ladies Breakfast - every 3rd Saturday**
- **Assemblies/Meetings**
 1. Governance meeting - 1st Tuesday
 2. Chapter assembly - 1st Friday
 3. Action Group meeting - 2nd and 4th week
 4. Bible Study - 2nd and 4th Friday (March 15, 1991)
 5. Culture talk/teaching - 3rd Friday
 6. Unit Assembly - 5th Saturday (Quarterly)
 7. Mass fellowship - last Sunday afternoon
- **CLP**
 - No. 6 - Jun - Aug (13 evening sessions)
- **BCMR**
 - No. 3 - Apr 26-28
 - No. 4 - 4th quarter
- **Formation/teaching**
 1. Leaders formation
 2. Culture talks
 3. Retreats/recollections
 4. Family activities for Lent
- **Fellowship**
 1. Sports (mini olympics) Family day - May 26
 2. Summer outing/camp out
 3. Christmas caroling
- **Youth/student formation**
 1. Christian Life Series (CIS) No. 1 - Mar 16, 24, Apr 6
 2. Summer Training camp in Manila - Apr 20-28
 3. CYA Launching - June
 4. Prayer meetings in school - 1st and 3rd Saturday
- **Cagayan de Oro outreach**
 1. Men's breakfast - every Saturday
 2. CLP No. 2 - May - Jun
 3. Culture talks - July - August
 4. Leaders formation
- **Social Projects**
 1. Ladies garage sale

THE DREAM IS FULFILLED IN B.E.S.T.

*Eric Teotico, Mission Head,
Greenhills Chapter*

My brother had a dream. He dreamed that every member of the BCBP has the love of Christ flowing in his heart. Unable to contain this infinite source of love, the BCBP member pours this love over the hearts of all the men and women around him - his workforce and co-employees, his partners and clients, his friends and family. And everyone is honest and fair, giving more than receiving, encouraging instead of criticizing, trusting instead of distrusting, pacing instead of hurrying. They will meet every lunch to praise God and study his ways, to encourage and build upon each other. And every day everyone will end work smiling, thanking the Lord for a tiring but pleasant day.

The fulfillment of this dream has started in each chapter. Brothers evangelize other brothers and invite leaders and captains of industry into the BCBP for conversion, feeding and service. The love has flowed out but many of the people in the marketplace remain unaffected. Many resist and are skeptical despite the changes they can see in their brothers. Familiarity has blinded their eyes.

Because this evangelization within the company was incomplete, some brothers thought it was time for another approach. It was time for the BEST (Business Evangelization Service Team) to go to work. Whereas the Brotherhood's strategy is to evangelize the company head, the BEST approach is to convert the company's body - its workforce.

Aware of the greatness of the task of converting the workforce, the Greenhills chapter head freed the mission head from all other activities under his wing, leaving the mission head free to handpick and form a dedicated BEST mission team. With four couples as its nucleus, the team embarked on its first LSS program with the objective to convert, sustain and train the LSS graduates to become evangelizers in their own companies. This group was to form a self-sustaining body of evangelists, grouped and represented by companies, holding separate bible sharing



BCBP sisters relax at break time during the Prayer Course for Women.

meetings in their offices and regularly meeting as a body in a single venue. They would be fed by a small group of committed BCBP leaders. This was the vision to complete the dream!

The first LSS seminar was held on the last week of January, 1991. Using discussion leaders and servants from the Greenhills chapter, the seminar reaped a harvest of 25 graduates. God has blessed these first fruits with zeal and commitment. Few among them would ever miss the regular Monday rhythm of prayer assembly, Bibliarazal and teaching nights.

Each one was immediately trained to be a bible-sharing facilitator so that they could hold bi-monthly meetings in their office premises even without Brotherhood supervision.

Slowly their numbers grew as they invited their co-workers in their small gatherings. Then on the last week of April, the second LSS was held. Nearly all the members volunteered for service; only discussion leaders were needed from the BCBP. The harvest has now grown to a bountiful 47 graduates. God indeed blesses his people.

This year two more seminars are scheduled, one in July, the other in October. With the richness of teaching materials available in the Brotherhood and with the grace of God, many of the members will bloom to become future leaders. Each one will be capable of nurturing an office prayer and bible study group. Each one will be able to spread the Word of God to every member of his company, letting love pour on love till every heart has the heart of Christ.

And the dream is coming true.

600 WOMEN ATTEND PRAYER COURSE

Over 600 women from various charismatic communities and parishes in Manila and Luzon gathered on Saturday, April 13, at Mary the Queen Parish Center in Greenhills for a full day of growing in prayer. This Prayer Course for Women, a project of the Word of Joy Foundation, Inc., was conducted by Menchie Rojas, author of the book *Daily Prayer Companion*, and course leader for Joy of Discovery and other enrichment courses.

Attending the prayer course from the BCBP were Edith Carag, Jojo Panlilio, Charito Garcia, Alice Isidro, Mina Obra, Nilda Malana, Lulu Leandro and Beth Domingo from the Las Pinas chapter and Nancy Catan and Dra. Angelita Calupitan of the Makati chapter.

Topics discussed during the prayer course were the different seasons in a woman's prayer life, using scripture in praying and growing with God in prayer. The participants all enjoyed the talks, the actual prayer practice, and the small group sharings and clamored for more such courses in the future.

"The only way to grow is to pray," Menchie believes. "And the only way to learn how to pray is to pray. Praying is not talking much, it is loving much. We must make God the overwhelming focus in our lives."

She also quoted St. Teresa of Avila: "Souls who do not love the habit of prayer are like paralyzed bodies with hands and feet they cannot use. It seems to me that to stop praying is to take a wrong turn because prayer is the door through which all God's graces come to us."

SUBCOM HOSTS BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP

The Subic Naval Base Command of the AFP hosted the breakfast fellowship of the BCBP Navy Outreach for the month of April on April 11 at the Subcom Social Hall. Sharers were Gus Escarreal, BCBP Makati, and Agnes Baisas of the Central Bank Charismatic Community. Most Rev. Severino Pelayo, D.D., military bishop of the Philippines and Col. Gorgonio Zapatos, CHS (PN)(GSC), naval chief chaplain, gave the reflection on the sharings and the closing prayer respectively. Jun Catan, mission head for the BCBP Navy outreach, emceed the program. Vic Cuna, Chito Zabarte and Nancy Catan of the BCBP Makati attended as members of the Makati support group. More than 150 naval personnel attended the breakfast.

After the breakfast fellowship, the group was treated to a rolling tour of Subic Naval Base capped by a short stop at a base canteen for candies and apples. Before departing for Manila, Jun Catan led the group in paying a courtesy call on the Vice Mayor of Angeles City to introduce to her the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals and to invite interested municipal officials to the next breakfast fel-

lowship.

Navy CLP Begins June 29

The Makati chapter's mission team for the Navy is presently busy planning for a Christian Life Program for officers and their wives to be held at the NTC Social Hall in Fort San Felipe, Cavite City. The CLP participants will come from the four naval units based in Cavite: the Naval Training Command, the Philippine Fleet, Naval Support Command and Cavite Naval Base.

The CLP will formally begin on June 29 and will be held on Saturdays from 1:30 to 5:00 p.m. However, screening of participants, general orientation on the BCBP, and training of the assistant group discussion leaders and the music ministry is ongoing weekly every Saturday. Any brothers and sisters in the Brotherhood, regardless of chapter affiliation, who are interested to serve during this naval CLP are welcome and should contact Jun Catan, CMO (in military parlance Chief Mission Officer) for the Navy Outreach, Makati chapter.

Greenhills Chapter

BREAKFAST SHARERS FOR JUNE, JULY

The sharers for the Greenhills Men's Breakfasts for the months of June and July are: June 6, PV Beley; June 13, Lito Consunji; June 20, Rhanece Reyes; June 27, Dick Sugang; July 4, Tony Tolentino; July 11, Punch Mamonluk; July 18, Rico Sevilla; July 25, Noli Castro.

The breakfasts are held every Thursday at the Club Filipino in Greenhills. Breakfast head is Nandy de Castro.

TERMITES
RATS
ROACHES

YOU'RE IN CONTROL

WITH MAPECON

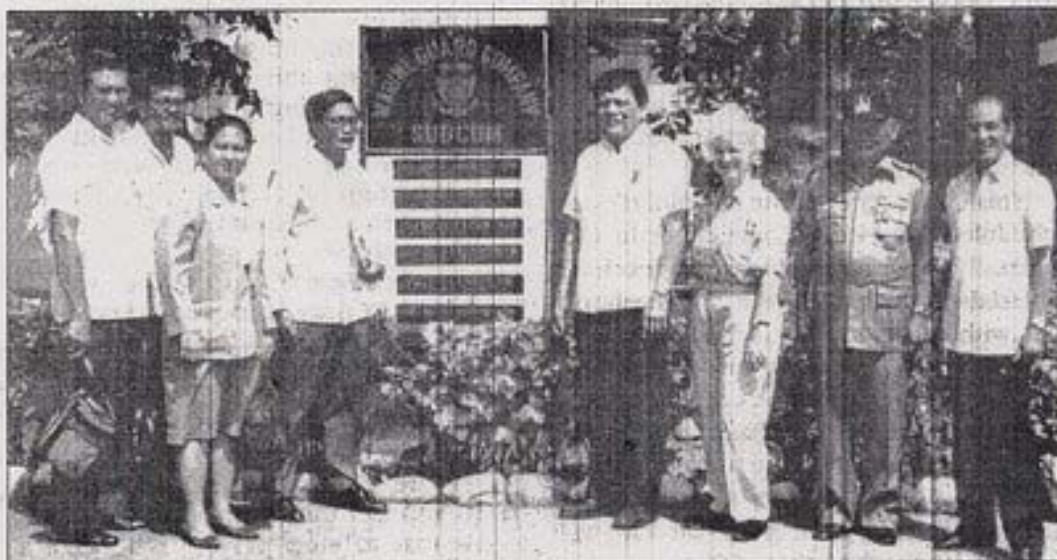
No. 1 IN PEST CONTROL PRODUCTS AND SERVICES NATIONWIDE

Dependable and Affordable
With 38 Patents • Free Survey

CALL Manila 50-69-46
50-92-71 • 59-94-26 • 50-02-29
521-56-45 / Baguio 442-2746
Dagupan 7505 / Cebu City 9-98-20
Bacolod 2-49-67 / Iloilo City 7-60-88
Cagayan de Oro 2697 / Zamboanga
City 6133 / Davao City 7-50-35

MAPECON You're in control!

THE MANILA PEST CONTROL CO. PHILS., INC.
Head office: 2533 Macar Peña St., Manila



The BCBP group pose with Bishop Pelayo and Msgr. Zapatos at the entrance to the SUBCOM base facilities. L to R are: Chito Zabarte, Gus Escarreal, Agnes Baisas, Jun Catan, Bishop Severino Pelayo, Nancy Catan, Msgr. Gorgonio Zapatos and Vic Cuna.

Keeping In Touch

MY FAVORITE TIME OF YEAR

Nene Tayag, Alabang Chapter

May is my favorite time of year. From early childhood till the present I have always looked forward to this particular time.

Being a romantic at heart, thinking of May brings to mind rough winds that shake the budding flowers, abundant fruits like siniguelas, duhat, casuy and langka. I think of my Maytime favorite foods mangga and suman. But most of all I associate May as a time dedicated to our Blessed Mother.

May brings happy and fond memories of my youth spent in Pagbilao, Quezon. I offered flowers daily to the Blessed Mother, I lovingly sang the Ave Maria and Salve Regina. I anticipated being invited as a "sagala" during the Flores de Mayo celebration. On May 15 we observed the feast of San Isidro Labrador, patron saint of farmers, with a procession, a "pabitin" or "pahiyas," a display of the farm's harvest laden with "kiping" (a sort of kropeck made from rice powder) of various colors.

As a student May was the time for enjoying longer sleeping hours, peace from the worries of schoolwork, projects to submit, periodical tests and other concerns.

As a working mother, May remained my favorite month because we had the

privilege of half-day work schedule during the months of April and May. How I enjoyed the extra time spent with my children!

It was in May, May 5, 1982 to be exact, that Serg and I signed our BCBP commitment cards at the end of CLP 3. At that time I resigned from my job to become a full time homemaker, coming to know God in the person of Jesus Christ and allowing Him to become my strength in coping with the daily ordinary pressures and concerns of family and home.

May is the time when we observe Mother's Day, too. I treasure all the little love notes from my husband and my children that I have received over the years. The Lord has called me to be a loving steward to his greatest gift to us, our children. I give praise and honor to Him for this privilege of being a mother to our four children. Although staying at home can be monotonous and boring at times, this is more than offset by the joy I experience as we as a family join in our family prayers, praising and thanking God for our many blessings.

I know God's love in my love for my family. I know God's love in their love for me. And I know God's love in my devotion to our Blessed Mother. Especially during the month of May, my favorite time of year.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Aug.-Sept. issue of the KAPATIRAN will be a special 11th Anniversary Issue that will contain, in addition to our regular news and sections, articles and special features of interest to all BCBP brothers and sisters.

Please support your KAPATIRAN through your sharings, pictures, news, and articles. And through advertisements and First Friday collections. Thank you.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES, NEWS, SHARINGS, PICTURES AND ADVERTISEMENTS FOR THE ANNIVERSARY ISSUE IS JULY 1, 1991

BCBP MEN'S BREAKFASTS

- | | | |
|---------------|---|--|
| Wednesdays | - | Aling Asiang's, Greenbelt, Makati Club Filipino, Greenhills San Juan |
| Thursdays | - | Malacanang Canteen, Malacanang Alfredo's Steak House, Tomas Morato Ave., Q.C. |
| Fridays | - | Ayala-Alabang Country Club, Alabang |
| Saturdays | - | Fernando's Sunburst Restaurant, Centro Maximo Bldg, D. Jakosalem, Cebu Lee Garden Restaurant, RFC Bldg, Alabang-Zapote Road, Las Pinas |
| | - | Paolo's Steak House, Cagayan de Oro |
| | - | Rolly's Restaurant, Bacolod City |
| 2nd Thursdays | - | Phil. Navy, alternating venues, check with Jun Catan, Makati chapter |

MEN'S LUNCHEON

- | | | |
|--------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 2nd, 4th Saturdays | - | Pinkee's Restaurant, Dagupan City |
|--------------------|---|-----------------------------------|

6:15 FELLOWSHIP

- | | | |
|------------|---|---|
| Wednesdays | - | Arc Cuisine, Jupiter St., Bel Air. Open to both men and women |
|------------|---|---|

JOINT BREAKFASTS

- | | | |
|---------------|---|---|
| 1st Saturdays | - | Lee Garden Restaurant, RFC Bldg, Alabang-Zapote Road, Las Pinas |
|---------------|---|---|

LADIES' BREAKFASTS

- | | | |
|---------------|---|--|
| 1st Saturdays | - | Cafe Negrense, Bacolod City |
| 2nd Saturdays | - | Alfredo's Steak House, Tomas Morato Ave., Q.C. |
| | - | Ayala-Alabang Country Club, Alabang |
| 3rd Saturdays | - | Sunburst Restaurant, Centro Maximo Bldg, D. Jakosalem, Cebu City |

LADIES' LUNCHEONS

- | | | |
|---------------|---|---|
| 2nd Thursdays | - | Arc Cuisine, Jupiter St., Bel Air, Makati |
| 3rd Thursdays | - | Beijing Garden, Shaw Blvd (Ctr. for Peace), Mand. |
| 3rd Saturdays | - | Pinkee's Restaurant, Dagupan |

Handog Sa Ina

(Araw ng mga Ina, Mayo 12, 1991)

Busilak na puso ang 'yong tinataglay
Habang iniiwi sa sinapupunan ang anak na kasi
Ligayang sumilay sa ngiti sa labi
Ay di maikubli nang isilang ako.

Kalong mo sa bisig
Habang ang dibdib mo'y
karugtong ng buhay.
Mainit na palad yaong humahaplos
Sa noo at batok, balik at likod.

Malambing mong tinig ay gabay
Sa pagtuklas ng bawat baitang ng buhay.
Ang pagmamahal mo'y lakas
na umakay
Nang ako'y manghina sa mga pagsubok.

Ang buhay mo'y aklat na lipos ng aral
Tanglaw at liwanag, kadluan ng tuwa
Bukal ng galak, batis ng pag-unawa,
Isang pahingahan sa dapithapong
pagal ang katawan.

Nagsimpan ng buhay
Handa ring magbuwis ng sariling buhay
Hindi alintana kung may gantimpala
o wala
Ang laging hangari'y damayan ang anak
na makamit ang mga lunggati
Inaako pati yaong suliranin
huzag lang magipit ang bunso sa turing.

Ina, patawad sa pagkakasala,
mga pagkukulang sa tuwi-tuwina
Aming paglalambing ay pangungulila
sa araw na dati'y laging magkasama.

Ina, ikaw ay bantayog
ng kadakilaan
Ikaw ay isa ring matibay na moog
na di maigupo ng mga pagsubok.
Ikaw ay biyayang nagmula sa langit
upang mga anak sa Diyos ay ilapit.

Ina ka ngang tunay na labis magmahal.

Akong iyong anak,
ngayo'y nagsusukli ng kapwa pagmamahal.

Nene B. Ocampo, Quezon City Chapter

SOCIAL ACTION . . . from page 1

which will be pursued is an Employment and Livelihood Exchange Service (ELEXSER) in the Tahanan ng Panginoon (TNP) areas. ELEXSER will include vocational training and development, job placement and consultancy and health programs.

Each chapter is asked to appoint a chapter ELEXSER officer to link with the TNP and BCBP members and to coordinate with Orlina in the implementation of social work in TNP areas within the chapter's geographic area.

ALLELUIA!**FAMILY AND SPORTS DAY 1991 CANCELLED
1992 ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED**

During a meeting of the chapter heads on May 23, it was decided upon recommendation of the Greenhills and Makati chapters that due to venue and time constraints the Family and Sports Day would be cancelled for this year. This would also allow sufficient time to plan well for the BCBP 11th anniversary and business conference.

The assignments for 1991 and 1992 BCBP-wide activities are:

11th Anniversary (Aug. 3)-Las Pinas

and Alabang Chapters

Bazaar '91 (Nov.)-Quezon City Chapter

Annual Report and Year-End Presentation (Mar. '92)-Makati Chapter

Family Day (May 1, 1992)-Las Pinas Chapter

12th Anniversary 1992 (end of July)-Greenhills Chapter

ARE WE AVAILABLE TO GOD?

Dodo Sta. Maria, Quezon City Chapter

Man is created in the image and likeness of God. This was the message of Fr. Rodel Arellano during our chapter recollection last Maundy Thursday at the Scalabrini Chapel, Panay Ave., Q.C.

Man is not born just to die as the Nihilists claim, nor is man alive just to be happy as the Hedonists would say, nor is man a mixture of chemicals according to some scientists. Man is the image and likeness of God and we should see God in ourselves and in every fellow human

being, in our spouses, our children, our help, our friends, our superiors, our subordinates and most especially in our more unfortunate brothers.

Reflecting on this, we are reminded that indeed our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit and that any abuse to our body surely destroys this temple. Every sin shatters this image, too. But God in His infinite goodness gave us the Sacrament of Reconciliation so that out of these shattered pieces we can make a

beautiful mosaic acceptable to God.

In spite of our unworthiness as sinners, God loves us and He has a purpose for us. But He also gave us free will to choose to follow Him or not. So the challenge is this: Do we make ourselves available to God and live according to His will? Or do we live according to our own standards and earthly desires? Are we going to join the Risen Christ or not?

GOD ANSWERS PRAYERS

Emy Magdangal, Quezon City Chapter

Last April 10, 1991, a Wednesday, I attended the singles' core group meeting at Arc Cuisine in Makati and joined the 6:15 fellowship and prayer meeting afterwards. On the way home I hitched a ride with 6:15 emcee Beda Manalac up to Taft Avenue where I took a jeepney in front of dela Salle University bound for Quiapo where I reside.

When I arrived home and changed into more comfortable clothing I noticed that my pocket had been picked and that my wallet was missing. I felt bad, not be-

cause of the money lost but more of the fact that all my identification cards were in my wallet. As a Malacanang employee, it is always very difficult to secure a replacement I.D. from the Presidential Security Group. This was my dilemma.

On April 12 I asked the Lord during my regular morning prayer that since nothing was impossible with Him, could He please see that my wallet together with everything in it except the money, which I thought was probably needed by the pickpocket for something more im-

portant or perhaps for an emergency, be returned to me since I needed my I.D. cards.

Three weeks later, God answered my prayer. My wallet and everything in it including an L.R.T. token and a small rosary but without the money were returned by a man at my residence.

Truly God answers prayers and nothing is impossible with Him if only we would ask in prayer. All praise and glory to Him who is my Provider.

With Eyes of Faith

LIFE BEYOND THE ENTRY-POINT

Kytt Mier, Las Pinas Chapter

Editor's Note: The opinions expressed herein are those of the writer and should not be read as the official stand of the Brotherhood.

In our April-May column, we discussed a way of understanding our role as members of an evangelizing community. I pointed out that the time has come to change gears, so to speak, and shift to another level of evangelization.

Our BCBP entry-point activities, the men's breakfasts and the teaching and formation tracts, are important aspects of "strategic evangelization" and should continue and accelerate through the years. We can see the results of effective entry-point program management in members who are scripturally articulate and active in bringing more and more people to a personal relationship with Jesus. We can see the results in members who proclaim the Gospel by the quality of their personal, family and communal lives, as well as in the quality of decisions they make in their respective workplaces and market "niches."

We must look toward post-entry programs that will support our social, economic and political lives as BCBP members and witness for Christ.

But the Brotherhood also envisions members who will be open and ready to help co-members who have livelihood and other problems, who will be ready to offer business and professional services, who will tend to make courageous decisions that will help bring about a "milieu change."

It is towards this direction -- the establishment of an effective support system for BCBP's post entry-point development -- that a shift must occur. Fr. Herb indicated this directional change in his 10th Anniversary message.

In essence, the shift in our "Strategic Evangelization" thrust requires a support system that will help us fulfill our commit-

ments in both entry-point as well as post entry-point stages of our membership. It is a thrust that must go beyond mere score card maintenance of how many breakfasts or CLPs or LSSs or BCMRs or culture talk series or BESTs we are to conduct each year.

It is a thrust that puts equal or even greater emphasis of the BCBP's need to strengthen its action groups, units and chapters and make them into powerhouses of prayer, orderliness, faithfulness to communal activities, committed service, and provide full support for members' efforts to live just and righteous lives in their respective business and professional milieus.

Clearly, there is need for a new set of programs to address these "post entry-point" requirements. These programs would need to be integrated with existing evangelization activities and be considered in some structural and budgetary adjustments. The new programs envisioned are reflected in the matrix on the next page and are the ones enclosed in the bold lines at the bottom of the matrix.

Naturally the development and implementation of such new programs will take time. In fact, current snags in our entry-point programs may even prevent us from immediately addressing our post entry-point needs. Please note in the matrix that many entry-point programs are yet to be fully activated in some chapters.

This, however, must not stop us from at least sitting down in this first year of our second decade and trying to lay out a workable plan for the next nine years, a plan worthy of our calling as renewed businessmen and professionals.



Makati Office: Lot 18 Cityland 7 Condominium, Altara Street, Salcedo Village, Makati, M.M. Tel. 86-85-13
 Plant: 5631 Ampere Street, Makati, Metro Manila Tel. 831-6727
 Manila Office: 307 Trinity Building T.M. Kalaw, Manila

LYDIA MABINI-FIGUEROA
 General Manager

LUIS O. FIGUEROA, JR.
 Finance Manager

FOR YOUR ADVERTISING REQUIREMENTS, CALL
AD MILEAGE, INC.

TELS. 86-48-41 + 86-48-27

Wanted
Life Insurance Underwriters

contact:
ROSE R. NABOR
 Unit Manager

Insular Life Greenhills D.O.
 4th Floor Quadstar Bldg.
 Ortigas Ave., Greenhills,
 San Juan, M.M.

Tels. 721-9349, 721-6908 - office
 70-64-96 - residence

MATRIX OF BCBP PROGRAMS: DECADE II

ENTRY POINT PROGRAMS

Area	CONVERSION	COMMITMENT	COMMISSIONING
PERSONAL RELATIONS WITH GOD	<p>ENTRY-POINT FELLOWSHIP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BREAKFASTS <p>CHRISTIAN LIFE PROGRAM</p> <p>CULTURE TALKS</p> <p>TEACHINGS/VALUE FORMATION</p> <p>BASIC PRAYER LIFE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discursive Prayer/Worship 	<p>SCRIPTURE STUDY SERIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JOY OF DISCOVERY - BIBLE STUDY SERIES OF Fr. Tapiador <p>TEACHINGS/VALUE FORMATION</p> <p>DEEPENING OF PRAYER LIFE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meditation - Contemplative Prayer 	<p>EVANGELIZATION TRAINING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TEACHING TRACT ON EVANGELISM <p>APOLOGETICS</p> <p>TEACHINGS/VALUE FORMATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BEST
FAMILY LIFE	<p>FAMILY LIFE PROGRAM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BCMR - Children/Youth Formation - House-Help Program <p>CULTURE TALKS</p>	<p>FAMILY LIFE PROGRAM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Family Encounter Retreat - Father/Son, Mother/Daughter <p>TEACHINGS/VALUE FORMATION</p> <p>FAMILY PRAYER & WORSHIP</p>	<p>TEACHINGS/VALUE FORMATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Witness of Life
COMMUNITY	<p>CULTURE TALKS</p> <p>TEACHINGS/VALUE FORMATION</p>	<p>ACTION GROUP PROGRAM</p> <p>TEACHINGS/VALUE FORMATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Leadership Training for Unit Leaders - Action Group Leaders & Discussion Group Leaders <p>ASSEMBLIES & WORSHIP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prayer Assemblies 	<p>SPEAKERS' BUREAU TRAINING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Homiletics - Rhetorics - Apologetics - Church Decree on Social Communication - Other Substantive Modules <p>SERVICES FOR MEMBERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultation Services - Financing/financial planning - Product Management <p>SERVICES FOR SISTER ORGANIZATIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultation Services - Placement - Training & Skills Dev't
POST-ENTRY POINT PROGRAMS			
SOCIAL	<p>SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION SERIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analysis of Philippine Situation - Second Plenary Council Teachings 	<p>SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION SERIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social Teaching of the Church <p>VALUE FORMATION SERIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Catholic Social Action <p>COMMUNITY PRAYER FOR NATIONAL DELIVERANCE AND HEALING</p>	<p>COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Business Councils - Task Forces



THE HOLY EUCHARIST: IS JESUS REAL?

What would you do if Jesus Christ in flesh and blood came down from heaven and stood before you right now? How would you react? Would you kneel in awe and reverence before His majesty, before the Lord who saved you? Or would you run away in fear? Would you stand motionless in amazement? Or would you just turn away in skeptical disbelief?

In biblical times meeting Jesus in person affected people in different ways. The Samaritan woman stayed out of curiosity and went away believing (Jn 4:5-42). Mary Magdalene looked and saw a gardener instead of Jesus (Jn 20:14-15). The moneychangers in the Temple fled from Him (Jn 2:13-16). The man healed of leprosy threw himself to the ground at Jesus' feet and thanked Him (Luke 17:15-16). People in Nazareth saw Jesus, heard Him teach; they were amazed but lacked faith, so rejected Him (Mark 6:2-6).

Multitudes of people would sit down hour by hour just to be in His presence. The apostles spent all the time they could

with Jesus, hungrily absorbing all He had to teach them.

Receiving Jesus in the Eucharist

When we receive Jesus in the Holy Eucharist during the mass, we receive the

same Christ that people used to follow around in Jerusalem. We have the even greater privilege of physically making Him one with us as we receive Him during Holy Communion.

We believe in faith that Jesus stands before us during the consecration and the elevation of the Host. We believe in faith that He becomes one with us in Holy Communion. How do we react?

This morning at mass I observed the way people reacted to communion. Some received Jesus fervently with a firm and audible "Amen!" A few hurried to the communion rail, then scurried furtively away to hide in a back pew. Some spent long moments in prayer after receiving Jesus; others sat back in their seats as if relieved that the mass was almost over.

A Challenge to Our Faith

I wonder how many of us really take this challenge of faith offered us in the Eucharist seriously and at face value. In the Bread of Life discourse (Jn 6:22-71) Jesus taught that He expected his fol-

This issue we continue our series of articles explaining some of the basic and important issues of our Catholic faith. The Eucharist is the principal sacrament of the Church and the main act of Christian worship. Here we reflect on the challenge to our faith in Jesus' Real Presence in the Eucharist. Next issue we will consider the Eucharist as the means by which we are incorporated into the Body of Christ, the Church. We hope and pray with these articles that you will be led into a deeper and clearer understanding of our Catholic faith and the mystery and power of the Eucharist. -Editor

lowers to eat His flesh and drink His blood. When some of the disciples murmured about this, Jesus did not soften His teaching at all but emphasized that although He knew it was a hard teaching and not everyone would accept it, it was precisely this teaching - that we must eat His flesh and drink His blood - that would give the believers eternal life.

That Jesus meant for us to receive His real body and blood in the bread and wine of the Lord's supper or Eucharist, not merely as a "symbolic" act, is affirmed by the apostle Paul in his first letter to the Corinthians, chapters 10 and 11. Paul asks, "The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ?" He says nothing about this participation being done symbolically.

The Mystery of Transubstantiation

Do we need to understand how mere bread and ordinary wine from grapes become the real Body and Blood of our Lord? This is one of the mysteries of the Church, of our faith. The term "transubstantiation" describes the mystery that the inner reality or 'essence' of the bread and wine is transformed into the body and blood of Jesus, while the outward appearance remains the same. This doctrine affirms, in faith, that Jesus' words in the gospel of John are literally true. As Catholics we worship Jesus Christ whom we discern by faith to be present in the consecrated Host, we do not worship the Host.

As a mystery given to us by Our Lord, we do not need to understand it. We just need to step out in faith and believe that because Jesus gave us this beautiful way to experience His presence in our lives, it is so.

During the elevation of the Host, we Christians today are confronted by Jesus. He asks us, "Is this a hard thing to accept?" Can we answer sincerely and from our hearts as Peter answered, "We have come to believe and are convinced you are the Holy One of God?"

There was a time when although I ac-

cepted the doctrine of the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, I did not wholeheartedly believe. Then after reading the account in Mark 9 of the healing of the boy with a demon (v.14-29) I began to pray during the elevation of the Host during every mass, "I do believe, help my unbelief. Lord Jesus, increase and strengthen my faith." A few months after that I experienced healing during the mass of osteoarthritis in my spine and joints, a painful ailment of 8 years duration. Since then the Lord has truly used many and varied ways and means of answering my continuing prayer: "Increase and strengthen my faith."

The Totality of Jesus

In the Eucharist we have the opportunity to embrace the totality of our Redeemer. Jesus warns us in Rev. 3:15-16 that we must not be lukewarm in our faith. He also says, "Whoever is not with me is against me." (Luke 11:23) How then can we accept Him as our personal Lord and Savior without accepting His Real Presence in the Eucharist? How can we claim to love Him if we do not allow Him to show and share His love for us in the Sacraments?

I do not love only a part of my father or my mother. I do not love only a part of my husband. I love them in the totality of their being who they are. Regardless of the fact that they may have some habits, personal traits or beliefs that I do not like, I still love them. They may do something I don't understand or like, but I still love them.

Why, then, shouldn't I love Jesus in the same way? I love Him for Who He is, regardless of the fact that I do not understand all of His teachings, that I have a difficult time trying to follow His Will in my life. Jesus is still Jesus, the same yesterday, today and tomorrow! And by His own admission, He loves me.

I treasure the time I can spend with the ones I love. I look forward to the moments we can have together. Loving Jesus I want to be with Him, too, to be in His Presence. What better way than to allow Him to become one with me in the Holy Eucharist?

Nancy R. Catan

NO TIME TO PRAY

"I don't have time!" All of us have used this excuse at one time or another when our prayer time has sort of 'disappeared'. But time or its lack is really not a valid reason for not praying.

It's not necessary to make a big production out of praying. You don't always need fifteen minutes and a quiet corner. Mini-prayers are tailor-made for us busy people. It takes only a second to shoot a mini-prayer heavenward. And no special circumstances either. We can pray this way anytime, anywhere.

Try praying for the person ahead of you in line while waiting for the bus. Say a one-liner for the traffic aide perspiring in the sun as he waves your car by. Praise God for the coolness of your office. Marvel at the bright flowers along the roadside. Intercede for that stranger who looks so troubled.

The Bible is filled with mini-prayers. Use some of these or make up your own. Just think, with mini-prayers, you can pray even 100 times a day!

- + I believe! (Mark 9:24)
- + Blessed be God! (Psalm 68:35)
- + Lord, my savior! (Psalm 38:22)
- + I will thank You forever! (Psalm 52:9)
- + Thanks be to God! (Romans 6:17)
- + Help me, O Lord my God! (Psalm 109:26)
- + Come and rescue me, God! (Psalm 70:1)
- + Lord, have mercy on us! (Matthew 20:31)
- + Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me! (Mark 10:47)
- + Come, Lord Jesus! (Revelation 22:20)

Of course, mini-prayers should not take the place of our quiet time with the Lord. However with mini-prayers complementing our regular quiet time we will be nearer our goal to "Pray without ceasing" as instructed by St. Paul (1 Thess. 5:17).

HEALED, I WAS, DURING MASS

Cbito Zabarte, Makati Chapter

I was healed during the celebration of the Holy Eucharist!

I was unloading some heavy cases of foodstuff from my car. One of the containers was caught between the front seat and the dashboard. In my haste to extricate it because I was eager to be able to serve at the Sto. Nino Chapel at Greenbelt, Makati, my body became unbalanced and my lower back snapped.

But to Superman (so I thought I was) this was nothing. I ignored it. I was able to drive to Makati. However, upon reaching my destination, I could hardly move. I walked like an octogenarian and was perspiring profusely. My barong was soaking wet. As time passed the pain was becoming increasingly unbearable.

The mass started. I was determined to serve and to distribute communion. During consecration when the host was being elevated, my prayer was for Him to heal me. My eyes and my concentration were focused on the Sacred Host. At that very moment I felt that my whole torso, my spinal column especially, was being stretched, accompanied by an unexplainable radiation of heat. The pain disappeared at this point in time. My barong was dried, too, as if it had never been soaked by sweat.

I was healed instantly and completely. I could move again as if nothing had ever happened. God was even so good that He made sure not only that I was physically fit to distribute Holy Communion but that I was attired properly to do it, in my barong newly laundered and ironed by Him.

At our action group meeting that evening I shared this experience. But during the prayer meeting, Mr. Evil himself played a trick and started to inject doubts into my mind. When I started to entertain these doubts, the pain started to reappear.

As we finished the prayer meeting, the pain was getting severe. Eddie Go, our

group leader, offered to drive me home. But Superman needed no driver! I managed to drive home, get out of the car to open the gate to our house, but I was not able to bend to get back into the car to bring it to the garage. I left the car outside the house and dragged myself into the house.

Early the next day Eddie called me up. While talking over the phone I could not help but scream in pain every time I moved wrongly. In no time at all Eddie appeared and drove me to the hospital.

I was in the hospital for two long days: X-ray examinations, blood and urine analyses, etc. The results showed nothing - no slipped disc...nothing. But the pain was still there. The doctors could not offer anything but to ask me to stay for 10-14 days for further examinations and therapy. I insisted to be discharged with the promise to return daily for physical therapy (which I never did).

The pain eventually subsided but it never totally disappeared.

On April 4, Thursday evening, about 8 weeks after my hospitalization, I attended the intensive prayers at the Center for Peace. Fr. Ric Toriñel celebrated a healing mass. During the mass he explained how to make the Mass efficacious for healing. Besides forgiveness and being reconciled with God, he emphasized the necessity of having a strong faith and not to have any doubt at all. I felt Fr. Ric was talking to me!

During consecration the moment Fr. Ric raised the Host, I felt something like some sort of a pressure being released from my back. Since then my back has been restored to new health. No pains, no aches at all! Thank you Lord for healing me!

Brothers and sisters, if you wish to get healed, have faith and do not doubt. The best doctor and the best medicine is the Blessed Sacrament in the Holy Mass.

*If you wish
to be healed,
have faith and
do not doubt.*

LIGHTER MOMENTS

Arriving for a visit, the woman asked her small granddaughter, "Maria, how do you like your new baby brother?"

"Oh, he's all right," the child shrugged. "But there were a lot of things we needed worse."

Foreman: "That apprentice carpenter you just hired hammers like lightning."

Contractor, grinning: "He's that fast, eh?"

Foreman, scowling: "No, he never strikes twice in the same place!"

Paolo was watching his father (a BCBP member) write a sharing for the Men's Breakfast. "How do you know what to say?" he asked.

"Why, God tells me," his dad replied.

"Oh," said his son. "Then why do you keep crossing things out?"



THE SIGNS OF DRUG ABUSE

The Drug	Physical Symptoms	Look For	Dangers
Amphetamines (Bennies, Wake-Ups, Pep Pills) and Methamphetamines (Speed, Dynamite)	Aggressive behavior, restlessness, talkativeness, no appetite, insomnia, silliness, irritability	Pills of varying colors, small vials	Death from overdose, psychological dependence, temporary psychosis, hallucinations, tolerance
Barbiturates (Barbs, downers, red devils, yellow jackets, goofballs) and Mandrax (MX, Blue Max)	Drunkenness, drowsiness, stupor, slurred speech, impaired judgment	Pills of varying colors	Death from overdose, causes addiction, severe convulsions and death as a result of withdrawal
Rugby, glue cement, ethyl chloride, acetone, paint thinner, gasoline, lighter fluid	Drunk appearance, dreamy or blank expression, numbness of entire body, violence	Tubes of glue, large cellophane bags or soaked handkerchiefs	Introduction to drug culture, leads to addiction.
Heroin (Gamot, Horse, Junk, Dope, Scag), Morphine (M, Dreamer, Monkey, Miss Emma, Stuff), Codeine (Schoolboy, Sweets) and Shabu	Drowsiness, stupor, needle marks on arms, watering eyes, running nose, loss of appetite, neglect of personal hygiene, lack of sleep	Needle or hypodermic syringe, bent spoon, cotton, white powder, bottle caps, cellophane envelopes	Death from overdose, mental and physical deterioration, hepatitis, tetanus, tuberculosis, addiction
Cough Medicine containing Codeine and Opium	Drunk appearance, lack of coordination, confusion, excessive itching	Empty bottles of cough medicine	Causes addiction
Marihuana (Pot, Damo, Grass, Weed, Mary Jane, Tea, Joints, Reafers, Sticks)	Excessive laughter or giggling, blood-shot-smoke irritated eyes, talkativeness, dilated pupils, craving for sweets, increased appetite	Strong odor of burnt leaves, matchboxes and cigarette paper, discolored fingers (greenish)	Introduction to the drug culture, retarding of maturity, possible brain damage
LSD-25 (Acid, Cubes, Pearly gates, Big D, The Chief, Heavenly Blue)	Excitations, severe hallucinations, rambling speech, irrational behavior, cold hands and feet, anxiety, laughing and crying	Sugar cubes with discoloration in center, strong body odor, small tube of liquid, unmarked tablets	Accidents due to confusion, psychotic reactions, flashbacks

WARNING: ALL DRUGS ARE DANGEROUS AND CAN BECOME ADDICTIVE.

PREVENTION IS THE BEST CURE.

DEPEND ON JESUS - NOT DRUGS!

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

In the BCBP, bringing Christ to the marketplace is our battle cry! There is a culture talk devoted to guidelines in doing business with BCBP brothers and sisters; other insights are gained from the sharings during the breakfasts and action group meetings.

Christian ethics and morals is one topic that seems never to have a beginning or an ending. Organizations compose codes of ethics while religious groups search the Bible for answers.

What do we in the BCBP do? We are told that it is part of our culture to confront the issues head on and act according to God's directions.

We have three good reasons for getting involved. Firstly, when we joined the BCBP we committed ourselves to God that we would strive to bring Christ to our marketplace in whatever ways we can. Secondly, God commands us to do good while we are on earth; we are obligated to do His work. Thirdly, we can learn something from the experience and the discussions that arise from it, maturing in

righteousness in the process.

In this light, the KAPATIRAN begins a regular feature of business cases with moral and ethical dilemmas a BCBP member might meet in his work. We invite your thought, your discussion in your action groups, during the men's breakfasts, among your BCBP friends. With each business situation some scripture passages are given as food for thought and discussion starters; these are not 'the answers' but may point the way to the better solution to the dilemma.

While there may not be a single correct answer to a case, in each instance principles and guidelines can be developed from the Bible and from church documents upon which to base a sound response to the dilemma at hand.

If you would like to share your thoughts with our brothers and sisters through the KAPATIRAN, we welcome your comments. If not, we sincerely hope and pray that reflection and discussion on these issues will help clarify for you the role of the Christian in the marketplace today. -Editor

Business Case No. 1

TED'S DILEMMA

Ted, a new graduate of the Christian Life Program, has just gotten a new job working at a large wholesaling firm near his home. He discovers that the manager/owner obtains some of his goods by illegal means that include buying smuggled goods on the blackmarket and undervaluing his imports in connivance with foreign suppliers. Ted also discovers that many other employees at the firm steal relatively small amounts of goods on a regular basis and they urge him to do the same. They point out to him that the goods were gotten illegally so why should the manager/owner mind if they share in his profits. Ted cannot decide what to do. Take some goods? Go to the police? Speak to the manager/owner? Keep quiet? He approaches you, his friend in the Brotherhood, for advice.

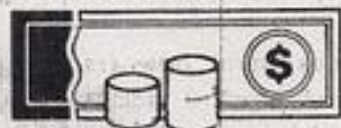
What would you do? How would you advise Ted?

Scripture Passages: Col. 3:23-25. Mark 8:36-37. Matt. 5:16, 7:12. James 1:12-18. Eph. 5:6-17.

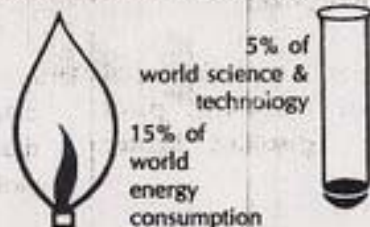
The developing world has...



75% of the world's people



17% of the world's gross national product

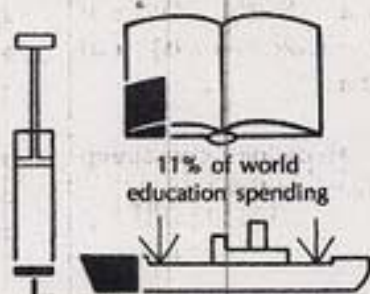


5% of world science & technology

15% of world energy consumption



30% of the world's food grains



11% of world education spending

18% of world export earnings

6% of the world health expenditure

8% of world industry

"Average managers are concerned with methods, opinions, precedents. Good managers are concerned with solving problems."

R. Marshall Jones

"Honesty can be the best negotiating tool of all."

Ted: Archbishop; President: Corey, Carlos

ONE MINUTE MEDITATIONS

Fernando de Larrazabal

(1)

"When they crucified him, they divided his clothes among them by casting lots." (Mt. 27:35)

Have you ever come across a naked crucifix? All those I have seen have a simulated piece of cloth covering His private parts. This passage in Matthew 27:35 says they divided his clothes among them. Christ was also a man like us. Can you imagine Christ hanging on the cross stark naked? It was not only embarrassing for Jesus but also for his other and all of his friends who were there. The crucifixion was like a side-show and Jesus the laughing stock of the audience, who were there taunting, mocking and enjoying the spectacle.

This is the Jesus who went through all these and much more for us. He allowed himself to become a fool for us. His love was so great that he accepted ridicule and finally death. Are we to continue trying to ridicule him with our sins? Hasn't Jesus done enough for us? When are we going to say "Enough!" and give him the respect and love he deserves?

(2)

"... Judas Iscariot went off to the chief priest and said, 'What are you willing to give me if I hand him over to you?'" (Mt. 26:15)

Here was a man who Jesus chose to be one of his apostles. Judas and the others lived a fraternal life with Jesus throughout the three years of his ministry. He saw the many miracles performed by Jesus. He was one of his beloved apostles. Yet at the end, Judas betrayed Jesus for thirty pieces of silver. What made Judas turn against Jesus? There are many theories, but the fact remains, Judas sold Jesus out.

Should this surprise anyone? Is this not a situation constantly being repeated? Don't we continuously hear of people who have sold their honor

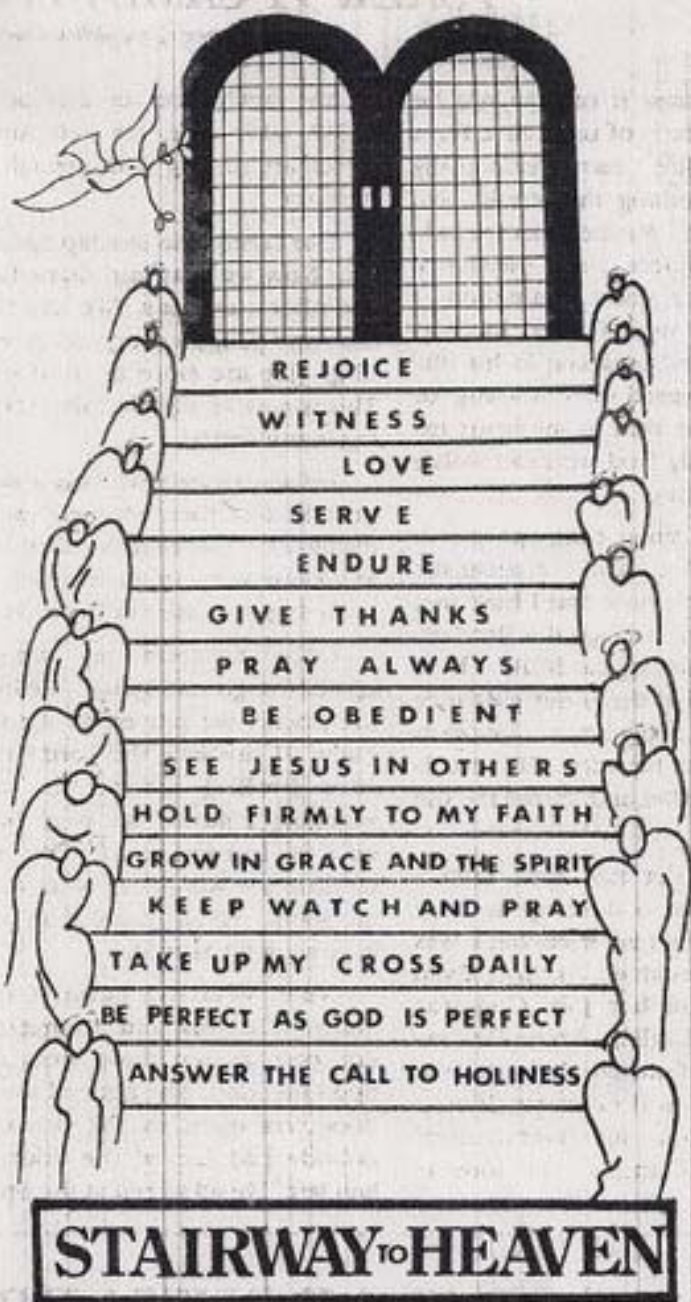
and integrity for money? Haven't we come across people who have sold out their marriage vows for another woman? Are we not aware of the number of people who sell out their Christian principles for the lust of power? There are many Judases among us who have sold Christ out for worldly desires. What did Jesus have to say about Judas, - "Woe to the man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed. Better for him if he had never been born." Everytime we break God's law we betray his love and trust, in the

same way Judas betrayed Jesus.

These Minute Meditations are part of an ongoing series by BCBP Exec. Director Fernando de Larrazabal. They are translated into several dialects and are aired several times daily, nationwide on 42 stations, free of charge, through the facilities of the Radio Mindanao Network.

Affliction produces endurance, and endurance, proven character, and proven character, hope, and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

Romans 5:3-5



PSALM 91 CAME ALIVE FOR US

Noli Lopez, Greenbills Chapter

Whether we admit it or may not be even aware of it, each of us is alive for a purpose. All my life I have instinctively searched for something that could give meaning to my life. Maybe some people pursue power, others seek pleasures, wealth, success or good reputation - everybody has an urgent need for personal fulfillment and meaning in his life. But I have discovered that nothing or nobody can fill the void in my heart except God. It is only God who can satisfy the hunger within me.

I have joined many religious movements, the cursillo, some charismatic groups, but it is only now that I have met the Lord personally through the Brotherhood. Since my joining the BCBP I have learned to recognize the inner guidance of the Holy Spirit in my heart. He leads and directs me in all my ways. He reveals to me His perfect plan and shows me the way to go.

Looking back I'm not sure how I managed financially to raise up my kids and family. But now I am sure that it was God who really provided for us. Even when my wife quit her job, God was there in my darkest valley. Praise God my children have all finished their studies: Andrew is an electrical engineer, Beth a dentist, Mary Ann an architectural graduate, and Carmina a tourism graduate.

My family are all members of the BCBP. My wife, my son Andrew and myself are serving God through the music ministry.

Our family relationship has changed a lot. Now we pray and thank God before and after our meals. We have devotional time and prayers every morning and evening. We are more open to each other. This is a clear sign that the Lord is working in our hearts.

Let me share with you a recent incident in our lives wherein we can truly testify that the Lord is alive and active and personally protecting each one of us as He has promised in Psalm 91.

One afternoon my whole family agreed to go shopping. Before we left the house, we prayed as we usually do Psalm 91 invoking the Lord's protection. After strolling around the malls and watching a movie, we were hungry and we went to a restaurant. The service was so slow, we wondered what was keeping the food. Finally more than 35 minutes later we were served.

When we arrived home, it was dark already. Carmina, our youngest, was the first one to step down from the car to open the gate. She noticed that the front door was open so she demanded why nobody had locked the door when we had left. We all stared at the open door.

As we quickly got out of the car, Carmina noticed that our stereo, Betamax and some of our appliances were on the front porch. Everybody was puzzled and nervous at the same time. We called upon the Lord to protect us as we slowly approached the house and went inside. The window screens were torn, the windows were open. But no one was inside, nothing was missing!

As we assembled after checking everything out, we found out to our amazement that we were just right on time! Our home was being robbed and the moment the robbers were taking our appliances out, they must have seen our car approaching and fled. They weren't able to bring anything with them except some Beta horror tapes!

The Lord kept us from going home early by making the restaurant serve our food so slowly. Maybe if we had gone home earlier the robbers would have been inside the house and would have harmed us as we entered. But the Lord protected us by preventing us from going home earlier. Not a minute late...not a minute early.

The Lord is truly our protector. He does not only provide. He upholds and protects those He loves. By this sharing I want to give all the glory back to God! Praise God!

GOD'S MIGHTY PROTECTION

*You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
Say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress,
my God, in whom I trust."*

*No evil shall befall you,
nor shall affliction come near your tent,
For to his angels he has given command about you,
that they guard you in all your ways.*

Psalm 91:1-2,10-11

CLAY IN THE POTTER'S HAND

Berns Jimenez, Dagupan Chapter Head

Never in my life did I ever expect or dream of some day becoming a leader especially of this kind of group. Throughout my life, in my family life and my social life, I tended to avoid leading or shepherding people. I am the eldest of six children yet I never experienced this type of leadership or even close relationships with my family because I was separated from them from early childhood through college, forced by circumstances to live with my grandparents.

During my early years of life before the renewal, I joined several civic organizations. Positions of leadership were offered to me on a silver platter but I usually turned them down because I preferred to stay in the background content to be just a plain member. I felt that I lacked the training to be a responsible and independent-minded leader. Even in my marriage, I did not exercise my headship. I went my own way, living a part-time bachelor's life, especially so that we were a childless couple.

When I joined the BCBP, I slowly realized what a wasted life I had spent before. But this guilt feeling slowly disappeared when the Lord seemed to remind me that He will blot out all my sins as long as I ask Him for forgiveness. I realized that He was slowly molding me like "clay in a potter's hand."

His original plan for me to shepherd people started to take place. After a year in the BCBP, I became an action group leader. Together with my wife, we faithfully did our duty and cooperated with our leader aside from following our commitment cards. At first we were reluctant to serve but we did our best and God did all the rest.

Being obedient is a gift from God that probably made my call to a higher form of service, unit leadership, easier to accept. At first there was a feeling of anxiety and pressure in leading prayers, tackling personal and spiritual problems of members and monitoring their commitment to the Brotherhood. But God in

his goodness was working in me for I began to thirst for knowledge of Him. I read more inspirational books, took up Bible Study courses, attended retreats, spiritual seminars and teachings. This improved my prayer life. I began to have concern and boldness in involving myself in helping out my BCBP brothers and sisters.

As a unit leader, I slowly became aware of spiritual struggles going on especially among the leaders which eventually affected me. Our chapter was then placed under the supervision of a coordinator from Manila. Eventually I was asked to head the governance group. But, before I accepted this new headship, again doubts on my abilities surfaced. These were compounded with the professional concern as to whether I, as a physician, should pursue further training to improve my skills. After a lot of prayers and discernment and because of my love and commitment to Him through the BCBP, I accepted the headship. I have not given up my plans concerning my profession because God also gave me a gift of healing. I place my hope and

trust in Him that He will do what is best for me.

God also put order in my relationship in my family. He made me realize that I had not done my role as the eldest in the family. He gave me the boldness to confront their problems, both financial and marital.

In my relationship with my wife, God worked, too. I started to accept the responsibility of husband and head of the family. I became aware of our differences and learned to settle them one by one. Now together as a couple we care for our patients; my wife, a pediatrician takes care of the children while I as an internist take care of the adults. As instruments of God, we strive to mold our patients to become healthy physically and spiritually as children of God.

Together we work hand in hand as a father and a mother to our members. Lastly, as a couple and together with our leaders and members we work together for the Lord to evangelize and bring the Lord into the marketplace. Praise God!



THAT IN ALL THINGS, GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED

Gel de Claro, Youth Formation, Alabang Chapter

Thank you, Lord.

Knowing someone would be there for you, no matter what, could inspire anyone to do anything. In my high school days, I knew He was always there, sharing in my success and even in my failures.

Whenever I had difficulty understanding a topic, I'd stop and pray. After a while, everything would become clear. I could grasp the ideas easily.

I frequently joined contests, I knew God was always working through me. I make it a point to pray before anything else. There were times wherein, I do not know how I got that particular answer, but it was correct. The emcee would have just read the question, and the answer was already in my head. I knew

God was responsible for it, and I thank Him.

Failures come. Disappointments appear. All the while, those were only tests. Through prayer, I'd overcome any trial. I knew never losing hope and trust in Him was the answer.

How did I see God in my studies? Mostly, through others. I thank Him for giving me my family, who constantly supported me throughout. I thank Him for giving me teachers, who taught me how to use my mind, to think. I thank Him for giving me friends, who taught me how to use my heart, how to love, to feel.

Thank you, Lord.

Gel de Claro attends Benedictine Abbey School, high school Class 1991.

TO YOU, JESUS!

I consecrate to You, Jesus, my mind
That I may know your will and abide
by it.

I consecrate to You my hearing
That I may hear your voice and obey
it.

I consecrate to You my sight
That I may see your face in my fellow
men.

I consecrate to You my speech
That I may proclaim your Name to all
whose lives I touch.

I consecrate to You my heart
That I may love you more each day.

I consecrate to You my whole being
That I may serve you till the end of my
days.

*Fernando de Larrazabal
Exec. Dir. BCBP*

WHAT'S CERTAIN WHEN YOU'RE SEVENTEEN?

April Javier, Youth Formation, Alabang Chapter

Sometime February, I was called from my class and was told to pay a visit to the Guidance Counselor's office. There, with the freshman year PRO and two juniors, we were asked to participate in an orientation program for the grade school graduates. In a symposium for the following week, we were to relate experiences in high school and extend a sisterly welcome.

It was an exciting task and I looked forward to the four morning periods I was going to be excused from attending. I prepared for my talk with some friends by reliving the four years that just came and went. Then I also reviewed my elementary years. What seemed like fooling around the past years turned out to be a reservoir of joy, laughter, problems, tears, fears, and just about anything and

everything a sixteen-year-old can muster in a decade. Each day had its uncanny way of bringing a lesson we usually fail to notice. And I guess only another day will make use of these learnings.

From this I realized how ephemeral things can be. Most things we hold dear just come and go. I laughed as I recalled the ever-precious stationary I would iron out when creased or the favorite Bencia pencils which I wouldn't use lest the lead tips get dull. I remember my ever-changing wardrobe trying to cope with the fashion trends. My best friend eventually became my worst enemy. Constant inconsistencies and change is what I had to put up with.

Through all this, I was lucky to have a family to rely on and a home to return to.

I must accept, however, that I won't forever be as fortunate.

But a Christian does not need luck. A Christian is certain of his tomorrow. There is nothing ephemeral, inconsistent or changing about it. It is Faith.

The next week I spoke to the grade school's graduating batch. I related my experiences and also my learnings. An extent of time is often a flurry to the youth ... more often than not taken for granted. I felt they understood.

Now seventeen, I have graduated from grade school, yes, and high school too. My wardrobe is still accommodating to the times, but I have long ago dropped the stationary frenzy. Time is still a flurry, and life ever-changing...

But now I am certain.

Dagupan Chapter

CLP #5 ONGOING

26 couples and 7 singles are presently taking the Dagupan chapter's Christian Life Program No. 5 reports Nelson Yuchongtian, mission head.

Course leader is Rudy Fernandez; assistant team leaders are Abing de Venecia and William Cua. Discussion group leaders for the couples are Nestor and Gina Zabala, Russell and Elsa Branganza, Betz and Edith Singian, Joe and Cora Belarmino, Tiddy and Ping Fernandez. Ramon Palaganas is discussion group leader for the singles.

Quezon City Chapter

CLP #17 COMPLETED

CLP #17 graduated 16 couples and 3 single men during their commitment afternoon held May 25 at Alfredo's Steak House. The activities began with Holy Mass followed by the graduates' commitment to Christ through the BCBP. The regular BCBP members then recommitted themselves. The afternoon was capped with a short program consisting of presentations by the different discussion groups of the CLP

CLP #18 is scheduled to begin in June.

**WELCOME
Q.C. CLP #17**

- Cel and Meng Cabilig
- Bobby and Arlene Casauay
- Del and Ofie Castro
- Claro Contreras
- Dannie and Pola De Guzman
- Manny and Marietta Magpali
- Gene and Ghee Morales
- Bocoy and Lynn Obusan
- Boyot and Weng Osteria
- Lito and Edsel Parco
- Levi and Dina Parinas
- Rex and Myrna Ramos
- Ricky and Coney Ribo
- Don and Raquel Rosete
- Jimmy and Pam Soriano
- Cado Velasco
- Louie and Deck Villena
- Kevs Vivero
- Chito and Liza Zamora



The Makati ladies music ministry, joined by Beth Domingo of Las Pinas, practice some songs in preparation for the Makati Ladies Luncheon 9th Anniversary which will be observed on July 11 with a joint luncheon. L. to r. are: Beth Ginete, Annie Salvador (in back), Susan Olarte, Nanette Ferreria, Beth Domingo and Lucy Legaspi.

Quezon City Chapter

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Chapter head Benjie Quinto recently announced the appointment of Roy Calleja as the new Mission Director for Quezon City chapter. He will take over from Turing Orlina who has been designated as head of the BCBP-wide Social Action Ministry.

Other chapter appointments are: Emy Magdangal as News and Information Ministry head and concurrent External Services Coordinator.

**Q.C. CELEBRATES 3RD
ANNIVERSARY**

The BCBP Quezon City chapter observed its 3rd anniversary as a chapter on May 26, 1991, at the Holy Family School in Teachers' Village, Q.C. The celebration coincided with the chapter's regular Family Sunday.

The day began with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist at 8:00 a.m. Then instead of the usual teachings, a program was held with each unit giving a special presentation. CLP 17 graduates also presented a special number. Each family brought their own food and shared it with the rest of the families during the festive, love-filled occasion.

**CHARISMATIC
CONGRESS TO BE
HELD JULY 26-28**

The first international congress of Catholic Charismatic Servant Communities will be held on July 26 to 28 at the PICC in Manila. The Congress' theme is "Renewed Families - A Light to the Nations" (Acts 13:47). Participants from Catholic Charismatic servant communities in Canada, the U.S.A., Europe, the West Indies and Asia are expected to join Philippine delegates in this first-of-its-kind congress.

The pre-congress activities begin July 18 with a series of activities and prayer rallies scheduled in Davao, Cebu and Iloilo cities. During the Congress proper the talks and workshop sessions will address these issues: Building Committed Family-Oriented Communities, The Call to A Family-Centered Community Life, Confronting the Challenges to the Catholic Faith, Operation of the Gifts of the Spirit, The Role of the Youth in Community Building, Marriage and Family Life Apostolates.

Members of the BCBP are encouraged to attend. If you are interested, please contact your chapter head for details.

DEAR GOD

You have been such a kind and loving Father to all of your children. And to me, especially. And I thank You so much for all the many blessings that You have been showering upon me.

I thank You, dear God, for all the goodness of life that I continue to enjoy - for the air that I breathe, the games that You allow me to play, and all the friends and playmates that You have given me. I thank You Lord, for my good health and those speedy recovery whenever I get sick. Thank You, especially, for those times when You have so quickly answered my prayers. Thank you, Dear God, for giving work to my Papa so that he was able to buy my radio and give us a good vacation. Thank you for teaching Mama how to bake, that she is able to make our favorite cakes and pastries especially during our birthdays.

God, You have given me so much and I really want to be able to express my sincere thanks to You. I wish to give You all the praise and honor I can. But Lord, I don't know if I really know who You are. Because I cannot see you, Lord. I only know that all the things that I enjoy come from You.

But I guess You must look like my parents. During those times that my Mama stays beside me to make sure that I could peacefully go to sleep, I know that it was really You lying beside me and embracing me. Those times that Papa and Mama had to stay up late into the night when I am sick, it must have been You keeping watch over me. During those times when Papa kept on teaching me to be always a friend with my kuyas, it must have been you strengthening our oneness. And I know, Lord that it was You who kept on taking my temperature and made sure that I would not fail to take my medicines these past days when I have been very sick.

And so, Lord, let me therefore honor

You through my Papa and Mama. Let me be faithful to You by being always attentive to their teachings. Let me love You more by being obedient to my parents. Let me serve You by being helpful to Papa, Mama and my kuyas. All the blessings that You have given me, I wish to offer back to You. This special gift of healing that You have blessed me with, teach me, Lord, to use it especially to heal whatever aches, pains, hurts or sickness there might be in the family, particularly with Papa and Mama.

Allow me, dear God, to continue to bring joy and happiness to Papa and Mama even by simply being on their side to keep them company, or by using my small hands to massage their heads, or by entertaining them with my drawings and my jokes. Through all these, dear God, grant that I may be able to help relieve them of their tiredness or whatever things that may still be occupying their minds at the close of each day. So that -- together -- we may all be able to reflect and thank You for the way You again have blessed us with Your comforting presence all throughout another day.

Dear Lord, all these I pray to You in the Name of Jesus, Your Son and my Friend. Amen.

*Red Boy Feria
10 years old
Youth Formation, Alabang*



COMMITMENT: A SHARED EXPERIENCE

Now and then we hear complaints from AGLs and ULs about members who lack commitment. These complaints often follow dismal attendance in the breakfasts or chapter assemblies with the complainers presuming that commitment must proceed from the interior lives of the members themselves, as if faithfulness and fervor are nurtured by individual efforts alone.

I believe commitment is a shared experience. We must share our commitment with others. When activities have low attendance, it may be because members hear a stranger's voice (a secretary or very important businessman double as AGL) over the phone enjoining them to attend BCBP activities. Remember Jesus' words about His role as our Shepherd? He "calls each of his sheep by name and leads them...and the sheep follow him for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow...because they don't recognize a stranger's voice." (Jn 10:4-5)

We all signed Commitment Cards linking us not only to God but also to the Brotherhood. To be fruitful, this linkage must be constantly renewed in our lives. Indeed, to me, commitment is directly proportional to the Incarnation of Christ in our lives.

And when do we see Jesus living and dying for us everyday? In the lives and witness of our AGLs, ULs and chapter heads as we see them go out of their busy ways to remind us of scheduled activities and teach us the BCBP culture. In the compassion of our BCBP brothers and sisters who forget their own comforts in order to cheer us up or help us in our troubles.

Maybe if we paid more attention to living out our commitment and linking it to our everyday lives, we'd see better attendance at Brotherhood affairs and a more closely-knit, active community.

*Kytt Mier
Las Pinas Chapter*

ADVISORS

FR. HERB SCHNEIDER
FERNANDO DE LARRAZABAL
ROLLY ONA

EDITORIAL BOARD

Roy Siojo - Greenhills
Kytt Mier - Las Pinas
Joe Ferreria - Makati
Emy Magdangal - Quezon City

MANAGING EDITOR

NANCY R. CATAN

CONTRIBUTORS IN THIS ISSUE

Gel de Claro, Fernando de Larrazabal, Red Boy Fera, April Javier, Berns Jimenez, Noli Lopez, Nene B. Ocampo, Pope John Paul II, Dodo Sta. Maria, Nene Tayag, Eric Teotico, Chito Zabarte

PRINTER

Fil Asia Graphics

The KAPATIRAN is the official newsletter of the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals. It is published bi-monthly in the Philippines with editorial offices at 2533 Madre Perla St., Vito Cruz Ext., Ila., with telephone and FAX No. 521-5645. Contributions are encouraged; however, they shall be subject to editing and selection. Pictures are welcome.

Advertisements are accepted. The new rates are:

P2,400 - full page
P1,200 - half page
P 650 - one-fourth page
P 100 - per column inch
P 20 - per line

**OUR LORD REIGNS -
IN OUR HEARTS AND
IN THE MARKETPLACE!**

ON BEING A PROFESSIONAL BEGINNER

My husband is a tennis enthusiast; he plays tennis as often as he can at least several times a week. If he has no one to play with, he battles the wall. He says he enjoys the game, needs the exercise and finds mastery of the skills challenging.

People frequently ask me if I play tennis, too. I have to reply, "I'm a professional beginner." I have been "beginning" off and on for years as I enjoy reading, writing and other activities more than tennis. Consequently my exercise time has been side lined.

I thought that being a "professional beginner" was quite a witty response until during one of my quiet times while reflecting on the last words of Jesus on the cross. I realized that when Jesus began something, He finished it. Where would we be today if Jesus had decided not to finish his mission here on earth?

I got to thinking of other things that I begin (but seldom finish). Diets. New Year's Resolutions. Exercise programs. Advance menu planning for home.

Isn't this also true in our life with the Lord? New CLP graduates are always on fire; where are some of them several years later? We eagerly commit to attend BCBP functions - first Friday mass, action group meetings, chapter assemblies; why then do the number of those attending seem to decrease instead of increase? We begin avidly reading scripture every day, looking forward to our prayer time, joining various service teams. How long does our enthusiasm in these activities persist?

We can cite all sorts of reasons and circumstances from "no time", or "I'm too tired", or "others can do it better than I", or "no one really cares whether I do this or not, it's not going to make any difference!"

Jesus never said, "I'm tired," or "Why should I care, they just laugh at me anyway!" If He felt it was right to do, He went right ahead and did it. St. Paul in his letter to the Hebrews (12:3) reflects: "Consider how he endured such opposition from sinners, in order that you may not grow weary and lose heart."

Sometimes we quit because we don't want to make the extra effort to try a little harder. Improving my tennis game means more concentrated practice done on a regular basis. In other words - commitment. Certainly I need the exercise but do I want to make this commitment to try to be an acceptable tennis player? Do I need the muscle aches and body pains that accompany the hours of practice? I'll never be a star player anyway!

Mother Teresa once remarked, "God didn't call us to be successful, just faithful." St. Paul tells us: "Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up." (Gal. 6:9) The Book of Revelations repeats over and over again that victory awaits all who endure to the end; beginners, those who do not endure in love, will not have the right to eat from the tree of life that is in the garden of God. (Rev. 2:4,7)

And so, back I go to my tennis, to begin again and this time to persist. My prayer time, too, is taking on added meaning as the Lord shows me other areas of my life in which I need to graduate from "beginning" to "being." Whatever I do, I know I must do from the heart as for the Lord -- not merely for myself, my family or even for the BCBP but for Him and for His glory. N.R.C.

CRASH!

Don't Drink and Drive!

Do you know what happens in the first fatal second after a car going 55 miles per hour hits a solid object?

1. In the first 10th of the second, the front bumper and grill collapse.

2. The second 10th finds the hood crumbling, rising and striking the windshield as the spinning rear wheels lift from the ground. Simultaneously, fenders begin wrapping themselves around the solid object. Although the car's frame has been halted, the rest of the car is still going 55 miles per hour. Instinct causes the driver to stiffen his legs against the crash, and they snap at the knee joint.

3. During the third 10th of the second, the steering wheel starts to disintegrate and the steering column aims for the driver's chest.

4. The fourth 10th of the second finds two feet of the car's front end wrecked, while the rear end still moves at 35 miles per hour. The driver's body is still traveling at 55 miles per hour.

5. In the fifth 10th of the second, the driver is impaled on the steering column and blood rushes into his lungs.

6. The sixth 10th of the second, the impact has built up to the point that the driver's feet are ripped out of tightly laced shoes. The brake pedal breaks off. The car frame buckles in the middle. The driver's head smashes into the windshield as the rear wheels, still spinning, fall back to earth.

7. In the seventh 10th of the second, hinges rip loose, doors fly open and the seats break free, striking the driver from behind.

8. The seat striking the driver does not bother him because he is already dead. The last three 10ths of the second mean nothing to the driver!

THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

From the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of the Child

Every child has:

- + the right to life
- + the right from birth to a name and nationality
- + the right to health
- + the right to be cared for by their parents
- + the right to adequate food, shelter and clothing
- + the right to basic education
- + the right to be protected from discrimination
- + the right to freedom of expression
- + the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion
- + the right to useful and wholesome information to prepare for responsible adulthood
- + the right to freedom of association and peaceful assembly
- + the right to be protected from abduction and sale
- + the right to be protected from war
- + the right to be protected by the law from drug abuse
- + the right to be protected by the law from physical abuse and degrading treatment
- + the right to be protected by the law from all forms of sexual abuse
- + the right to be protected from economic exploitation
- + the right to rest and the right to play
- + the right to be adopted if it is for their best interests
- + the right to enjoy a full and decent life even when mentally or physically handicapped.

The Convention, of which the Philippines is a signatory, defines a child as someone under the age of 18. The document was drawn up to highlight the rights of children as a way of ensuring for them a better future and to give legislators, educators, religious leaders, civic groups and parents a clear-cut guide as to how to provide this future for the children.