



12th ANNIVERSARY

BROTHERHOOD OF CHRISTIAN BUSINESSMEN
AND PROFESSIONALS

Kapatiran



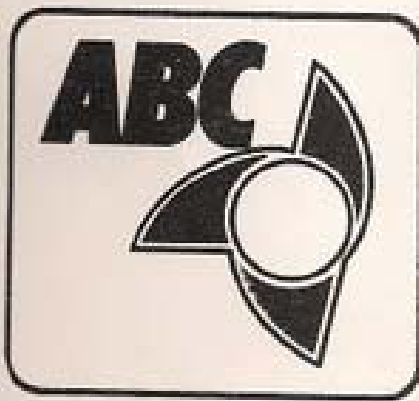
BROTHERHOOD OF CHRISTIAN BUSINESSMEN AND PROFESSIONALS

Vol. VI, No. 1

BCBP 12th ANNIVERSARY

JUNE-JULY 1992

The Adventures of the
Black Stallion
MONDAYS, 7:30 to 8:00 PM



TARZAN

THURSDAYS, 7:00-7:30 PM



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How The BCBP Has Changed My Life. . . 6,7

BCBP members share about how the Holy Spirit has worked in their lives.

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The Mission Statement, Mission Objectives, and an Outline History of the BCBP provide the foundation for the 12th Anniversary Celebration on June 6.



Governance Teams. 36-39

Each chapter and outreach presents its governance team. Those that are incomplete or not available at press time will be included in the next KAPATIRAN issue.



Be a prayer rather than just a praying person.

MOVE FORWARD TOWARD PERFECTION

Fr. Herb Assesses BCBP's Blessings and Concerns



Fr. Herb Schneider, BCBP's spiritual director and coordinator, in his annual assessment of the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals during the BCBP's April 3 general assembly, commended the members for their courage and persistence in bringing the gospel message to others, winning people to the Lord and to the Brotherhood.

"I see the Lord's love in you and the miracles of grace that Christ has blessed each one of us with. I see that the Lord is pleased with so many messengers of the gospel and committed servants," Fr. Herb said. He listed as blessings or signs of health the proliferation and growth of the BCBP breakfasts, Christian Life Programs and the Brotherhood's gift of worship and singing.

After twelve years of existence, he commented that he could see a few areas of concern that perhaps were part of the "aging" process but that he felt could be overcome with proper doses of "vitamins". Two areas of concern that he brought out were the quick turnover of

membership and low participation levels (commitment) in some BCBP activities and programs.

Fr. Herb threw out two challenges to the members. Firstly, the Brotherhood should not seek only to reach out to new members but should also provide support in strengthening the commitment levels of older members. Secondly, there should be more impact on the marketplace; the Brotherhood should begin seeking to bring Christ to the structures and organizations, instead of merely evangelizing the people in the marketplace. "How can we make a more significant impact?" he asked.

"Each one of us can do our part by being faithful with the Lord's help to our commitment and our commitment card. With this and our concerted efforts under the Lord's guidance we will be able to handle our areas of concerns and meet the challenges that await us in the coming years," he said. "Let us make St. Paul's words our own: Let us move forward toward perfection."

BCBP Mission Statement

The BCBP Mission is to create together an effective environment for business people and professionals to learn to love and serve as Jesus did, and through the BCBP and its Mission, to experience full life in Christ in the marketplace and professions. As co-responsible brothers and sisters, Brotherhood members shall become in the work environment agents for justice and sound development.

The BCBP Mission is also to create an association of such Christian businessmen and professionals who are so trained and structured for action that they may have maximum impact on the world of business and economics, politics, etc., locally and nationally and so bring about the changes needed for a sound development for the benefit of all.

(As revised and expanded by BCBP leaders during the Planning Weekend, April 3-5, 1992)

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

Fernando de Larrazabal
Executive Director, BCBP

"A Call To Harvest" is the well-chosen and appropriate theme of this year's anniversary. It brings to mind the directive Jesus gave to the seventy-two disciples before he sent them out to cover the towns he intended to visit. He said to them, "The harvest is rich but the workers are few; therefore ask the harvest-master to send workers to his harvest." (Luke 10:2)

Jesus' directive is as valid and as urgent today as it was then. All we have to do is focus our sights on the prevailing situations found today in the business world to realize how materialism has engulfed us. Our marketplace reflects the injustice and abuse so prevalent in this sector of society.

It is here where the harvest-master wishes the Brotherhood to be involved. The harvest overflows, but unfortunately, there are few workers to gather in the

harvest.

The Brotherhood has had some success in this field, but hardly enough to brag about. After twelve years of existence, it seems we have hardly scratched the surface. Could we have done better?

The BCBP represents much more than just going to weekly breakfasts, giving CLP's or attending prayer assemblies and other BCBP activities. While these are important parts in strengthening us spiritually and as a community, we must not lose sight of our main goal: to bring souls to Christ and to sanctify the business milieu. And this can only be accomplished if we go out from our little cubicles and go after the businessmen and professionals. We may have the best of plans, but if we don't put them to action, they remain just that ... plans.

The harvest continues to be rich. Why then the decrease in participation in

CLPs? Why the drop in regular membership, especially over the past year? Why did this situation take so long before the leadership took note of this problem? This situation warrants close scrutiny.

But as in all clouded situations, there exists a silver lining. Our Visayan chapter and our southern outreaches are doing extremely well. Maybe they have found what some of our older Metro Manila chapters have lost.

Where do we go from here? We must look for and find remedies to immediately correct this situation. We must go forward while at the same time strengthening our regular membership. The harvest in the marketplace continues to be rich; we need to be able to respond enthusiastically and in greater numbers to the harvest-master's call for more workers.

Happy Anniversary and a fruitful 12th year to all of us. Christ is counting on you ... and on me ... on us as a community of brothers and sisters, the BCBP.



Left: BCBP Spiritual director Fr. Herb Schneider discusses Brotherhood plans with Fernando de Larrazabal, BCBP Exec. Director. Right: Some BCBP leaders relax during a break in the April '92 planning weekend.

WE ARE CO-WORKERS WITH CHRIST IN THE MARKETPLACE



Some Thoughts on Our BCBP Mission

Nancy R. Catan
Mahati Chapter

Some Thoughts on Our BCBP Mission

We are called to the harvest. Christ himself calls us telling us that the harvest is abundant. And we know that our harvest field is the business and professional milieu, the marketplace.

Who needs to be evangelized in the marketplace? Pope John Paul II, in his encyclical, "Redemptoris Missio", identifies three groups who need to hear the gospel message from us today; these groups are all found in the marketplace.

Firstly, there are those who have never heard the Good News.

Secondly, there are those who are trying to be faithful to the Lord, who are active in their parishes, but continually need encouragement and nourishment from the Word of Life.

The third group consists of nominal Christians who are losing their faith and living lives far removed from the values taught in the Christ's Gospel.

Each of us as a member of the Church by virtue of our baptism and belief in Jesus Christ is commanded to preach the word (Matt. 28:18-20). Each of us as a member of the Brotherhood has been renewed in the Spirit and thus has access to the gifts necessary to our carrying out this command. We need now to step out in faith and share the Good News.

"Sharing in the universal mission...is the sign of maturity in faith and of a Christian life that bears fruit" (RM #77).

Jesus exhorts us in Matt. 5:16 to "let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." Our life must be the fifth gospel, a living testa-

ment to the power of Jesus in our life. How can we be His witness every day? By smiling and being joyful, by making the Sign of the Cross and bowing in prayer before meals even when eating in public places, by keeping a bible near us at the office, by beginning meetings with a prayer.

But this life witness is not enough. It is only half of being a Christian. Living as a Christian satisfies the "Come and Follow Me" part. As members of the BCBP all of us are doing this. However, most of us neglect the other half of being a Christian - the "Go and Share the Good News" part.

"Even the finest witness will prove ineffective in the long run if it is not explained, justified ... and made explicit by a clear and unequivocal proclamation of the Lord Jesus. The good news proclaimed by the witness of life sooner or later has to be proclaimed by the word of life." Evangelii Nuntiandi #22

In reaching out to co-workers in the workplace, we sometimes feel reluctant to speak about "religious" things, to talk openly about Jesus. It helps me to remember that Jesus is my partner and my friend in my walk toward holiness; He is my co-worker.

During his ministry, He, too, met problems. He experienced reluctant and cynical listeners (the Pharisees), He was rejected by his neighbors and friends in his hometown. He had to share the same teachings over and over even to his disciples in order to make them understand. These are the same things we meet when

cont. on p. 51

A few years ago if you talked to people about Christ, they probably would have laughed at you. Nowadays they would likely turn and listen.

I would liken our country to a person. During years of difficulties and trials many of us turn to the Lord. This is human nature. Hardships allow us to grow. We become more humble, disciplined, hardworking, responsible, etc. ... Our country has been experiencing growth pains. Now people are more open to the Lord. I believe it is time to tell them that God is real and in control. He is calling us to turn to Him and be his people.

Secondly, there is an outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Miracles occur around us. We ourselves have received many gifts. In Joel 3:1-2 scripture says:

"Then afterward

I will pour out my spirit upon all mankind.

Your sons and daughters shall prophesy,

your old men shall dream dreams,

your young men shall see visions;

even upon the servants and handmaids,

in those days I will pour out

my spirit."

Finally, Christ commanded us to spread the Good News. In Matthew 28:18-20, He instructed us:

"All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold I am with you always until the end of the age."

We are the new apostles. It is the time of the Harvest.

For the last 12 years God has given the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals many blessings. He has given us growth, order

and stability in our community. He has showered our members with many gifts and talents. It is now time for each of us to become fully aware of our mission and to take an active role in fulfilling its directions.

During this year's planning weekend, April 4-5, the BCBP leaders lengthily discussed the vision and mission of the Brotherhood and what it should be in order to better meet the needs of today's businessmen and professionals. Many worthy ideas came out during the workshop. These were harmonized into the Mission Statement that can be found on page two of this KAPATIRAN issue.

In brief, our mission in the Brotherhood is not only to bring businessmen and professionals into a deeper, more personal relationship with Christ, but to also create together a marketplace and business environment where Christian values are practiced and lived. How do we do this? By becoming agents for justice and sound development, by training and structuring ourselves for action, by zeroing in on areas where the BCBP could make a significant impact in bringing about sound, Christ-centered development for the benefit of all.

It was clear that we must now take a dynamic role in influencing the business and industrial sectors we belong to, in creating opportunities for effective Christian change. We must be true Christian leaders.

Our anniversary program this year points us in the right direction. The audio-visual presentation creates awareness of our role in the Brotherhood. The songs call us to arms to prepare for battle as God's soldiers in the marketplace. We end with a call by Christ:

Jesus said to them, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest. Go on your way... And know this:

LET US ANSWER CHRIST'S "CALL TO HARVEST"



*Eric Teotico, Mission Head
Greenhills Chapter*

*the kingdom of God is at hand."
(Luke 10:2-3,11)*

We have 12 fruitful years behind us. We have 12 x 12 years (and more) ahead of us. Let us echo Isaiah (Is. 6:8) as we answer Christ's call to harvest:

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,

"Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?"

"Here I am," I said; "send me!"

HOW THE BCBP HAS CHANGED MY LIFE

Even before I joined the BCBP, I was already a daily churchgoer. I have gone to Mass everyday since I was twelve. However, I now realize that that was not enough.

Through BCBP I learned to be even more prayerful, talking to the Lord not only in canned prayers, but really speaking to Him spontaneously and listening to Him. I learned to have a personal relationship with Him, making Him part of my life during the day in prayer.

Finally, and I think more importantly, I have learned that one has to live this relationship with the Lord. Having this relationship with Him should manifest itself in my actions, in my eagerness to

men's breakfast in Quezon City at the invitation of an acquaintance that actually was a stranger to me. Even as my entry into the BCBP mainstream had not yet been validated by attending the CLP, my thirst for inward change grew. The Brotherhood's culture began to seep in, ushering me into a serious prayer life, scripture reading and close fellowship with my new BCBP brothers.

It became clear to me that depending on my own efforts would be useless and only bring more pain if they did not complement the Lord's will and plan for me. Submission to the Almighty rather than aspiring for solutions based on my judgment has now become my norm.

Trials and trouble still come like

guide, assist and intercede for us if we but ask and pray for it. There is so much joy, peace and security within me right now and it all began when I started to trust in the Lord, through the help and guidance of the BCBP.

I believe that our Lord Jesus used the BCBP as a tool so that I will be aware of His infinite goodness and overwhelming love for me. My life has taken a whole new dimension of awareness and gratitude. I feel so privileged and happy to be with the BCBP.

Ariel P. Uy
Cebu Chapter

Long before the BCBP came into my life, I have been in dedicated service to the Lord through other mandated Church movements. In times of sufferings and trials however, I always question "Why me, Lord? I've been serving you and am active in church activities." But the Lord was silent during my frequent visits to the tabernacle.

Then one day I was invited to the BCBP breakfast. I was so touched by the sharing and by the songs that my wife and I enrolled in the CLP in the afternoon of that same day. The warm welcome smiles of brothers and sisters of the CLP team from Cebu, the heartfelt service they extended, the genuine brotherhood love that they showed, made me realize that God was no longer silent but He was calling me to serve Him.

In my one year and two months in the BCBP, I can now say that I am growing in my faith and now can consider sufferings and trials as God's blessings in the spirit of 1 Peter 1:6-7. My wife and I are serv-

"My relationship with the Lord should make a difference in my life... and that difference is starting to show."

Tillie C. Bernaldez

serve, in my words, in the whole of me. It should make a difference. Of course, this is a continuing, lifetime struggle, and definitely, I am working at it and hope that the difference is starting to show.

Tillie C. Bernaldez
Cebu Chapter

My life used to be full of resentment, bitterness, frustration and self pity. I dreaded waking up every morning to the frightening prospect of a day full of a multitude of uncertainties, concerns, fears and oppressions. Why me?

Then it was that the Lord manifested Himself to me. I started to attend the

before, sometimes with greater magnitude. But they are not threatening to me now that I know that the Lord's will will not lead me to where His divine grace cannot keep me. And so each day becomes a journey in the perfection of my faith and trust in Him.

Claro P. L. Contreras
Quezon City Chapter

The BCBP has opened my eyes to the truth that there is a better life in store for us, that of living in the light of our Lord Jesus Christ. My day to day activities, as well as my plans for the future, are dealt with the confidence that there is a powerful and loving God, always ready to

HOW THE BCBP HAS CHANGED MY LIFE

ing the Lord in the music ministry and have committed to serve Him for the rest of our lives according to His calling. Praise the Lord!

*Dodong Racaza
Cagayan de Oro Outreach*

Since being in the Brotherhood my life has completely turned around. Before BCBP I was a contented housewife with a loving, hardworking husband and two wonderful kids. God was somebody you called on when faced with trials. Family prayers were non-existent. In short, we took God for granted.

It was during CLP 3 that I got to buy my first Bible and where I was introduced to Jesus Christ. It was also through the CLP that the most important event in my life happened - my church wedding. I was wedded to Cris, my husband of ten years, last December 4, 1991, two days before the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, through the help of the brothers and sisters of the BCBP. Then I was given the chance to renew my vows during the BCMR last February. Imagine being married and blessed twice in a span of three months!!

"Being in the Brotherhood my life has completely turned around. I feel peace reigning in my life. Psalm 46 has become my prayer."

Rica G. Alatraca

Reflecting on these events, my life eight months ago may have been a happy one, but today, I feel peace reigning in my life. We have made God the center of

our lives. We have learned to trust in Him and turn to Him in prayer. Psalm 46 has become my prayer.

*Rica G. Alatraca
Cagayan de Oro Outreach*

"Our Lord Jesus used the BCBP as a tool so that I will be aware of His infinite goodness and overwhelming love for me."

Ariel P. Uy

There have been many ways the Lord has used the BCBP to change certain areas of my life. One particular area it has significantly influenced me in is the area of Christian love. I often find it difficult to love people who are simply "unlovable."

In the Brotherhood movement, I've been constantly reminded that every human being whether rich or poor, ugly or beautiful, lovable or unlovable, is a child of God. Being a child of God, he or she has every right to be loved. I have always made an effort to focus on this truth when I face my difficulty and more often than not, I have been quite successful.

and really relating to one another with gentleness, patience and understanding.

*Jojo Osmena
Cebu Chapter*

When I came to the Brotherhood, it was no coincidence; it was pure Divine Intervention! I took the Christian Life Program hoping to find out more about God. And get some of my many questions answered. Why is there so much social injustice? Did not God create all men equal? Aren't societies supposed to be communities of and for God? These questions bugged me no end. Added to this, I was fully aware that I was a no good sinner - no good, because after all my sinful years, I amounted to nothing.

The CLP was a cleansing process for me. After the Baptism in the Holy Spirit things became clearer. I began to comprehend the message of God for me in the Bible. I realized that I as a child of God, am someone who can go to his Father, talk to Him and even ask Him for the things I need. I know now that He loves me and continues to care for me even when there are seeming difficulties.

I know now that all I really need is God, I must cling to Him with all my might. He is the infinite intellect. He gave us love and He gave us Jesus Christ.

*Oscar R. Oca
Quezon City Chapter*

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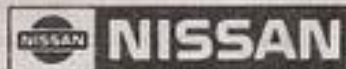
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BCBP MISSION OBJECTIVES

1. To create opportunities to evangelize in the marketplace. As members evangelize others, the members themselves get evangelized leading to their stronger spiritual formation.

2. To conduct teaching programs where businessmen and women and professionals are challenged with the gospel message and its relevance to the business environment.

3. To provide a support system for living out the gospel in the marketplace.

4. To strengthen family life and values of members enabling them to experience fullness of life in Christ.

5. To identify, train and develop Christian leaders to become agents for justice and sound development in the work environment.

6. To communicate and espouse Christian values in the marketplace.

7. To commit brotherhood resources and business talents to help the poor.



12TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION SET FOR JUNE 6

The Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals commemorates its twelfth anniversary on Saturday, June 6, 1992. The theme for this year is "A Call To Harvest". Lead chapter in charge of the celebration is Greenhills.

As outlined by chapter head Mark Katipunán, all activities will be held at the Valle Verde Country Club with registration and fellowship starting promptly at 6:00 p.m. There will be a Holy Mass at 6:30, followed by dinner at 7:30. The program proper is expected to start at 8:30.

The program is divided into three presentations, namely the Audio-Visual Presentation, the Outreach Presentation and the BCBP Choir Presentation.

The Audio-Visual Presentation is being handled by Manolet Siojo. It will include interviews of BCBP members from among the different chapters who will comment on their calling to the Brotherhood and their vision of BCBP. This presentation will conclude with a rousing call to battle -- a call to harvest -- which will provide a fitting prelude to the succeeding presentations.

The second part of the program, the Outreach Presentation, is being spearheaded by Eddie Mendoza. It will be composed of song numbers performed

by members from the outreaches of La Naval Cavite, Dagupan, Bacolod, Palawan, Cebu and Cagayan de Oro. They will be backed up by the Las Pinas Choir. Rey Ben Mague of the Quezon City chapter has musically arranged the songs: Lift High the Lord Our Banner, Mighty Warrior and Battle Hymn.

The main presentation is the musical play performed by the BCBP Choir with members coming from the Greenhills, Quezon City, Alabang, Las Pinas and Makati chapters. This part of the program has been conceptualized by Eric Teotico.

Chapter head Mark Katipunán heads the 12th Anniversary Committee. Creative program preparations are under the direction of Eric Teotico assisted by Roy Puno. Manolet Siojo, Eddie Mendoza and Eric Teotico are in charge of the audio-visual, outreach, and choir presentations respectively.

Bobby Lavina, assisted by Yeyette Lavina, is in charge of the administrative aspects of the anniversary celebration. This includes ways and means, registration and decorations. Joem Endaya, assisted by Gerry Isada, takes care of the liturgical portion of the celebration. The anniversary logo design is by Gena Sugang.



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PLANNING WEEKEND HELD

Chapter heads and the heads of the different BCBP outreaches gathered at the East Asian Pastoral Institute, Loyola, Quezon City, on the weekend of April 4 and 5, 1992. Led by Fr. Herb Schneider, BCBP's spiritual director, the group discussed and worked on setting out short range and long term plans for the Brotherhood directed toward making the BCBP more effective in the marketplace.

Following a "vision and mission" discussion outline, the group evaluated the activities, strengths and weaknesses of the BCBP in terms of relationships, structures and wholeness. After a productive brainstorming session, solutions were recommended. The weekend culminated with a Holy Mass.

Those participating in this annual planning exercise were: Alabang - Louie Morales, chapter head, and Charlie Carballo, service team head. Bacolod - Ray Garcia, outreach head, and Digoy Montalvo, mission director. Cagayan de Oro - Ernie Mondinedo, unit leader. Cebu - Sadi Saguisag, chapter head, Ed Lising, mission director, and Larry Veloso, unit leader. Dagupan - Berns Jimenez, chapter head, Teddy Fernandez, family life ministry, and Joey Bacugan, CLP ministry. Greenhills - Mark Katipunan, chapter head, and Eric Teotico, mission director. Iloilo - Gaudencio Arancillo, outreach head. Las Pinas - Manny Banigan, chapter head, and Rem Gopez, mission director. Makati - Jun Catan, mission head for the La Naval Outreach, Vic Cuna and Ronnie Caballero, unit leaders. Palawan - Fuji Rodriguez, unit head. Quezon City - Benjie Quinto, chapter head, and Roy Calleja, mission head.

National level participants were: Fr. Herb Schneider, spiritual director, Fernando de Larrazabal, executive director, and Rolly Aberion, BCBP treasurer.



The BCBP's planning group takes a fresh-air break during their "vision and mission" planning weekend.

CEBU LINK

BCMR 4 Completed

Cebu's BCMR 4 was held last March 20-22 at the Holy Family Retreat House in Nivel Hills, Lahug, Cebu City. The retreat was conducted by Lito and Edith Urgino. Course leaders were Raymond and Daisy Kokseng. Twenty-nine couples attended, 3 of which came from Maasin, Leyte's BCBP-assisted group.

The Cebu couples completing the BCMR 4 were: Eddie/Bebe Bana-ag, Aldo/Girlie Buensalido, Jojo/Joy Climaco, Angie/Ester Debalos, Boyet/Len Estrada, Choy/Baby Espeleta, Rene/Jo Filoteo, Danny/Jojo Kho, Del/Vitze Kwan, Fudy/Offie Laput, Lloyd/Myrna Limbaga, Mar/Vibs Lopez, Roger/Mila Lucmayon, Milo/Linda Montesclaros, Romy/Mary Motol, Tito/Mylin Nemenzo, Darrell/Ana Sadaya, Boy/Che-che Sala, Arnold/Bel Sancover, Hoppy/Carmen Sto. Domingo, Elmo/Padma Siap, Serge/Inday Tan, Tinting/Lily Villa, Tes/Helen Yap, Henry/Gingging Yu, and Peter/Dondon Yu.

The three couples from Maasin, Leyte, were Loloy/Litang Abiera, Ness/Tess Rodas, and Rey/Joy Tan.

Share His Love.

Sharers Announced

Cebu men's breakfast head, Buddy Montesclaros, recently announced the tentative list of sharers for the men's breakfasts for June and July. Danny Aguas is scheduled to share on June 6, Jing Arriola on June 13, Milo Montesclaros on the 20th and Odi Miel on June 27. Tasing Montebon will be sharing in Cagayan de Oro in June.

In July, Ernie Reyes will take the podium on July 4, Art Mahinay on July 11, Tes Yap on July 18 and Nino Fajardo will share on July 25. Cagayan de Oro sharer for July is Aldo Buensalido.

Josie Sala, women's breakfast head, has scheduled Diana Acedo to share on June 6 and Chichi Martinez on June 20.

Mission News

Culture talks in Maasin, Leyte, for the BCBP-assisted group, are being held regularly once a month.

Plans for putting up an outreach in Davao City and another in Bogu, Cebu, will be held in abeyance for a while, according to Cebu's chapter head, Sadi Saguisag.

BACOLOD NEWSBEAT

Ladies' Breakfast Now In Iloilo

Seven months after the Men's Breakfast started in Iloilo, the sisters serving in the Bacolod Ladies' Breakfast facilitated the first Ladies' Breakfast in Iloilo last April 25 at the Amigo Terrace Hotel. 13 Bacolod sisters headed by Carmen Diaz and Gloria Villarosa went to Iloilo in support of the inaugural sharer Eva Lacson.

A total of 47 ladies attended including ten members of the Iloilo outreach, 24 non-members and the 13-member delegation from Bacolod. Everything went smoothly. The Iloilo ladies are enthusiastically looking forward to succeeding breakfasts which will be held every last Saturday of each month.

Iloilo Mission Update

Digoy Montalvo, the new mission head for the Iloilo Outreach, has reported that things in Iloilo are moving forward. Firstly, the Ladies' Breakfast started last April 25. Then, in the Men's Breakfast, the Iloilo brothers have begun to share with CLP 1 graduate and action group leader Noel Amani as the first local sharer followed by Gau Arancillo, Iloilo Outreach head.

The outreach has two current concerns: involving more members in service and preparing for CLP 2 in mid-June. For CLP 2, the course leader will come from Bacolod with all ten member couples of the Iloilo outreach actively serving. Their target is to double their membership with the graduates of CLP 2.

Bacolod Singles and CYA Hold CLP 1

After 5 weekends of shepherding the student participants from the University of St. La Salle and Riverside College, the Baptism of the Holy Spirit was successfully held last April 25 at the CICM Seminary in Talisay. A total of 18 young ladies and 2 young men were baptized in the whole

day affair that was capped with Holy Mass and the baptism.

Commitment Day was held on May 1 at Jara Beach Resort. It was a heartwarming affair that touched the singles present especially when they shared how they had experienced God through the care and generosity of the members of the service team.

The CYA-CLS 1 constituted a major step in establishing the foundation of the Christ's Youth In Action in Bacolod, a program which the BCBP Bacolod single members have committed to as their ser-

vice.

Another summer activity of the Bacolod singles was the attendance of 3 delegates to the CYA Summer Training Conference in Manila from April 27 to May 3. The delegates were Carla Gustilo, a BCBP singles member, and 2 students, Anabelle Chavez and Reynard Ortigosa.

Lenten Recollection

The Balay Kalinungan (Ilonggo for house of peace and tranquility) of the University of St. La Salle was fully packed for the half-day Lenten Recollection of the Bacolod outreach. Fr. Rodolfo Pacheco, an associate member of the Brotherhood, gave the members a chance to view Lent not only as a period of repentance and sacrifice, but also as a period of acknowledging the great love of God for us and His Presence with us in the sacraments.

Urginos Conduct BCMR Follow-up

On April 26 the BCMR graduates of Bacolod had a chance to reflect on the action plans that had been made during the Brotherhood Christian Marriage Retreats. Lito and Edith Urgino emphasized in the follow-up session that the Lord expects couples to make use of the various tools that are available in making their marriage relationships truly Christ-centered. Lito said, "The Lord expects us to take concrete steps in utilizing these tools. The BCMR is not just a weekend, it is the beginning of a closer marriage and family relationship that is guided by the Lord."

Since couple dialogues are a vital component of marriage enrichment, Lito and Edith left the members with a structured program on weekly dialogues to ensure that the dialogue becomes a permanent feature of the marriage relationship.

MY WIFE AS GOD'S PRESENCE

*Mitch Villarosa,
Bacolod Outreach*

I had never realized how God works continuously to perfect His plan in my marriage until I heard Lito Urgino talk about the role of the husband and wife in the sacrament of matrimony. When he defined the sacrament as God's presence in my marriage, it was as if I was struck by lightning.

How many times have I taken my wife for granted! There were even times when I wished she was not present especially when she is in her fighting and nagging moods.

But now, I see it in a completely different perspective. I now understand that God wants me to experience his goodness and love when my wife gives me special attention and becomes extra-sensitive to my needs. How this realization has changed my entire attitude towards my marriage and most especially in my relationship towards my wife!

As God reveals himself to me through my wife, I find my marriage to be the best gift God has given me in my search to know Him, to love Him, and to serve Him.



Registration begins.

BCBP FAMILY DAY

May 1, 1992
Nayong Pilipino



Breakfast under the trees.

Hey, that's too high!



*More
games*



Time out for refreshment.



BCRP
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May 1, 1992
Nayong Pilipino

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If I supply you a thought you may remember it and you may not. But if I can make you think a thought for yourself, I have indeed added to your stature.

Elbert Hubbard

Faith is the key to fit the door called Hope, but there is no power, anywhere, like Love for turning it.

Elaine V. Emans

Thought and learning are of small value unless translated into action.

Wang Ming



"It is not ourselves we preach but Christ Jesus as Lord and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake." (2 Cor. 4:5)

Jimmy and Baby Porciuncula share during a Las Pinas joint breakfast.

CLP 19 Pre-Commitment Night

With the formal commitment ceremonies for CLP 19 participants set for the end of May, after completion of the Culture Talk series, the CLP's last session of April 11 was termed "Pre-Commitment Night."

Highlights of this activity included the distribution of Bibles to participating couples/individuals and the dissemination of drafts of BCBP commitments for the participants to study in preparation for formal commitment. Chapter head Manny Banigan delivered Talk No. 11 on the "Life and Mission of the BCBP". Mini-sharings by selected participants and a concluding presentation entitled "The Making of CLP 19" by the CLP Service Team brought the joyful evening to a close.

38 participants, divided into five action groups, completed the Las Pinas CLP 19. Group 1 members were Rolly/Lydia Mariano, Dulce/Allen Reyes, Chona/Jun Reboredo, Joe Garcia, Lydia Lagman and Merly Abrasaldo. Group 2 participants were Ben/Eglen Alojado, Bellu/Ray Dorado, Pee Wee/Eden Divinagracia, Lydia Gonzales and Patsy Tabangcura.

Members of Group 3 were Dody/Dionie Bautista, Raymond/Carla Reboredo, Eugene/Tess Soriaso, and Dulce Mesina. Group 4 was composed of Mindo/Bi Balinang, Bong/Cora Lodero, Jun/Marivic de Pano, Grace Sta. Clara, and Francis Caunin. In Group 5 were Gerry Lopez, Caloy Trinidad, Ging Baticulon, Juliet Floresta, Tat Oeson and Mita Zurbano.

CLP 19 Culture Talks

An "accelerated" Culture Talk series has been arranged for the participants of CLP 19.

LAS PINAS MONITOR

Begun on May 16, talks are slated for only three Saturdays with two talks per session. The Culture Talk series ends with the formal Commitment Night for the CLP 19 participants.

Family Day Participation

The Las Pinas chapter had a field day last May 1 during the BCBP's Family Day at the Nayong Pilipino Complex. Joey Estagle, lead coordinator (Las Pinas was the lead chapter), said that the chapter's assignment as the Family Day coordinating chapter for this year definitely does not have anything to do with its carting away many of the major awards in the several games and contests that highlighted the day-long affair.

A Call For Help For Smokey Mountain

Chapter head Manny Banigan has issued a call for help for the residents of Smokey Mountain whose living quarters were recently gutted by fire. This call is in response to the urgent requests of Fr. Ben Beltran whose flock constitutes a big part of those adversely affected by the fire.

Tae Kwan Do Course Launched

The health conscious members of the Las Pinas chapter have launched weekly Tae Kwan Do sessions with BCBP black belter and international Tae Kwan Do referee Omar Guzman handling the Saturday lessons for chapter members' kids (and some members themselves).

The arrangement is ideal: daddies bring their kids along with them to the Saturday men's breakfast. While the men attend the breakfast, the kids are taken to the residence of Tito Totoy Tirona where the lessons are given. After the breakfast, the daddies proceed to Tito Totoy's place to pick up the kids. Omar Guzman is a member of Angel and Charito Garcia's action group.

Las Pinas Offers Musical Assist to BCBP Choir

Wishing to glorify God with their talents

and foster solidarity with other BCBP chapters, Las Pinas has sent 14 of its members to complete the number of singers required by the BCBP Choir for its anniversary presentations.

The Las Pinas volunteers are: Myrna Calpo, Lito Francisco, Bobby and Khelle Gaerlan, Angel Garcia, Angelo Lagman, Lulu and Rene Leandro, Gary and Tess Mendoza, Leo and Lani Nabor, and Danny and Susan Tumamac.

Palawan CLP 4

The Las Pinas chapter mission team together with the Palawan outreach's leaders' team completed the outreach's CLP 4 on Dedication Night, May 17. 24 participants successfully graduated from the program. Culture talks are planned for June 13, 14 and 20 with the formal Commitment



Palawan and Alabang members visit a Las Pinas breakfast.

Night following on June 21.

CLP 4 course leader was Ding Reyes, assisted by Santi Marquez; Ernie Diao was the head servant. The 43-member service team contributed much to the success of the CLP. Discussion leaders were Jojo and Offie Bernardino assisted by Oleg Cayetano and Elsie Garcellano for Group A, Mart Sarsagat and Leonciti Navidad assisted by Enzo Navidad and Ching Sarsagat for Group B, and Jojo Llorca and Mely Miguel assisted by Bert Abrara and Karla Llorca for Group C.

Completing the course were: Group A: Ed/Chit Ahorro, Manny/Cora Bilog, Job/Ma. Fe Evina, Jun Fernandez and Ninfa Manila. Group B: Teming/Daling Badavos, Jun/Gigi Lumauag, Mike/Baby Palico, Helen Deriada and Lota Turalba. Group C: Nelson/Tess Dasco, Loy/Chit Villa, Dave/Minta Dacanay, Tyrene Atilano and Conching Tabang.

QUEZON CITY NEWS BRIEFS

Service Training Programs Ongoing

The leadership of the Q.C. chapter conducted a service training seminar for members and leaders on April 4 and 22 at the Catholic Renewal Center and the Q.C. Manor Hotel, respectively. The participants were those who would be conducting the Christian Life Program No. 20 for the chapter and the two Life In The Spirit (LSS) Seminars in private business establishments.

Main speaker during both seminars was the chapter's mission director Roy Calleja. One part of the seminar featured a simulated CLP discussion group workshop to help the participants analyze their respective reactions to certain issues and concerns related to the conduct of CLP and LSS discussion groups.

Chapter head Benjie Quinto, in a related move, announced that the graduates of CLP 16 (Q.C.) would undergo a special service training program that incorporates the contents of the regular leadership training program plus the CLP service training workshops. This will prepare the members for service in the chapter's second and last CLP for 1992, CLP 21 that will begin late August. Action group leaders are being encouraged to attend to be refreshed in their role as servant-leaders in a Christian organization.

Leadership training program director Ben Madrono has issued an open invitation to all regular members who wish to prepare themselves for greater service and leadership responsibilities to attend the regular monthly leadership training being held every fourth Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the Catholic Renewal Center in Q.C.

CLP 20 Enlists 33 Participants

The Quezon City chapter opened its first Christian Life Program for 1992 last



Top: Mission director Roy Calleja expounds on "our response to God's call to service" during the service training program on April 29. Bottom: A workshop group reacts to Calleja's talk.

April 25 (Saturday) at the Quezon City Manor Hotel located at Kamias Road in Q.C. CLP 20 has thirty-three persons participating, all of whom are married and coming from the private sector except one who is connected with government.

Rey and Raquel Tansioico serve as the course's couple team leader while Art and Lally dela Cruz and Chito and Libay Masayon serve as couple assistant team leader and servant couple, respectively. The rest of the service team is composed of Joey/Norma Tabarangao, Del/Offie Castro, Tessie Ty, Judy Vizcarra, Ma. Eden Magbanua and Jeanette Calleja. Members of the music ministry serving in CLP 20 are Dodo/Jonjon Sta. Maria, Rayben/Nanette Mague, Jun Capacillo, Art/Lita Layug and Felix/Lynn Obusan.

Lined up as speakers are: Larry de Larrazabal, Art dela Cruz, Rey Tansioico, Roy Calleja, Vic Fernandez, Louie Chanco, Dodo Sta. Maria, Benjie Quinto, Obet Ocampo and Jojo Odina.

Discussion group leaders are J.R./Estela Liaonog, Nonoy/Glecy dela Pena, Oca/Mila Balaoing, Ric/Edith Galing, and Gerry/Virgie Jimenez. Serving as assistant discussion group leaders are Boy/Cora Bautista, Pancho/ Nanette Jamlig, Emil/Baby Morales, Fred/Ditas Medina, and Louie/Susan Ferrer.

RFM and Saldania Host LSS

In line with the BCBP's mission of bringing the Word of God into the marketplace, the Quezon City chapter is currently conducting two Life in the Spirit Seminars (LSS) in two private business establishments, namely: the Saldania group of companies and the Republic Flour Mills (RFM). Both LSSs are under the direction of Roy Calleja, mission director of the Q.C. chapter, with Gerry Tabares as course leader.

The RFM LSS started last May 16 at the RFM offices in Pasig with thirty-five (35) participants, mostly coming from the company's security department and holding supervisory positions. The service team is mostly composed of the chapter's single men with Emy Magdangal as administrative head.

The Saldania group LSS comprises some thirty (30) participants from the company's rank and file. Art dela Cruz serves as administrative head of the service team. The LSS started last May 23, 1992.

As participants of the first LSSs for both companies, the graduates will eventually form the core of a group of renewed Christians who will spread the Word of God to their co-employees in their respective companies. The groups

cont. on p. 17

ALABANG NEWS BREAK

Mission Director Appointed

Chapter head Louie Morales recently announced the appointment of Orly Neri as the chapter's new mission director. Orly views his new responsibility as "a most challenging assignment in the BCBP



Orly Neri and Family

service." He says, "I believe that service on the mission team is where bringing Christ to the marketplace is put to actual realization. The mission team is the "marines", tasked to secure the island beach heads."

Orly and his wife "Neneng" joined the Brotherhood in 1987 taking CLP 13. He has served as action group leader, CLP 19 course leader, and breakfast head. Their five children - Michael, Ma. Dorothy, Maritoni, Melissa, and Ma. Cristina - are all members of the BCBP Youth.

Orly is presently VP Sales and Marketing Operations for Coca-Cola Bottlers Phils., Inc.

"The BCBP has shown me and my family the real value of Christian Living. My contribution to the BCBP as Mission Director is my act of thanksgiving to a most generous and kind God," Alabang's new mission director says.

1992 Mission Plans Announced

Orly Neri, mission director for the Alabang chapter, has outlined a six point program for 1992. First on the program is to develop a strong mission team of dedicated members. Secondly, the mission team will make regular and periodic visits to serve the needs of the outreaches of Bacolod and Iloilo that are under the umbrella of Alabang chapter.

Closer coordination with Cebu chapter is planned to help them organize outreaches in Davao and to support the new Cagayan de Oro outreach. Fourthly, the mission team will begin to lay the ground work to an outreach in the Naga/Legaspi area.

Here at home in the Alabang chapter, "BEST" projects are planned at the Manila Coca-Cola plant to involve managers and department heads. The "BEST" projects will zero in on applying Christian values in the work area, conducting an LSS program, developing prayer teams, and coordinating basic scripture studies in the plant. Lastly, the mission team will start the groundwork for "BEST" activities among businessmen and professionals in Calamba, Laguna.

All in all, it looks to be a busy year for the Alabang mission team!

Alabang's Family Day: A Rainbow of Colors

The BCBP Alabang chapter held its Family Day last March 1, 1992, at the Hillsborough Gym in Alabang. 430 members, their children and guests attended attired in their respective unit colors - white, red, yellow, or blue. Registration at 8:00 a.m. was followed by Sunday Mass celebrated by Fr. Sergs Magbanua.

cont. on p. 18



The white team readies for the big pull during Alabang's Family Day activities.

Quezon City News Briefs

From p. 16

will be assisted during the infancy of their in-company Christian communities by regular members of the BCBP Quezon City chapter.

BCMR On June 26

Vic Fernandez, teaching formation head of the Q.C. chapter, has announced the holding of the chapter's Brotherhood Christian Marriage Retreat (BCMR) on June 26 to 28. Regular couple members, particularly those from earlier CLP's (graduates of CLP 16 or earlier), are encouraged to take this course which is intended to enhance not just the couple's relationship as husband and wife, but more importantly their relationship with the Lord as a couple. Interested couples are requested to register directly with Vic or Claire Fernandez or through their action group or unit leaders. There is limited enrollment so please register early.

Alabang News Break

From p. 17

Among the events that followed were It! Bulaga (Blanket Game) for teenagers, three-legged relay race with fathers and sons, a basket ball shooting contest, a coke drinking contest using baby bottles, needle and thread game for mothers and daughters and the all-time favorite tug of war.

First place went to the Red team of Rene Cortez for garnering a total of 35 points. The Blue team of Frank Hidalgo took second place, followed by the white team of Jun Magbanua and the yellow team of Hermie Rodil. All teams received cash prizes.

The Family Day was organized by the unit of Jun and Ching Magbanua who were ably supported by their action group leaders Boy and Tet Javier, Ric and Didith Lazatin, Alex and Odette Guiao and Emil and Mariette Paz. Special raffle tickets were also sold with a top cash prize of P5,000.



The lucky couple Alex and Jo Tan pose beside a maroon L-300 van which they won in a recent raffle. They are the third couple from BCBP Alabang who have won a vehicle in a raffle! Congratulations!



The moms had their day too proving they still had the "eyes of an eagle" threading the needle & keeping the candle lighted as they raced through this event with their daughters.

Family Day Fun in Alabang



The boys proved too much for their fathers as they "out-goaled" them in this "one-on-one" shooting competition.



Alabang Chapter's Family Day celebration began at 8:00 AM with a mass celebrated by Fr. Sergs Magbanua.



Dennis Deveza of the Yellow Team & Boyet Paredes of White Team are shown in the "COKE DRINKING COMPETITION". Both seem to be choking as they drink bottoms up from a baby's nursing bottle.

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Sirach 27:9*

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praise.
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season, and in his own time
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-Sirach 51:29-30*

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WHAT CHRISTIAN BOOK TOUCHED ME THE MOST

We are encouraged to augment our daily scripture reading with Christian literature and inspirational books. Our BCBP booktable provides a wide selection of texts that can help us in our continuing formation in holiness. We asked some BCBP brothers and sisters what book (other than the Holy Bible) touched them the most. Here are some of their replies.

- Editor.



Healing Through the Mass

Since I got hold of the book "Healing Through The Mass" by Father Robert de Grandis and started reading it, I have begun to go to Mass daily whenever possible. Through this book I have developed a greater understanding and appreciation of the Holy Eucharist as a healing service, healing for the body, mind and spirit of all.

"Healing Through the Mass" has helped me heal all of the negative feelings and emotions I felt before just by attending the Holy Mass every day. For this I thank our Heavenly Father.

Lucy Liong

Cagayan de Oro Outreach

the Source of All Strength. Maybe through my pen I would be able to reach out to other single parents.

Another book I found to be a treasure is entitled "When Your Spouse Dies" by Cathleen L. Curry. I got the last copy on the book shelves at St. Paul's book store. It was expensive but it kept me company when my relatives and friends went home and left me after my husband's burial. Little did I know that this book would not only help me but other friends who are widows, too.

Fabs M. Gorospe

Cagayan de Oro Outreach

ing to feel compassion for a needy neighbor, or turning a deaf ear to a business associate who needs our forgiveness...uncaring, unconcerned, indifferent. We need to be able to reach out and give joy, hope, encouragement and inspiration to others as God intended us to be free.

This little book exhorts us to praise and thank God in all things regardless of circumstances. When a taxi emerges from nowhere in the middle of a heavy rain and the driver agrees to take you to your destination with a flag-down meter, do we thank God or the driver? We usually thank God for the big things, but what about the little things?

Manny Bade

Makati Chapter

Prison To Praise

When I picked up this book, I thought it was an adventure type of narrative of which I am particularly fond. It was an adventure, but a different type. Lt. Col. Merlin Carothers, the author, provides the reader with an adventurous feeling of delving into the wonderful workings of God.

I realized that sometimes we unwittingly make a prisoner of ourselves, retreating into our own little shell, refus-

Weeds Among The Wheat

"Weeds Among The Wheat" by Fr. Thomas Green, S.J., influenced me greatly. I found very significant Fr. Green's explanation of the weeds (our weaknesses) planted in our lives among the wheat (our virtues). The weeds have a very real purpose in our lives, we can never be fully free of them. Fr. Green

cont. on p. 24

366 Days With The Lord

As soon as I saw this book on our Ladies' Breakfast book table, I knew I should have one to help me continue my walk with the Lord. I needed to continue the previous year's journey through grief in writing with the perspective that, aside from the emotional healing, my spiritual life would be nurtured because of the daily "encounter" with Him Who is

WHAT CHRISTIAN BOOK...

From p.23

says, "The Lord leaves them in us to keep us humble, to make us realize how totally we depend on Him and how helpless we are to do good without His grace and power."

Through this book I now realize the omnipotence of God when He allows my weaknesses to direct me into the path He calls me to, a path of dependency, of obedience and of longing for Him. God desires us to be perfect. Fr. Green has helped me focus more on the vision of perfection in eternity rather on the weeds. Life has become a more meaning-

ful experience for me after reading this book.

Jojo Veloso
Cebu Chapter

Healing of Self-Image

I bought this 38-page book to pass on to my friends whom I thought had a problem with their self-image. Of course, I believed that I didn't have any problems about my self-image. Several months later when it found its way back to my desk (I am a school administrator), I started to read it as for the first time in my life I felt defeated and discouraged mainly from pressures of work.

As I reflected on what B. Tapscott and Rev. de Grandis were saying, I began to feel better knowing that Jesus can heal all these hurts. I learned about God's unconditional love for me and how He accepts me the way I am, imperfection and all. With God's grace I now know that my self-image can be developed and that I can tackle my work and responsibilities that seem to get heavier every year.

"Healing of Self-Image" is indeed a powerful book. It gives twelve biblical ways to develop a good and Godly self-image and even teaches us how to instill a good self-image in children. I recommend it to everyone without exception!

Lisa Aviles
Cebu Chapter



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New Evangelization: #6

Tita O. Cerdania,
Alabang Chapter



THE POWER OF THE MESSAGE

By the time you read this, we shall have elected into office a new President and a new set of national and local leaders. We are all full of hope and expectations that the change will be for the better. Some say that EDSA was our liberation from the slavery of Egypt; that the past six years was our "desert experience" where, just like the Israelites of old, all we did was complain, criticize our leaders and remain as "stiffnecked" as ever as a people. So now, are we finally entering the Promised Land?

Bad News and Good News

The bad news is that as long as man plays by his own rules, no matter how many times we change our leaders or change the system, the same evils we profess to abhor and desire to overthrow will prevail. As long as the hearts and minds of men remain the same, nothing is changed. A taxi driver succinctly summed it up when I asked him if the new highway patrols were much better than the ones they replaced: "They just changed the uniforms," was the cynical reply.

But the Good News is that God can effect the changes we want if we would only allow Him, and He's just dying to do it. Correction -- He died in order to be able to do

it for us! But we're scared stiff to let Him do it. We think that once we let Him have His way with us, He will completely demolish our way of life such as it is, our culture, our values, our institutions.

But that's not the way He does things. Jesus respected the culture and institutions of His time. His way is to meet us where we are, to transform us wherever we are in whatever we are doing. "Behold," He says, "I make all things new... I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end" (Rev. 21:5). Whether we accept it or not, everything begins with Him and ends with Him.

Transforming Humanity

How does God go about this business of transforming hearts and minds of men?

"Behold, I make all things new... I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end."

Rev. 21:5

"For the Church, evangelizing means bringing the Good News into all strata of humanity and through its influence, transforming humanity from within and making it new... But there is no new humanity if there are not first of all new persons renewed by baptism and by lives lived according to the Gospel. The purpose of evangelization is therefore precisely this interior change." (Evangelii Nuntiandi #18).

Only the power of the Gospel can effect the transformation of the human heart, and consequently humanity. In the words of St. Paul, "It possesses God's power for the destruction of strongholds. We demolish sophistries and every proud pretension that raises itself against the knowledge of God; we likewise bring every thought into captivity to make it obedient to Christ" (2 Cor. 10:4).

Personal Encounters

I have had my own personal encounters with the power of this divine Message we proclaim. In my work of training people to become evangelizers, I have learned to fully rely on the power of the Gospel to demolish barriers of intellectual pride, false ideologies and philosophies. Truly, signs and wonders accompany evangelizers wherever they go.

cont. on p. 26

THE POWER OF THE MESSAGE

From p. 25

When I myself was training to become an evangelizer about five years ago, one of the requirements of the course was to memorize eight pages of the full gospel outline on tape. I needed help with the tape recorder so I asked my (then) 21-year old son Ricky to operate it for me.

At that time, Ricky was supposed to have graduated from college but could not because he was not able to finish his thesis as he was spending most of his time in cause-oriented protest rallies. He had just been involved in an expressway smash-up for which his father had had to shell out for the major repairs of all three cars. Ricky was pretty demoralized and quite impossible to live with.

This was the state of affairs when I asked him to help me out with my oral exam. I cannot recall exactly at what point the exercise ceased to be an exam and became an authentic evangelistic encounter. As I concentrated on reciting into the tape, my hardened, rebellious and cynical son was being transformed before my eyes! Never one to show emotions, here he was desperately trying to fight back his tears! In short, he accepted Jesus into his life!

And was his life transformed!! Two days later, his dean called him up (a miracle in itself, according to Ricky), gave him a reprieve to finalize and defend his thesis, and it is almost anti-climactic to say that he passed. He graduated and for his graduation present, opted for a Scripture program in Baguio City. Soon after, he landed a job in a local bank. Now he is a single member of BCBP Alabang (CLP 17). Right after his CLP, he received a promotion and a raise he did not think he would get.

God continues to pour down His blessings on Ricky, transforming him from a "rebel with a cause" to a responsible, hardworking and prayerful young man. As he sees it, he had dug himself into a hole he could not get out of, but Jesus came along and yanked him out!

I learned from this experience: The Good News is not powerful; IT IS POWER!

The World's Tragic Appeal

Just like Ricky, you and I and Christians everywhere have experienced this saving power of Jesus. The world needs to experience this truth, for when we look at the world around us, "a new heavens and a new earth" seem so remote a vision. We can only cling to God's promise that He will eventually bring it about, but somehow I get the feeling it is we, the followers of Jesus, who are delaying it.

Pope Paul VI believes that "The world which, paradoxically, despite innumerable signs of the denial of God, is nevertheless searching for Him in unexpected ways and painfully experiencing the need of Him" (E.N. #76). He is saying that our world is desperately in need of the transforming power of the Gospel. "There exists a powerful and tragic appeal to be evangelized" (E.N. #55).

How true this is! How many times in our evangelistic encounters we have heard: "Why only now? This is what I have been waiting for, what I needed to hear!" Paul described the evangelization process thus:

"Everyone who calls on the Name of the Lord will be saved. But they will not ask His help unless they believe in Him, and they will not believe in Him unless they have heard of Him, and they will not

hear of Him unless they get a preacher, and they will never have a preacher unless one is sent..." (Rom. 10:13-15).

Once again, God's plaintive cry rings out loud and clear: "Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?" (Is. 6:8). The Catholic evangelization program I am involved in is designed precisely to evangelize the participants, strengthen their commitment to Christ, equip them, train them, empower them and commission them so that they can respond with Isaiah: "Here I am, send me!"

The call is to everyone, and by virtue of our baptism, it is not an option but a command. But sadly, Christians who claim that they would be willing to climb the highest mountains and cross the raging rivers, or even lay down their lives for the Lord, hesitate and give all kinds of excuses, like "Please, Lord, I'll do anything for you, but please don't ask me to memorize! Anything but that!"

And so, of course, the Lord goes on to the next guy: "Whom shall I send?"

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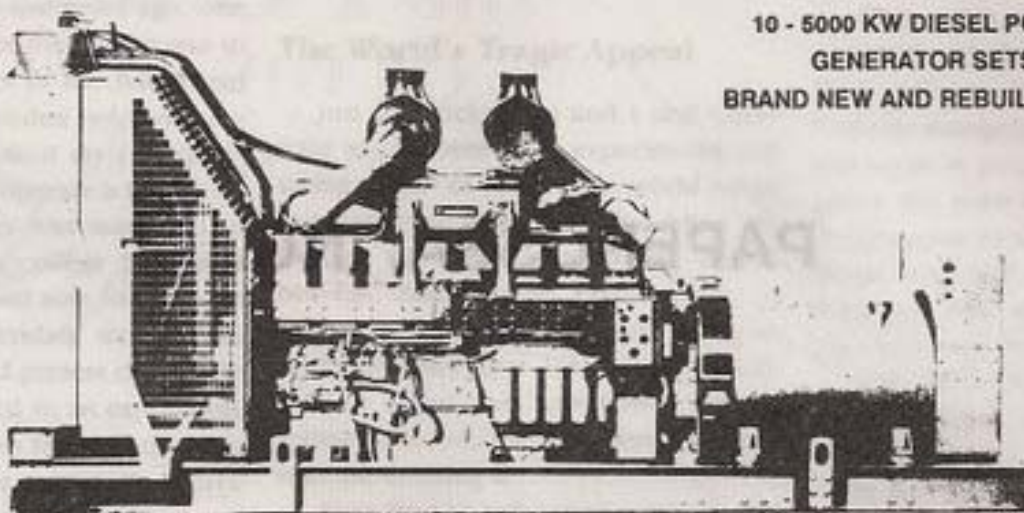
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BCBP BREAKFAST VENUES

MEN'S BREAKFASTS

Wednesdays MAKATI : Beverly Hills Deli, Greenbelt
Thursdays GREENHILLS : Club Filipino, Greenhills
Fridays MAKATI : Malacanang Canteen, Malacanang
Saturdays ALABANG : Ayala-Alabang Country Club
BACOLOD : Roli's Drive Inn
CAGAYAN DE ORO : Kundiman Restaurant
CEBU : Fernando's Sunburst Restaurant
ILOILO : Amigo Terraces Hotel
LAS PINAS : Shakey's Pizza Parlor,
Presidents Ave., Phase I, BF Homes
QUEZON CITY : Max's (Fried Chicken)
Restaurant, Scout Tuazon near corner
Roces Ave., Q.C.
PALAWAN : Kamayan Restaurant

MEN'S LUNCHEON

2nd, 4th DAGUPAN : Pinkee's Restaurant
Saturdays

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Wednesdays Arc Dates n' Nuts, Jupiter St., Bel Air.
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JOINT BREAKFASTS

1st
Wednesdays MAKATI : Aling Asiang's, Greenbelt, Makati
Saturdays LAS PINAS : Shakey's Pizza Parlor,
Presidents Ave., Phase I, BF Homes

JOINT LUNCHEON

Last LA NAVAL: El Galleon
Saturday Restaurant, Cavite City

LADIES' BREAKFASTS

2nd Saturdays ALABANG : Ayala-Alabang Country Club
BACOLOD : Cafe Negrense
CAGAYAN DE ORO : Kundiman Restaurant
QUEZON CITY : Max's (Fried Chicken)
Restaurant, Scout Tuazon near Roces Ave.,
Q.C.
LAS PINAS : Sunduan Restaurant,
Aguirre St., Phase III, BF Homes
3rd Saturdays CEBU : Fernando's Sunburst Restaurant

LADIES' LUNCHEONS

2nd Thursdays MAKATI : Arc Dates n' Nuts, Jupiter St.,
Bel Air
3rd Thursdays GREENHILLS : Beijing Garden, Shaw Blvd.
(Center for Peace)
3rd Saturdays DAGUPAN : Pinkee's Restaurant

MAKATI UPDATE

New Breakfast Venue

The Men's Breakfast for Makati chapter has transferred its venue from Aling Asiang's in Greenbelt to another Greenbelt location, the Beverly Hills Deli. Their first Wednesday breakfast in the new location saw even more members and walk-ins attending than usual. The breakfast venue was changed due to the renovation of Aling Asiang's. Andy Fornier, breakfast head, invites the brothers not only of Makati but the other chapters, too, to visit them in the Beverly Hills Deli.

CLP 19 Completed

Joey Aranaz, course leader for Makati's CLP 19, welcomed the graduates of CLP 19 into the chapter's activities during their commitment night program held on May 19 at Makati Skyline, Pacific Star Building. Culture talks will begin immediately for the group.

La Naval Outreach CLP 2 Upcoming

The La Naval Outreach composed of Philippine Navy and Air Force personnel based in Cavite (Ft. San Felipe and Sangley Pt.) is planning its second Christian Life Program to begin July 11, Jun Catan, Makati mission head for the outreach, and Rick Abad, outreach head, recently announced.

Presently the outreach has six active action groups, most of them meeting weekly in addition to the regular continuing formation sessions every Saturday afternoon at the Officers Club, Ft. San Felipe. The group have completed the BCBP culture talks and spiritual formation series and are now undergoing evangelization training. The formation sessions are conducted by Jun and Nancy Catan.

Lately the outreach has been blessed with the regular attendance and participation in the formation workshops and group discussions of three priests: Fr. Livy Jose Malagueno, navy chaplain in Ft. San Felipe, Fr. Fortunato Evasco, III, Air Force chaplain, and Fr. Vicente Garabato, navy chaplain in Sangley.

May 30 La Naval Luncheon

The regular monthly joint luncheon of the La Naval outreach was held May 30 at the El Galleon restaurant in Cavite City. The couple sharers were Ronnie and Mari Caballero from Makati chapter.

Go Out And Share The Gospel

Chapter members listened intently to guest sharer Tita Cerdania, CLAYE trainor and member BCBP Alabang, explain the urgency of fulfilling Jesus' Great Commission: Go out and preach the gospel. She

said that Christianity can be summarized in two parts, the first of which all of us know and are doing: "Come and Follow (Christ)". But, she said, the second part of Christianity most of us conveniently ignore. We must "Go and Share" the gospel. This is the essence of evangelization.

"Evangelization, bringing others to a deeper personal relationship with Christ on a one-to-one basis, is not merely a responsibility that we may choose to do or not to do. Jesus commanded us to evangelize, and therefore, it is a sin if we do not!" Tita emphasized.

In spite of the brownout during the whole evening, attendance was excellent and participation lively especially during the open forum following the talk. One member commented, "You know, it is good that there is a brownout. We are forced to concentrate on the "Light!"

The talk on Evangelization was the fourth in the 1992 formation series of the Makati chapter. The formation talks and workshops are held every fourth Friday evening at the Magallanes Parish Center for all chapter members. Nancy Catan, who heads the chapter's formation and teaching ministry, announced that June's topic is "What Do We Mean By Commitment: A Case Approach".

CHAPTER SERVICE ASSIGNMENTS

June	Greenhills
July	Las Pinas
August	Alabang
September	Greenhills
October	Makati
November	Quezon City
December	Las Pinas

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CAGAYAN DE ORO HAPPENINGS

Monthly Activities

In addition to the regular Brotherhood cycle of activities, the Cagayan de Oro Outreach meets for the 7:00 a.m. Holy Mass at the Xavier University Chapel every Sunday except the second Sunday of the month. Unit assemblies are held once a month. The Ladies' Breakfast meets twice monthly, every 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month.

Patag Outreach Activities

There is a ladies' prayer meeting at the Camp Evangelista Chapel every Tuesday from noontime to 2:00 p.m. Every Sunday the outreach couples have their respective group prayer meeting, while the general assembly for the Patag Outreach is held on the third Saturday of the month.

Worship/Music Workshop

Brothers and sisters from Cagayan de Oro participated in the May 1 and 2 Worship/Music Workshop held at the Mindanao Polytechnic State College. The workshop was conducted by Mike Joseph, Joey Villamor, Gerry Concepcion and Owine Colayco.

A fellowship with the Partners in Mission - Ligaya ng Panginoon Community, Couples for Christ, CYA, Servants of the Lord community held after the workshop at the Fortich's residence gave everyone a chance for joyous fellowship in getting to know one another better.

Action Groups Now Number Eleven

Cagayan de Oro outreach head Ed Canlas reports that their outreach after completing three CLPs now has eleven



The Cagayan de Oro brothers and sisters gather for a fellowship picture with Mike Joseph, Gerry Concepcion, Joey Villamor and Owine Colayco after the Worship/Music Workshop.

action groups meeting either weekly or twice monthly. Action group leaders are Chito Valderama, Boy Neri, Fin Magaro, Monette Fernandez, Ping Almonia, Pepot Fortich, Bobby Cabrera, New Pasion, Fanny Escara, Peping Coruna and Ed Abastas.

CLP 4 Begins Late May

The Outreach's Christian Life Program No. 4 is expected to begin in late May with Ric Roa as the Course Leader.



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OUTLINE HISTORY OF THE BCBP CHAPTERS

- 1980 - 24 men organized the first breakfast in Makati.
- 1982 - First Chapter organized in Makati, Metro Manila.
- 1985 - North Chapter organized, based in Greenhills.
- 1986 - Dagupan Chapter organized.
- 1987 - Alabang Chapter organized.
- 1988 - North Chapter split to form new Quezon City Chapter. Greenhills group was renamed Greenhills Chapter.
- 1990 - Las Pinas Chapter organized.
- 1991 - Cebu Chapter organized.

EXISTING OUTREACHES

- 1988 - Puerto Princesa, Palawan
- 1988 - Philippine Navy (Manila/Cavite), expanded in 1991 to include Phil. Air Force at Sangley Pt. and renamed La Naval Outreach
- 1990 - Bacolod City, Negros Occidental
- 1991 - Cagayan de Oro, Mindanao
- 1991 - Iloilo City, Iloilo

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.



(Colossians 3:1)

Eyes of Faith PARALLELS IN PEACE

Kytt Mier, Las Pinas Chapter

Some of us who voted last May 11 may have noticed a close spiritual parallelism between the 1986 EDSA phenomenon and the 1992 electoral process. With eyes of faith, let us look more closely at this parallelism.

Before the "EDSA Revolution" we got involved in the "snap" elections. We all know where the results of that election led us to -- the restoration of democracy in relative peace. We now await the results of the May 11 elections hoping this time that our efforts to make democracy work will result not just in strengthening our democratic institutions but also lead at last to economic prosperity. Will the general peace that reigned before and during the 1992 elections continue for all of us?

In its most basic form, the parallelism of peace between the EDSA Phenomenon of 1986 and the recent electoral process can be discerned in our actions as a people of God. We can summarize these actions as (1) the efforts of spiritual as well as secular leaders to guide the people of God in fulfilling their duties as citizens of a legitimate nation, (2) the efforts of the people of God to obey the Lord's will through their leaders' guidance, and (3) the efforts of both the people of God and their leaders to worship Him constantly in prayer, fasting and good works.

Remember the "Marian Years" that covered the period right before the EDSA Revolution? Many of us either joined the frequent processions, or the prayer rallies, or simply prayed on our own. Indeed, it was a season of prayers motivated perhaps by the great uncertainties facing us as a nation. The important thing to note is that men of goodwill from various sectors of society heeded the spiritual leaders' call to prayer. Many

of us also heeded the call of Cardinal Sin to proceed to EDSA on those fateful 4 days of February.

The same "conditions" existed before and during the May 11 elections. Our spiritual and even some secular leaders called on us, first of all, to PRAY for honest, orderly and peaceful elections. Then they exhorted us to discharge our duties as citizens. They warned us to be vigilant and to stand firm in defending our sacred right to choose those who will rule over us as God's stewards.

Why were the election results generally peaceful? Perhaps because as a people, we OBEYED God's will through our leaders' guidance. By obeying God's wish for us to pray constantly, by doing our duties as citizens and by holding firm to truth, we have in effect glorified the Lord.

The names of the candidates we wrote in our ballots are inconsequential. To dwell on creatures' names and to publicly interpret God's leadings as favoring any one of these names is to sow the seeds of division and disharmony. The essential thing is we acted as a people obeying our Lord's plan for us through the leadings of events around us, through the guidance of our leaders and by exercising God's gifts of wisdom and free will in casting our votes.

If we continue to pray and be docile to the leadings of the Holy Spirit, there is no reason to fear the final outcome of this election. We can always be assured that the Lord "teaches the humble of heart and guides them in what is right." (Ps 25:9) The Gospels further assure us of the rewards of obedience. Though doubtful of a catch, Peter obeyed Jesus' suggestion that he cast his net to sea (Lk 5:4-6). When he did, he was overwhelmed with the Lord's bounty!



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*A joyful heart is the health of the body,
but a depressed spirit dries up the bones.
Proverbs 17:22*

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*People are unreasonable, illogical and self-centered;
LOVE THEM anyway.*
*If you do good, some will accuse you of selfish motives;
DO GOOD anyway.*
*If you succeed, you will have false friends and true enemies;
SUCCEED anyway.*
*The good you do today may be forgotten tomorrow;
DO GOOD anyway.*
*Honesty and frankness make you vulnerable;
BE HONEST anyway.*
*What takes years to build may be destroyed overnight;
BUILD WELL anyway.*
*Find out what God would have you do;
DO THAT LITTLE WELL;*
*For what is great and what is small...
it is only He Who can tell.*

- Anon.



SO LONG AS THERE ARE HOMES

So long as there are homes to which men turn
at close of day;
So long as there are homes where children are,
Where women stay —
If love and loyalty and faith be found
Across those sills —
A stricken nation can recover from
Its gravest ills.

So long as there are homes where fires burn
And there is bread;
So long as there are homes where lamps are lit
And prayers are said;
Although people falter through the dark —
And nations grope
With GOD Himself back of these little homes —
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The earth is the
LORD'S
and the fullness thereof, the
WORLD
and those who dwell therein;
psalm 24:1



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Being a member of the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals is not merely attending the BCBP chapter and community activities. It is living out our commitment in service. Most brothers and sisters in the BCBP say that their faith and love for the Lord and their brothers and sisters really took root and began to grow earnestly once they became active in service. The more they serve, the more fruits are evident in their lives.

There are many areas for service in the BCBP that can utilize our time, talents and treasure for the glory of God. Check out the list that follows for some suggestions. How do you know which kind of service is for you? Try out several and see which one gives you a special kind of joy and peace.

Your action group leader can also help you discern the area/s of service the Lord wants you to serve in. Scriptures and prayer are important ways to help in the discernment process. Read about being in the service for the Lord in 1 Peter 4:10-11, Hebrews 10:24, Romans 12:6-8, James 2, Col. 3:23-24.

Music Ministry. Service in the music ministry is open to everyone who likes to sing or play an instrument. Exceptional talent is not necessary; what is required is only the willingness to learn, the commitment to attend practices, and one's desire to glorify God in music.

Registration. The registration team sees that everyone signs in, that each one has a name tag; they help sell meal tickets and raffle tickets, and see that everything goes smoothly as members come and go during the meeting.

Callers. Those in service as callers are responsible for contacting as many mem-

SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS

bers as possible to remind them of BCBP functions. Callers may activate the chapter's phone tree to request prayers for a brother or sister who may need special prayers.

Greeters. This is an area of service for joyful people and might well be called the "Smile" Ministry! Welcoming members and newcomers, making them feel at home in the BCBP - this is the responsibility of the greeter.

Physical Arrangements. This service area encompasses proper arrangement of tables and chairs in the meeting place, and sees to the flowers, song books, sound system, lights, blackboard, etc.

Secretariat. The chapter secretariat is always looking for willing hands to help keep chapter records, membership lists, and to help coordinate and ad-

minister the many chapter activities going on at the same time. This service involves putting order and direction into the work of the chapter.

Treasury. Help the chapter treasurer sell meal tickets, raffle tickets, supervise concessionaires during BCBP special functions, remind members of their pledges.

KAPATIRAN. Exercise your talents in news gathering, interviewing personalities, writing, taking pictures, editing, soliciting advertisements, artwork and newsletter layout. No experience is needed, all assistance is welcomed!

Car Pool. Offer your car to provide transportation to and from BCBP meetings.

Special Occasions. Chapter heads, mission heads and unit leaders are always happy to have someone volunteer to help plan and implement sports activities, family outings, fellowship evenings, and children's programs.

Intercessory Prayers. Praying for others in your chapter's intercessory prayer group not only draws God's blessings on the one in need but is also a great faith builder.

Teaching Ministry. If you have the gift of being able to communicate very well, or the talent of identifying and organizing God's truths in easy-to-use, understandable formats, join this ministry.

This service provides resources and speakers for the different teaching tracts.

Book Table. Help man the book table and help in providing Christian literature and materials to fellow BCBP members.

Mission Activities. Introducing Christ to others, witnessing God's love to them and leading them into a closer relationship with the Lord is a truly rewarding service. Mission activities include serving in Christian Life Programs, in chapter



cont. on p. 46

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AIM HIGH

**Everyone has his own dream
Like climbing a mountain or crossing a stream
Just reaching your goal, you'll feel okay
And that feeling would make your day.**

**Sitting around the rest of the day
Won't bring success, I could say
Co'z reaching your goal has bitter roots
But in the end you'll have sweet fruits.**

*Desmelyn F. Tomas
Alabang Children's Formation Group
Age 12*

Serve the Lord...

From p. 43

outreaches, in the men's breakfasts and ladies' luncheons, in Catholic Evangelization Training Programs and other mission activities.

Food. Help out on food committees for various BCBP activities. This might include handcrafting table favors, flower arrangements, or actual food preparation.

Sharing Ministry. This is an area of service for all BCBP members. Sharing time, talents and treasure with BCBP sisters and brothers in need, being a friend who listens, who lends a helping hand without being asked, offering a sympathetic shoulder for someone to cry on, encouraging the downhearted -- these are just a few of the activities in the sharing ministry.

- N.R. Catan



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EUXAPOSTOLA

THE MEANING OF "EUCHARIST"



The "E" introduces this sacrament as a unique "Event" in salvation history reminiscent of the Passover meal in Egypt before the Israelites fled across the Red Sea into the Sinai desert on their way to the Promised Land. God's people were saved literally by the blood of the lamb in this Old Testament event.

Today, Christ has entered into our human history as the Lamb of God; salvation comes to us through Jesus, the Lamb of God. In the Eucharist, we are able to "Enter" into this salvific "Experience" wherein we are "Empowered" in and through "Emmanuel" (God is with us). Actually, the word "Eucharist" is derived from the Latin word "eucharistein" which means "thanksgiving". And, truly, participating in the celebration of the Eucharist is the best way of giving up to God our sacrifice of thanksgiving for His Son's consenting to become our way of salvation.



"Union. Unity." In the community of the faithful, we experience oneness in Spirit. In communion we become one with Jesus in the Eucharist; Christ is in us as we are in Him. We unite as God's people in sharing our faith, our love, and our blessings. The Church celebrates the

Eucharist throughout the world as a "Universal" Sacrament



Because of the Eucharist, we become a "Community", part of the Mystical Body of Christ. We renew our "Covenant" with God even as He renews His "Covenant" with us, in this "Christ-centered" "Celebration."



The Eucharist is no ordinary sacrament; it is "Holy", a holy event, a holy banquet. It is not ordinary because the Son of God is the sacrifice; Jesus Himself is the "once for all" sacrifice for our sins and for our salvation.



Suppose someone asks you to give a mini-teaching on the meaning of the Eucharist to their action group, or to a meeting of the Legion of Mary, or to a class of high school students. The following presentation of the meaning of this Sacrament will help give you instant recall to be able to respond "yes, I'll be glad to" without panicking. These insights on the meaning of the Eucharist were gathered from a teaching for St. Anthony parish catechists given by Fr. Jess Aceron, parish priest. -Editor



"A" stands for the Greek word "anamnesis" which means 'memorial' or 'remembrance'. Deeply rooted in Jewish tradition, especially in the Passover event, "anamnesis" reminds us that to remember something in the past, for the Jew, means that that something is present now. What was done in the past is actualized and realized in the present. Therefore when Jesus said, "Do this in memory of me," He was understood by the disciples as saying, "I will be present now even as I was then."

Jesus becomes present for us today in the Eucharist even as He was present during the Last Supper. We can also say that Jesus (God) is omnipresent: He is present in the Word, in the priest, in the various signs during the mass, and in the community of the faithful. And in the Eucharist, Jesus becomes present in us, too.



"R" reminds us of the "Real Presence" of Christ as the signs of the bread and wine undergo the miracle of transubstantiation into His Body and His Blood. To experience a true deepening of His Real Presence in this Sacrament, we must "Repent", be "Reconciled" with each other and with the Father, and

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Eucharist
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be "Renewed" in the partaking of the Eucharist.



The "Incorporation" of Christ into every believer becomes a reality as we 'take and eat' Christ into our very own body during the liturgy of the Eucharist. Jesus had incorporated Himself into our humanity in baptism; in the Eucharist He comes to us as the Bread of Life. In the liturgy of the Word, we are again given the opportunity to "Internalize" His Words and so pattern our lives on His Way, His Truth and His Life.



The Eucharist is both a "Sacrament" and a "Sacrifice". As a Sacrament, it offers "Salvation" and confers upon us the grace necessary to realize this "Salvation." As a Sacrifice, it is a "Sharing" sacrifice in which Christ shares His Body as the Bread of Life.



The last letter of our word "Eucharist" fittingly sums up the entire message of the Eucharist - THANKSGIVING. The Eucharistic celebration is a powerful proclamation of thanksgiving, our outpouring of thanksgiving to God for this miracle of Jesus' "True Presence", always available to us in this sacrament.

Nancy R. Catan

COMING BACK TO MARY, MY MOTHER

Ben-Je Alonzo, Alabang Chapter

On the night after my baptism in the Spirit in 1988 (CLP 15) I prayed saying: "Lord, it seems that you are truly bringing me back to the Catholic Church."

As a backgrounder, I had been in the born-again movement for six years, the last three years of which I served as an organizer and pastor of two congregations, separating from a fundamentalist church as the Lord revealed to me the truth on the reality of his substance in the Eucharist.

And so I prayed, "Lord, you have taught me again the truth of the Catholic faith and I thank you for this. But there is still one thing I want to know: How should I treat your mother?" In the silence inside my heart, I heard the Lord say, "Why don't you be a John to her." To this I replied, "Lord, I'd be very glad to." And He quickly replied, "Then, receive her as your mother."

That very night I invited the Blessed Mother to live in our house and I knew in my heart that she was happy to receive me as her son. A few

weeks later, my two daughters and a niece then aged 15, 14 and 13 saw the image of the Mother Mary glow with a white light in the dark during a brownout.

One day I invited five of my pastor friends to our house for a bible study with the objective of explaining to them my renewed Catholic

faith. I asked them "If we six were apostles of the Lord and stood at the foot of His cross, who among us would the Lord choose to be entrusted with His mother?" None of the five were able to answer. I told them that their silence speaks of the emptiness of their faith in this matter.

Another day I met a fundamentalist friend and told him that I was back in the Catholic Church. Laughingly he asked me a lot of questions but with the Holy Spirit I was able to answer him. He asked, "Brod, how can Mary pray for you when she is dead?" I replied, "Haven't you read in the scriptures, in Luke 20 verse 39, the Lord said, 'He is God of the living and not of the dead.' To Him everyone is alive." His laughter died down.

I still had a problem, I did not understand the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception. As I prayed about this, the answer came. "My

"If you stood at the foot of the crucified Christ, would our Lord entrust His mother to you?"

Son, if you were the manager of a champion boxer who had just been knocked out in a title bout, would you ask for a return

bout to be scheduled immediately the following day, or week, or month? Would you not try to bring back first your boxer to the original fighting form? If Eve, the immaculate creation whom I formed out of the earth without sin, fell to the attack of Satan, would I not bring back

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Coming Back...

From p. 48

the New Eve to at least the original fighting form especially this time that I was determined to defeat Satan? And am I just a crazy manager who would just take the same chances, that I would be contented with the 'original fighting form'? More than this would I do in order to win. Thus, the miracle of the Immaculate Conception, the perfection of my grace in my creation. And I have won."

One afternoon while seated in the barber's chair getting a haircut, I picked up a Time magazine. The cover article was about conception. I felt a strange sense of "Eureka!" when I read a paragraph which said that today, science has discovered that the process of conception actually begins even before the mother

is born, when she is still a two-month old embryo in the womb of the grandmother. It is at this very early stage that about a million of infra-microscopic buds begin to form within the embryo. These buds formed in the embryo long before the embryo becomes a fetus and born, are the only buds that shall become the egg-cells of a female fetus

from which all her possible children shall originate.

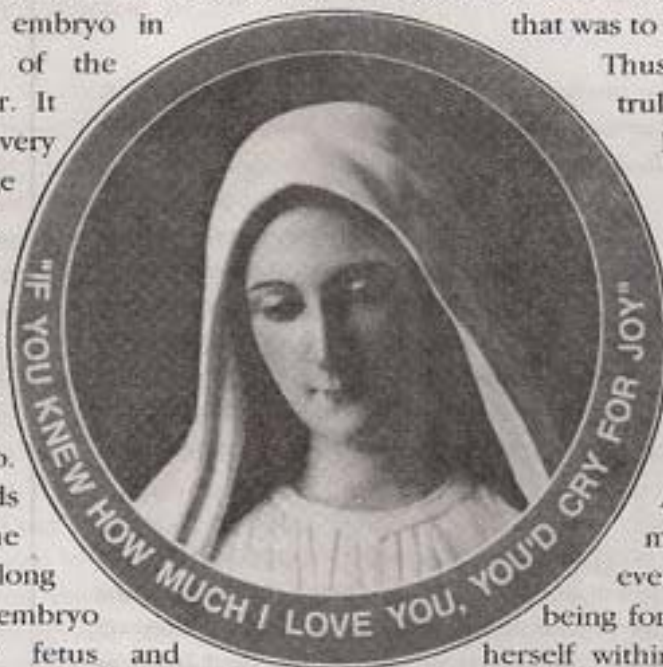
Reading this I saw that long before Mary was born, when she was still a two-month old embryo in the womb of Anna, her mother, the eggcell that was to become the body of Jesus, had been with Mary as one of the buds, while Mary was being conceived. Now if Jesus had been without sin and His body perfect, how can one separate this per-

fection from the minuscule embryo that was to become Mary?

Thus I concluded, truly, Mary must have been perfect like her bud not only as an embryo being conceived inside the womb of Anna her mother, but even as she was being formed as a bud herself within the embryo

that was Anna inside the womb of Anna's mother. And the process can be traced back in time manifesting the long preparation God had made for the process of cleansing, straightening, and perfecting the way the Lord will tread for His coming. "Make a straight path for the Lord!"

What then is the significance of all these sharings? All these are nothing new. All Catholics accept these truths as a matter of faith. But for me, we who are Catholics have a strong reason unique from the others to rejoice more, to hold on to our faith more firmly, to hope, persevere and love one another more deeply, for we know that we have a Mother in heaven, the very Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ, whom God had prepared for us. She loves us, cares for us and prays for us, we whom she shelters in her Immaculate Heart as her very own children. Praise God!



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HOLY MARY, PRAY FOR US.

ONE MINUTE MEDITATIONS

Fernando de Larrazabal

(1)

"He dipped the morsel, then took it and gave it to Judas, son of Simon Iscariot. Immediately after, Satan entered his heart." (John 13:26-27)

Judas, one of the twelve apostles, was handpicked by Jesus to form part of the core of his church-to-be. Judas lived and learned from Jesus. He believed and recognized Jesus as his master, he had seen the many miracles Jesus had performed. And yet at the end he sold Jesus to his enemies for 30 pieces of silver. There was no doubt that he believed in Jesus. What drove him to turn traitor? No one would have thought it possible, yet it happened.

Knowing and accepting Jesus as one's personal Savior is no assurance that one will not do a 'Judas'. Loving Jesus and doing his will is a full-time commitment. You hear people say they are already saved because they recognized and accepted Jesus as their personal savior. This is a presumption that has no basis. It takes more than this. The only assurance of salvation is following in Jesus' footsteps throughout one's lifetime. Accepting Jesus is not just a one-time commitment.

(2)

"Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come." (Ecclesiastes 12:1)

Do you realize your days are numbered? You may question this fact and say, "I feel strong and healthy." True, you may still live for a few years more, but have you seen the tell-tale evidence of how age is creeping up on you? Is your hair thinning out? Do you now need to use glasses to see? Where you could go up the stairs two at a time before, you now have to go slower. These are warnings telling you that you are getting old. As you grow older, these signs will multiply. You can't fight old age, it will surely come.

In a way these little knocks on your door are a blessing because they give you time to prepare. It is intelligent to start making preparations for that one-way trip. Prepare your last will and testament. Above all, prepare to meet Jesus. He loves you and waits for your arrival. There may be a few things in your life that need changing. Do it now before it is too late.



WHERE TO FIND JESUS' PARABLES

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Sower; mustard seed; field full of weeds; yeast; hidden treasure; pearl; fishing-net.....	13
Lost sheep; two debtors.....	18
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Wedding feast.....	22
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Dishonest steward; rich and poor.....	16
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Note: many of these events are recorded in more than one Gospel

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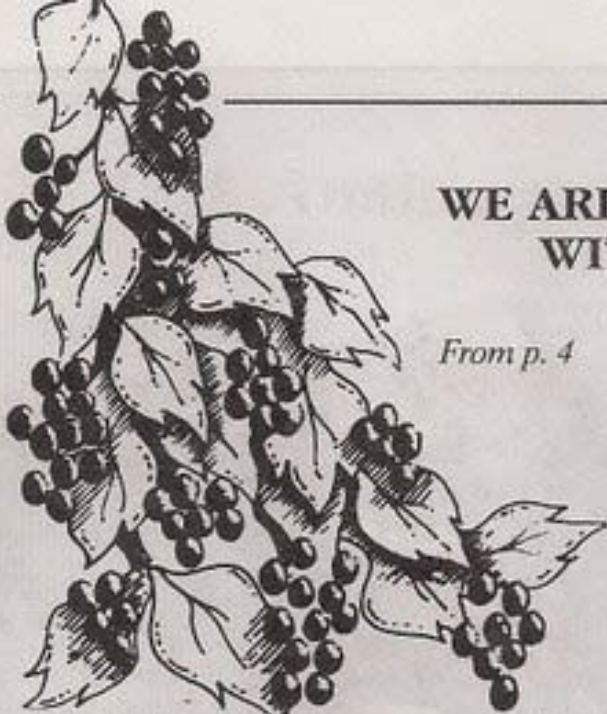
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HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!



WE ARE CO-WORKERS WITH CHRIST

From p. 4

we try to interest businessmen and professionals in Jesus. And so, when I meet difficulty in evangelizing someone, I talk it over with Him, ask Him how He handled it, and then follow His advice. Result? Mission accomplished for the glory of His Name.

* * * * *

We are co-workers with Christ in carrying out the mission of the Brotherhood. The call to proclaim the gospel to the marketplace is primarily God's work. As a human being I alone cannot make another person have a living faith in Christ. I can only introduce that person to Jesus and tell him/her more about Him, but it is only the Holy Spirit that can move that person to accept and love Jesus and to believe our witness and our sharing of the Good News.

* * * * *

Being a co-worker with Christ - this means that my goal should be the same as His, my methods will work better if they coincide closely with His. My commitment should be as strong and unwavering as His.

Am I consistent between what I preach, what I live and what I believe? Do I say one thing and do another? Do I try to distance myself from those who do not conform to my standards? How am I at building lasting and trusting relationships? Am I willing to open my life and share it with others? Am I able to forgive

those who have hurt me and work toward rebuilding a loving relationship with them? Do I praise and love God for who He is or for what He can give me? Certainly I need a lot more prayer and persistence and help from the Holy Spirit in order to meet His standards.

* * * * *

As a committed member of the Brotherhood I have a responsibility to answer Christ's call to harvest. And I believe that I also have a responsibility to continue to help sow the seeds that will result in future harvests. Like our environment, if we pollute the fields today with our apathy and sinful ways, we endanger our future. But if we sow good seeds and work to keep the young plants healthy, we can trust that our God, the harvest master, will give us an abundant harvest as He has promised.

* * * * *

St. Paul, one of the great evangelists in early times, tells us: "Become sober as you ought and stop sinning. For some have no knowledge of God; I say this to your shame. But the door is open for us, wide and productive for work. Therefore, my beloved brothers, be firm, steadfast, always fully devoted to the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain." (1 Cor. 15:34, 58; 16:9)

Nancy R. Catan

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MY PRAYER at Seventy and Five

I praise and glorify you dear God
In spite of my unworthiness,
 you gave me love and blessings.
Let me thank you as my grateful response.

Thank you dear Lord,
For my life of seventy and five.
For tender care and sacrifice of my mother,
For the toil, wise advice, and discipline of my father,
For love of three sisters and one brother,
And for your continued protection and care.

Thank you dear Lord,
For love of my wife,
 with her patience and forgiveness.
And for my seven children and their spouses,
All loving and understanding in
 spite of my shortcomings.

Thank you dear Lord,
For nineteen grandchildren,
 and two great grandchildren,
Whose laughter, kisses and warm embraces,
Jokes, songs and dances,
Are my joy to nurture and cherish.

To their parents I say,
They are worth your struggles, sacrifices, and pain.
And for my grandchildren's dreams,
 aspirations and ideals,
Grant them dear Lord, I do pray.

I thank you too,
For life with roses as well as life with thorns,
For days of calm as well as days of storm,
As you wanted me to grow in faith and be strong.
And when I faltered, wavered and went astray,
You held me by the hand and led me the way.

Let me thank you in a different light,
For letting me be your servant in my adult life,
As you guided my hands and
 inspired my heart and mind,
In creating shelters for the activities of men.
Though the results are humble in scale
 and spartan in design,
Owners and users expressed their own way of delight.
And in the process I shared talents and experience,
With colleagues and co-workers alike.

I thank you more dear Lord,
For the Brotherhood of Christian
 Businessman and Professionals,
Where I learned to work in service and in love,
For you and for neighbors in response to your command.

Yes dear Lord I know,
The services I did for you are not enough.
In your book of my life,
Are written many misdeeds and sins of pride.
In your divine compassion you condemned me not,
Instead you sustained me with patience and love.

In the twilight of my life, at Seventy and Five,
On bended knees, I seek for your forgiveness,
And pray that you look graciously upon me.
Give me new strength and perseverance in your service,
To live a better way of life in steadfast faith,
Seek your kingdom first which I often neglected,
And serve you more in love and humility.
That by doing so with your grace and blessing,
My life will be more meaningful and fulfilling,
All for your love and glory.

Amen

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