

# Kapatiran



BROTHERHOOD OF CHRISTIAN BUSINESSMEN AND PROFESSIONALS

VOL. V, No. 6

PHILIPPINES

APRIL-MAY 1992

## IN THIS ISSUE

TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR VOTERS	2
CEBU OBSERVES 4TH ANNIVERSARY	5
ELEXSER CORNER	9
WOMEN IN THE BIBLE	10
NEW AGE - NEW THREAT?	11
HOW MUCH DO I VALUE MY JOB?	14
LIFE BEGINS AT 40: An Interview with Sadi Saguisag, Cebu Chapter Head	15
FIRST LOVE	16
BREAKFAST EVANGELIZATION: MAKING IT WORK	18
MY ONGOING LENT AND EASTER	21
BEACHES AND RESPONSIBILITIES	24
<b>Regular Sections:</b>	
Breakfast Venues	2
Business	14
Editorial	23
Evangelization	11-13, 18
Family Life	24
Interview	15
Letters and Comments	17
Lighter Moments	22
News	1-10, 22
Opinion	16
Reflections	20
Sharings	7, 14, 19, 21, 24

## 12TH BCBP ANNIVERSARY JUNE

### BCBP Choir To Perform

The Brotherhood's 12th anniversary celebration will be held on Saturday, June 6, 1992 at the Valle Verde Country Club in Pasig with the theme: Year of the Harvest. Registration will begin at 5:30 with Holy Mass at 6:00 to be followed by dinner and program. Mark Katipunan, Greenhills' chapter head, has designated Eric Teotico to handle the creative aspects of the affair and Bobby Levina, the administrative aspects.

Eric Teotico is issuing a special and urgent call for all BCBP members inter-

ested in joining the BCBP Choir, who will perform during the celebration, sign up with their chapter heads or with him immediately. Practices will begin the first week of April and will be held twice a week in April and thrice weekly in May.

The program is planned in three parts: an audio-visual presentation featuring interviews with BCBP members; a "song of unity" with all BCBP members reaching participating; and an inspirational song, dance and narrative presentation by the BCBP Choir.

## BCBP FAMILY DAY IS MAY 1, 1992!

### DECISION AT THE CROSSROADS

*"Stand at the crossroads and look. Ask for the ancient paths and where the best road is. Walk in it, and you will live in peace." (Jeremiah 6:16)*

We are approaching a crossroads in our national history, the May 11, 1992 Elections. We must set our priorities aright. Honor and dignity before money (Prov. 22:1); service before power; the common good before egoistic or small-group-centered self-interest; the nation before personal relationships and "utang na loob."

We urge you to join us in a crusade of prayer and fasting. The election evils of our nation can be driven out only by such means (Mk. 9:29; Mt. 17:21). Let us conduct prayer vigils and set aside the Fridays of Lent not only as days of abstinence but also of fasting.

We ask parishes and Christian communities to hold on May 8-10, 1992 a triduum of prayer.

Together let us build a better future which will be ours if we choose well leaders. Our strength is in God and in solidarity.

SGD. Most Rev. Carmelo Morelos, D.D., Bishop of Butuan, President, CBCP

From Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines' Pastoral Letter dated January 31, 1992

**VOTE WISELY ON MAY 11**

## BCBP BREAKFAST VENUES

### MEN'S BREAKFASTS

Wednesdays	MAKATI : Aling Asiang's, 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 Saturdays	DAGUPAN : Pinkee's Restaurant
-----------------------	-------------------------------

### 6:15 FELLOWSHIP

Wednesdays	Arc Dates n' Nuts, Jupiter St., Bel Air, Open to both men and women.
------------	---

### JOINT BREAKFASTS

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

### 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

## TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR RESPONSIBLE VOTING

1. Thou shalt vote according to the dictate of your conscience.
2. Thou shalt respect the decision of others in choosing their candidate.
3. Thou shalt seek to know the moral integrity, capabilities and other personal qualities of the candidates you will vote for.
4. Thou shalt strive to understand the issues, platform and programs of candidates and parties seeking your vote.
5. Thou shalt not sell your vote.
6. Thou shalt not vote for candidates using guns, goons, and gold.
7. Thou shalt not vote for candidates with records of graft and corruption.
8. Thou shalt not vote for candidates just because of "utang na loob", popularity, or "pakikisama."
9. Thou shalt not vote for candidates leading an immoral life.
10. Thou shalt put the welfare of the country above all else in choosing the candidate you will vote for.

- Parish Pastoral Council for Responsible Voting

### Bacolod Outreach

## BRO. LARRY VISITS BACOLOD

On January 24 BCBP Executive Director, Fernando (Larry) de Larrazabal visited the Brotherhood in Bacolod together with newly appointed Alabang Mission Head, Orly Neri. The visit gave them a chance to meet with the leaders of the Bacolod Outreach.

In a special assembly at the Eoreco Chapel Bro. Larry gave a talk emphasizing the mission of the Brotherhood, the mission of evangelizing the marketplace. He also focused on the fidelity and commitment of members to the mission.

The following day Bro. Larry shared during the men's breakfast at Roli's Drive Inn, after which he proceeded to Iloilo where CLP 1 was being held to give the talk on "The Christian Ideal: Loving God."



The Alabang Pro-Lifers gather around Fr. Paul Marx during the launching of his book "Fighting For Life", one of the activities of the International Conference on Love, Life and Family, at the Manila Midtown Hotel last January 31-Feb. 2.



The Alabang unit beaded by Rene Cortes celebrates their Family Day mass officiated by Fr. Charlo to start their spirit-filled and fun-filled day.

Alabang Chapter

## WOMEN ATTEND PRO-LIFE CONFAB

Six members of the Alabang Pregnancy Counseling Services Group recently attended the International Conference on Love, Life and Family held at the Manila Midtown Hotel last January 31 to February 2, 1992. The conference was hosted by Rev. Paul Marx, O.S.B., Founder-President of Human Life International in cooperation with Pro-Life Philippines.

The 3-day conference featured world-known experts who spoke on the topics of abortion, reproductive technologies, population issues, human sexuality, AIDS, marriage and natural family planning.

A Eucharistic celebration began the first day, followed by talks by keynote speakers Rev. Paul Marx and Hon. Mita Pardo de Tavera, M.D., Secretary of the Department of Social Welfare and Development and Honorary Chairperson of Pro-Life Philippines. Different workshops were conducted simultaneously during the 3-day symposium to allow every participant to interact and maximize the learning experience. During the conference Fr. Marx's book entitled "Fighting For Life" was launched.

The Alabang Pro-Lifers included Mila Berbano, Josie Sedilla, Rose Padre, Lilli Morales and Luz Galvez.

Alabang Chapter

## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A BCBP UNIT

What happens when a BCBP unit holds a Family Day? Fun, fun, and more fun, that's what!

On the 12th of January, the second Sunday of 1992, Rene Cortes' unit invaded the usually quiet Hillsborough clubhouse in Alabang and turned it into a funhouse complete with cheering and yelling parents and kids rooting for their teams in the hotly-contested parlor games. The fun was courtesy of the P10,000 prize money the unit won for having the largest attendance during the BCBP's 11th anniversary celebration at the Folk Arts Theater last August 1991.

Members of the 6 action groups of the unit and their families started trooping in as early as nine o'clock in the morning. Their respective action group leaders - Teks/Nena Espiritu, Orly/Neneng Neri, Bobby/Fe Atendido, Pons/Menchu Preysler, Bobby/Charito dela Paz, Rally/Bing Ramirez - spearheaded the good attendance.

The sports events scheduled for after lunch began in the morning with an impromptu basketball game between the oldies and the kiddies with the oldies winning the game to the delight of the spectators. Parlor games, supervised by game masters Charlie Carballo and Teks Espiritu, followed and included three-legged race, egg-catching contest, jackpot and pingpong ball relay.

The morning's activities were capped by a Mass which was celebrated by one of BCBP's "suki", Father Charlo of Las

Pinas, who showed up sporting a new look.

Four action groups jostled for the top spot in the bowling tournament that followed after lunch. Cheers echoed in the halls followed by shrieks and groans (mostly coming from Teks) as misdirected balls landed in the canals. The jumping and dancing cheerleader, Menchu Preysler, equipped with red and white pom-poms added to the excitement and noise as she led her instantly-formed cheering squad in egging Pons Preysler's group to victory.

Two strikes were delivered, one by Pons Preysler followed by that of unit leader Rene Cortes amidst shrieks from the disbelieving but admiring crowd.

Bobby dela Paz's group won the bowling tournament by registering a total pinfall of 495 with Pons Preysler's group coming in second with 475 pinfalls. The last two groups requested anonymity. Members of Bobby's triumphant bowlers were: Manny/Nympha Florendo, Ands Navarro, Loida Gabinete, Terry/Bobby Palacios, Jun/Chit Guiao, Rommel/Nancy Musngi, Diophy and Susan Resurreccion and Bing/Mel Vergara.

The day's affair, which was flooded with free Kool Aid Juice drinks complete with a mascot, ended with a dip in the nearby pool where the kids enjoyed the three-story-high slide until late in the afternoon.

- Rey Constantino



"Tito" Charlie thanks Mely/Dennis Deveza for their dedication and service as previous heads of the Alabang Children's Formation during the formation's 4th anniversary celebration.



Now who's got the ball!! The youngsters of the Children's Formation enjoy one of the games that spiced the morning's activities.

Alabang Chapter

**CHILDREN'S FORMATION CELEBRATES 4TH YEAR**

February 22, 1992, the 4th anniversary of the Alabang chapter's Children's Formation, dawned a bright and sunny day! Children came excitedly early for they were the ones who had prepared the program.

Bea and Angela Totanes, ages 6 and 7, gave the opening prayer. The following sumptuous breakfast of spaghetti, Swift hot-dogs, sandwiches, cassava cuchinta and pancit Malabon plus chocolate bars was more than enough to give pep to the more than 40 children. Issa Tomas, 5 years old, performed a ballet dance number while Jun Avelino's son declaimed. A skit about love and reconciliation, song numbers and sharings were also part of the program.

Charlie Carballo gave the inspirational talk, thanking the past heads Dennis and Mely Deveza for a job well done and welcoming the new team of Didit and Ric Lazatin. On behalf of the Formation, Charlie thanked Bill and Dindy Gamboa for sharing their place with the children, and baptizing their home, the Children's Formation Center.

Early heads of the Children's Formation were: Charlie and Jose Carballo, Rey and Lyn Feria, Dennis and Mely Deveza, ably assisted by Edwin and Cynch Totanes. Present head couple is Ric and Didit Lazatin.

- Didit Lazatin

Since I joined the children's formation, I have become a better person to my friends. Before I would fight with them, but now I know how to treat my friends. And now I have many friends. - Nadine Cuisia (daughter of Rene/Pixie Cuisia)

I thank God for my parents who brought me here in the children's formation and for the BCBP who organized it. I thank God also for all my new friends. These years in the children's formation will always be a happy memory of my childhood. For now I feel I am very close to God in my life, especially when I pray everyday. I will always remember all the fun we experienced in all our activities such as the camping, picnics, family days and when we reach out to the orphans at the St. Rita Orphanage. - Montserrat Preysler (daughter of Pons/Menchu Preysler)

**FR. HERB CALLS PLANNING WEEKEND**

Fr. Herb Schneider, BCBP's Spiritual Director, has called all chapter heads and mission directors of the Brotherhood chapters and outreaches to a planning weekend on April 4 and 5. During the

weekend, an annual affair held at the East Asian Pastoral Institute, Loyola, Quezon City, the group will seek the Lord's will on the directions and objectives of the BCBP for the coming year.

**GREENHILLS BULLETIN**

**Talks On Christian Service**

BCBP Greenhills chapter held a series of talks on Christian Service last March 7, 1992 at the Center for Peace in Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong. Six talks were given during the whole-day affair to prepare the brothers and sisters who are either presently or who will be serving in the BCBP.

The topics discussed were "Our Mission", "Spiritual Warfare", "Receiving the Power to Serve", "Guidance", "Evaluation of our Service", and "How To Be A Servant". About 70 participants attended.

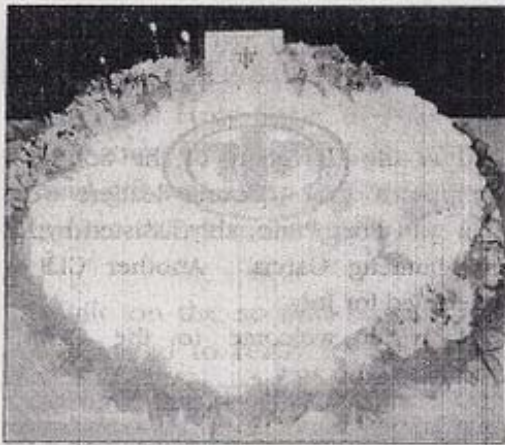
**CLP 18 For Married Couples Only**

Greenhills' CLP 18 opened March 12 at the Lay Force, San Carlos Seminary with a total of 20 couples registering during orientation day and more expected to come during the first talk. This Christian Life Program is limited to married couples only.

Team leaders for CLP 18 are Sorj and Chariz Marquez, assisted by Willie and Sarah Pelina. The servant couples are Alan and Colleen Santos, Louie and Nila Santos, and Owie and Mariros de la Rosa.



## CEBU CELEBRATES ITS 4TH ANNIVERSARY



*Cebu's 4th Anniversary Celebration was formalized with a large cake decorated with the BCBP emblem.*



*Louie and Lilli Morales (Alabang) and Tony Garcia (Bacolod) visit the Ladies' Bazaar during the Cebu Chapter's 4th Anniversary celebration.*

On February 29, 1992, the Cebu Chapter of the Brotherhood celebrated its 4th (year of existence, or 1st year as a full fledged chapter, depending on how you see it) Anniversary. The day started with a joint breakfast held at the Family Choice Restaurant, with sharers Louie and Lilli Morales from BCBP Alabang. Guests came all the way from the Bacolod, Iloilo and Cagayan de Oro outreaches for the affair. The Cebu music ministry turned out in full force that morning, adding drums and keyboard to its regular guitars and tambourine.

Mid-morning marked the start of the Ladies' Bazaar at the University of the Southern Philippines' gym which was also the site for the rest of the day's activities.

At 5:00 in the afternoon, all gathered for a general assembly, immediately followed by a Thanksgiving Mass celebrated by Fr. Frank Tucker, SVD at 6:00 p.m. For the CLP 7 and the CYA-CLS graduates, this was a special Mass because it was here that they made their commitment to the Brotherhood and the CYA, respectively.

Dinner followed, during which a spe-

cial anniversary issue under the name KAIGSU-ONAN (Cebuano for KAPATIRAN) was distributed. This issue edited by Lynn Liu contained an impressive, detailed history of the Cebu chapter, membership lists plus listing of graduates of CLPs 1 through 7 and BCMRs 1, 2 and 3, and a complete list of both men's and women's breakfast sharers since Feb. 29, 1988, to Dec. 21, 1991. Pictures taken throughout the years and sharings of BCBP brothers and sisters as well as CYA youth spiced up the issue.

After dinner, the music ministry, CLP 7 graduates, CYA-CLS graduates, CYA members and the graduates of CLPs 1 through 6 shared their talents with the group in some special entertainment numbers.

All in all, it was a busy yet fulfilling day. Chapter head, Sadi Saguisag, summed up the four busy years, "The Lord has blessed this BCBP community for the past four years and with continued prayers and faith in Him, we know that He will continue to hold us in the palm of His hand."

### Cebu Chapter

## MISSION UPDATE

#### Cagayan de Oro Outreach

1. The recently concluded CLP had 68 graduates.
2. Culture talks were scheduled to start last January 25, given by Rene Almendras and Jeff Villa.
3. BCMR scheduled for Feb. 21-23. Course leaders are Jess and Nena Paras. Retreat director is Lito Urgino.

#### Camp Evangelista, Cagayan de Oro (BCBP Assisted)

1. Recently concluded its first CLP/LSS Dec. 1, 1991.
2. Plans include action group meetings, general assemblies, breakfasts, and culture talks.

#### Maasin, Leyte (BCBP Assisted)

Breakfast launching last January 25, 1992. Members of BCBP Cebu arrived in Maasin, Southern Leyte, at 2:00 a.m. and were hosted by the Bishop of Maasin, His Eminence Vicente Ataviado, who was kind enough to give up his room for the group to freshen up.



*Las Pinas BCBP brothers and sisters made Christmas '91 more meaningful by sharing love, gifts and snacks with street children at the Lingap Center.*

#### Davap City

The number one priority listed for 1992. Two surveys have already been undertaken by Tony Tagulao (November) and mission direction Ed Lising (Dec. 6, 1991).

#### Tagbilaran, Bohol

Two survey trips have already been undertaken by Ed Lising, Tony Tagulao and Nap Polotan. The Archdiocese of Tagbilaran has invited the BCBP to set up an outreach here. Fr. Doranday has given his blessings.

- Ed Lising

## CHAPTER SERVICE ASSIGNMENTS

April	Quezon City
May	Makati
June	Greenhills
July	Las Pinas
August	Alabang
September	Greenhills

### FAMILY DAY

May 1 Las Pinas

### 12TH ANNIVERSARY

June 6 Greenhills

### Cebu Chapter

## 74 COMPLETE CLP 7

The Cebu chapter of the BCBP recently concluded its seventh CLP graduating 15 couples, 6 single married women, 9 single married men, 14 single women and 15 single men, a total of 74. The twice weekly talks were held at the Sacred Heart School for Boys' audio-visual room. Baptism in the Holy Spirit was held last Feb. 20 at the Hope Center, and Commitment Night coincided with the chapter's 4th Anniversary Celebration,

held at the University of the Southern Philippines' gym. Course leaders were Willy and Pilar Puno, ably assisted by Kit and Lumeng Garcia. Another CLP is scheduled for July.

A warm welcome to the CLP 7 graduates who are:

Alonso, Tommy/Gina	Rodriguez, Jean
Aquino, Rina	Sadaya, Darrell/Anna
Auxillo, Reggie	Sala, Sanny/Che-che
Bana-ag, Eddie/Bebe	Susas, Mar
Berdon, Sonia	Tan, Serge/Inday
Borja, Cyril	Tan, Jimmy
Capa, Joe	Trinidad, Eli
Charcos, Jun	Uy, Van
Cimafranca, Inos	Veloso, Philip/Ging-
Coleongco, Hope	ging
Copinco, Joy	Yap, Inocentes
Dabalos, Angie/Ester	Yap, Rey
de la Torre, Glenn	Yap, Roy
Dixon, Bill	Yu, Henry/Ginging
Dizon, Gigi	Yu, Siony
Dy, Allen	
Espeleta, Beth	
Espeleta, Choy/Baby	
Estrada, Boyet/Len	
Estrella, Pattie	
Gandionco, Rico	
Gillegean, George	
Gopuko, Jokjok	
Gopuco, Arose	
Jabines, Bernie	
Kho, Danny/Jojo	
Kwan, Boy/Vitze	
Lao, Mat	
Lim, Jolen	
Limbaga, Yvonne	
Lopez, Mar/Vibs	
Ludo, Ferdie	
Mancao, Nonie	
Maninang, Jimmy	
Mercado, Gay	
Miel, Adi	
Monteclaro, Arlene	
Monteclaro, Minnie	
Montesclaros, Milo/Linda	
Motol, Romy/Mary	
Nemenzo, Mylin	
Ordonez, Don	
Rapes, My-my	
Ratilla, Edwin	
Roa, Jerry	



Sis. Ludy Garcia, wife of Bacolod outreach head Ray Garcia, leads Iloilo sisters in making their commitment.

### Iloilo Outreach

## NEW BCBP OUTREACH GRADUATES 20

Ten couples graduated from the first Christian Life Program held in Iloilo, the newest outreach of the BCBP family. The CLP was assisted by Bacolod Outreach of the Brotherhood.

Successfully completing the CLP were:

Perseus "Pers"/Cecil Aligaen  
 Noel/Tata Amane  
 Edgar/Tina Arancillo  
 Gaudencio "Gau"/Lory Arancillo  
 Jimmy/Monina Ascalon  
 Tony/Leila Caram  
 Esteuto "Jun"/Jean Castillo  
 Angelo "Gel"/Marilou Jamora  
 Edgar "Eddy"/Carmen Jimenez  
 Arthur "Art"/Lory Padohinog

The 6-week CLP culminated in the Commitment Day held last February 15,

1992. This last session began with the talk "Growing in the Spirit" given by Archie Inlong, followed by the BCBP and Commitment talks handled by Bacolod Outreach Head Ray Garcia. The afternoon session was capped with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

The Commitment Ceremony and socials were held later that evening at the Jamora residence, where Ray and Ludy Garcia led the graduates in making their commitment. The after-dinner program was a revelation of the talents of the Iloilo brothers and sisters. Emcees were Bacolod Teaching Head Digoy Montalvo and Iloilo's Lory Padohinog.

54 members of the BCBP Bacolod headed by Course Leader Tony Garcia and his assistant Toti Diaz were present to extend congratulations and a warm welcome to the "pioneer" members of BCBP Iloilo.

You won't save time by looking for it in large blocks; look for it in small pieces instead. Save 30 seconds every five minutes, and by the end of the day, you've saved an hour.

— Jeffrey I. Mayer, a leading authority on time management



Cagayan de Oro BCMR couples are all smiles after their experience in joy at the Bethania Retreat House, Feb. 23.



Cebu BCBP brother Vic Karganilla celebrates his birthday with the Cagayan de Oro BCMR service team after the team's empowerment.

## THE BCMR TAUGHT ME HUMILITY

Leo Gutierrez, Cagayan de Oro Outreach

I was like the child who was spanked by his father who loves him. I wanted the Lord to stop loving me because I could not take it anymore. So I did not pray and ask for His help, but others did pray in my behalf. As Ecclesiastes says: "If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up." (Eccl. 4:10) I think the Lord pitied me, despite my pride, for He made sure that I still had friends who would help me.

The first thing that struck me at the BCMR was the humility shown and practiced by the brothers and sisters of the BCBP Cebu and Cagayan de Oro. For three days they were our servants: they carried our bags to our rooms, they served us meals and snacks, and even got drinking water for us. In short, they took care of our needs and they did it with a Big Smile! As an Ilonggo, partly at least, I needed this lesson in humility. The brothers and sisters taught me with their example.

BCBP Cagayan de Oro, an outreach of BCBP Cebu, conducted a live-in Brotherhood Christian Marriage Retreat last February 21 to 23, 1992 at the Bethania Retreat House. 35 couples and 4 widows participated in the retreat led by Lito and Edith Urgino. The service team composed of 10 couples, headed by Jess Paras, ably managed all areas of concern including a round-the-clock intercessory prayer brigade.

All the participants experienced the great joy of turning toward each other, opening their hearts to the ministrations of the Lord. The teachings of Lito and Edith, delivered with so much elan and enthusiasm springing from the Lord, had all participants and ser-

vants literally laughing and crying at the same time. Best of all was the time when the participants shared their insights about the BCMR; all were excited to return home and apply what they had learned as to their duty to one another, to their children, and to God.

Truly the Lord's ways are, bit by bit, being made known to His children. Thanks to seminars and retreats such as these, and thanks to the brotherly love, prayers and concern of our brothers and sisters, the Lord truly speaks to us and manifests His great love for us.

- Nena Paras

Cagayan de Oro Outreach

## AN EXPERIENCE IN JOY

Bacolod Outreach

## BCBP SINGLES ASSIST CYA

Last February 19 the CYA team from Manila, headed by Terry Savage, came to Bacolod to start their evangelization campaign in the schools here in the city. They were greeted and hosted by the Singles of BCBP Bacolod who have pledged their support and service to the CYA projects in line with the Singles' thrust to become actively involved in service for the community.

Over a luncheon meeting the CYA team discussed with the BCBP Singles' Unit AGLs headed by unit leader Art Legarde the plan of action for Bacolod. Initially prayer meetings

will be held at the USIS Chapel every Saturday at 10:00 a.m. to encourage and enable interested and probable leaders to join the CYA Summer Training Conference in Manila on April 27 to May 3. Within the year the BCBP Bacolod Singles will facilitate a Christian Life Series (CLS) for those regularly attending the prayer meetings. The first prayer meeting was held last Feb. 29 with 30 USIS and Riverside College students attending.

Menzie L. Montelibano

Bacolod Outreach  
**WELCOME**  
**BACOLOD CLP 5**

113 graduated from CLP 5 during Commitment Night ceremonies last Dec. 14, 1991. Course leader was Monet Kilaydo assisted by Bodie del Castillo.

Almira, Bhabes  
 Angodung, Vicky  
 Ariola, Selo/Neneng  
 Benares, Ed/Baby  
 Biantan, Ardes  
 Brigoli, Briggs  
 Cabalanan, Poya/Nette  
 Castillo del, Boy  
 Castillo, Ed/Marilou  
 Coloso, Nilda  
 Cortes, Grace  
 Custodio, Jing/Leny  
 Delariarte, Monching/Hermie  
 De Leon, Tonchy/Mill-an  
 De Leon, Rickie  
 De Leon, Benjie/Tonette  
 De Leon, Lindy/Gina  
 De Leon, Luigene  
 Diaz, Boboy  
 Disen, John  
 Drilon, Totit/Yen  
 Escalante, Yongyong/Nita  
 Ferrer, Nene  
 Gaston, Cris/Nita  
 Gatpatan, Thelma  
 Golez, Bert  
 Golez, Eric/Sonia  
 Gonzaga, Jo  
 Gonzaga, Erning  
 Guillergan, Mads/Carol  
 Hojilla, Calaw/Sally May  
 Javelona, Baby/Ling  
 Jcsena, Joe/Mila  
 Jison, Anne  
 Lacson, Yvonne  
 Laino, Tony/Ting  
 Lamayo, Connie  
 Ledesma, Pepe  
 Ledesma, Boy/Maricyn  
 Legaspi, Bobbie/Gi-girl  
 Libo-on, Boy/Star  
 Lim, Inday  
 Lim, Ricky/Beth  
 Lopez, Pat  
 Lumayno, Bal/Grace  
 Magalona, Boy/Terette  
 Malata, Gra  
 Maravilla, Patrick/Betsy  
 Montelibano, Marlo/Minnie  
 Montinola, Ramon/Ginny  
 Nunewz, Azelle  
 Pandan, Rayboy/Sally  
 Pandan, Chari  
 Patindol, Ching  
 Pelobello, Helen  
 Petierre, Vic/Min

# LAS PINAS MONITOR

## New Governance Named

The new Governance of BCBP Las Pinas features the following:

**Overall Direction (Chapter Head):** Manny Banigan

### Evangelization Work

**Unit Team Heads:** Perry Domingo  
 Lito Francisco  
 Jimmy Porciuncula  
**Mission Team Head:** Rem Gopez

### Support Activities

**Teaching Team:** Rey Datu  
**Formation Team:** Joey Estagle



Rodriguez, B-Bong/Nelette  
 Romualdo, Cyril  
 Rubiato, Boop  
 Sta. Agueda, Bert/Angie  
 Sedonio, Peps/Sally  
 Sian, Tony/Ludy  
 Solatorio, Choy/Maricon  
 Soriano, Chito  
 Soriano, Rudy  
 Tio, Tapul  
 Tagle, Baby/Norms  
 Torre, Benjie  
 Torres, Billy  
 Tuercs, Tita  
 Tupas, Vangie  
 Vargas, Jun/Ginnie  
 Ventor, Ruth  
 Wright, Jimmy/Vicky  
 Yap, Liza  
 Yap, Inday

**Service Team:** Mon Malinao  
**Finance:** Pons Fallarme  
**Secretariat:** Milt Mendoza

Other leaders, AGLs, and members of each team are still in the process of being appointed.

## Basic Chapter Policies

A set of "basic policies" complementing the chapter's new set-up evolved out of the planning exercise as a result of the chapter's reflection on past performance and future goals. These basic policies are:

1. Everyone is cared for by a leader. No one is left without a small group support.
2. All members should have at least one service. However, a member should not have more than one major and one minor service.
3. All activities in the chapter should be carried out by members working together as a team.
4. As a general rule, a member should only have two nights out a week from their families, one for community life support and the other for service.
5. Sunday is a family day.

## CLP 19 On The Homestretch

By this time, the Las Pinas chapter's CLP 19 is well into its last module. The more than forty participants expected to graduate from this CLP will immediately be given the series of BCBP culture talks to help smoothen and strengthen their integration into the chapter life.

CLP 20 is scheduled by the middle of the second half of the year.



## Quezon City Chapter NEWS BRIEFS

### Q.C. Celebrates Breakfast Anniversary

The BCBP brothers and sisters in Quezon City commemorated the anniversary of their breakfast outreaches with a joint celebration last February 8, 1992 at Alfredo's Steak House on Tomas Morato Ave. in Quezon City, former venue of both the Men's regular weekly breakfast and the Ladies' monthly breakfast.

Ben and Lyn Madrono, team leader of the chapter's most recent Christian Life Program, were the couple sharers during the occasion. The event was highlighted with the awarding of special citations to the members who brought the most number of newcomers to the breakfasts in 1991.

Ric Galing received the "fishers of men" award for the third consecutive year. His wife Edith was cited for having brought in the most number of newcomers to the ladies' breakfasts during the past year. Special gifts were given to members who were celebrating their birthdays and wedding anniversaries in February. Anne Judan and Emy Bombeta donated hand-made souvenirs to all the ladies present during the breakfast anniversary. The chapter's music ministry presented numbers prepared specially for the occasion.

### New Breakfast Venue

The breakfast outreaches of the Quezon City Chapter have moved to a new venue. The men's regular weekly breakfast held every Saturday and the ladies' regular monthly breakfast held every second Saturday are now being held at Max's (Fried Chicken) Restaurant along Scout Tuazon Street, near corner Roces Ave., Q.C.



Ben and Lyn Madrono share about their walk with the Lord during the Q.C. chapter's anniversary breakfast, Feb. 8, 1992.



Breakfast head Vic de Veyra hands the "Fisher of Men" citation to Ric Galing for bringing in the most number of newcomers to the breakfast during the past year.

*To most, even  
good people, God is  
a belief. To the  
saints, God is an  
embrace.*

*- Francis Thompson*

## THE ELEXSER CORNER

*Ric Galing, Quezon City Chapter*

ELEXSER, Employment and Livelihood Exchange Services of the BCBP, is working silently and slowly with the least of our brothers and sisters in depressed areas in close coordination with Tahanan ng Panginoon. In Barangay E. Rodriguez, Cubao, Quezon City, 27 participants of the Local Manpower and Youth Council (LMYC) - BCBP Quezon City Chapter Skills Training Program for Tahanan ng Panginoon satisfactorily finished the 360-hour course for hotel and restaurant services. Seven (7) gold medals donated by the BCBP Q.C. chapter were awarded to deserving participants during the recent graduation ceremonies at the Quezon City Hall.

The seminar-workshop was conducted at the Nativity of the Lord Parish in Ermin Garcia St., Cubao, with Ric Aquino as teacher and demonstrator. A training on practical electricity and electronics will follow soonest at the same site. We salute Dr. Turing Orlina, our ELEXSER Director and dependable big "kuya", for blazing the trail which led to a successful emersion in various Tahanan areas, especially in E. Rodriguez.

Inspired by the fact that E. Rodriguez is the model of the BCBP skills training for Tahanan, its 27 trainees joined the Barangay Presentation of Choral Groups and search for "Mutya ng LMYC" that highlighted the Christmas affair. About eleven (11) barangays of Quezon City participated in the contest. The E. Rodriguez TNP entries led by beautiful teener Rodalyn G. Bakingkit were easily adjudged "Darling of the Crowd", "Best in Gown" and 1st Runner-up "Mutya ng LMYC". They went home joyfully with a huge champion trophy donated by the LMYC. Praise God for the E. Rodriguez TNP victory!

Prominently seen during the affair were Mrs. Tess Mariano, head of LMYC, Social Services Development Department of Quezon City, Del Pingoa, LMYC Social Officer/CLP 18; Barangay Officials, NGOs and Rotarians of Quezon City.

## MAKATI UPDATE

### CLP 19 Underway

Makati chapter's 19th Christian Life Program is now underway under course leader Joey Aranaz. Head servants are Chito Zabarte and Eddie Go. The venue is Assumption College, San Lorenzo Village, Makati. 45 participants are expected to complete the course and make their commitment on April 21, 1992.

Discussion group leaders are Butch/Pinky Placido, Chuck/Gigi de Leon, Johnny/Marite Calixto and Mon/Nel Fabie.

### Lenten Recollection April 11

The chapter's annual Lenten Recollection will be held on Saturday, April 11, from 8:30 to 4:00 at the Magallanes Parish Center in Makati. Fr. Dave Clay will give the recollection which will be capped with a healing mass in the afternoon. All chapter members are encouraged to attend.

### Teaching Program Begun

"Working Together as Brothers and Sisters" was the first topic of the year of the chapter's teaching/formation program. The session held on Feb. 28 at the Magallanes Parish Center featured a dramatization by Susan Olarte and Honey Tirona of a case situation followed by group discussions. Teaching ministry head Nancy Catan conducted the session, with chapter head Rolly Ona giving summary comments on the subject.

Chapter teaching nights are scheduled every 4th Friday. Action groups are encouraged to attend as a group as the sessions will begin with a teaching, then break into respective action groups for more intensive discussion on the topic.

Topics for coming months include Methods of Bible Sharing, Evangelization and Spiritual Warfare, Commitment, Family Relationships, Service and Servanthood.



**LA NAVAL OUTREACH:** Makati chapter's outreach in the Ft. San Felipe Naval Base, Cavite, now has a regular monthly luncheon, every last Saturday of the month. In the photo, the group intently listens to sharers Angel and Charito Garcia during the Feb. 29 luncheon. 94 attended. Bros. Dickie Basconcillo and Jun Catan emceed; Msgr. Gorgonio Zapatos, chief naval chaplain gave the discernment and a short inspirational talk. During the closing prayer the group prayed over those in need of healing and strengthening. March 28 is the next Navy luncheon. Venue: El Galeon Restaurant, Cavite City.

## NEWS FROM PALAWAN

### Breakfast Venue Set

Brothers and sisters visiting Puerto Princesa on a Saturday morning will be glad to know that the Palawan Outreach now holds its Breakfasts at the Kamayan Restaurant. Considering Kamayan's tradition, we can just imagine the unique and naturally Filipino ambience one will experience attending a Palawan Breakfast.

### CLP 4 In April

The Las Pinas chapter's Palawan Outreach has scheduled its own CLP 4 to begin on April 25. The course is expected to be completed within six to seven weeks by holding two talks on Saturdays and another two talks on Sundays. This arrangement also maximizes the services of the guest speakers.

Determined to stand on its own feet, the Outreach has embarked on a fund raising campaign to finance this CLP and its other activities.

## WOMEN OF THE BIBLE

Imagine that these women of the Bible wrote their sharings. Can you match the titles of their sharings with the correct women? (From Catholic Digest)

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1. ___ Sarah          | A. First Lady of the Garden              |
| 2. ___ Salome         | B. My Sister and I Married Jacob         |
| 3. ___ Ruth           | C. I Saved My People From Slaughter      |
| 4. ___ Esther         | D. My Son, John the Baptist              |
| 5. ___ Rachel         | E. How David and I Raised Solomon        |
| 6. ___ Mary Magdalene | F. My Devils Were Cast Out               |
| 7. ___ Martha         | G. My Betrayal Haircut                   |
| 8. ___ Eve            | H. Life of an Israeli Judge              |
| 9. ___ Bathsheba      | I. I Love My Mother-in-Law               |
| 10. ___ Deborah       | J. Isaac, My Son                         |
| 11. ___ Delilah       | K. Joseph and Benjamin, My Boys          |
| 12. ___ Elizabeth     | L. Getting Ahead in the Dance World      |
| 13. ___ Anna          | M. My Brother Lazarus and My Sister Mary |
| 14. ___ Leah          | N. I Saw Jesus When I Was 84             |

ANSWERS: 1.J; 2.L; 3.I; 4.C; 5.K; 6.F; 7.M; 8.A; 9.E; 10.H; 11.G; 12.D; 13.N; 14.B.

New Evangelization

## NEW AGE - NEW THREAT? (Confessions of a former New Ager)

Tita O. Cerdania, Alabang Chapter

I was thoroughly dismayed at the play-up made by my favorite Sunday magazine recently of this new movement called "New Age". I was dismayed because first of all as a Catholic evangelizer, I seemed to be receiving very strong signals from the Lord to do something about it. I felt a sense of urgency. Then the questions came: Shouldn't I let the bishops handle this? I was also warned: "Why stick your neck out? You'll get flak from all directions!"

And yet the message was strong and clear: "Just share what you know. I'll take care of the rest." So I lay down some guidelines for myself: I will only address myself to Christians, trusting they will understand. I will write in peace, not in agitation. I will write in love. (The Lord's words were quite clear, "I love New Agers, too.") Lastly, I will focus on the Lord. And so, with these guidelines, here I am sticking my neck out.

### Beginnings

About 14 years ago, I got involved with "New Age" although it was not called that. Then it was a "Search for Enlightenment", "Higher Consciousness Studies", "Search for Inner Peace", for the "True Self", search for so many other spiritual longings that are authentic in themselves.

I knew God existed, He was "way up there somewhere". But I was down here, a befuddled housewife and mother with a lot of questions bothering me. Questions like: Is this all that life is about? To where does it all lead? Doesn't God (if there is one) care about what is happening here on earth?

One day someone invited me to a seminar on ESP (extra-sensory perception). All of a sudden a whole new panorama unfolded before me. I had un-

tapped power in my mind! I've got all the answers within me if I could only learn to let go. One thing led to another: "coming to quiet" to meditative body positions to yoga to TM (transcendental meditation), followed by mantras, gurus, Hindu teachings and rites, ESP, occult and paranormal phenomena, horoscopes. Sin was replaced by "growth experiences", everything was valid.

*"What is life all about? Doesn't God care about what is happening here on earth? Where can I find inner peace?"*

For three years my enthusiasm overflowed and I infected a lot of other people. A nephew left school to join the Hare Krishnas. During lunchbreaks I would conduct sessions with my office mates where I would pass on the latest "teachings" with a vocabulary of words like: astral travel, auras, mantras, esoteric arts, I Ching, pyramids, etc. Still I was not at peace.

### Lord, Hindi Ko Na Kaya!

Then tragedy struck: my only brother died suddenly, and in less than a year my mother followed after having both her legs amputated. After her funeral, my 19-year old son dropped the bombshell that he was getting married. My whole world was collapsing and I finally let out the wail that God had longed to hear for such a long, long time: "God, help me! Hindi ko na kaya!"

Help came in the form of an invitation to attend a Life in the Spirit Seminar in

our parish. I believe that I can pinpoint my conversion to the Person of Jesus Christ at that precise moment when I realized that all my New Age practices and rituals were just arrogant but futile efforts to reach up to God, and here was God telling me that my arms just weren't long enough! But not to worry, He explained, because He, God, Creator of the entire universe, out of sheer love for us, reached down to us in the person of Jesus Christ. Not only that, He proceeded to prove this love to the point of actually dying for me! Up to now I cannot read Rom. 5:8 without being moved to tears:

"It is precisely in this that God proves his love for us: that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

I came face to face with my God in the person of Jesus at my baptism of the Holy Spirit. I could only whisper, "It was You all the time." In that utter look of love He gave me, I knew I had found Someone who had all the answers.

After the baptism I went home, burned all my New Age books, and began reading the Bible. This was ten years ago. I have never stopped reading the Bible. Now I even teach a Bible study course.

I now realize that my longings during my searchings in the New Age were the stirrings of the Holy Spirit within me. They were the longings of a soul long separated from its God, so beautifully described by the psalmist in Psalm 42:2-3 and by St. Augustine when he said, "Our hearts are restless until they rest in Thee." God took me, as I was, New Age and all, not for the purpose of destruction but with the intention of transforming me and everything about me.

cont. on p. 12

## New Age - New Threat? ... from p. 11

I would like to share with you how Jesus has transformed my New Age perspectives into His own New Life.

**MIND POWER.** New Age taught me I had unlimited mind power just ready for the tapping. Jesus taught me that if I "have His mind" (1 Cor. 2:16), I have infinite power, the power of God, the Holy Spirit. To the extent that I allow Him to work through me, everything I do can be powerful. I am strong in Him (2 Cor. 12:9).

**GURUS.** New Age brought me to all kinds of gurus, each with his own teaching, his own specialty, with his own version of the truth. Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth, the Life; no one comes to the Father but through Me. (Jn. 14:5-7,10). And Jesus also warned against people following their own desires (2 Tim. 4:3) emphasizing that He is the great Teacher, all the rest are but learners (Mt. 23:8). Once I accepted this, all confusion disappeared.

**MEDITATION.** New Age taught me to spend time "going into myself" in search for life's answers, with the focus on Self. Jesus transformed these endless hours of "Aummmmmmming" into a true quiet time with Him, my prayer time. My thoughts are now focused on God as I raise my heart and soul and voice to Him. Indeed the psalmist gives us so many examples of how to focus on God: (Ps. 19:14, 1:1,2, 48:9, 77:12, 119:97,99).

**YOGA.** Yoga is an integral part of New Age. But what started out as a harmless form of stretching and relaxation exercises eventually led to an involvement in Hindu studies and more questions. Jesus simplified matters for me. Jesus unequivocally stated: "Anyone who is not with Me is against Me." (Mt. 12:30). Now my life is much more uncomplicated and peaceful, even though I may not be as limber as before, I certainly am more at home with Jesus and His love, then I could ever have been with the many Hindu gods.

**MANTRAS.** Meditation and yoga bring

## WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

About occult practices:

Deuteronomy 18:9-14

About false worship and idolatry:

Wisdom 13:10; 14:12-31; 15:7-17

About magic and witchcraft:

Isaiah 47:11-15

Acts 8:9-24

About deceptions during the latter days:

1 Timothy 4:1

Romans 16:19

Mark 13:22-23

The Christian's response:

2 Cor. 6:14-7:1

Acts 19:18-19

Ephesians 5:11-12

1 Thess. 5:21-22

Romans 12:2

us to the subject of mantras, meaningless words or syllables used as an object of concentration, to help us to allow our spirit to achieve "altered consciousness". In my new relationship with Jesus, even the age-old rituals and practices of our Church assumed new meaning. For instance, the recitation of the Holy Rosary with its meditations on the life of Jesus, became my new life "mantra", leading me into contemplation and beautiful encounters with the Lord.

**GODS.** New Ager actually believe themselves to be gods. The mantra "Aum", originally explained to me as the "sound of the universe" has been given a new definition by Shirley McClaine, a leading New Age guru in the U.S. According to her, it stands for "I AM" which is the name of God. So when a New Ager chants "Aum" in meditation, he is actually chanting "I AM GOD". (See New Covenant, June 1989).

No wonder Jesus' first condition to anyone wishing to follow Him was "Deny your very self" (Mk. 8:34, Lk. 9:23; Mt.

16:24). Significantly, all three synoptics are united in this, even to the words "very self". I, as a disciple of my "guru", Jesus Christ, am being transformed more and more into His likeness, the image of the invisible God, to become "holy as He is holy", to become more and more God-like, but definitely not to be a god!

**CHANTS.** New Age taught me to chant, rather than to sing. New Age music is mostly instrumental, mournful, solemn, designed to accompany introspective meditation. Jesus taught me to sing, dance, clap my hands joyfully, to "make a joyful noise to the Rock of our Salvation!" (Ps. 95:1). Spontaneously, from the heart, in love with presence God in my life.

**REINCARNATION.** New Age taught me to believe in reincarnation. One guru even went so far as to tell us that we started life in this planet as maggots and just evolved into higher life forms. Jesus taught me: "It is appointed that men die once and after death be judged." (Heb. 9:27).

**LIFE STYLE.** Some of the New Ager's I was with are still very much around and, as far as I can perceive, their lives are still pretty much the same, just as self-centered, listless and bored as when I first met them. In contrast, ever since I met the Lord, my life has been turned delightfully upside-down (or is it right side-up?); there is never a dull moment. I lead an active, others-oriented, God-centered way of life, and for me, there is no more exciting way to live.

**INNER PEACE.** A New Ager continually is on a search for inner peace, with this search revolving around a succession of gurus and self-introspection. Jesus showed me that He, the Prince of Peace, is the true source of inner peace. Paul described peace as one of the fruit of the Holy Spirit indwelling in us (Gal. 5:22). So, for as long as the Spirit of the Father and the Son abides in me, I can peacefully deal with my share of problems, trials, even disasters. My peace comes from knowing that He is in control instead of me.

**The Pearl of Great Price**

My purpose for sharing my (mis)adventures with the New Age movement and how the Lord has transformed me is two-fold: to inform and warn you, my brothers and sisters in Christ, about the New Age and to exhort you to "hold fast to what is good...avoid any semblance of evil." (1 Thess. 5:21-22).

The New Age, although it contains some grains of Christian truth, is at times directly opposed to Christ. As the Christian writer, F. LaGard Smith writes: "If Satan can tempt us with seemingly innocent practices, he thinks he may just get that foothold he is looking for. Perhaps he will settle for simply taking our minds off of Jesus Christ and the power that we can have through Him. Perhaps he will accomplish his mission through practices that, for all intents and purposes, even appear to be Christian." (New Covenant, June 1989).

What we have in Christ is not only good, it is the best. If we possess the Pearl of Great Price, we don't need anything else, we should not have room for anything else.

**The Urgency of Evangelization**

If I have been able to convey my grave concern about this matter of the New Age

movement, then I am glad. So many things disturb me:

It troubles me that we Christians are still so disunited. If the Lord is allowing all these things so that we can get our act together, cease our bickerings and close ranks to face what I honestly believe to be a threat, then let us do just that!

NOW. Ralph Martin in his book "A Crisis of Truth" underscores this need for Jesus Christ, Lord and Savior:

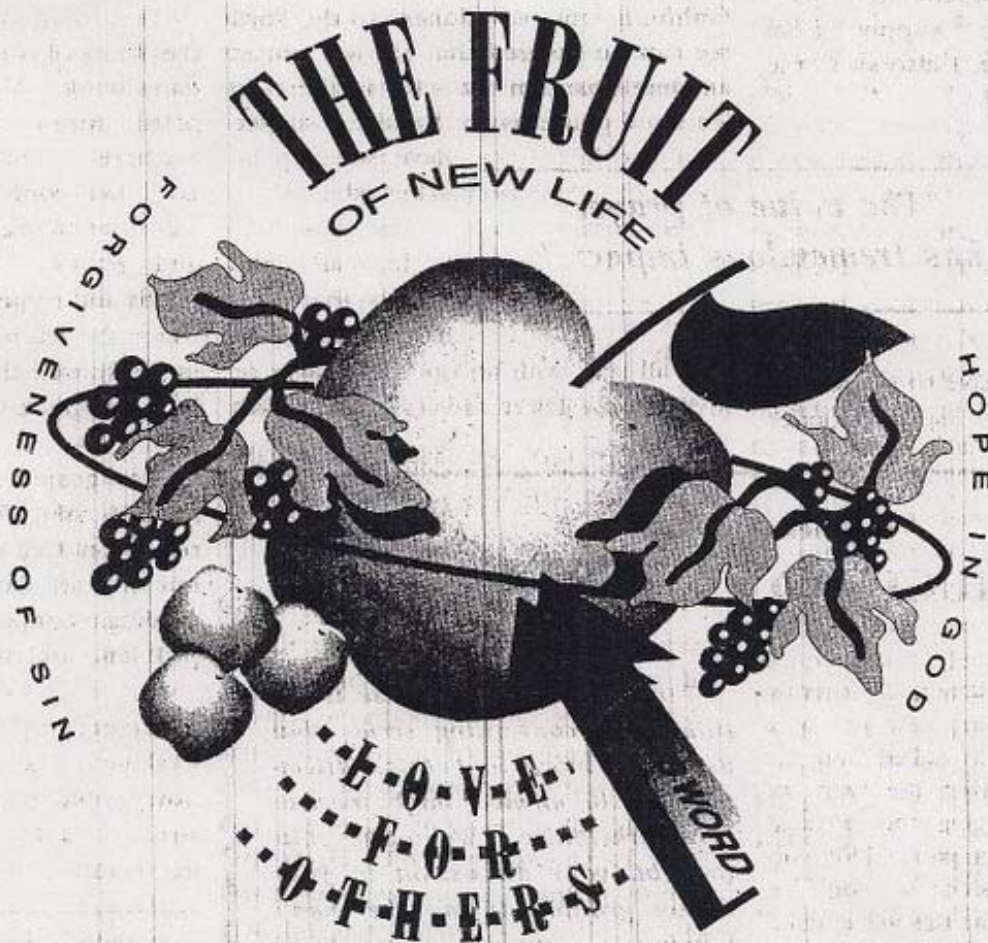
"Scripture insists that in Jesus one finds the full, definitive, and final revelation of God. It presents Jesus as THE LAST CHANCE FOR THE HUMAN RACE, AS GOD'S FINAL OFFER." (Emphasis ours).

I pray that our Father in Heaven, through the Holy Spirit, will put new emphasis and new efforts into the Church's mission of evangelization, that He will seal all Christians everywhere with the Spirit of Jesus Christ, His Son, and protect us from the wiles of the enemy, that He will give us the gift of discernment to test everything and retain only what is His will for us.

I pray, too, for New Agers everywhere

whom You also love unconditionally and for whom Jesus died on the Cross to save. Forgive them, Lord God, and give them the grace of conversion to Your Son Jesus, and the grace to walk the road that leads to the One who said, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life." All these I pray in the powerful Name of Jesus. Amen.

P.S. By God's grace, my nephew is now back in the Church and happily married. My officemates became the core of a Catholic Prayer Group that continues to flourish up to now. How kind and merciful is our God!



I am troubled by what Pope Paul VI once said: "Satan's smoke has made its way into the temple of God through some crack...one no longer trusts the Church; one trusts the first profane prophet that comes along..."

It troubles me that Jesuits are among the writers of New Age books listed in that Sunday magazine; that lay theologians are more concerned about God's sex (He or She?); that priests are into enneagrams; that nuns conduct Core Energy retreats, etc.

Never therefore has evangelization been more urgent and imperative than

**HOW I WITNESS IN THE MARKETPLACE**

*Ramon T. Garcia, Makati Chapter*

I have been with the government for the last 5 years. I am with the Asset Privatization Trust and because government owns substantial shares in the company that schedules your brownouts whenever supply from Napocor is inadequate, I also sit in the board of that company.

One thing I have found out while in government is that example can be the best form of witnessing for the Lord. One does not have to preach. As the saying goes, action speaks louder

*"The value of prayer has tremendous impact."*

than words.

The value of prayer has tremendous impact. It can keep away influence peddlers and corruptors. As we are faithful in our commitment to the Lord we can be assured that He will not at anytime abandon us. He is there to lead and guide us so that the goals we have set may be achieved.

In all the boards that I sit in, the meetings now all start with an opening prayer or invocation. There are less green jokes

bantered about whenever I am around. Cocktail parties do not usually end up in situations where it is hard to explain to wives where one was the night before.

It is the mass and the meditation on the Word of God that sustains me in my daily work. My day will not be complete without participation in the Eucharist. While at mass, we adore the Lord, we confess our faults and omissions, we thank Him for all His blessings and graces. We supplicate for our needs and requirements. Only then can I face the world with confidence knowing fully well that our Lord is there to lead and guide me.

The gospel for the day is the daily food I take for my meditation and reflection. Call it coincidence if you may but in more cases than one the gospel readings contain the solutions to the problems and difficulties for the day.

Before any transaction the question I ask myself is: If Christ were to do this, how would He act? This gives me the strength and the courage to say "No" no matter who gets hurt. After all is

*"We should be God's greatest salesmen."*

said and done it is what God says that is the more important.

I believe that it is not enough that we personally develop our spirituality. Our spirituality has to overflow. We are called upon to bring the good news to as many people as possible. Our office, our community is the market where we "sell" the Word of God. We can and should be God's greatest "salesmen."

**Business Case No. 5**

**HOW MUCH DO I VALUE MY JOB?**

Last week Ramon, recently promoted as a division manager of a large textile firm, was called into his boss's office and given the work of planning and managing the political campaign for their company's EVP who had suddenly decided to run for senator. Ramon knows this will entail a great deal of work which he will be expected to do in addition to coping with his division's quotas. He feels that although he would not receive any extra compensation for the extra work, refusing to handle the campaign might jeopardize the well-paying job that he enjoys. Ramon also confides that he has some reservations as to the EVP's reasons for running for a public office.

Ramon has come to you, his action group leader, seeking your advice. What would you tell him?

Some Scripture Passages: Sirach 27:1-3; Matt. 6:19-34; Eccl. 3:12-13; Prov. 3:5-6; Prov. 29:26; 2 Cor. 4:2; Psalm 32:8-11.

*Note: This business case is the fifth in a continuing series that deals with moral and ethical dilemmas a BCBP member might meet in his marketplace. We invite your thought, your discussion in your action groups, during the men's breakfasts, among your BCBP friends. The scripture passages are given as food for thought and discussion starters; these are not "the answers" but may serve as guidelines to point the way to a sound response to the dilemma. If you would like to share your thoughts with our brothers and sisters through the KAPATIRAN, we welcome your comments. If not, we sincerely hope and pray that reflection and discussion on these issues will help clarify for you the role of the Christian in the marketplace today. -Editor.*

Prior to 1981, one of Leonides Saguisag's main concerns was to reach the age of 40. It didn't really matter to him what happened after he hit that mark. The Lord took him up on that because as the well-known cliché goes: "Life begins at 40", the year Sadi (as he is known in the Brotherhood) turned 40 years old he joined the Catholic Renewal Movement.

While still living in Paranaque working with Ford Philippines, Sadi and his wife Ester were invited by a fellow company officer to a Life in the Spirit Seminar. With a scheduled trip to Europe and Japan, he had an excuse for not finishing the LSS but the Lord took care of his schedule through repeated postponements of the trip, so that they were able to complete the entire seminar. He later became the leader of that parish prayer group, was appointed a committee chairman of the parish council, and became a lay minister.

In March 1982 Sadi was invited by a fellow lay minister to his first BCBP breakfast at the Makati Sports Club. The first sharings he heard sounded familiar because he could identify himself with the experiences of the sharers. Ester and he graduated from CLP 5 in April of the following year. In 1984, course leader Fernando de Larrazabal gave the couple the opportunity to serve in CLPs 7 and 8 with Sadi as Head Servant. That same year he became an action group leader and he and Ester were invited to the Ligaya ng Panginoon Community.

### The Lord Followed Him To Cebu

In June 1985, Sadi had to go to Cebu for a new job. Because two of his children were to graduate that school year, he couldn't pull them out of their schools so his family was able to join him only in the following year. Without his family, he boarded with another family. He began attending two different prayer community meetings, one of his landlady's and the other of her daughter's. He was spiritually sustained although the majority of members were women.

## LIFE BEGINS AT 40

### An Interview with Sadi Saguisag, Cebu Chapter Head



Sadi and Ester Saguisag.

Missing the men's action group meetings, he started sharing the BCBP culture with some businessmen and professionals. With the approval of Fr. Herb Schneider and the support of the Alabang mission team, the Cebu Men's Breakfast was launched on Feb. 29, 1988. The Music Ministry was taken care of by four young graduates from Ateneo de Manila who were involved with the CYA. Sharers were all from Manila with Sadi serving as the coordinator. Since then, he has been at the helm of the Brotherhood in Cebu.

### Living Under the Lord's Direction

"Being a chapter head has proved to be very rewarding," Sadi reflects. "I need to put a lot of consciousness in the things I do so that all I do will magnify the Lord. Prayer has become a part of me; it helps me make sure I do things the way the Lord wants me to do them for I know that 'unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it.'" (Psalm 127:1)

Like any other family, Sadi's family has its share of trials, too, but the members are able to focus on their love for God and for each other. He knows that his children pray for him in their own silent

ways and they are aware of his role in the Brotherhood.

In making decisions for the community, Sadi says he is guided by the principle that these decisions are not done by democracy but rather through discernment. There are times when discerned decisions are not received favorably but he does not mind having to convince the unhappy members of the soundness of the decision reached by the governance body.

Sadi feels "that the success of the Brotherhood here (in Cebu) can be measured through the succeeding generations' observance of its teachings and culture." He hopes to see more big family celebrations. Presently, couples are able to bring in their children to the BCBP activities but he would really like to see more of the single professionals bringing in their parents, brothers and sisters to the Brotherhood. In a few more years, he would also like to see a pastoral system within the action groups instead of the current "buddy system."

### His Dream: To Spread the BCBP Culture

"My dream is to see the Brotherhood take root throughout the Visayas and Mindanao. The Cebu chapter has already an outreach in Cagayan de Oro and a BCBP-assisted community in Camp Evangelista in the same city. This year we've started a breakfast in Maasin, Leyte. We are also targeting Bogu in northern Cebu, Davao City and Tagbilaran, Bohol, for this year," Sadi enthuses.

After next year, Sadi hopes that someone else can take over the duties of Chapter Head so he can fully concentrate in mission work, in making his dream come true.

- Lynn Liu

**Eyes of Faith**  
**FIRST LOVE**  
 (Rev. 2:4)

*Kytt Mier, Las Pinas Chapter*

As a Discussion Group Leader in our on-going CLP 19, I am finding out that the importance of the role of DGL or AGL revolves around the dominant environment of the CLP, an environment of "First Love".

This environment of "First Love" is to me a period when members of a community gather their spiritual, psychological and even material resources together to offer as instruments in the Holy Spirit's work of nurturing those who have answered God's call to spiritual renewal. It is a period of effort, prayers and sacrifices much like the time when a couple with a new baby orient their lives to arrangements that ensure adequate care for the new baby.

**The Key is the DGL/AGL**

In my first CLP, CLP 12, the DGL responsible for me and my group was a key element in this environment. He used to call me up without fail in my office every week or visit me at home. During one-on-ones, he impressed me with his tact and sensitivity to my needs as a growing child of God.

When we finally settled as an action group, our DGL/AGL persisted with his unassuming practice of regular communication, guidance and friendship with us so that even after the so-called "honeymoon period" (the several weeks right after the Baptism of the Holy Spirit when participants are on a 'high') we were going strong as a group, even getting involved in service. And these bonds persisted long beyond the CLP!

The environment that a new BCBP member finds himself in during the CLP is an ideal one. The care and concern shown by the BCBP members reflect, in a

special way, God's love. After the CLP, however, when human elements predominate in the organization's effort to sustain the quality of "First Love", the new members are quick to perceive changes in this environment, changes that may lead to confusion and disillusionment. Thus, we see the phenomenon of declining attendance in community activities.

**Beyond the CLP**

The examples of my DGL/AGLs give me a model to follow. I know I will need a lot of creativity and energy to do this. In order to help my group members open up to the Word of God, I myself must continually be exposed to Scriptures and other inspirational materials that can help me understand God's Word and work in the world.

To generate enthusiasm for chapter activities, I myself must understand the purpose of such activities and enthusiastically involve myself in them. To help my

*I believe that sustaining our "First Love" will help solve the less than ideal attendance at BCBP activities."*

members grow in prayer, I need to be prayerful myself. I must be ready to allow God to use me as His instrument in helping other brothers and sisters who might be in need.

I do believe that sustaining the ideal "First Love" will do much in addressing the recurrent concern for less than ideal attendance in common activities more than corporate or managerial techniques (e.g. monitoring and control schemes, etc.) no matter how skillfully applied. This is simply because the enthusiasm and interest that fuel a BCBP member's participation in Brotherhood activities are a grace that flows from God through the efforts and example of conscientious, prayerful, orderly, responsible and compassionate leaders.

**THINK LONG LIFE**  
**NOT OLD AGE!**

One day, relates Norman Vincent Peale in his autobiography "The True Joy of Positive Living" (FCL, c1984), he ran into an old friend, Bishop Fulton J. Sheen, when he was along in years, and Peale was struck anew by Sheen's dynamic quality. "My, but you look good!" Peale exclaimed.

Bishop Sheen was amused and asked, "Did you ever hear of the three ages of man?" "What are they?" Peale replied.

"Youth, middle age, and my, but you look good." Bishop Sheen's secret, according to Peale, was that he was always fascinated by the world, and he loved people and kept up his good humor in all circumstances.

Peale recounts asking a prominent businessman, William H. Danforth, head of Ralston Purina Company, about his secret for attaining a healthy and vigorous old age. In addition to being an enthusiast about health and exercise, Danforth lived as he advised others: Think health, eat sparingly, exercise regularly, walk a lot, think positively about yourself, keep your thoughts and your actions clean, Ask God Who made you to keep on remaking you.

Danforth liked to challenge those he met, "I dare you to be healthy and live to a great age but never think age. Only think long life."

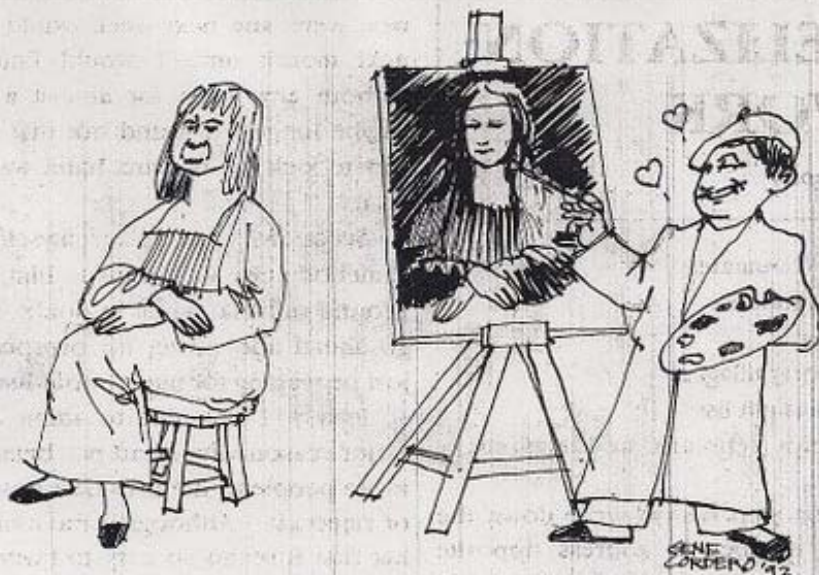
Peale learned another attitude on aging from Mort Cheshire, a famous player on the old vaudeville circuit. He was still healthy and vigorous at 102 years of age. "Mort, how do you account for your long life?" Peale asked him.

He replied simply, "It's the Lord's will. I'm in His hands. He will give me life until He takes me home." The Lord did so when Mort was 103.

Peale continues, "Humbly, like Mort Cheshire, I have put my own life in the

*continued on p. 17*





...WITH LOVE, ALL THINGS ARE BEAUTIFUL

### NEEDING A HELPING HAND

When troubled days are in our way,  
we just couldn't bear it, we just  
couldn't stay  
feeling helpless. No one seems  
to care.

And when we need someone  
nobody's there.

Why don't we pray and finish our day.  
And let God lead the way.  
You know, He'll understand  
we need a helping hand.

- Desmelyn Tomas  
Alabang Children's Formation

### Think Long Life ... from p. 16

Lord's hands. He gave life. It is His to take when He deems the time has come." When asked about his retirement plans, Peale responded, "Retirement from what? I enjoy what I am doing, serving the Lord. It has always been my life. I think perhaps I will go right on with most of my present activities as long as the Lord continues to give me health and energy."

### Why Worry?

In the midst of all the problems, difficulties and pressures that confront us, I like to think of what my friend once told me:

There are 2 things that you worry about in Life.

Either you're a success or a failure.

If you are a success, why worry?

If you are a failure, you worry about 2 things:

Either you're healthy or you're sick.

If you are healthy, why worry?

If you are sick, you worry about 2 things:

Whether you live or you die.

If you live, why worry?

If you die, you worry about 2 things:

Whether you go to heaven or to hell.

If you go to heaven, why worry?

If you go to hell, you will be so busy shaking hands with your friends, you'll have no time to worry.

Henry S. Dy  
Cagayan de Oro Outreach

We'd all like to do great things. Mary, however, was satisfied to let God do them in her. - Evelyn

### My Problem: How To Invite Friends to the Breakfast

Whenever I invite friends, clients or associates to our weekly Breakfast Fellowship, the usual response I get is that this is not their cup of tea or they can't wake up early enough. But I would always stop myself from reacting strongly to these comments.

One Saturday morning, our sharer mentioned that he had a problem and it turned out to be the same as mine. I was particularly touched by the way he handled the problem for he would tell his prospective guests that "the place is not for the godly nor for the saint but rather for sinners."

I thank the Lord for making that sharer His instrument in helping me solve my problem. I now look forward to bringing in more people to our Breakfast.

Kit Garcia  
Cebu Chapter

### Philippians 4:6-9

I have heard Fr. Herb Schneider give talks many times since we became BCBP members in 1984 but Fr. Herb's talk on the first Friday of January 1992 went straight to my heart. His words came pouring out as if they could crush the charging lions of the dark world.

He put it so simply, "Always think that we are first for our duties and next for our rights." What a jolt this gave me! This is humility in action I thought. And if all of us will have this kind of attitude towards others, imagine what kind of world this would be! I thank the Lord for His message to me that evening that I pray will become my philosophy in life, the message of Phil. 4:6-9.

Jane Manalo  
Makati Chapter

# BREAKFAST EVANGELIZATION: MAKING IT WORK

*Hermey Rodil, Alabang Chapter*

The mission of the BCBP is to bring Christ to the marketplace in line with our Lord's mandate in Matthew 28:19-20. And the entry point of our evangelization work is the breakfast. The breakfast provides the forum for the Holy Spirit to touch the hearts of the first timers as well as the regulars in His own mysterious way.

I would like to share what I personally have found to be quite effective in bringing first timers to the breakfast.

During the second week of January, 1992, I was led to write down the names of people I had been planning to invite to the breakfast. My initial list consisted of about a dozen names that further elicited other names. This led me to devise a more systematic approach.

On the inside cover of my planner, I wrote down:

- former classmates
- former students
- relatives
- neighbors/villagers
- Christmas gift list
- gatherings (reunions, weddings, etc.)

The next step was to write down the telephone number or address opposite each name. Then I classified and prioritized my prospects. This set the stage for the most important step - the Actual Invitation.

I picked up the phone and invited my first prospect to the breakfast. To my surprise, he offered no resistance, he accepted the invitation. The following week I invited my next prospect. And again, my invitation was accepted. This process went on and I observed that for the months of January and February I was able to invite 8 men plus 2 women to the

next week and next week would become next month until I would find myself without any guest for almost a year ... maybe longer. I found out that the best way to kick the manana habit was to just do it.

Secondly, I would tell myself "maybe somebody else would invite him." Again, I found out that when in doubt, I should go ahead and invite, my prospect might just be waiting for me to invite him.

Finally, I was able to admit that one major reason why I had not been able to invite people to the breakfast was the fear of rejection. Although I mentioned earlier that it seems so easy to invite people to the breakfast, it is not always that way. I have personally encountered actual rejections. A former classmate laughed loudly and lengthily without even offering any excuse. This left me half wondering and half embarrassed. Another answered, "Sorry, not my cup of tea."

As I prayed about this fear of rejection, I opened to Matthew 5:11-12: Happy are you when people insult you and persecute you and tell all kinds of evil lies against you because you are my followers. Be happy and glad, for a great reward is kept for you in heaven. This is how the prophets who lived before you were persecuted.

I reflected that if businessmen are willing to take the risk of rejection in the pursuit of material concerns, shouldn't I take the risk of rejection in the pursuit of the BCBP mission of bringing Christ to the marketplace?

From my recent experience however, the batting average has been about 70-80% which is good enough. I have always been told that selling is a number's game. Inviting people to the breakfast is no different. The more aggressive I am in inviting, the greater the chance of succeeding.

What I recently noticed in myself was a change in attitude. Since I started this system, my frame of mind has been, "Who do I invite for breakfast this Saturday?"

And after the first breakfast I follow up



*Q.C. breakfast goers listen intently to sharers during a joint breakfast.*

### Sources of BCBP Breakfast Prospects

- officemates (present and past)
- business associates
- members of professional organizations

breakfasts.

I told myself, "It seems all so easy. It's just a matter of putting it into a system. But why have I not been able to do this before?" First, I have been guilty of procrastination. Next day would become

*continued on p. 19*

The Lord gave us beautiful and perfect gifts for 1991. First He gifted us with His Holy Spirit in February during our CLP 1 baptism. The second gift was a trip to Europe last October. What more could we ask for?

While on the second half of our trip I started to really feel the cold creeping under my flesh and I began to desire a leather jacket to keep me warm. Coincidentally, leather jackets also happened to be the new fashion trend for winter. My simple desire gradually grew into a minor obsession. Jess kept on reminding me that a leather jacket would be useless back in the Philippines, but I still



*Breakfast goers enjoy the BCBP songs.*

*cont. from p. 18*

my invitation because to me, the second breakfast is even more crucial. My friend may have accepted my invitation out of curiosity or accommodation. When he goes back to the breakfast for the second time, then I know it is more out of conviction, and that he is a good prospect for the CLP and a deeper, more lasting relationship with the Lord.

I am a regular breakfast goer. I look forward to the warm fellowship and the spiritual nourishment from the powerful sharings. And the breakfast becomes even more meaningful to me every time I am able to bring someone with me.

## THE LEATHER JACKETS

*Jess and Nena Paras, Cagayan de Oro Outreach*

longed for one.

One day in Paris on our way to the Notre Dame Cathedral with the cold wind and rain beating down on us, Jess said that now even he would like to have a leather jacket!

Suddenly, an elderly, well-dressed European approached us in his car, rolled down his window and in Spanish asked us for directions to a place we had just passed. Being nice to him we accommodated him but warned him that we might be mistaken as we were not from France. Learning that we came from the Philippines he became very charming and struck up a conversation with us.

We learned that he was a businessman from Milan and that he was a sub-contractor for Pierre Cardin, Gucci, Christian Dior and other "names" in high fashion. We were impressed with all these but more so by his evident charm and good humor.

Suddenly he reached for some packages at the back of his car and handed them to us saying, "Please do me the honor of accepting these items as my gift to you. You see, I'd rather dispose of them than bring them back home to Milan."

Yes! You guessed it! He handed us two brand new tan leather jackets. One for each of us! For Free!! Jess and I looked at each other and grinned. We accepted and looked at heaven giving thanks.

All at once, we felt that there must be something more to it than that - what was the hitch? Then our acquaintance of the moment belted out a long sad story about his being

in need of petrol money as he had lost all his cash in the casino the night before. He was asking for money! He mentioned an unearthly amount. We refused; he proceeded to haggle angrily; we continued to refuse.

By this time we realized that these jackets were not worth this experience. This once charming man suddenly turned ferocious and grabbed the jackets back into the car with him and sped away.

Jess and I were shocked! As we walked on silently, each with our own thoughts, we felt so humiliated. Then we felt ashamed of ourselves for desiring something so worldly and unnecessary.

We thanked God for saving us from the clutches of an evil doer, realizing that, truly, we had so much to be thankful for. You see, because of the excitement of the trip and the hassles one faces before a long vacation we had failed to recognize the hand of the Lord Almighty in ironing out all the kinks that made our departure problem free. It was He after all who provided us our winter clothes, for free, counting on friends and kin. And we had never thanked Him for this!

Yes, the Lord is good and Almighty. He gave us His personal care and attention and love. But most of all, thank you, Lord, for being with us every step we took, in every country we visited and in every journey we made. Thank you for reminding us of Your Presence when we most needed Your protection. Praise God!

## ONE MINUTE MEDITATIONS

*Fernando de Larrazabal*

(1)

*"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Mt. 27:46)*

This passage is commonly heard among those who suffer. At times people suffer and get no relief. They cry out to God for help and receive no response. Why does God allow suffering? I cannot give any reason that would be acceptable to most who suffer. It is difficult to understand a loving merciful God who allows suffering. Maybe the answer lies in God who did not need to suffer, yet he allowed himself to become man and go through torture and death for the love he bears us.

What may seem unjust to some has to be understood as God's permissive will. He does not cause us to suffer, but allows it to happen. If he should interfere, it would be a case of intervention in man's free will.

(2)

*"Never again shall they know hunger or thirst...He will lead them to springs of life-giving water, and God will wipe every tear from their eyes." (Rev. 7:16-17)*

This is God's promise that the faithful can confidently trust in. The day will come when all pain and suffering will end. No one will mourn and all tears will be wiped away from our eyes.

The reality of death is a fact and all of us will have to face it. Death, however, is not the end of life, but the beginning of a brand-new, exciting and interesting existence where joy, peace and complete happiness await those who have been faithful to God. Are you one of those who doubt that life exists beyond the grave? But what if you are wrong? Are you willing to take a risk on this being a lie and continue your evil ways? Isn't that too much of a gamble, staking eternity on the chance that it does not exist? If you do, you are not a very smart person. All the odds are staked against you. Don't take a chance, play it smart and change your ways before it's too late. Ask God to enlighten you and he will show you the way.

## A LOVER'S LONGING

*Gil Abejo, Greenbills Chapter*

Arise, my beloved, my beautiful one, and come!  
For see, the winter is past, the rains are over and gone.  
The flowers appear on the earth,  
The time of pruning the vines has come,  
And the song of the dove is heard in our land.  
The fig tree puts forth its figs,  
And the vines, in bloom, give forth fragrance.  
Arise, my beloved, my beautiful one, and come!

O my dove, in the clefts of the rock,  
In the secret recesses of the cliff,  
Let me see you,  
Let me hear your voice,  
For your voice is sweet,  
And you are lovely.

In these beautiful lines from the Song of Songs (2:10-14), popularly attributed to Solomon, a great lover, the lover is the Lord our God and the beloved is us, His people.

The Lord invites us to come to Him. But we do not respond. And so He searches for us "in the clefts of the rock, in the secret recesses of the cliff." But we hide from Him.

He is a persistent lover. From afar He "comes springing across the mountains, leaping across the hills" (v.8). But we keep running away from Him.

"He stands behind our walls gazing through the windows, peering through the lattices" (v.9). But we close these to Him.

The Lord pines to see us, but we do not give Him any thought. With the beauty of spring He asks us to join Him to share wonderful moments. We would rather be with the world.

Finally, He implores, "Let me see you, let me hear your voice, for your voice is sweet, and you are lovely" (v. 14). But we refuse to talk to Him, even only to greet Him.

Where in the world can we find a more determined, patient, and faithful lover than in our Lord, Jesus Christ, who gave Himself up for us (Eph. 5:25) and who wants us to be with Him to see the glory God the Father has given Him (John 17:24).

I have found Him. And I, too, am in love with Him.

O, how I long to be with Him, to show my face to Him, to be near Him so I can whisper to Him I love Him.

O, how I want to tell the world of my lover!

## LENT IN CAMIGUIN ISLAND

One unforgettable Lenten experience for me took place on the island of Camiguin where for the first time in my life, I saw the most loveliest dressed and probably the oldest statues of Our Blessed Mother Mary and several Saints, and the twelve apostles, and a long line of hooded flagellants and penitents, altogether in a procession. Practically the whole town participated in the procession since it seemed that there were more people in the procession itself than those watching at the sides. There were also statues of Christ suffering on the cross and when He was laid in His tomb.

Until now, I can remember how each statue reminded me of my own sinfulness and Christ's suffering and dying for me to save me from my sins. God loves us so much that He sent His Only Begotten Son to die on the Cross for us and we should continue to carry on God's plan here on earth. Shouldn't we as His children sacrifice even a little during this Lenten season and carry with Christ the cross to salvation?

*Charisse Ch. Fortich  
Cagayan de Oro Outreach*

## AN EASTER TO REMEMBER

Having been brought up in a puritanical way, the Lenten season was always a hassle to a growing, rebellious young man like I was then. I had to follow certain Lenten rules -- no loud noises, no eating of meat, fasting, no fast music or boisterous laughter. I was to keep in touch with the Lord at all times by praying and perhaps reading the bible (which I seldom did).

This all changed when the Lord al-

lowed me to play His role during one of the passion plays. I played the resurrected Christ during the Easter scene. It was during this time that I realized we need to be aware of what Christ did for us and for our salvation. I needed time to be with Him and for Him.

It was during Easter Sunday, 20 years ago, that I came to realize that there is not only sadness because of our sins and Christ's death for us, but also joy because Christ was resurrected after three days to free us from the bonds of sin.

Now I await each coming Lenten season with reverence and anticipation, more especially so now since the BCBP has opened my eyes more and more. I look forward with renewed vigor and enthusiasm for the inner peace that Lent brings to me.

*Jun Villaraza  
Cagayan de Oro Outreach*



## MY ONGOING LENT AND EASTER

Ever since I joined the Charismatic Renewal Movement and began to experience a personal, living and loving relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ, I realized that my life is a continuous cycle of Lent and Easter, an ongoing experience of crucifixion and resurrection just like that of our Lord Jesus Christ, though in ordinary ways.

Every trial, disappointment or frustration, failure, loss, pain or agony is some kind of crucifixion. Every victory, success, every gain and good, every joy and ecstasy is some kind of resurrection. But now I can rejoice in Christ's crucifixion, not because I enjoy His suffering and death, but because without His death, there would be no resurrection. And I know that He will make my little crucifixions into victories of resurrection.

*Ester Saguisag  
Cebu Chapter*

*"I will pour out  
my spirit on all  
mankind.*

*And I will work  
wonders in the  
heavens and on the  
earth . . .*

*The heavens and  
earth quake, but  
the Lord is a refuge  
to his people, a  
stronghold to the  
men of Israel.*

*Joel 3:1,3; 4:16*



Makati, Las Pinas and Alabang brothers and sisters reflect on the sharings during a song at the first quarterly joint chapter assembly, March 20, at the Magallanes Parish Center. Makati chapter was the host this month; Alabang chapter will be the host of the June joint assembly.

## TO OUR READERS AND CONTRIBUTORS

We would like to thank all of you for your generous response to our call for materials - news, sharings, pictures, articles - for our KAPATIRAN. However, due to budget constraints and increase in the number of printed copies from 1800 to 2150, we will be limiting the number of pages per issue to 24, instead of our usual 28-32. We will try to include all materials submitted, however, they may be edited and shortened to meet space limitations. Sharings and materials that are not included in the present issue will be reserved for the next issue.

Again, thank you for your support in the past and for the future issues of KAPATIRAN. Without you, our Brotherhood newsletter could not be a reality. May God's blessings be yours in abundance. -Nancy Catan, Managing Editor

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES, NEWS, SHARINGS, AND PICTURES FOR THE JUNE-JULY ISSUE IS MAY 5.**

## LIGHTER MOMENTS

### Test Your I.Q.

Q. What is as big as an elephant but doesn't weigh anything?

A. An elephant's shadow.

Q. What is it that you can take away the whole and still have some left?

A. The word "wholesome."

Q. Why did Adam bite the apple that Eve gave him?

A. Because he had no knife.

Place 10 toothpicks on the table and challenge your friend to make a monkey from them without breaking the toothpicks. When your friend gives up, simply arrange the matches to spell the word "A P E", using two toothpicks to make the top of the letter "P". You will have made a monkey out of your friend!

Melly: Have you heard the latest? It's all over the building.

Sue: What's all over the building?

Melly: The roof!

Chemistry teacher: Can anyone tell me a deadly poison?

Pepe: Aviation.

Teacher: Aviation?

Pepe: Yes - one drop and you're dead.

## SUMAN SA LIHIA ESPESYAL

Contact: Jun Kamatoy

Tel. 815-14-31

SHARINGS



Makati Office: LG18 Cityland 7 Condominium,  
Alfaro Street, Salcedo Village, Makati, M.M. Tel. 86-65-13  
Plant: 5631 Ampere Street, Makati, Metro Manila. Tel. 831-6727  
Manila Office: 307 Trinity Building T.M. Kalaw, Manila

TERMITES  
RATS  
ROACHES

# YOU'RE IN CONTROL

WITH MAPECON

**No. 1** IN PEST CONTROL PRODUCTS AND SERVICES NATIONWIDE

Dependable and Affordable  
With 38 Patents • Free Survey

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

**MAPECON** You're in control!  
THE MANILA PEST CONTROL CO. PHILS., INC.  
Head office 2533 Madre Poria St., Manila

**ADVISORS**

FR. HERB SCHNEIDER  
 FERNANDO DE LARRAZABAL  
 ROLLY ONA

**EDITORIAL BOARD**

Alabang - Lilli Morales  
 Bacolod - Ray Garcia  
 Cagayan de Oro - Charisse Ch. Fortich  
 Cebu - Lynn Liu  
 Greenhills - Ben Serna  
 Las Pinas - Kytt Mier  
 Makati - Jane Manalo  
 Quezon City - Emy Magdangal

**MANAGING EDITOR**

NANCY R. CATAN

**CONTRIBUTORS IN THIS ISSUE**

Gil Abejo, Alex/Lulu Brillantes, Agnes Celdran, Tita Cerdania, Rey Constantino, Nadine Cuisia, Fernando de Larrazabal, Henry Dy, Ric Galing, Kit Garcia, Ramon Garcia, Kahlil Gibran, Leo Gutierrez, Didit Lazatin, Ed Lising, Chichi Martinez, Chito/Libay Masayon, Menzie Montelibano, Jess/Nena Paras, Montserrat Preysler, Hermy Rodil, Ester Saguisag, Desmelyn Tomas, Jun Villaraza

**PRINTER**

Fil-Asia Printers, Jun/Lydia Figueroa

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

Advertising rates are: full page - P3,000; half page - P1,500; one-fourth page - P750; per column inch - P110.

LIVE IN THE FULLNESS OF CHRIST!

# THE LORD ARRANGED OUR SCHEDULE

Two weeks ago my husband, Jun, and I planned a trip to our company's branches in the Visayas. On the plane to Cebu, we lifted our trip up to the Lord, asking Him to lead us to the people and places He wanted us to go to, to set up His "divine appointments" for us.

We had planned a trip to visit Atlas Masbate (Jun is one of their consultants) and to spend three days visiting not only the Atlas executives but also the active charismatic community there. But the Lord had different ideas. Although our trip on the small company plane had been approved, our names were not on the manifest so we could not proceed. To our surprise, one of the executives we needed to see arrived on the very flight we were supposed to take! And we learned that the others we were to see would be in Manila the following week. The Lord had saved us an unnecessary trip to Masbate!

So we proceeded to Bacolod. As soon as we arrived we called BCBP Outreach Head, Ray Garcia, whose first words were, "You are an answered prayer! Can you go to Iloilo, we have no sharer for tomorrow?" After meeting with our branch people in the morning, having lunch with the Garcias, we boarded the ferry to Iloilo that afternoon together with Tony Garcia and Digoy Montalvo, outgoing and incoming outreach heads of Bacolod's Iloilo outreach.

We enjoyed a wonderful evening with the Iloilo BCBPers and gave a couple sharing on Saturday morning to more than 40 breakfast goers. One couple even asked to see us later in the day; Jun gave the gospel presentation (CETP) and we prayed with them. In the evening we attended an action group meeting.

How beautifully the Lord had arranged our schedule! We were able to meet with our branch personnel in Cebu, Bacolod and Iloilo and not only talk business with them, but present to them the gospel message and pray with them. The people we needed to see in Masbate, the Lord brought to us so that we would be on time for the Iloilo breakfast. We did not miss our Brotherhood activities for the Lord provided us fellowship, a chance to share, an action group meeting to attend and many chances for evangelization. He also provided several opportunities for Jun to play tennis and a picnic and swim at a beach in Iloilo.

The Lord says: "For I know well the plans I have in mind for you, plans for your welfare, not for woe, plans to give you a future full of hope. When you call me, when you go to pray to me, I will listen to you." (Jer. 29:11-12) Our role in His plan? We need to pray to Him and leave ourselves open to the Holy Spirit's leading so that we can meet His "divine appointments."

-Nancy R. Catan

# SUMMER IS HERE!



## WE LOVE THE OUTDOORS

We like being outdoors quite a lot. The kids love taking a bath in the outdoor sink. And a special time for us is having dinner outside in the back yard, enjoying the twilight breeze and watching the stars come out. Sometimes, we pitch a tent and sleep outdoors for the night.

We also love eating cold things when it is hot. Chilled fruit, frozen canned peaches, jello, or just plain crunching on ice are pleasures the children associate with summer.

*Alex and Lulu Brillantes  
Quezon City Chapter*

## BEACHES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

After the last day of school, our children discuss with us, their parents, their plans and intentions on how they would like to spend their two months vacation.

Our three sons enjoy going to the beaches during summer and normally look forward to their vacation in our home province to once again frolic in the sun, sand and sea.

But whenever their vacation would be extended, we always remind them to remember their responsibilities like keeping their things and room in order, helping their hosts in household chores like doing the dishes and cleaning the house and yard. This way they would not burden their hosts.

We also remind them not to forget their Sunday and Holy Day obligations and to say their regular prayers.

*Chito and Libay Masayon  
Quezon City Chapter*

## RENEWING ACQUAINTANCES

Summer means renewing acquaintances in Davao. To our children, this means time with their maternal grandparents and cousins. Hopefully, this summer it would mean serving with the BCBP group, too, as they start the Brotherhood

in Davao City. I'm keeping my fingers crossed.

*Cbichi Martinez  
Cebu Chapter*

## SUMMER VACATION, CELDRAN STYLE

As is common among families that live in the province, summer vacation means going off to the Big City. And the Celdran children have, without exception, spent the summer months with my mother, my brother and his family in Manila.

It is a time of education and fun for the kids and for my brother who enjoys their company immensely. But, it is a lot

of expense, too, for Mike and me. So we decided this year against going to Manila. But the children began storming heaven with their prayers. So now, with the Lord's help, our children will go to Manila this summer -- not by plane but by boat.

*Agnes Celdran  
Cagayan de Oro Outreach*

## LOOK TO THE BEES AND FLOWERS

Go to the fields and gardens, and you shall learn that it is the pleasure of the bee to gather honey of the flower, but it is also the pleasure of the flower to yield its honey to the bee. For to the bee a flower is a fountain of life, and to the flower a bee is a messenger of love. And

to both, bee and flower, the giving and the receiving of pleasure is a need and an ecstasy.

People of Orphalese, be in your pleasures like the flowers and the bees.

*The Prophet, Kahlil Gibran*