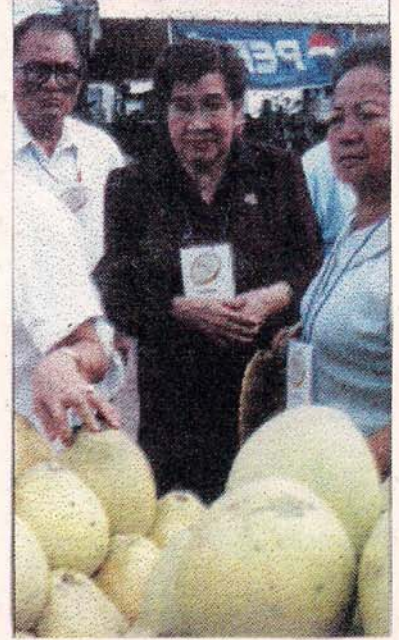
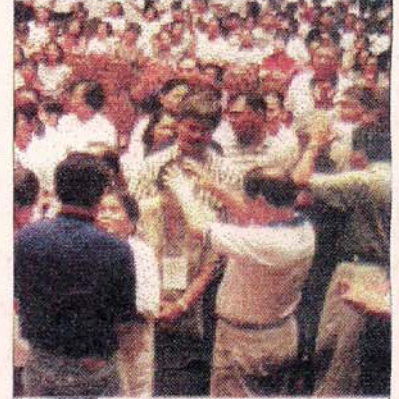
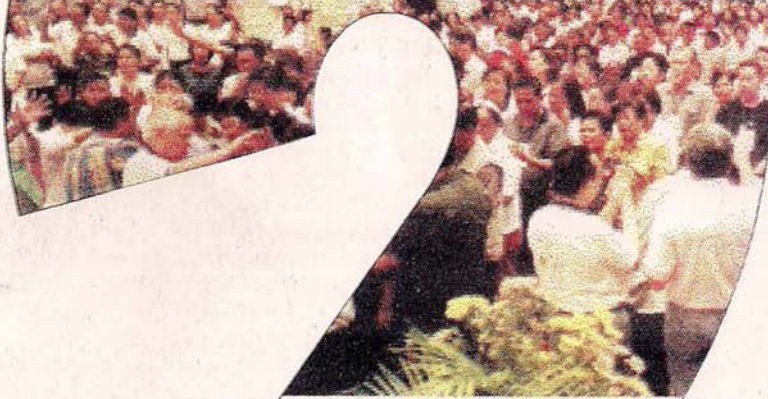


# Kapatiran

VOL. XV NO.2

MARCH-JUNE, 2001



# BCBP

# Breakfast Venues

## MEN'S BREAKFASTS (7:30 A.M)

Wednesdays – MAKATI : Makati Sports Club

Thursdays – GREENHILLS: Club Filipino, Greenhills  
VILLAMOR: Villamor Air Command Staff  
College (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>)

Fridays – MANILA: Max's Restaurant, Ma. Orosa

### Saturdays

ALABANG: Ayala Alabang Country Club, Muntinglupa

BACOLOD NORTH: Nobles Restaurant

BACOLOD SOUTH: Nobles Restaurant

BAGUIO: Max's Restaurant, Kisad Road (1st, 3rd, 4th Sat.)

BAYBAY: Angelicum (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat.)

BUKIDNON : Taipan Rest., Valencia (1<sup>st</sup>) Hotel Malibu  
Malaybalay (3<sup>rd</sup> Sat.)

BUTUAN: Embassy Hotel

CAGAYAN DE ORO: Silver Court, Cagayan De Oro

CALAMBA: Riverview Resort and Conference Center

CATBALOGAN: Maqueda Bay Hotel, Tomalistis Dist.,  
Catbalogan, Samar,

CEBU: Ding Qua-Qua Rest. Gen. Maxilom Ave., Cebu City

DAGUPAN: Jollibee Junction A.B. Fernandez Ave.

cor. M.H. Del Pilar St. Dagupan

DAVAO: CAP Anda St. (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat.)

DIGOS: CAP/ANP Hotel (every other Saturday

ILIGAN: Mandelicious Native Foods (4th Sat)

ILOILO: Amigo Terraces Hotel

LAS PIÑAS: Italia Club 500, BF Resort, Las Pinas

LEGASPI: Albay Hotel, Legaspi City

LUCENA: Halina Hotel & Restaurant, P. Gomez,  
Lucena City (3<sup>rd</sup> Sat.)

LIPA: Sawali Restaurant, Sabang, Lipa City

MACTAN: Majestic Restaurant, Mactan City

MANDAUE: Flormont Hotel

MANILA: Max's Restaurant, Orosa St., Malate Manila

ORMOC: Pongos Hotel (3rd Sat)

PARAÑAQUE: Pidente Rest. Presidents Ave. BF Homes

PUERTO PRINCESA: Legend Hotel, Puerto Princesa (3rd Sat.)

QUEZON CITY: Max's Restaurant, T. Morato Ave.

RIZAL: Manila East Golf Club, Taytay, Rizal

ROXAS: Kanami Restaurant

SORSOGON: Jollibee Sorsogon (1st & 2nd Sat.)

SURIGAO: Gateway Hotel and Rest. (1st and 3rd Sat.)

TACLOBAN: YamYam Food Lane, Salazar St. (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sat.)

TAGBILARAN: La Roca Hotel

TUGUEGARAO; Marilyn's Restaurant

VILLAMOR: Villamor Air Command Staff College

## LADIES' BREAKFAST

Wednesdays – MAKATI: Makati Sports Club (2<sup>nd</sup> Wed.)

Thursdays – GREENHILLS: Club Filipino, SJ (3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs.)

Fridays – MANILA: Max's Restaurant, Ma. Orosa

### Saturdays

ALABANG :Ayala Alabang Country Club (2nd Sat.)

BACOLOD NORTH: Nobles Restaurant (3rd Sat.)

BAGUIO: Max's Restaurant, Kisad Road Baguio City (4th Sat.)

CAGAYAN DE ORO: Tia Nanang, Corales St., (2nd & 3rd Sat.)

CEBU: Ding Qua-Qua Restaurant (3rd Sat.)

DAVAO: CAP Anda St. (4th Sat.)

ILOILO: Amigo Terraces Hotel (last Sat.)

LAS PINAS: Italia Club 500 (3rd Sat.)

LEGASPI: Albay Hotel (4th Sat.)

MACTAN: Majestic Restaurant (2nd Sat.)

MANDAUE: Flormont Hotel (3rd Sat simultaneous men's/ ladies)

ORMOC: Pongos Hotel (3rd Sat.)

PARAÑAQUE: Ribs & Chops, Presidents Ave., (3rd Sat.)

PUERTO PRINCESA: Legend Hotel (3rd Sat.)

QUEZON CITY: Max's Restaurant, T. Morato Ave. (2nd Sat.)

ROXAS: Kanami Restaurant

RIZAL: Manila East Golf Club, Taytay, Rizal (1st Sat.)

TACLOBAN: Don's Cabin (2nd Sat.)

TAGBILARAN: La Roca Hotel (3rd Sat.)

## JOINT BREAKFASTS (7:30 A.M.)

Wednesdays – MAKATI: Makati Sports Club (1st Weds.)

Thursdays – GREENHILLS: Club Filipino (1st Thurs.)

Fridays – MANILA: Max's Restaurant, Ma. Orosa (1st Fri)

### Saturdays

ALABANG: Ayala Alabang Country Club (4th Sat)

BUTUAN: Echelon Hotel (2nd & 4th Sat.)

BACOLOD NORTH: Noble's Restaurant (4th Sat.)

BACOLOD SOUTH: Nobles Restaurant (4th Sat.)

BAGUIO: Max's Restaurant (2nd Sat.)

BAYBAY: Angelicum Parish Hall (2nd & 4th Sun.)

CAGAYAN DE ORO: Silver Court, Capt. Vicente Roa St., (3<sup>rd</sup> Sat.)

CAVITE: Emperor Restaurant, Cavite City (3<sup>rd</sup> Sat.)

CEBU: Ding Qua-Qua Restaurant (3<sup>rd</sup> Sat.)

DAGUPAN: Jollibee Junction A.B. Fernandez Ave., Cor. M.H. Del  
Pilar St. Dagupan City (1st & 3rd Sat)

DAVAO: CAP Anda St. (1st & 3rd Sat.)

DIPOLOG: Top Plaza Hotel (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sat.)

DUMAGUETE: Bethel Rest. House (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat.)

LAS PINAS: Italia Club 500 (1<sup>st</sup> Sat.)

LEGASPI: Albay Hotel, Legaspi City (2<sup>nd</sup> Sat.)

MAASIN: Valteuvian Restaurant, Leyte (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun.)

MACTAN: Majestic Restaurant (2nd & 4<sup>th</sup> Sat.)

MANDAUE: Flormont Hotel (4th Sat.)

ORMOC: Pongos Hotel (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4th Sat.)

OZAMIZ: Supermix Restaurant (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat.)

PARANAQUE: Chilean Restaurant Nat'l Rd. Infront of Robinson's  
Imus (1st & 3rd Sats.)

PUERTO PRINCESA: Legend Hotel (1st Sat.)

QUEZON CITY: Max's Restaurant, T. Morato Ave. (4<sup>th</sup> Sat.)

RIZAL: Manila East Golf Club, Taytay, Rizal (3<sup>rd</sup> Sat.)

SAN FERNANDO: Café Rustico, Olongapo –Gapan Rd.

SAN JOSE: Regina's Restaurant (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun.)

SORSOGON: Jollibee Sorsogon (1st & 2nd Sat)

TACLOBAN: Don's Cabin (4<sup>th</sup> Sat.)

TAGBILARAN: JJ's Seafood Village (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sat.)

TAGUM: Molave Restaurant (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat.)

TUBIGON: Parish Palao Hall (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat.)

TUGUEGARAO: Marilyn Restaurant (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sat.)

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### OUR COVER



A thousand strong brothers and sisters, coming from Tuguegarao to Zamboanga, rallied to pray and play, converged to shop and share, and assembled to meet and compete in the three-day 21<sup>st</sup> BCBP National Anniversary held in Davao last April 20 – 23.

In this issue, we commemorate the 21<sup>st</sup> BCBP National Anniversary. We carry herein a Special Section on this celebration with brothers and sisters giving us insights into the joy and experiences of preparing for the event, into the challenges faced and the victories won in hosting this fun-filled homecoming, and have a glimpse of the beauty and paradise we call Davao.

Moreover, this issue incorporates the March – April edition featuring our focus theme, **Workplace Evangelism**. A whole section is devoted to varied yet interesting articles on workplace experiences and practices, that are serious and light as well as meditative and instructive.

Enjoy this issue and Good Easter to each and everyone!

### Editor's Note



and

# "Go Out and Bear Fruit"

John 15:16



BCBP had its "debuntate's" party last April when it celebrated its 21st National Anniversary. And in the President's message, Bro. Louie Morales stated that the significance of that event was to reflect on our coming into maturity and to choose the direction to take as we face our crossroads. And that direction is for the BCBP to transform itself from a well structured organization into a community, what he calls a Brotherhood Christian Community.

He adds that as one matures, one is called to embrace the world, to become more responsible, more useful for others, one is therefore called "to go out and bear fruit"

Much of the initial years of the BCBP focused on the spiritual formation of its members, the expansion of its chapters and their outreaches, and the conduct of teaching and formation programs. As we begin our transformation into a community, this call to go out and bear fruit needs careful reflection and afterwards decisive action, not by BCBP members individually but collectively.

A week after the Davao celebrations, a major crisis gripped the nation. What we now label as Black Labor Day points towards the direction where the BCBP community should go. That failed attempt by some 50,000 of our poor and depressed brethren to storm and to take over Malacañang stunned the Catholic Church. Consequently, after a week of reflection, the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines publicly apologized for the church's failure to listen and to reach out to the depressed and marginalized sectors of our society; namely, the poor that comprises more than a third of 60 million Filipinos. And it implored the faithful to go out and make reparations to our unfortunate brothers and sisters.

How do we as a Brotherhood Christian Community respond to this challenge? How do we respond to Christ's command that we reach out to the poor, the hungry, the dispossessed, the persecuted, the marginalized and the victims of injustice. In the Beatitudes, He calls on us to commit ourselves in the service of others, but with preference to the service of the poor amongst us. He lived with and among the poor having a special predilection for social outcasts.

In the second Mancom Report of year 2000, advocacy and social action were included into the general evangelization program of the BCBP. This is a good start as we realize that reaching out to the poor is indeed a worthy challenge. But before we go any farther, let's make one thing clear: BCBP was commissioned by God for a specific purpose, to evangelize the marketplace. This has been our focus for the last 21 years and is expected to be our focus in the future. And we have been blessed to have achieved considerable results in this milieu as evidenced by our more than 15,000 members nationwide. However, with the recent and current crises that our country is experiencing, the Lord seems to ask us to go a bit further in our mission, to go the extra mile, to go to the other end of the line - to those with less in life.

Our BCBP leadership is aware of the Lord's call for us to do more and has responded to this challenge. We have launched the BCBP Eco-Reach Program that helps the jobless and least privileged women in depressed areas of the community undertake income-generating micro-enterprises through a micro-lending scheme, at the same time teaching them Catechism and love for God and fellowmen. The ManCom has designated a 3rd director in each chapter, Director for Programs and Services, precisely to oversee this new program and to direct different advocacy programs that are in the BCBP pipeline. Each chapter and outreach is encouraged to find ways to lend helping hands to the poor in their localities -- but without compromising the BCBP's primary purpose of bringing Christ to the marketplace and the marketplace to Christ. BCBP members are also encouraged to participate actively in their local government affairs with the result that in several provinces and municipalities BCBP members won in the recent elections.

Perhaps we need to remember also that as we BCBP businessmen and professionals excel in our respective marketplaces, we are, directly and indirectly, providing employment to the unemployed, providing just and living wages to our workers as well as helping these wage earners - and their families - through medical and various other benefits. In this instance, reaching out to the poor in our marketplace may mean just being a little more "human" and "Christ-like" to the ordinary laborers, blue collar workers and/or fellow employees at all levels of the corporate organization.

Perhaps then as we live out our mission and vision in our own marketplaces, we can say that "Yes, we are bearing fruit!" in the sense that Christ meant. Then can we harvest the fruits that He has promised us - the peace, joy and prosperity that He alone can give us. Fruits that will endure forever. Only then, may we call ourselves true disciples of Christ - a Brotherhood Christian Community!

The Catholic Bishops' Conference in general and Cardinal Sin in particular, have called for the unity of Filipinos, Christians or not, to fight corruption in public service and to restore and preserve public order. St. Pope Pious X, in his letter, *Poloniae Populum* dated December 3, 1905, earlier exhorted Catholics to unite. In order that Catholics may not only seek true peace for their fatherland but also, as is their duty, labor to bring it to pass and to preserve it, it is indispensable for them, imitating on this point the fomenters of disorder, to group themselves in associations and in union so that, putting in common accord ideas and efforts, they may successfully fight for Faith and Fatherland.

For Faith and Fatherland. For God and Country. *Pro Deo et Patria*. This is our clarion call as Filipino Catholics. This is our bugle blast to fight all forms of corruption that undermine our progress as a nation.

President Jose P. Laurel wrote that "the starting point in life and education is the recognition of and faith in One eternal

God, the Creator and Sustainer of the universe. A godless education is an end without beginning." The President places highest premium in religious and values education over that of purely intellectual adventure. As Wellington said, "Educate men without religion, and you make them but clever devils." This religious education and values formation should not be wanting especially in people who already are, or aspire to be, in public service. They ought to be on guard against being deformed by arrogance of political power and fame. Or else, they will betray the true trust reposed on them. Trust, because, as St. Paul said, "there is no power but of God, the powers that be

are ordained of God," (Romans 13:1). Public servants do not own their positions. If they put their private interests over that of the country, they have no more patriotism.

Pope Pious XI saw two questions dividing the nations internally: the "social question," and the "political question." He describes internal class struggle – a social question – as being "foremost among the dissension and division which are destroying the physical, intellectual and moral good of the nations, paralyzing industry, the crafts, commerce and all the factors of private and public prosperity," (Letter, *IL Vivissino Desiderio*). Patriotism acts as a common ground on which the several classes can meet to attain mutual benefits, thus, preserving the common good. Obviously, a confrontational approach is not patriotic, much less Christian.

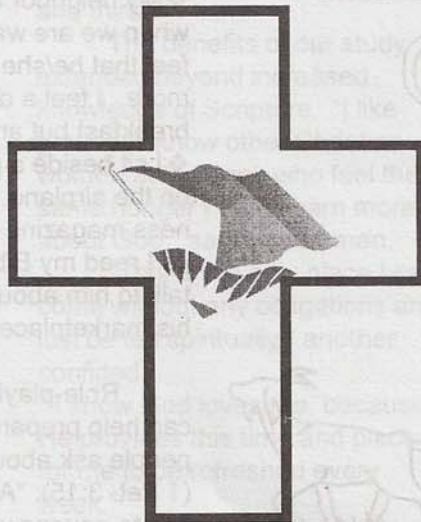
As to the second cause of division, the political question, the party system has evolved into a universal principle of political division within the nation that, to some critics, the parties seek only their particular good rather than that of the common good. The Church has nowhere condemned the principle of the party system as such. So, every Catholic is at full liberty to choose any form of political system and to belong to the party seeking that form. This was the teaching of Pope Leo XIII and Pope Pious X with the emphasis that in all contingencies party lines must cease before national needs and common good. Pious XI added, though, that in no case it is permitted for Catholics to align themselves with party leaders who place the interest of the party above those of religion and wish to place religion in the service of

the party (*Allocution, Misericordia Domini*). Has any Church placed itself at the service of a political party?

The Catechism of the Catholic Church no. 2246 states: "It is a part of the church's

mission to pass moral judgments even in matters related to politics, whenever the fundamental rights of man or the salvation of souls requires it. The means, the only means she may use are those which are in accord with the Gospel and the welfare of all men according to the diversity of times and circumstances." Doing so would make the Church patriotic for it acts for the good of the country. So, is the Catholic Church wrong when it intervenes where the common good is endangered by intentional excesses of those in civil power? Is she being unpatriotic in using the pulpit to denounce the corruption and immorality? ☩

# CHRISTIANITY & PATRIOTISM



By Msgr. Artemio A. Baluma,  
CBCP Legal Office

# Acting Out

Most of us have encountered opportunities to speak about Christ's good news to relatives, neighbors, coworkers, hurting people, people sitting next to us on the airplane or bus. But we don't always have the presence of mind to come up with the right words. We end up feeling badly that we let an open door for evangelization slam in our faces because we were unprepared or afraid.

One way to prepare for such an opportunity, a Divine Appointment as it were, is to role-play what we might say in different witnessing situations. We know the Holy Spirit is the one who opens a heart for Christ, but role-playing can help us be ready when God makes the evangelization appointment for us.

Evangelization role-playing is a great activity for action group meetings or for small groups during an assembly. Here are some scenarios to start with, and we are sure you can think of many others to fit your own particular situations. Simply divide your group into twos or threes and start practicing. Then share your insights on this experience with the whole group so that each one can gain inspiration from the other's presentation.



- ❖ A coworker is dying of cancer. I want to talk to him/her about eternal life, but I'm not sure how to work it into a conversation.
- ❖ We're flying to the province for the holidays where we will have a big family reunion. Our relatives already think we're "too religious" so we hesitate to speak about our BCBP activities and what Jesus means to us.
- ❖ During our office meetings, there is so much intrigue and "hidden agendas". I'd like to suggest opening each meeting with a prayer but I'm afraid I might be laughed at.
- ❖ My coworker just found out she's pregnant. She is anxious about what to do because the man has refused to marry her and her parents say they'll disown her. She doesn't want an abortion but doesn't know what else to do.
- ❖ My neighbor and I often talk for a few minutes when we are waiting for the bus to go to work. I feel that he/she is lonely and would like to talk more. I feel a desire to invite him/her for a BCBP breakfast but am not sure how to do this.
- ❖ I sit beside a prosperous-looking businessman on the airplane. He seems busy reading his business magazine but glances at me once in a while as I read my Bible. Now might be a perfect time to talk to him about welcoming Jesus in his life and in his marketplace.

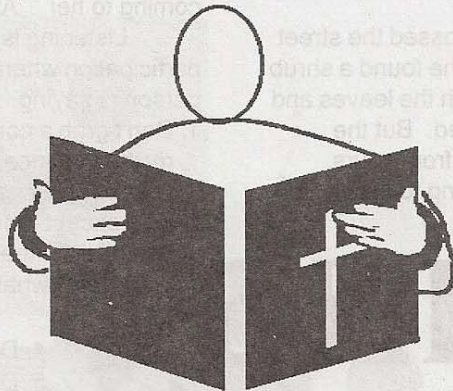
Role-playing with your action group members can help prepare you to give an answer when people ask about the hope in you. St. Peter tells us (1 Pet. 3:15): "Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope..." ✍

*We share with you a short profile about how a few women made an impact on the lives of other women in their respective workplaces. The method is simple, nonconfrontational, inexpensive, and workable for all ages, both for men and women. It could easily be adapted as either an entry point for a B.E.P. (Business Evangelization Program) in an office or as a post-B.E.P. activity.*

*This profile authored by Carol Secord originally appeared in the Discipleship Journal, Sep/Oct 1999, and has been adapted for BCBP use by N.R. Catan.*

When the board of the Scenic City Women's Network (SCWN) in Chattanooga, Tennessee, met Suzanne Goebel and heard about her Marketplace Bible Studies, we knew we were onto something good. Our instincts were confirmed when the Bible study groups mushroomed from 1 to 11 in less than a year.

Our goal was to energize and equip Christian women in the



a Marketplace Bible Study, we tell participants, "If you are having a bad day and you just want to put your head on the table, that's OK. This time is designed to give you strength to get through the rest of your day. We know you, as a Christian working women, are stressed from your jobs and from conflicting priorities. You

# THE WORD AT WORK

workplace by providing Bible studies either before work or during lunch. Our first step, Suzanne told us, was to recruit several women to lead these studies. Our leaders were generally women who did not work outside the home or only worked part-time and therefore were available to be "missionaries to the marketplace."

Next, we announced in various forums that we would provide Bible study leaders for women who wanted to study God's Word during their workday. We asked that interested women would recruit at least four more women and would obtain the needed permission to meet at their companies.

As one of the volunteer leaders, I met with women at the bank where I used to work. Over several months, we looked at familiar Bible characters and considered how we would re-

spond in similar situations. The women consumed every ounce of study material in our 30-minute meetings with amazing hunger and thirst!

The benefits of our study extended beyond increased knowledge of Scripture. "I like getting to know other Christian women at the bank who feel the same hunger I do to learn more about God," said one woman.

"This is the only place I can come without any obligations and just be fed spiritually," another confided.

"I know God loves me, because He provides this time and place for me to be refreshed every week."

This sense of sanctuary is not an accident. When we form

give to others all day, but here you are allowed simply to receive."

With that goal in mind, here are some of our "rule breakers."

- There is no homework.
- Women do not have to bring a Bible to the study (the leader provides the text).
- Women do not have to commit to regular attendance.
- Studies are held within walking distance of the members in the group (often in their own office building).
- The leader is punctual (usually comes beforehand to prepare the venue with a bouquet of flowers and small cross or picture of Jesus), but participants are free to come and go as they need to. ☞

**A**uthor Tim Hansel in his book *When I Relax, I Feel Guilty* writes: An American Indian, walking with his friend in New York City, suddenly said, "I hear a cricket."

"Oh, you are crazy," his friend replied.

"No, I hear a cricket. I do! I'm sure of it!"

"It's noon. There are people bustling around, cars honking, taxis squealing, noises from the city. I'm sure you can't hear it."

"I'm sure I do."

He listened attentively and then crossed the street and looked around. Finally at the corner he found a shrub in a large cement planter. He dug beneath the leaves and found a cricket. His friend was astounded. But the Cherokee said, "My ears are no different from yours. It simply depends on what you are listening to. Here, let me show you."

# HEARING *without* LISTENING

He reached into his pocket and pulled out a handful of change. And he dropped it on the concrete. Every head within the block turned.

"You see what I mean?" he asked as he began picking up the coins. "It all depends on what you are listening to."

Each time we converse with people, what do we listen for?

The workplace is cluttered with many forms of communication – endless phone calls, interdepartment memoranda, successive meetings, and conferences. It becomes more and more difficult for us to listen carefully and correctly. We are undoubtedly submerged in the pressures of work that we only hear and not listen. Likewise, many times when we talk, people do not listen as well.



President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, tired of smiling and exchanging the usual pleasantries during White House receptions, one evening decided to find out if anybody was paying attention to what he was saying. As each person came up and shook his hand, he flashed that big smile and said, "I murdered my grandmother this morning."

People automatically said, "Oh how lovely!" or "Just continue with your great work!" But there was one foreign diplomat who responded, "I'm sure she had it coming to her." At least, this guy was listening!

Listening is not passive hearing but an active participation where attention is given to what the other person is saying. Here are some tips to help you:

1. Don't grab a conversation by saying, "Yes, now take me for instance..."
2. Don't let your gaze wander from the other person's face except momentarily.
3. Validate the feelings of the other person by saying, "Yes, I see what you mean..." This should come from the heart.
4. Don't interrupt.
5. Don't try to top the other person's story or joke.
6. Don't criticize.
7. Ask appropriate questions about what the other person is saying.

8. Don't argue.
9. As you can see, listening takes effort as well as hard work.
10. When it is so hard for us to pay attention and genuinely listen, we have to depend on God's favor and grace. And when no one is interested in listening to you, cheer up because God is always there for you.

*By Francis J. Kong*

***Our God is a loving Father who is willing to hear our pains. You can approach and tell Him about all your pressures, your tasks and deadlines. You can be sure He listens.***

*Talk to Him today.*

*God's Word in the Book of 1 John 5: 14-15 says,*

*"This is the confidence we have in approaching*

*God: that if we ask anything according to His*

*will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us – whatever we ask – we know that we have what we asked of Him."*

God is never too busy to give us an audience. You don't need to make an appointment. Just talk to Him. Pray not so much with your lips as with your heart. And guess what? You may actually hear Him. Listen! ☞

—Reprinted with permission from Francis J. Kong's book: ***Only the Real Matters.***



# Workplace Witnessing Tips



**DO work with skill and excellence.**

Our faith should lead us to strive to excel on the job. As the Apostle Paul reminded, we are to work as unto the Lord. Are we giving our employer value for what we are paid? A failure in this area can build a serious credibility barrier with those we seek to reach.

**DO conduct yourself ethically.**

Unbelievers are quick to spot a phony. If we are hypocritical, they feel a right to disregard our message. Go the extra mile to avoid questionable practices.

**DO build relationships.**

Make friends. Enter into the worlds of your coworkers. Ask questions about them and their families. Be interested, act interested and listen to them. Get to know your colleagues, remember things about them, and use these as stepping stones for future conversations. Many people are glad for someone to listen to them. If they know you care, they may turn to you in a time of need.

**DO keep an office stash of evangelism materials to give away** – pocket New Testaments, small booklets like those by Fr. Robert

DeGrandis, S.S.J., bookmarks with bible verses on them, and testimony and worship tapes. Choose materials that are appropriate for your coworkers.

**DO pray for your colleagues.**

Keep a list of needs you find out about at work, and pray through that list.

**DON'T neglect your job while witnessing and evangelizing.**

If you can carry out your work effectively while talking to someone, fine. If not, talk during breaks, lunches, and after hours.

**DON'T dump the truckload.**

In your excitement to share, exercise wisdom. Whet appetites, and stimulate curiosity. Don't give your coworker spiritual indigestion by filling him/her with too many things to absorb all at once. You will see these people daily. Build your witness a step at a time. Remember, you want them to make a solid, thoughtful commitment, not a hasty one.

**DON'T be ashamed of your faith.**

People believe all sorts of wacky things. Are they embarrassed about their beliefs? No! Why should you feel funny about your faith in God? If you have built friendships with your coworkers and treated them with respect, they will probably be willing to listen to you. ✍

—Adapted from an article by John Green in *Discipleship Journal*, Sep/Oct 1999.

*A Memo  
for the  
Busy Businessman  
(or woman)  
...or anyone under*

**stress**

Ever wonder about the abbreviation ASAP? Generally we think of it in terms of even more hurry and stress in our lives. Maybe if we think of this abbreviation in a different manner, we will begin to find a new way to deal with those rough days along the way.

**ASAP**

There's work to do, deadlines to meet,  
you've got no time to spare.  
But as you hurry and scurry,  
ASAP - Always say a prayer.

In the midst of family chaos,  
"Quality time" is rare.  
Do your best; let God do the rest,  
ASAP - Always say a prayer.

It may seem like your worries  
are more than you can bear.  
Slow down and take a breather,  
ASAP - Always say a prayer.

God knows how stressful life is,  
He wants to ease our cares.  
And He'll respond to all your needs,  
ASAP - Always say a prayer.

**TEN  
Qualities of Successful  
Bosses**

- 1 Cheerfully greets all employees with a smile regardless of their job status.
- 2 Properly calls people by name (and title when appropriate).
- 3 Never considers himself or herself above doing menial tasks or helping someone.
- 4 Delegates but does not dump his or her task on others.
- 5 Privately and constructively critiques an employee who has made an error, no matter how insignificant or outstandingly bad.
- 6 Displays an appropriate sense of humor in proper circumstances.
- 7 Is self-deprecating, always willing to take responsibility for errors, never placing blame on others.
- 8 Is not self-absorbed, but interested in others - an attentive listener.
- 9 Never expects employees to keep rules he or she is unwilling to observe.
- 10 Treats employees of the opposite sex as business professionals and does not require females to do the traditionally "old-fashioned female chores".



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Here are some interesting facts, tidbits of information and trivia for you readers who think you know everything.

- ◆ Rubber bands last longer when refrigerated.
- ◆ Peanuts are one of the ingredients of dynamite.
- ◆ The average person's left hand does 56% of the typing.
- ◆ A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes.
- ◆ There are more chickens than people in the world.
- ◆ No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver, or purple.
- ◆ Almonds are a member of the peach family.
- ◆ A cat has 32 muscles in each ear.
- ◆ An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.
- ◆ Tigers have striped skin, not just striped fur.
- ◆ A goldfish has a memory span of three seconds.
- ◆ It's impossible to sneeze with your eyes open.
- ◆ The giant squid has the largest eyes in the world.
- ◆ The microwave was invented after a researcher walked by a radar tube and a chocolate bar melted in his pocket.
- ◆ The average person falls asleep in seven minutes.
- ◆ There are 336 dimples on a regulation golf ball.
- ◆ "Stewardesses" is the longest word that is typed with only the left hand.

...now you know everything (more or less!).

## ...and what did you learn in religion class today?

A little girl, dressed in her Sunday best, was running as fast as she could, trying not to be late for catechism class. As she ran she prayed, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late! Dear Lord, please don't let me be late!" As she was running and praying, she tripped and fell, getting her clothes dirty and tearing her dress.

She got up, brushed herself off, and started running again. As she ran she once again began to pray, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late... But please don't shove me either!"

\*\*\*\*\*

A little girl became restless as the priest's sermon dragged on and on. Finally, she leaned over to her mother and whispered, "Mommy, if we give him the money now, will he let us go?"

\*\*\*\*\*

A little boy was overheard praying: "Lord, if You can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am!"

\*\*\*\*\*

*Adam and Eve had an ideal marriage. He didn't have to hear about all the men she could have married, and she didn't have to hear about the way his mother cooked.*

\*\*\*\*\*

A Sunday school teacher asked her class, "And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?" Annie replied, "Because people are sleeping."

\*\*\*\*\*

A Sunday School teacher asked her class why Joseph and Mary took Jesus with them to Jerusalem. A small child replied: "They couldn't get a baby-sitter."

\*\*\*\*\*

*A catechist was discussing the Ten Commandments with her class of five and six year olds. After explaining the commandment to "honor thy father and thy mother," she asked, "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?" Without missing a beat one little boy answered, "Thou shall not kill."*

\*\*\*\*\*

**In religion class they were learning how God created everything, including human beings. Little Johnny seemed especially intent when the teacher told them how Eve was created out of one of Adam's ribs. Later in the week his mother noticed him lying down as though he were ill, and said, Johnny what is the matter? Little Johnny responded, "I have a pain in my side. I think I'm going to have a wife."**

# MAYDAY! M MAYDAY!

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Jenny and Daday, our helpers, have been with us for a year now, and for the longest time, they have been telling me – and I had agreed – that in May they would go home to Bacolod for a vacation. Back in November, or even in February, May seemed far off. Besides, there was Christmas to get busy with, and then there was summer to plan, including our drive to Davao, in which Jenny accompanied us while Daday stayed to man the fort back home. Thus, the day after we returned, Jenny and Daday gently reminded me that the time had come. May had somehow snuck in on me and they were leaving for their hometown. Taking a cue from my habit of making lists for everything, they presented me with a three-week itinerary that included two family reunions, a birthday celebration and two weddings, with sidetrips to Laguna and Nueva Ecija to boot.

The temptation to hold them back was intense, and I could have had I insisted. In the interest of fairness however, I let them go. It had been years since the last time we were completely without help in the house, and I was expecting a big dose of the all-too-familiar panic that descended each time a helper would take leave. But my personal reaction was a surprise: I felt strange and rather brave quirk of excitement – it was summer, and the kids, much older now, would be home all day – this was bound to be interesting. We began with a meeting during which the situation was explained to the children and we divided up the chores among ourselves. The occupants of each bedroom would be in charge of that room, as well as its accompanying bathroom. The kitchen would be my territory and the kids had shifts in being my meal-time assistants – a detail which included helping with the cooking, clearing the table and doing the dishes. With the machine, doing the laundry was no big deal, except that I hated ironing, and I obviously couldn't delegate that. But that was ok. Since our byword was "bearable" and not "spic and span," I figured we could live with a growing mountain of clothes – at least they'd be clean!

By Annie Salvador, BCBP Makati



Urban Planning, check. Division of Labor, check. Bureau of Standards, check. I promptly trooped to the shops and filled our freezer, pantry and medicine chest so that Food and Drugs Administration would check out as well. Now if I could just get Interior and Local Government going, we would be fine.

Famous last words. Kids being kids, the lure of summer is simply irresistible. I often feel like an ogre, having to pry them from playing with the puppies or in our bahay kubo – complete with duyan – to come and help me out. And even if I feel righteous about doing so, their reluctance drives me to new heights of frustration, not to mention new depths in sermonizing. The TV and the computer have become Public Enemy #1, because they are the most difficult to pry the children from. Many a time, I have had to rewash plates, rehang clothes, and resweep floors with them, trying – as calmly as I can – to impart a keener sense of cleanliness and order, even if I know they are positively itching to just finish the job and break out of my grasp. I issue reminders and nauseum (while trying my darnedest to hang on to my temper), for them to pick up after themselves, as they are veritable experts in mess production. Either that, or I had made an uncanny discovery: that dirty dishes are capable of breeding when unobserved.

Needless to say, the physical work is fatiguing. Yet a lot of my energy also goes into fighting the enticement of just doing things myself, for that would be so

## ***And yet the rewards stretch for more than better habits for our children.. What this experience is doing to our bonds as a family is immeasurable.***

much quicker. But I resist, because I know there are so many opportunities presenting themselves in our situation. Wherever the children tell me they are tired, I reply that I am tired too, but the chores we do are important and need to be done even if we don't feel like it. Whenever they complain, I remind them that we are not simply cooking or cleaning or washing, but making our house orderly and pleasant to live in. As members of our family, each one of us has to have a share in the toil as well as the pleasures of our home.

And so, we try to cope. We do the dishes in assembly line fashion while listening to pop music on the kitchen radio. It turns to classical when I prepare meal, and whenever they offer to help, we add some omelette do fromage (that's cheese omelet, a family favorite) or homemade potato chips or fancy fried rice to the menu. Dessert is strictly kid's business, as in "you want some, you make some," and thus I've been having the best fruit shakes and flavored pop corn ever. And we're learning to paint rainbows with clothes on the line.

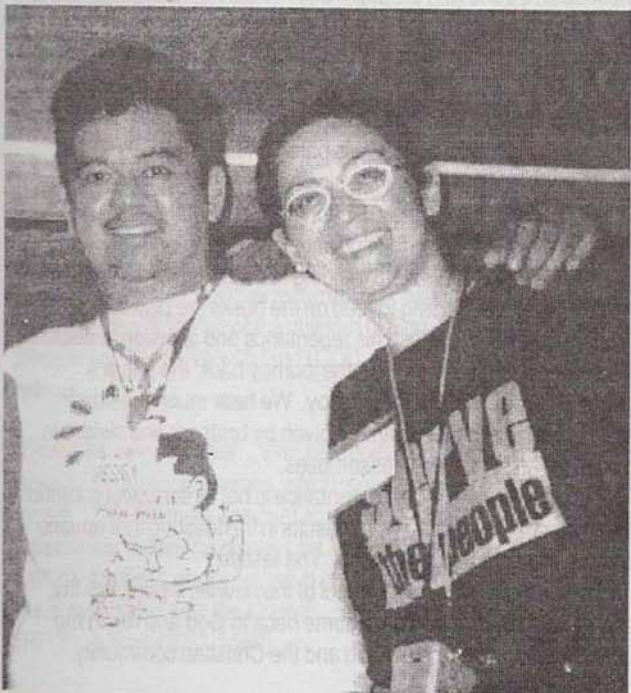
I must admit: over time, I've been feeling a little less harried, because the kids have been a little more

clean and orderly. Not only that, they are also a little more quick to obey. There's actually less need to quality check, to redo work and to remind these days. In fact, I have, more than once or twice, been proudly presented with a chore completed without express request. They are also better, somehow, at organizing their things, from clothes to beds to toys. My back, admittedly the worst casualty, is very grateful for having less bending to do as a consequence. And there's a bonus – our children seem to have grown a keener sense of appreciation for many things: the people who work for us, the pleasure of rest after a good working spell, the help that each family member is able to give another, and the fruits of honest-to-goodness labor. Now when we pray before meals, I catch half-smiles all around when Nelson says, "and bless the hands that prepared this food."

And yet the rewards stretch for more than better habits for our children.. What this experience is doing to our bonds as a family is immeasurable. We have always played and prayed together. Now we work together, seriously, and in a very concrete way the dimensions of our closeness are enhanced and deepened. In richer ways, we know each other and accept each other and serve each other.

As for me, at two weekend counting, the upside is priceless. My dread of being maidless is now a thing of the past. I have finally learned how to run my household rather than allowing my housework to run all over me. Despite the demands, I manage to carve out a few moments in the day for myself: to regain equilibrium, to rest, to savor the journey. On another plane, I am opening myself to God's work. I have always say that I love my family not just with my mind and my heart but with my hands as well. Now, in a very genuine and day-to-day way, I realize that. This present time may be exhausting work-wise and complicated logistics-wise (especially in the light of our BCBP activities), but with open arms I take it. In full faith I give thanks for it. With my hands' work I bless it. And with my will I offer it to my husband and my children. In mimicking the Lord, I pray that he will bless me with my heart's desire: to learn to love perfectly.

And to please have Jenny and Daday back soon! ? ☺



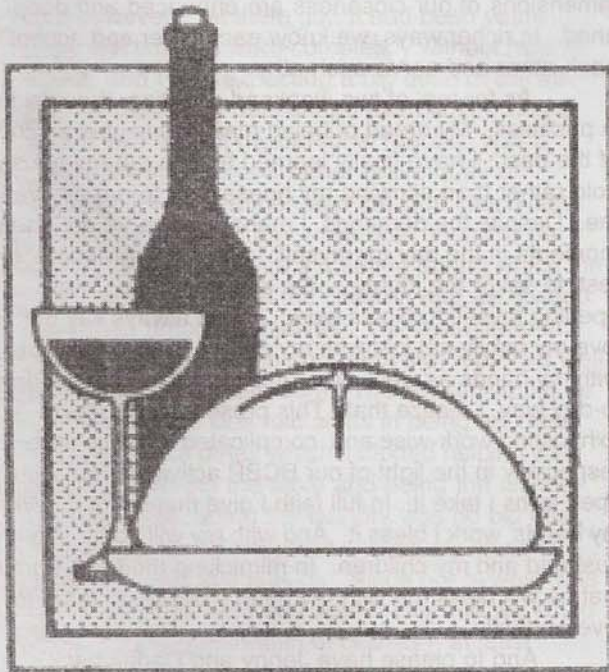
*Originally written for our Lenten issue, this article leads us to reflect on daily conversion, spiritual strengthening and spiritual resurrection - three aspects of our lives that have everyday relevance, not just during Lent and Easter.*

# Fastening and Feasting

*By Nancy R. Catan, BCBP Manila*

This is the time of liturgical year that invites us to go into the desert with Jesus for 40 days, to spend time in solitude, reflecting and praying as we unite with Him and with the Church in the discipline of resisting temptation and sin. The Gospels speak of this period in Jesus' life as having salvific meaning: Jesus is the new Adam who remained faithful just where the first Adam had given in to temptation. Jesus fulfills Israel's vocation perfectly: in contrast to those who had once provoked God during forty years in the desert, Christ reveals himself as God's Servant, totally obedient to the divine will. He finds the strength to resist the devil's invitations for worldly power and wealth. Jesus' victory over the tempter in the desert anticipates victory at the Passion, the supreme act of obedience of his filial love for the Father. (CCC, 538, 539)

The Lenten period is also a time of spiritual strengthening, daily conversion and preparation to enable us to more fully experience the joy of Easter and the promises of Pentecost. Actually, this daily conversion, spiritual strengthening, preparation and spiritual resurrection should be part of our everyday lives, not just reserved for Lent.



## Daily Conversion

Conversion is an ongoing process that we, as renewed Christians, must recognize as happening day by day, moment by moment in our lives. Here we are not talking about a Damascus road experience or even a Pentecost experience. Day to day conversion is accomplished in our daily lives through gestures of reconciliation, concern for the poor, the exercise and defense of justice and right by the admission of our faults to those we have offended (CCC, 1435). Conversion also includes taking up one's cross each day and following Jesus, living out the role in life that He has given us.

And this day to day conversion finds its source and nourishment in the Eucharist, for it is through the sacrifice of Christ that we are reconciled with God. Following our BCBP Commitment Card – reading Scripture daily, praying, being honest in our relationships and business dealings, being active in service – all these acts, if done with a sincere and honest heart, become acts of worship or devotion that revive the spirit of conversion and repentance within us and contribute to the forgiveness of our sins.

During the Jubilee Year we grew familiar with the picture and the parable of the prodigal son (Luke 15:11-24), the center of which is the merciful father. This parable told by Jesus vividly illustrates the process of conversion and repentance: the fascination of illusory freedom, the abandonment of the father's house; the extreme misery in which the son finds himself after squandering his fortune; his deep humiliation at finding himself obliged to feed swine, and still worse, at wanting to feed on the husks the pigs ate; his reflection on all he has lost; his repentance and decision to declare himself guilty before his father; the journey back; the father's generous welcome; the father's joy. We hear much the same story in many of the life sharings given by brothers and sisters in the BCBP breakfasts and assemblies.

But conversion and repentance is not all sorrowful contrition and penance. True conversion results in the feasting that anyone who returns to God experiences. The festive banquet in the parable is a symbol of the new life – pure, worthy, and joyful – that is ours as we come back to God and rejoin the bosom of his family, the Church and the Christian community.

## Spiritual Strengthening

The Lenten season and its days of fasting and abstinence are times of spiritual strengthening that God lovingly provides for us each liturgical year. "You shall observe the prescribed days of fasting and abstinence" is the fifth precept of the Church and is designed to prepare us for the joys and graces that we receive in the liturgical feasts (i.e. Easter, Pentecost) that follow these times of asceticism. The self-discipline that we are admonished and encouraged to practice helps us acquire mastery over our base instincts and worldly desires.

The prophet Isaiah sets out the parameters of what he calls true fasting (Isaiah 58:3-7). These and other scriptural passages on fasting are clearly paraphrased in the sidebar accompanying this article: "Disciplines of True Fasting". We could also entitle it "Fasting and Feasting" for it not only elucidates what we should discipline ourselves to avoid, but it lists things we should do to improve our spiritual health and moral integrity.

It is not enough that whenever God's people are brought to deep suffering, they begin to understand their neediness before the Lord and cry out to Him for succor. This truth is what we are experiencing now in the aftermath of EDSA II. It was not enough for us to acknowledge our wrongs in choice of leaders, it was not enough for us to be brought into the depths of social suffering, it was not enough just to cry out to the Lord and then rejoice at the quickness of His answer. We see now that we must take positive and dynamic steps to right these wrongs, to set things straight and to get involved in helping our country heal and recover. When the covenant of love and trust is damaged and broken, we must be active in the process of rebuilding, in the process of renewal and strengthening.

It is not enough for us to fast from the worthless, evil and distracting things and thoughts that lead us astray from God. We need to take positive steps to set our lives in order. And we do this through the sacrifice and discipline of doing the right things, of strengthening ourselves spiritually, mentally, emotionally and even physically so as to withstand the temptations of the devil and his minions in the world.

## Spiritual Resurrection

The end purpose of all this fasting and feasting is reconciliation with God. Indeed the sacrament of Reconciliation with God brings about a true "spiritual resurrection," restoration of the dignity and blessings of the life of the children of God, of which the most precious is friendship with God (CCC, 1468). Pope John Paul II tells us:

*It must be recalled that... this reconciliation with God leads, as it were, to other reconciliations, which repair the other breaches caused by sin. The forgiven penitent is reconciled with himself in his inmost being, where he regains his innermost truth. He is reconciled with his brethren whom he has in some way offended and wounded. He is reconciled with the Church. He is reconciled with all creation.* (RP 31, 5 from CCC, 1469) ✠

*When the covenant of love and trust is damaged and broken, we must be active in the process of rebuilding, renewal and strengthening.*

This experience of spiritual resurrection is what we as Christians should actively desire and work toward. It is now the period of Lent and in a few short weeks Easter will be dawning upon us. Brothers and sisters, how ready are we for Easter? Will Easter this year be a true 'spiritual resurrection' for us? Will we experience daily conversion, a strengthening of our spirit and true reconciliation throughout the coming year? ✠

## DISCIPLINES OF TRUE FASTING

- Fast from judging others;  
Feast on Christ dwelling in them.
- Fast from emphasis on differences;  
Feast on the unity of all life.
- Fast from apparent darkness;  
Feast on the reality of all light.
- Fast from thoughts of illness;  
Feast on the healing power of God.
- Fast from words that pollute;  
Feast on phrases that purify.
- Fast from discontent;  
Feast on gratitude.
- Fast from anger;  
Feast on patience.
- Fast from pessimism;  
Feast on optimism.
- Fast from worry;  
Feast on God's providence.
- Fast from complaining;  
Feast on appreciation.
- Fast from negatives;  
Feast on affirmatives.
- Fast from unrelenting pressures;  
Feast on unceasing prayer.
- Fast from hostility;  
Feast on nonresistance.
- Fast from bitterness;  
Feast on forgiveness.
- Fast from self-concern;  
Feast on compassion for others.
- Fast from personal anxiety;  
Feast on eternal truth.
- Fast from discouragement;  
Feast on hope.
- Fast from facts that depress;  
Feast on verities that uplift.
- Fast from lethargy;  
Feast on enthusiasm.
- Fast from suspicion;  
Feast on truth.
- Fast from thoughts that weaken;  
Feast on promises that inspire.
- Fast from shadows of sorrow;  
Feast on the sunlight of serenity.
- Fast from idle gossip;  
Feast on purposeful silence.
- Fast from problems that overwhelm;  
Feast on prayer that sustains.

# ROY SIOJO: THE BCBP IS MY SPIRITUAL COMBAT UNIT

Last February 2, 2001, Roy Siojo was formally inducted as the new Head of the Greenhills Chapter. Previously he has served as Assistant Discussion Leader and BCLP Discussion Leader, Act Group Leader, and Unit Leader. He headed the G.H. Music Ministry for seven years and experienced being Breakfast Emcee and a Property Custodian. How does he see the Brotherhood and his responsibility as Chapter Head? *Ging Santos shares with us excerpts from her virtual conversation/interview with Roy.*

- By Ging Sison, BCLP Greenhills

Roy and Judy joined the BCBP in 1989 out of mere curiosity. "I was really curious because I saw how it touched my brother, Manolet. (His brother was a former Chapter Head and is currently serving in the ManCom.) Now, they are committed members. "It is like Family, an integral part of our way of life. We have seen the best and worst of many brothers and sisters through the years; and they have seen the worst of

us too." Roy continues, "Here in the BCBP, what you see is what you get. Despite the conflicts and struggles, the bonds of friendship and love continue to strengthen. In this spiritual battle for the hearts, souls and minds of brothers and sisters, the BCBP is my Spiritual Combat Unit.

The day Roy Calleja, Regional Director for Metro Manila, informed him that he was chosen as the new Chapter

Head of BCBP Greenhills chapter, it did not sink in until later that evening. In fact, according to Judy, he took it lightly and laughed about it. But that night as he was about to start his prayer, fears, cold sweat, insecurities and anxieties rushed through his bloodstream. Suddenly, he asked the Lord, "*Ano itong napasukan ko? (What did I get myself into?)*". "I am so inadequate." Then he felt the Lord answer him. "You are inadequate. So I will fill in your inadequacies and be in control."

## Land of the Good Giants

Roy likens the past Chapter Heads to "Giants." He says, "When I joined the community Tito Ben and Tito Pita Sugang were chapter heads. Tito Ben was "a fatherly and kind giant." Then came Mark and Gloria Katipunan. Mark impressed him as a "true-servant giant - who had a gift of motivating those in service. Rolly and Adi Aberio came next. Rolly was the "gentle giant" who always had the right prayer at the right time. His brother, Manolet and wife Carla were also chapter heads at one time. He describes Manolet as the "caring giant," - someone who was very much concerned with how the members were doing. He appreciated his predecessors, Eddie and Daisy Mendoza. He describes Eddie as the "analytical giant." "If there is one thing that I appreciate from Eddie is that attitude where you step back before you pass judgment and decide on a situation or a person."

All in all, Roy is thankful that the Greenhills Chapter has been blessed with many "Good Giants" who have led the community together in their walk with the Lord.





## Relationship with God and Man

As a result of Roy's experiences with God and the world, he considers himself a prodigal son with God as the father who "took me back no matter what." He says he has learned first hand that he is very vulnerable and needs God; that if someone like him can be forgiven and saved, then others, too, can be forgiven and saved. He highlights the Lord's forgiveness saying, "Who would have known after all these years, HE would give us another child (after 12 years of trying)?"

He sees his co-workers as his friends. As a result of being exposed to different corporate cultures and presently as a "Balik-San Miguel" employee, he believes that "God uses Community to help us keep our bearings in the midst of all the challenges we face in the marketplace." He continues, "I've learned that, you don't have to preach in your office or quote scripture during meetings. You definitely will not get your desired results that way. Instead, the best way is to adapt and to take advantage of your office culture and just be a good Christian through and through."



## What's Next in the GH BCBP?

"Who are in your Governance Team? Who chose them?" Jokingly he replied, "I put the names of all the members in a bowl and prayed over it and just started picking names." Seriously, with prayers, he believes the Holy Spirit guided him in coming up with the nominees for the three Director positions. And he is satisfied that the ones approved by the ManCom are the right people: Badong and Robie Lagunda as Mission Director; Roy and Irma Puno as Chapter Life Director; and Bobby and Marite Lavina as Programs and Services Director.

Roy reminds his members that each member has a responsibility in making the Chapter grow and develop to be effectively responsive to God's call. "We should do our part well and we should be supporting each other," he exhorts. He says that he would like to see more members empowered with more service opportunities in order to develop a deeper bench of servants. "I would like more and more members to enjoy going to the assemblies and First Fridays, and beyond that, for everyone to see how important each and every member is to the Community."

"Our first order of battle is summarized in Jesus' Ministry: **Love one another.** We are in this battle together and need to live and breathe this philosophy of loving one another. And I have one dream during this service - to become a truly obedient servant, to be a man after God's heart. For this, Judy and I ask for your prayers." ✍

# MEET Mr. Shoolee

Ging C. Sison, BCBP GH, virtually interviewed Roy Siojo, new chapter head of BCBP Greenhills, also known as "Mr. Shoolee" and she shares with us some interesting facets of Roy's life and character.

Roy was born 41 years ago to a small family. He is the youngest sibling of two brothers, Tony and Manolet. A graduate of the Ateneo, major in Communication Arts, he considers himself blessed because life was kind to him. His father was a lawyer and a Professor of Law while his mother was a homemaker. He is married to Judy Siojo and they have two daughters, Marie Dominique, 13 years old, and Sabrina, 1 year old. Roy says, My two daughters provide me much joy and laughter. They help me think young again. It is a paradox: while they drive me crazy, they help me keep my sanity."

Roy's life may be likened to a series of rollercoaster rides. He lost his first born son, Isaac, seven hours after he was born. Then came the time he was in between jobs far away from his homeland while healing the pains of losing a son. There was when his father joined our Creator after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease. However, Roy says that it was during the time of trials and tribulations he felt God's presence the most. And then there are miracles, both big and small - a sweet and thoughtful wife, two lovely daughters, a good job, a decent family life, and the BCBP.

Roy is witty and can crack jokes anytime, bringing life to otherwise boring conversations. When asked why he is called "Mr. Shoolee," he quips, "Dia Cruz should answer this *kasi siya ang nag-umpisa nito.* I hope it's not because I looked like the character, (jokingly). At the time Dia coined the term, it was a popular show and "Siojo" somehow rhymes with "Shoolee," at least first syllable "*okay lang.*" Roy is a gifted writer and easily comes up with funny antics. Perhaps these are some of the reasons the name stuck with him. ✍

“You came  
 we saw  
 we are conquered.”

The story behind the opening of Calapan, Oriental Mindoro

By Etchin L. Sumagang, Mission Director, BCBP Las Piñas

The idea of setting up a BCBP Outreach in Calapan was a move initiated by the BCBP National Council for Las Piñas Chapter to spearhead. Such move was influenced by the absence of a BCBP chapter/outreach in Mindoro, the biggest island in Luzon untouched by the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals.

Mindoro Province is located south of Batangas. It is divided into two provinces – Oriental and Occidental. In the Oriental side are 14 municipalities with Puerto Galera as the most familiar place because of its beaches. However, the provincial capital is Calapan which is located in the northern-most part of the province facing Batangas City. Calapan City can be reached via fast ferry in just an hour, or almost three hours for the regular RORO boats. The trading center of the province is Calapan and big commercial banks have established their presence in the city.

With the blessings of Las Piñas Chapter Head, Bro. Lito Pardo, the first move to open the outreach was initiated by the couple Etchin and Marilyn Sumagang, the Mission Director of Las Piñas. Inspired by the Gospel readings on that memorable Sunday of February 4, 2001 where Jesus said “Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch”.... “Do not be afraid, from now on you will be fishers of men” (Luke 5:1-11), with hesitation like that of Simon, but armed with much faith that God will lead their way, the couple just followed the message and prayed hard for guidance in their mission work. Their three-hour early morning trip provided them ample time to

communicate with the Lord on what to do in Calapan.

With answered prayers, the couple was led to the Sunday morning Mass at the Calapan Cathedral. After the Mass, they talked to the Parish Priest of Calapan, Fr. Ben Famadico, who unselfishly spent time to learn more about the BCBP from them. After explaining about the Mission, Vision, the Spiritual Support Systems of its members including its history, Fr. Ben immediately arranged for a lunch meeting with the Bishop, Msgr. Warlito Cahandig who agreed to formal presentation of the BCBP to the Bishop and the People of Calapan by the leadership of Las Piñas Chapter be scheduled for two weeks after that meeting.

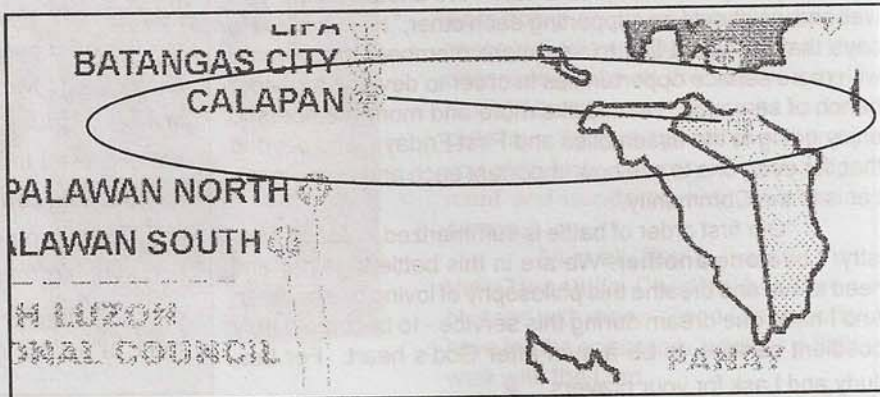
**The Formal Presentation**

On the weekend of the formal presentation of BCBP, the advance team, headed by the Mission Director Etchin Sumagang, encountered rough seas prompting them to advise the ladies in the team with no sea travel experience to cancel their trip for safety reasons. The following day, typhoon signal #1 was raised in the whole of Mindoro. Fortu-

nately, the Coast Guard allowed one special trip to Calapan, permitting the team of Bro. Lito Pardo and Bro. Manny Banigan to cross the Batangas bay. One team, however, missed the trip and proceeded instead to Lipa Outreach to attend another activity.

At lunch on February 18, 2001, preceded by a Mass at the Cathedral, the BCBP was formally presented to the Bishop of Oriental Mindoro, the Parish Priest of Calapan, three other Parish Priests and 32 business leaders and professionals at Star Café Restaurant, Lumang Bayan. The formal presentation was given by Bro. Manny Banigan, former National President of BCBP, with the support of Bro. Lito Pardo and Bro. Etchin Sumagang and a team consisting of 16 members from the Las Piñas Chapter.

The concept of BCBP was immediately accepted by the Bishop when he formally responded after the presentation with the famous words “you came, we heard, and we are conquered. Because of the courageousness of two of your members, Etchin and Marilyn, who came to see me two weeks ago, you can now start the mission that the Lord has given to you.”





It was the greatest gift given by the Bishop to the BCBP and the Las Piñas Mission Team.

Fr. Ben Fomadico, the Parish Priest of Calapan Cathedral, also reiterated the acceptance and endorsement of the Bishop by giving his full support to the mission work. The group opted to forego a mock breakfast and hold the formal Inaugural Breakfast on March 3, 2001.

When the Mission Team arrived at the pier they found out that all trips going back to Batangas city had been cancelled because of the typhoon. Text messages and cellular calls stormed the airwaves as requests for prayers and inquiries of the Mission Team's whereabouts were being exchanged. The members of the Mission Team were not prepared to stay in Calapan – some feared losing their jobs if they got marooned in this place; others could not afford to miss important appointments that they had set for the following week. Others were unprepared, as they did not bring with them extra clothes. At 5:00 PM, already preparing for the worst (to be stranded in Calapan for at least three days), the women went to the market to buy clothes. While the women were in the market, the Coast Guard informed the group that they had allowed a RORO (Roll On Roll Off) boat to leave Batangas Pier for Capalan and return back to Batangas City if the typhoon signal #1 would be maintained. Text messages and cellular calls requesting for prayers flooded again the airwaves.

God answered our prayers. The typhoon did not get worse so the boat was allowed to go back to Batangas City at 8:00 PM with all stranded passengers

accommodated. As the boat was overloaded with passengers, the members of the Mission Team (except for some women) stood during the entire trip. The team reached Batangas city at almost midnight. Although tired and hungry, the Mission Team was jubilant because they indeed witnessed the power of community prayers, with God readily "making a way" for the Mission Team. The following day, Signal #2 was raised and Mindoro was one of the provinces badly hit by the typhoon. God really makes a way!!!

#### The Inaugural Breakfast

The Inaugural Breakfast was scheduled on March 3, 2001 at Star Café Restaurant at Lumang Bayan but because of a product launch of a local wine that would give more income to the owner of the restaurant, the Breakfast was bumped off less than 12 hours before the schedule leaving the members of the Mission Team scrambling for another venue.

But God really makes a way. He led the Team to another hotel which was available for the breakfast, at very short notice. The hotel is now the permanent abode of the BCBP sharers and speakers of our Calapan mission.

The Inaugural Breakfast was attended by 42 businessmen and professionals from Calapan, and three Parish Priests. First sharers were Bro. Manny and Sis. Haydz Banigan, fully supported by 23 members from Las Piñas Chapter and 9 members from Lipa Outreach.

#### The First BCLP

After the fourth breakfast, the Mission Team introduced the BCLP on

March 24, 2001, with Bro. Ogie and Becky Hacbang as Course Director, and Bro. Rey and Sis. Merly Matriano as Assistant Course Director. In-charge of Finance is Bro. Caloy and Sis. Aida Anzaldo as Head Servants and Breakfast Coordinator. Discussion Leaders are Bro. Pons and Sis. Girlie Fallarme, Bro. Ariel and Sis. Resty Agcaoili, Bro. Mon and Sis. Riza Orendain, and Sis. Dita Obra.

Members of the team normally go there on Fridays or early morning (2-3 AM) of Saturdays leaving behind their families to "cast down the net for the harvest".

The Calapan BCLP is blessed with powerful sharers and speakers who are currently leaders of the BCBP: Bro. Rey Feria, Bro. Roy Calleja, Bro. Rene Cortes, Bro. Jun & Sis. Beth Ginete, Bro. Nelson & Sis. Annie Salvador, Bro. Ogie Hacbang, Bro. Jun & Sis. Nancy Catan.

God also has provided a rich harvest. The participants of the First Brotherhood Christian Life Program are: professionals Rosie Morales, Lulu Magtibay, Serie Acebillo, Jojo/ Merlie Maubay, Vilman/Belle Dasil, and Atty. Jun Mendoza, Jr.; businessmen/women James/Nida Reyes, Ante/Beth Villarica, Bon/Glecy Lim, Cris/Cristita Abel, Ben/Nelie Lee, Adolfo/ Monsi Magallanes, Bayani/Marina de los Reyes, Manny Maliwanag, Ed/Nanette Geronimo. Fr. Cenon Garcia, parish priest, is also a participant.

BCLP # 1 of Calapan formally ends on June 30, 2001, with our National President, Bro. Louie Morales, gracing the event as the Commitment Speaker. This will also be the official installation of the Calapan Outreach of the BCBP. The Mission Team and the whole of the Las Piñas Chapter are fervently praying that this Outreach will be able to spread the BCBP in the whole of Mindoro fast. With the birth of the Calapan Outreach, BCBP will now be present in all major islands of the country, thus fulfilling the BCBP evangelization task of creating disciples of Christ in the businesses and professions and bringing about a transformation of the marketplace. ✕

# The Resurrection:

## *Do we have enough faith to believe?*

by Fernando de Larrazabal

*"Take your finger and examine my hands. Put your hand into my side. Do not persist in your unbelief, but believe."* JOHN 20: 27

Thomas was the only apostle who doubted and did not believe that Jesus had risen from the grave. He demanded to see and to touch before he would accept the Lord's resurrection. Many of us are like Thomas, who try to intellectualize; always seeking proof; always doubting; never having enough faith to believe.

A classic example of man's need of proof is the pilgrimage several years ago to Aqoo. A million persons went to see the signs and wonders that supposedly accompanied the visions. To some, the revolving

and coloration of the sun were more important than the supposed messages. In the gospel of John 4:48, Jesus replies to a request from a royal official, "Unless you people see signs and wonders, you do not believe."

Jesus is not asking us to understand the many mysteries of our faith but, rather, to believe simply because he says so. Our entire Catholic faith is based on faith in the word of God and in what the church teaches.

I would like to share with you a prayer by Mother M. Angelica. Let us make it our own prayer.

### Prayer

*The joy of your resurrection fills my soul with exultation and the realization that my body, too, will rise some day.*

*All the trials, sufferings, heartaches and disappointments will seem as nothing, compared to the glory your suffering merited for me.*

*No evil tendencies will ever again disturb me, no sickness or tears shatter my peace, no regrets cloud my mind.*

*The Father will be ever at my side and together with you, dear Jesus, I will roam freely in the love of the Spirit, forever and ever.*

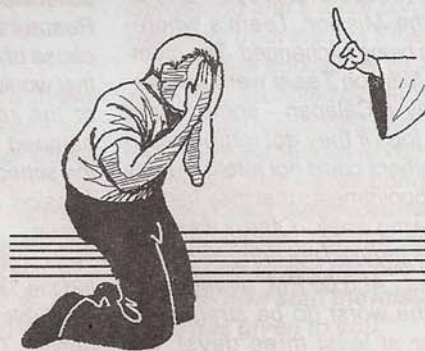
*Gems of Wisdom from Mother Theresa:*

## WHY SUFFERING? WHY SORROW?

◆ Suffering is not a punishment. Jesus does not punish. Suffering is a sign – a sign that we are so close to Jesus on the cross that He can kiss us. He can manifest His love by letting us share in His mission to some extent.

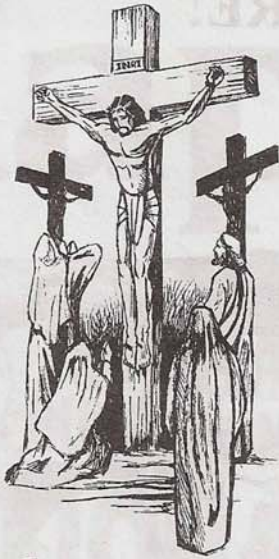
◆ No one can be a better friend than Jesus, because His love is so humble, so tender. He is always faithful, even to the point of giving His life for us.

◆ On the evening of that first day of the week, even though the disciples had locked the doors of the place where they were for fear of the



Jews, Jesus came and stood before them. 'Peace be with you.' With the resurrection of Jesus, everything was changed: night into day, sadness into joy; doubt into certitude; death into life.

◆ Remember that the passion of Christ always ends with the joy of Easter. Don't ever let anything overwhelm you with sorrow to the extent that you forget the joy of the Risen Christ.



## "My Conversation with the Lord on Good Friday"

My dear Lord Jesus,

I am not worthy to kiss you. I can't bear to see you in pain. I know how you feel and I am with you. My tears almost drop, they are coming out, yet with all humility, I have to go near and see you with a kiss telling "Forgive me, Lord, for all my sins." I desire to reform not to hurt you again, give me grace to continue to love you with all my heart and mind. I just want to tell you, Lord, on this moment on my way to kiss you that "my Lord, I love you, I am here with you to share your pain." I am here because I know I have caused your death. I now realize what I have done to you. I want to love you more, Lord. Please accept me back and continue to grant me grace to serve you in holiness and in love. Make me sweet and gentle, and most of all, effective in giving your sweet love to all in need. May the precious blood you shed today cleanse me and heal me and my whole family. Grant this petition on this "Good Friday." Amen.

Thank you Lord, I know you hear me, please help me, Lord, to remain in you and guide me all my life in peace, make me yours beautifully like your own.

Affectionately,  
Amelia Ng  
BCBP Cagayan De Oro

## THE CHRISTIAN ALPHABET POEM

**A**lthough things are not perfect

**B**ecause of trial or pain

**C**ontinue in thanksgiving

**D**o not begin to blame.

**E**ven when the times are hard

**F**ierce winds are bound to blow

**G**od is forever able,

**H**old on to what you know.

**I**magine life without His love

**J**oy would cease to be;

**K**eept thanking Him for all the things

**L**ove imparts to thee.

**M**ove out of "Camp Complaining"...

**N**o weapon that is known

**O**n earth can yield the power

**P**raise can do alone.

**Q**uit looking at the future,

**R**edeem the time at hand -

**S**tart every day with worship

**T**o "thank" is a command.

**U**ntil we see Him coming

**V**ictorious in the sky

**W**e'll run the race with gratitude

**X**auling God most high.

**Y**es, there'll be good times and yes,

some will be bad, but...

**Z**ion waits in glory...where none are ever sad!

# PICTURES GALORE!



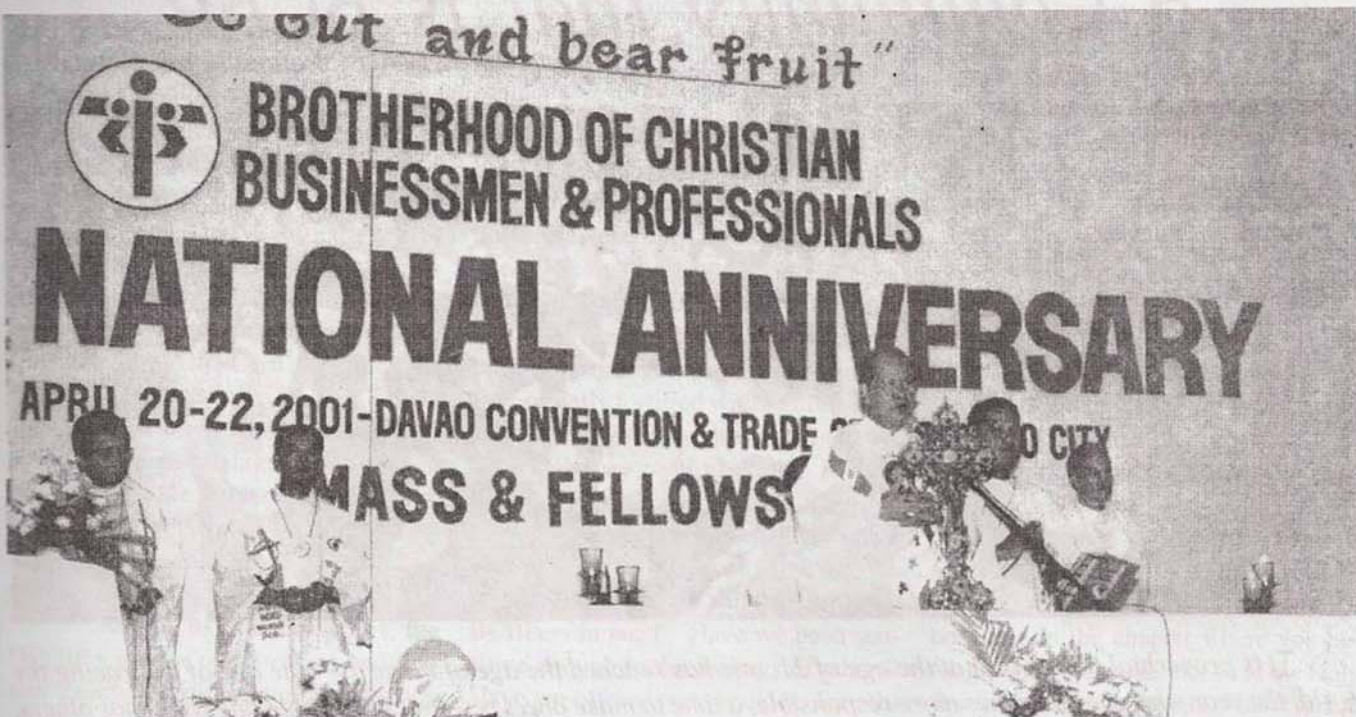
**21st BCBP National Anniversary Celebration**  
Davao City, Philippines : April 20-22, 2001

*"Go out and bear fruit"*  
John 15:16



# Kapatiran

MARCH-JUNE, 2001



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Special Section

# BCBP AT 21

## *A Community that is BCBP*

*By Louie Morales, BCBP National President*



*It is proverbial notion that at the age of 21, one has reached the age of maturity – the age of embracing the world, the year when one becomes more responsible, a time to make one's resources available and useful for others, a time to go out and bear fruit. As the BCBP celebrates its 21st year, this is what we in the BCBP should be.*

We started out as a movement from a humble beginning made possible by some 20 dedicated men and some 21 years ago. The movement then did move and progress to where it graduated into an outreach organization reaching the age of awareness – an awareness of the business and professional milieu and its intricate web of reluctance to make a legitimate place for the social ends of the enterprise, being content with its own values that served its utter egoistic environment.

It was a difficult path that those pioneering brothers took. But they were not all by themselves. A much stronger, loving and caring ally, the Holy Spirit, claimed victories with them in the marketplace. Thus the Christian values found their roots in the hearts of the early members if the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals.

But we never sat on our laurels.

We did not content ourselves with just being an "organization," a comfortable nest for Christians, for we are cognizant of more battles to be fought and won in the marketplace, made even more difficult by the pressures of competition, economic struggles, unfair labor and business practices staring right at us.

At this age of 21, it is safe to say that we have come full circle. Where do we go from here? Our anniversary theme commands us: "Go out and bear fruit!"

It is not enough that we have a well-structured organization, eloquently written policies and guidelines to achieve balance and an array of teachings and programs of formation, development and administrative concoctions. We must go beyond all these. A true, sincere and infectious brand of caring and loving among

ourselves should foreshine all our movements and activities especially when we carry our name out into the mission field. With such a caring system, the BCBP from a mere organizational set up, can now humbly claim itself to have metamorphosed into a full-blown community.

BCBP Community. A Brotherhood Christian Community. What do we really mean when we say this catchword? Are we a community in its real sense and meaning? The Greeks call it "Koinonia" defining it as "unity of heart and mind in the Lordship of Jesus Christ." Jean Vanier, founder of the French community L'Arche writes: "Community is a communion of heart and spirit, a network of personal relationships." He continues, "It is easy to replace relationships and the demands they bring with laws, and administrative devices. It is easier to obey the laws than to love."



**This, then, is the magic word:**

**LOVE.** We in the Mancom can flood you with manuscripts upon manuscripts of teachings on mission work, development, policies, directives and laws, but without love as a binding agent, none of these can ever prosper. Tracing back our humble beginnings, several attempts have been initiated to achieve a "community" out of the BCBP organization. Their successes are now becoming manifest. And we put an exclamation point when we made more expressive our common purpose and sharing of values that we have articulated as our BCBP Core Values – Love for God, Love for Community, and Commitment to the Lord's Work. Further on, "The BCBP Way of Life" course spells out how we, as members of the BCBP Community, should live our lives, underscoring the fundamental basics of being Christ's disciples, of being Christ-like in all facets of our daily lives at all times.

And as its title announces, the "BCBP Care for our Brothers and Sisters" teaching hits the nail right smack on its head when it articulates our specific and individual role in caring for our brothers and sisters – the role of being a

Shepherd, of being a Steward, and of being a Servant for others.

Supporting these articles of caring is our own interpretation and practice of Tithing. And what good will all these be if not guided by the Holy Spirit? This aspect then is covered by our community course on the "Fruits of the Spirit."

Of course we can claim that we have been loving and caring for each other throughout the years, even though the formal teachings, have only recently been articulated. But this year's mandate is different. Different in the sense that we are now, as a full community, a much stronger group. Our armaments are presently fortified with an unmistakable capacity to love more and to care more. But we need to do this in even more personal way. Have we love enough? Have we forgiven the brother or sister who wronged us? Have we ever lifted a finger to help and support other BCBPers in need? Have we been sensitive enough to the feelings of others? Have we offered our shoulders for others to cry on? Have we contributed enough to the growth of our BCBP Community?

Before we even think of serving in the next BCLP, BCMR or become a member of the Mission Team, let us first fill up our hearts with Christian Love and deposit substantially in our emotional bank account. Once we do, we can easily and joyfully offer the fruits of this Christian Love to the marketplace. And these are the very same fruits whose seeds will be planted and then, with the blessings from our Lord, will flourish and bear even more fruit.

Finally, in the spirit of our 21st Anniversary Celebration theme: "Go and bear fruit," I encourage you, brothers and sisters, to be contagious in your caring and loving. It is only in this way that we can continually fortify our BCBP community. "Each member of the community who grows in love and wisdom helps the growth of the whole community," says Vanier.

Let our efforts of loving and caring bear fruit in the action group, in the unit, and in the chapter where you belong. And with the guidance of the Holy Spirit this "community spirit" shall spread to the inner cores of the marketplace in response to our evangelistic call from God, our Father.

## An Abundance of Love

The BCBP Community demonstrated the abundance of love among brothers and sisters – even before and after the celebrations. This fruit of love overcame even the accidents that threatened to spoil God's festivities. In Davao when one of our Brothers from Bukidnon figured in the road accident Friday morning and was detained in a police sub-station in far-off Marilog, it was Bro. Gus Dacudao's loving concern that prompted Bro. Ronnie Go to make representations with the Calinan Police Station for the release of our brother. Thus he was able to attend the Grand Breakfast the next day and

the rest of the anniversary celebration.

When Bro. Jack Alviar of BCBP Parañaque was himself a fatal victim in another traffic incident Sunday evening in Davao, so many of our brothers and sisters came to give solace and financial assistance to his grieving wife, Sis. Rose. Awed by the love and consolation coming from total strangers, Sis. Rose experienced a loving community in action. The outpouring of love was further seen in the full-house attendance of BCBP Davao members during the prayer service held at Bro. Jack's wake the Tuesday night before he was airlifted to Manila.

During the wake in Manila, BCBP brothers and sisters from Metro Manila held a BCBP mass every evening, culminating in some wonderful and inspiring sharings, especially on the eve of Bro. Jack's interment. These gatherings of love, caring and support became also gatherings of healing of relationships, of realizations of how much God really does love each one of us. In fact, many brothers and sisters believe that the Lord allowed these incidents to happen to demonstrate and strengthen the wonder and quality of brotherly love and caring in the BCBP Community.

**O**n behalf of all the leaders and members of our Davao Chapter, and of Bro. Joe Coruna, our Eastern Mindanao Regional Director, it is with great pleasure and a joyous feeling that I welcome all our dear Brothers and Sisters from the different regions, cities and towns of our country to our 21<sup>st</sup> National BCBP Anniversary Celebration here in our beloved City of Davao.

It was 14 or 15 months ago while I was at the office when I received a phone call from our National Office in Makati informing me that Davao City had been selected to be the next venue for the BCBP's national anniversary celebration for the year 2001. It would be an understatement to say that I was shocked! We were only a baby chapter, a little over a year old, and the only chapter in the southernmost city of Mindanao, far from other chapters who could help us. But when I consulted our Governance Group, I was surprised at their enthusiastic response! They felt that the timing was right for us to host the anniversary.

After having settled the matter of hosting, the next item was the selection of the most qualified and active member to be the Vice-Chairman and Chief Coordinator of the Anniversary celebrations, a person who had been fully integrated into the BCBP way of life, with the time and willingness to serve. I was happy when Bro. Momong Robillo without much hesitation accepted the assignment.

My next objective was to have our principal chapter leaders attend the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Subic Bay Freeport not only to enjoy but to observe and learn the mechanics of hosting a national event. During our last gathering in Subic, we invited everyone to Davao in the year 2001. This marked the beginning of a hectic year of preparation. We began with a 9-day Novena to the Holy Spirit to help us plan and sponsor a truly successful Anniversary celebration. Bro. Pepot Fortich, who had handled the 17<sup>th</sup>

# BCBP

## 21st in

# Davao City



*Tony Garcia, Chapter Head, BCBP Davao*

anniversary in Cagayan de Oro, came and brought with him his complete organization chart for the celebration, with tips and advice to ensure the success of our 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary celebration. We started holding regular meetings once a month at first, then accelerated to twice a month, and finally, for the last four months we met every week, aside from the various committee meetings held in between.

Hosting a national affair like the National Anniversary cannot be taken lightly, as it entails a lot of planning, research, information and advice from those who already have the experience. Also a lot of work, dedication and perseverance was needed from every member of our chapter and those of our outreaches. As time went on one after the other, challenges presented themselves and were addressed, difficulties were overcome, the anniversary dates were finally confirmed, alternate venues were

explored when the site of our major activity, the Saturday night Luau and Fellowship Night, suddenly ceased operations, and the needed funds were sourced. The key to all this was the continuous presence of the Holy Spirit with us and in us, enlightening our minds and guiding us throughout our preparations and actual implementation.

Lastly, we pray that after all the celebrations are over you may go home with fond memories and with the wish to be back again some time in the future to savor more and experience the amenities that Davao City offers its visitors. We, the members of BCBP Davao Chapter, are at your service now and during your future visits.

May our loving God and Father in heaven continue to bless each one of us, sisters and brothers, together with our loved ones, and keep us all in His love and mercy always. *✠*

## MESSAGES



Dear Sisters and Brothers:

Another year has passed and we are ready to celebrate the anniversary of God's love and mercy to the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals and all the good things He helped us to achieve by the power of His Spirit. The these chosen for this anniversary celebration is "Go and bear fruit." Jesus says in John 15:8: "My

*Father has been glorified in your bearing much fruit and becoming my disciples."* Jesus said this right after He taught the disciples about the vine and the branches. He says: "Apart from me you can do nothing." The little parable of the vine and the branches points to the secret of fruit bearing for the kingdom of God. The foundation of it is an ongoing, deep, personal union with Jesus nourished by a life of prayer and loyalty to His word. My first wish for all of you at this our twenty-first Anniversary is that every member may grow in his or her relationship with the Lord in prayer and through faithfulness to Jesus' Word.

Jesus goes on to say, "It was not you who chose me, but it was I who chose you to go forth and bear fruit and your fruit must endure" (John 15:16). Then He says: "This is the command I give you that you love one another." The second condition for bearing fruit is our love for one another may grow more and

more like that of Christ for us. I pray that by his grace, Jesus would give us the courage to heal any broken relationships, to bring peace to those that are strained, and to strengthen those that have weakened. We are shown to be His disciples by the love we have for one another.

What is the fruit that the Lord looks for? I believe it is this. By our love for the Lord shown in faithfulness to His word – a faithfulness manifested in daily life – by our love for one another, we are to witness to Him in the marketplace and in the world, as He was God's witness in the world. He desires the BCBP to offer businessmen and professionals a viable alternative to the lifestyle and values of this world. He desires the BCBP to make visible and tangible the truth all the human heart can ever desire is found only in Jesus, our Lord and in service of others.

May the Lord grant us all a three-fold grace on our Twenty-first Anniversary: An ever-deeper love and commitment to Him and to His Word, an ever-deeper love for one another in the concrete realities of everyday life, and an ever-deeper love for all the Lord brings to us or sends us to that manifests itself in a willingness to lay down our life for them. This triple grace will bring with it the realization of what this year's theme expresses. We will go out and bear abundant fruit for the Lord.

Congratulations!

(Sgd) Rev. Fr. Herb Schneider, S.J.  
BCBP Spiritual Director



I pray that this memorable event will be for all of you not only a grace-filled moment but also an occasion for renewing your commitment to journey with the Lord Jesus in the 21st Century.

*Fernando R. Capalla, Archbishop of Davao*

One of the priorities of my episcopal ministry is to make the lay faithful aware that their vocation and mission in the church and in the world is to permeate the whole range of the temporal/secular (the family, the different professions, business, economics, politics, etc.) with the values of the Gospel. I consider BCBP as partners in this ministry.

*Wilfredo D. Manlapaz, DD, SThD, Bishop of Tagum*

The Diocese of Digos shares with you the joy of this occasion and I sincerely thank the Brotherhood for opening the chapter in Davao del Sur during the Great Jubilee Year 2000. Favorable reports regarding



the presence and undertakings of this Brotherhood delight us. It has drawn many business people and professionals to be more active in the Church.

After a year of intense spiritual experience during the Great Jubilee Year 2000, we are invited to "put out into the deep" in obedience to the command given by Jesus to Peter. We are called to be courageous witnesses in every area of our social and cultural life. May we "put out into the deep" of helping build the nation of peace and development.

*Generoso C. Camina, PME, DD, Bishop of Digos*

I am proud to note that your Brotherhood has initiated this movement among your members, which has since grown into a significant cluster in the community. Should this trend continue to expand, I am more than confident that yours will become a major reckoning force in the society. More so that you are backed by an able leadership and committed members.

*Benjamin C. De Guzman, Davao City Mayor*



# The Paradise of Davao

By Bro. Gus Dacudao,  
BCBP Davao

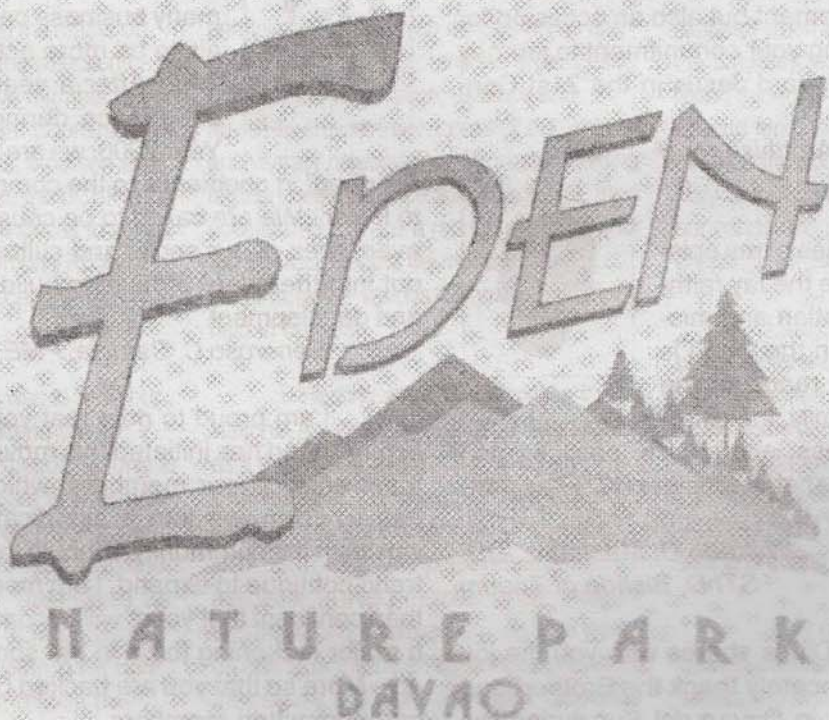
Davao City is a 244,000-hectare paradise nestled in the shadows of Mt. Apo, the highest mountain in the Philippines that reaches to heaven at over 10,000 feet above the Pacific Ocean. Having an invigorating climate without a fixed dry or wet season, it is home to the mightiest of eagles – the Philippine Eagle, which has a wing span of six feet, and the habitat of the magnificent Waling-waling orchid, the “Vanda sanderiana.” And a visit to Davao is not complete without tasting the king of fruits that we call Durian, a mysterious fruit covered with thorns, that “smells like hell, but tastes like heaven.”

Nestled between Mt. Apo and banana plantations, there is a crisp freshness in the air. Yes, our air is as clean as our spring water. And again, yes, our tap water is spring water from the subterraneous aquifers of Mt. Apo and its sister mountain, Mt. Talomo. Our electricity is also the most environment friendly, coming from the geothermal wells that reach into the heart of Mt. Apo.

From a survey made by Asia Magazine, Davao is the 17th most liveable

city in Asia, and the best in the Philippines. The city is a melting pot of people hailing from Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao with their respective diverse cultures that unite in the harmony that is Davao. Every year they celebrate their unity when they mark Araw ng Davao annually in March, with street dancing and festivities, and celebrate Kadayawan, a thanksgiving festival in August.

Truly Davao is a paradise, full of flowers, plants, organic vegetables, fruit, fresh fish, mountain havens and glorious beaches, universities and schools. And with the BCBP in Davao, you are always welcome here!



In the celebration of BCBP's 21st National Anniversary in Davao City last April 20 to 22, 2001, host chapter BCBP Davao created a Tours Committee so that packaged tours could be offered to delegates in between the three main activities.

As planned by our group of 15, we offered City Tours on Day One (Friday); Mountain Tours on Day Two, right after the Grand Breakfast; and a Beach Outing on the last day (Sunday) at the Paradise Beach Resort in Samal Island, Davao del Norte, just across the Davao-Samal channel. The City Tours (one in the morning and one in the afternoon for late arrivals) would feature Davao's downtown sights, like malls, curio and souvenir shops, art gallery and the Shrine of the Infant Jesus, 15 minutes from downtown. The Mountain Tours offered a choice of Eden Nature Park in Upper Toril (30 minutes ride), or Malagos (45 min-



In resume, we were able to give service to the following tourists in the comfort and safety of air-con buses and vans: City Tours - 68 tourists; Mountain Tours: Eden Nature Park - 115; Malagos / Phil. Eagle - 43; Paradise Island - 14.

It is very interesting to note that at 6:00 P.M. the day before, we only had

excelled in their roles, but saved us P 1,000 per day per guide in expenses: Bros. Sonny Joaquin, Sonny Miranda, Dante Aznar, and Rudy Bisnar. And to those who were on "stand-by" (for they also serve who only stand and wait) : Bros. Vic Paragoso, Rolly Gonzales, Claudz Limbago, and our AGL, Jimmy P. de Tagle.

# Showcasing DAVAO'S

*By Ernie & Alexis Jamora BCBP Tours Committee*

# Natural Beauty

utes), site of the Philippine Eagle Sanctuary and the Puentespina Flower Gardens. The Paradise Island beach outing was designed to give delegates a morning of complete relaxation before leaving Davao City in the afternoon.

Packaging the four different tours was completed once clear-cut arrangements with the concerned establishments and the different transport groups were made. In hindsight, we realize that flexibility in employing the right kind of transportation is the determinant factor in the profit or loss of the Tour's operations. This means not only fielding the right number of buses, vans or cars, but also in anticipating cancellations, substitutions, or other changes 12 to 24 hours before the trips. For instance 144 register, then only 68 show up at tour time.

the following tourists confirmed for our Mountain Tours: 37 for Eden Nature Park and 9 for Malagos/Phil. Eagle Tour. This means that a huge crowd of late registrants booked themselves just hours or even minutes before departure time! It was a wonder our tour guides could still smile.

*The Tours Committee is acknowledging with gratitude and pride the BCBP Davao brothers and sisters who gave their best efforts to sustain our 3-day tour activities. Their dedication to serve our guests, their very affable mien, and their patience and perseverance under trying conditions made it possible for our programmed tours to achieve results beyond our expectations.*

*Our hearts go especially to the following BCBP Tour guides who not only*

*We are also very grateful to Sis. Sofie Gundran, our Accountant and Treasurer; Rocky Bolivar, Registration & Secretariat; Gus Dacudao, Poster & Booth Coordinator; and our very smart and charming Tour Consultants: Minda Biebl, Nenette Unson, Dulce Baldrik, Norma Rimorin, Nida Laux, Nitz Sison, Jackie Tan, Josie Manaois, and Alice Pavino.*

*We also take our hats off to our indefatigable AGLs, Jimmy and Poying Perez de Tagle, and Simon and Pam Chua who assisted them in that never-ending raffle on Saturday night. Likewise for the generous help of the rest of our brothers and sisters, especially Dario and Mat Lacap, Head of the Secretariat, and the Head of Physical Arrangements, Bro. Jun Gokotano and his wife Bing. And to all who donated for the prizes, thank you so much and God bless you all!*

# GETTING IT ALL TOGETHER

## *The BCBP Way*



It was a wonder (or a small miracle) that without expertise or experience in handling an undertaking of this magnitude, our overall coordinator survived and overcame all the odds! Bro. Momong attributes this to the supreme efforts of all involved backed up by the power of the Holy Spirit.

...

Although we found the electronic registration system (anyone could register on-line through the BCBP website) very helpful for our Secretariat and Ground Handling Committees, there still seems

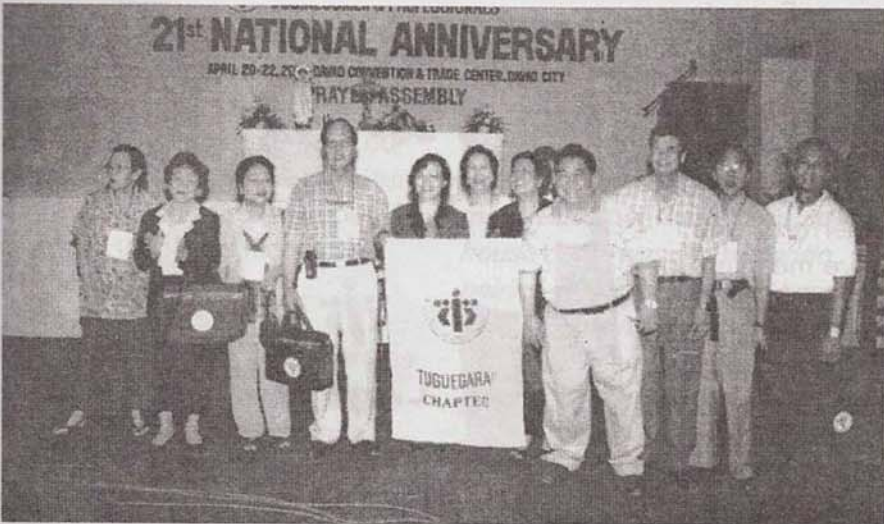
to be some "techno-phobia" among BCBP members as only about 15% of the delegates to the 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary celebration used this electronic facility. Perhaps the next anniversary host can perfect the on-line registration in such a way as to overcome this "techno-phobia".

...

*Our Secretariat, headed by Bro. Dario and Sis. Mat Lacap had its operations computerized, thanks to Bro. Jun Bahala's data-base expertise, and Bro. Arnold and Sis. Charlene Herradura's*



## ANNIVERSARY VIGNETTES



*The Brotherhood's Board of Trustees and MANCOM came in full force (30). They were: Pres. Louie and Mother Lilli Morales; VP Manolet & Carla Siojo; Treasurer Manny & Reggie Jimenez; PP Manny & Haydz Banigan; Directors Roy & Janet Calleja, Gau & Rory Arancillo, Joe & Hedy Coruna, Casi & Emma Nadela, Sadi & Ester Saguisag, Ted & Jo-Ann Siapno, Larry & Dedit Veloso, and Art Legarde; Board of Trustees Charlie Carballo and Rolly Ona; NSC PSD Rey & Lyn Feria; NSC Mission Director Ed & Ester Lising; and Administrative Mgr. of the National Office, Bro. Sammy Ulanday.*

internet café. This enabled us to insert in the souvenir kits nine pages of listings of pre-registered delegates complete with dates of arrivals, departures and hotel accommodations. A commendable job accomplished by our Secretariat!

...

A total of 1,081 BCBP members from the 50 chapters and outreaches from Baguio to Zamboanga attended the anniversary. Of this number, 836 were pre-registered and 245 members registered on-site at the Davao Convention & Trade Center and at the Breakfast on Saturday at the Grand Men Seng Hotel.

As in previous anniversaries, the highest number of out-of-town delegates came from BCBP Iligan Chapter, with 74 participants.

They received a special prize for this: a case of chilled red wine, corkage paid.

BCBP Taguan, an Outreach of Davao was second with 50 delegates, besting Cebu South by 2, and winning 20 pcs. of t-shirts, courtesy of Smart Telecoms. The other chapters and outreaches with big delegations were: Calamba, (the earliest to register) with 42; Iloilo (next year's host) and Digos, with 39 each; Cagayan de Oro East with 36; Cebu North, with 33 delegates; Manila, with 32 members; Tacloban, 28; Catbalogan and Maasin, with 27 each; Mactan, 23; Mandaue and Las Pinas, with 22 members each; Bukidnon and CDO West, with 21 each; and Dumaguete and Paranaque, both with 19. 34 members came from Tagbilaran North and South.



Ground Handling Committee, chaired by Bro. Ronnie and Sis. Shiramil Go, had the biggest share of the work. Despite pleadings for delegates to remit hotel deposits for early bookings (since April is convention month), there were some chapters and outreaches who took their chances, arriving without pre-arranged accommodations. It was a relief that only about 20% of the guests registered on-site, and there were still enough rooms available in some inns and pension houses. Some guests arrived quite early (Wednesday) and in the middle of our "dry-run" at the Convention Center. Thank God for the



## ANNIVERSARY VIGNETTES

wonders of the cellphone, Bro. Ronnie quickly dispatched a van to the airport to fetch them.

...

*Personally, I praise God for clearing a path for me to accomplish this task (Ground Handling Comm. Chairman). As an active pilot, I was very concerned about my flying schedule during the critical period of preparations. With the election season, I feared that I might be tied up with flights for various political candidates. These fears I soon found out were unfounded, for indeed, God made a way. The company helicopter was due for transmission replacement in October of this year. But about three weeks before the Anniversary, the mechanics found that the transmission already needed to be replaced. So the helicopter was grounded for the whole period until after the Anniversary. The replacement was completed on the 25<sup>th</sup> of April, 2001, three days after the anniversary celebrations had ended. Truly our God works in mysterious ways, but always for the good of those who love and serve Him". -Bro. Ronnie Go*

...

One of the major activities of the Anniversary Celebration was the Grand Breakfast at the Grand Men Seng Hotel, one of Davao's deluxe hotels with a big ballroom. The guests started to arrive at 6:00 A.M. for breakfast, the early ones prudently aware of the coming throng. By 7:00 AM the ballroom was almost filled. The Music Ministry had started to sing songs of praise and worship to the Lord. Forty first-timers attended the Breakfast, aptly fulfilling the Anniversary's theme: "Go and bear fruit". We had indeed gone out to harvest much fruit for this day.

Four sharers, instead of the usual one, told of their life experiences with the Lord. The first was Bro. Rusty Guerrero, who gave meaning to the BCBP's process of CONVERSION. A Lt. Colonel of the Philippine Marines, he related how his con-



version to the BCBP way of life inspired high ideals of soldiering and won for him many medals and accolades. The culture he gained as a BCBP member had truly made him an ideal Filipino soldier. The second sharer, Sis. Nimfa Calvez of Roxas shared how in her COMMITMENT to attend all BCBP Anniversaries, God made a way, even if seemingly there was no way humanly possible. The third sharing, perhaps the most significant as it conformed with the Anniversary Theme, "Go and bear fruit" was about COMMISSIONING. Bro. Bobby Borromeo, chapter head



of Iligan, related the trials and challenges that BCBP Iligan had to undergo to be able to establish their outreaches in Ozamis and Pagadian. Bro.



## ANNIVERSARY VIGNETTES

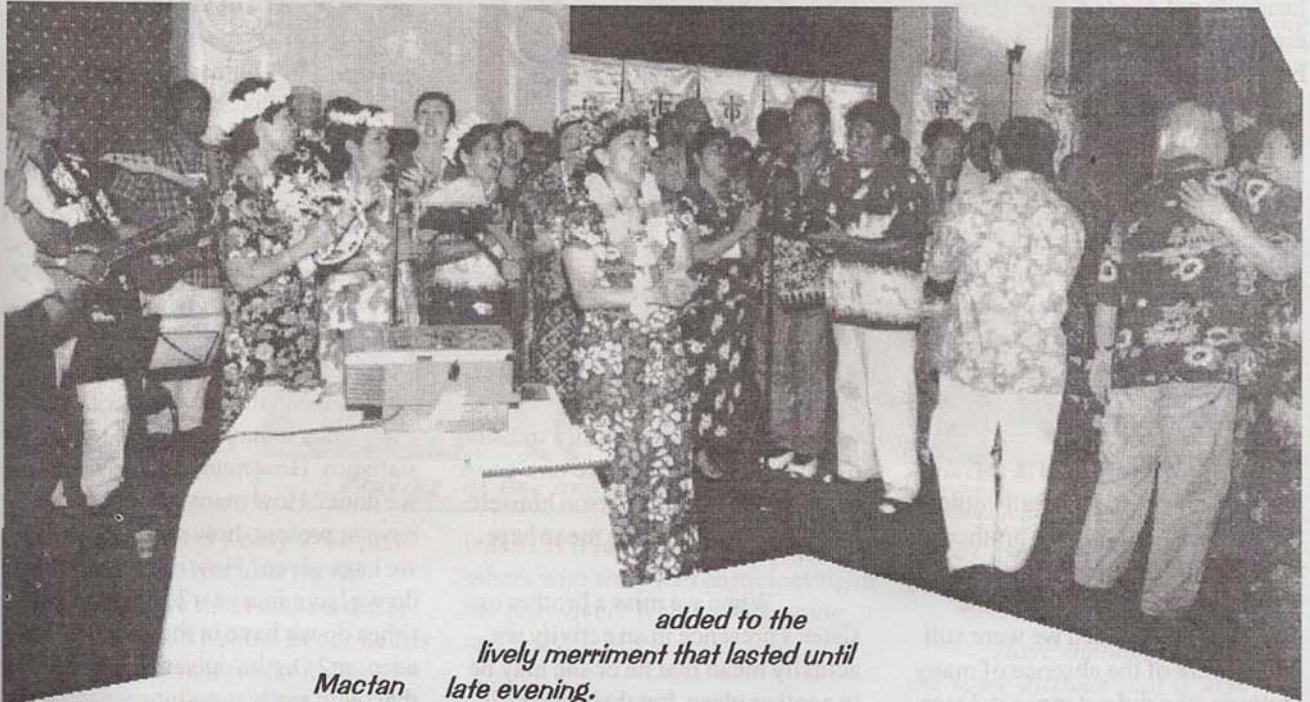
Jun Vargaz, the final sharer and chapter head of Bacolod South, talked about the healing power of God, how He heals both our physical as well as our spiritual infirmities as long as we put our trust in His divine mercy and goodness.

...

*Davao's best surprise was the Saturday Night Fellowship Special with live performance numbers by BCBP Calamba, the combined chapters of Cebu,*

*Jun Gokotano, and the other impossible requirements sourced by Bros. Toto Tonogbanua, Claudz Limbago and Jojo Abrera, the "actors" enjoyed their roles to the max. But what finally brought the house down was the romantic pairing-off of the couples beaded by Tito Ton and Tita Betty Garcia in "Some Enchanted Evening", punctuated by Bro. Momong and Sis. Ollie's theatrical lifting scene! Bro. Mario Mercado and his band*

and compassion. There were so many activities packed tight in those three days of April, and yet, the wonder of it all was that the members of BCBP Davao could still manage to have a grand time. It all seemed so natural that there appeared to be no distinction between hosts and guests. We were all there to give thanks, praise and worship, share, fellowship and party, to celebrate our 21st anniversary as a caring and loving community.



*added to the lively merriment that lasted until late evening.*

...

*Mactan and Mandaue, the outreaches of Tagum and Digos and the host Davao chapter. It was a rowdy and happy group that re-enacted Davao's edition of South Pacific, complete with graceful Wahinis, "macho" sailors, and the hyper-active, supposedly-sexy American nurses! With the artistic backdrop of Mt. Apo done by Bro. Romy Du, props by Bro.*

Yes, there was tension and pressure during the months of preparation, but everybody's enthusiasm more than made up for the difficulties. It was by God's grace and mercy that all of us just decided to work harder, inspire and help each other, and be patient (most of the time) with one another's idiosyncracies and tempers, all in the spirit of love

*From reports filed by Bro. Dario Lacap, Head of Secretaria; Bro. Ronnie Go, Head of Ground Handling Committee; Bro. Pepe & Sis. Aida Agulo, Breakfast Head; Sis. Lillian Abella, Head of Presentations; Bro. Momong Robillo, Anniversary Chairman; and other Davao chapter contributors.*

# Where The

“Children, *let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.* Now this is how we shall know that we belong in the truth and reassure our hearts before him in whatever our hearts condemn, for God is greater than our hearts and knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence in God and receive from him whatever we ask, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases Him.” 1 John 3:18-22

“I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you so you also should love one another. This is how all will know you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” John 13:34

I just got back from the 21st BCBP Anniversary held in Davao where the host chapter really outdid themselves in serving the brothers and sisters from all over with the warmest hospitality. Despite the number who attended we were still quite aware of the absence of many brethren who did not make it. Does their absence make them any less committed than those who attended? I do not think so. But anyway, let us look into this situation.

A most-often used phrase leaders use to assess a fellow member of his commitment despite his current absence from community activities or availability for Christian service is, “Never mind, I know



By *Ronnie Caballero*

where his heart is.” Literally speaking of course, we know where one’s heart is, it is with the person himself. But that is not what we mean here.

When we miss a brother or sister’s presence in an activity we actually mean that he or she may be in another place, but their ‘heart’ is with us. They may be physically present in another place but we know their greatest desire of the moment is to be with us. So is this what we mean when they are with us in spirit? To a certain extent yes, but we can split hairs over those brothers and sisters who are actually with us physically but are somewhere else as far as their ‘heart’ goes. I say this because actually people can ‘be’ at

activities but pleasing the Lord is the furthest thought in their consciousness. Have we not heard of ‘powerful’ prayer assemblies that end up with deaf ears after the intercessory prayers when it comes to responding to a fellow brother’s needs and concerns? Everyone just goes home content with the ‘powerful’ worship without bothering to ask how they can be of help.

Another phrase I like quoting is, “Let us focus on the Lord of the service and not on the service of the Lord.” A reason this phrase has to be repeated and repeated is because we really have a tendency to forget or to have the right perspective of what we are doing at the moment, leaders and members alike. More often

than not through the years ‘servants’ have been caught in the cycle of achieving rather than loving. There is a tendency to have romance with statistics. How many BCLP’s have we done? How many members we have at present, how many teachings we have given? How many activities do we have in a year? How much tithes do we have in the chapter account? On the outset, you may say that there really is nothing wrong with these measurements or assessments if we know where to look closely, IF we know where to look and examine. Because SOMEONE does look into the heart of the matter and that person is GOD.

There is a very stinging text message that goes around nowadays. It says, “God looks beyond godly habits, beyond moral lifestyle

## COMMENTARIES

and beyond church involvement. He focuses his penetrating gaze **UPON YOUR HEART!**" I believe this is so because the 'heart' does not lie. As we say when we 'speak from the heart' we are speaking plainly, directly and honestly. So, it is not really a matter of doing or achieving but where our heart is as we do our service or fellowship. It is not just a matter of getting things done, but done in the right spirit. It is not just a matter of right form but also of right substance. So, it is better to be loving to each other even if it means not getting anything done at all. Because after all, loving is ALL!

As our community grows in size we must pray that we grow in our loving qualities. In a large anniversary 'crowd' for

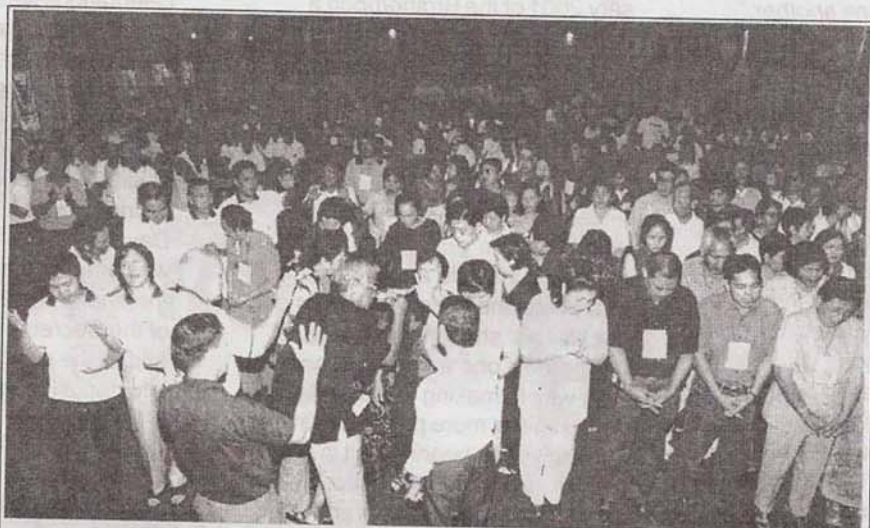
example, it is very easy to be just that, a crowd. But as a BCBP community we must make a difference. We **MUST** show in our hearts before God—that we do love and care for each other. As it says in John 13:34, "This is how all will know you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

At the 21st Anniversary for example, after a powerful worship and exhortation by *Tata Louie Morales* to CARE for each other, other members left the assembly, while a big "pray-over" was being held for others, to be at the dinner

tables, some unknowing that the assembly was still not over. I do not mean to make a judgement at this point but we certainly must question our hearts as a community for actions or responses such as this. Was there love in their hearts of the brethren who left? Was it the right thing? Surely, it was way beyond the scheduled dinner time, but considering we had called upon the Lord to be enthroned within us at the assembly, should we really

could still hear the echoes of "Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together..." in my ear. Yet, I felt in my heart we were not doing so. Let us close ranks and not blame anyone, but rather let us move forward, not lose our focus and build a **CARING** community with constant consciousness of love shown in actions and deeds.

Let me close with St. Paul's words in Philippians 2:2,



*Praying for one another during the Grand Assembly.*

*"...complete my joy by being of the same mind, with the same love, united in heart, thinking one thing. Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but*

*[also] everyone for those of others.*

*Have among yourselves the same attitude that is also yours in Christ Jesus, Who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped.*

*Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, He humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on the cross."*

leave? Is it loving to leave the others who were still participating in the pray-over? Is this about going and bearing fruit?

On the following evening after the Anniversary mass, a 'lechon baka' was being distributed right outside the entrance. Would you believe that instead of lining up and 'outdoing each other in kindness' the 'crowd' was engaged in outmaneuvering each other in a tight circle around the calf for a plateful of beef. I simply stood by in disbelief and frustration feeling helpless as no one in authority was around. I

# The 21st BCBP Anniversary:

## *A Celebration of Love*

By Bro. Momong Robillo, Davao Anniversary Coordinator

*"It was I Who chose you and sent you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last. And everything you ask the Father in My Name He will give you. This is My command, that you love one another."*

John 15 : 16 - 17

This is the full text of the Scripture verse of the theme of the BCBP's 21<sup>st</sup> National Anniversary — "*Go and bear fruit*". The celebrations are now but a pleasant memory, but how apt the words of our Lord in John 15 applied to all the Brothers and Sisters of BCBP Davao who made the celebrations turn out the way they did.

*"It was I Who chose you ..."*

Everyone involved was hand-picked by the Lord to perform each specific task that contributed to the over-all success of the celebrations. The way Brothers and Sisters moved, contributing their precious time and individual skills with robust enthusiasm, could only have been divinely influenced by the Holy Spirit. How else to explain the patience and perseverance in working out schedules, attending endless meetings (sometimes twice a week), as well as practicing our own presentation for the Saturday Night Fellowship? And on top of that, soliciting ads for our Souvenir Program from friends and associates during these difficult times? With the prevailing business slump, we thought hosting the 21<sup>st</sup> National Anniversary Celebration could not have come at the worst time.

And yet, after the nine-day novena (as suggested by Bro. Art Legarde of Bacolod) last year, it seemed that the Lord Himself had chosen BCBP Davao for the 21<sup>st</sup>, just as He chose each one of us for a

specific assignment that was as vital as all the others. He would make sure that all of us worked together as a team to make this National Anniversary 2001 of the Brotherhood a memorable milestone in its history.

*"...and sent you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last."* The impact of the hospitality, efficiency, and loving service that all our Brothers and Sisters who came to Davao experienced will certainly bear fruit for years to come.

All of the little and big things that every one of us shared to make our visitors' short stay in Davao a memorable one we pray will go a long way in making the BCBP communities more productive in coming years, bearing fruit in the form of new members, active attendance in activities, and a renewed fire of commitment to serve the Lord Jesus Christ in His BCBP flock.

*"And everything you ask the Father in My Name He will give you."*

Yes, indeed! The Lord did not hold back on anything we prayed for: discernment in selecting committee heads and members; coordination among all working committees; meeting the target quota for our budget; good weather; health and endurance for all the members; appropriate venues; and getting the full support of all concerned, like the Archdiocese, the civil authorities, the MANCOM, our Outreaches in Tagum and Digos (who even contributed their own impressive numbers), and all the active and even non-active members of our Chapter. What more could we ask the Father for?

*"This is My command, that you*

*love one another."* God actually helped fulfill His own command, because the purpose and result of the BCBP's National Anniversary celebrations was to love one another. In that 3-day celebration, God's love was palpably, crisply in the air. Hardly was there any frown around. Everyone was wearing a beautiful smile. Everyone was happy, celebrating the full maturity of God's loving flock, the BCBP. BCBP Davao's ready smiles, from the welcomers at the airport, the marshalls, the ushers, the members of the Secretariat, the tour guides, and all the performers simply infected all the guests.

Ultimately, it was *love* — the lubricating oil — that made all the cogs and gears of Team Davao's machinery work together smoothly and efficiently. Love for the BCBP, for our Chapter, for each other, and for our Lord Jesus Christ Who put everything together was the only reason why we all worked the way we did.

All the members of BCBP Davao, and surely the delegates who came were very happy and grateful to the Lord not only for the unequivocal success of the 21<sup>st</sup> National Anniversary celebrations, but also for the enrichment that the experience engendered for all of us, especially those who selflessly put in their best efforts to make the 21<sup>st</sup> a most memorable one. It certainly brought all of us closer to each other. If only for this most delicious of its fruit, I'm sure Davao Chapter wouldn't mind going through another one like that all over again!

# 21ST ANNIVERSARY

## PICTURES GALORE!



## COLUMNISTS' CORNER

**Ricky Beltran.** Actively involved in the Kapatiran for several years before taking the reins of its leadership, Ricky now presents this second issue as Managing Editor. Quite busy with his workplace, he still finds time to work on this issue dealing with Workplace Evangelism and a Special Section on the 21st Anniversary Celebration. It was a difficult decision to combine two issues together but the circumstances proved it to be necessary.

**Ronnie Caballero.** Still very much active in the Kapatiran despite having stepped down from Kapatiran editorship, Ronnie continues to write in his column **Lower Your Nets**. In this issue, he dwelt on assessing a fellow member of his commitment despite his current absence from community activities or availability for Christian service. Using the 21st Anniversary Celebration experiences he had as foundation, he clearly stated that it is "Where the heart Lies" of a person that what counts most

**Nancy R. Catan.** Finding herself lacking personnel in her own marketplace, Nancy doubles up in a couple or so chores at Mapecon, and yet finds time to weave three aspects of our spiritual life into an inspiring article, "Fasting and Feasting". Originally written for our Lenten issue, the article leads us to reflect on daily conversion, spiritual strengthening and spiritual resurrection - three aspects of our lives that have everyday relevance, not just during Lent and Easter seasons.

**Louie Morales.** Tatang Louie takes us step by step through the events that brought BCBP to where it is now, 21 years ago. He underscores that now, more than many other things, we have reached the thresholds of being a full grown "Community". He encourages everyone by saying that "A true, sincere and infectious brand of caring and loving among ourselves should foreshine all our movements and activities especially when we carry our name out into the mission field. With such a caring system, the BCBP from a mere organizational set up, can now

humbly claim itself to have metamorphosed into a full-blown community."

**Annie Salvador.** In her column Annie writes her family's experiences of having no househelps - to help. She cries "Mayday! Mayday! Yet it is one experience she describes as giving "rewards that stretch for more than better habits for our children.. What this experience is doing to our bonds as a family is immeasurable."

**Fernando de Larrazabal.** Still written for the Lenten issue, Tito Larry talks about the mystery of Resurrection. An aspect of our Catholic faith that we try to intellectualize; always seeking proof; always doubting; never having enough faith to believe. Tito Larry reminds us that Jesus is not asking us to understand the many mysteries of our faith but, rather, to believe simply because He says so, for He is God.

**Francis J. Kong.** Each time we converse with people, what do we listen for? Francis asks this question, and he readily gives his answer: Listening is not passive hearing but an active participation where attention is given to what the other person is saying. "Hearing without Listening", his article on page 6 is what this is all about.

**Msgr. Artemio Bataluma.** For Faith and Fatherland. For God and Country. Pro Deo et Patria - this is the theme of Msgr. Art's article. He gives as a reuniting assessment of Christianity and Patriotism. He says that this is our clarion call as Filipino Catholics, our bugle blast to fight all forms of corruption that undermine our progress as a nation. Catholics may not only seek true peace for their fatherland but also, as is their duty, labor to bring it to pass and to preserve it, it is indispensable for them, imitating on this point the fomenters of disorder, to group themselves in associations and in union so that, putting in common accord ideas and efforts, they may successfully fight for Faith and Fatherland.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

Tony Garcia, Chapter Head, BCBP Davao, Gus Dacudao, Emie & Alexis Jamora, Dario Lacap, Ronnie Go, Pepe & Sis. Aida Agulo, Lillian Abella, Momong Robillo, and all of Anniversary Committee Heads and Members as well as the rest of the Davao Chapter. 21st Anniversary Celebration photos courtesy of BCBP Davao in coordination with Momong Robillo and Boy Elma. Ging Sison, BCBP Greenhills, Etchin L. Sumangang, BCBP Las Piñas, Amelia Ng BCBP Cagayan De Oro, John Green in Discipleship Journal, Sep/Oct 1999. Discipleship Journal.

# KAPATIRAN

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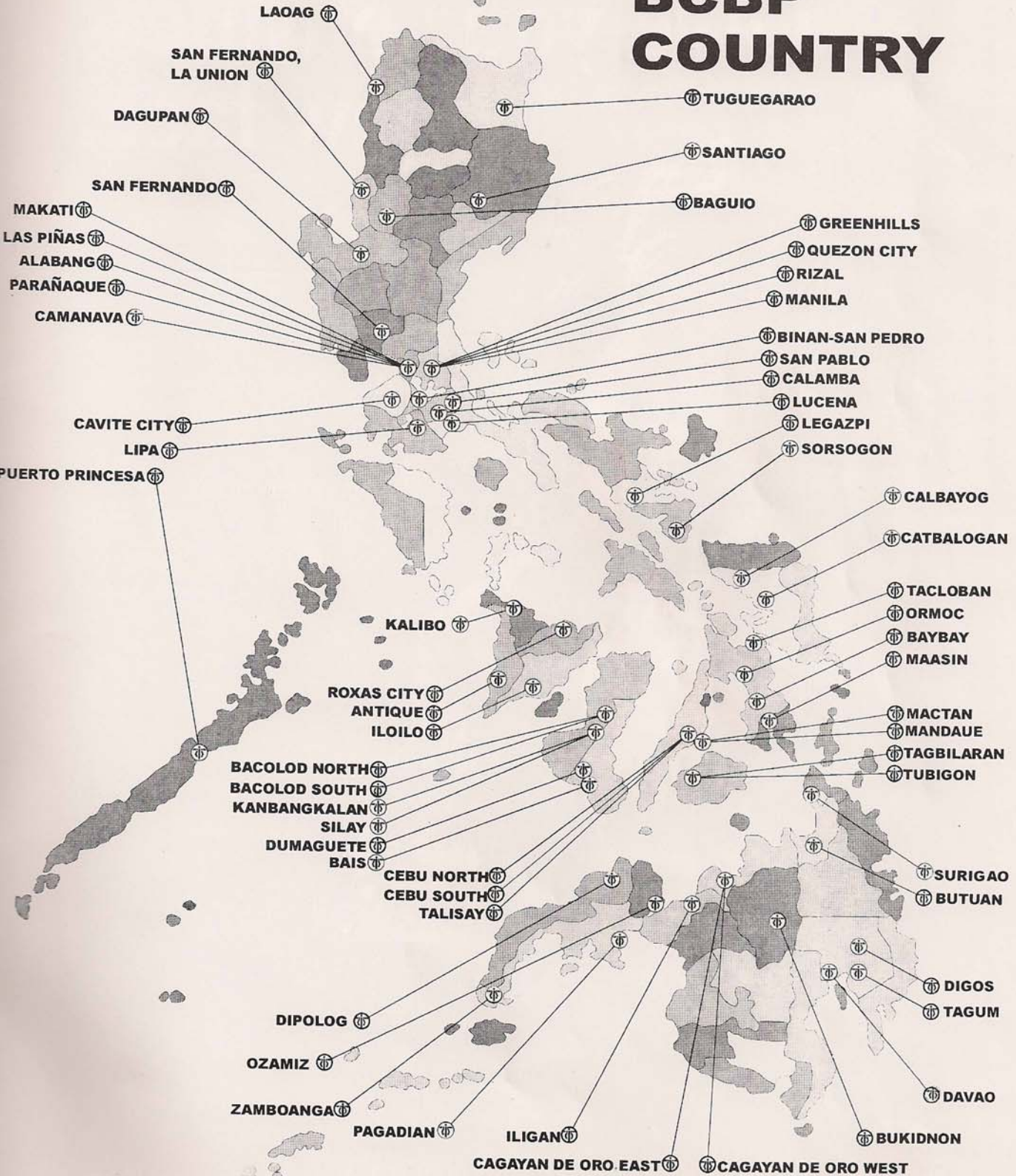
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# THE BCBP COUNTRY



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Is your business running your life?  
Then it's probably time to take a new perspective.  
Give your business a new focus. A new face.  
The face of Peace. The face of Love.

Let Jesus Christ be your business partner and  
you'll know your business is in good Hands.

After all, you are His business.



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